



# IUCN/CARPE Program: Strengthening capacity of civil society to promote sustainable NRM through active engagement in regulatory and policy reforms

CARPE DC Partners' Meeting  
January 27-28, 2014



A- Introduction: CARPE & IUCN Partnership and highlights

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B- Policy and legislative context in Central Africa

C- Strategy/Approach

D- Some Achievements

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# A-Introduction:

## USAID & IUCN Partnership for Good Governance

- USAID/CARPE: A 20-year USG Initiative to conserve the Congo Basin forests
- IUCN: A Public International Organization dedicated to conservation of nature
- Our Common Goal: Conserving the second largest contiguous tropical forest in the world (Promoting Central Africa's transition to climate-resilient, low emissions development through sustainable management of biodiverse forest).
- Common Objective: Improving the policy and regulatory environment for sustainable NRM and inclusive decision-making:

## B: policy and regulatory context

- Not adequately supportive of Sustainable NR management
- Countries are mostly politically centralized, with poor economic and governance systems;
- The legal system of most countries recognizes all forests, water, minerals (i.e., all natural resources) as the legal domain of the national governments;
- Conflict between customary and statutory law causing disputes over resource access and leading to long-term negative impact on the environment (Lack of tenure and indigenous rights to land)

# Continued

- Gender issues, especially women's rights to resources not adequately addressed
- Local populations often stripped of benefits from natural resources ;
- There is still weak capacity of civil society advocacy to advocate for policy reforms.

# IUCN's major role in CARPE 2b

- Monitored NRM policy, legislative and regulatory concerns and developed tools/activities to address them (policy/legislative reform/update);
  - Created a common vision among partners, averted duplication, increased efficient and cost effective program delivery, fostered capacity building and reduced conflicts.
- Linked field and policy work:
  - landscape results are used to influence, change or reform environmental policies and laws; also, reformed policies are used to facilitate work on the ground (landscapes);

# IUCN's major role in CARPE 2b (Continue

- Facilitated generation and exchanged of lessons learned;
  - Cross-cutting leader to assimilate, coordinate, capitalize, package and disseminate lessons learned with, and across landscape stakeholders, local communities, CS, governments, donors and BINGO
  - Met policy/decision-makers to advocate for policy/legislative reform and implementation;
    - Created strategic and technical partnership and alliances, galvanized national Country Teams, facilitated the signing/promulgation of new laws/policies and prepared partners for CARPE III

# Geographical Coverage of the IUCN-CARPE Program

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- October 2006 to September 2011:
  - 9 Countries- Burundi, Rwanda, Sao Tomé and Príncipe, Equatorial Guinea, CAR, RoC, DRC, Cameroon, Gabon:
- October 2011-September 2013;
  - 6 Countries: Equatorial Guinea, CAR, RoC, DRC, Cameroon, Gabon.



➤ 1- Country Team:

- Hold stakeholder forums
- Design advocacy strategies and monitoring plans for policy and Legislative reforms



## 2- Small Grants Program

- Strengthened the advocacy capacity of local civil society;



Promote Indigenous people's rights and inclusive Decision-making



## 3- Supported Landscape-based Conservation :

- Used landscape data to push for policy and legislative reforms
- Facilitated data collection through monitoring and evaluation of landscape data collection, outcomes and impacts by IUCN-CARPE Team



# D- Some Major achievements

## 2007-2009

Equatorial Guinea:

- Promulgation of a decree prohibiting hunting of primates ;
- Reform encouraging the transformation of timber in the country -A Presidential Decree appointed the CARPE/IUCN Focal Point as the point person to facilitate implementation;
- Elaboration of PA Management Plans (Monte Aléne, Rio Campo, Estuaire du Muni) ;
- New Water and Coastal/Maritime Law came in to force (2009)



Republic of Congo and DRC

- Trans-boundary agreement to sustainably manage the Lac Tele – Lac Tumba landscape
- Gabon
  - The new law on Protected Areas and the creation of a National Agency for Protected Areas

# 2010-2011

## Rwanda

- Adoption of draft law on the sustainable management and conservation of the Rwandan Forest ; (outcome of the revision process of the old law N° n° 47/1988 of 18/12/1988 initiated by civil society organizations);
- Adoption of the new national forestry policy
- Draft Prime Ministerial Order on the management and functioning of the National Forestry Fund.

## Gabon:

- Law N° 008/PR/2010 on the modification of law n°16/01 of December 31, 2001 on the Forestry Code in Gabon of 25 February 2005;

## République Centrafricaine:

- Signature of the VPA/FLEGT

## BURUNDI

- Three decrees on the delimitation, protection and conservation of 2 PAs (Rububu National Park; Gisagara protected landscape; and 2 natural monuments.

## Républic Démocratique du Congo

- Promulgation of the implementation decree of the Forestry Code;
- Ministerial Order recognizing landscape as pilot participatory zoning sites;

## Republic of Congo and DRC

- Trans-boundary agreement to sustainably manage the Lac Tele – LacTumba landscape;

## Cameroon:

- The joint Ministerial order n°00122 / MINEFI / MINAT about income resulting from forest exploitation for communities revised
- Norms and procedures for the attribution and the management of community forests revised and validated by the Ministry



# 2011-2013

Support to National and Regional Climate Change and REDD+ Processes;

- R-PP (Cameroon, RoC, CAR: institutional support, support to CSOs, etc.);

REDD+ Strategy (DRC);

Setting up and support the activities of NRC

- République du Congo
- Draft implementing decrees of Law number 37-2008 of November 28, 2008 on Wildlife and Protected Areas;
- Draft National Wildlife and Protected Areas Policy

# Small Grants Management

- Main Objective: Build a constituency for conservation among civil society and foster partnerships between landscape consortia, local communities and Governments.
  - 144 small grants projects from CSOs were funded in all nine countries
  - (total: \$USD 2,713,039 period: 2007-2013);
    - 56 National Steering Committees;
    - 7 Regional Steering Committee meetings.



# Lessons Learned initiative



- Facilitated the elaboration and publication (on-line and hardcopy) of more than 35 case studies in English and French. Outline:
  - Landscape Land Use Planning;
  - Protected Area Land Use Planning ;
  - Forest Concession Land Use Planning
  - Role of Alternative Livelihoods in a People-Centered Approach to Conservation;
  - Community-Based Natural Resource management;
  - Governance /policies/laws;
  - Small Grants;
  - Monitoring and Evaluation





# Support to COMIFAC and CEFDHAC



## ■ COMIFAC:

- Milestone study of the implementation of the Convention on Biological Diversity in the region (GTBAC);
  - Capitalized in regional and international conferences
- COMIFAC Prospective Study 2040;
- Support to the State of the Forest Report 2006; 2008; 2010; (Articles, validation workshops, approximately USD 50 000 per edition, etc.);



**USAID**  
FROM THE AMERICAN PEOPLE

- Support to USFS Work with COMIFAC (National/Regional planning/validation guides Workshops), strategic planning, etc);
- Implementation of COMIFAC's Communication Strategy (2008-2013) (flyers, calendar, advice, etc).

- CEFDHAC; 75 000 USD per year for 5 years
  - Support to CEFDHAC Networks;
  - Support to CEFDHAC Regional meetings and National Forums (Burundi, Rwanda, Equatorial Guinea, Sao Tomé, etc.).

# Landscape Monitoring

- We visited all Landscapes to evaluate the implemented of landscape activities and facilitated joint planning