



**STREAM 2**  
**Proposal for a parallel stream on**  
**“Conservation and sustainable use of wildlife”**  
**“How to optimize complementarity?”**

In discussions around conservation of biodiversity, a diversity of visions and approaches is needed to respond to a complexity of challenges. Conservation approaches range from integral protection of specific species throughout their distribution range, the creation of specific areas for protection of a full set of representative species and the sustainable use of wildlife species.

Achieving the balance between use and protection of wildlife resources remains a complex challenge. Visions and approaches held by the different interest groups are as diverse as the goods and services provided by wildlife (biological diversity, habitat, food, employment and economics, medicine and potential tourism). Reconciling these different views is paramount.

To be effective, interest groups must employ the same language and together aspire to generate strategies that take into account the range of human-environment situations that exist — from circumstances of very low to very high human population densities, from the total protection of wildlife areas to low intensity forest-cultivation mosaics, to totally human-dominated environments (e.g. cities), and that take into account at the same time the range of needs and rights of species, from strictly protected species to species considered important/needed for sustainable use for the well being of human populations.

The conservation community, made up of nature protection NGOs and governmental conservation institutions aiming at safeguarding biodiversity, as well as the development community (grassroots NGOs, governmental development projects, development agencies) who seek to better the lives of rural people, refer to this variety of related concepts when referring to wildlife use and/or protection of it (such as sustainability, viability, natural resource management, outstanding values, extreme conservation, habitat suitability and food security). At first sight, the vocabulary used seems relatively straightforward. However, during discussions on how to translate these concepts and ideas into policy, action on the ground and real impact for conservation and human well-being, practitioners and policy makers sometimes use terminology in a confusing way, with potential detrimental impact on the intended objectives. A situation in which related concepts are not adequately defined or understood, can generate misunderstanding, mistrust and ultimately block collaborative thinking to establish clear guidelines and directions for conservation and the sustainable use of wildlife.

By not reconciling opinions between the conservation and development communities, we are in danger of promoting dogmatic positions, on the one hand those endorsing fortress conservation, and on the other those advocating only mixed-use or local governance systems. Such schism will not stimulate realistic solutions to current challenges. Protecting wildlife while using some of it is complex, therefore requiring holistic approaches and cross-sectoral collaborations that have been lacking in the CBF until now.

To advance strong recommendations for the future of the CBF, we need to first agree on what are the different concepts currently used. In the proposed stream, we will first shed light on concepts related to conservation, sustainable use, bushmeat and in so doing identify causes of confusion around their definition and their use by the conservation and sustainable management communities. Participants will engage in a dialogue of exploration and sharing of understandings experts and discuss on how we can translate this into real conservation and sustainable use. For this, two consecutive sessions are organized. The first one focuses on wildlife and biodiversity protection, the second one centers on wildlife as a commodity to be sustainably managed for human needs. In a final session, we will jointly develop recommendations on ways forward for wildlife protection and bushmeat management in the Congo Basin.

### **Structure of the stream (June 17 and 18)**

The stream will be divided into four main sessions during which there will be plenary presentations, small group deliberations and plenary discussions. The first session will be a plenary introduction of the rationale of the stream, refer to the content of the presentation and discussions to be expected and will set stage for the two days. The second and third session will concentrate on some controversial topics related to “conservation from a more wildlife protection perspective” and “conservation from a wildlife for human well being” perspective respectively. For each of these two sessions, a small set of introductory presentations will be followed by deliberations in an equal number of small groups. Each group will be facilitated by a session chairperson to maximize interventions by all participants and to assure translation of the discussion in one or two recommendations/group. During the final plenary session, the list of recommendations will be presented for plenary deliberation, the results of which will be integrated into a final document presenting the main conclusions and recommendations resulting from this stream.

## DAY 1 JUNE 17

### Session 1: 9:00 – 10:00 am Keynote Presentation

#### **Valuing wildlife in the eye of the beholder**

This presentation will examine the contrasting and often conflicting values placed on wildlife by different groups and stakeholders and draw attention on how even within stakeholder groups there are sometimes differences in understanding of seemingly straightforward concepts or the interaction, overlap and differences between those concepts/ideas. This presentation will set stage for the two sessions, topics of presentation and objectives of planned debates. It will propose some clear lines of thought to reconcile and move these debates forward in a way that benefits both biodiversity and human livelihoods.

Key issues include:

- Overview of the different voices that need to be heard in conservation
- The need for clear definitions of frequently used – and frequently mis-used – terminology (sustainable offtake, poaching vs hunting, subsistence and commercial offtake etc. )
- Contrasting views of present and ideal scenarios for wildlife conservation and development (and a reality-check on the gap and challenges that lies between them)
- Specific context of the Central Africa region (corruption, marginalization, insecurity)
- Overview of the sessions and identifying a clear way forward

Presentation: Jef Dupain

### **Session 2: Wildlife from biodiversity protection perspective**

**10:00-12:00: presentations and plenary brainstorming sessions**

**14:00-16:00: small working group discussions**

**16:00-17:00: plenary summary discussion on outcome of group discussions**

**10:00 - 12:00am** Biodiversity Issues:

Four presentations, each presentation 20' with 10' of question/answers and plenary brainstorming on most important issues to be dealt with during smaller group discussions in afternoon.

Facilitator for the afternoon working group discussions takes notes to be put on flip chart in preparation of afternoon.

#### **Topic 1. Rule of law: the role of protected areas and protected species**

**10:00-10:30**

Presentation: Director of Fauna and Protected Areas, Cameroun (J.Lekealem)

Facilitation: AWF/WCS

Protected areas and protected species. It sounds evident and straightforward. Species protection and conservation through protected areas are two overlapping but different concepts. This often seems to be forgotten when talking about conservation, wildlife and bushmeat.

This presentation will remind us of the objective of protected areas and protected species: overlap and differences. It will remind us how easily both concepts are sometimes mixed.

To include following discussion/presentation points:

- A reminder of the objective of protected areas, an honest evaluation of whether this is being achieved and the challenges faced;

- A reminder of the objective of protected species, an evaluation of whether this is being achieved and the challenges faced;
- Different models for PA management in Central Africa (including PPPs, community-based models, co-management) and to what extent they resolve some of the major issues/challenges;
- Different levels of protection of species and the origin of human wildlife conflict mitigation;
- Protection of wildlife outside of protected areas: underlying principles of integral protection and sustainable management;
- Community involvement in protected areas – what benefits do communities obtain from protected areas and protected species and what evidence exists for successful models of engagement
- Who is responsible for PA-management, who is responsible for conservation of protected species

## ***Topic 2. The poaching crisis***

**10:30-11:00**

Presentation: Zokoe Guian, former “Expert National auprès des Aires protégées de Dzanga-Sangha”

Facilitation: WCS

Poaching in many countries is intricately linked to growing insecurity in the sub-region (e.g. Ganjaweed, CAR-rebellion, LRA, Boko Haram). National armies get involved, but how are armed forces managed and how is their role defined in relation to protected area and wildlife management agencies? At the same time, there is also need for buy-in and support from communities (who at the same time are both impacted by insecurity and sometimes implicated in poaching).

- How to reconcile management of military with wildlife and protected area management agencies
- How best to engage communities in combatting wildlife crime and poaching?
- How to ensure protection of those communities (and to avoid retaliation)?
- Case-studies

## ***Topic 3: Reconciling wildlife protection with land-use policies***

**11:00-11:30**

Presentation: SG-Koulagna (MINFoF) on LUP and the challenges in Cameroun (overlapping mining concessions, etc...)

Facilitation: TBD

The majority of forests and wildlife lie outside of protected areas, with large tracts of forest remaining across large areas of Central Africa and the Congo Basin. However, there is increasingly rapid loss of forests due to infrastructure development and diversification of extractive industries (including oil palm). There is a need for inter-ministerial coordination and improved land-use planning policy. However, despite much “participative land use planning” language (CARPE) local stakeholders are not involved in high-level decision making when it comes to extractive industry and the implantation of associated infrastructure. What are the relative roles of the private sector, government, NGOs and local communities in land-use planning, and how do you assure coordination and commitment by all different government stakeholders

Discussion points:

*Role of the private sector*

*Need for solid land-use planning and inter-ministerial and inter-sectorial coordination*

*Engagement of local community in land-use planning*

**Topic 4: New tools/technologies**

**11:30-12:00**

Presentation: Zachary Nzooh-WWF

Facilitation: TBD

Central Africa represents many challenges for implementing new technology for biodiversity protection (terrain, access, forests, communications, capacity). How to balance emerging technologies (UAVs, SMART etc.) with real needs and reality on the ground? What evidence exists on how technologies are helping conservation?

**LUNCH 12:00-14:00pm**

<b>14:00-17:00 Continuation Session 2</b>
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**14:00-16:00: small working group discussions**

Four small groups. At end, each group is supposed to come out with 1-2 recommendations

**16:00-17:00: plenary summary discussion on outcome of group discussions**

## DAY 2 JUNE 18

### **Session 3: Wildlife for human wellbeing**

**8:00-10:00: presentations and plenary brainstorming sessions**

**10:00-12:00: small working group discussions**

**14:00-15:00: plenary summary discussion on outcome of group discussions**

#### **8:00-10:00**

Four presentations, each presentation 20' with 10' of question/answers and plenary brainstorming on most important issues to be dealt with during smaller group discussions in afternoon.

Facilitator for the working group discussions takes notes to be put on flip chart in as intro to working group discussion.

#### ***Topic 1: Regulating bushmeat harvests: how to enforce rules?***

**8:00-8:30**

*Presentation: TBD*

*Facilitation: Michelle Wieland (WCS, tbc)*

There is a mismatch between customary and judicial law, neither fully enforceable.

To what extent does legislation accept traditional uses and/or impose new (sometimes weird) regulations?

Are customary rules always prone to sustainable wildlife management, especially when national and international contexts change? Are customary rules strong and strict enough? Are all traditional rights to be respected?

A need for fine-tuned rules on species, hunting techniques, areas,... and at what scales? Is a landscape approach promising to build new tools to rule bushmeat practices?

How to tackle corruption that poisons bushmeat trade at national and international scales? Which incentives to influence actors' behaviours?

#### ***Topic 2: Bushmeat on the nutrition and health agenda***

**8:30-9:00**

*Presentation: Judith Ngondi*

*Facilitation: John E. Fa (Manchester Metropolitan University)*

In 2000, there was a first meeting in Yaoundé amongst conservationists and FAO to talk about bushmeat from nutrition perspective. But the importance of bushmeat in rural and urban diets remains little recognized, especially in a context where most population of Central Africa now live in cities. What are the various demands for bushmeat and how can we anticipate and manage increasing urban demands? How to prevent/limit rural protein insecurity resulting from the bushmeat trade?

More recently, the Ebola fever has revived the debate between human health and bushmeat consumption. What are the diversity of relationships and their respective impact on human health in Central Africa?

#### ***Topic 3: Looking at the economics: any way to formalize bushmeat trade?***

**9:00-9:30**

*Presentation: Jonas Ngouhou Poufoun (Université de Lorraine)*

*Facilitation: Guillaume Lescuyer (CIRAD-CIFOR)*

The purpose would be to recall the financial (money flows) and economic (self-consumption) importance of bushmeat for both rural and urban consumers in Central Africa and to investigate whether and how this activity and trade must be formalized. There are at least 3 options: current legislation and practice, FAO proposal to recognize trade at the local level (but without clear link with maintaining informal hunting practices), or an overall formalization of bushmeat trade at the nation scale. Can a bushmeat trade be ecologically supported, and under what conditions?

**Topic 4: International illegal wildlife trade and local livelihoods: which links, which interference?**

**9:30-10:00**

Presentation: Cléo Mashini (Juristrale)

Facilitation: Cyril Pélissier (WWF tbc), Denis Mahongol (Traffic tbc)

Illegal export-oriented poaching has sky-rocketed over the last decade in the Congo basin countries, with serious threats on some highly valued species, mainly large mammals. Many national and international initiatives have been launched to struggle these activities, but they tend to neglect how local contexts usually may provide an encouraging background to international poaching in remote rural areas. Little has been documented on the direct and indirect impacts of export-oriented poaching on local livelihoods and governance. How to involve local people in combating international poaching? How to combine anti-poaching measures and tolerance of customary hunting?

**10:00-12:00: small working group discussions**

Four small groups. At end, each group is supposed to come out with 1-2 recommendations

**LUNCH 12:00-14:00pm**

<b>14:00-15:00 Continuation Session 3</b>
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**14:00-15:00: plenary summary discussion on outcome of group discussions**

<b>Session 4: 15:00 – 17:00 pm Plenary with final recommendation</b>
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