



**SWM SUSTAINABLE  
WILDLIFE  
MANAGEMENT  
PROGRAMME**

# newsletter

Issue 3 - July to October 2019

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## WELCOME

August was a milestone month for the SWM Programme. It marked the end of a fruitful first year establishing projects in twelve African, Caribbean and Pacific (ACP) countries.

There were many highlights. We now have professional teams up and running at all our sites, many of which are in remote and challenging environments, and have built strong working relations with local communities and government partners. We have also started generating a wealth of information about wildlife populations, wild meat consumption and alternative sources of protein. This solid beginning will guide our project interventions and be a baseline to test their effectiveness.

The technical and financial reports from these first twelve months were submitted to the European Union and the ACP Secretariat. They were then discussed in depth at the second SWM Steering Committee meeting, held in Brussels on 25 September. This meeting was also an opportunity to look ahead and endorse the ambitious plans for the second year, which runs through to July 2020.

Many of the highlights from the SWM sites are covered in this third issue of the SWM Newsletter. We also have a special focus on substitutes for wild meat and our work in Papua New Guinea. There is much to celebrate, and much to be done.

Hubert Boulet  
SWM Programme Coordinator

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## HIGHLIGHTS

Summarised below are the highlights from each SWM site for the period July to October 2019. They build on the highlights in the first and second SWM Newsletters.

### Congo - Ouessou basin

SWM field teams have been trained in value chain analysis and data collection on ungulates using camera traps. Studies on household consumption of wild meat, fish and poultry; an analysis of the respective value chains; and a feasibility assessment to boost domestic meat production around Ouessou are being prepared.

### Democratic Republic of the Congo - Ituri landscape

Wild meat, beef, chicken and fish value chains in and around the Okapi Faunal Reserve have been analysed to understand commercialization patterns and define SWM interventions. Approximately 1 200 baseline socioeconomic surveys were completed with households in 42 villages. Local surveyors have been trained to conduct animal protein consumption surveys in rural and urban areas.

### Gabon - Mulundu Department

Footage from 93 camera traps is being analysed to study commonly hunted species. Farming feasibility assessment surveys have prioritized two models for testing: fish farming in partnership with a logging operator and village-based poultry farming. Meat consumption was surveyed in 77 households in three village groups and 100 households in Lastoursville.

### Guyana - Rupununi Savannahs

The SWM team undertook missions to seven communities to raise awareness about the fisheries management plan. The first environmental education module was applied in four pilot communities. The first regional community representatives' workshop on sustainable hunting and wildmeat in the Guiana Shield and Amazon region successfully took place on 8–10 September in South Rupununi.

### Papua New Guinea - Bismarck Forest Corridor

A community-based natural resource management plan to regulate hunting and deforestation has been developed in one community. An assessment of livestock production options, with a focus on poultry and small mammals, is being finalized. Training in tree nursery management was provided to foresters in two participating communities.

### Madagascar - Makira landscape

Community training on improved poultry farming was carried out with local authorities. Training materials for fish and rice farming were finalised. Surveys and focus groups on hunting and fishing practices, with a special focus on the role of women, were piloted. Ecological monitoring protocols for small mammals, lemurs and bushpigs were completed.

### Sahelian Wetlands Site - RESSOURCE Project Chad, Egypt, Mali, Senegal and Sudan

The RESSOURCE Project coordination meeting took place in Paris on 3 October to plan the winter season field activities. The third RESSOURCE Newsletter was published in [English](#) and [Arabic](#). The establishment of the Senegal River delta observatory (a multistakeholder platform) is advancing following a number of planning meetings.

### Zambia and Zimbabwe - KaZa Transfrontier Conservation Area

In Mucheni Conservancy (Zimbabwe), community land use planning workshops were successfully completed, camera traps are assessing the status of wildlife, and a human-wildlife conflict strategy was finalised. In Zambia, the focus has been on strengthening the partnerships with local communities and chiefs, and collaboration with Panthera and the Peace Parks Foundation.

## SPECIAL FOCUS - ALTERNATIVE SOURCES OF PROTEIN

In many nations, production of livestock and farmed fish is not keeping pace with demand. Increasing production of animal source foods is key to avoiding a looming protein deficit for poor rural and urban families and preventing wildlife from being eaten to extinction. It is also a promising pathway to household income growth, women's empowerment, and reduced youth unemployment.

In year 1, SWM sites have been assessing the state of livestock supply, as well as opportunities and barriers for scaling up production. In Year 2, pilot poultry and fish production projects will be implemented with private sector partners. Some SWM sites will also investigate the feasibility of farming less-common species, such as guinea pigs, and insects for food and feed.



# COUNTRY STORY - PAPUA NEW GUINEA

"The Bismarck Forest Corridor is an incredibly biodiverse region with many endemic birds and mammals," explains Dr Thomas Mutton, the SWM Papua New Guinea Site Coordinator. "It is also an area with a high density of people." The increasing scarcity of wildlife is a growing concern for indigenous and rural communities in this region as wildlife is an important source of food, as well as feathers and fur for traditional costumes.

The SWM Programme has a very important role to play, explains Dr Mutton. "Our aim is to maintain the current populations of terrestrial wildlife and develop alternative sources of protein in villages," he says, "and we are doing this by establishing community-led wildlife management initiatives, supporting community tree nurseries, and distributing preservation kits to extend the life span of traditional attire". He hopes that the lessons learned from this initiative will then be replicated at other locations in the country.

The SWM activities are coordinated by the Wildlife Conservation Society with the national Conservation and Environment Protection Authority. They are being developed with local indigenous communities in Chimbu (Womkama and Danbagl communities), Eastern Highlands (Wamuifa) and Jiwaka (Kwiop) provinces and are supported by the provincial and district authorities responsible for wildlife management and animal production. "The participation and involvement of indigenous communities is critically important to the success of the Programme," emphasizes Dr Mutton.



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## FACTS AND FIGURES

Year 2 implementation started  
in **August 2019**

SWM is directly contributing to **three**  
Sustainable Development Goals



## EVENTS CORNER

### SWM Steering Committee Meeting

25 September 2019  
Brussels, Belgium

The second SWM Steering Committee meeting took place at the ACP Secretariat in Brussels. The progress made during Year 1 was well received and the work plans for Year 2 were approved without amendment. [Twitter](#)



### Expert workshop on subsistence hunting and wildmeat for Latin America and the Caribbean

29 September – 2 October 2019  
Lima, Peru

This 3-day workshop, facilitated by the SWM Guyana Site Coordinator, established the Community Wildlife Management expert group (as part of the IUCN SULi group) to provide high-level technical advice to governments and international agencies on subsistence hunting and sustainable use in the region.



## FROM THE FIELD



Working closely with wildlife at the SWM Programme site in Zimbabwe.

## NEWSROOM

Recent SWM Programme news items include:

- Keeping wild meat on the table. CIFOR Forest News [click here](#)
- Film on Waterbird Monitoring in Africa: The Chad Experience. Agreement on the Conservation of African-Eurasian Migratory Waterbirds [click here](#)
- Sustainable Wildlife Management in Guyana. People Not Poaching [click here](#)
- World Food Day (16 October). SWM Twitter messages from partners [FAO](#), [CIRAD](#), [WCS](#)

## WHAT'S COMING UP?

- Convention on Biological Diversity  
23rd SBSTTA meeting  
25–29 November 2019  
<https://www.cbd.int/meetings/>
- World Wildlife Day  
3 March 2020  
<https://www.un.org/en/events/wildlifeday/>
- International Day of Forests  
21 March 2020  
<https://www.un.org/en/events/forestsday/>
- IUCN World Conservation Congress  
11–19 June 2020  
<https://www.iucncongress2020.org/>

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## SWM TALKS

Mette Wilkie, Director, Forestry Policy and Resources Division, Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO)



The biodiversity that underpins our food systems is declining around the world. Maintaining the variety and variability of life on earth is vital to meet humanity's growing need for food. In particular, we must conserve and sustainably manage forests, given that they are home to an estimated 80 percent of the world's terrestrial biodiversity.

We need more biodiversity-friendly practices, particularly in forest habitats. The Sustainable Wildlife Management (SWM) Programme is one important global initiative working towards this goal. It sets out to tackle unsustainable levels of hunting by developing new approaches that both conserve biodiversity and improve food security. I have followed this initiative with great interest over the past 12 months and I am excited by the progress made to date. It is a truly collaborative and multidisciplinary initiative that emphasizes the importance of innovation. The SWM Programme also illustrates the urgent need to effectively work at many different scales, from the village-level to the international policy arena.

Next year, the FAO flagship publication "The State of the World's Forests" will focus on the strong linkages among forests, biodiversity and people. The sustainable-use approach, championed by the SWM Programme, has an important contribution to make. The results from the SWM Programme will also play an important role as we focus on achieving the post-2020 global biodiversity framework and in turn the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.



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