



## Darwin Initiative Annual Report 2010 - 2011

Submission deadline 30 April 2011



### Darwin Project Information

Project Ref Number	17-014
Project Title	Development of a Cross-Sectoral Environmental Governance Platform for the Nimba Mountains
Country(ies)	Liberia; Guinea and Cote d'Ivoire
UK Contract Holder Institution	Fauna & Flora International
Host country Partner Institution(s)	The Forest Development Authority (FDA), Liberia The Environmental Protection Agency, (EPA), Liberia Conservation International (CI) - Liberia Centre de Gestion de l'Environnement des Monts Nimba et Simandou – (CEGENS) - Guinea The Scientific Station of Mounts Nimba (SSMN) - Guinea; The Environmental Research Institute of Bossou (IREB); The Ivoirian Office of Parks and Reserves – OIPR Côte d'Ivoire
Other Partner Institutions	Society for the Conservation of Nature (SCNL) Liberia Arcelor Mittal, Liberia BHP, Liberia and Guinea Société des Mines de Fer de Guinée (SMFG), Guinea SODEFOR Côte d'Ivoire The Biodiversity and Protected Areas Authority, Guinea ; The Fauna & Forest Development authority (DNFF), Guinea; The Nature Protection Authority, Côte d'Ivoire The Foundation for Parks and Reserves of Côte d'Ivoire The University of N'Zerekore (CUZ), Guinea The National Committee for MAB Unesco World Wide Fund for Nature (WWF) The Wild Chimpanzee Foundation (WCF) The Bureau of Strategy, Guinea The Fauna and Cynegetics Resources Management Authority Côte d'Ivoire Royal Botanic Gardens, Kew Afrique Nature – Côte d'Ivoire
Darwin Grant Value	£248,727
Start/End dates of Project	1 April 2009 - 31 March 2012
Reporting period (1 Apr 2010 to 31 Mar 2011) and annual report number (2.)	HYR-1 1 April 2010 to 31 March 2011
Project Leader Name	Pippa Howard
Project website	<a href="http://www.nimbadarwin.org">www.nimbadarwin.org</a>
Author(s) and main contributors, date	Dr Julian Bayliss, Dr Jo Treweek and Dr Pippa Howard, 20.04.11

## 1. Project Background

This Project aims to reduce threats to biodiversity in the Nimba Mountains, by improving collaboration between stakeholders associated with Mount Nimba across three national boundaries to reduce threats to biodiversity from both subsistence pressures and large-scale mining operations. Ultimately the project seeks to integrate the environmental mitigation strategies of the three mining multinationals working in Nimba, supporting a holistic approach to biodiversity conservation and livelihoods in the region.

The Nimba Mountains are a 40km long range on the border between Guinea, Côte d'Ivoire and Liberia. Part of the range in Guinea and Côte d'Ivoire is a recognized 180km<sup>2</sup> Natural World Heritage Site.

The three countries share similar challenges in terms of sustainable development but have very different approaches to biodiversity protection and management. The three countries are classified as low income economies by the World Bank. They are all either suffering in the aftermath of conflict or have conflicts or political unrest ongoing. Large numbers of displaced people swell the populations of rural poor dependent on forest products such as fuel wood and bushmeat.

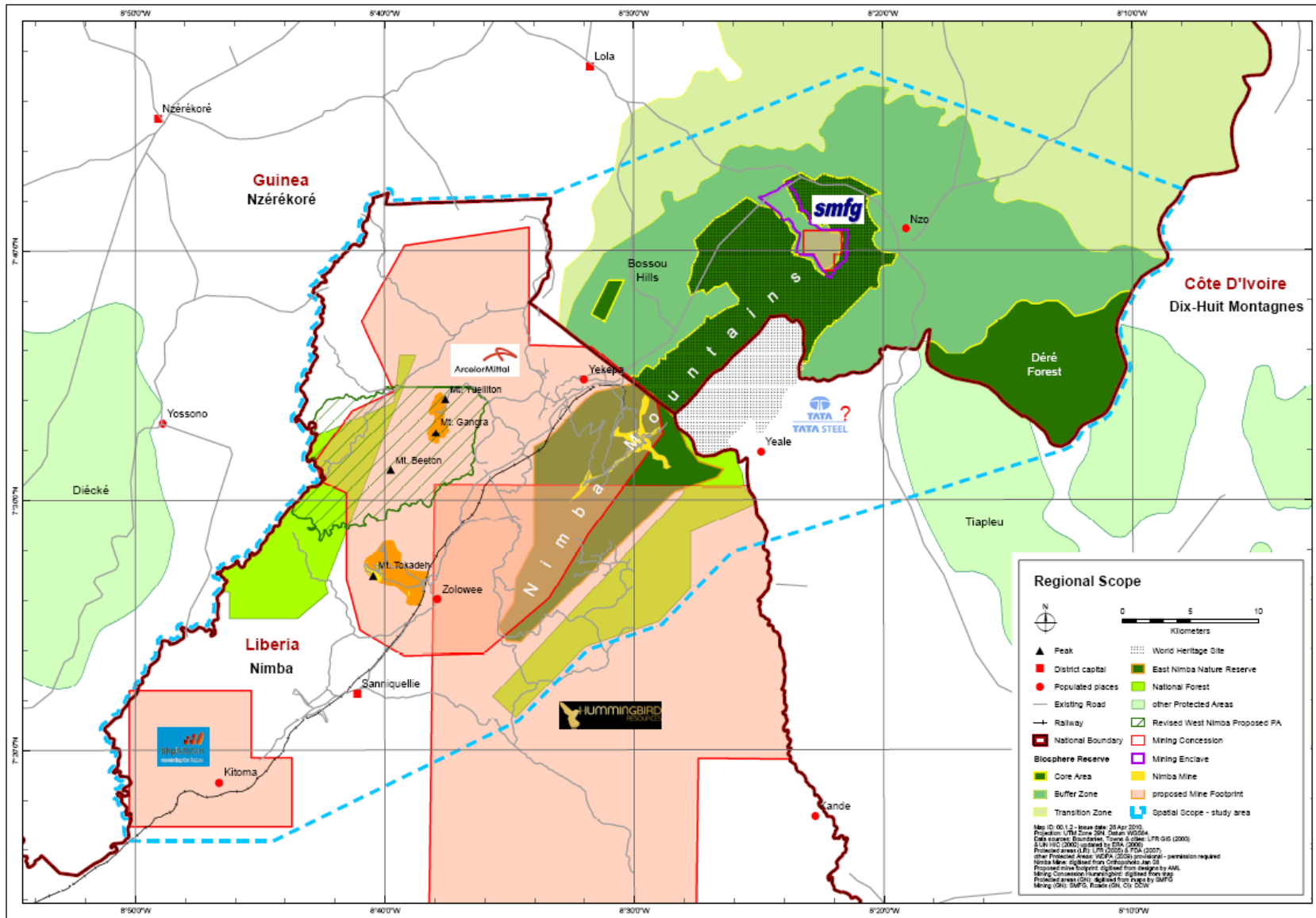
The project has three main “pillars”:

- Sharing of data, information and experience to support effective collaboration.
- Stakeholder inclusion –understanding who to involve and how to work with them.
- Governance - developing a common approach to planning for biodiversity that can be endorsed by the 3 participating countries.

The main output of the Project is intended to be a Collaborative Management Framework (CMF) endorsed by stakeholders in Cote d'Ivoire, Guinea and Liberia and based on agreed principles and objectives. Strengthening of governance is essential to underpin this framework and make it operational through management plans in each country. Hence the transboundary environmental governance platform for the Nimba Mountains. The area to which the CMF and environmental governance platform would apply is shown in Figure 1.

Across the three countries, multinational mining companies have plans in place to mine for iron ore and are currently engaged in environmental assessments for proposed operations in Liberia and Guinea. The cumulative impacts could be considerable and there is inadequate local capacity to respond to threats to biodiversity and ecosystem services. The governments of each country are beginning to work with the mining companies to address these issues but the mining companies operating in Nimba: Arcelor Mittal (Liberia), SMFG (Guinea) and BHP Billiton (Liberia and Guinea) have yet to establish assured mechanisms to ensure no net loss of biodiversity. Arcelor Mittal will be producing iron ore by June 2011, and as part of the environmental management and mitigation programme, has developed a number of proposals to compensate for impacts to the biodiversity associated with their operations. The extent to which this will contribute to a regional or landscape level conservation objectives is still under discussion, however, Arcelor Mittal Liberia have indicated a willingness to cooperate with the Darwin Initiative Project Objectives where possible. Tata (Côte d'Ivoire) has withdrawn plans to mine due to political instability and since this programme commenced, it has become difficult to carry out any ecological survey work or conservation planning in Côte d'Ivoire. SMFG is still in a “holding” position and remains unwilling to share data and information with the Darwin project for reasons of confidentiality.

Figure 1: Spatial Scope for the development of an environmental governance platform for the Nimba Mountains



## 2. Project Partnerships

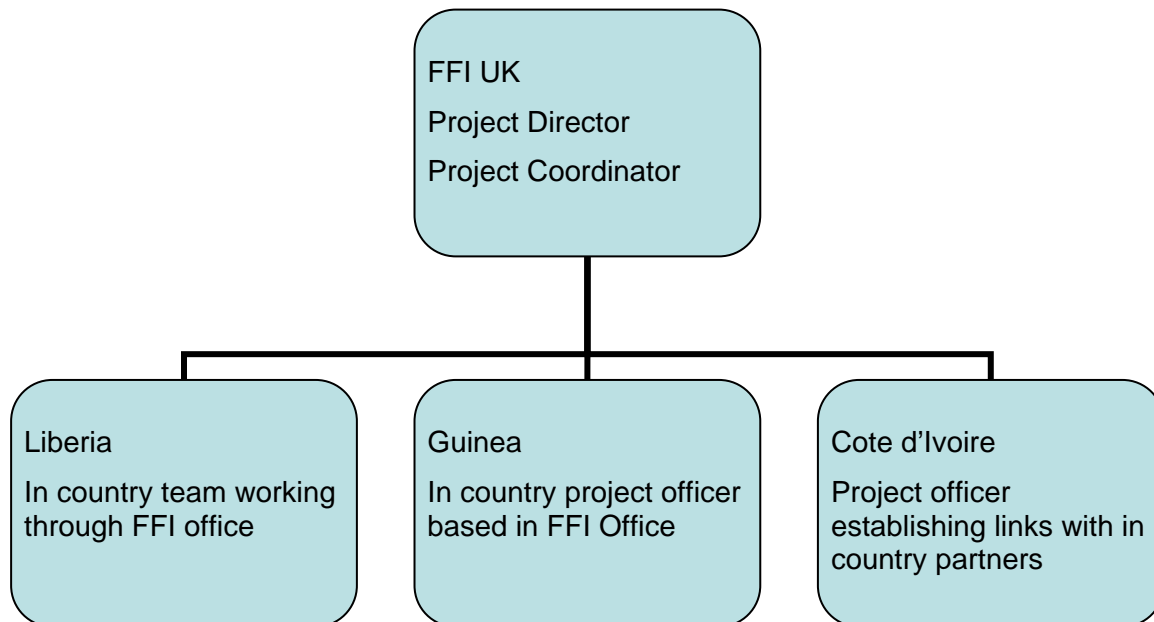
The UK lead institution is FFI, which has both Guinean and Liberian country offices. The link between FFI UK and the two country offices is close, with shared objectives and the primary modus operandi being partnership with local Government and NGOs. FFI has appointed an overall coordinator for the Project who is responsible for maintaining regular communication with the project team and other stakeholders, including maintenance of the Project website. Communication is by phone and email as well as through in-country visits by UK FFI staff at regular intervals.

During the second year of the project MoU's were signed between the project, the Mano River Union (MRU), and the US Forestry Service funded STEWARD programme. The MRU has expressed interest in adopting the governance platform as a regional initiative to support implementation of the natural resource management programme within the countries concerned. The process of formalising a long term arrangement is currently underway and a plan of action is due to be agreed in Sierra Leone in May 2011. The MoU agreed with the STEWARD programme is one of collaboration in the development of the Collaborative Management Framework during the final year of the project.

FFI has a Liberian office which supervises project activities in Liberia through local partnerships as shown below, the main activities being carried out by project officers seconded from the Forest Development Authority (the FDA) and Conservation International for 50% of their time. Dr Gondo Gbanyangbe is the project officer for the project in Guinea and Cote d'Ivoire and is based at the FFI office in Conakry, Guinea.

FFI in the UK has made efforts to build its own capacity to act as an effective project partner through several measures, including participation by all UK project staff in a training workshop on cross-sectoral partnerships (November 2010). This workshop included both programme managers and members of FFI partner organisations. The development and management of a partnership is quite subtle and complex. Strategic alliances between business, government and civil society and such multi-sector partnerships are necessary because it is increasingly clear that no one sector in society can deliver the goals of sustainable development alone. The focus of this workshop was on the principle concepts of partnerships, the role of partnerships and the implementation of partnerships within sustainable development and conservation contexts. The workshop was interactive and participatory.

FFI West Africa staff has dedicated time and expertise to brief project staff, and to build the core institutional and historical knowledge of the various initiatives that FFI and other partner organisations have been engaged with over the past 10 years. Much of this knowledge has fed into the baseline understanding of the context of the Darwin project, and has informed the conceptual framework for the governance structures. Similarly, contribution from partner organisations in the stakeholder and issues analysis has been invaluable in reigniting dormant relationships and initiatives to feed successfully into the Darwin initiative.



Working relationships have been established between the project and other organisations engaged in projects which have relevance or where establishment of links have mutual benefit. NGO's such as the Mano River Union and the US Forestry Service funded STEWARD programme have similar aims and objectives to the Darwin project within the Nimba mountains. Due to the ambitious nature of the project it was felt that parties concerned should work more closely together in order to deliver the TCSEGP. To this end MoU's have been developed between the project and the MRU and STEWARD programme. Relevant structures that the project is currently working in collaboration with are:

- The Mano River Union (an existing multi-national platform which includes Nimba countries and Sierra Leone focusing on cooperation across nations for the management of regional issues).
- US Forestry Service (the STEWARD programme).
- ARD (carrying out community-based initiatives in Liberian Nimba).
- IUCN (with an interest in the World Heritage Area and strategic environmental assessments in the region).
- FFI's NORAD-funded REDD programme.
- The World Bank (interested in protected area networks)
- The CCBA initiative (interested in identification of High Value Forests in the Nimba area)
- Private sector partners who have a vested interest in transboundary cooperation and the establishment of best practice environmental management, sound governance structures and institutional development in the region.

This project is designed to enable participating countries to meet their CBD commitments in relation to the Nimba Mountains. The main focus of the project is on the conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity. By exploring participatory approaches to governance, the project assists host countries in meeting their obligations with respect to equitable sharing of the benefits of biodiversity. This has particular relevance when considering REDD+ (Carbon stock value of the Nimba Mountains and associated forests) and Payment for Ecosystem Services when considering water management and the relevance of this to multiple users of water resources derived from the Nimba watershed.

The project has assisted host countries to identify appropriate community collaborations through locally active NGOs and other organisations to support transfer of expertise and help build communities' capacity and engagement (CBD Article 10d).

### **3. Project progress**

#### **3.1 Progress in carrying out project activities**

##### **Output 1: Governance Platform established and operational**

###### **Activity 1.1**

A stakeholder mapping exercise has been undertaken in the three countries to identify the main stakeholders active in the Nimba mountains with an interest in the conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity. The main emphasis has been on organisations and institutions from the commercial, community or conservation sectors which are involved in or have an interest in sustainable development and the management of threats to biodiversity. Stakeholders in Ivorian government institutions and other stakeholders are now “on board” so that it should be possible to initiate the process of capacity building towards EIA and SEA and involve appropriate stakeholders in Liberia, Guinea and Cote d’Ivoire. During this period the stakeholder mapping exercise was therefore completed and the report made available on the project website. This reports details the results and recommendations for future engagement and is available for download on the project website:

<http://www.nimbadarwin.org/resources/stakeholders-report.pdf>

###### **Activity 1.2**

The Darwin project officer for Guinea and Cote D’Ivoire, Gondo Gbanyangbe, undertook a series of successful field visits to Guinea and Cote D’Ivoire in February 2010 to meet with project partners and to open lines of communication. A report detailing this visit is available for download on the project website:

<http://www.nimbadarwin.org/resources/gondomission.pdf>

Meetings were held in Cote d’Ivoire with rebel groups which are active in the Nimba area and have a considerable influence over local politics and land use. Issues of boundary demarcation, challenges of achieving sustainable management with community involvement, and consensus about conservation management in a tight timeframe were all identified. Local capacity building efforts in Liberia, Guinea and Cote d’Ivoire formed the basis for inviting relevant stakeholders to the workshop outlined above, to ensure wide representation of relevant institutions and also communities. The Darwin Project Officers in Liberia have built links with local authorities and communities based in Nimba to ensure their participation and raise their awareness of management challenges and objectives relating to biodiversity and the implications of biodiversity loss for provision of ecosystem services.

###### **Activity 1.3**

Smaller workshops have been held in each country to consolidate information, bring key stakeholders together and define priorities. Further work is required to define priorities and to some extent this activity is currently being hampered by inability to secure data held by mining companies active in Guinea.

###### **Activity 1.4**

The Darwin project jointly organised and facilitated a successful stakeholder workshop entitled ‘Trans-boundary Harmonization for Biodiversity Conservation: Policy and Management’, with MRU and STEWARD. This workshop was held in Sanniquellie, Liberian Nimba 3-6th October 2010 and included a field visit into Guinean Nimba (to the village of Thuo, close to the Mt. Nimba World Heritage site). The workshop had the goal of formerly proposing a TCSEGP for Nimba, taking into account the relevant laws and requirements of the countries involved, and agreeing to the creation of the TCSEGP. It differed from previous workshops convened by the project in its involvement of community representatives and stakeholders local to the Nimba region. The workshop produced two reports that are available for download at the project website:

As a result of this workshop the laws relating to the conservation of natural resources within all 3 countries were assessed and the issues between transboundary cooperation were identified

between each country. The results of this workshop were jointly written up between the Darwin project and the US Forestry Steward programme and are available as two reports for download from the project website – the first ‘Policy harmonisation’ report outlines the existing laws and conservation policy for each country, and the second report presents a summary of the workshop results.

[http://www.nimbadarwin.org/resources/Policy\\_Harmonization\\_Final\\_Report%20\\_eng.pdf](http://www.nimbadarwin.org/resources/Policy_Harmonization_Final_Report%20_eng.pdf)

[http://www.nimbadarwin.org/resources/Sanniquellie\\_Final\\_Report\\_eng.pdf](http://www.nimbadarwin.org/resources/Sanniquellie_Final_Report_eng.pdf)

Following this workshop the next major activity is the creation of the Collaborative Management Framework based on these results and also the stakeholder mapping exercise.

The meeting planned for January 2011 in Cote D’Ivoire to seek formal agreement and to commence the development of a Collaborative Management Strategy was postponed. This is intended to contribute towards revision of relevant World Heritage Site Management Plans (which are out of date) whilst also meeting the wider needs of the Darwin Project. The Darwin project is currently communicating with UNESCO to stage this meeting in Guinea using the Darwin project as a facilitating organisation later in 2011.

## **Output 2: Data compiled during consultation process used by governance platform to identify priority environmental and livelihoods issues and working groups to address these created**

### **Activity 2.1**

Strategic meetings have been held with companies interested in resource extraction from the Nimba Mountains, notably Arcelor Mittal, BHP Billiton and SMFG. The project has registered its interest in independent review of the EIA’s being undertaken by these mining corporations and assisting the regulatory authorities in the development of required capacity to undertake their own reviews. Arcelor Mittal has agreed to continue to provide EIA survey data as a contribution towards the development of the Nimba Atlas. The project continues to seek equivalent data from Cote D’Ivoire and Guinea.

### **Activity 2.2**

A MoU has been signed between the Mano River Union and the project, which is viewed as key to the successful delivery and sustainability of the project. The MRU is seen as key to the development of a Cross-Sectoral Environmental Governance Platform for the Nimba Mountains because it is an established international association (named for the Mano River which begins in the Guinea highlands and forms a border between Liberia and Sierra Leone). The Agreement dates from 1973 and was reactivated in 2004 following a hiatus due to conflicts and civil war in the region. The purpose of the union is to foster economic cooperation between Liberia, Sierra Leone, Guinea and Cote d’Ivoire. However it also has an environmental component and will provide a relatively permanent framework for strengthening of sub-regional environmental governance, in cases where the countries in the union share a significant environmental resource, as in the case of the Nimba Mountains.

A MoU was also signed between the project and the US Forestry funded STEWARD programme (Sustainable Thriving Environments for West African Resource Development). The STEWARD programme focuses on capacity building for regional collaboration towards policy harmonisation piloting trans-boundary conservation and natural resource management at selected sites within West Africa. The project has worked closely with STEWARD since its conception. It was recently agreed that the project and STEWARD will jointly produce the Collaborative Management Framework working closely with and through the MRU. This accord resulted in a donation of \$30,000 to the project from STEWARD.



### **Output 3: Secondary and cumulative impacts of mining and unsustainable natural resource exploitation in the Nimba mountains addressed through the development and implementation of a Strategic Environmental Assessment**

#### **Activity 3.1**

Draft Terms of Reference have been produced for the SEA. It is clear that this component of the project needs significant input from the private sector companies, in particular the work necessary to establish reliable baseline data which will inform the process of agreeing management objectives, based on a participatory approach with stakeholders. BHP Billiton and SMFG have indicated that their activities in the region will require strategic planning and implementation and that the outcomes of this will contribute to the overall objectives of the project. These activities, however, will be undertaken in a modified timeframe dictated by these companies access to their concessions and the mine-licensing processes in both Liberia and Guinea. So, whilst the commitment to undertake SEA for the region exists, the timing may not adhere absolutely to the Darwin Project timescales. The longer term provision for governance of these processes within the MRU and by both countries will, however, ensure that the results will contribute to the longer term conservation objectives of the region, ensuring private sector engagement and commitment.

The project has received agreement from all the companies identified to contribute their biodiversity and community landuse baseline data to the Nimba Atlas. This data will inform the collaborative management plan for the region at a landscape level. The project also seeks to leverage funding from business collaborators to ensure support and participation of key stakeholders in the platform and associated meetings. Additional funds need to be found. FFI has recently been successful in its approach to NORAD for funding in relation to REDD and this project will benefit through shared community-based activities, particularly in Liberian Nimba.

#### **Activity 3.2**

Consultations with commercial and government partners have suggested that it might be preferable to consider establishment of a Collaborative Management Framework (CMF) which would allow sufficient flexibility for participating countries to approach development of management plans according to their own legal frameworks, policies, protocols and procedures. There are differences in the approach taken by Liberia and Guinea or Cote d'Ivoire in their approach to conservation planning. Together with the SEA, this activity will be a key focus of the project in the next reporting year.

#### **Activity 3.3**

The private sector has responded positively over the past year, with commitment to both data and in-kind support, and their recent contribution to assume the responsibility for the SEA – which will be undertaken within the process frameworks of international best practice (ICMM, company and country level). The SEA and baseline data will contribute to the development in 2011/12 of the CMP. AML, and BHPB, gave in-kind contributions to workshops, and Rio Tinto continues to voice interest in joining the initiative. This, of course, is all dependent on the political climate in Guinea, which has hindered mine license application and project progress for the mine companies. BHP Billiton has recently announced significant investment in the region and approximately \$20,000,000 towards environmental management requirements associated with their developments across the two countries.

Contribution of data for the Nimba Atlas has been particularly important and we feel confident that the recent increase in commodity prices and a more buoyant market will boost confidence and contribution to the programme of work for Nimba. In-kind contribution from AML has been, to date, approximately £18,000. In-kind contribution from CI and FFI has been similar.

See Activity 3.1 for additional comments in this regard



## **Output 4: Capacity built to integrate biodiversity into Environmental and Social Impact Assessment in the region**

### **Activity 4.1**

Linked to the stakeholder mapping exercise and ongoing consultation process work has been carried out with communities, CBOs and local NGOs to participate during the consultation – this is being supported by business ESIA results and sharing of findings in the Nimba. Information will be added to the Nimba Atlas.

### **Review: Trans-Boundary Policy Harmonization Project for Management of Forests, Biodiversity, Flora and Fauna of the Mano River Union States**

The project contributed to a review of EIA and other laws relevant to nature protection and biodiversity in Nimba to a wider review (at national level) carried out by the Mano River Union in collaboration with the US Forestry Service (through STEWARD). This review was central to the October workshop jointly organised by the Darwin project and STEWARD. The review detailed conservation policy within the Nimba countries and presented harmonisation of conservation policy and will contribute towards harmonisation of protection mechanisms for biodiversity.

The report is available for download on the project website (link):

[http://www.nimbadarwin.org/resources/Policy\\_Harmonization\\_Final\\_Report%20\\_eng.pdf](http://www.nimbadarwin.org/resources/Policy_Harmonization_Final_Report%20_eng.pdf)

At the request of the IUCN and in collaboration with UNESCO the project undertook a review of the threat status of the Mount Nimba UNESCO World Heritage Site in Guinea and Cote d'Ivoire. The result of this review will act as a guide for UNESCO to implement measures to protect the site. It is currently listed as World Heritage (Site) in Danger. The main threat to the Nimba WHS is as a result of the mining pressure, and the over-exploitation of bushmeat.

<http://whc.unesco.org/en/list/155>

<http://whc.unesco.org/en/decisions/1984>

UNESCO have also expressed an interest in financially supporting the TCSEGP, which will be pursued in the final year of the project.

FFI reviewed and commented on the EIA submitted by Arcelor Mittal for their mining concessions. FFI also commented on their Integrated Management and Offset Plans for their project, which makes provision for, amongst other details, a new nature reserve and the strengthening of existing protected areas. Arcelor Mittal also makes provision for community based forest management and improved sustainable agriculture practice – two areas which will be crucial components for a sustainable landuse and conservation management programme for the area.

### **Activities 4.2, 4.3 and 4.4**

A needs assessment will be undertaken when activity 4.1 has been undertaken in Guinea and Cote d'Ivoire and based on this assessment guidance and capacity building requirements will be identified and assistance and funding sought to implement training and capacity building activities.

## **Output 5. Effective community representation and participation in the governance platform through improved capacity of local CBOs and NGOs**

### **Activity 5.1**

The Mano River Union is a regional African NGO working in collaboration with the local STEWARD programme. Both of these NGO's have a network of local community representatives. Through the recent collaboration between these parties and the project we have greatly increased our network of influence, maximising resources and increasing the number of personnel in the field that the project now has at its disposal. All of the above demonstrates a functional and developing TCSEGP.

### Activity 5.2, 5.3 & 5.4

Field officers continue to engage with communities and local CBO, NGO and other organisations. The bulk of these activities were completed in earlier phases of the project. Political instability in both Guinea and Cote d'Ivoire have meant that capacity building of local community based NGOs has not been achieved.

## Output 6. Communications strategy for the project developed and disseminated

### Activity 6.1

The project's communications strategy has been further development and strengthened. The project website ([www.nimbadarwin.org](http://www.nimbadarwin.org)) is now active and presents an overview of the project together with a variety of outputs that are downloadable (e.g. reports & maps). It is updated regularly and is a crucial element of the communication strategy between the project partners. The project contributed to the Development Report published annually by the Humanitarian Centre in Cambridge. Contributions have also been made to newsletters which are relevant to the Nimba Region, including a recent one launched by STEWARD. Regular management meetings continue to be held in Monrovia, Liberia, convened by FFI in partnership with CI.

### Activity 6.2

Links and active collaboration is being maintained with partners so that good practice examples can be shared. This will become more important as the project generates concrete results.

### Activity 6.3

Production of guidance documents will follow in subsequent phases, for example guidance on biodiversity-inclusive EIA will follow the planned user needs assessment.

## 3.2 Progress towards Project Outputs

The project has progressed significantly in the delivery of an effective and sustained TCSEGP through the recognition and adoption of the project as part of the Mano River Unions overall programme. This recognises the need for the project in the area and its necessary requirement to the conservation of the biodiversity of the Nimba Mountains in all three participating countries.

## 3.3 Standard Measures

**Table 1 Project Standard Output Measures**

Code No.	Description	Year 1 Total	Year 2 Total	Year 3 Total	Year 4 Total	Total to date	Number planned for this reporting period	Total planned from application
Established codes								
6A	Number of people to receive other forms of education/training (which does not fall into categories 1-4)	7	5				0	20
8	Number of weeks to be spent by UK project staff on project work in the host country	12	17				20	45

Code No.	Description	Year 1 Total	Year 2 Total	Year 3 Total	Year 4 Total	Total to date	Number planned for this reporting period	Total planned from application
11A	Number of papers to be published in peer reviewed journals	0	0				0	1
11B	Number of papers to be submitted to peer reviewed journals	0	0				0	1
14B	Number of conferences/seminars/workshops attended at which findings from Darwin project work will be presented/ disseminated	2	2				2	6
15A	Number of national press releases in host country(ies)	0					0	3
15B	Number of local press releases in host country(ies)	0	1				2	6
15C	Number of national press releases in UK	0	0				0	1
17B	Number of dissemination networks to be enhanced/ extended	1	2				1	4
23	Value of resources raised from other sources (ie in addition to Darwin funding) for project work		\$30,000					£235,00.00
New - Project specific measures								

**Table 2 Publications**

Type (eg journals, manual, CDs)	Detail (title, author, year)	Publishers (name, city)	Available from (eg contact address, website)	Cost £

### **3.4 Progress towards the project purpose and outcomes**

The project grows from strength to strength. With the increased involvement in the project from representatives from the Mano River Union and the STEWARD programme a collaborative effort between all parties is now developing with the shared goal of transboundary biodiversity governance for the Nimba Mountains. Such collaboration is testament to the progress the project is making.

The intended outcomes of the project remain unchanged. Purpose level assumptions hold true, and the indicators remain adequate for measuring the outcomes of the project. The next critical meetings will take place in Guinea hopefully in June and September, at which point the transboundary governance platform will be formally presented to the Mano River Union. The supporting components of the project remain dependent on private sector buy in and financial contribution, however, all indications are that this will be forthcoming during 2011.

### **3.5 Progress towards impact on biodiversity, sustainable use or equitable sharing of biodiversity benefits**

Recognition of the issues relating to and impacts on biodiversity is the first step to managing the sustainable use thereof. The agreement with the MRU, and the recognition within each country, implies that the issues surrounding the sustainable and equitable use of biodiversity and ecosystem services of Nimba are being attended to. This will require ongoing attention, however, and continued commitment from all parties involved across all sectors. This is the intent of the TCSEGP. Progress has been made, and will continue to be made – particularly now that the private sector players have sign-off for investment in the region.

## **4. Monitoring, evaluation and lessons**

Within the second year of the project progress was monitored and evaluated by the Project coordinator, reporting to the Project Director. Progress on field activities is provided to the project coordinator by the project field officers in the respective countries. FFI has established a Management Steering Committee (MC) for its Liberian programme. This project falls under the Liberian programme and is therefore overseen by the Management Steering Committee. The MC meets twice a year or more often as necessary. The committee is composed of representatives from FDA (3 – two focal points plus one member from senior management), the EPA (2 – the focal point plus a member of senior management or the Board of Directors), the consultations/awareness focal point, the project manager (representing FFI-Liberia) and a representative from FFI-UK. As the agency responsible for co-ordinating international NGOs' activities in-country, the Ministry of Planning & Economic Affairs is also invited to send a representative. Partner NGOs can attend as observers. This broadly follows the model previously adopted by FFI-Liberia during the Liberia Forest Re-assessment project which was sponsored by the EC.

The MC is responsible for:

- reviewing progress, especially against the indicators set out in the logical framework. This helps to track project progress towards desired results and also to assess progress towards meeting the higher-level indicators listed for specific and overall objectives;
- trouble-shooting and advising accordingly if there are any problems in making planned progress;
- advising on logistical decisions regarding project implementation and financial allocations; and
- when needed referring questions and possibly making recommendations, to the directors of the participating agencies and observers to resolve issues of broader concern than just this project.

The MC is not a bureaucratic committee, but rather a technically-focused, practical working group, based upon consensual decision-making.

The committee reviews progress reports and discusses progress against work programme and budget. It provides advice back to the host country teams through the country project officers.

FFI-UK visits Liberia regularly to review progress, trouble-shoot, provide technical and administrative input, and plan and support the project in any other way possible. Project meetings are scheduled at these times and when possible the Country Project Officer for Guinea and Cote d'Ivoire participates in these.

Within the final year of the project activities will still be monitored as above but also by the Mano River Union Secretary General through the MRU head office in Freetown, Sierra Leon.

Lessons learnt this year:

- externalities such as the global financial crisis and political instability at a regional or country level can hinder project progress
- engagement with private sector partners can both accelerate and hinder project progress depending on the stage of implementation of their project development
- cross-sectoral partnerships are essential for sustainable development, and, whilst not all partners operate to the same objectives, it is possible to achieve an outcome that provides a platform for mutual benefit that can fulfil conservation and sustainable land use management objectives
- identifying and collaborating with higher level regional initiatives (e.g. MRU) can provide essential support to complex localised initiatives (Nimba)

## **5. Actions taken in response to previous reviews (if applicable)**

Not applicable

## **6. Other comments on progress not covered elsewhere**

The current political situation in Cote d'Ivoire is serious and threatens the ability of the project to operate in this country. In the meantime activities will be pursued in Liberia and Guinea and relevant project partners from Cote d'Ivoire will be invited to join project activities in these two countries until the situation in Cote d'Ivoire stabilises.

## 7. Sustainability

The sustainability of the project has been significantly strengthened following the signing of the MoU between the project and the Mano River Union (MRU). In short the project will be adopted by the MRU following its close 31 March 2011, and it will thereafter become a localised case study for the MRU. This will secure its survival and future support. MRU are the primary organisation specialising in transboundary activities within this region of Africa. It was the original intention of the project to pursue such a collaboration following the close of the project however it was felt that such collaboration would actually be better sooner rather than later. Its inception with a year left on project activities means that a working arrangement can be developed during the final year of the project during which an effective handover can be managed.

## 8. Dissemination

Dissemination of results and project progress is largely delivered through the project website ([www.nimbadarwin.org](http://www.nimbadarwin.org)). The results of the various field activities are available for download through this platform. Further to this platform community-based meetings have also been held to explore appropriate mechanisms for stakeholder participation which builds on previous activities.

Information notes have been produced and circulated and efforts have been made to ensure that partners and stakeholders are aware of the project web-site. Key documents are currently being translated into French to share with potential partners in Guinea and Cote D'Ivoire. All documents acknowledge the Darwin Initiative funding and bear the Darwin logo.

## 9. Project Expenditure

**Table 3 Project expenditure during the reporting period (Defra Financial Year 1 April 2010 to 31 March 2011)**

UK Partners		0			
Staff Member	Role in Project	%	Darwin Budget	Expenditure	Variance
Pippa Howard	Project Leader	15			
Julian Bayliss	Project Coordinator	100			
Chloe Hodgkinson	FFI Liberia Coordinator	10			
Letla Mosenene	FFI Liberia Director	15			
Conservation Livelihoods and Governance	FFI Human needs	10			
Martin Cheek	Kew				
<b>TOTAL COST OF SALARIES In country</b>					
Joel Gamis,	Partnership coordinators in Liberia	50			
Gondo Gbanyangbe	Partnership coordinator in Guinea	100			
Gondo Gbanyangbe	Partnership coordinator in Cote D'Ivoire	100			
James Kpadehyea	FDA, Liberia project coordinator	50			
<b>TOTAL COST OF SALARIES</b>					

UK Partners					
Cost			Darwin		
<b>Overhead Costs</b>					
Overheads					
Office rental, heating etc.					
Audit costs (maximum of £1,500)					
<b>Subtotal</b>					
<b>Travel and subsistence</b>					
International travel					
National travel					
Fieldwork travel and subsistence					
<b>Subtotal</b>					
<b>Operating Costs</b>					
Conferences, workshops and seminars					
Fieldwork operating costs (not travel)					
Other (please justify in text)					
<b>Subtotal</b>					
<b>Capital Equipment (Specify)</b>					
<b>Subtotal</b>					
<b>Other Costs (specify)</b>					
Consultants for stakeholder mapping for three countries					
Translation of docs to French					
Consultant to assist with policy review					
Production of Guidance documentation					
<b>Subtotal</b>					
<b>Country Partners Costs</b>					
<b>Overhead Costs</b>					
Institutional overheads					
Office rental, heating etc.					
Vehicle maintenance					
Fuel and insurance					
<b>Subtotal</b>					
<b>Travel and subsistence</b>					
International travel					
National travel					
Fieldwork travel and subsistence					
Guinea					
Liberia					
Cote D'Ivoire					
<b>Subtotal</b>					
<b>Operating Costs</b>					
Conferences, workshops and seminars					
Fieldwork operating costs (not travel)					
Working group meetings					
Steering group meetings					
<b>Subtotal</b>					
<b>Capital Equipment (Specify)</b>					
1 vehicle for liberia					
1 vehicle for Guinea					
1 vehicle for Cote D'Ivoire					
computer liberia					
office equipment					
computer Cote D'Ivoire					
<b>Subtotal</b>					



<b>Other Costs (specify)</b>	<b>carry over yr 1</b>				
Web site development and maintenance					
Consultants for stakeholder mapping for three countries					
Translation of docs to French					
Kew maps and GIS software					
Consultant to assist with policy review					
Production of Guidance documentation					
<b>Subtotal</b>					
<b>TOTAL</b>					

**10. OPTIONAL: Outstanding achievements of your project during the reporting period (300-400 words maximum). This section may be used for publicity purposes**

[I agree for LTS and the Darwin Secretariat to publish the content of this section](#)

## Annex 1 Report of progress and achievements against Logical Framework for Financial Year: 2010/11

Project summary	Measurable Indicators	Progress and Achievements April 2010 - March 2011	Actions required/planned for next period
<p><b>Goal:</b> <i>To draw on expertise relevant to biodiversity from within the United Kingdom to work with local partners in countries rich in biodiversity but constrained in resources to achieve</i></p> <p><i>The conservation of biological diversity,</i></p> <p><i>The sustainable use of its components, and</i></p> <p><i>The fair and equitable sharing of the benefits arising out of the utilisation of genetic resources</i></p>			<p><i>(do not fill not applicable)</i></p>
<p><b>Purpose</b></p> <p>To improve the collaboration between stakeholders across three sectors and three national boundaries to reduce threats to biodiversity from large-scale multi-national mining operations and support sustainable livelihood projects in the Nimba mountains</p>	<p>Governance Platform established and operational with cross-sectoral representatives from three countries, including community representation.</p> <p>Direct mining footprint is reduced through the development of Biodiversity Action Plans and targets using the mitigation hierarchy to avoid, minimise, rehabilitate and offset impacts on biodiversity.</p> <p>Secondary and cumulative impacts from mining are mitigated through SEA development and CMP implementation.</p>	<p>The Mano River Union has agreed to adopt the Nimba Darwin project as a local case study of the wider MRU programme in this region of Africa. This will ensure the longevity and sustainability of the project ahead of schedule.</p> <p>An important workshop jointly organised by the Darwin project and the US Forestry Service funded STEWARD programme 'Trans-boundary Harmonization for Biodiversity Conservation: Policy and Management' was delivered. This event harmonised conservation policy between the relevant countries and identified a series of action points required in further development of the TCSEGP.</p> <p>Host country partners and project officers engaged and active in</p>	<p>During the final year of the project we will work closely with staff from the MRU especially. We will look to identify a coordinator from within MRU that will take responsibility for the TCSEGP following the close of the Darwin project 31 March 2012.</p> <p>The mining companies have so far supported the project in terms of data sharing (the Biodiversity Atlas) and field support (accommodation/vehicle use), however they have yet to fund capacity building activities, which they originally agreed to assist with. During the final year we will pursue mining companies for increased commitment.</p>

		establishing contact with key organisations and partners.	
<b>Output 1.</b> Platform established and operational.	<p>1a) Nimba mountains stakeholders mapped.</p> <p>1b) Stakeholder consultation carried out to determine Nimba-related concerns and opportunities, sources of information available and willingness to participate in the work of the platform.</p> <p>1c) TCSEGP formally established.</p> <p>1d) TCSEGP operational.</p>	<p>The Nimba mountain stakeholders have been mapped and a report produced which is available on the project website <a href="http://www.nimbadarwin.org">www.nimbadarwin.org</a>. Consultation with these stakeholders has provided an understanding of key concerns and opportunities, the information available to the project and the extent of likely participation.</p> <p>Identified stakeholders from all 3 countries attended the workshop 'Trans-boundary Harmonization for Biodiversity Conservation: Policy and Management', at which concerns and opportunities were raised. Action points were noted and agreed upon. The workshop was testament to an operational TCSEGP.</p>	
<b>Activity 1.1.</b> Stakeholder mapping exercise carried out in the three countries identifying main stakeholders from the three sectors active in the Nimba mountains.		<p>Stakeholder mapping exercise undertaken in the three countries, including initial visits and consultations. Community, commercial and conservation stakeholders identified. Intended to be an ongoing process.</p> <p>Stakeholder mapping report available on the project website <a href="http://www.nimbadarwin.org">www.nimbadarwin.org</a>.</p>	
<b>Activity 1.2.</b> Carry out the consultation process in three countries identifying concerns and opportunities in Nimba mountains, biological data available and willingness of stakeholders to participate in the TCSEGP.		<p>Meetings were held in Cote d'Ivoire with rebel groups which are active in the Nimba area and have a considerable influence over local politics and land use. Stakeholders in Ivorian government institutions and other stakeholders are now "on board" so that it should be possible to initiate the process of capacity building towards EIA and SEA and involve appropriate stakeholders in Liberia, Guinea and Cote d'Ivoire</p> <p><a href="http://www.nimbadarwin.org/resources/gondomission.pdf">http://www.nimbadarwin.org/resources/gondomission.pdf</a></p>	
<b>Activity 1.3.</b> Smaller workshops held in each country to consolidate information, bring key stakeholders together and define priorities in each country.		<p>The Darwin project jointly organised and facilitated a successful stakeholder workshop entitled 'Trans-boundary Harmonization for Biodiversity Conservation: Policy and Management', with MRU and STEWARD. This was a significant event in the establishment of the TCSEGP, and the first time all stakeholders were gathered together.</p>	

<b>Activity 1.4.</b> Establish the TCSEGP through an initial workshop with all interested parties, integrating commercial, community and conservation interest, and defining the mission and scope of the platform.		
<b>Output 2.</b> Data compiled during consultation process used to identify priority environmental and livelihood issues and working groups to address these created.	2a) Working groups formed to address key priority environmental and livelihoods issues identified during consultation process.  2b) Plans to address key issues developed by working groups.	With the recent collaboration with the MRU and the STEWARD programme the Darwin project now operates through a working group structure that these two organisations have in place. Effectively increasing the network influence of the project.
<b>Activity 2.1.</b> Hold a meeting to consider all the data and issues raised in previous in-country workshops and meetings and determine the priority themes for the platform.		A MoU was signed between the Mano River Union (MRU) and the project, which is viewed as key to the successful delivery and sustainability of the project. With the adoption of the project by the MRU technical expertise and further strategic contacts have been secured for the final year of the project.
<b>Activity 2.2.</b> Create working groups within the platform to address specific thematic key issues through action plans.		A MoU was signed between the STEWARD programme and the project, which focuses on jointly developing the Collaborative Management Framework in conjunction with the MRU. The STEWARD programme works closely with communities in the Nimba mountains and will continue its programme after the end of the Nimba Darwin project. STEWARD's involvement in the TCSEGP is therefore important.
<b>Output 3.</b> Secondary and cumulative impacts of mining and unsustainable natural resource exploitation in the Nimba mountains addressed through development and implementation of a Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA).	3a) Terms of reference for SEA developed.  3b) Terms of reference for Collaborative Management Plan developed.  3c) SEA Final Report and CMP action plan.  3d) Funds secured from private sector partners to implement SEA and CMP.	Work has started in the development of the Collaborative Management Framework to support the TCSEGP. It is expected that this activity will be completed during the final year of the project.

<p><b>Activity 3.1.</b> Review of ToR for SEA.</p>	<p>The project contributed to a review of EIA and other laws relevant to nature protection and biodiversity in Nimba to a wider review (at national level) carried out by the Mano River Union in collaboration with the US Forestry Service (through STEWARD) - “Trans-Boundary Policy Harmonization Project for Management of Forests, Biodiversity, Flora and Fauna of the Mano River Union States”.</p> <p>The report is available for download on the project website (link): <a href="http://www.nimbadarwin.org/resources/Policy_Harmonization_Final_Report%20_eng.pdf">http://www.nimbadarwin.org/resources/Policy_Harmonization_Final_Report%20_eng.pdf</a></p>
<p><b>Activity 3.2.</b> Develop a Collaborative Management Plan (CMP) to respond to the issues identified by initial action plans and the SEA with input from the TCSEGP.</p>	<p>At the request of the IUCN and in collaboration with UNESCO the project undertook a review of the threat status of the Mount Nimba UNESCO World Heritage Site in Guinea and Cote d’Ivoire.</p> <p>The project is now also working closely with UNESCO in directing activities towards the protection of the Mount Nimba Strict Nature Reserve WHS between Guinea and Cote d’Ivoire. The project was involved in identifying current threats to this site.</p> <p><a href="http://whc.unesco.org/en/list/155">http://whc.unesco.org/en/list/155</a> <a href="http://whc.unesco.org/en/decisions/1984">http://whc.unesco.org/en/decisions/1984</a></p>
<p><b>Activity 3.3.</b> Leverage funding to ensure the full participation of the platform in the SEA and CMP which must be funded by relevant company partners.</p>	<p>Collaborative Management Framework stakeholder questionnaire developed and fieldwork started. Funds (\$30,000) have been secured by the project from the STEWARD programme to develop a Collaborative Management Framework.</p>
<p><b>Output 4.</b> Capacity built to integrate biodiversity into Environmental and Social Impact Assessment in the region.</p>	<p>4a) Laws and regulations reviewed.</p> <p>4b) Training needs assessed and action plan developed.</p> <p>4c) Funding secure for training needs and action plan implemented.</p> <p>4d) ESIA guidance adapted to regional context and made available.</p> <p>4e) Capacity of local NGOs built to engage in the ESIA process.</p> <p>Linked to the stakeholder mapping exercise and ongoing consultation process work has been carried out with communities, CBOs and local NGOs to participate during the consultation – this is being supported by business ESIA results and sharing of findings in the Nimba. Information will be added to the Nimba Atlas.</p>

<p><b>Activity 4.1.</b> Review laws and regulations for ESIA in the three countries to ensure that the EIA process takes proper consideration of impacts on biodiversity and ecosystem integrity and the follow-on social effects of these impacts.</p>	<p>A complete review of the laws and regulations in the three countries was undertaken in collaboration with the STEWARD programme which formed the basis of the October workshop “Trans-Boundary Policy Harmonization Project for Management of Forests, Biodiversity, Flora and Fauna of the Mano River Union States”.</p> <p>The report is available for download on the project website (link):  <a href="http://www.nimbadarwin.org/resources/Policy_Harmonization_Final_Report%20_eng.pdf">http://www.nimbadarwin.org/resources/Policy_Harmonization_Final_Report%20_eng.pdf</a></p>	
<p><b>Activity 4.2.</b> Based on review, develop institutional and training needs assessment and an action plan for capacity building on ESIA.</p>		
<p><b>Activity 4.3.</b> Secure match funds to offer training and implement training activities.</p>		
<p><b>Activity 4.4.</b> Adapt existing guidance on best practice for ESIA for the region and use it in training.</p>		
<p><b>Activity 4.5.</b> Hold capacity building workshops for local NGOs to assist them in understanding and articulating concerns about biodiversity and ecological integrity.</p>	<p>Workshop held in October “Trans-Boundary Policy Harmonization Project for Management of Forests, Biodiversity, Flora and Fauna of the Mano River Union States”.</p>	
<p><b>Output 5.</b> Effective community representation and participation at the TCSEGP through improved capacity of local CBOs and NGOs.</p>	<p>5a) Nimba communities, CBOs and local NGOs identified during stakeholder mapping</p> <p>5b) Concerns and willingness to participate mapped during consultation process</p> <p>5c) Capacity of communities, CBOs and local NGOs to engage at TCSEGP mapped</p> <p>5d) Capacity building and ongoing support to communities, CBOs and local NGOs offered by partner INGOs</p> <p>5e) Communities, CBOs and local NGOs are empowered and have</p>	<p>The Mano River Union is a regional African NGO working in collaboration with the local STEWARD programme. Both of these NGO’s have a network of local community representatives. Through the recent collaboration between these parties and the project we have greatly increased our network of influence, maximising resources and increasing the number of personnel in the field that the project now has at its disposal. All of the above demonstrates a functional and developing TCSEGP.</p>

	capacity to engage effectively in TCSEGP	
Activity 5.1. Linked to previous stakeholder mapping exercise in 1.1 and consultation process in 1.2 - Gather information on concerns and willingness of communities, CBOs and local NGOs to participate during the consultation.		This element is being tasked through the development of the Collaborative Management Plan. Field Officers are currently working with a questionnaire which addresses these queries.
Activity 5.2. Linked to previous stakeholder mapping exercise in 1.1 and consultation process in 1.2 - Undertake needs analysis of stakeholders' ability to effectively represent the community and engage with the TCSEGP and produce report.		This element is being tasked through the development of the Collaborative Management Plan. Field Officers are currently working with a questionnaire which addresses these queries.
Activity 5.3. International NGOs produce appropriate formats for providing support and capacity building opportunities to communities, CBOs and local NGOs.		This will also be addressed through the recent collaboration with the Mano River Union and the STEWARD programme.
Activity 5.4. Develop Support Plan and produce biannual reports on the delivery of capacity building projects.		To be undertaken during the next reporting period.
Output 6. Communications strategy for the project developed and disseminated.	<p>6a) Guidance for the promotion of trans-frontier cross-sectoral environmental governance platforms produced.</p> <p>6b) Outcomes and key learnings published in popular, sector and/or peer review journals.</p> <p>6c) Case studies developed for presentation within corporate annual CSR, social or environmental management reporting publications.</p> <p>6d) Web site produced and kept updated of all key proceedings.</p>	<p>The project's communications strategy has been further development and strengthened. The project website (<a href="http://www.nimbadarwin.org">www.nimbadarwin.org</a>) is now active and presents an overview of the project together with a variety of outputs that are downloadable (e.g. reports &amp; maps). It is updated regularly and is a crucial element of the communication strategy between the project partners.</p> <p>Contributions to newsletter relevant to Nimba Region (Upper Guinea Forest Focus)</p>
Activity 6.1. Web site created		Web site created. <a href="http://www.nimbadarwin.org">www.nimbadarwin.org</a>



Activity 6.2. Review of reporting and good practice examples discussed with partners.	To be undertaken during the next reporting period.
Activity 6.3. Guidance documents discussed and developed.	To be undertaken during the next reporting period.
Activity 6.4. Case studies distilled from examples of good practice and articles submitted to peer/ sector journals.	To be undertaken during the next reporting period.

## Annex 2 Project's full current logframe

Project summary	Measurable Indicators	Means of verification	Important Assumptions
<p><b>Goal:</b> Effective contribution in support of the implementation of the objectives of the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD), the Convention on Trade in Endangered Species (CITES), and the Convention on the Conservation of Migratory Species (CMS), as well as related targets set by countries rich in biodiversity but constrained in resources.</p>			
<p><b>Sub-Goal:</b> The Nimba Mountains are sustainably managed; providing protection to biodiversity, and sustainable livelihoods and ecosystem services to communities in the context of large-scale, multinational mining operations</p>	<p>Reduced habitat loss, ecosystem services maintained and sustainable livelihoods within mine-adjacent communities supported</p>	<p>Aerial and ground surveys. Well-being data from government development departments. FFI periodic review of project progress.</p>	
<p><b>Purpose</b> To improve the collaboration between stakeholders across three sectors and three national boundaries to reduce threats to biodiversity from large scale multinational mining operations and support sustainable livelihood projects in the Nimba mountains</p>	<p>TCSEGP established and operational, with cross-sectoral representatives from three countries, including community representation</p> <p>Direct mining footprint is reduced through the development of Biodiversity Action Plans and targets using the mitigation hierarchy to avoid, minimize, rehabilitate and offset impacts on biodiversity</p> <p>Secondary and cumulative impacts from mining are mitigated through SEA development and CMP implementation</p>	<p>Members list and annual and quarterly reports from TCSEGP</p> <p>Biodiversity Action Plans and targets made available to evaluate companies progress on minimizing impact.</p> <p>Final SEA, ToR and interim reports available to indicate progress of mitigating secondary and cumulative impact.</p>	<p>Three sectors in the three countries and the communities involved will participate and proactively collaborate in the TCSEGP.</p> <p>Minimum capacity in all the sectors to initiate the engagement.</p>

<p><b>Outputs</b> (add or delete rows as necessary)</p> <p>1. TCSEGP established and operational</p>	<p>1.a Nimba mountains stakeholders mapped</p> <p>1.b Stakeholders consultation carried out to determine Nimba related concerns and opportunities, sources of information available and willingness to participate in the TCSEGP</p> <p>1.c TCSEGP formally established</p> <p>1.d TCSEGP operational</p>	<p>1.a Stakeholder mapping report</p> <p>1.b Results of consultation process</p> <p>1.c ToR for TCSEGP</p> <p>1.d Reports of activities of TCSEGP, including on-going qualitative outcome monitoring of progress</p>	<p>NGO partners have access to sufficient networks to map stakeholders, and legitimacy to convene such a multi-sector platform.</p> <p>Stakeholders willing to engage.</p> <p>Geographical barriers to convening platform can be overcome.</p>
<p>2. Data compiled during consultation process used by TCSEGP to identify priority environmental and livelihoods issues and working groups to address these created</p>	<p>2.a working groups formed to address key priority environmental and livelihoods issues identified during consultation process</p> <p>2.b Plans to address key issues developed by working groups</p>	<p>2.a Minutes of TCSEGP defining creation of working groups and detailed scope of work of each working group made available</p> <p>2.b Copies of action plans and biannual reports made available</p>	<p>Working Groups have access to sufficient data, have the capacity to analyse it adequately and address issues</p>
<p>3. Secondary and cumulative impacts of mining and unsustainable natural resource exploitation in the Nimba mountains addressed through the development and implementation of a Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA)</p>	<p>3.a ToR for SEA developed with input from TCSEGP</p> <p>3.b ToR developed for CMP with input from TCSEGP</p> <p>3.c SEA final report and CMP action plan</p> <p>3.d Funds secured from private sector partners to implement SEA and CMP</p>	<p>3.a SEA ToR made available</p> <p>3.b CMP ToR made available</p> <p>3.c SEA final report and CMP final report made available</p> <p>3.d SEA and CMP developed</p>	<p>TCSEGP recognises importance of SEA and CMP, and has capacity and mandate to coordinate the development of SEA and CMP.</p> <p>Additional funding found.</p>
<p>4. Capacity built to integrate biodiversity into Environmental and Social Impact Assessment in the region</p>	<p>4.a Laws and regulations for ESIA, and preparation of guidelines to insure that the EIA process takes proper consideration of impacts on biodiversity and ecosystem integrity and the follow-on social affects of these impacts reviewed,</p> <p>4.b Institutional and training needs assessment and an action plan for capacity building for ESIA developed</p>	<p>4.a Revision of laws and regulations reviewed</p> <p>4.b Training needs and action plan developed</p> <p>4.c Funding secure for training needs and action plan implemented</p> <p>4.d ESIA guidance adapted to regional context and made available</p>	<p>Government and local NGO's recognise and value the requirement for ESIA's</p> <p>FFI able to leverage fund to offer training</p>

	<p>4.c Funds leveraged to offer training and action plan implemented</p> <p>4.d Existing guidance of best practice for ESIA adapted for the region</p> <p>4.e Capacity building offered to local NGOs to assist understanding biodiversity and ecological integrity</p>	<p>4.e Capacity of local NGOs built to engage in the ESIA process.</p>	
<p>5. Effective community representation and participation at the TCSEGO through improved capacity of local CBOs and NGOs</p>	<p>5.a Nimba communities, CBOs and local NGOs identified during stakeholder mapping</p> <p>5.b Concerns and willingness to participate mapped during consultation process</p> <p>5.c Capacity of communities, CBOs and local NGOs to engage at TCSEGP mapped</p> <p>5.d Capacity building and ongoing support to communities, CBOs and local NGOs offered by partner INGOs</p> <p>5.e Communities, CBOs and local NGOs are empowered and have capacity to engage effectively in TCSEGO</p>	<p>5.a Stakeholder mapping report</p> <p>5.b Consultation report</p> <p>5.c Report of capacity needs made available</p> <p>5.d Capacity building and support plan and biannual reports</p> <p>5.e Reports of TCSEGO meetings; perceptions of local groups</p>	<p>Communities, local NGO, CBOs locally are willing to engage</p> <p>Geographical/logistical barriers to engagement can be overcome</p>
<p>6. Communications strategy for the project developed and disseminated</p>	<p>6.a Guidance for the promotion of trans-frontier cross-sectoral environmental governance platforms produced</p> <p>6.b Outcomes and key learnings published in popular, sector and/or peer review journals</p> <p>6.c Case studies developed for presentation within corporate annual CSR, social or environmental management reporting publications</p> <p>6.d web site produced and kept updated of all key proceedings</p>	<p>6.a Guidance document made available</p> <p>6.b Number of journals publishing articles on key outcomes</p> <p>6.c Private partners producing case studies for their own web sites</p> <p>6.d Web site developed and up to date</p>	<p>Demonstrations of good practice available in time for publications</p> <p>Web site can be hosted through partner or on its own</p>

**Activities** (details in workplan)

- 1.1 Stakeholder mapping exercise carried out in the three countries identifying main stakeholders from the three sectors active in the Nimba mountains
- 1.2 Carry out the consultation process in three countries identifying concerns and opportunities in Nimba mountains, biological data available and willingness of stakeholders to participate in the TCSEGP.
- 1.3 Smaller workshops held in each country to consolidate information, bring key stakeholders together and define priorities in each country
- 1.4 Establish the TCSEGP through an initial workshop with all interested parties, integrating commercial, community and conservation interest, and defining the mission and scope of the platform
- 2.1 Hold a TCSEGP meeting to consider all the data and issues raised in previous in-countries workshops and determine the priority themes for the platform
- 2.2 Create working groups within the TCSEGP to address specific thematic key issues through action plans
- 3.1 Review of ToR for SEA
- 3.2 Develop a Collaborative Management Plan (CMP) to respond to the issues identified by initial action plans and the SEA with input from the TCSEGP.
- 3.3 Leverage funding to ensure the full participation of the platform in the SEA and CMP which must be funded by relevant company partners.
- 4.1 Review laws and regulations for ESIA in the three countries to ensure that the EIA process takes proper consideration of impacts on biodiversity and ecosystem integrity and the follow-on social affects of these impacts.
- 4.2 Based on review, develop institutional and training needs assessment and an action plan for capacity building on ESIA
- 4.3 Secure match funds to offer training and implement training activities
- 4.4 Adapt existing guidance of best practice for ESIA for the region and use it in training
- 4.5 Hold capacity building workshops for local NGOs to assist them in understanding and articulating concerns about biodiversity and ecological integrity
- 5.1 Linked to previous stakeholder mapping exercise in 1.1 and consultation process in 1.2 - Gather information on concerns and willingness of communities, CBOs and local NGOs to participate during the consultation
- 5.2 Linked to previous stakeholder mapping exercise in 1.1 and consultation process in 1.2 - Undertake needs analysis of stakeholders' ability to effectively represent the community and engage with the TCSEGP and produce report
- 5.3 International NGOs produce appropriate formats for providing support and capacity building opportunities to communities, CBOs and local NGOs
- 5.4 Develop Support Plan and produce biannual reports on the delivery of capacity building projects
- 6.1 Web site created
- 6.2 Review of reporting and good practice examples discussed with partners
- 6.3 Guidance documents discussed and developed
- 6.4 Case studies distilled from examples of good practice Annual Rep submitted to peer/sector journals

**Monitoring activities:**

- 1 – Carry out aerial and ground surveys of vegetation cover for the different types and look for evidence of functioning key ecosystem services (to be established as part of SEA)
- 2 - A baseline for the capacity of communities, CBOs and local NGOs will be developed through the stakeholder consultation and mapping process. Change in capacity, perceptions of communities and engagement in TCSEGP will be measured using a mixture of quantitative and qualitative methods, and on-going observation, to contribute to the reports.
- 3 – Projects carried out by the livelihoods WG will first establish a baseline and then measure progress using both appropriate quantitative and qualitative methods and on-going observation to contribute to action plans and annual reports.

## Annex 3 Onwards – supplementary material (optional but encouraged as evidence of project achievement)

Please refer to the website [www.nimbadarwin.org](http://www.nimbadarwin.org)

This may include outputs of the project, but need not necessarily include all project documentation. For example, the abstract of a conference would be adequate, as would be a summary of a thesis rather than the full document. If we feel that reviewing the full document would be useful, we will contact you again to ask for it to be submitted.

### *Checklist for submission*

	Check
<b>Is the report less than 5MB?</b> If so, please email to <a href="mailto:Darwin-Projects@ltsi.co.uk">Darwin-Projects@ltsi.co.uk</a> putting the project number in the Subject line.	
<b>Is your report more than 5MB?</b> If so, please advise <a href="mailto:Darwin-Projects@ltsi.co.uk">Darwin-Projects@ltsi.co.uk</a> that the report will be send by post on CD, putting the project number in the Subject line.	
<b>Have you included means of verification?</b> You need not submit every project document, but the main outputs and a selection of the others would strengthen the report.	
<b>Do you have hard copies of material you want to submit with the report?</b> If so, please make this clear in the covering email and ensure all material is marked with the project number.	
Have you involved your partners in preparation of the report and named the main contributors	
Have you completed the Project Expenditure table fully?	
Do not include claim forms or other communications with this report.	