

# The Partnership for environmental governance in West Africa (PAGE) is on!

Ouagadougou, Burkina Faso, 24.03.2014 (UICN-PACO) – The Central and West Africa Programme of the International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN-PACO) launches its new program of Partnership for Environmental Governance in West Africa - PAGE.

The Partnership for Environmental Governance in West Africa - PAGE is a regional five-year programme aimed at improving the living conditions of the people of West Africa through strengthened environmental policies and institutional frameworks. It builds on the achievements of the Poverty Reduction and Environmental Management Initiative (PREMI) - <u>www.iucn.org/premi</u>, for which it ensures continuity.

IUCN will drive a coordinated and multi-stakeholder action materialized through a partnership that has developed gradually since 2009, with intergouvernamentales institutions (ECOWAS, UEMOA, CILSS), the authorities of the basins in the region (Volta, Niger, Senegal), the Ministries in charge of water, environment and sustainable development of West Africa.

«Through this program, IUCN and its partners will report One of the greatest environmental challenges facing West Africa which is the need to reconcile development needs with sustainable natural resource management. Today, there is an urgent need to enhance biodiversity in order to alleviate poverty.» Said Professor Aimé J. NIANOGO, Regional Director of IUCN-PACO.

At various geographical levels and in many areas related to resource management and environmental governance, IUCN strengthen dialogue between institutional actors and civil society and support the implementation of national and regional policies dedicated to the environment.

"Devoting the various components of the program to the implementation of laws and policies, enhancing ecosystems to adapt to climate change, the fight against poverty and capacity building; this new program reinforces the work undertaken by the West African States. " Said Mr. Salif OUEDRAOGO, Minister of Environment and Sustainable Development of Burkina Faso during the official launch ceremony.

The program was officially launched at a ceremony in Ouagadougou chaired by the Minister of Environment and Sustainable Development of Burkina Faso. The ceremony was attended by technical and financial partners of the program and many representatives of the research community and civil society.

"With the PAGE program begins the third phase of the collaboration between Sweden and IUCN-PACO. IUCN through PAGE will further strengthen the regional partnership for conservation and sustainable management of natural resources. This partnership approach will promote the sustainability and success of the program." Said M. Richard BOMBOMA, Councelor of the Embassy of Sweden in Burkina Faso.

PAGE is a program funded by the Swedish International Development Cooperation - SIDA.

Download the brochure of presentation or Visit the website - www.iucn.org/page

## Photos:



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#### About the IUCN

#### About IUCN

IUCN, the International Union for the Conservation of Nature helps the world find pragmatic solutions to the most pressing environmental and development problems. Valuing and conserving nature, ensuring effective and equitable governance of its use, and developing nature-based solutions to meet the global challenges of climate, food and development; these are the areas in which IUCN activities are being carried out. The Union supports scientific research, conducts projects around the world and brings together governments, NGOs, international organisations and businesses to generate policies, laws and good practices.

IUCN is the oldest and largest global environmental organisation. It has more than 1,200 Members, Governments and NGOs and nearly 11, 000 volunteer experts in some 160 countries. To carry out its activities, the IUCN has a staff of over 1, 000 employees in 45 offices and is supported by hundreds of partners in the public, private and NGO sectors around the world.

To contribute to the IUCN Quadrennial Programme, the Central and West Africa Programme (CWAP) is based on 5 regional thematic programmes (RTP) which develop a regional vision and implement their programmes and projects: Forest conservation; Water and Humid Areas; Marine and Coastal Areas; Protected Areas; Law, Policy and Governance. The CWAP extends over 25 States and is supported by Country Programme offices and project offices.

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