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SUMMARY

In February 2002, the final evaluation of the *Support Project for Wetland Management in the Inner Niger Delta* took place. The overall objective of the evaluation was to evaluate the environmental, socio-economic and institutional impacts of the project. Its specific objectives were to analyse the project's relevance, effectiveness, efficiency, impact and sustainability.

The evaluation team, composed of Meg Gawler, an ecologist and Bréhima Bérédogo, an anthropologist carried out the study by analysing documents, conducting interviews and inspections in the field, together with a comparison of the projected results with the final outcomes.

The review found that:

- As far as relevance is concerned, this project addresses the implementation of the international conventions signed by Mali (The Ramsar Convention and others). It is also in line

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

The team of consultants extend their heartfelt thanks to:

- the staff of IUCN-Mali
- the national, regional and local staff of the Nature Conservation Department in Mali
- the staff of the different technical and public services in Mopti and Youwarou
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ACRONYMS AND ABBREVIATIONS

AAAC	Association for the support to community self promotion
APSLD	Association for the promotion and protection of Lake Débo
BRAO	IUCN Regional Office in West Africa
CARESTE	Use of capacities and technical and scientific networks as decision-making tools
CSLP	Interim strategic framework for poverty alleviation
DNCN	National Department for Nature Conservation
GEPIS	Group of experts on the Sahelian flooded plains
ILMP	Integrated Land Management Plan
LMC	Local Management Committee
MARP	Participatory Action Research
NEEMA	Association for the protection and promotion of Dentaka forest
NGO	Non Governmental Organization
PNAE	National Environmental Agency

FINAL EVALUATION

SUPPORT PROJECT FOR WETLAND MANAGEMENT IN THE INNER NIGER DELTA

1. GOAL OF THE EVALUATION

In November 1998, the Netherlands Embassy in Bamako signed a three-year financing agreement with the IUCN office in Mali, for the Support Project for Wetland Management in the Inner Niger Delta. The financing agreement includes a provision for a final evaluation of the project at the end of the field activities. The general objective of the evaluation is to assess and describe the environmental, socio-economic and institutional impacts of the project.

IUCN undertakes evaluations for two main reasons:

- IUCN is accountable to its members, partners and donors for the good functioning of its projects. The process of an external evaluation is part of IUCN's commitment in favour of transparency and responsibility.
- An evaluation offers IUCN and its partners the opportunity to learn, in a creative manner, how

- š preparation of the draft report
- š incorporation of comments from the IUCN office in Mali and the Netherlands Embassy and preparing the final report.



Map 1. Project area

The Delta contributes 84% of Mali's fish catches and 36% of the fish brought in at Mopti come from Youwarou (personal communication, Operation Fishing). Moreover, the delta receives a quarter of the country's livestock each year (personal communication, Mr Tiéro).

The climatic, ecological and socio-economic changes of the last decades have caused a dramatic change in the systems of natural resource use. Flows of the Niger and the Bani rivers have decreased from 80 cubic kilometres in the 1950s to 31 cubic kilometres in the 1980s (Diakité et al. 2000). Successive droughts have seriously jeopardized the natural equilibrium of the Delta (falling levels of ground water, depletion of spawning areas, extinction of fish species, deterioration of pastures). At the same time, the human population density in the area has increased substantially. Because of population growth and the consecutive droughts in the 1970s and 1980s, the traditional balance in the

Objectives

The general objective of the project is to finalize and to implement the management plans of the Akka-Goun and Dentaka sites located in the Circle of Youwarou. In view of this, three specific objectives were defined in the project document:

1. Develop local initiatives in the conservation of local resources.
2. Build capacity in the local populations, technical services and NGOs in the techniques of conservation and exploitation of fisheries, plant and animal resources.
3. Help local institutions to set up legal measures and mechanisms necessary for implementing the principles of local management of natural resources.

Beneficiaries and partners

The local population is mainly composed of Fulani, Bozo, Somono and Songhay and secondarily of Bambara, Marka and Arabs. Their economic activities are raising livestock, fishing, farming, trade, and crafts. The Circle of Youwarou is very isolated, and poor in infrastructure and community facilities.

6. RELEVANCE

The project falls within the scope of the international conventions signed by Mali, including the Convention on Biodiversity and the Ramsar Convention on Wetlands. The project works in one of the

of the evaluation, the local populations themselves mentioned that the regeneration of the forests enabled birds to come back and to use the forest as a resting and nesting zone, and to supply a source of food for fish with their faeces. As a consequence, fish resources multiplied, to the great satisfaction of the fishermen and the local populations, whose diet improved and whose income increased.

At the local level, the project meets the needs of the populations, and it is the only project still in progress in the whole Circle of Youwarou. By aiming at good natural resource management, the project has contributed to the sustainable development of Youwarou.

The central Delta of the Niger is also an area of conflicts. It is characterised by an irregular climate, which leads to irregular availability of natural resources. The sociological dynamics that result from this is competition for land, based on inequitable access to natural resources. Land dynamics combine pre-colonial, colonial and postcolonial regulations. Thus, the potential for conflict is very high because of the progressive diminution in available resources, together with worsening climatic and high

- ∅ Insufficient human resources allocated to the project: the project document does not provide for sufficient support to the coordinator in terms of administration and community outreach.
- ∅ Insufficient supervision of and support to the project in Bamako.

The project has the advantage of having a logical framework (Appendix G), but it lacks rigour: the results are not linked to the specific objectives and the activities are not linked to the results. In addition, most of the indicators have not been well thought out, particularly qualitatively.

8. EFFECTIVENESS

Management Plans

The overall objective of the project is to finalize and implement the management plans of the Akka-Goun and Dentaka sites situated in the Youwarou Circle.

Box 1.

SUMMARY GUIDELINES FOR MANAGEMENT PLANS OF RAMSAR SITES

(Source: Ramsar Convention Bureau 2000b)

The process of developing management plans provides the framework and the agreement between the different parties involved, required for the conservation of biological diversity and the productivity of the site; it enables the long-term wise use of these resources by people.

The management plan comprises five main parts:

1. Preamble

A concise policy statement which reflects in broad terms the policies of supranational, national or local authorities and that recalls the three broad Ramsar obligations:

- maintaining the ecological characteristics of listed sites

Box 2.

INTEGRATED MANAGEMENT PLAN OF THE YOUWAROU-AKKA LAND

The integrated management plan of the Youwarou-Akka territory makes official the Local Management Committee (LMC) and specifies its composition, attributions, sub-committees and functioning. Aside from resource persons, the LMC is composed of farmers, breeders, fishers, women's organisations and youth movements (each having three representatives), Local Council, the Committee for Youwarou-Akka Local Development, and technical services (having only one representative), and the village chief. The LMC elects its executive bureau, and is divided into three sub-committees: 1) the forest, fishing and beekeeping committee, 2) the agriculture and livestock committee, 3) the infrastructure, trade, craft and tourism committee. The LMC holds an annual general assembly, and the committee meets every quarter. The LMC is responsible for:

- contributing towards the annual planning for implementing the management plan
- identifying possible bottlenecks and suggesting solutions
- helping to coordinate the actions of different parties
- acting as an intermediary between the local populations, partners, and local authorities for anything concerning the management plan
- coordinating the activities of the sub-committees under its supervision.

The forest, fishing and beekeeping sub-committee is responsible for:

- the regeneration of *bourgou* and other species, in cooperation with the agriculture and livestock subcommittee
- monitoring of the flooded forest, particularly the fauna and flora
- the supervision of reforestation and the fight against brush fires
- monitoring the enforcement of the texts and conventions regulating the use of resources.

The main role of the agriculture and livestock subcommittee is to control the agricultural area and the access to *bourgou* fields, and to settle possible conflicts between farmers and pastoralists.

The infrastructure, trade, craft and tourism sub-committee follows the promotion and achievement of the activities foreseen in the management plan, and the mobilization of local populations for this work.

The ILMP provides for an annual meeting between the LMC and the Committee for the Development of the Circle, which is the official coordinating body for activities at the scale of the Circle of Youwarou.

Local Initiatives

The first specific objective of the project is to develop local initiatives for the conservation and sustainable use of natural resources. These initiatives concerned:

- the regeneration of *bourgou* (230 ha regenerated)
- the destruction of *Mimosa pigra*, an invasive plant in the *bourgou* fields (on 450 ha)
- "Chorkor" ovens, which process more fish, more rapidly, and with better quality, while using less wood.
- the surveillance of the Dentaka and Akka-Goun forests.

As the project did carry out ecological or socio-economic monitoring, it was not possible for the evaluation mission to quantify the percentage of restored areas, nor the percentage of the population that benefited from local initiatives.

Capacity Building

The second specific objective of the project is to build capacity in the local populations, the technical services and NGOs in the techniques of conservation and use of fish, plant and animal resources.

With the local populations, the project targeted capacity building through:

- awareness raising and mobilization of people through debates, and radio and TV broadcasts on international and local covenants and on the management plan, etc.
- environmental education – through the activities of the NGO “Walia”
- training in:
 - the development of management plans and local covenants
 - the management and regeneration of *bourgou*
 - forest management
 - the management of credit and savings for cr0.3ovt”

Box 3.

LOCAL CONVENTION FOR THE MANAGEMENT OF THE DENTAKA FOREST

The Dentaka forest is located on the left bank of the Walabo Debo between the village of Diankakore and the fishing camp of Dentaka. It covers an area of 308 ha and constitutes an exceptional habitat for water birds. The convention evolved from workshop dialogues involving local populations living at the outskirts of the forest, the supporting structure (IUCN), the administrative and technical services, the elected representatives, and the civil society. The subjects debated were the status of the forest, structures for managing the forest, the status of forest and faunal resources and their evolution, threats to the forest, and the concrete measures to be taken for the sustainable management of the forest. The aim of the convention is to contribute to the restoration of the calm necessary for the nesting and rest of water birds in the forest.

The participatory approach developed by IUCN and the technical services in 1986 led to the creation of the management committee of the Dentaka forest in 1989 - a committee composed of men and women. The activities for the restoration and conservation of the resources in Dentaka with the involvement of local populations were based on:

- the regeneration of the forest, mainly *Acacia kirkii*
- the organisation of grazing
- the protection of forest and faunal resources
- providing information, raising awareness, and training of local people in the restoration of natural resources.

The Association for the Protection and Promotion of the Dentaka Forest (NEEMA) was created in January 2001. It aims at restoring and conserving the Dentaka forest and at using the resources in a wise and sustainable manner. The bodies of the Association comprise: the general assembly, the board of directors (the executive arm of the decisions made by the general assembly), and the surveillance committee which is the body of the Association responsible for field monitoring. There is a surveillance brigade. An internal monitoring structure was also created to ensure the correct implementation of the Convention.

The Convention complies with laws in force in the Republic of Mali. Bans include:

- the exploitation, transportation and trade of forest timber
- forest clearing without permission
- brush fires
- hunting birds
- unauthorised presence of animals
- unauthorised visits

Acacia kirkii, the dominant tree in the forest, and which is endemic in the Niger Delta, remains fully protected.

The period and the conditions of access to the grazing resources in the forest, as well as the number of the livestock, are determined and communicated by the Association every year.

Actually, local covenants were implemented as oral agreements prior to IUCN's arrival. IUCN helped specify, improve and formalize what already existed, based on traditional knowledge and customs for the management of natural resources.

For example, fishermen know that certain fishing gear are forbidden in a given area: there are also no

- the improvement of preserving fish.

For the first two years of the project, operational costs (fuel, maintenance, communications) were

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The project focused particularly on women's involvement and development, through: their involvement in community structures and in motoring committees; training; Chorkor ovens and fish sheds (which address women's work); credit and savings banks; and market gardens. Nine women's associations were sponsored by the project, but even more wished to be supported.

In addition to interviews, we used the list of indicators established by the Parties to the Ramsar Convention to assess the extent of local populations' involvement in Wetlands management (Ramsar Convention Bureau 2000a).

Table 1.		
INDICATORS TO MEASURE THE INVOLVEMENT OF LOCAL POPULATIONS		
(Source: Ramsar Convention Bureau 2000a)		
No.	Indicator	Project
<i>Incentives</i>		
1	Local and indigenous people have achieved an economic stake or other interest in the wise use of wetland resources.	a
2	The government agency has stated policies supporting participatory management.	a
3	Appropriate legal and financial incentives for participatory management are in place.	a
4	A more equitable sharing of benefits among stakeholders has resulted from the participatory management process.	a
5	Stakeholders have expressed satisfaction with their involvement in the process.	a a
<i>Trust</i>		
6	There is a clear stated and widely known policy or legal document that makes a commitment to involving local and indigenous people.	a
7	All key stakeholders (particularly government) acknowledge participatory management as legitimate and desirable.	a
8	Local and indigenous populations are now involved in making substantive decisions affecting the wetland resource use and management.	a
9	Local organisations to advance participatory management are respected within the community.	a
10	Representatives of the local and indigenous people are truly representative and are accountable to them.	a
11	There are resource use and participation rules which are appropriate to the local situation.	a
12	A management agreement exists between stakeholders (oral or written, formal or informal).	a
13	The management agreement has clearly defined boundaries and membership.	r
14	The management agreement specifically defines stakeholders' functions, rights and responsibilities.	a
15	The management agreement has been approved by at least the resource-using stakeholders and key decision-making groups.	a
16	Parties to the agreement meet their commitments.	Too early to know
17	Non-compliance with approaches, rules, rights and responsibilities outlined in the management agreement is deemed to be at an acceptable level.	a
18	Any system of graduated sanctions for infringement of rules has been agreed upon by all key parties.	a

19	There is evidence that resource management controls are being implemented.	a
<i>Flexibility</i>		
20	There is the potential for collective modification of the rules relating to resource use by those affected.	a
21	There are "nested" management units (different bodies at different levels).	a
22	There is evidence that the local and indigenous people can influence the	

- Ø clear geographical limits in management agreements
- Ø the lack of monitoring and evaluation systems
- Ø a source of long-term financing
- Ø the relationship between the wetlands and their watershed.

The timeframe for this evaluation did not enable a real survey among the local populations. Nevertheless, the evaluation questioned some inhabitants at random: no one knew about the project or the stakes of sustainable management. The sample was much too limited to draw any conclusions.

It can be said that the populations with whom the project worked are highly involved and even enthusiastic, but we do not know what part of the overall population was involved in the project and benefited from it.

13. IMPACTS

This fourth phase of IUCN's activities in the Delta is a consolidation phase, and the Local Monitoring Committee considers it as the most important years of IUCN's entire intervention.

Ecological impact

In analysing ecological impacts, it is important to keep in mind that the strongest impact on the health of the ecosystem, natural resources and economy of Youwarou is simply the amount and distribution of rainwater and river floods. The impact of any project is of very secondary importance compared with the rain and hydrological conditions.

The most important ecological impacts concern the flooded forests, dominated by *Acacia kirkii*, a tree endemic to the Niger Delta. According to Beintema et al. (2001), the number of forests in the Delta with significant mixed colonies of birds have seriously decreased over the last fifty years, with:

- ⇒ > 20 forests in the 1950s
- ⇒ 8 in the 1980s
- ⇒ 2 today.

The two forests still intact are those where IUCN has been active since 1984. The Union has worked with local people to plant *Acacia kirkii* again. The local populations have developed local management covenants for the Akka-Goun and Dentaka forests, and a local monitoring system has been set up. Neighbouring communities are motivated to protect their forests because with large populations of water birds, they have noticed an increase in primary and secondary production thanks to fertilisation from bird faeces, with the direct effects on pasture and fish resources.

The villagers say that after the drought in the 1980s, the Akka-Goun forest was seriously degraded; the area was bare, and the inhabitants of Youwarou could see the village of Akka through Akka-Goun Island. Today, Akka is hidden behind the regenerated forest. The good health of the forest led to the renewal of fishing, which had nearly been abandoned around Akka-Goun.

Nevertheless, the protection of the Dentaka forest faces a number of problems. According to one respondent, some ill-intentioned people, particularly local people, gather eggs and hunt water birds in spite of the ban. Moreover, young birds are unintentionally caught in fishing nets. To solve the problem of hunting birds, the following will be necessary: increased awareness of the populations, food security and an enforced system of monitoring by local men and women eco-wardens.

Moreover, the fate of the manatee in the Delta is far from secure. The manatee is totally protected by law. However, when fishers (who are perfectly aware of the law) accidentally catch a manatee in their

Unforeseen impacts

Local authorities consider that the project has saved human lives, on the one hand by reducing conflicts among natural resources users, and on the other hand by regenerating the flooded forests that are used by pirogues for refuge during storms.

14. SUSTAINABILITY

The evaluation mission has doubts about the sustainability of vegetable gardening. We heard many positive remarks, but also some complaints about the difficulty of the work. What is more disturbing,

Ø

- ∅ The project has set up a solid basis for good management of natural resources by the local people, without outside support.
- ∅ The most important accomplishments are the Local covenants that complete the laws. The covenants established with the project's support are good patterns for other covenants.
- ∅ Local people now understand the meaning of biodiversity and of Mali's obligations with respect to the Convention on Biological Diversity and the Ramsar Convention.
- ∅ Awareness-raising through the media was done in local languages: Songhay, Fulani, and Bozo.
- ∅ The approach used by the Project Coordinator was successful in mobilizing the entire population targeted by the project.
- ∅ Representatives of the government services always accompanied the meetings.
- ∅ Training has strengthened the decentralized structures.
- ∅ The project limited itself to the role of a facilitator, while making key actors the local people and the technical services.
- ∅ IUCN was able to learn lessons from the past and from its work in the Delta.
- ∅ The people who have worked with the project are enthusiastic.

Most respondents were very positive about the project, and some of their direct quotations are included in Appendix I.

Weak points

- ∅ The project is too limited geographically. It is not sufficiently far-reaching in light of the ecological and socio-economic stakes. Neither the project nor IUCN-Mali seem to have lobbied in order to influence national and regional policies that could have strengthened the basis upon which the project is based. The main threats for the future of Lake Walado Débo and for the Inner Delta in general are external human-induced factors, namely:
 1. water diversion by dams upstream
 2. water releases from upstream dams, which can seriously perturb the entire ecological functioning of the lake
 3. agricultural pollution.
- ∅ The Land Management Plans do not have precise geographic limits. They should, at a minimum, include a land development planning map, developed together with the local people. The ILMPs have not been translated into local languages.
- ∅ The project lacks a research element that could have established the carrying capacities of the ecosystems in relationship with their use and the rapid population growth. Without such research, the project has no scientific basis for its actions, particularly regarding the long-term management of natural resources.
- ∅ The project document made provision for a process of ecological and socio-economic monitoring, nor for training local people in natural resource monitoring. This is one of the best methods to increase people's sense of responsibility and to give them tools for a more

systematic assessment of the effects of their management of natural resources (Gawler 2002).

- Ø Many respondents complained that the Coordinator was not present enough. He was sometimes in Youwarou, and sometimes in Sévaré or in Bamako, whereas IUCN needed more field presence.
- Ø In its design, the project team was too small; the presence of an administrator and a woman extension worker at Youwarou would have been beneficial.
- Ø The collaboration with the technical services at Youwarou could have been better.
- Ø IUCN experienced an institutional deficit, with the prolonged gap in the Bamako office. Generally, the administrative support to the project was insufficient, and the flow of funds suffered, sometimes with negative consequences in the field.

18. PROJECT FOLLOW-UP

Follow-up proposed for the current project

It would be desirable to keep the project going on until June 30, 2002 in order to:

- develop maps for the management plans and the local covenants
- hold a workshop to validate the ILMPs
- apply for formal recognition of the planning instruments
- translate the management plans and the local covenants into Fulani, Songhay and Bozo.

For the translations, it is recommended to create two-person teams: a professional translator in the target language and a bilingual person from the re

Youwarou, IUCN is well placed to support Mali in the development of a management plan for the Ramsar site, emphasizing the involvement of local people and decentralization in the implementation of the plan.

River-basin approach

In the first instance, the management rules should be expanded to the Youwarou Circle. For example, because of poor wood management, it is predicted that within two years, there will be no more wood in the Circle. What will then become of the forests of Akka-Goun and Dentaka?

5. Methodology

5.1. Data gathering

The methodology for collecting the information and data necessary for the evaluation should be carried out by the evaluators based on their field experience. The methodology should include at least four steps :

- J gathering and reviewing key documents (project document, financing agreement, progress reports, work plans, reports of training sessions and exchange visits);
- J interviews (with or without pre-established questionnaires) with: beneficiaries, local authorities, project partners (the National Department for Nature Conservation and Rural Development, NGOs and other projects intervening in the area ...), IUCN, and the Netherlands Embassy;
- J visits to the main realisations of the project in the field;
- J debriefing meeting of the initial findings to relevant individuals and institutions.

5.2. Composition of the evaluation team and profiles of the evaluators

The evaluation team will comprise two experts: an international exper

Encounters with different partners (Regional Office for Nature Conservation, Wetlands International, NEF, etc.) and visit to the Mopti regional administrative authorities

- 5th day: Travel from Mopti to Youwarou (in the morning), followed by meetings with local authorities (in the afternoon)
- 6th day: Meetings with the local people

- The Integrated Land Management Plans (ILMP) of Akka-Goun and Dentaka
- The local management covenants developed and agreed by the populations with the help of the project
- The reports on the training sessions and exchange visits
- The report of the socio-economic impact survey of *bourgou* in the Youwarou area
- The list of the organisations to be visited (with people's names if possible) including resource people and grassroots organisations), in addition to other sources of information that the consultants will have defined themselves
- Any other document that can help in the appreciation of the actions of the project in the area of intervention.

Appendix B.

EVALUATION MATRIX

FINAL EVALUATION OF THE SUPPORT PROJECT FOR WETLAND MANAGEMENT IN THE INNER NIGER DELTA				
Theme	Key issues	Detailed questions	Indicators	Sources of data
	How does the project address the needs of Mali?	<ul style="list-style-type: none">•		

Efficiency	To what extent does the project use its resources cost-effectively?	What are the strong points and the weak points of local initiatives in the project?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Regeneration of <i>bourgou</i>? • Forest monitoring? • Market gardening? • Fish transformation? • Credit and savings banks? • etc. 	Visits. Interviews.
		How has the project built capacities in: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • local people? • technical services? • NGOs? • others? 		Interviews.
		Has the project practised adaptive management?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What lessons has the project learned from the earlier phases? • Is there evidence of adaptive management (self-evaluations; follow-up system, monitoring and decisions based on the continuous supply of information) ? 	

	Are there unforeseen impacts?			Interviews.
Sustainability	Has the approach of the project favoured the sustainability of the results?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What are the long-term strategies with regard to the overexploitation of natural resources? • Is there an equitable involvement of women in the various management structures? • What was the degree of involvement of the different groups in the development of the management plans and other activities of the project? • What is the quality of the partnerships of the project? • Is there any multiplier effect of the local initiatives? 		Field visits. Interviews. Document review.
	Which results could be further built upon by the beneficiaries?			Interviews with beneficiaries.
	Which results could be further built upon by partners?			Interviews with partners.
Lessons	What lessons can be learned from this project?			Interviews.

Appendix C.

INTERVIEW PROTOCOL OF THE FINAL EVALUATION MISSION

SUPPORT PROJECT FOR WETLAND MANAGEMENT IN THE INNER NIGER DELTA

Evaluation team: Ms Meg Gawler, international expert and Dr Bréhima Bérédogo, national expert.

Introduction

IUCN undertakes evaluations for two main reasons:

- IUCN is accountable to its members, partners and donors as regards the smooth running of its projects. An external evaluation process is part of IUCN's engagement to favour openness and accountability.
- An evaluation gives IUCN and its partners an opportunity to learn in a creative manner how to improve its work and make its projects and programmes more efficient. An evaluation helps us understand why activities succeed and why they fail.

Thus, the aim of the evaluation is to increase our knowledge regarding best practices in the field of conservation and development.

So that this evaluation is successful, we ask you to talk frankly with us. We promise total discretion concerning this conversation. Moreover, be reassured that the sources of the information collected during this mission and specially this conversation will be kept strictly anonymous.

Objectives of the final evaluation

The general objective of this evaluation is to assess the environmental, socio-economical and institutional impacts of the implementation of the Support Project to the Wetland Management in the Inner Niger Delta and to identify lessons learnt from the project.

The specific objectives are the following:

1. Relevance

4. What has been your contribution to the project?
5. On the whole, what is the most important success of this project (if any)?
6. Do you want to mention other important achievements?
7. Have you observed any weaknesses in the project?
8. Has the project targeted the priorities of Mali, of the project area, and of the beneficiaries?
9. Is its approach adapted to the realities of the beneficiaries and partners?
10. Are there achievements or activities that have

4. In which activities did you not take part?
5. What did you learn individually and collectively?
6. What did you get in terms of securing livelihoods?
7. What could the project have brought to you?
8. What areas (if any) still need support, especially at the level of the local people?

Appendix D.

AGENDA FOR THE MISSION

<u>Day</u>			
1 st	Mon	04.02.02:	Briefing with the team of IUCN/Mali. Encounter with the National Director for Nature Conservation. Study of documents. Developing the methodology.
2 nd	Tue	05.02.02:	Study of documents. Developing the methodology, continued. Briefing at the Netherlands Embassy.
3 rd	Wed	06.02.02:	Travel Bamako / Mopti / Sévaré. Briefing with the Project Coordinator.
4 th	Thu	07.02.02:	Visit to the High Commissioner of the Mopti Region. Encounter with the different partners (Regional Department for Nature Conservation, Regional Department for Regulation and Control, Operation Fishery, Wetlands International, Walia).
5 th	Fri	08.02.02:	Travel Sévaré / Sélingué / Youwarou. Visit to local authorities (late afternoon). Encounter with the Head of the Fishing Sector of Akka.
6 th	Sat	09.02.02:	Encounter with the populations of Youwarou, Akka-Goun and those of Konodaga camp. Visit of vegetable gardens / to village women's associations, of fisheries equipped by the project and to Women's cash-boxes. Encounter with the Village Councillor, Local Management Committees, and the Head of SLACAER.
7 th	Sun	10.02.02:	Encounters with the populations of Dentaka. Visit of the Dentaka flooded forest.
8 th	Mon	11.02.02:	Youwarou: Encounter with the Nature Conservation Office, the Council of the Youwarou Circle, the Town hall and the Town council of Youwarou and the Association for the Promotion and Conservation of Lake Débo. Debriefing session to present the initial findings of the Youwarou mission, in the presence of beneficiaries, local authorities, partners, and IUCN.
9 th	Tue	12.02.02:	Travel Youwarou / Sévaré.
10 th	Wed	13.02.02:	Travel Sévaré / Bamako. Encounter with the Project Coordinator.
11 th	Thu	14.02.02:	Study and analysis of documents (continued). Synthesis of the data.
12 th	Fri	15.02.02:	Encounter with the IUCN Head of Mission. Debriefing at the Netherlands Embassy in Bamako. Synthesis of the data (continued). Begin writing report. Departure of the members of the evaluation mission.

Appendix E.

LIST OF PERSONS ENCOUNTERED

N°	Date	Place	Name	First name	Occupation
1	04/02/02	Bamako	Faye	Aliou	Coordinator UICN / Mali
2	04/02/02	Bamako	Mahalmoudou	Hamadoun	Principal programme leader UICN / Mali
3	04/02/02	Bamako	Tamboura	Yaya	National Director for Nature Conservation
4	04/02/02	Bamako	Samassékou	Sory	Head of the Training and communication section
5	05/02/02	Bamako	Mme Danté née Thiéro	Danté	Councillor, Development assistance, the Netherlands Embassy
6	06/02/02	Sévaré	Tiéro	Mamadou	Coordinator of the Support project to the management of wetlands in the inland delta of the River Niger
7	07/02/02	Sévaré	Sanogo	Moumouni	Head of the planning division, Regional office for Nature conservation
8	07/02/02	Sévaré	Gareyane	Mohamed	Project leader for Forest resource planning, Regional office for Nature conservation
9	07/02/02	Sévaré	Ba	Mamadou	Head of the Regulation and control section, Regional office for Nature conservation
10	07/02/02	Mopti	Boiré	Soungalo	Principal private secretary of the Government High Commission
11	07/02/02	Mopti	Sanogo	Flatié	Economic councillor of the Government High Commission
12	07/02/02	Mopti	Kéita	Madi Maténé	Regional director of the Regulation and control of the rural development section office
13	07/02/02	Mopti	Dolo	Apam	Assistant manager of the Fishing operation
14	07/02/02	Mopti	Coulibaly	Tiémo	Project leader for aquaculture and fisheries management at the Fishing operation
15	07/02/02	Mopti	Théra	Léwa	Head of the fishing section - Mopti, Fishing operation
16	07/02/02	Sévaré	Koné	Bakary	Coordinator of the Mali PIN project, Wetlands International
17	07/02/02	Sévaré	Balla	Alassane	Coordinator of Walia NGO
18	07/02/02	Sévaré	Koné	Sidiki	Programme leader / Walia NGO
19	08/02/02	Youwarou	Tiao	Sory Tiao	Village Chief of Homboloré
20	08/02/02	Youwarou	Diabaté		Deputy prefect of Youwarou
21	08/02/02	Youwarou	Dienta	Ibrahima	Head of the fishing section, Operation Fishing
22	08/02/02	Youwarou	Bocoum	Aminata	Vice-President of Association Hiden Bella Youwarou
23	09/02/02	Youwarou	Me Kassé née Gakou	Wandé	President of Association Hiden Bella Youwarou
24	09/02/02	Youwarou	Kassé	Dikoré	Member of Association Hiden Bella
25	09/02/02	Youwarou	Mme Sangho née Kassé	Anta	Organiser of Association Hiden Bella Youwarou

26	09/02/02	Youwarou	Kouyaté	Dicko	Deputy treasurer of Association Hiden Bella Youwarou
27	09/02/02	Youwarou	Coulibaly	Dado	Auditor of Association Hiden Bella Youwarou
28	09/02/02	Youwarou	Yattara	Lalla	Member of Association Hiden Bella Youwarou
29	09/02/02	Youwarou	Traoré	Belco	Member of Association Hiden Bella Youwarou
30	09/02/02	Youwarou	Mme Bocoum	Aïssata	Secretary general of Association Hiden Bella Youwarou
31	09/02/02	Youwarou	Anta	Allay	Member of Association Hiden Bella Youwarou
32	09/02/02	Youwarou	Hamé	Boulel	Member of Association Hiden Bella Youwarou
33	09/02/02	Youwarou	Togo	Félix	Head of the department of consultancy, planning and rural equipment
34	10/02/02	Dentaka	Kamata	Sounké	Village Chief of Dentaka
35	10/02/02	Dentaka	Kanta	WayandoAli	Notable
36	10/02/02	Dentaka	Dicko	Abdoulaye	Trader
37	10/02/02	Dentaka	Tienta	Soumeila	Carrier
38	10/02/02	Dentaka	Kamanta	Nouhoum	Notable, younger brother of the village chief
39	10/02/02	Dentaka	Nabo	Sory	Notable
40	10/02/02	Dentaka	Tienta	Bokari Omar	Fisherman
41	10/02/02	Dentaka	Tiamanta	Abdoulaye	Member of the Akagoun – Dentaka managing committee
42	10/02/02	Youwarou	Nialibouly	Boubacar	Head of the Nature Conservation department
43	11/02/02	Youwarou	Mme Traoré née Djigui	Mariam	2 nd vice-president of the ciresmés.9(ungeTw[

60	11/02/02	Youwarou	Fofana	Alpha	Member of Aka Goun management committee
61	11/02/02	Youwarou	Traoré	Sékou Békaye	1

Appendix F.

LIST OF DOCUMENTS CONSULTED

Project Documents:

- Document de projet (août 1998)
- Contrat de financement du 19 novembre 1998 entre l'Ambassade Royale des Pays-Bas et l'UICN Mali
- Plan de travail annuel 1999 (version révisée, mai 1999)
- Atelier de lancement du projet d'appui zones humides de delta intérieur du Niger (mai 1999)
- Rapport semestriel, janvier-juin 1999
- Développement du programme de conservation des zones humides de Mali (septembre 1999)
- Rapport d'atelier de formation en gestion des terroirs villageois (novembre 1999)
- Comptes rendus de missions 1999
- Rapport annuel 1999 : Rapport d'avancement du projet d'appui à la gestion des zones humides du delta intérieur du Niger (janvier 2000)
- Compte rendu – Réunion de conception Wetlands-UICN-NEF (W.U.N.) (janvier 2000).
- Plan annuel, janvier – décembre 2000
- Rapport d'évaluation du Comité de Suivi (avril 2000)
- Compte rendu de mission de l'atelier d'élaboration du plan de gestion d'Akka-Goun (juin 2000)
- Rapport semestriel du 1^{er} janvier au 30 juin (juillet 2000)
- Rapport annuel 2000 : Rapport d'avancement du projet d'appui à la gestion des zones

- Ramsar Convention Bureau. 2000a. *Manuels Ramsar pour l'utilisation rationnelle des zones humides : Mise en œuvre et renforcement de la participation des communautés locales et des populations autochtones à la gestion des zones humides*. Bureau de la Convention de Ramsar, Gland, Suisse. 91 pp.
- Ramsar Convention Bureau. 2000b. *Manuels Ramsar pour l'utilisation rationnelle des zones humides : Cadres pour la gestion des zones humides d'importance internationale et autres zones humides*. Bureau de la Convention de Ramsar, Gland, Suisse. 58 pp.
- Coulibaly, Z., Ndiaye, P. & Wit, P. 1999. Renforcement des capacités institutionnelles pour la gestion des ressources des zones humides en Afrique de l'Ouest. Rapport de la mission

Appendix G.

LOGICAL FRAMEWORK OF THE PROJECT

(Source: Project Document, August 1998)

LOGICAL FRAMEWORK	INTERVENTION LOGIC	INDICATORS	SOURCE OF VERIFICATION	ASSUMPTIONS
GOAL	Contribute to the conservation and sustainable use of wetlands in Mali	The loss of resources is stopped before 2001 on at least 80% of the area of the sites. Their harnessing is more balanced.	Evaluation reports of policies, programmes and projects of the area and/or region.	Stability and minimal rainfall.

- recognised at the administrative and legal levels;
- Small development projects are identified and implemented on the two sites and are about market gardening, birds subtraction, processing of local products:
- Actions of resource preservation are carried out relating to the regeneration of bourgou, reforestation, restoration of degraded zones and fight against mimosa.
- Number of small projects (eight):
Nature and Size: number of

- characteristics of the second site;
- Training and information sessions on the diagnosis and elaboration of management plans for the different interest groups;
- Structuring and animation of

Appendix H.

SELF EVALUATION BY THE PROJECT COORDINATOR

February, 14th 2002

RESULTS OF THE PROJECT WITH REGARD TO ITS LOGICAL FRAMEWORK

SUPPORT PROJECT TO WETLAND MANAGING IN THE INNER NIGER DELTA

December 1998 to February 2002

dispositions and mechanisms necessary for the implementation of the principles of local management of	supports by the institutions;	the managing of Akka-Goun bourgou field at least 6 times and Dentaka forest at least three times.	offenders The transfer of property ownership is not yet actual.
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Results

Activities

Review of the survey of resources and of the socio-economic study of the Akka-Goun site

Appendix I.

QUOTATIONS

To end this evaluation report, we present some direct quotations from the respondents.

"The Inner Niger Delta is an ecological miracle for Mali."

"The project was an opportunity for the local people and the technical services to discover one another."

"Through the Covenants and the Land Management Plans, the local people found ways to debate, to understand one another, and to settle conflicts. That has allowed everyone to feel truly involved. This is the first time these people (pastoralists, fishers, and farmers) have worked together."

"If today such species as the crow

