



# GRANTS for the PAPBio C1- MANGROVES Project

## Guidelines for grant applicants

*Second call for proposal*

Deadline for submission of proposals 31 March 2022



With the support of the European Union



## Note:

This guide provides useful information on how to apply for grants for the "Management of mangrove forests from Senegal to Benin" project. Applicants are strongly recommended to read this guidance document in its entirety before completing and submitting a proposal.

## 1. Overview of grants for PAPBio C1-Mangroves Project

### 1.1. General information

The International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN) is a membership Union uniquely composed of both governments and civil society organisations. It provides public, private and non-governmental organisations with the knowledge and tools that enable human progress, economic development and nature conservation to take place together. Founded in 1948, IUCN has evolved into the world's largest and most diverse environmental network.

Within the framework of the implementation of the Regional Indicative Programme (RIP), the European Union, in consultation with ECOWAS and WAEMU, has agreed to a grant for the adoption of the "Support Programme for the Preservation of Biodiversity and Fragile Ecosystems, Regional Governance and Climate Change in West Africa - PAPBio".

For the implementation of the PAPBio programme, the EU has signed two financing agreements with IUCN:

- The Financing Agreement for the implementation of Component 1 "Management of mangrove forests from Senegal to Benin";
- The Financing Agreement for the implementation of Component 2 "Regional Governance of Protected Areas in West Africa".

The project entitled "Management of Mangrove Forests from Senegal to Benin" aims to achieve integrated protection of the diversity and fragile mangrove ecosystems in West Africa and their enhanced resilience to climate change.

In its implementation, the project has set up a grant mechanism to support local initiatives for biodiversity conservation and the sustainable use of natural resources on a landscape level. Grants will specifically target local actions for biodiversity conservation, monitoring, resource development, training and the creation of new protected areas to contribute effectively to both the resilience of mangrove ecosystems and the social and economic well-being of communities by boosting activities.



Figure 1. Project intervention areas

## **1.2. Specific objectives of the grants**

The mangrove forest management project is setting up a grant fund to support concrete initiatives at the landscape level. Grants will specifically target local actions for biodiversity conservation, monitoring, resource development, training and the creation of new protected areas in order to contribute effectively to both the resilience of mangrove ecosystems and to the social and economic well-being of communities by boosting activities. Eligible activities are detailed in Table 1 and in point 3.2.6.

## **1.3. Funding allocation**

Overall, 48 grants will be awarded to support actions within each of the landscapes. These grants will be delivered through two calls for proposals. The first call has been awarded successfully.

The first call consisted of 29 grants for the four landscapes, and the second call will consist of 20 grants for the four landscapes.

## **2. Areas of intervention, themes and funding of the first call for projects**

Intervention area	Number of projects	Budget	Period	Eligible thematic areas
<b>Grand Saloum</b>				
Sénégal	1	40 000 €	6 to 12 Months	Activity 3.3: Strengthen the management capacities and empowerment of local associations, user groups and NGOs
Gambie	1	15 000 €	6 to 12 Months	Activity 2.2: Supporting research and monitoring activities in the fields of ecology, biology and sociology applied to biology and natural resources
Gambie	1	40 000 €	6 to 12 Months	Activity 2.4: Create, extend or restore protected areas and promote their jurisdictional and ecological integration within the landscape;
Gambie	1	40 000 €	6 to 12 Months	Activity 3.3: Strengthen the management capacities and empowerment of local associations, user groups and NGOs
Sénégal	1	15 000 €	6 to 12 Months	Activity 3.3: Strengthen the management capacities and empowerment of local associations, user groups and NGOs
<b>Gand Mano</b>				
Libéria	1	15 000 €	6 to 12 Months	Activity 2.2: Supporting research and monitoring activities in the fields of ecology, biology and sociology applied to biology and natural resources
Libéria	2	40 000 €	6 to 12 Months	Activity 2.4: Create, extend or restore protected areas and promote their jurisdictional and ecological integration within the landscape;
Libéria	1	40 000 €	6 to 12 Months	Activity 3.3: Strengthen the management capacities and empowerment of local associations, user groups and NGOs
Sierra Leone	1	15 000 €	6 to 12 Months	Activity 2.2: Supporting research and monitoring activities in the fields of ecology, biology and sociology applied to biology and natural resources
Sierra Leone	1	40 000 €	6 to 12 Months	Activity 3.3: Strengthen the management capacities and empowerment of local associations, user groups and NGOs
<b>Rivière du Sud</b>				
Guinée	1	22 861	6 to 12 Months	Activity 2.2: Supporting research and monitoring activities in the fields of ecology, biology and sociology applied to biology and natural resources

Guinée	1	50 000	6 to 12 Months	Activity 3.3: Strengthen the management capacities and empowerment of local associations, user groups and NGOs
Guinée-Bissau	1	60 000	6 to 12 Months	activity 2.4: Create, extend or restore protected areas and promote their jurisdictional and ecological integration within the landscape;
Guinée-Bissau	1	50 000	6 to 12 Months	Activity 3.3: Strengthen the management capacities and empowerment of local associations, user groups and NGOs
Casamance (Sénégal)	1	20 000	6 to 12 Months	Activity 2.2: Supporting research and monitoring activities in the fields of ecology, biology and sociology applied to biology and natural resources
<b>Mono Volta</b>				
Ghana	1	40 000 €	6 to 12 Months	Activity 2.2: Supporting research and monitoring activities in the fields of ecology, biology and sociology applied to biology and natural resources
Ghana	1	40 000 €	6 to 12 Months	Activity 3.3: Strengthen the management capacities and empowerment of local associations, user groups and NGOs
Togo	1	15 000 €	6 to 12 Months	activity 2.4: Create, extend or restore protected areas and promote their jurisdictional and ecological integration within the landscape;
Togo	1	40 000 €	6 to 12 Months	Activity 3.3: Strengthen the management capacities and empowerment of local associations, user groups and NGOs
Bénin	1	15 000 €	6 to 12 Months	Activity 2.2: Supporting research and monitoring activities in the fields of ecology, biology and sociology applied to biology and natural resources

Table 1: Areas of intervention, topics and grant amounts

Zones of intervention are mentioned on point 3.2.4. However, the priority zones and thematics are detailed in the Annex of the present document.

## **2.1. Percentage of costs eligible**

The PAPBio C1-Mangroves project will finance up to 100% of the total eligible costs of the activities for grants of up to EUR 100,000. Above 100,000 euros, 5% co-financing will be required from the beneficiaries.

Technical and financial reports will be required for all activities subject to grants. The project coordination team may request them, for specific needs, at any time.

## **3. Eligibility Criteria**

To be eligible for grants, applicants must meet the following criteria:

- Geographic area:
  - All the activities must have as their field of action the target areas in the landscapes covered by the project. No applications for implementation outside these areas will be accepted.
- There can be two kinds of players:
  - The main applicant, i.e. the entity submitting the application;
  - Where applicable, any co-applicants (the main applicant and their co-applicants) are jointly referred to as "the applicants" - (see Section 3.1)
- Schemes for which a grant may be awarded (see Section 3.2 below)
- The costs:
  - The types of costs that can be taken into account when establishing the amount of the grant (see Section 3.3 below).

### **3.1. Eligibility of applicants (applicants and co-applicants)**

The main applicant may act individually or with co-applicant(s).

#### **3.1.1. Principal Applicant**

To be eligible for a grant, the applicant must:

- Be a public or private legal entity, i.e. a company or organisation (individuals or traders are not considered eligible) registered as a separate legal entity in a country in the intervention area of the PAPBio C1 - Mangroves project;
- Be a local, national or international non-governmental organisation; an association or civil society organisation;
- Be a national or foreign university or research institute; a local or national government agency;
- Be a local authority or a legally constituted network;
- Be in charge of the management of protected areas or natural resources at national or regional level, or be in charge of a transboundary conservation area;
- Be directly responsible for the preparation and management of the grant project; and not act as an intermediary;
- Not be a beneficiary of an EU-funded grant for the same activities.

### 3.1.1.a. Conflict of Interest

- Partners of the PAPBio C1-Mangroves project who are already receiving grants are not eligible: IUCN Secretariat, Collectif 5Deltas (the co-applicants Eclasio, Kinomé, GRDR and United Purpose as well as all the members of Collectif 5Deltas) and Wetlands International Africa.
- Grants will not be awarded to entities that have on their staff an individual currently employed by, or closely related to (i.e. immediate family) an employee of IUCN, Eclasio, Kinomé, GRDR, UP or Wetlands international Africa.

IUCN Member organisations are eligible for grants provided that they meet the eligibility criteria and can demonstrate their legal and structural independence from the IUCN Secretariat.

### 3.1.1.b. Exclusion criteria

Applicants may not submit proposals or receive grants if they are in one of the situations listed in the 2018 Practical Guide (Section 2.6.10.1.1) See link below:

[https://ec.europa.eu/europeaid/prag/welcome.do?header\\_description=DEVCO+Prag+to+financial+and+contractual+procedures+applicable+to+external+actions+financed+from+the+general+budget+of+the+EU+and+from+the+11th+EDF&header\\_keywords=ePrag%2C+europa&locale=en](https://ec.europa.eu/europeaid/prag/welcome.do?header_description=DEVCO+Prag+to+financial+and+contractual+procedures+applicable+to+external+actions+financed+from+the+general+budget+of+the+EU+and+from+the+11th+EDF&header_keywords=ePrag%2C+europa&locale=en) . To this end, applicants must sign a dedicated statement (see Annex 2).

### 3.1.2. Co-applicants

Co-applicants participate in the design and implementation of the scheme, and the costs they incur are eligible in the same way as those incurred by the lead applicant. Co-applicants must meet the same eligibility criteria as those applicable to the main applicant. Co-applicants must sign the mandate included in Annex 3 of these Guidelines. If the grant contract is awarded, any co-applicants will become beneficiaries of the project on the same basis as the lead applicant.

### 3.1.3. Responsibilities of beneficiaries

Beneficiaries of financial support are directly responsible for the preparation and implementation of the schemes financed by the fund. Proposals submitted by an intermediary entity for the benefit of a third party are not eligible.

Beneficiaries will be required to submit financial and technical reports every 3 months.

## 3.2. Eligible Schemes

### 3.2.1. Definition

A scheme is composed of a set of activities.

### 3.2.2. Duration

Proposals submitted in response to this call must have a maximum duration of 12 months.

### 3.2.3. Start and end dates

**Start date:** The date of the call for projects is 28 February 2022 and the contracts will be drawn up and signed in June 2022.

**End date :** no later than 12 months after the signature of the grant contract.

All project activities and results must be completed by the end date of the project grant. Any extensions shall be subject to a written agreement between the signatory parties.

#### 3.2.4. Scheme areas

The schemes must take place in one of the intervention landscapes of the PAPBio C1-Mangroves project. However, the exact areas of project intervention are specified in Table 1. The landscapes are as follows:

- **Grand Saloum** (Saloum Delta Biosphere Reserve in Senegal and Niimi Biosphere Reserve in The Gambia);
- **Southern Rivers** (Lower Casamance in Senegal, Bijagós Archipelago - rio Cacheu - rio Cacine in Guinea-Bissau and - Tristao Islands in Guinea);
- **Grand Mano** (Yawri bay, Sherbro & Turtle islands in Sierra Leone and Lake Piso in Liberia);
- **Mono-Volta** (Songor Lagoon and Anlo-Keta Lagoons in Ghana, Bouche du Roy in Benin and Mono Delta Biosphere Reserve in Benin and Togo).

#### 3.2.5. Types of eligible schemes

In addition to the themes identified in point 1.2, proposals must:

- In the case of protected areas, address clear priorities for the management and governance of protected/conserved areas or the sites identified, the sustainable use of natural resources and livelihoods of local communities adjacent to priority areas;
- Be consistent with the specific objectives of the PAPBio C1-Mangroves project
- Achieve tangible results and impacts on the ground, expressed through clear indicators included in the simplified logical framework of activities;
- Allow the sharing of project data and information with all partners
- Be financially efficient and sustainable;
- Be applicable practically on the ground, and limited in time to avoid dependency on the support provided by the Action Fund.

#### 3.2.6. Sectors and themes covered by eligible activities

Eligible activities are:

- Support for research and monitoring activities in the fields of ecology, biology and sociology applied to biology and natural resources
- Creating, extending or restoring areas with the vocation of protected areas and promoting their jurisdictional and ecological integration within the landscape
- Strengthening the management capacities and empowerment of associations, user groups and local NGOs.

The themes of the proposals are defined more precisely in table 1.

The following types of schemes are not eligible:

- Purchase of land
- Activities that may lead to voluntary or involuntary displacement of populations;
- Activities on the lands or territories of indigenous peoples without their free, prior and informed consent;
- Activities on land contested by local communities or indigenous peoples;



- Activities negatively affecting physical cultural resources and access to them, including those important to local communities;
- The removal or alteration of physical cultural property (including sites with unique archaeological, paleontological, historical, religious, or natural value);
- Activities significantly affecting vulnerable groups in the local communities, indigenous peoples, or where these communities, vulnerable groups, indigenous peoples have not given their broad support to the activities concerned;
- Activities involving the acquisition, handling, storage and use of illegal pesticides or products prohibited by local, national or international regulations in force.

Any rental and/or leasing of equipment must be submitted in advance to IUCN in a timely manner for approval. In addition, applicants must not offer financial support to third parties through cascading grants.

### 3.2.7. Environmental and Social Analysis

The PAPBio C1-Mangroves project approves proposals for their technical merit and skilful budgeting, but also for their potential to address possible negative social and environmental impacts and their ability to respond, in accordance with the Environmental and Social Management System (ESMS). The ESMS is guided by general principles and standards that reflect the key environmental and social domains that are at the heart of IUCN's approach to conservation.

Environmental and social issues will be taken into account during the finalisation of the concept notes, which will be done between the project leader and the co-applicants responsible for the supervision and coherence of the proposals.

## 3.3. Eligibility of costs

### 3.3.1. Eligible costs

Only eligible costs will be financed from this grant fund. These costs must be:

- Necessary for the implementation of the activities;
- Reasonable, justified and consistent with the principles of efficient financial management, in particular in terms of value for money and cost-effectiveness;
- Generated on the basis of the grant (costs incurred before the official start date of the activities or after the official end date of the project are not eligible);
- Identifiable and verifiable;
- Compliant with national rules on procurement procedures;
- Compliant with the requirements of the applicable tax and social legislation.

#### 3.3.1.a. Categories of eligible costs

- **Human resources** - The costs of staff working under an employment contract with the beneficiary or an equivalent appointment document assigned to the scheme, provided that these costs are in line with the usual remuneration policy of the beneficiary. These costs include actual salaries plus social security contributions and other statutory costs included in remuneration.

- **Travel** - The costs of travel and related per diems, provided that these costs are in line with the beneficiary's usual travel practices and necessary for the exclusive activities of the project.
- **Equipment and supplies for the project** - provided that purchases are made in accordance with the rules specified in the Procedures Manual and comply with national public procurement regulations, where applicable.
- **Costs of the local office used for project staff.** In the case of a contribution to this cost, the proportion of the grant awarded under PAPBio C1-Mangroves must be specified.
- **Management costs** - management costs (indirect costs) must not exceed 7% of the total cost of the grant.
- **Other costs, services** - Costs arising from subcontracts, provided that purchases are made in accordance with the tendering policy of PAPBio C1-Mangroves and comply with national public procurement regulations, if applicable.

### 3.3.2. Ineligible costs

The following costs are not eligible:

- Debts and debt servicing interest;
- Provisions for losses or potential future liabilities;
- Costs declared by the beneficiary/ies and financed by another scheme or work programme;
- Purchase of land or buildings;
- Exchange rate losses;
- Credit to third parties;
- Salary costs of staff in national administrations, unless they relate to the cost of activities which the public authority concerned would not carry out if the scheme were not implemented, as shown in the list of responsibilities of the specified staff;
- Costs resulting in personal or private profit.

### 3.3.3. Correction to the budget

The award of a grant is always subject to the condition that checks prior to the signature of the grant contract do not reveal problems requiring substantial changes to the budget (such as miscalculations, inaccuracies, unrealistic or ineligible costs). Checks may give rise to requests for clarification, and may lead the project team to impose changes or reductions to correct such errors or inaccuracies. These modifications or corrections must not, under any circumstances or in any form whatsoever, lead to an increase in the amount of the grant. It is therefore in the interests of the applicant to provide a realistic and economically attractive budget.

### 3.3.4. Eligible indirect costs

Indirect costs incurred in carrying out the scheme may be eligible for flat-rate funding of up to 7% of the estimated total eligible direct costs. Indirect costs must not include costs assigned to another budget heading as direct costs. The lead applicant may be asked to justify the percentage required before the signature of the grant contract. However, once the fixed rate has been set in the special conditions of the grant contract, no supporting documents need to be provided afterwards.

## 4. How to apply, procedure to follow

The grant application process is a single-stage process with submission of a a proposal for a concept note proposal for evaluation, scoring and final selection.

#### 4.1. Requests for Proposals

Applications must be submitted in English, French or Portuguese. A single application cannot be written in both languages together.

The application must be submitted through the email address [Procurement-Paco@iucn.org](mailto:Procurement-Paco@iucn.org). All documents, forms and related materials should be compiled and submitted in a folder named as follows: **Mangrove\_PAPBio\_Country\_Name** of applicant organisation<sup>1</sup>.

Please note that only the request for proposals form and the official additional documents (budget, logical framework, ESMS questionnaire, mandate, affidavit, capacity questionnaire, workplan) need to be completed in order to be evaluated. It is therefore essential that these documents contain ALL the relevant information concerning the scheme. Lead Applicants must ensure that their proposal is complete, using the Proposal Checklist.

**NB:** Incomplete proposals will be rejected. Any significant errors or discrepancies related to the items listed in the instructions in the Application Form, any missing documents, or any major inconsistencies in the proposal (e.g. if the amounts in the budget tables are inconsistent) could lead to the application being rejected. Clarifications will only be requested when the information provided is unclear and thus prevents an objective assessment from being made.

#### 4.2. Support during project design

The PAPBio C1-Mangroves project team is available to answer any general queries on grant applications. Applicants should send their questions to the following address: [paul.tendeng@iucn.org](mailto:paul.tendeng@iucn.org).

Concept note proposals sent to this address will not be considered. Only completed applications sent to [Procurement-Paco@iucn.org](mailto:Procurement-Paco@iucn.org) will be considered.

#### 4.3. Deadlines for submission of proposals

The deadline for submitting proposals is 31 March 2022.

<b>Wording</b>	<b>DATE</b>
Launch of the call	28 February 2022
Deadline for requesting clarifications	31 March 2022
Deadline for submission of proposals	31 March 2022
Checking of proposals	1 April 2022
Evaluation process of proposals and interview	From 1st April to 29 April 2022
Notification of results to applicants	30 April 2022
Development of Project	From 1st May to 29 May 2022
Signing of grant agreements Early	June 2022

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<sup>1</sup> To ensure a good follow-up of the files, we recommend to follow the code indicated: Mangrove\_PAPBio\_the country of submission (Senegal, Gambia, Senegal-Casamance, Guinea-Bissau, Guinea, Sierra Leone, Liberia, Ghana, Togo, Benin) the name of the organisation carrying out the project

#### 4.4. Additional information on the proposals

Questions that may be relevant to applicants, together with the corresponding answers, are published on the Portal in the Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ) tab

In the event of difficulties not solved by consulting the Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ), questions may be sent by email to the address mentioned above, no later than 10 calendar days before the deadline for submission of full proposals (21 March 2022).

#### 4.5. Number of grant applications per applicant

An organisation may submit only two proposal per Call for Proposals as lead applicant. However, an organisation may be the lead applicant on one proposal and co-applicant on another. In this case, the organization will need to demonstrate that it has sufficient human and technical resources to successfully implement three projects.

#### 4.6. Grant assessment criteria

Mastery of the problem and understanding of the issues of the territory	10 pts
Relevance of the proposed action in response to a clearly identified and presented issue/intervention	20 pts
Coherence and clarity of activities, results and specific objectives	15pts
Clear, logical, fair and coherent organisation of the terms	10 pts
Relevant, elaborate and adequate financial proposal	15 pts
Clearly detailed budgetary justification for the action	15 pts
Consistent timetable that is feasible for the completion of the action	5 pts
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>100 pts</b>

Funding is awarded to the top-ranked proposals in each type of grant, according to the total final score. In the event of equal scores, proposals with co-benefits beyond conservation alone, e.g. on human well-being, climate change mitigation or adaptation, or encouraging regional cooperation, or proposals including in-kind contributions will be given preference.

#### 4.7. Notification to applicants

After receipt of the Selection Committee's decision, selected applicants will be notified within 10 calendar days. When requested, applicants whose proposal has been rejected will receive an explanation of the main reason for rejection from the PAPBio C1-Mangrove project team.

#### 4.8. Complaint Mechanism

The PAPBio C1-Mangrove project team will provide an explanation to all applicants whose proposals are rejected and who ask for an explanation. Applicants are encouraged to contact the team if they have any further questions about the decision. If the applicant is not satisfied with the answers and explanations provided, a complaint can be submitted to the following address: [paul.tendeng@iucn.org](mailto:paul.tendeng@iucn.org)

## Annexes

1. Application form

2. Applicant's affidavit
3. Mandate of the co-applicant
4. Capacity questionnaire
5. Budget template
6. Workplan template

**Annex: Identification of priority areas and actions**  
**Maximum duration: 12 months**  
**Closing date: 31<sup>st</sup> March 2022**

**GRAND SALOUM – Senegal (Saloum) and the Gambia**

<b>Priority areas</b>
Joal-Fadiouth Marine Protected Areas (MPA) and its surroundings
Palmarin Community Nature Reserve and its surroundings
Sangomar Marine Protected Areas (MPA) and its surroundings
Gandoul Marine Protected Areas (in its new boundaries) and its surroundings
Bamboung Marine Protected Areas (MPA) and its surroundings
Saloum Delta National Park (PNDS)
Niumi National Park de (NNP) and its surroundings
Jokadu National Park de (JNP) and its surroundings

**Priority Actions**

**1 - Support research and monitoring actions in the fields of ecology, biology and sociology applied to biodiversity and natural resources**

**Maximum amount: € 15 000; Minimum amount € 10 000**

**Priority Themes**

Priority initiatives of monitoring or applied research, fundamental research, Bachelor's, Master's or PhD thesis on ecosystems and mangrove resource development, in order to support sustainable management measures, such as :

- 1. Water erosion and its impacts on the ecosystem
- 2. Importance of mangroves for the conservation of fisheries resources
- 3. Importance of mangroves for carbon sequestration
- 4. Cultural dimension in mangrove preservation
- 5. Related aspects to the socio-economic dimension
- 6. Ecology and biology of some emblematic species: dolphins, manatees, hyenas, birds, etc.
- 7. Development of specific action plans for emblematic species and/or their implementation.
- 8. Relevance of longer biological rest for certain species
- 9. Mapping of land use dynamics

## 2 - Create, expand or restore spaces intended for protected areas and promote their jurisdictional and ecological integration within landscapes

Maximum amount: € 40 000; Minimum amount € 30 000

### Priority Sub-actions

- 1. Reforestation and initiatives (incl. transboundary ones) for the assisted natural regeneration of mangroves (*Rhizophora* and *Avicennia*) for the reconstitution of ecosystems conducive to the reproduction and development of fishery resources
- 2. Local initiatives for sustainable management and conservation of mangrove ecosystem resources
- 3. Elaboration and/or updating of simple management plans and/or local conventions for the sustainable conservation of mangrove ecosystems in unprotected sites; Support to implementation and monitoring of selected priority actions.
- 4. Elaboration/updating and/or implementation of development and management plans for protected areas containing mangrove zones and adjacent terrestrial forests
- 5. Creation/Extension of Protected Areas (ICCAs<sup>2</sup>, PFA<sup>3</sup>, AMCP<sup>4</sup>, RNC<sup>5</sup>, etc.)
- 6. Promotion of the use of improved ovens in smoking fishery products
- 7. Creation of village wood for a sustainable alternative supply in replacing mangrove wood and for alternative income generation (*eucalyptus*, *teak*, *prosopis*, *acacia nilotica*, *coconut*, *moringa*, etc.) or creation of stores - energy promoting the use of gas.

## 3 - Strengthen the management and empowerment capacities of associations, user groups, local NGOs.

Maximum amount: € 40 000; Minimum amount € 30 000

### Priority Sub-actions

- 1. Development and implementation of communication and advocacy strategies and plans for key stakeholders
- 2. Training on mangroves (*Rhizophora* and *Avicennia*) restoration techniques and of selected forest species
- 3. Capacity building of existing national/local actors in management of organization (administrative and financial)
- 4. Capacity-buidling on fundrasing
- 5. Setting up IT platforms: website, geographic information system, environmental information system, early warning system, data collection system, etc..

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<sup>2</sup> indigenous peoples' and community conserved territories and areas

<sup>3</sup> Protected Fishing Areas

<sup>4</sup> Community Marine Protected Areas

<sup>5</sup> Community Nature Reserve

## Mono Volta (Bénin, Togo, Ghana)

Priority zones
Akissa Sacred Forest (Togo)
Gbaga canal – islands across from Aného (Togo)
Mono Transboundary Biosphère Reserve (priority will be given to transboundary activities) (Togo)
Bouche du Roy (Bénin)
Ouidah municipality (Bénin)
Mono Transboundary Biosphère Reserve (priority will be given to transboundary activities) (Togo)
Korsikope-Dzisakope Area (Ghana)
Anyanui creek Corridor (Ghana)
Galotse Area (Ghana)
Agortoe Area (Ghana)
Bomigo Area (Ghana)
Obane area (Ghana)
Togbloko (Ghana)
Korkunya (Ghana)

### 1 - Support research and monitoring actions in the fields of ecology, biology and sociology applied to biodiversity and natural resources

**Maximum amount: € 15 000; Minimum amount € 10 000**

#### Priority Themes

- 1. Support master's/doctoral thesis on mangrove management
- 2. Support research and exchanges at university level on mangrove management
- 3. Research on the roles of coastal ecosystems in climate change adaptation
- 4. Research on the dynamics and coastal morphology associated with mangroves

### 2 - Create, expand or restore spaces intended for protected areas and promote their jurisdictional and ecological integration within landscapes

**Maximum amount: € 40 500; Minimum amount € 30 000**

#### Priority Sub-actions

- 1. Revision of the status and legal texts of the existing marine protected areas for their extension and implementation of activities to integrate the new zone
- 2. Protecting mangrove areas by creating marine protected areas and making them functional
- 3. Conduct mangroves reforestation and replanting campaigns
- 4. Conduct awareness campaigns and actions with the authorities to improve mangrove management policies



### **3 - Strengthen the management and empowerment capacities of associations, user groups, local NGOs.**

**Maximum amount: € 40 500; Minimum amount € 30 000**

#### Priority Sub-actions

- 1. Training on techniques for sustainable use of mangrove ecosystems
- 2. Training on salt production techniques and the enhancement of mangrove products
- 3. Capacity building on project design and management in mangrove and natural resource management
- 4. Training on enhanced marine protected area management

# GRAND MANO (Liberia, Sierra Leone)

## Priority zones

Districts
Commonwealth district (Liberia)
Tewor district (Liberia)
Garwula district (Liberia)
Dowein district (Liberia)
Bonthe district (Sierra Leone)
Moyamba district (Sierra Leone)
Western area district (Sierra Leone)

## Priority Actions

### 1 - Support research and monitoring actions in the fields of ecology, biology and sociology applied to biodiversity and natural resources

**Maximum amount: € 15 000; Minimum amount € 10 000**

#### Priority Themes

Initiatives of monitoring or applied research, fundamental research, Bachelor's, Master's or PhD thesis on ecosystems and mangrove resource development such as:

- 1. Map the dynamics of current land use in the Landscape to identify the causes and level of habitat degradation
- 2. Identify and map mangrove areas with unique habitat and species diversity to support biodiversity conservation
- 3. Support post graduate master research scientists and conservation managers on mangrove research techniques
- 4. Identify and map out areas that are prone to erosion and establish baseline sedimentation levels on coastal areas due to anthropogenic activities like mining
- 5. Study on the ecology and biology of key endangered species in the mangrove habitat
- 6. Conduct mangrove forest carbon stock inventory and demonstrate the carbon sequestration value of mangrove
- 7. Study the cultural values and map sacred sites of the reserve and develop a strategy for their conservation and use for tourism.;
- 8. Conduct studies on blue carbon, growth, phenology and species
- 9. Study to establish a botanical and zoological checklist of core protection areas and the importance of the site as a breeding site for fish and other wildlife

### 2 - Create, expand or restore spaces intended for protected areas and promote their jurisdictional and ecological integration within landscapes

**Maximum amount: € 40 000; Minimum amount € 30 000**

#### Priority Sub-actions

- 1. Support mangrove reforestation or rehabilitation by planting appropriate mangrove species

- 2. Demarcate and protect degraded areas through natural regeneration of mangroves
- 3. Creation of boundary sign and boundary demarcation of protected zones.
- 4. Development of co-management plans
- 5. Review implementation progress, capture lessons learned and update the Lake Piso MUR Management Plan

### **3. Strengthen the management and empowerment capacities of associations, user groups, local NGOs.**

**Maximum amount: € 40 000; Minimum amount € 30 000**

#### Priority Sub-actions

- 1. Develop awareness raising and education plan on the importance of biodiversity to livelihoods, CITES species such as manatee, and human-wildlife conflict affecting these critical species
- 2. Develop best practices manual(s) on the sustainability of coastal resources and climate change management
- 3. Develop community level committees for the management and restoration of mangroves
- 4. Develop and institutionalize a Lake Piso Conservation Network encompassing representative from all sectors and departments, with clear complementing responsibilities
- 5. Promote coordination and collaboration with stakeholders and partners on sustainable mangrove management.