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Chief Okom signing the by-laws on behalf of Owai

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Who Dares Wins!

earnest on an ambitious forest protection. expand c o m m u n i t y - b a s e d grants, notably from the BBC conservation, and therefore outside of our existing remit. Mohammed Community forests Nigeria are in the first tier of Tusk Trust, Prins Bernhard meeting to discuss the threatened wildlife habitats Natuurfonds, Cross River information CERCOPAN had Daunting as a growth International Primatological workshop. Representatives strategy is, the time is past Society, we felt confident from the Chiefs' Council, to wait any longer to seek to that we had sufficient youth protect forest beyond the support not only to sustain group, forest management agreements that we have in protecting Rhoko forest group all came to an

engagement activities that new forests sustainably as an dividends. adaptation strategy to cope forests. But these are only wonderful

A year ago we started in binding agreements on signed by-laws would ensure

programme Wildlife Trust, CF-UICN, the the possibility of projects in bin in Species Conservation Fund, importance. State Government, and the presented at the educational the existing the core of our work in committee, (which provides In the past two years we reference model of forest proposed have laid the necessary conservation for the region), supported. These by-laws through but also to step out to win include a ban on primate forest provided education on the agreements. And our bold the forest, no poisoning of managing step has already paid vital streams, protecting local

Although with the effects of climate involvement with the is cleared, and a ban on change, and we have also community of Owai, to the illegal logging. alternative Southeast of Iko Esai, has livelihoods programmes that only been recently started, drafted, reduce the pressure on we are already seeing a Community seeking emerge between

community CERCOPAN. conservation, community agreed to Although ensure protection.

CERCOPAN

that funders would realise Thanks to a number of that Owai was serious about Zayed the area would increase.

> The community held a the agreement that the by-laws protection hunting, a ban on traps in watersheds by leaving a o u r buffer zone when farmland

After these by-laws were CERCOPAN's Conservation partnership Manager visited Owai for this the formal and ceremony. Representatives After from each group met at the holding an educational Chief's parlour and enacted workshop about the the agreement. CERCOPAN importance of forest is grateful to Owai for their primate quick decision-making and the promise of enforcement. draft and sign by-laws conservation activities have forest only just begun, the people have shown that had conservation will continue informed them that well into the future in Owai!



Claire Coulson
CERCOPAN
Director

From the Director

'When one door closes another opens'. It's a good quote, and one that I needed to remind myself of when I said goodbye to Carrie Vath who has been conducting research at Rhoko for the past nine months, but who has now returned to the United States.

Her work is providing vital factual information about our communities' attitudes towards conservation, but for me personally what I am going to miss most is her positive approach and her support across the board for the work we conduct.

Meanwhile, the arrival of Lisa Lane to take on the

position of Research and Protected Area Manager is a boost to our organisation. As the Director, I am well that personnel movements bring uncertainty, and so the straightforward and professional way that Lisa has moved quickly ahead in her new role has allowed me to turn my attention back to our activities such as the annual environmental education Outreach programme that has recently started (see below).

As for opening new doors, few could be more important than the collaboration we have now started with the village of Owai (lead article). New by-

laws the village, protection of promising their community forest and a ban on the hunting of monkeys, are precisely what required to attract international funding for villages such as Owai that allow long-term conservation in the region under the United Nations REDD scheme (next page).

With progress like this, I am very hopeful about CERCOPAN's goals for protection of the globally-important biodiverse wildlife of Cross River State. And you can quote me on that!

Clark



Hope Waddell School students

"...our work
with Iko Esai was
highlighted as an
excellent example
of communitybased tourism"

On time with schoolwork

saw the September start of our annual Educational Outreach programme, targeting 50 secondary and 20 primary schools across Cross River State. In a pro-active effort tο bring environmental education schoolchildren, choose a theme each year that is designed to engage their studies over the coming nine months. This

year's topic is 'Primates in their forest home', and our Education Officer, Abakum, recently attended a Pan African Sanctuary Alliance education workshop, in collaboration with Disney, where he was inspired to try several new activities with the children.

G a m e s a n d competitions keep the theme alive following our

visits. We are now actively seeking grants that have proven in the past to provide the motivating key to sustaining discussion, research and innovative thinking on the environment: the reward of participating in the World Environment Day Rally through Calabar, and the possibility of publicly winning the top prizes for their school!

You are invited

Our Community Conservation Manager, BenJee Cascio, has just returned from a workshop on the tourism strategy of Cross River State.

Representatives from the Ministry of Tourism gave talks about their aims of moving towards community-based tourism. Partnerships with local communities is seen as key to development.

The government intends to give assistance to stakeholders that have strategic tourism destinations, and provide them with services such as improvements to infrastructure, as well as training.

BenJee was invited to give a short speech at the conclusion of the conference, since CERCOPAN is seen as a key stakeholder, and our work with Iko Esai was highlighted as an excellent example of community-based tourism.

Recent upgrades we have made to our ecotourism offering, including a new lodge, new furnishings, and a new kitchen area will surely back up that judgement.

What a difference a year makes!

preparations for Nigeria to step-change in attitudes done on the move from Observer status towards conservation. to Pilot Status under the Degradation (REDD). Under River State, one of which require this scheme it is anticipated incorporates our own area collaborative (the primary cause of scheme was formulated and explain climate change) by paying to submitted for approval. The required, gain consensus, thereby negative effects of industrial Berlin on 13-14th October effective very effective carbon sinks. document, providing a \$4M is a challenge indeed.

invest the income towards years to build the support determined dependent communities. scale REDD programme. REDD is a win for climate hold the remaining forests. moratorium on timber our offers of help.

record on the forest for future institutional support. generations, there can be Meanwhile imagine the lives for the better, for ever.

Great progress! In Sept little doubt that external work 2010 we reported on investment would provide a needs to be

And Nigeria's application pilot project United Nations Reducing to achieve Pilot status was in our area of from centred on three potential interest and of operation.

We therefore held our from Recipient countries can grant over two and a half

A great deal of credit for grant applications The scheme could extraction within the state

participation

around Greenhouse Gas emissions breath as Nigeria's readiness communities. The effort to the forested areas, United Nations seventh and build the necessary mitigating the policy Board meeting held in skills to implement an progress since forests are approved Nigeria's policy starting from the status quo,

CERCOPAN poverty reduction in forest- structures for a future full- opportunity like this cannot be squandered. Successful change and a win for the the approval must be given allowed us to start the inhabitants of the to the Cross River State process with 4 communities developing countries that government for imposing a that have been receptive to

Voluntary agreements revolutionise CERCOPAN's since 2008, and to the task such as the one from Owai efforts to protect the forests force that has effectively (see lead article) are vital of Cross River State. While enforced the ban. This has pre-cursors to REDD we already have a proven sent a powerful message to success. Provided we can 📝 that the international continue to gain funding to conservation brings its own community that a REDD extend our work, we intend rewards to communities by programme would be to be the positive force in preserving their dependency backed by credible the area that will help these communities change their

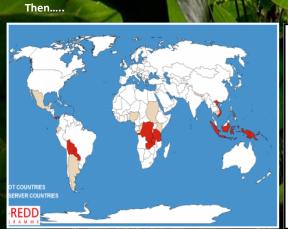
....and now!

JN-REDD



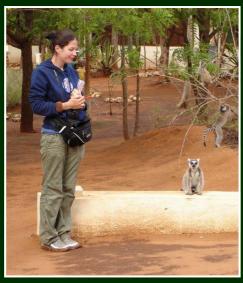


"A great deal of credit for the approval must be given to the Cross River State government for imposing a moratorium on timber extraction within the state since 2008, and to the task force that has effectively enforced the ban"



Countries receiving support to National Programmes Other partner countries

Under new management



Lisa Lane our new Manager in Rhoko

CERCOPAN is excited to welcome two new volunteers. Lisa Lane has accepted the Research and

Protected Area Manager position and will be spending the majority of her time at our forest field station. She hails from the UK and is excited to be in Nigeria.

She has a PhD in Psychology and has worked with primates all over Africa (including Madagascar and South Africa). With her strong background in research CERCOPAN looks forward to Lisa contributing to our existing research and having develop new innovative projects.

Daniel Roper-Jones will be acting as our new

Capacity Builder focusing on education and outreach. He will be based at our forest field station and working mostly in Iko Esai and Agoi Ibami. He has a BA in Anthropology and has spent the last 2 years working with the Wildlife Conservation Society at the Bronx Zoo.

Dan brings a wealth of experience with environmental education and he is excited to work with our Calabar and Rhoko education officers. Dan will use his tree nursery experience, picked up in Madagascar, to head our Iko Esai Secondary School Tree Nursery Program.

Tail of woe

It has been the season for stump-tailed guenons recently, and no, this is not a new species! As featured last month, BenJee a very small putty-nosed guenon, arrived with half his tail CERCOPAN but this month has seen a second new arrival in the same situation.

Akan, a juvenile mona monkey, was delivered to CERCOPAN by a member of the public who had recently

> been given him to care for by his neighbour. friend was moving State and could not transport Akan with him. This previous owner decided had Akan's tail was long' ʻtoo chopped off a very large section, leaving him with only 6

inches left. Luckily the wound was well healed. Moreover guenons such as Akan and BenJee belong to

the Old World Monkeys group, which means they do not have prehensile tails. Prehensile tails are those that can independently grip, giving the animal almost an extra 'hand'. Spider monkeys and gibbons are commonly known for their prehensile tails and this ability.

Ordinary tails are still very important for monkeys though, as this allows them to balance when they are moving and jumping in trees. Both BenJee and Akan are likely to be less agile than their friends here at CERCOPAN, but with practice they will improve. The pair are undergoing their quarantine period at the moment but we look forward to introducing them to a new group in a few months.



and a wound

where a small section of

bone still protruded. These

cases are fairly rare

Akan—now in better hands

Diplomatic mission

Prior to the signing of their Owai (see cover article), we group were chosen bringing their Chiefs' Council and prominent members of the to community to Rhoko Camp. information. Many of the people of Owai unfamiliar were visit our research site and of conservation area would CERCOPAN's experience.

Our Community Conservation Manager other prominent groups. CERCOPAN had previously provided educational workshops to community and proposed information agreed that it would benefit of primates.

understanding. new conservation by-laws in Representatives from each had laid the groundwork by would visit Rhoko Camp and then meet other respective groups upon return disseminate

On the day of the visit we with had 16 people from Owai. The CERCOPAN, and allowing representatives received a them the opportunity to brief lecture about the history Rhoko camp forest provide them with a first- conservation function. This hand look at our operations, was followed by a visit to the as well as an educational mangabey enclosure and a talk about reintroduction and primate conservation.

This proved to be the visited Owai and met with highlight, as the visitors the Chiefs' Council and witnessed feeding-time, and asked many questions about primates. Many of the representatives had never the seen monkeys alive, and the given the idea of a site visit to the CERCOPAN staff helped them groups. All of the groups to understand the importance



After lunch and drinks the Owai representatives visited main camp and met our Assistant Operations Manager, Obio Owai. He explained to them the basic operations of the camp and our tourism programme.

After the visit to Rhoko camp the group departed back to Owai. On their way to Owai they stopped and saw the education centre and heard about community development projects that CERCOPAN has brought to Iko Esai.

The community forests of Iko Esai and Owai are contiguous

"Many of the representatives had never seen monkeys alive, and the information given by CERCOPAN staff helped them to understand the importance of primates"

She will return

researcher Carrie Vath has concluded her 9-month field season and has returned home. Her investigating attitudes and knowledge about conservation.

looking at hunter harvest and use in the community forests. She has worked very hard in the villages of Agoi Ibami, Iko Esai, and Owai. She leaves Nigeria which includes over 220 hunter interviews. students surveyed, and 515 general community surveys.

Thanks to the objective way she carried out her work, we have a very clear picture of activity within the forests

Nigeria in 2009 to collect her preliminary data Carrie has CERCOPAN through fundraising and promoting our researcher programmes Universities. Carrie plans to continue her affiliation with CERCOPAN while completing dissertation University of Florida

force in all aspects of relating as a result.



to both CERCOPAN and the everyone. It can be no surprise to find out that she has had an Carrie has been a positive amazing time while being here **Carrie with friend** Rejoice

WANT TO BE A PART OF IT?

- Stay in touch with our on-going programme by bookmarking our home page http://www.cercopan.org/ and our Blog site http://cercopan.wildlifedirect.org/ and joining our Facebook fan page http://www.facebook.com/cercopan/
- Volunteer for CERCOPAN in either Nigeria or the UK. We offer a range of different programmes so there is something for everyone! Visit our website volunteer section for further details.
- Help CERCOPAN attain corporate funding. If you work for a corporate sponsor who may be interested in funding CERCOPAN please contact claire.coulson@cercopan.org

- Undertake a sponsored event to raise funds for CERCOPAN. Use the Fundraising Pack on our web site to help you.
- Make a cash donation to CERCOPAN via our website...every little helps!
 - Buy a gift for friends or family from the Good Gifts Catalogue (www.goodgifts.org). You can buy a month's supply of fruit for growing CERCOPAN orphan monkeys - called in the catalogue 'A-peeling Monkeys' for only £20! The price of the gift is passed on to CERCOPAN. So, it is an excellent way of solving your gift problems, and supporting our work! Alternatively visit the CERCOPAN gift shop on our website today.
- Donate useful goods and equipment such as building and fencing materials, veterinary medicines, old laptop computers etc. or services such as printing, blood testing and architectural design.

www.cercopan.org http://cercopan.wildlifedirect.org http://www.facebook.com/cercopan/



All photos in this newsletter were taken at CERCOPAN or Iko Esai by staff, volunteers and visitors. **Photo Credits:**

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