



INTERNSHIP DESCRIPTION

COMMUNITY PROTECTED AREA PERCEPTION STUDY – GHANA

March 2022 – September 2022 (indicative dates)

Assessing how local populations perceptions can improve the implementation of a more inclusive Community Based Natural Resources Management (CBNRM): Role and socio-ecological impacts of integrating Human/Nature coexistence in biodiversity conservation projects.

Context

Created in 2001, [Noé](#) is a non-profit organization whose mission is to safeguard biodiversity around the world. Part of Noé's work internationally aims at developing sustainable value chains in the surroundings of protected areas, through the sustainable use of natural resources and a fair value chain for local communities in partnership with private companies. This program operates by providing technical and financial support to local NGOs to implement projects combining community development and biodiversity conservation.

Noé is currently implementing the second phase of its [EconoBio programme](#) in Ghana aiming at developing income generating activities benefiting to the communities living on the outskirts of four Protected Areas (Western Wildlife Corridor, Mole National Park, Atewa Range Forest and Kwabre-Tanoë transboundary forest in western Ghana/eastern Côte d'Ivoire) and contributing to biodiversity conservation (see the project description attached). Noé works in partnership with 4 local NGOs (A Rocha Ghana, ORGIIS, WAPCA, Northcode) on several value chains: organic shea butter, organic baobab powder and oil, beekeeping in the north of Ghana, cocoa and organic coconut oil, as well as on several Non-Timber Forest Products (NTFPs) such as grains of paradise.

The project also supports the establishment and the strengthening of local governance structures to ensure sustainable and community-based management of natural resources. Ghana government implemented a promising framework for community-based conservation: the Community Resource Management Areas (CREMA). Throughout the project, bottlenecks to CREMA sustainability have been identified and several multi-stakeholder engagements aimed at finding potential solutions to them.

Within this perspective, we feel that it is crucial to assess the perceptions of the communities towards the CREMA, namely how local communities understand the framework, its roles and what it means for them in terms of opportunities, the impact they see from the CREMA at the environmental, social and economic levels as well as, the limitations presented by this model.

Location: Based in Ghana with most time on project sites.

Salary: 610 €/month

Contract: 6-months internship

Advantages: Flight ticket, visa fees, local transportation to the project sites. Please note that you will need to work with your own computer.

Main responsibilities and activities

Throughout the duration of the internship, with the support of the Programme Manager in Ghana and in close collaboration with our local partnering NGOs, the private sector partners and the Wildlife Division the intern will:

- 1) Assess the perceptions of the CREMA from the local communities:
 - Develop a full detailed methodology (approach, tools...)
 - Run all data collection on the field and conduct analysis and discussions of the results to
 - The understanding of the CREMA by local communities,
 - The perception by members of the CREMA governance and its inclusivity (rights and duties, individual or collective opportunities...),
 - The perceptions of the socio-ecological challenges and opportunities of implementing a CREMA.
 - Identify factors favoring a better comprehension of CREMA framework, feeling of belonging and positive benefits to the populations based on the results gathered from the various CREMAs.
 - Provide recommendation and guidance to improve the results of the CREMA from the communities' point of view
 - Write a comprehensive report covering the whole assessment. Note that this report might be used for publication, if relevant.

- 2) Present the results to the different stakeholders, especially the partners and the CREMA Technical Working Group.

Proposed methodological approach

The student shall undertake a bibliography analysis prior to his arrival in the country with documents shared by Noë's team. She/he will also conduct several visio calls with Noë's team.

One week in Accra will be needed upon arrival to work with the team on the planning of her/his internship and meet with partners and stakeholders of interest for the internship.

The student will work with a Ghanaian student from KNUST or UDS during 2 to 3 months. A close collaboration will be needed to optimize results. This could bring new scopes to the current objectives of the internship and broaden the subjects of intervention.

The student will work based on existing and new data, including data available from other partner's and the Wildlife Division, whilst also using local knowledge to ensure that collected data are accurate.

She/He will spend most of the time on the field with our partners and community members in remote areas: in the Ankasa landscape (Western Region), in the Atewa landscape (Eastern Region) and in the Mole landscape (Savannah Region).

Monitoring and evaluation

The intern will report directly to the Programme Manager, based in Accra, with support from the International Director when needed. Fortnightly follow-up meetings will be organized. A report with main achievements and analysis will be expected at the end of the internship.

Required Skills

The ideal candidate will be an environmental enthusiast, committed to biodiversity conservation, sustainable development and local communities' inclusion and will have the following skills:

- Good knowledge and experience in:
 - Socio-economic, governance and perception-oriented surveys
 - Data collection strategy development and implementation
 - Capacity building of / Working with local NGOs in West Africa
 - Community-based biodiversity conservation and community development
- Autonomous and practical mind, with good organizational capacities
- Ability to live and work in remote areas;
- Very good interpersonal skills
- Good writing skills and communication ability at meetings and events
- Proficiency in computer tools (Pack Office, analytic tools)
- **Excellent level of English and French** (written and oral) – candidates who do not meet this requirement should refrain from applying as they will not be considered.

Background: from BSc to MSc in one of the following:

- Natural Resources Management
- Environmental Management
- Agronomy
- Management of the Commons
- Social Sciences and/or political sciences

Application

To apply, please send your **CV and cover letter by December 15th, 2023**, to Natacha Cayre, Programme Manager in Ghana ncayre@noe.org .