

**SAVE
THE ENVIRONMENT**
For Human And Nature !



1st INTERNATIONAL SYMPOSIUM OF AFRICAN YOUTH ON THE CONSERVATION OF TROPICAL AND SAHELIAN BIODIVERSITY



THEME: *Role of young people in the implementation of the new Post2020 global framework for biodiversity.*

Focus on the Aichi Targets and the conservation of tropical and Sahelian species threatened by extinctions.

October 2022, ZOOM US

TERM OF REFERENCE

Background &
Rationale

Characterized mainly by a hot and dry climate, an arid soil, in cyclical degradation due to erosion and drought; a rare, irregular and poorly distributed rainfall, and a poor vegetation; the African Sahel region gives as a conclusion to the first observation a poor vision in terms of biological diversity unlike other regions of the continent. However, despite these biogeographical characteristics, it contains exceptional particularities and potentialities in terms of ecosystems and flora and fauna species that often have direct links and scientific affinities with ecosystems and species that are reputed to originate from the tropical forests of Africa. In terms of wildlife species, some Sahelian countries like Niger are home to species such as the Addax, the Oryx, the North African Auresses, the Dama and Dorcas Gazelle, not to mention the last herd of the Peralta Camelopardalis Giraffe, better known by its vernacular name of West African Giraffe; which are species classified by the IUCN as both vulnerable and threatened with extinction.

This is in contrast to Central Africa which is internationally recognized as the second largest tropical rainforest in the world, offering more ecosystem services; the second largest reservoir of biodiversity in the world thanks to their terrestrial ecosystems which are more favorable to the conservation and reproduction of certain animal species such as the primates (Mountain Gorillas) emblematic of the area. Also, these two regions of Sahelian and tropical Africa are both facing the same threats to the conservation of their biodiversity and ecosystems such as Population growth, uncontrolled urbanization, poaching and extreme climatic phenomena.

Based on this observation, the member countries of the United Nations established in 1992 in Rio (Brazil) the first political and legal document which is the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD); followed by other international agreements facilitating the implementation of the CBD such as: The Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety which entered into force in 2003, the Nagoya Protocol in October 2010 and the Aichi Agreement in 2010, which is also the first strategic plan to better address biodiversity conservation challenges over a 10-year period (2011-2020). This strategic plan has expired and will be replaced by a new global framework for biodiversity post-2020, which will be formally adopted by the signatory parties of the

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| | <p>CBD at the Fifteenth Conference on Biological Diversity in Montreal (Canada) in December 2022 with the objective of achieving by 2050, that humanity lives in harmony with nature.</p> <p>In this common struggle for the conservation of life on earth, the role of young people through their representation on the demographic level is decisive. Particularly those of Africa which is the continent where $\frac{3}{4}$ of its population is young and which moreover records the most impacts related to the loss of biodiversity and extreme climatic phenomena by our dependence on non-fossil natural resources. They are also an asset for change and the achievement of the objective of conservation and sustainable management of biodiversity as recognized by the strategic plan 2011-2020 by the Strategic Goal E. However, they know or master very little knowledge and technical information necessary on the field of conservation and management of biodiversity, especially the ways and mechanisms appropriate for the search for opportunities such as awareness training and capacity building related to the theme as an example.</p> <p>This is the mission that the NGO Save The Environment Niger has given itself with the collaboration of other NGOs and Associations of French-speaking Sahelian and Tropical Africa, including the NGO MKAAJI MPYA asbl of the DRC; and the NGO EVDD of Benin. Through the creation and implementation of this project entitled International Symposium of African Youth on the Conservation of Sahelian and Tropical Biodiversity, a scientific initiative aimed at bringing together these two regions of Africa, namely the Sahel and the Tropics, for the sensitization and capacity building of young people on conservation and governance, mobilization of resources for biodiversity and especially their effective involvement.</p> |
| General objective | Increase the scientific, indigenous, traditional and cultural knowledge of youth on biodiversity, ecosystem services and their conservation and sustainable management in the Sahelian and tropical regions of Africa. |
| Specific Objectives | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Inform and explain to youth the existing bilateral and multilateral agreements and mechanisms for biodiversity conservation in Sahelian and tropical Africa; |

2. To popularize and share knowledge in order to engage youth in the implementation of the Kigali Call to Action (APAC 2022);
3. Develop a document of recommendations and a roadmap from the youth with the symposium for policy makers and partners in Sahelian and tropical African countries in the context of the adoption and implementation of the Post2020 Strategic Plan for Biodiversity.

Expected Results

R1: Participants acquired the necessary knowledge on national framework agreements and laws related to some Sahelian and Central African countries; as well as those related to common policy and governance at sub-regional and international levels for biodiversity conservation and management.

R2: The assorted recommendations of the Africa 2022 Protected Areas Congress are fully shared and explained to the youth, as well as the ways to contribute to their implementation.

R3: The recommendations of the youth are known and recognized by political authorities and local and international partners and are subject to specific follow-up for their implementation.

Anticipated Activities

Part 1 / Day 1: Thematic Panels

THEMATICS N°1: Conservation of Protected Areas and Biodiversity in Sahelian and Tropical Africa: Issues, challenges and prospects.

Time Allocated to Papers: 30 Minutes

Question & Answer Time: 20 Minutes

PANELISTS:

Mr Abdou Diouf : Manager of the Community Nature Reserve of BOUDOU Senegal

(Awaiting confirmation from other panelists)

THEME N° 2: Overview and popularization of the Post-2020 Global Biodiversity Framework and its place in the conservation of Sahelian and tropical biodiversity.

Panelists : **(Awaiting confirmation from panelists)**

THEME N° 3: Voices of Youth: Youth and Civil Society Engagement for Biodiversity Conservation in Sahelian and Tropical African Countries:

Time Allocated to Papers: 30 Minutes

Time for Questions & Answers: 20 Minutes

PANELISTS

1. **:Mr Ismael Abdourahmane :** NGO Save Environment Niger
2. **Mr Gervais Muderhwa :** NGO MKAAJI MPYA asbl (DRC)
3. **Mr Sani Ayouba :** NGO JVE Niger
4. **Mr Dimitri Boni :** NGO EVDD Benin

THEMATICS N°4: The Aichi Targets and the conservation of biodiversity in tropical and Sahelian Africa.

PANELISTS:

1. **Mr Gervais Muderhwa :** NGO MKAAJI MPYA asbl (DRC)
2. **2 (Waiting for confirmation from other panelists)**

Time Allocated to Papers: 20 Minutes

Question & Answer Time: 10 Minutes

THEME N° 5 : COP 15 Desertification; APAC 2022: Let's start implementing the commitments of Sahelian and Tropical Africa.

A look at COP 27 Climate Change and COP15 Biodiversity 2022

Time Allocated to Papers: 30 Minutes

Question & Answer Time: 20 Minutes

PANELISTS:

1. **1. Dr. Bachirou Bodo:** IRD-Niger researcher, President of the Tree Initiative
2. **2. Mr. Sani Ayouba :** NGO JVE Niger

(Waiting for confirmation from other panelists)

THEME N°6: Policy and Governance of Protected Areas in Sahelian and Tropical Africa

Time Allocated to Papers: 30 Minutes

Question & Answer Time: 20 Minutes

PANELISTS

(Awaiting confirmation from panelists)

THEME N°7 : Finance and Resource Mobilization for Biodiversity Conservation: Mechanism and Means

Time Allocated to Papers: 30 Minutes

Question & Answer Time: 20 Minutes

PANELISTS

((Awaiting confirmation from panelists))

Part 2 / Day 2: Post Symposium Roadmap Formulation

2.1 Formulation of the Recommendations by the youth and elaboration of a roadmap for the post-Symposium.

Word of thanks and closing of the Symposium.

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| Profile of beneficiaries | In accordance with the criteria defined in the Google Form for applications and the selection criteria of participants; the International Youth Symposium on Sahelian and Tropical Biodiversity Conservation, the profile par excellence are young people from African countries in the first instance, and those from other continents in the second instance. They are students, researchers, entrepreneurs, professionals, between 18 and 40 years old, interested or involved in biodiversity conservation at the local or international level. |
| Participant Selection Process | The phase of selection of participants will be done by a selection committee of three (3) representatives of three (3) organizations from three (3) different countries fully involved in the organization of the Symposium namely Save The Environment from Niger; MKAAJI MPYA asbl from DRC and the NGO EVDD from Benin. The process applied a strict rule of impartiality and neutrality in terms of the profiles of the participants to be selected. The only criteria on which the committee will give a particular look are: The gender of the person concerned; his or her country of residence; his or her motivation; and finally the way in which the technical and scientific achievements benefited during the symposium. To find the complete form via the following link: https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSegS9SVhigu9_A2vvhVFSvd-Mz1JpjC7_n9Bv1PLQi8y4W1Zg/viewform?usp=sf_link |

The counting of the Google Form questionnaire officially put online on July 24, 2022, as well as the selection will begin a few days after August 20, 2022, closing date and end of receipt of applications. In total, a number of 150 young people, among whom Seventy-five (75) women will be selected and notified through an email for the confirmation of their selections. Particular attention will be given to the application of young people from the direct target countries for the Symposium listed above.

Countries
Directly
Affected by the
Symposium

Sahelian Africa



This is the African countries of the Sahel region, a transition zone separating the Sudanian savannah in the south from the Saharan desert in the north. The area is located in the northern part of Africa which extends from the Red Sea to the Atlantic Ocean with an area of 1, 178 850 km². The countries directly concerned by the International Youth Symposium on the Conservation of Sahelian and Tropical Biodiversity are the six (6) core countries of the Sahel, including : Senegal, Mauritania, Mali, Niger, Burkina Faso and Chad all marked by an arid and semi-arid climate and by the desert and by a relatively modest biodiversity in terms of capacity.

Tropical Africa



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| | <p>It is the Central African countries that are home to the second largest tropical rainforest in the world. This major reservoir of biodiversity extends mainly over five countries: Cameroon, Gabon, the Republic of Congo, the Democratic Republic of Congo, and the Central African Republic.</p> |
| <p>Implementation of the Symposium</p> | <p>The Symposium will be implemented in October 2022, i.e. one month before the COP 27 on Climate Change and two (2) months before the COP 15 on Biological Diversity. It will be carried out entirely in virtual format (On-line); however, the stakeholder organizations in the organization are strongly encouraged to hold a restitution or capitalization workshop in their country according to their financial means. The tentative date is October 20-21, 2022, on the ZOOM US application, whose link and access code will be available soon. However, these dates are subject to change depending on potential technical constraints.</p> <p>The holding of this online symposium is explained by the organizers' desire to give a large number of young people across Africa the opportunity to attend without too many constraints or difficulties and to build their capacity on the theme.</p> |
| <p>Implementation date</p> | <p>From 20 to 21 October 2022</p> |
| <p>Lead Organizations for Implementation</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • ONG Save The Environment Republic of Niger Contacts : +227 96507064 E-Mail : saveenvironmentniger@gmail.com • Youth For Peace DRC E-Mail : yfprdc@gmail.com; Contacts : +243997646261 • ONG MKAAJI MPYA asbl Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC) Contacts : +243 990207541 E-Mail : info@mkaa jimpya.org |

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| | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • ONG World Nature Conservation-WNC (Bureau Régional Afrique). E-mail : worldfornatureconservation@gmail.com Contacts : +84 8 3965 8921 • GYBN DRC E-Mail : drc.gybn@gmail.com, gybnafrica@gmail.com Contacts : +243977589744 • ONG Environnement Vert pour un Développement Durable (EVDD) Republic of Benin Contacts : +229 94606008 E-Mail : ongevdd@gmail.com |
| <p>Key Organizations Provisional Stakeholders</p> | <p>1. ONG SAVE OUR PLANET Republic of Benin Contacts : +229 97044053 E-Mail :</p> <p>2. Association Béninoise pour la promotion Entrepreneuriale et du Tourisme Contacts : +229 96815211 E-Mail : djossaantoine@gmail.com</p> <p><u>ONG Jeunes Volontaires pour l'Environnement (JVE)</u> <u>Republic of Niger</u> <u>Contacts : +227 96 26 19 94</u> <u>E-Mail : saniayouba@gmail.com</u></p> <p><u>Initiative pour l'Arbre</u> Republic of Niger Contacts : +227 96 47 97 14</p> |

E-Mail : bachiroubodo@yahoo.fr

Future prospects and sustainability of the Symposium

The Symposium is intended to be a regional, national and local initiative to provide practical and operational support to government and society as a whole, including indigenous peoples and local communities, civil society and businesses in achieving the 2050 vision of valuing, conserving, restoring and wisely using biological diversity while maintaining ecosystem services, keeping the planet healthy and promoting life in harmony with nature. This by being a real initiative of relay, information sharing, popularization and implementation of small actions scaled in time and context from the bottom to the top in terms of conservation and the fight against climate change for an inclusive sustainable development.

Chronogram of activities

| Activities | July 2022 | August 2022 | September 2022 | October 2022 | November 2022 | December 2022 | January 2023 |
|---|-----------|-------------|----------------|--------------|---------------|---------------|--------------|
| Preparatory meeting of partner organizations | | | | | | | |
| Production of the Symposium Concept Note | | | | | | | |
| Research and mobilization of partners | | | | | | | |
| Creation and uploading of the Google Forms application form | | | | | | | |
| Closing of the application | | | | | | | |

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| Counting and selection of 150 participants | | | | | | | |
| Sending notifications for selected applications | | | | | | | |
| Production of the Symposium Project document | | | | | | | |
| Holding the Symposium | | | | | | | |
| Elaboration of the document of recommendations and commitments of the youth. | | | | | | | |
| National sessions of restitution of the résultats du | | | | | | | |

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| Symposium by lead organizations and stakeholders in their areas of intervention | | | | | | | | |
| Evaluation and preparation of the 2nd Edition of the Symposium 2023 | | | | | | | | |
| Reporting | | | | | | | | |

Terme de Référence