



Biodiversity/Protected Areas and Climate Change; need for effective collaboration to save our world

Presented at:

**A CBD /LifeWeb Event at the 32nd session of the
SBSTA of the UNFCCC**

Bonn, Germany

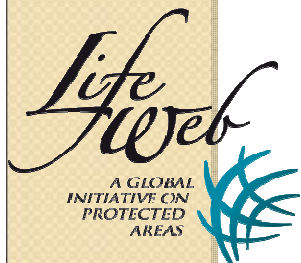
by:

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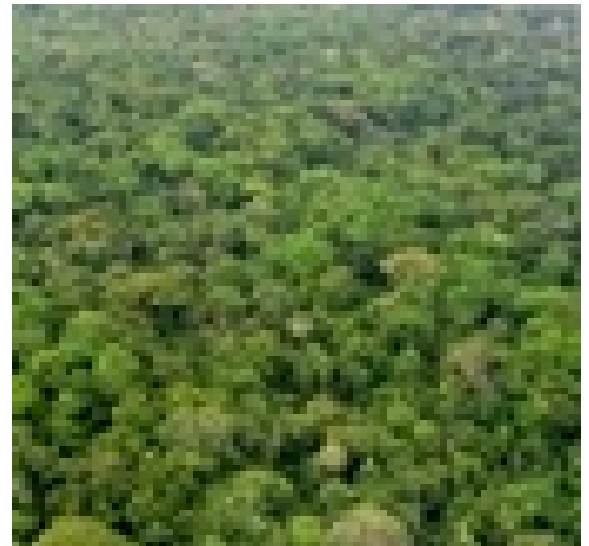
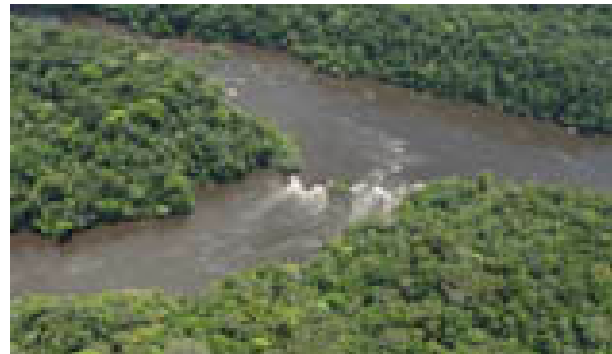
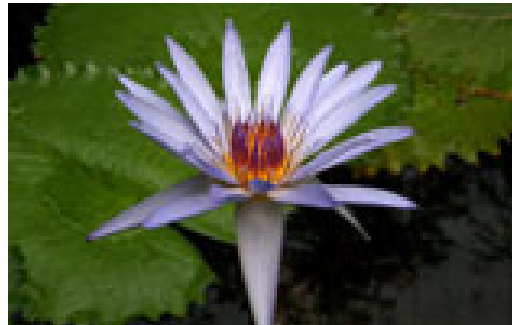
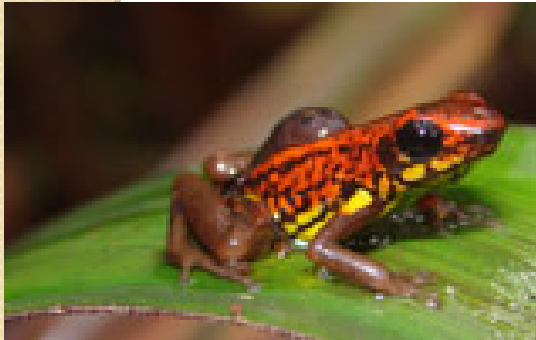
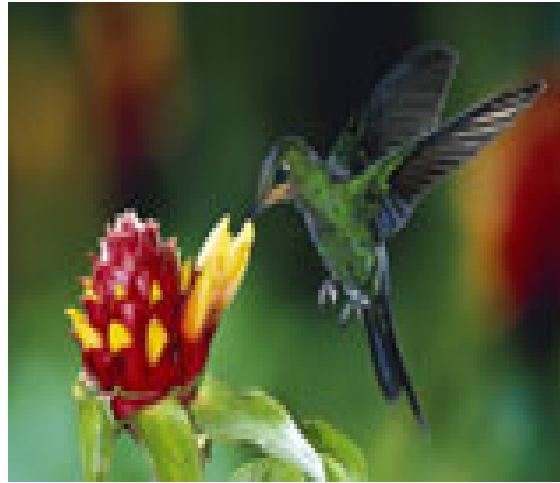
Environmental Protection Agency of Liberia

Wednesday June 2, 2010



ASSESSING THE ECOLOGICAL CONTEXT

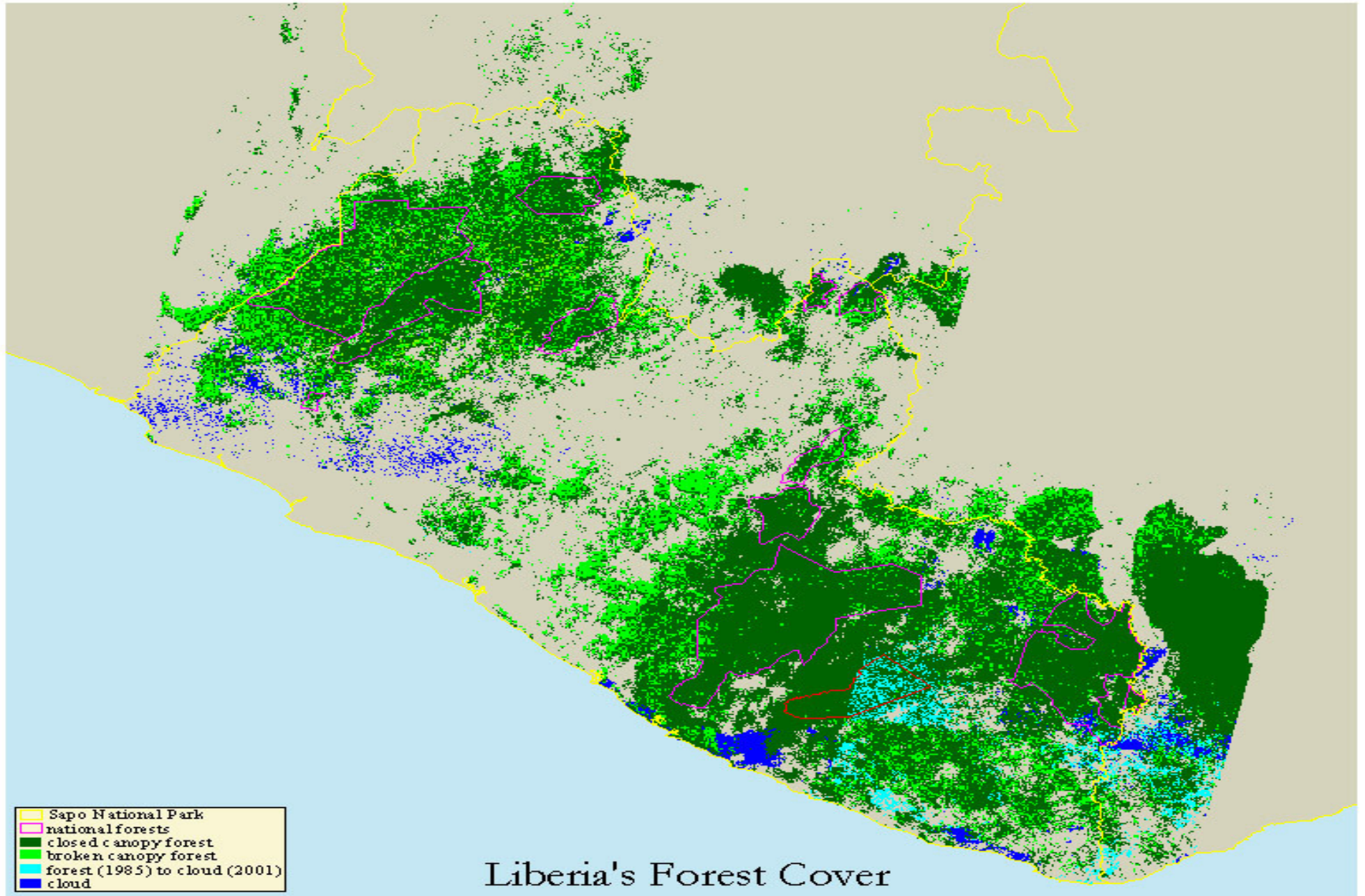
- Maintaining the ecological integrity of a given area remains one of the greatest challenge faced by protected areas managers.
- There are thousands of different kinds of birds, reptiles, insect, amphibian, trees, and animals species in Liberia that can not be found in some part of the world, so the need to protect their habitat.





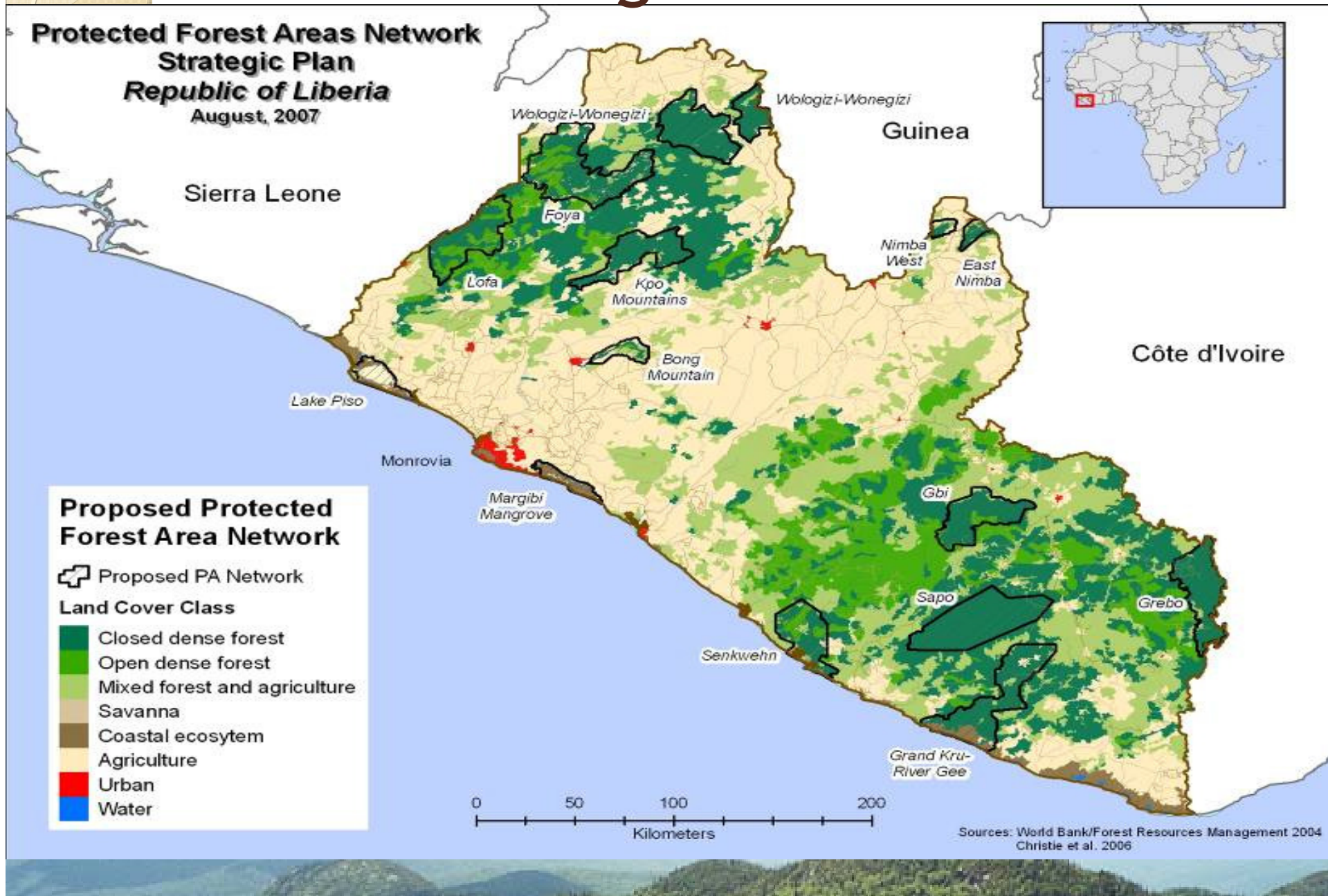


Forest Complex in Liberia



Liberia's Forest Cover

Creating corridors



PROTECTED AREAS ADDRESSING CLIMATE CHANGE

- Climate Change can affect Biodiversity and is likely to become the dominant direct driver of biodiversity loss by the end of the century if we do not act promptly and effectively.
- Studies have shown that Biodiversity can help reduce the effects of climate change.
- Conservation of habitats such as Protected Areas for example, can help reduce the amount of Carbon dioxide released into the atmosphere.
- All biodiversity habitat and corridors can mitigate as well as help us adapt to climate change. E.g. wetlands can reduce flooding, and storm surges and store vast amount of carbon.

PROTECTED AREAS ADDRESSING CLIMATE CHANGE

- Mitigation of greenhouse gas emissions and identification of home grown adaptation practices can reduce the risk of species extinction and limit damage to the ecosystem.
- Preservation of natural habitats, especially those that have triple benefit: sequester carbon (REDD+), conserve ecosystem and sustain livelihood should be financed
- Improvement of our understanding of the relationship between climate change and protected areas is vital.
- The new REDD regime is a win-win solution to some of the challenges faced by PA and conservation management in Liberia.

PROTECTED AREAS ADDRESSING CLIMATE CHANGE

- There is a need for a concerted efforts to integrate wider landscapes and seascapes into protected areas including conservation corridors to address climate change.
- Improve carbon sequestration potential of protected areas by improving management effectiveness and addressing the shortcomings identified in management effectiveness.
- **We need to see Protected Areas as a solution to Climate Change.**

Funding Needs

- Biodiversity conservation, climate change and REDD is so important to Liberia, the NBSAP, the R-PP and the proposed low carbon economy pathway is are all clear manifestation.

The Government of Liberia have made immense strive in addressing the above mentioned issues . There is a need to complement these efforts with financial support.

Funding Needs

- GoL saw it as a useful platform to submit through the LifeWeb initiative an Expression of Interest for possible donor funding.
- The German Government have been approached with high possibilities of securing funding for Protected Areas work which will eventually serve as a means of mitigating and adapting to climate change.

Our National Strategy

- National Biodiversity Strategy Action Plan (NBSAP)
- REDD Preparation Proposal (R-PP)
- Forestry Reform Law (2006)
- PA Management Strategy
- Community Rights Law
- Low Carbon Economy Development Path (Proposed)
- The Poverty Reduction Strategy (PRS)
- Millennium Development Goals (MDGs 1- 7)



THANKS!

DANKE !