

Information on National CHM

LIBERIA

National CHM	
Web address (URL)	www.biodiv.be/liberia/implementation/documents-nations
Title	CHM -Liberia- Gateway to Liberia's biodiversity to the World
Brief description	The Site was established by the Royal Belgium Institute of Natural Sciences under-In-situ & ex-situ conservation and country driven CHM enabling project in late 2010. But the project ran out of money therefore the process was not completed as anticipated.
Responsible organization	Environmental Protection Agency of Liberia
Webmaster name	J.S. Datuama Cammue Administrator/Editor (Edwin Kamara webmaster)
Webmaster email	Mawoesolomon6@gmail.com (administrator/Editor)
Content management system (CMS)	Basically national reports, policy documents on national development that impact biodiversity, specialized studies conducted in the country on biodiversity, its habitat, species and as well as ecosystems etc.
Database system	Database of the PTK
Search engine	Data base of the PTK
Available human resources for maintenance and development	16 people received primary training on how to load information on the web site; one of the trainees who having to an IT professional has been chosen to serve as webmaster and the focal Point is the Administrator/Editor.
Other comments	The site still has challenges ranging from capacity and equipment to effectively operate as biodiversity information clearing house for the country.

Other national websites on biodiversity		
Web address (URL) & title	Brief description	Responsible organization
www.biodiv.be/liberia/implementation/documents	It is hosted by the Royal Belgium Natural Science Institute	EPA
BCH/Liberia	Biosafety website also not fully operational	EPA

Major national organizations involved in biodiversity		
Acronym	Full name	Role

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Acronym	Full name	Role
EPA	Environmental Protection Agency	To manage site/pay operational cost
SCNL	Society for the conservation of Nature of Liberia	Provide information/data to load on site
FDA	Forestry Development Authority	Provides information/data to load on site
Civil/orgs.	National civil society organizations	Provide information/data and load same on the site

Comments on national situation
<p>Liberia is very new to CHM implementation. The initiative started in 2010 under the enabling project-readiness project – National Assessment to build capacity at systemic, institution & individual levels for In-situ and Ex-situ conservation, establishing and operation of country driven CHM website and TEMATEA process to assessment readiness for protected area management under the programmes of work for the 2001-2010 strategic plan of CBD.</p> <p>The project ran out money therefore the training and a fully operational of the site was not completed. Currently, the site is not fully operational as we want it to be but efforts are under way to overcome the difficulties. Funding is a major problem. Under the revision and updating project of the NBSAP, US\$15,000 has been budgeted to cover the cost of operational activities which include in-service training, acquiring the needed equipment such computers and others and payment of the internet premium.</p> <p>It must be noted that the National Coordination Office for the CBD is run by volunteers and almost all the equipment used are paid for by donor money given that no budget is placed in the national budget for the convention operation.</p> <p>There is however good will at the national level from civil society especially conservation organizations working with communities under the GEF Small Grants project and concessionaires to contribute to the cost of operation of the site.</p>

Strategic Vision
<p>To have a society that lives in harmony with its natural environment, assess, maintain and conserve the integrity of the ecosystems in order to achieve the greatest benefits possible for its entire populace”.</p> <p>The mission underscores the need to have prepared people to respond to the obligation the vision places on us (informed decisions-making) by integrating the CHM in the greater environmental information management system to bring synergies from the Rio conventions and CBD related conventions to better inform stakeholders on situation in Liberia.</p>

Roadmap				
Priority	Objective	Activity	Responsible	Requirements
1.	Re-activate the site	1. Organize in-service training for national cadets; 2. regularize payment of operational cost; 3. re-locate site’s operation centre at MEAs new-building	National FP CBD & CHM FP;	Mostly funding implication

Roadmap				
Priority	Objective	Activity	Responsible	Requirements
2.	Re-activate regular updating of site from a weekly to daily basis	uploading of data/information regularly	CHM FP/National cadets	Availability of internet regularly
3.	Terminal training of personnel	Study tour/attachment to adopt to best practice(south-south cooperation)	NFP/ED/CHMFP	Financial implication required
4.	Promote new targets of revised NBSAP	Update stakeholders on implementation of revised NBSAP	CHMFP/NFP/CBD	Operational issues

Notes:

- Priority: 1=urgent, 2=high, 3=medium, 4=low; 5=very low
- Objective: challenge, issue, problem to resolve
- Responsible: organization or person in charge
- Requirements: Code + text
 - OK: Can be done with existing resources
 - DR: Decision required
 - CR: Collaboration required
 - ARR: Additional resources required (support, cooperation)

Comments on roadmap

To address the challenge of effectively running the CHM we have set for ourselves the following priority activities:

- Conduct in-service training for national cadets who benefited from the earliest training;
- Retain the services of two (IT technician & data entry clerk) to work full time on the CHM;
- CHM will get two full time staff and Focal point acts as administrator/editor/Editor;
- Formal request for the Belgium partnership to be made immediately after in-service training facility by the Belgium Institute itself;
- Send staff on attachment trip to countries with succeed story on the operation of the CHM in ECOWAS and beyond if necessary(south-south technical cooperation);

Cooperation opportunities / Type of support needed

The website was set up by the Royal Belgium Institute Natural Science in 2010 and conducted initiate training for 16 people drawn from line ministries and agencies as well as civil society organizations. At present, there is no such link we are, however, trying to establish such relationship with that institute and those countries with success stories.

Thank you!