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PROGRAMME



Environmental Protection Agency of Liberia

*Global expert workshop on REDD-plus Biodiversity
Benefits, Nairobi, Kenya, 20-23 September 2010*

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National Focal Point
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INTRODUCTION

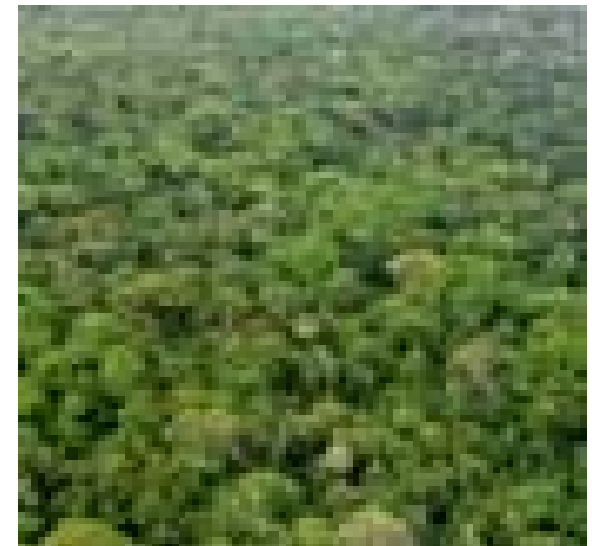
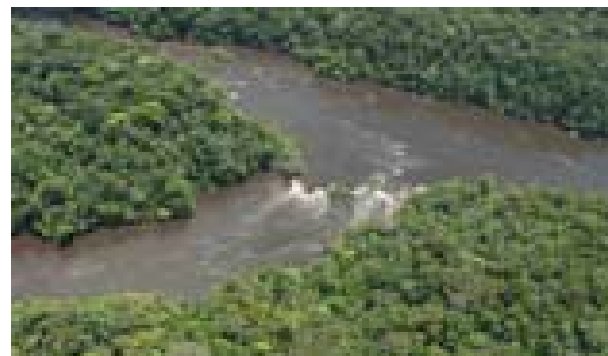
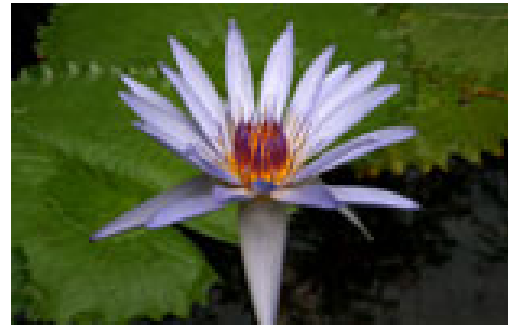
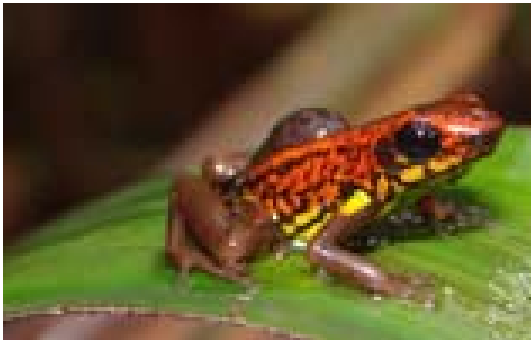
Liberia's economy is largely dependent on the extractive industries.

Foreign exchange earnings are derived largely from sales of timber, rubber, gold diamond and iron ore.

- Maintaining the ecological integrity of Liberia's rich biodiversity remains one of the greatest challenge faced by conservation managers .



- Liberia is an important biodiversity country: There are thousands of different kinds of birds, reptiles, insects, amphibians, trees, and animal species in Liberia that cannot be found in some part of the world.
- Liberia contained 42% of the Upper Guinea Forest of West Africa; the single largest portion possessed by a country in the region; followed by Ivory Coast 28%, Ghana 16%, Guinea 8%, Sierra Leone 5% and Togo 1%.



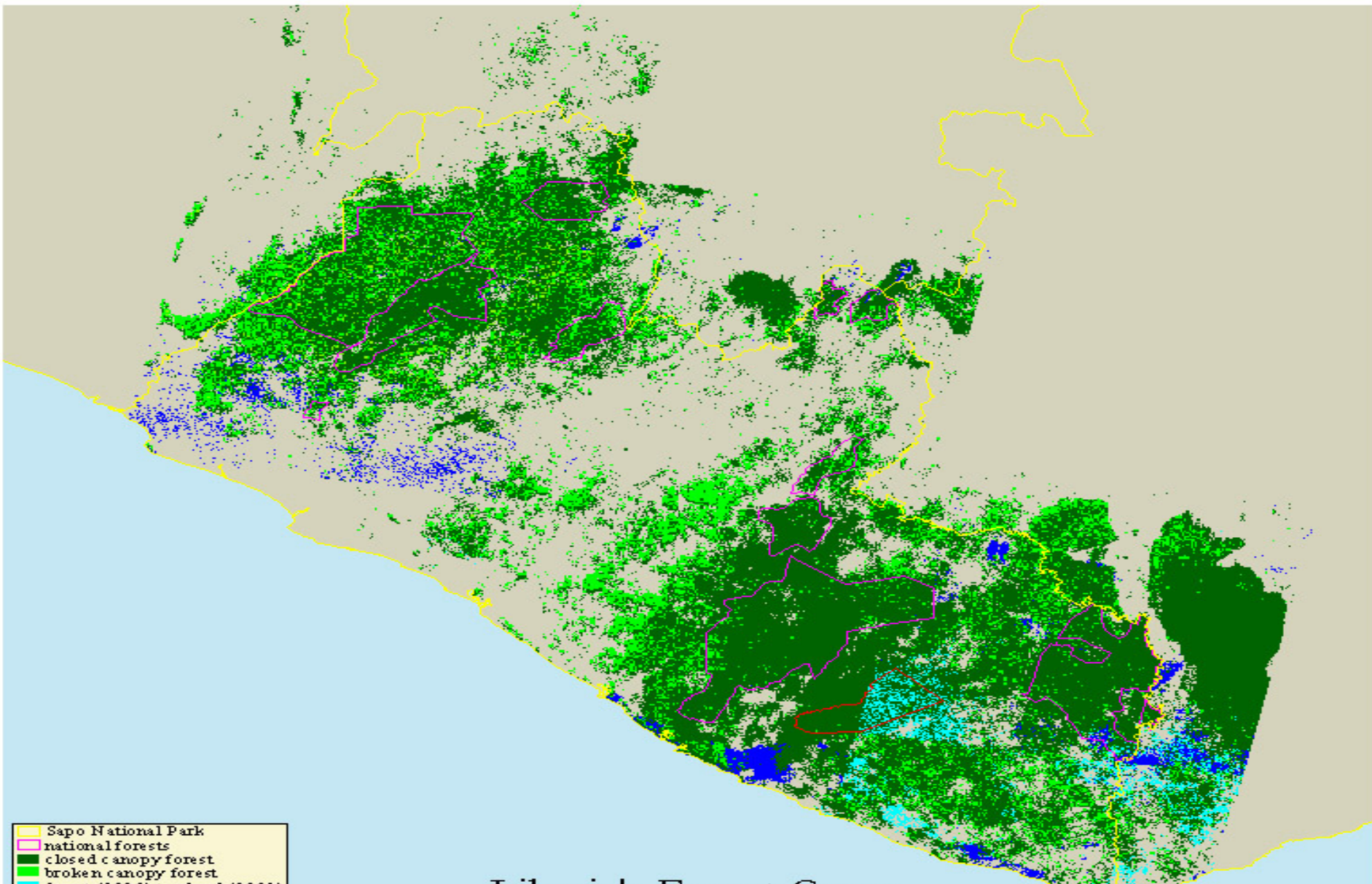
Profile Summery of Liberia

| Factors | Approximated Value |
|--|---------------------------|
| Population (July, 2009) | 3,441,790 |
| Land Area | 9.58 million ha |
| Forest Land | 4.30 million ha |
| % of forest land in the upper Guinea forest area | 42 % |
| Undamaged forest area | 2.6 million ha |
| % of Protected Areas | 4 % |
| % of proposed protected Areas | 30 % |
| Flowering plant species | 2000+ |
| Timber tree species | 225 |
| Mammalian species | 125+ |
| Reptiles and amphibian species | 74+ |
| Bird species | 590 |
| Insect species | 1000+ |

Forest Complex in Liberia



2010 International Year of Biodiversity



- Sapo National Park
- national forests
- closed canopy forest
- broken canopy forest
- forest (1985) to cloud (2001)

Liberia's Forest Cover





National experience with multiple benefits

- REDD Readiness Proposal (R-PP), shows a Country's readiness for REDD
- The R-PP provides a framework for taking stock of national situation with respect to deforestation and forest degradation.
- Liberia has prepared her readiness proposal
- All six components were developed by various Government Ministries and Agencies with assistance from our Development partners.



COMPONENTS OF R-PP

1. Organizing and Consulting

- a. National Readiness Management Arrangements
- b. Stakeholder Consultation and Participation

2. Prepare the REDD Strategy

- a. Assessment of Land Use, Forest Policy and Governance
- b. REDD Strategy Options
- c. REDD Implementation Framework
- d. Social and Environmental Impacts

COMPONENTS OF R-PP

3. Develop a Reference Scenario
4. Design a Monitoring System
5. Schedule and Budget
6. Design a Program Monitoring and Evaluation Framework



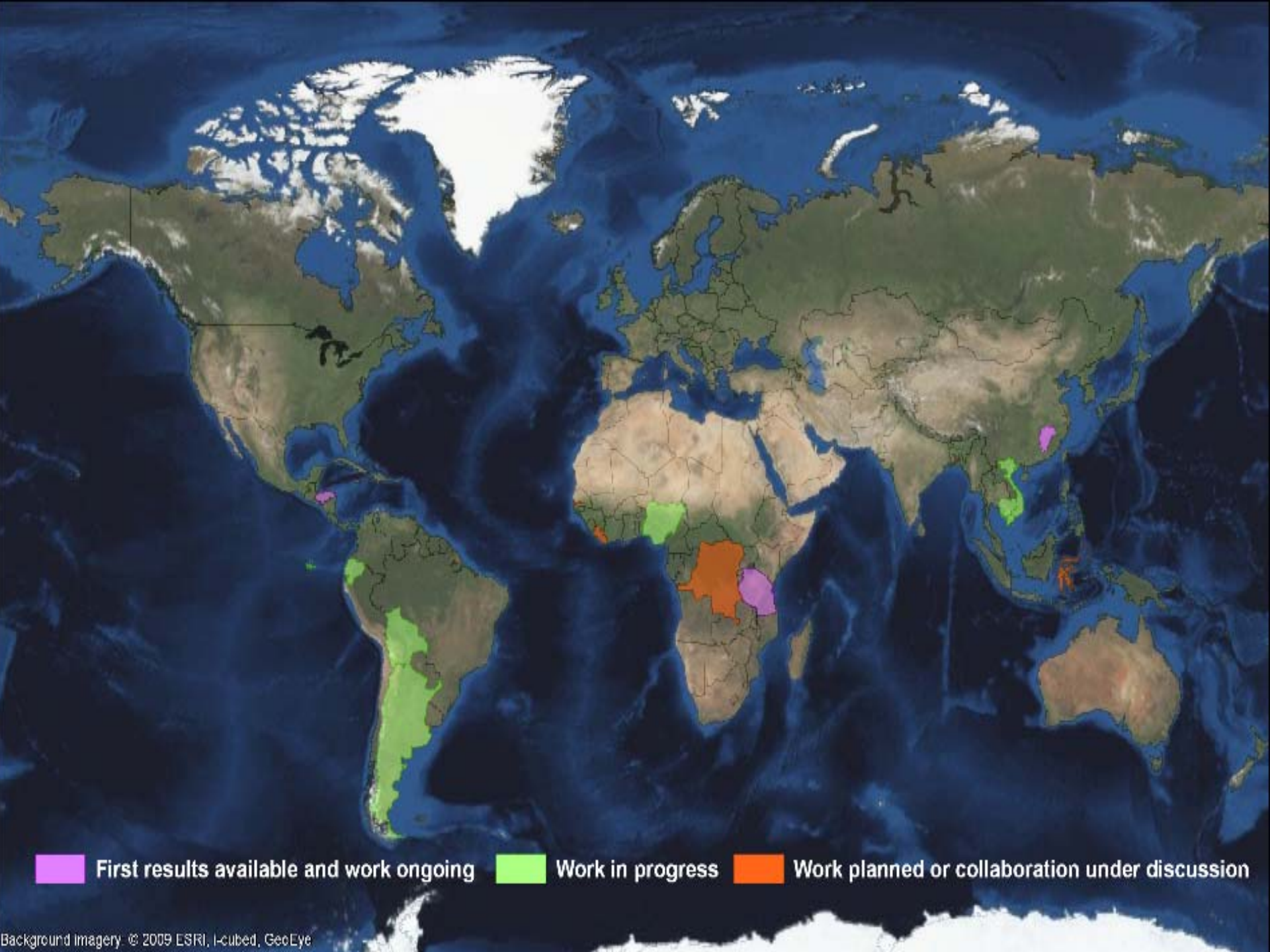
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Tools at National level

Liberia is in its concluding stage of completing the National Ecological Gap analysis under the CBD

The Environmental Protection Agency of Liberia in collaboration with UNEP World Conservation Monitoring Centre (UNEP-WCMC) is in the process of developing a tool that will serve as Spatial analysis to support decision making on REDD+ and its multiple benefits



First results available and work ongoing **Work in progress** **Work planned or collaboration under discussion**

Our National Strategy



- REDD Preparation Proposal (R-PP)
- Forestry Reform Law (2006)
- PA Management Strategy
- Community Rights Law
- Low Carbon Economy Development Path (Proposed)
- In the Process of drafting an ABS law
- The Poverty Reduction Strategy (PRS)

Main opportunities



- There are signs of willingness on the part of our international partners to support Liberia's REDD+ initiatives .
- There is a political will on the part of National Government in that the Office of the President is directly involved with the issue of REDD+

Key challenges



- To get decision makers (Govt. Ministers & Law Makers) fully understand the multiple benefits of REDD+
- To get our rural and poor communities fully involve in the REDD+ processes and to understand its long term and multiple benefits
 - ❖ There is a need for training and capacity building programs for the local communities to enable them adequately understand the issue of REDD.

Key challenges



- Lack of Institutional and human Capacity:
Institutional capacity to deal with
 - Monitoring and verification
 - Issues related to land and resource tenure
 - Coordination between the local community and National authorities
 - Land use planning (Multiple stakeholders involvement)



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Regional collaboration for multiple benefits

The issue of REDD+ is a new phenomenon that we are trying to grapple with

The international exchanges have helped to increase our understanding of REDD+

We look forward for collaboration in the areas of institutional and technical support in helping to address some of the key challenges that we are faced as a Country



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P R O G R A M M E



Thank you!

Merci!

¡Gracias!

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