

Organizational Profiles

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Organizational Profiles

CONSERVATION INTERNATIONAL

Conservation International (CI) is an international, nonprofit organization based in Washington, DC. CI believes that the Earth's natural heritage must be maintained if future generations are to thrive spiritually, culturally and economically. Our mission is to conserve the Earth's living heritage, our global biodiversity, and to demonstrate that human societies are able to live harmoniously with nature.

Conservation International
2011 Crystal Drive, Suite 500
Arlington, VA 22202
UNITED STATES
tel. 1-703-341-2400
fax. 1-703-553-0654
www.conservation.org

CONSERVATION INTERNATIONAL – GHANA

Conservation International Ghana's work started in 1990 with the Kakum National Park, where the habitat of globally threatened species was secured against further degradation and species extinction through innovative ecotourism development. To further secure Kakum National Park, CI-Ghana implemented the Cocoa Agro-forestry Programme in partnership with Kuapa Kokoo, assisting cocoa farmers within the Kakum Conservation Area to adopt ecologically sustainable agronomic practices for increased production. This agroforestry initiative has provided a buffer zone and additional wildlife habitat for the threatened species within the Park. As a result of CI-Ghana's interventions, Kakum National Park currently receives about 80,000 visitors annually, contributing significantly to the socio-economic development of Ghana.

From the project site at Kakum National Park, CI-Ghana has expanded its focus to the national level. CI-Ghana's work focuses on preventing species extinction, increasing protection and improving management of the remaining forest fragments, and the development of biodiversity corridors. To curb the threat of species extinction in Ghana, as a result of the bushmeat trade, CI-Ghana carried out a two-year nation-wide bushmeat campaign. This was done in partnership with the Wildlife Division, Atomic Energy Commission, Ghana Standards Board and Food and Drugs Board. Others included the Ministry of Food and Agriculture and the Environmental Protection Agency of Ghana. In partnership with the Ministry of Environment and Science, CI-Ghana provided technical support, secretariat and funding for the completion of the *National Biodiversity Strategy for Ghana*. To ensure the effective implementation of the Strategy, CI-Ghana also provided technical support for the formulation of the Action Plan. Currently, CI-Ghana is represented on the National Biodiversity Committee in Ghana. In December 1999, CI-Ghana facilitated a conservation priority-setting workshop that built a broad-based consensus on priorities for biodiversity conservation of the Upper Guinea forest

ecosystem through active participation of 146 individuals from 90 institutions. Government, NGOs and private sector participants developed a common platform to guide and coordinate new investment and conservation at various scales throughout the region.

Conservation International Ghana
P.O. Box KA 30426
Airport, Accra
GHANA
tel. +233 21 773893 / 780906
fax. +233 21 762009
email. cioaa@ghana.com

CENTER FOR APPLIED BIODIVERSITY SCIENCE (CABS)

The mission of the Center for Applied Biodiversity Science (CABS) is to strengthen the ability of Conservation International and other institutions to identify and respond to elements that threaten the earth's biological diversity. CABS collaborates with universities, research centers, multilateral government and non-governmental organizations to address the urgent global-scale concerns of conservation science. CABS researchers are using state-of-the-art technology to collect data, consult with other experts around the world, and disseminate results. In this way, CABS research is an early warning system that identifies the most threatened regions before they are destroyed. In addition, CABS provides tools and resources to scientists and decisions-makers that help them make informed choices about how best to protect the hotspots.

Conservation International
2011 Crystal Drive, Suite 500
Arlington, VA 22202
UNITED STATES
www.biodiversityscience.org

ALCOA WORLD ALUMINA LLC (ALCOA)

As one of the world's leading aluminium producers with operations in a number of countries throughout the world Alcoa has given priority to addressing environmental concerns in its operations and developments. Alcoa has implemented a sustainability strategy that it applies in its processing operations and the development of new projects such as the proposed refinery in Guinea. The strategy is based on the goal of simultaneously achieving financial success, environmental excellence, and social responsibility through partnerships in order to deliver net long-term benefits to shareholders, employees, customers, suppliers, and the communities in which Alcoa operates.

Alcoa World Alumina LLC
201 Isabella Street
Pittsburgh, PA
15212-5858
UNITED STATES
tel. 412-553-4545
fax. 412-553-4498
www.alcoa.com