# TABLE OF CONTENTS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Section</th>
<th>Page</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>ACRONYMS</strong></td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>1. INTRODUCTION</strong></td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>2. TOWARDS INCLUSIVE AND SUSTAINABLE GOVERNANCE OF FORESTED LANDSCAPES IN 2019</strong></td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2.1 Increased access to and benefits from land</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2.2 Communities have access to decision-making over their land</td>
<td>8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2.3 Communities, governments and the private sector apply sustainable practices</td>
<td>9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2.4 Addressing global drivers of deforestation and climate change</td>
<td>11</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>3. REFLECTION ON KEY ELEMENTS OF THE GLA THEORY OF CHANGE</strong></td>
<td>14</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3.1 Gender</td>
<td>14</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3.2 Evidence</td>
<td>15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3.3 Civic space</td>
<td>15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3.4 Collaboration and coalition building</td>
<td>16</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3.5 Integrity</td>
<td>16</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3.6 Summarising our learnings</td>
<td>17</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Annex 1 – Overview of GLA partners</td>
<td>19</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Annex 2 – Progress on Dialogue and Dissent indicators</td>
<td>21</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Annex 3 – Country and Theme specific Progress</td>
<td>24</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Date:**
May 2020

**Lead Author:**
Menno Bosma

**Editors:**
Charlotte Floors, Maya Verlinden & Trudi van Ingen

**English editing:**
Patricia Halladay

**Contact:**
Marie-José Vervest - marie.jose.vervest@milieudefensie.nl

**Cover photo:**
Youth protest against the construction of the Kaliwa dam in the Philippines - Leandro Miguel V. Novero, PAKISAMA

**Vereniging Milieudefensie**
Nieuwe Looiersstraat 31, 1017 VA Amsterdam
mail address: Postbus 19199, 1000 GD Amsterdam
telephone: 020 550 73 00
ACRONYMS

AC | Agro-Commodities
ADHMA | Alliance for Human Rights and the Environment
AFIEGO | Africa Institute for Energy Governance
AFIL | Asociación Forestal Indigena de Lomerio
ALMA! Dom | Alyansa ng Mamamayan Laban sa Dam
CBD | Convention on Biodiversity
CBO | Community Based Organisation
CBFP | Congo Basin Forest Partnership
CED | Centre pour le Développement et l’Environnement
CFI | Cocoa and Forest Initiative
CFM | Community Forest Management
CICOL | Central de Comunidades Originarias de Lomerio
CREMAs | Community Resource Management Areas
CSO | Civil Society Organisation
D&D | Dialogue & Dissent
DRC | Democratic Republic of Congo
DSO | Directie Sociale Ontwikkeling
ECAs | Export Credit Agencies
ERA | Environmental Rights Action
ESIA | Environmental and Social Impact Assessment
ETA | Ecological Trends Alliance
EU | European Union
FAO | UN’s Food and Agriculture Organization
FC | Forestry Commission
FDA | Forest Development Authority
FLEGT | Forest Law Enforcement, Governance and Trade
FLG | Forest and Land Governance
FOE | Friends of the Earth
FPIC | Free Prior and Informed Consent
GLA | Green Livelihoods Alliance
GVL | Golden Veroleum Liberia
HCS | High Carbon Stock
HCSA | High Carbon Stock Approach
HCV | High Conservation Value
HRDs | Human Rights Defenders
HYPREP | Hydrocarbon Pollution
ICCA | Indigenous and Community Conserved Area
IDH | Initiatief Duurzame Handel
IFM | Independent Forest Monitoring
IGG | Inclusive Green Growth
IPBES | Intergovernmental Science-Policy Platform on Biodiversity and Environmental Services
IPs | Indigenous Peoples
IPC | International Planning Committee
IUCN NL | International Union for Conservation of Nature, National Committee of the Netherlands
JET | Just Energy Transition
LIFT | Landscape Investment and Finance Tool
MoFA | Dutch Ministry of Foreign Affairs
NCIP | National Commission on Indigenous Peoples
NTFP | Non-Timber Forest Products
NTFP-EP | Non-Timber Forest Products Exchange Programme
PFES | Payment for Forest Environmental Services
REDD2 | Renewable Energy Directive
RSPO | Roundtable on Sustainable Palm Oil
SDGs | Sustainable Development Goals
SDI | Sustainable Developent Institute
TBG | Tropenbos Ghana
TBI | Tropenbos International
TIMBY | This Is My Backyard
UN | United Nations
UPR | Universal Periodic Review
VOSIEA | Volunteers to support international efforts in Developing Africa
VPA | Voluntary Partnership Agreement

NCIP | National Commission on Indigenous Peoples
NTFP | Non-Timber Forest Products
NTFP-EP | Non-Timber Forest Products Exchange Programme
PFES | Payment for Forest Environmental Services
REDD+ | Reducing emissions from deforestation and forest degradation
RSPO | Roundtable on Sustainable Palm Oil
SDGs | Sustainable Development Goals
SDI | Sustainable Developent Institute
TBG | Tropenbos Ghana
TBI | Tropenbos International
TIMBY | This Is My Backyard
UN | United Nations
UPR | Universal Periodic Review
VOSIEA | Volunteers to support international efforts in Developing Africa
VPA | Voluntary Partnership Agreement
1. INTRODUCTION

The Green Livelihoods Alliance (GLA) is a partnership of Milieudefensie; the International Union for Conservation of Nature, National Committee of the Netherlands (IUCN NL); Tropenbos International (TBI); the Dutch Ministry of Foreign Affairs (MoFA); and 65 civil society organizations (CSOs). See Annex 1. Through its Forested Landscapes for Equity programme, the alliance aims for the sustainable and inclusive governance of forested landscapes. The GLA works in 16 landscapes in nine focus countries worldwide: Bolivia, Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC), Ghana, Indonesia, Liberia, Nigeria, the Philippines, Uganda and Viet Nam (see Annex 3). Equally importantly, the GLA addresses the global drivers of, and solutions to, deforestation and climate change through three thematic programmes: Agro-Commodities (AC), Forest and Land Governance (FLG), and Just Energy Transition (JET).

2019 was an important year for the fate of worldwide tropical forests, partly due to immense forest fires in South America and Indonesia and the media attention these received. Fires also directly affected the GLA landscape in Bolivia.

Besides the destructive effects of fires on people and wildlife, climate scientists fear that they will amplify the effects of global warming. Climate change dries out trees, making them more flammable, and rising temperatures increase the risk of fires, which contribute to higher CO$_2$ emissions.

Moreover, the 2019 Global Assessment Report on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services by the Intergovernmental Science-Policy Platform on Biodiversity and Environmental Services (IPBES) reinforced the message that biodiversity is declining at an alarming rate, and stressed the need for transformative change.

Despite this worrisome situation, a strong civil society and collaboration and solidarity among CSOs at various levels provide a strong counterbalance to the alarming rate of deforestation and the human rights violations that are often associated with it. The GLA has contributed to the capacities of CSOs, with positive results and some room for optimism.

This report was written during the COVID-19 pandemic, which has affected the work of partners in all GLA countries. Apart from its obvious short-term effects, in GLA’s focus countries the pandemic is likely to exacerbate existing challenges to the political and economic situation, such as shrinking civic space and increasing inequality, illegal logging and extractive industries, food insecurity and human rights violations. Yet there are also opportunities and lessons to learn from the crisis. Science suggests that deforestation and forest degradation contribute to the risk of more outbreaks of zoonotic diseases such as COVID-19. The worldwide crisis has emphasized that we are all connected and need to continue to work in an integrated way, at the local and global level, supported by a strong civil society.

This annual report proudly presents the results achieved in 2019, the second-last year of the five-year GLA programme. The report provides examples of GLA’s achievements, accompanied by reflections and lessons learned. The alliance increased its attention to a number of topics, based on the lessons from the mid-term review in July 2018, such as gender, evidence, civic space and collaboration. The main results and reflections on these topics is found in Chapter 3; a more detailed progress overview can be found in Annex 3.
2. TOWARDS INCLUSIVE AND SUSTAINABLE GOVERNANCE OF FORESTED LANDSCAPES IN 2019

The Green Livelihoods Alliance (GLA) aims for inclusive and sustainable governance of forested landscapes. The ultimate goal is to reduce deforestation and increase respect for the rights of forest-dependent communities. The work of the GLA partners focuses on four key conditions that are required in order to achieve inclusive and sustainable governance of forested landscapes:

• Communities have access to and benefit from land and forest resources and are thus more inclined to protect forests and use them sustainably.
• Communities have access to decision-making over their land. The governance of forested landscapes can be inclusive and sustainable only if the interests of all stakeholders are taken into account, including the interests of marginalized forest-dependent groups, such as indigenous people, youth and women.
• Sustainable practices are in place that allow current and future generations to benefit from ecosystem services such as climate resilience, food security, water provisioning and biodiversity.
• Global drivers of deforestation and climate change are addressed.

This chapter summarizes the main results in these four areas.

The GLA’s efforts contribute directly to a number of outcomes in the result frameworks for climate resilience, water and food security of the Inclusive Green Growth (IGG) department of the Dutch Ministry of Foreign Affairs. We have included a number of examples of our contribution to the results framework in this report (see pages 8, 10 and 11). In addition, an analysis of GLA’s progress in addressing Directie Sociale Ontwikkeling’s (DSO’s) Dialogue and Dissent indicators 1, 2 and 3 is outlined in Annex 2.

2.1 Increased access to and benefits from land

Results in 2019 in relation to land access and benefits relate to strengthened movements, litigation and community monitoring and law enforcement at the local level. In a number of countries, partners further strengthened their campaigns and their efforts to address rights violations and unsustainable development. Moreover, more GLA partners turned to litigation. Partners reasoned that when duty bearers do not obey national laws, or violate or manipulate requirements such as Free Prior and Informed Consent (FPIC), litigation may be the best option to bring about change in terms of developments that result from powerful political and economic interests. Although litigation processes are not easy and are entirely new for some partners, partners often feel strengthened by them and by the coalitions they participate in, making use of each other’s strengths and added value. Below are some examples.

Claiming rights and building movements, with litigation as a last resort

GLA partners A Rocha Ghana, Tropenbos Ghana and FoE Ghana continued to mobilize national and international actors around the campaign in Ghana to protect the Atewa Range Forest Reserve from bauxite mining. Concerned Citizens of Atewa Landscape, a community-driven coalition of local stakeholders and opinion leaders, organized a demonstration in the local
capital of Kibi, which received extensive coverage in the local and national media. A Rocha also organized a visit to the Atewa forest for the Australian, Norwegian and Dutch ambassadors to raise their awareness. Australia and Norway are countries of strategic interest in the Atewa campaign. Australia is a major participant in the mining industry, and the Prime Minister of Norway, together with the President of Ghana, co-chairs the United Nations Secretary-General’s Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) Advocates Group. The active engagement of both country’s ambassadors resulted in a study — executed by the United States Forestry Service and endorsed by the Ghanaian government — on the impact of bauxite mining in Atewa. The report recommended that the decision to include Atewa in the mining plans be reassessed. Even actor Leonardo DiCaprio posted a tweet, saying: “We must prioritize the protection of these irreplaceable places for a healthy planet”. Despite these recommendations, in March 2019 the Ghanaian government opened up roads into the forest for bauxite exploration activities without any impact assessment or prior notice to concerned stakeholders. A coalition of CSOs, led by A Rocha, then initiated a legal complaint against the Ghanaian government.

The Atewa case taught us important lessons:

- It is effective to plan campaigns around publicity events, which ensure media attention and public debate.
- Vocal citizens are vital: it’s the people with voting power who are most influential. To facilitate initiatives by local communities, we convened training workshops for CSOs and members of community-based organizations near Atewa.
- Show, don’t tell: because many Ghanaians had no idea of the impact of bauxite mining, we organized a visit to the country’s only functioning bauxite mine for representatives from local governments, women’s groups and journalists, among others. This was key in building the coalition Concerned Citizens of Atewa Landscape.

In the Southern Sierra Madre in the Philippines, GLA partners strengthened the campaign against the construction of the Kaliwa Dam, using lessons from lobby and advocacy training and mobilizing actors to support the movement. Due to a series of awareness-raising and capacity-strengthening activities, indigenous peoples (IPs) are now active in a local network called Alyansa ng Mamamayan Laban sa Dam (ALMA! Dam) and the national network Stop Kaliwa Dam Network. This came with security risks and challenges; partners had to operate with caution (see 3.4 and Box 2). Partners also strengthened the organizational capacity of indigenous women. There are now designated and active indigenous spokespersons, two of whom are women. IUCN NL, together with GLA and other partners, organized a learning exchange between communities near the proposed dam and communities affected by an existing dam in the Cordillera region. The opportunity to see the effects of an existing dam strongly motivated the IP groups from the Southern Sierra Madre in their advocacy. As a result of all these activities, the majority of the indigenous peoples decided to reject the Kaliwa Dam during the FPIC process in 2019. Despite this clear No, however, president Duterte pushed through with it. Partners then decided to turn to legal action. Partners made use of their complementary strengths: NTFP-EP led the information campaign with communities; Tanggol Kalikasan advised on legal issues; and Forest Foundation Philippines contributed to a vulnerability and risk assessment of areas affected by the proposed dam.

In a number of countries, partners achieved successes in court cases. The Supreme Court in Indonesia granted a claim for a judicial review submitted by GLA partner WALHI. WALHI had denounced a 2015 regulation which allowed protected forests to be converted into oil palm plantations. Under this regulation, palm oil companies could continue to run or establish plantations in protected forests until the end of the harvest cycle (20 to 25 years). WALHI referred to a law that prohibits plantations in areas that are designated as protected forests. With the court ruling, the regulation must be cancelled, saving forests from conversion in the future, benefiting the livelihoods of forest fringe communities.

In 2019 JET partner AFIEGO together with Friends of the Earth France and CSOs from Uganda took the French oil company Total to court in France for its failure to implement its human rights and environmental plans in Uganda. The company’s
activities threaten local communities and protected areas. AFIEGO was supported by IUCN NL and FoE France to gather evidence and participate in the court case. IUCN NL, Milieudelensie and international partners ensured that the case generated a lot of international attention (https://www.reuters.com/article/us-total-uganda-lawsuit/green-groups-ask-french-court-to-order-total-to-disclose-environmental-steps-in-uganda-idUSKBN1X21U1). Worldwide, it was the first time that Southern CSOs used the new French due diligence law (Loi sur le devoir de vigilance) to defend their rights and take a transnational corporation to court.

The Ikeberi community in Nigeria reached an out-of-court settlement that guarantees benefits and compensation in a case against Italian energy giant ENI, which was accused of polluting Ikeberi land in the Niger Delta. The community filed the complaint itself, with support from GLA JET partners Environmental Rights Action (ERA) and Friends of the Earth Europe. The case has obligated the company to finally respond substantively to the community’s demand for justice.

Community monitoring for improved enforcement

To ensure that existing policies are implemented and the rights of communities to land and resources are not violated, the GLA increased its efforts to strengthen community-based monitoring. This was effective; in several cases community monitoring led to improved law enforcement. Local communities are often the eyes and ears on the ground, and local authorities are often under-equipped or unwilling to detect illegal and harmful actions, especially in far-flung areas. Local communities and CBOs acted as watchdogs when it came to illegal logging, extractives, fishing and other harmful practices. CBOs were supported to carry out effective monitoring and verify alerts a.o. by using mobile phones. A great help to the monitors was the application This Is My Backyard (TIMBY; see 3.1) and techniques such as acoustic monitoring, practised by Indonesian GLA partner KKI Warsi (see Box 1). Community-based monitoring took place in GLA focus countries Bolivia, DRC, Ghana, Indonesia, Liberia and the Philippines, and in Cameroon and Togo, often leading to official enforcement requests and enforcement actions by forest authorities. The evidence gathered by local monitors in Liberia was used to underpin international complaints against abusive activities.

Box 1. Acoustic monitoring

Monitoring large areas of village forest in Indonesia is a challenging task for village forest management groups. The GLA provided an acoustic monitoring system to help these groups detect the sounds of illegal activities, such as chainsaws, shotguns and vehicles. Solar-powered devices called RFCx Guardians, made from old smart phones, were installed in the trees. The devices can detect trucks, motorcycles and gunshots up to 1.5 kilometres away and can detect chainsaws up to 500 metres away. Since the alerts occur in real time, forest rangers can react immediately. In mid-July 2019, several Guardians were installed in four village forest locations in West-Sumatra’s Mudiak Baduo landscape. Field staff of the village forest management groups were trained to operate and maintain the system. Not long afterward, the first evidence of illegal logging was gathered and the perpetrators were handed over to the police. For the NGO Rainforest Connection, who developed the system, it has been one of their most successful pilot projects: “We are excited to continue our work with KKI Warsi and the village forest management groups, as there is immense potential for conservation, positively impacting climate change and preserving the habitat of many endangered species.”

Adoption and implementation of policies

Our 2018 report highlighted a number of examples of successful policy changes at the national level. However, the adoption and implementation of these policies has been slow. For example, although the adoption of the Land Rights Act in Liberia was a major success in 2018, implementation has been slow due to a lack of resources and massive economic decline. In Ghana, partners saw little progress in the process to pass the Wildlife Resources Management Bill. In the Philippines, partners had to brief newly installed congress members on the Indigenous and Community Conserved Area Bill, which is still pending adoption by the Congress.
Leadership was needed to ensure that the community continued to work towards halting deforestation and forest degradation. In the past, communities near these plantations were divided in their opinions, due to the economic opportunities provided by the plantations and the harms caused by them. For example, community leaders near agro-business plantations in Cameroon stood up and took a leadership role in protecting their rights. In the past, communities near these plantations were divided in their opinions, due to the economic opportunities provided by the plantations and the harms caused by them. Leadership was needed to ensure that the community leaders organized themselves, openly opposing unsustainable practices and claiming their rights. In some cases, they have suffered a backlash, increasingly becoming subject to human rights violations (see 3.4 and Box 2).

Increased self-organization and involvement in decision-making

Empowering indigenous peoples and local communities is a cornerstone of the GLA. Processes that started in previous years have resulted in more community leaders, including indigenous people, among them women. In 2019 these leaders have resulted in more community leaders, including indigenous people, among them women. In 2019 these leaders have proactively organized themselves, openly opposing unsustainable practices and claiming their rights. In some cases, they have suffered a backlash, increasingly becoming subject to human rights violations (see 3.4 and Box 2).

At the local level, partners noticed more progress than at the national level. In Bolivia, GLA partner IBIF contributed to the creation of a new institution, the Territorial Technical Unit (TTU) of Lomerio. This entity operated independently from the indigenous umbrella organization la Central de Comunidades Originarias de Lomerio (CICOL), which did not fulfill its representative and coordinating role. After the creation of the TTU, representatives of 29 communities from Lomerio approved a resolution that regulates the contracts for and sale prices of timber from the territory. Previously this was not regulated and there was no control over forest harvesting. The resolution resulted from participatory workshops with the communities. The workshops were facilitated by GLA partner IBIF to develop a business plan that improved forest management and the timber business. The resolution halts abuses by timber buyers, who used to play off the communities against each other, offering unfair contract conditions and timber prices that did not cover production costs. Now all contracts signed by the individual communities have to be approved by the TTU.}

At the local level, partners noticed more progress than at the national level. In Bolivia, GLA partner IBIF contributed to the creation of a new institution, the Territorial Technical Unit (TTU) of Lomerio. Before the creation of the unit, forestry activities were supposed to be coordinated by the Indigenous Forest Association of Lomerio (AFIL). This entity operated independently from the indigenous umbrella organization la Central de Comunidades Originarias de Lomerio (CICOL), which did not fulfill its representative and coordinating role. After the creation of the TTU, representatives of 29 communities from Lomerio approved a resolution that regulates the contracts for and sale prices of timber from the territory. Previously this was not regulated and there was no control over forest harvesting. The resolution resulted from participatory workshops with the communities. The workshops were facilitated by GLA partner IBIF to develop a business plan that improved forest management and the timber business. The resolution halts abuses by timber buyers, who used to play off the communities against each other, offering unfair contract conditions and timber prices that did not cover production costs. Now all contracts signed by the individual communities have to be approved by the TTU.

The governor of Tshopo province in DRC issued two decrees establishing local community forest concessions. This was the result of intensive lobby and advocacy of the authorities by GLA partner TB DRC, and of mobilizing and training communities to be able to apply for forest concessions. Previously, no forest concessions had been allocated to local communities in the province, despite the efforts of CSOs. The allocation constitutes an effective means of securing land for local communities from the covetousness of various natural resources operators. Having control of land also creates opportunities for sustainable agricultural and forestry practices.

A significant result was achieved by GLA partners in the Cagayan de Oro river basin in the Philippines. The city of Cagayan de Oro enacted an ordinance to protect and rehabilitate the river basin and reduce risks from disasters and climate change. The city annually allocates 10 million Philippine pesos (about €180,000) for this purpose. As a corollary achievement, the water service provider in the city, the Cagayan de Oro Water District (COWD) decided to earmark 4 million pesos (about €72,000) in their annual budget to be used for restoration of watersheds. The success was the result of collaborative efforts by the CSO coalition, the multi-sector river basin council and a local legislator who championed the advocacy. The lobbying process was not simple. Many stakeholders had reservations about the proposal; therefore, the coalition consulted carefully with each sector targeted by the ordinance. In its advocacy, the CSO coalition members used the river basin council (rather than themselves) to be the most visible participant in major events and activities, thereby motivating governments and private actors to support the initiative. The result is a milestone in a process of more than a decade to strengthen governance in the river basin.

As a result of intensive lobby and advocacy of the authorities by GLA partner TB DRC, and of mobilizing and training communities to be able to apply for forest concessions. Previously, no forest concessions had been allocated to local communities in the province, despite the efforts of CSOs. The allocation constitutes an effective means of securing land for local communities from the covetousness of various natural resources operators. Having control of land also creates opportunities for sustainable agricultural and forestry practices.

\[\text{A selection of outcomes:}\]

- In Indonesia the heads of Batu Manjulur and Balai Batu Sandaran in West Sumatra decided not to allow gold and coal mines to operate in their forests. In West Kalimantan the provincial government issued regulations to prevent forest fires, which are a recurring major cause of forest loss in Indonesia and the tropics in general.
- In the DRC, Judicial Police Officers of the Virunga National Park, efficiently investigated cases of wildlife and forest crimes, based on increased quality of evidence, as a result of a GLA training workshops for judicial staff.
- The House of Representatives in the Philippines approved the Sustainable Forest Management (SFM) bill in May 2019, which aims to manage, protect and optimize the utilization of forest resources in support of sustainable development and equitable access and benefit sharing to stakeholders. The process towards the SFM bill started in 2000 and was finalized in 2019, with GLA partners lobbying in the last four years for its passage.
spoke with one voice. After years of collaboration and training by GLA partner CED, leaders emerged and organized their communities. CED also trained women to monitor the legal and contractual commitments of the companies, and connected new groups to existing structures for information exchange and learning how to organize. This helped to address the violence against and repression of women in the plantation area.

GLA partner organizations and communities are increasingly acknowledged for their contribution to decision-making processes, in both the development and implementation of policies. As an example, for the first time local staff in charge of land administration in Lok and Krong Bong districts in Viet Nam discussed co-management of land with local farmers. This was the result of GLA partners providing information on land conflicts and restoration options to state agencies, so that they could study the information and see the value of co-management in conflict resolution. In Viet Nam it is rare for government staff to actively cooperate with local people in dealing with land conflicts, so this is a significant result.

After awareness raising and training on inclusive landscape governance by GLA partner TBG in Ghana, and strengthening and consolidation of natural resource governance structures (both existing and new), a Landscape Management Board was created in the Juaboso-Bia District. This enhances inclusiveness and local peoples’ participation in natural resource management in a cocoa-dominated landscape. Local-level actors, womens’ groups and youth, among others, can now make decisions and be responsible for actions in the landscape.

2.3 Communities, governments and the private sector apply sustainable practices

Improved livelihood and income-generating opportunities

Without income-generating opportunities, food security and alternatives to large-scale plantations, people are often forced to continue unsustainable practices. GLA partners therefore further strengthened the capacities of communities to improve their livelihoods and/or income. These activities are key in advocating for more sustainable practices and reducing deforestation carried out for farmland or to expand large-scale plantations.

A challenge in livelihood support is the need for effective sustainability strategies. GLA partners have limited resources and communities may lack capacity, perseverance and quality control, or have limited access to markets. In response, partners developed strategies such as connecting communities to local markets and government support structures and budgets. In some countries, partners also promoted certain platforms and markets. This has led to increased market access, formal recognition of community enterprises by the government, and access to local budgets.

For example, in the Philippines, partners strengthened the capacities of eight community-based enterprises to request and receive funding from the Department of Trade and Industry. This is significant, since previously most recipients of support from the department were mainstream businesses.

In Indonesia, GLA partners strengthened the capacities of community enterprises to successfully request money from village funds to improve their products and promote sustainable forest-based livelihoods. Also in Indonesia, independent small-holder plantations in the villages of Sungai Pelang and Sungai Besar have shifted from oil palm monoculture in peatland areas with poor productivity to sustainable agricultural practices. Newly established farmer groups now cultivate mixed crops of oil palm, pineapple, dragon fruit and Platostoma palustre (used to make grass jelly), among others.
The 2019 forest fires destroyed large parts of the Amazon and had dramatic effects on people, forests and wildlife in the Chiquitanía landscape in Bolivia. However, the situation also provided opportunities for GLA partners to advocate in the country. Overall, the fires led to a more positive perception by the public of CSOs working on forest conservation; the media portrayed them as part of the solution. CSOs were able to use the media attention in their longstanding advocacy against agribusinesses that convert forests into soy or biofuel plantations by using fire to clear land. The fire situation also demonstrated the adaptive capacity of partners; they worked on joint initiatives and quickly adjusted their planning to fit the needs of the emergency. They mapped the fires and provided water tanks, fire extinguishers, food supplies and agricultural inputs, among other things, to the affected communities. CSOs also became more visible; they were able to provide support due to their knowledge of and relations with the affected communities. Moreover, awareness of the Chiquitanía forest among the general public increased.

Companies behaving responsibly and held accountable

GLA partners also continued to advocate for more sustainable practices to governments and the private sector. The GLA used a combination of strategies to lobby companies to avoid forest conversion and apply sustainable practices. By entering into dialogue and providing guidance in the form of guidelines and data, GLA partners convinced companies to improve their conduct.

A good example of dialogue is the strategic partnership that A Rocha Ghana forged with Guinness Ghana Ltd. and other companies to promote integrated water resource management, organic farming and community restoration initiatives in the Atewa Range Forest Reserve in Ghana. The project contributes to the preservation and restoration of the ecosystems and biodiversity in the area. Through the Green Ripples project, Guinness Ghana invested in six communities. The investments will support the development of community water plans and the rehabilitation of degraded and abandoned mine sites.

If dialogue doesn’t work, GLA partners can hold companies accountable by resorting to strategies such as dissent and litigation. Partners devise dissent strategies with the affected communities, since they are the rights holders and therefore have to make the decisions on strategies. Communities also hold the knowledge and evidence to back up claims. The GVL case in Liberia illustrates this. Communities, with the support of CSOs, have filed complaints with the RSPO since 2012. Only
in 2018 did the RSPO complaints panel order GVL to stop further clearing of land and resolve existing land conflicts with communities. This decision was achieved due to the continuous input of verified evidence on harms committed by the company gathered by local communities and civil society. Another GLA accomplishment was that in May 2019, the High Carbon Stock Approach (HCSA) Executive Committee for the first time in its existence started a formal grievance procedure (in this case, GVL). The grievance concerned the destruction of high conservation value forests in Liberia and was based on verified evidence provided by GLA partners SDI and Milieudefensie, who were called in by local communities that were concerned about losing their forests. GVL denied the clearing of HCS forest first when GLA partners provided the evidence, but during the grievance process, had to admit and develop plans for forest restoration.

**Contribution to IGG result Decreased deforestation, enhanced sinks and increased climate resilience of ecosystems and livelihoods**

In 2019, the GLA successfully influenced government authorities and companies, from the local to the national level, to not allow the conversion of forests for agro-business or extractive industries and to grant forestry titles to communities. Both these actions contribute to decreased and/or avoided deforestation and improved management of forests. Here are some examples:

- Rubber company Halcyon agreed not to clear 55,000 hectares of forested land in Cameroon and to manage the area in close consultation with affected communities.
- After intervention by the Complaints Panel of the Roundtable on Sustainable Palm Oil, palm oil company Golden Veroleum Liberia (GVL) in Liberia stopped clearing disputed community land for conversion to plantations and produced an action plan to resolve existing land conflicts. This has for now halted the clearing of thousands of hectares of forest (see also 2.3).
- After SDI and Milieudefensie researched and exposed the potential destruction of High Conservation Stock forest by the company Equatorial Palm Oil in Liberia, the company stated that it would not clear 4,500 ha of land for Phase 2 of its plantation expansion.
- In Indonesia, the Ministry of Environment and Forestry approved a social forestry permit for 7,000 ha in Gunung Tarak; two social forestry permits for in total 1,356 ha in Mudiak Baduo are in the final stages of verification.

2.4 Addressing global drivers of deforestation and climate change

Local, national and international developments are closely intertwined in a globalized world. The GLA addresses the interconnected drivers of deforestation from the local to the international level through three thematic programmes: the Agro-Commodities programme, the Forest and Land Governance programme and the Just Energy Transition programme.

The main results are summarized in this chapter; see Annex 3 for detailed progress information.

Regulating finance

Regulating the financial sector to prevent the financing of deforestation and rights violations by large agro-commodity firms remained a key area of work in 2019. A combination of strategies was used, including joint capacity building, divestment campaigns, dialogue with the Government of the Netherlands and engagement with the financial sector. Milieudefensie campaigned in a coalition with European and Southern NGOs and CSOs to advocate for binding rules for investors and to urge them to divest from harmful projects. Activists and community representatives from Liberia and Indonesia visited the Netherlands and other EU countries, where they filed complaints with banks and investors in palm oil companies, spoke to politicians and officials and lobbied for policy solutions. Six journalists from Indonesia, Cameroon and Liberia came to the Netherlands and Brussels to tell their domestic readers about the role that Dutch investors play. This point of view was often absent from the news on agro-commodities in their home countries. Especially in Indonesia, with the heated debate on the palm oil sector and the misinformation on the rules in Europe on biofuels, this is of great significance.

There were some noteworthy results. Rabobank decided to divest from the palm oil company Indofood, ING announced that it would stop accepting new palm oil clients, FMO took action on its controversial projects in Liberia and DRC, pension fund PGGM considered divesting from the palm oil sector, De Nederlandsche Bank incorporated “stranded lands” as a sustainability risk, and the Dutch Ministry of Foreign Affairs said that its promotion of industrial agro-commodities should be analyzed. 32,000 people called on the Dutch government to adopt binding rules for financial institutions to ban investments in deforestation and human rights violations through a petition. As a result, the Dutch Finance Minister indicated that the Netherlands will advocate for a sustainable financial sector in Europe.

A new topic in 2019 on the agenda of the African JET partners are export credit agencies (ECAs) and their investments in non-renewables. Four African partners joined the international ECA Watch platform, thereby increasing its Southern
membership. The partners themselves initiated a joint research on the impact of export credit agencies (ECAs) on communities and the environment in Uganda, Nigeria, Ghana and Togo, to be used in future advocacy to decarbonize these investments in favour of funding for a just transition in Africa.

**Continued lobby for EU policy and legislation against deforestation**

The lobby for EU policy and legislation against deforestation continued in 2019. TBI and IUCN NL promoted a Dutch CSO coalition on the EU Action Plan against deforestation. More than 300 organizations from both South America and Europe, including Friends of the Earth, have sent a joint open letter (https://www.foeeurope.org/NGOs-call-stop-EU-Mercosur-180619) to European Union leaders calling for the EU to cease negotiations on the EU-Mercosur Free Trade Agreement, expressing their serious concerns about increasing violations of indigenous human rights and damage to the environment in Brazil. This resulted in a significant increase in media attention for the issue, and concerns from national policy makers on the impacts of Mercosur on deforestation. Although the European Commission concluded the deal, the trade ministers in the EU council and the European Parliament can still reject it. Now that there is a large group of NGOs active on the issue, there is momentum to ensure the EU-Mercosur agreement will contain measures against land grabbing and deforestation and will not undermine global climate policies.

**More support for a UN Binding Treaty**

The GLA continued to lobby for a UN Binding Treaty on transnational corporations and human rights that increases access to justice for victims of human rights violations by corporations. Increased civil society mobilization has been crucial in 2019 to counter the parties that are blocking progress, such as the EU. We engaged six Southern partners in international lobby and advocacy and organized an international speakers tour as part of this effort. During the tour, seven activists from Southern groups gained access to decision makers and financial institutions in France, Spain, Belgium, Germany, Netherlands, Denmark and Sweden to advocate for the need for the treaty. Shortly after the speakers tour, German and Dutch members of parliament asked parliamentary questions to their governments position on the UN binding treaty. The tour also led to a round table discussion before one of the committees of the Dutch Parliament by experts and Members of Parliament. This in turn brought more support and a proactive role in treaty negotiations for members of national parliaments and the European Parliament.

**Cocoa manufacturers call for due diligence regulations**

GLA partners paid special attention to the regulation of the cocoa supply chain. TBI initiated and contributed to multiple studies that give insights and recommendations on how regulation could be shaped and participated in follow-up dialogues at EU level organised by FERN, EU Parliamentarians and VOICE Network with cocoa private sector companies on defining due diligence for the sector. As a result, three of the largest chocolate companies released a statement in which they urged the European Parliament to impose a due diligence obligation on all companies that place cocoa or cocoa products on the EU market, to secure the long-term sustainability of the cocoa supply chain.

**First lessons from programme-wide community rights reviews**

Following a desk study and a pilot project in 2018 in Colombia, TBI started implementing community rights reviews in eight of GLA’s nine focus countries: Bolivia, DRC, Indonesia, Liberia, Nigeria, the Philippines, Uganda and Viet Nom, and in Surinam. These reviews engage CSO partners on the effectiveness of community rights, and stimulate their thinking about effective strategies for forest conservation and livelihoods in locally controlled forests. In all the countries mentioned here, CSOs have come up with concrete suggestions for follow-up work, which indicates that this strategy is useful. Reviews are
still ongoing, but initial findings show that they help partners to identify structural barriers to the success of community forestry. Common challenges in almost all countries are weak internal governance and the lack of participation by community members, in particular women, in decision-making and benefit sharing. As part of the reviews, partners discussed their findings with other CSOs and together identified joint strategies to address these barriers through lobby and advocacy. In several countries, the TBI review highlighted the need to empower communities to contribute to this lobby and to represent their interests at various political levels. This is exactly what the GLA programme does.

In 2020, we will synthesise and publish the findings and facilitate learning across the GLA programme; for example, through peer reviews in which GLA partners from various countries reflect on each other’s reports and findings.

**Increased capacities for ICCA groups in Asia and Latin America**

The GLA supported activities to strengthen regional and national capacity for Indigenous and Community Conserved Area (ICCA) groups in South East Asia and Latin America. The focus was on raising awareness among the public and the decision-makers of ICCAs, and building capacities to influence and advocate for ICCA laws and documentation and mapping of these areas. These activities contributed to greater awareness of the ICCA concept in Bolivia, Indonesia, the Philippines and Viet Nam, among other countries.

**Increased finance for integrated landscape projects**

The innovative Landscape Investment and Finance Tool (LIFT), developed by IUCN NL in partnership with EcoAgriculture Partners, was increasingly used by governments, the private sector and conservation NGOs to provide finance for integrated landscape projects. Because of LIFT, local and national development banks made investments in the Cagayan de Oro River Basin in the Philippines.

**Strengthened collaboration on the LandScale monitoring standard**

IUCN NL partner, the Nature Conservation Research Center is implementing the LandScale monitoring standard in Ghana. This has resulted in various positive governance outcomes such as new collaborations between communities, governments and eight international cocoa companies with offices in Ghana. Among other things, it led to interventions such as planting more shade trees in cocoa production landscapes. One coffee company is exploring the possibility of using LandScale in its production areas in Ethiopia.

**Increased collaboration and community mobilization in the JET programme**

In 2019, the JET programme demonstrated that working in CSO coalitions and mobilizing communities helped secure policy changes. In Nigeria, GLA partner ERA worked with a coalition of Nigerian CSOs to engage the newly elected government and the National Assembly on the need for a just and inclusive transition from fossil fuels to renewable energy. ERA’s consistent media campaigns, community mobilization and joint CSO engagement with the Nigerian government contributed to the government gradually embracing renewable energy. Joint advocacy led to a draft renewable energy bill. A drawback, however, is that much of the renewable energy funding is directed to government and business interventions and not to civil society. The GLA plans to address this in 2020.

In Uganda, AFIEGO’s advocacy focused on promoting off-grid solar energy as a renewable energy solution that would particularly benefit poor and vulnerable communities. The Ugandan government was lobbied into investing in education and jobs in the solar market and refraining from approving new concessions with companies that supply expensive power. Usually, women in Uganda rarely speak up at public meetings, since they are expected to be timid in public life. AFIEGO decided to empower them. As a result, women publicly highlighted how they are affected by fossil fuel energy and how important access to clean energy is for them. AFIEGO made sure that female-headed households had access to off-grid systems such as cook stoves and solar devices. This helps prevent the women from illegally collecting fuelwood and burning it.

Stakeholders from Ituri province in DRC worked with GLA partners in Uganda and DRC to lobby the Kingfisher Environmental Impact Assessment and the East African Crude Oil Pipeline project. There were diverse perspectives among the CSOs; some were 100% anti-fossil fuels, while others would accept them if environmental and community rights were protected. GLA partners organized workshops that focused on finding common ground. This led to joint advocacy and increased pressure on Uganda’s National Environment Management Authority to halt oil activities in cross-border ecologically sensitive areas. Mobilization campaigns with communities near Salonga National Park in DRC increased awareness of the impacts of oil exploitation and created an effective nucleus of resistance. The development of the pipeline was successfully delayed by means of community mobilization. GLA partners learned, however, that they need to remain vigilant. Oil roads continue to be constructed through forests and national parks, and land acquisition by the pipeline project continues, with severe impacts on people’s lives.
3. REFLECTION ON KEY ELEMENTS OF THE GLA THEORY OF CHANGE

In 2019, based on the recommendations from the mid-term review in 2018 and on a clear demand, GLA partners and alliance members increased their efforts on gender, the generation and use of evidence, civic space and collaboration. Interestingly, efforts on these topics also mutually reinforce them; both working in coalitions and using verified evidence are strategies that partners use to deal with shrinking civic space. Collaboration increased at the local level and at the programme level. Milieudefensie, IUCN NL and TBI collaborated on integrating gender more systematically into the GLA programme and their own organizations. Milieudefensie and IUCN NL also worked together closely in the lobby for the UN Binding Treaty (see 2.4). The community rights reviews conducted by TBI (see 2.4) are expected to yield useful lessons for the entire GLA programme; they have already increased insights and dialogue at the local level. A synthesis of results is expected in June 2020. The main results and lessons for each topic are highlighted in this chapter.

3.1 Gender

One of the conclusions of the 2018 mid-term review was that efforts on gender needed to become more systematic, to follow up on a wide range of gender-related activities and support. Therefore, at the beginning of 2019, a GLA “gender hub” was formed to mainstream and increase gender responsiveness within the programme. This included developing a regional gender capacity development and learning/exchange programme, to be implemented in the second quarter of 2020 (this has now been postponed because of the COVID-19 crisis). The responses to the questionnaire distributed among partners show a growing commitment to gender issues; most partners have gender focal points or have contracted gender consultants, and the majority of the respondents have organizational gender policies. However, few partners have allocated a specific gender budget, and many partners expressed the need for gender capacity strengthening. There are considerable differences in the level of gender responsiveness among partners, which supports the idea that a lot can be gained by organizing exchanges, networking and learning for partners.

To support a holistic gender perspective within the JET programme, the GLA organized an international exchange during COP 25 in Madrid. The meeting brought together women activists representing indigenous movements, labour unions and feminist movements from around the world. It generated a first reflection on key feminist JET principles. GLA also achieved better integration of women’s perspectives within the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD). Representatives of Milieudefensie’s GLA CSO partners contributed to the structuring and organizing of the Women’s Major Group at the CBD. With their inputs, the Women’s Caucus of the CBD has taken steps to improve its internal organization and structure to be more effective in the lobby for gender justice.

In communities near agro-industrial plantations in Meyomessola, Meyomessi, Djourou and Nyété in Cameroon, women started to organize and mobilize with each other to stand stronger in addressing specific impacts on women from rape, violence and denial of access. This followed up on gender training from GLA partner CED. To help women overcome the cultural and security barriers to engaging in forest monitoring, we tried out a new strategy: local business women in Cameroon, who are used to travel and have good access to information, started to act as forest monitors.
3.2 Evidence

A core assumption of the GLA ToC found to hold true through the years, is that CSOs are more effective if they use reliable and verified knowledge and evidence to underpin their dialogue and actions.

The GLA therefore intensified its efforts in 2019 to generate evidence through community-based monitoring and citizen science initiatives, and to train local monitors and provide them with tools. Tools include drones, acoustic monitoring and This Is My Backyard (TIMBY), a mobile phone app to collect, monitor and share data. Data are passed on to a central platform that is accessible to the forest police, among others.

More local monitors were trained in the use of TIMBY, which contributed to better compliance with environmental laws. For example, Friends of the Earth Ghana, together with local TIMBY monitors, were successful in their fight against illegal logging. Logging companies left the area, timber was confiscated and the communities started the process of asking for compensation. In Kramokrom, Ghana — a community on the edge of the Bia North Reserve where illegal logging had increased substantially — illegal chainsaw operations dropped from an average of four days a week to zero. IUCN NL initiated citizen science initiatives in Bolivia, DRC and the Philippines and supported acoustic monitoring in Indonesia (see Box 1).

TBI launched FLEGT Watch for forest agencies and independent forest monitors in West Africa. It helps to monitor VPA FLEGT activities and other forest governance commitments with real-time radar satellite data (Sentinel 1) on deforestation. In November a validation procedure was introduced. Some 55 alerts have been validated, fifteen of them in Forest Reserves in Ghana and Côte d’Ivoire. It is still too early to say the extent to which these alerts have led to follow-up by communities (to report) or authorities (to enforce).

3.3 Civic space

Shrinking civic space remains a major concern in many countries where the GLA operates. This is especially problematic for female environmental human rights defenders (HRDs), but is also increasingly a challenge for CSOs in general. The GLA continued to counter this: we developed tailor-made safety and security measures, as well as strategies to deal with restrictions. Partners invested in local security by organizing dedicated training. They ensured that community leaders were fully aware of security impacts, and that mitigation measures were discussed. Friends of the Earth International implemented the Internationalist Solidarity System, with HRD focal points in each region; this has resulted in increased reporting and international action for HRD cases. In October 2019, 240 organizations from Africa, Asia and the Pacific, Europe, North America and South America delivered letters of solidarity to Indonesian embassies across the globe to demand justice for the murder of an Indonesian activist. The GLA invited several HRDs from GLA landscapes for a Defend the Defenders event in the Netherlands to exchange knowledge and share experience on various security aspects. We were also active again at the UN level. In Bolivia a female indigenous leader from the CSO platform Coordinadora Nacional de Defensa de los Territorios Indígenas Originarios Campesinos y Áreas Protegida, led by GLA partner Comunidad Sustentable, denounced security issues, among others, during the Universal Periodic Review of the UN in Geneva. A number of GLA partners participated in the International Service for Human Rights Human Rights Defender Advocacy Programme.

The situation in the Philippines was particularly worrying. In December 2018 the President issued an Executive Order to end what it termed local communist armed conflict. It was fully implemented in 2019, and the heads of most government agencies were replaced by retired military officials. A National Task Force to End Local Communist Armed Conflict was created. It was reported that the indigenous peoples in the country were being lured into insurgency camps and operations. Organizations
supporting activities against the Kaliwa Dam were accused of being connected with the armed wing of the Communist Party. The military are present at the construction site of the dam, which limits entry to the premises. Activities such as community training had to be coordinated with the military. To reduce organizational risks, GLA partner NTFP-EP Philippines no longer speaks on behalf of indigenous peoples. Training in operational security was given to some of the indigenous leaders. The indigenous peoples have reported their situation to the Commission on Human Rights.

Fortunately, there were also some positive developments. A new law that protects human rights defenders was passed in the province of North Kivu, DRC. GLA partner SUWE and IUCN NL, among others, had been working on this since 2016. Several advocacy actions with the authorities and a strong mobilization of stakeholders were carried out. SUWE’s interventions placed particular emphasis on the new legislation. It is expected that from now on courts and tribunals will punish threats against HRDs in accordance with the new law. North Kivu is the second province in DRC, after South Kivu, to have a legal framework like this.

3.4 Collaborative and coalition building

Following up on our plan in 2019 to increase collaborative efforts, we further strengthened collaborations and partnerships: in partner countries, between Northern and Southern CSOs, in the thematic programmes, and among the three GLA members. It helped us to be more effective, speed up processes and create more critical mass for policy change.

A number of local GLA coalitions were very effective, especially for specific issues of concern such as the Kaliwa Dam in the Philippines and the Atewa Range Forest Reserve in Ghana (see 2.1). Partners increasingly collaborated based on complementary strengths. For example, in Ghana Friends of the Earth Ghana supports A Rocha, an IUCN NL partner; Tropenbos Ghana leads the complementary engagement of all three partners with high-level decision makers; and the international GLA members play a supporting role at the international level.

JET partners from all over the world visited the Netherlands in October for a strategy discussion on energy transition from an international perspective. It led to the broadening of the JET coalition and plans for 2020 to tackle Dutch and European policies that support the use of fossil fuels in the South.

Tools and knowledge development support collaboration between the GLA members and partners. The landscape governance assessment tool created a stronger connection between various landscape stakeholders and increased collaborations between various groups of stakeholders. It would be interesting to reflect more on why it is so difficult to establish formal landscape-wide platforms, and what alternative approaches might be promoted in the future.

3.5 Integrity

GLA partners paid extra attention to integrity in 2019; alliance partners improved their integrity policies and organized internal discussions. In addition, the alliance followed up with the Ministry of Foreign Affairs on an integrity issue with a partner in Uganda.
3.6 Summarising our learnings

The GLA partners are proud of the results achieved after four years of collaboration. We have clearly grown as an alliance. The mid-term review in 2018 provided valuable insights into how and where to intensify our strategies.

We conclude that there is progress on the different pathways in our Theory of Change. The assumption that investing in strengthening CSOs and communities leads to stronger advocacy by themselves is demonstrated by results from the programme. Community groups, including women’s groups, have become more empowered. Communities are more aware of their rights, and speak out to duty bearers; they play a more prominent role in law enforcement by monitoring violations; they have increased access to budgets and resources for forest-based enterprises; and they improved their livelihoods and income. These achievements are a sign of the increasing sustainability of our programme; not just GLA partners, but empowered communities are effecting change. Moreover, in a number of places communities actively participated in movements, knowing that they will stand stronger together. A number of partners who usually use a dialogue approach turned to dissent strategies such as litigation. It taught us that necessity knows no law; when rights or important forests are at stake and dialogue does not yield results, there is a need to switch strategies. Finally, we noticed an increase in improved implementation, law enforcement and compliance; communities have become more active in voicing out their concerns and monitoring violations. These results can be linked to our increased efforts in gender, evidence, civic space and collaboration in 2019. We integrated gender more systematically into our work, both at the organizational level and in the field. While more still needs to be done, we have learned that continuous attention, time and budget bring results. The lessons learned in 2019 have been translated into strategies for 2020, such as peer-to-peer learning and more support for women’s groups, including human rights defenders. Further efforts in (capacity building for) the generation and use of evidence in 2019 had encouraging tangible results leading to sustainable forest governance or ending deforestation. This has reconfirmed the importance of evidence in our Theory of Change and throughout the alliance, from the local to the global level. As the civic space has further decreased, we increased our efforts to tackle this challenge. Each context requires a specific approach; the alliance specifically supported partners to participate in training and skills sharing and expose human rights issues and jointly lobbied the UN Binding Treaty on transnational corporations and human rights. We further strengthened collaboration throughout the alliance. And while we may not always agree with one another, we see that our complementary approaches pay off and keep us aware of each other’s strengths.
FORESTED LANDSCAPES FOR EQUITY

GREEN LIVELIHOODS ALLIANCE
ANNUAL PROGRESS REPORT 2019

ANNEXES
## ANNEX 1 – OVERVIEW OF GLA PARTNERS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Country</th>
<th>Thematic Programme</th>
<th>Alliance member</th>
<th>CSOs contracted in the GLA</th>
<th>No. of collaborations (with MoU)</th>
<th>Landscape</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1 Bolivia</td>
<td>TBI</td>
<td>IBIF</td>
<td>Cicol, CEDIB, PROFIN</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>Chiquitonia region, Santa Cruz</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>IUCN NL</td>
<td>PROBIOMA SAVIA Comunidad Sustentable</td>
<td>TICCA consortium Bolivia</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2 Democratic Republic of Congo</td>
<td>JET</td>
<td>ACEDH</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Virunga National Park and Kahuzi-Biega National Park</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>IUCN NL</td>
<td>CREDHO IFDP, IDPE, CEPED, SUWE, FECOPEILE</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3 Ghana</td>
<td>TBI</td>
<td>Tropenbos DR Congo, UNIKIS</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>Tshopo, Mongala and Ituri provinces</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>IUCN NL</td>
<td>A Rocha Ghana</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>FLG</td>
<td>MD</td>
<td>FoE-Ghana</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5 Liberia</td>
<td>AC / FLG</td>
<td>MD</td>
<td>SDI / FoE Liberia</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>Sinoe County</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>TBI</td>
<td>VOSIEDA</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>IUCN NL</td>
<td>SCNL</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6 Nigeria</td>
<td>JET / FLG</td>
<td>MD</td>
<td>ERA/FoE Nigeria</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>Edo State, Cross River State, Ogoniland, Rivers State</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Country</td>
<td>Thematic Programme</td>
<td>Alliance member</td>
<td>CSOs contracted in the GLA</td>
<td>No. of collaborations (with MoU)</td>
<td>Landscape</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>---------</td>
<td>-------------------</td>
<td>----------------</td>
<td>---------------------------</td>
<td>---------------------------------</td>
<td>-----------</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>1st tier</td>
<td>2nd tier</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>Philippines</td>
<td>FLG</td>
<td>MD</td>
<td>LRC-KSK/ FoE-Philippines</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Timuay Justice and Governance</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Maquindanoo Province</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>IUCN NL</td>
<td></td>
<td>NTFP-EP Philippines</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Mabuwaya Foundation</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Tanggal Kalikosan</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Save Sierra Madre</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Network Alliance</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Samdhana Inst.</td>
<td></td>
<td>KIN</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>SRLFL</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>MBDA</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>CDORBMC</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>TBI</td>
<td>Philippines</td>
<td>Forest Foundation</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>National level</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8</td>
<td>Uganda</td>
<td>JET</td>
<td>IUCN NL</td>
<td>AFIEGO</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Virunga National Park</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9</td>
<td>Viet Nam</td>
<td>IUCN NL</td>
<td></td>
<td>PanNature</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Toy Centre for Rural Development (TNCRD)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Serepok River Basin</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>TBI</td>
<td>Ecological Trends Alliance</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10</td>
<td>Cameroon¹</td>
<td>FLG / AC</td>
<td>MD</td>
<td>CED</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11</td>
<td>Paraguay¹</td>
<td>AC</td>
<td>MD</td>
<td>Sobrevivencia</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12</td>
<td>Togo¹</td>
<td>FLG / AC</td>
<td>MD</td>
<td>Les Amis de la Terre Togo</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Focus countries EU and UN</td>
<td>FLG / JET / AC</td>
<td>MD</td>
<td>FoE International FoE Europe ISHR</td>
<td>JA! – FoE Mozambique Sahabat Alam Malaysia (SAM) – FoE Malaysia</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Asia</td>
<td>FLG</td>
<td>IUCN NL</td>
<td>NTFP-EP</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12</td>
<td>Total countries</td>
<td>Total</td>
<td>Total</td>
<td>65 CSOs included in SPs programme (including both 1st and 2nd tier partners) see Annex 2</td>
<td>Collaborations</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Table notes:**
1. CSO partners contracted by GLA and implementing GLA thematic programmes, but not in GLA focus countries.
2. 134 CSOs are active in the GLA programme: 38 first tier, 27 second tier and 69 collaborating CSOs.
3. Of the formal collaborations, 16 landscapes are in focus countries and 2 are not in focus countries; several sub-landscapes are named in Annex 2 but not counted in this total, since they are part of a larger landscape.
ANNEX 2 – PROGRESS ON DIALOGUE AND DISSENT INDICATORS

This annex shows the progress of the GLA on the indicators of the Dialogue and Dissent results framework. The GLA uses outcome harvesting to monitor progress, and has operationalized the Dialogue & Dissent indicators (D&D) as the number of harvested outcomes that represent a change in the respective D&D indicators. We explain each score by differentiating between public, private or civil actors and the main result areas within the GLA ToC. The text in this Annex is meant to be published in IATI as a brief overview of the type of outcomes achieved by the GLA in each D&D category.

**DD1 - # of laws, policies and norms, implemented**

Implementation or enforcement of laws, policies and goals, is a vital step to ensure that our work in fact leads to more inclusive and sustainable forested landscape governance in the landscapes. In 2019, the GLA harvested a total of 176 outcomes that represent improved implementation of laws, policies and practices of public, private and civil actors that significantly contribute to inclusive and sustainable forested landscape governance.

83 of the harvested outcomes under DD1 show governments and businesses implemented laws, policies and standards, or improved implementation of existing laws, policies and standards.

About 2/3rd of the outcomes concern public actors enforcing or implementing policies and laws. At national level, the JET programme was successful in influencing governments to implement (improved) renewable energy policies (5 outcomes). In Nigeria for instance, the federal government included 2 billion naira in the annual budget for solar energy in rural electrification projects, and commissioned the largest off-grid solar power plant in Africa. The government of Uganda added 30 megawatt of solar energy to the national grid and invested in electric vehicles to promote environmental conservation.

A large number of outcomes concerned local authorities (36) improving the implementation of their policies in 2019. In the Philippines for instance, police officers apprehended illegal loggers as a result of trained community members reporting the case to the authorities. A complaint was filed against the perpetrators. In the DRC, Judicial Police Officers of the Virunga National Park, efficiently investigated cases of wildlife and forest crimes, based on increased quality of evidence, as a result of a GLA training workshops for judicial staff. In Viet Nam, the Chu Yang Sin National Park has set up restoration models in post slash-and-burn fields and coffee plantations in Hoa Le and Khue Ngoc Dien communes. Thus, the national park implemented their policies to actively restore degraded land, 41 hectares in total benefiting 22 households.

The remaining 1/3rd of outcomes in this category concerned private actors improving their behaviour. The results vary between outcomes from the international to the local level. For instance the Dow Jones Sustainability index removed a contested palm oil company from its list with sustainable companies, as a result of research by Friends of the Earth groups which was shared with the company’s investors. At the local level in Viet Nam, a forestry company established long rotation acacia plantations, based on collaboration with local farmers to improve their income as well as the ecosystem.

93 of the harvested outcomes under DD1 show civil actors taking concrete actions that significantly contribute to inclusive and sustainable forested landscape governance. 72 of these outcome concern empowered communities who have proactively taken actions to safeguard their forests, apply sustainable practices or demand justice or proper compensations from public and private actors. Notable outcomes include for instance community representatives in Ateowa, Ghana who sued a mining company for disposal of mining waste into the river. This showed improved strength of the community to compel private actors to adhere to existing mining standards, as a result of awareness raising by a GLA partner on the impacts of negligence in mining and responsible mining practices and regulations. A favourable judgement will encourage other communities to seek redress in case of negligence in extraction of forest and its related resources.

In Indonesia, 5 Village Forest Management Groups signed a joint forest management agreement, and subsequently surveyed their forests, generating valuable data on the forest’s animals, plants, non-timber forest products and environmental services, which is essential for the preparation of a sustainable village forest management plan. The GLA partner discussed the importance of protecting the forest and the importance of data on forest services to the community at each meeting of the VFMG. The partner conducted participatory forest eco-system monitoring training using GPS.

**DD2 - # of laws, policies and norms/attitudes, blocked, adopted or improved**

In 2019, the GLA has harvested a total of 107 outcomes that demonstrate that public, private and civil actors changed laws, policies and norms/attitudes towards more inclusive and sustainable forested landscapes.

Out of these outcomes, 93 outcomes show that public and private actors adopted laws and/or policies that contribute to inclusive and sustainable forested landscape governance.

The 65 outcomes on governments adopting policies range from the local to the international level.
At the local level, 2 authorities in Viet Nam adopted knowledge and lessons learnt from GLA exchange visit on community forest management (CFM) into improved village forest management regulations in line with the provisions of Vietnam’s most recent Forestry Law.

In Indonesia, the Ketapang district government in Gunung Tarak, together with CSOs and local communities has developed Actions Plan to collaboratively protect and restore a wildlife corridor and started to implement forest patrols and fire prevention measures in the area.

At regional level, the Governments of the Congo Basin countries, multilateral institutions and donor countries, organized within the Congo Basin Forest Partnership (CBFP), agreed to have the issue of forest conversion for agro-commodities as a priority topic of their actions in the coming years, which is a major step in building consensus between the governments on halting deforestation in the Congo basin. This was the results of a diverse network of civil society making this a priority in their advocacy. The GLA partner contributed by preparing and presenting a working paper and organizing a preparatory meeting for the CSOs lobbying the CBFF

2019 also saw the European Commission improving the delegated act on biofuels. In 2018 the GLA celebrated a policy change for which the GLA had advocated for years in close cooperation with European civil society: feed stocks with a very high climate impact (like palm oil and soy) could no longer be counted to fulfil renewable energy objectives in the transport sector as biofuel, in the Recast of the Renewable Energy Directive (RED2). The European Commission was to draw up a delegated act that should specify which feed stocks would cause high indirect land use change – and hence were to be banned. There was a risk that the European commission would postpone and weaken the delegated act. Therefore, an international lobby effort of an European NGO coalition including the GLA launched a campaign, which resulted in more than 68,000 people participating in the consultation by the EC. March 13, the European Commission changed and improved the delegated act on biofuels without any delay, in March 13, 2019.

Civil actors also agreed on actions or adopted plans that contribute to inclusive and sustainable forested landscape governance in 33 cases.

The GLA successfully facilitated an Indonesian community to define their production forest as village forest. Through joint peat-swamp forest mapping, followed by village participatory mapping and awareness creation on the need to protect the remaining peatlands as fire belt, the community agreed to allocate 7,000 ha (out of 14,000 ha) as village forest. The Ministry of Environment and Forestry decree is expected to be issued in Febru-ary 2020.

In Bolivia, the Indigenous Forestry Association of Urubichá adopted more equitable and just internal rules and procedures that will increase women’s participation in decision-making, forest management activities and benefit-sharing. This is as a result of a series of GLA workshops and technical meetings on forest governance and gender with the board members of the association.

In Indonesia, a group of Environmental Lawyers established a coalition of lawyers under the name of the Farmers Advocacy Team for the Sovereignty of Land Rights. They initiated this network in Central Sulawesi to provide assistance for cases of environmental crime by large-scale oil palm companies and to defend local community members criminalized by those companies, after several of them were involved with cases to defend local farmers in need, supported by the GLA.

**DD3: # of times that CSOs succeed in creating space for CSO demands and positions through agenda setting, influencing the debate and/or creating space to engage**

In 2019, GLA partners contributed to **106 outcomes** that demonstrate CSO demands and positions are included in the debate. Of these 106 outcomes, public and private actors, included CSOs’ or target groups’ demands on the political, corporate or media agenda 55 times.

In the Philippines, the Commission on Human Rights demanded transparency from the government to lay out its proposed rehabilitation and social protection plans for affected communities by the Kaliwa Dam project. They also promised to conduct field-based investigation on the matter. This issue reached their agenda after a dialogue session between the Stop! Kaliwa Dam Network – including GLA partners - and the Commission, in which indigenous people expressed their grievances and shared prove that government authorities had already violated some of their rights.

Similar recognition was achieved by the Bolivian partners in the Universal Periodic Review (UPR). As a result of an intensive campaign by all Bolivian GLA partners under the Alliance for Human Rights and the Environment (ADHMA), 32 countries raised recommendations in the 2019 Universal Periodic Review of Bolivia in line with the topics prioritized by ADHMA. The GLA partners collaborated in this long-term process through training on the international human rights system, collection of information on human rights violations in relation to extractives and by flagging these in advocacy campaigns towards the UPR, in Bolivia and Europe.
In 2018, a successful strategy was to incorporate local views in international campaigns to ensure demands from the global south reach decision-makers in the Netherlands, the EU and the UN. The GLA upscaled this work in 2019, resulting in 11 outcomes being achieved by bringing southern voices to the international level.

For instance when 3 activists from Liberia and Indonesia expressed their grievances on rights violations by palm oil companies directly to various senior-level representatives of Dutch financial institutions that are financially supporting the companies that are linked to these violations, as well as Dutch government officials. After speaking to the activists, a representative of the Dutch Ministry of Foreign Affairs committed to analyse whether financing industrial agro-commodities should be maintained or new strategies promoted.

The other way around, Norwegian, Netherlands and Australian Ambassadors were invited for a field visit to the Atewa forest reserve in Ghana by the GLA partners. This has put the threat of bauxite mining to the forest high on their agenda. It resulted in a joint pledge by the ambassadors to use their influence to safeguard Atewa forest reserve from bauxite mining.

In addition to public actors including our views on the agenda, communities and civil society organisations succeeded 51 times in creating space for their demands for inclusive and sustainable forest governance.

Early 2019, 2 communities in Liberia staged a protest for the first time ever, demanding a palm oil company to comply with their Memorandum Of Understanding for better working conditions. Staging a protest is not a given in Liberia, where those protests are sometimes met with violence. However, the communities were desperate to improve their lives and working conditions and therefore challenged GVL to comply with their social commitments. The protest by the community shows their increased understanding of their rights as well as empowerment to demand justice, through ongoing support by the GLA.

A powerful tool to get issues on the agenda in Liberia is by producing radio programmes (Forest Hour Series) on forests. GLA partner VOSIEDA supported the programme, which became a source of information for the Forest Development Authority (FDA) of Liberia. As a result of the programmes, the FDA placed a stop order on a logging company to commercially manage a Community Forest, and a network of journalist set up Liberia Forest Media Watch. After Forest Hour raised awareness on mismanagement and misrepresentation in a Community Forest management Body, the community demanded removal of the leadership and the Forest authorities supported a re-election.

The GLA also influenced the debate on the Post-2020 Global Biodiversity Framework of the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD). GLA partners FoEI and ERA from Nigeria lobbied intensively to have agroecology recognized by the UN’s Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) in different working groups like the International Planning Committee (IPC) on agroecology. ERA’s representative was actively involved in this lobby, which led to an invitation to an IPC meeting in preparation of the Global Biodiversity Framework. As a result, the IPC included agroecology in their recommendations, including its importance as transformative system for biodiversity and with a key role for small scale farmers. In December 2019, the Council of the Food and Agriculture Organisation (FAO) adopted Ten Principles of Agroecology (CA 7173) and included agroecology in its submission to the CBD (CA 7175) on mainstreaming Biodiversity across agricultural sectors.
ANNEX 3 – COUNTRY AND THEME SPECIFIC PROGRESS

1 BOLIVIA – Country Programme

WHERE WE WORK, THE PROBLEM WE WORK ON, AND OUR APPROACH

The long-term objective of the GLA programme in Bolivia is to achieve inclusive and sustainable landscape governance in the Gran Chiquitania Region. The GLA partners target productive sectors to apply conservation innovations and sustainable management of natural resources; lobby the Bolivian government to adopt and enforce environmental legislation and international agreements; and strengthen CSOs so they can promote and implement inclusive and sustainable governance.

CHANGES IN CONTEXT IN 2019 (ECONOMIC, POLITICAL, ENVIRONMENTAL, ETC.)

Widespread forest fires had destructive environmental impacts. CSOs took the lead in supporting communities that faced crop loss and water pollution with food supplies and water tanks. The media portrayed CSOs as part of the solution and people now think better of them. Partners connected the fires to unsustainable agribusiness (land clearing for soy) in media reports. Due to the fires, however, communities may be distracted from GLA activities, causing some delays. The fast adaptation of GLA partners to the fire situation shows the resilience of the programme. The 2019 general elections were declared irregular due to fraud, causing local mobilization and the resignation of the President. This led to strong social polarization, paralyzing the country for a month, and all media attention was focused on this. Many L&A activities were cancelled or postponed, and GLA outputs and outcomes were affected or delayed. Although partners expected some positive results from the elections, the new interim government has strong ties to the agribusiness sector, which is likely to affect GLA outcomes.

MAIN EXPECTED OUTCOMES, 2020

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>MAIN EXPECTED OUTCOMES, 2020 (THEORY OF CHANGE)</th>
<th>PROGRESS IN 2019</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1 Management committees support the management of protected areas</td>
<td>Protected area management committees have been organized and strengthened in their capacities to affect existing protected area policies and management plans. People have the ability to create meaningful relationship with each other. This supports the management of the areas and the operation of the park rangers.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2 State institutions apply plans, protect and proposals consistent with the sustainable management of natural resources</td>
<td>The Forest Directorate, with the technical support of GLA partners, approved a draft proposal to modify the 1997 Forestry Law to allow the use of low-cost and low-impact technology for timber harvesting in community-managed forests. This will improve local business opportunities and livelihoods. The Forest Service approved a directive, with technical assistance and lobbying from GLA partners, to implement economic and social incentives through the Bolivian Forest and Incentive Certification System. The incentives encourage indigenous and peasant forest user groups to improve their management practices.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3 The Agro-ecological Platform of the Tropics, Subtropics and Chaco develops tools to market agro-ecological products</td>
<td>The platform approved its bylaw, which gives it a defined and formal status. It supports a market for agro-ecological products. Many of them do so on medical recommendation. Many customers associate the products with health benefits.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4 The media disseminates reliable information related to integrated forest and land management</td>
<td>Partners contributed to debates about agribusiness and its impacts on the landscape. During the fire crisis, GLA partners were interviewed by international communication entities such as Reuters, Mongabay, etc., and discussed the structural causes of the fires. During the forest fires the media published various points of view on the cause of the crisis and questioned the development model.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5 Organizations and international alliances issue resolutions and/or decisions in response to complaints of non-compliance by the government</td>
<td>Every five years, the human rights records of all UN member countries are outlined in the Universal Periodic Review (UPR). The information presented in the UPR resulted in many recommendations to the Bolivian government regarding its compliance with human rights and natural resource standards. A Bolivian female rights defender from the Chiquitania gave a speech describing human and environmental rights violations that were documented by a platform of 50 civil society organizations (CSOs).</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>CSOs exercise integral management of the territories to manage their natural resources</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>---</td>
<td>---</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>CSOs, the productive sector (agriculture, livestock, forestry, mining) and the public sector participate in the public debate on the extractive development model</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8</td>
<td>Consumers demand products from sustainable and integrated forest and land management</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9</td>
<td>The productive sector incorporates social and environmentally responsible practices</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**REFLECTION ON 2019 RESULTS**

- Sharing the UPR report with the UN in Geneva went according to plan and will have an important impact in the next couple of years. Its key recommendations (related to environmental defenders, extractive activities, etc.) will be followed up by partners and other CSOs. These recommendations and the UPR process provide a strategic way to demand accountability from the national government.

- Partners mentioned that at this stage (the end of the GLA programme) they see that the Theory of Change was too ambitious and that the challenge is much bigger and requires a longer commitment. They are satisfied with the results so far, but see the need to continue working.

- Partners learned a number of lessons. Influencing public opinion through the newspapers was a good strategy for lobbying efforts. Another key strategy was researching and investigating to gather reliable evidence. Working with local and regional governments proved more efficient than working with the national government.

- Building synergies with other projects can leverage the impact of interventions.

- Disaster response strategies (e.g., for wildfires) need to be improved. The partners’ response was not based on established methods or procedures. Having procedures in place would allow for a faster response.

- Partners need to enable local actors to have a voice so they are empowered, informed and talking with the media.

- Partners recognized that gender is still a difficult topic to address. Gender is not included in the Theory of Change, nor was it evaluated during the inception phase. When possible partners work on gender in whichever manner will achieve the best results and monitor results mostly through the participation of women in meetings. One of the partners hired an expert to support them in working with local communities; this was found to be useful.
WHERE WE WORK, THE PROBLEM WE WORK ON, AND OUR APPROACH

GLA works with nine local partner organizations and eight formal collaborations to combat the destruction and degradation of ecosystems in the Virunga and Kahuzi-Biega landscapes in northeastern DRC and in Tshopo, Ituri and Mongala in the central part of the country. These areas are under threat due to weak governance, illegal exploitation of natural resources, land grabbing, encroachment of protected areas and inadequate forestry laws and policies. Sustainable forest governance is also seriously hampered by corruption and the presence of armed groups. GLA uses multiple complementary approaches to address these problems. Approaches include coalition building, awareness raising and mobilization of all stakeholders (including communities, land-owners, local authorities and cross-border actors), documentation/monitoring of violations, legislative advocacy and gathering and disseminating evidence to guide decision-making.

CHANGES IN CONTEXT IN 2019 (ECONOMIC, POLITICAL, ENVIRONMENTAL, ETC.)

A new president was elected in DRC, an election marred by irregularities. New governors were elected in the provinces, leading to a new dynamic to accelerate the agenda on pending environmental issues and set up a new lobby.

Free education for primary and secondary school was implemented by the new President. This improved the quality of life for citizens and thus improved dialogues on stopping traffic in resources in protected areas.

More activities were carried out by the army to combat armed groups, especially in Beni and Rutshuru. This displaced populations, increased insecurity in the area, and disrupted GLA planning. GLA partners had to adapt quickly.

The COPEVI cooperative and the Congolese Institute for Nature Conservation signed an agreement for the protection of and sustainable fishing in Lake Edward. This is an important step in participatory management and governance of the fishing resources of Lake Edward. However, it has caused unrest among some people and politicians. Partners aim to bridge the interests of the different groups.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>MAIN EXPECTED OUTCOMES, 2020 (THEORY OF CHANGE)</th>
<th>PROGRESS IN 2019</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1 Authorities apply better law enforcement</td>
<td>GLA partner ACEDH strengthened the capacities of judicial police officers, park secretaries and court clerks from Virunga National Park (VNP) and the military to investigate and litigate crimes related to flora and fauna. In May the provincial government of Tshopo committed to severe measures against illegal logging throughout the province. Personal contacts and dialogue with decision-makers was key to getting results by building solid relationships and mutual confidence. The Mongala provincial governor created a forest brigade to combat fraud and control and monitor forest activities, requesting support from GLA to train the brigade in forest regulations and monitoring. This means that there is ownership of the recommendations on the consumption of legal timber led by TB RDC. In Tshopo Province 80% (20 of 25) of artisanal loggers, members of the association of artisanal logging loggers of Bafwasende, paid their taxes for the 2019 financial year. The strategy of formalizing and organizing artisanal loggers in associations was effective. They are increasingly complying with regulations that improve forest management and contribute to sustain natural resources availability.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2 There is a harmonious relationship between communities and other stakeholders/the government</td>
<td>The managers of VNP began to collaborate with the communities bordering Nyakakoma in Rutshuru territory and in the territory and the city of Beni and Kanyabayonga. This was the result of the local collaboration mechanisms put in place for consultation frameworks and multi-dialogues actors, with the support of the local GLA partner.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3 Local communities, including women and youth, are involved in landscape protection</td>
<td>The women eco-guards of VNP and Pygmy girls mobilized around sport as a strategy of reconciliation and as a model of community conservation in the southern sector of the park. With technical support from GLA the Pygmies contribute to the awareness of other communities about the need to protect the park’s resources.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
The use of improved cooking stoves contributed to reduced charcoal consumption in Kisangani and less pressure on forests. A women’s initiative in the media is evidence of ownership of JET issues and struggles by various stakeholders.

The Governor of Tshopo issued the two first forest concessions to local communities Barumbi-Tshopo and Bafwamogo in May 2019. Having a title is very important for local communities since it secures forests/land and helps to protect lands and forests. It contributes to sustaining the availability of natural resources and securing livelihoods for forest-dependent people. It also changes power relations between local communities and influential people. In addition, community forestry allows women and youth to participate in decision-making bodies.

GLA partner FECOPEILE organized exchange trips and sharing of experiences on the involvement of women fishermen in the sustainable management of fishery resources in Lake Edward. More than 53 women participated in these very constructive meetings. Now they measure the size of the fish to decrease illegal fishing and confiscation by the ICCN.

The Territorial Administrator in Bafwasende removed the checkpoints collecting an illegal hydrocarbon tax in December. The tax was being collected from artisanal loggers and other people who use fuel. This tax was an operational cost for artisanal loggers and its removal was part of the fight against illegality. Its removal helped reduce tensions between stakeholders.

GLA partners supported socio-economic initiatives that benefit the indigenous peoples of Bahatsa through craft activities and improved agricultural practices. 15 indigenous Pygmy peoples have improved the living conditions of their families, and have mobilized on aspects of protection for VNP.

Virunga’s partners lobby and visit to Kinshasa where they met with the deputies of Kinshasa drew attention to illegal contracts and exploitation of natural resources as a source of insecurity, armed conflicts and degradation of ecosystems in general and in protected areas.

GLA partners facilitated a meeting in Kanyabayonga, at which land customary chiefs and local leaders from the riparian entities of VNP adopted a framework of reconciliation. This improved collaboration in order to restore peace and sustainably manage VNP’s natural resources for present and future generations.

An exchange trip to Uganda level was held for the Federation of Individual Fishermen’s Committees of Lake Edward, including delegates from VNP for the Congolese part of the lake and from NAFFIRI for the Ugandan part. The need for joint research between DRC and Uganda was raised by the two delegations, in the context of the release of Congolese fishermen detained in Uganda and conflicts related to the common use of fishery resources.

The Province of North Kivu will be the second one after South Kivu to have a legal framework that protects human rights defenders.

The Provincial Assembly improved its law on waste management in Tshopo after CSOs provided relevant and expert inputs in November and December 2019. Previously, CSOs had not been sufficiently involved in the process of developing provincial regulations. Tropenbos’s reputation and expertise are recognized and useful. This strengthens relationships and partnerships between GLA and policymakers. It also legitimates the policy-making process through inclusiveness. This provincial law fills a serious gap; there was no provincial waste management policy or regulation before this. The law provides incentives to transform waste into an energy source and organic fertilizer and recycle it.
REFLECTION ON 2019 RESULTS

- Partners tried to work more effectively and reduce individual vulnerability through building and working in coalitions. Partners emphasized a cooperative and constructive advocacy approach with authorities and other stakeholders.
- The challenging DRC context requires an adaptive methodology for short-term planning. Some partners found it hard to work with the Theory of Change approach. However, they believe that it could work if combined with appropriate and flexible strategies and initiatives.
- Some activities were planned at the start of the program that have not been achieved so far and will not be achieved within the six months left in the alliance.
- GLA partners work to empower people so that the project outcomes will be sustained. For instance, artisanal loggers’ associations now advocate for their rights and achieve good results.
- A sense of ownership is also essential. It makes policy/decision-makers improve policy, governance and practices. It also helps communities and marginalized groups gain self-confidence and fight for their rights.
- Multi-stakeholder dialogues (with social elders) are essential to recognize and ensure the rights of women, youth and marginalized groups. This allows for significant representation and participation of these groups in decision-making bodies, at least at the community level.
- Women and youth need be considered as drivers of change in the landscape. In Bafwasende, for example, they are contributing significantly to improving livelihoods and living conditions within households by harnessing the entrepreneurial potential of Yira migrants.
GHANA – Country Programme

WHERE WE WORK, THE PROBLEM WE WORK ON, AND OUR APPROACH

GLA partners work in two landscapes dominated by cocoa-forest: Atewa and Juaboso-Bia (JB). We deal with policies and practices at the landscape and national level related to sustainable and inclusive landscape governance. Our diversified lobby and advocacy interventions include campaigns, research, multi-stakeholder dialogues, capacity strengthening, and collaboration between CSOs. Interventions focus on illegal logging and mining, cocoa and trees/forests, tree tenure reform and Community Resource Management Areas (CREMAs).

CHANGES IN CONTEXT IN 2019 (ECONOMIC, POLITICAL, ENVIRONMENTAL, ETC.)

Ghana will hold parliamentary and presidential elections in December 2020. This presents both risks and opportunities for the GLA programme. For political expediency, a new government could easily be pushed to take actions that are detrimental to the environment and natural resources, and law enforcement against illegal logging and mining could be lax. However, there is opportunity for CSOs to have input in the policies of the political parties through their election campaigns.

Independent Forest Monitoring (IFM), led by civil society, was accepted at the national level by the Forestry Commission, which instructed district officers to use it at the landscape level. District managers of the Forest Services Division in the JB landscape have been supportive of IFM.

The current government’s community mining programme provides alternative livelihoods to communities that have been displaced due to galamsey (illegal small-scale mining). In some cases, illegal miners can hide behind the community mining programme to operate. There are now a few small-scale mining operations in the JB landscape, which was not the case when the GLA programme started, and isolated cases of galamsey in both Atewa and JB landscapes. Some communities understand the need to protect their resources from illegal mining and have taken the initiative to stop illegal mining in their communities. In 2019, bauxite exploration started in the Atewa Range Forest Reserve; some galamsey activities were also observed in the reserve.

MAIN EXPECTED OUTCOMES, 2020 (THEORY OF CHANGE)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>MAIN EXPECTED OUTCOMES, 2020 (THEORY OF CHANGE)</th>
<th>PROGRESS IN 2019</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1 Biodiversity resources and ecology are protected and secure in cocoa-forest landscapes</td>
<td>Natural resource and environmental CSOs have developed management actions and strategies for adoption by political parties in their election campaigns. Influential chiefs in the JB landscape have set up an 11-member committee to address farm encroachment into the Krokosua Hills Forest Reserve. District assemblies in the JB landscape have integrated natural resources and climate change programmes in their Medium-Term Development Plans. Alternative green businesses have been developed for selected communities (farmers) in the Atewa landscape.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2 Mining and logging operations in cocoa-forest landscapes conform to national laws and to international standards or best practices</td>
<td>Non-state actors and CSOs established a national IFM platform. The Government of Ghana has made mining sanctions more punitive. Communities, including Akim Juaso in the Atewa landscape, have demanded proof of legal compliance from two mining companies. Kramokrom community in the JB landscape has for the first time used Social Responsibility Agreements for their shared benefits from timber resources. A community representative in the Atewa landscape sued a mining company for negligence in its operations.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3 The cocoa sector adopts and applies climate smart practices and landscape standards</td>
<td>The Cocoa and Forest Initiative (CFI) Monitoring Taskforce includes public, private and civic actors. It ensures inclusiveness and independence in monitoring private-sector commitments to ensure that cocoa production does not result in further deforestation or degradation.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4 Tree tenure is reformed to make benefit sharing more equitable in cocoa-forest landscapes</td>
<td>CSOs led by the GLA partners have developed a draft proposal to amend the Concessions Act of 1962 to ensure equitable tree tenure and benefit sharing arrangements.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5 CREMAs are legalized, institutionalized, effectively utilized and scaled up</td>
<td>The National CREMA Working Group has developed strategies for institutionalizing CREMAs in Ghana. A Rocha Ghana has expanded the CREMA in the Atewa landscape to cover ten communities. The goal was to empower CREMAs to engage in discussions on cocoa and be able to negotiate cocoa prices. Although the capacities of CREMAs have been enhanced to undertake lobbying, the sector was not ready for such discourse; fighting deforestation resulting from cocoa remained the major agenda for stakeholders.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
One goal was to develop business models to help CREMAs carry out income generating activities around a common resource. In the Juaboso-Bia landscape, a consortium of stakeholders, including Tropenbos Ghana, led the development of a Hotspot Intervention Area for REDD+ implementation. Touton, another member of the consortium, sought to support the same groups of people in managing their cocoa as a business. Tropenbos Ghana plans to develop these businesses later, building on lessons from the work done by Touton.

A functional CSO coalition is in place and advocates for inclusive cocoa-forest governance

With their knowledge of relevant forest and mining laws, CSO coalitions (Legal Working Group, KASA, Forest Watch Ghana) lobby state organizations to use responsible practices. The Legal Working Group pointed out to the Forestry Commission (FC) those actions the group found contrary to law, including lack of open access to information. This led to the FC being more transparent and providing needed information to CSOs on request. In addition, GIADEC, the organization responsible for managing the proposed bauxite industry, agreed to meet with CSOs when they presented their concerns despite the fact that prior efforts by individual organizations to meet with GIADEC had proved futile.

CSOs are now working more in coalitions and are better informed on natural resources issues due to GLA support for capacity building. The collective actions of the coalitions make government institutions take them more seriously than when they acted as individual organizations. For instance, the engagement of the FC by Forest Watch Ghana on issues of mining in the forest reserve got an immediate response, even though individual organizations and persons had raised alarms without getting a response from the FC.

### REFLECTION ON 2019 RESULTS

- An environmental manifesto was developed by the GLA partners with input from other CSOs in the natural resources and environmental sectors. It is intended to be used for lobbying political parties to commit to actions that promote conservation and ecosystem protection. Communities have continued to conserve riparian buffer zones. Activities such as farming within these buffer zones have largely stopped due to widespread awareness of the problem. Some Wildlife Division staff participated in Tropenbos Ghana training in GIS and the use of GPS.
- Some communities stood up against illegal mining. Through training they have learned what constitutes illegal logging and mining practices. Through learning visits, they have become aware of the potential impacts of galamsey in their communities. Community Forest Monitors have been an integral part of ensuring that the monitoring of the forest resources within their localities and field visits is achieving the outcome relating to illegal logging at the landscape level. Although much advocacy and lobbying went on against mining in Atewa, the government still seems intent on mining the forest. Landscape actions are achieving more results than national-level actions; the bureaucracies at the national level slow any progress.
- The CFI monitoring framework was developed with CSOs’ active involvement and CSOs now have a place in the CFI governance structure. The Director of TBI Ghana is the chairperson of the monitoring task force.
- Most stakeholders agree that the Concessions Act should be amended. This may not happen before the GLA ends, but it was a great milestone for the CSOs and the Ministry of Land and Natural Resources to agree that it is necessary. A proposal for the amendment has been prepared and is going through stakeholder consultations. The Forestry Commission has concerns about the amendment because of an anticipated reduction in revenues from off-reserve areas. GLA partners will, however, mount a strong lobby to move the amendment process along.
- The CREMA structures are now in place, including their executives, and have enhanced organizational capacities. CREMAs have enhanced recognition at the landscape and national level. There is also a National CREMA Working Group. However, a key target — having the Wildlife Resources Management Bill passed — has not been attained. GLA partners will push government to submit the bill to parliament by August 2020 so it can be passed before the current parliament is dissolved.
- CSO coalitions continue to improve their insights into natural resources issues thanks to capacity development and periodic updates and to platforms such as Forest Watch Ghana and the Legal Working Group. CSOs collectively pursued policy issues related to bauxite mining, tree tenure, and benefit sharing. However, some members are reluctant to contribute resources to collective action.
- Gender is mainstreamed in all interventions. In the GLA landscapes, actions have been taken to educate women farmers about natural resource issues so they will be better able to contribute effectively. In both Atewa and JB, and at the national level, women were encouraged to take leadership roles; this was an integral consideration in building the landscape governance structure in the Hotspot Intervention Areas.
WHERE WE WORK, THE PROBLEM WE WORK ON, AND OUR APPROACH

We work in three landscapes: Mudiak Baduo (720,000 ha), West Sumatra Province; Gunung Tarak Landscape (500,000 ha), West Kalimantan Province; and Upper Lariang Watershed (530,000 ha), Central Sulawesi Province. We work mainly to improve natural resource governance at the village, district, province, and national level. This includes contributing to inclusive spatial planning, establishing multi-stakeholder platforms for natural resource governance, improving the practices of oil palm companies while resisting their expansion, and supporting communities in their conflicts with oil palm companies. We also lobby government to accelerate social forestry and agrarian reform and to develop sustainable economic activities based on forest products and services.

CHANGES IN CONTEXT IN 2019 (ECONOMIC, POLITICAL, ENVIRONMENTAL, ETC.)

The handling of the earthquake, tsunami and liquefaction disaster in Central Sulawesi has been slow, and many people still live in refugee camps. Forest and land fires during 2019, especially in Gunung Tarak landscape, disturbed planned interventions in the local communities by interrupting transportation services. In addition, the high levels of smoke and air pollution affected people’s health.

The Regent of South Solok has been detained by the Corruption Eradication Commission, which decreased continuity and increased uncertainty. MoEF is increasingly sensitive to CSOs’ critical inputs, especially those related to the Social Forestry Program, which could put pressure on the partners’ ability to operate. Since the elections, there has been an increased presence by military and police, who have taken on (elected) roles in civilian institutions.

MAIN EXPECTED OUTCOMES, 2020
(THEORY OF CHANGE)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>MAIN EXPECTED OUTCOMES, 2020</th>
<th>PROGRESS IN 2019</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1 Spatial planning becomes more equitable and sustainable</td>
<td>GLA partners supported efforts to incorporate Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA) at the national level through training and providing best practices. In Sukadana Town, Kayong Utara District, a participatory SEA study and spatial planning development were conducted in parallel. Normally, they are done in isolation from each other. This approach has ensured that all proposed spatial plans are assessed for their environmental impacts by the SEA team. Partners have used participatory mapping and participatory land-use planning to develop village micro-spatial planning as the basis for village programmes, including social forestry initiatives and designation of disaster prone areas. Ketapang District Government and Solok and Sigi districts have used village micro-spatial planning to inform district-level spatial planning.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2 Government, the private sector, communities and CSOs coordinate interventions and investments at a landscape level</td>
<td>Partners have identified high conservation values (HCVs) at the jurisdictional level in West Sumatra and Jambi provinces. This information was used by Forest Management Units to define the protection zone of long-term forest management plans. GLA partners successfully lobbied West Kalimantan Province to enforce HCV protection in land-based investments through provincial regulation, and lobbied West Sumatra Province to broaden the membership of its Social Forestry Working Group beyond the forestry agency and NGOs. GLA partners also facilitated collaboration among nine parties to develop an action plan to protect and restore Essential Ecosystem Areas as an orangutan corridor in Ketapang District. The West Kalimantan government issued a regulation that temporarily suspends concessions for three years for forest or land that was burned intentionally or due to negligence.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3 Oil palm growers sustainably manage their concession, while traders/buyers conduct sustainable trade</td>
<td>Partners facilitated independent smallholder oil-palm plantations in three villages (250 farmers) in Ketapang District to establish farmer groups, improve Good Agricultural Practices and start to formally register these farmers. Partners supported Kayong Utara District to start reviewing improper oil-palm permits at the jurisdictional level per the Presidential oil-palm moratorium. Partners also successfully advocated for judicial review at the Supreme Court level of procedures to change the designation of state forest areas. This victory has potentially saved 140,675 ha of state-protected forest from land-based investment such as oil palm development.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Communities protect the forest and use it for sustainable local livelihoods</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>---</td>
<td>---</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>Local communities have a greater involvement in sustainable forest and land management</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**REFLECTION ON 2019 RESULTS**

- In general the work plan for 2019 could be implemented as planned; there have been no significant changes.
- Partners made an effort to document and discuss progress in the five long-term outcomes. For most outcomes, progress — both at the landscape level and the national level — could mostly be described as encouraging, but with still more work to do. Not all places show the same degree of progress. There was significant local-level progress in transferring management rights to local communities, but much to be done to ensure that these forest rights translate into better livelihoods. Context matters: where there is a strong local culture of using the forest (West Sumatra, Central Sulawesi) there is more progress in realizing forest-based businesses than in places with many transmigrants (West Kalimantan). GLA contributed to positive oil palm policy developments, but conflicts between companies and communities, and associated human rights abuses, persist.
- Partners observed that acquiring management rights has strengthened the confidence of local communities to patrol and monitor their forests, and to report illegal activities to the police. An inspiring example from 2019 was the use of acoustic monitoring to detect illegal logging in Mudiak Baduo landscape, and the success that followed acceptance of evidence of this activity by the authorities.
- In 2019 many activities were carried out to improve women’s understanding of gender justice and climate justice. A total of 450 people in at least 15 villages have been trained in gender issues. In addition, gender training was also given to government officials in all three landscapes.
- In Gunung Tarak Landscape, which is dominated by oil-palm plantations, and where most people work as labourers for plantation companies, partners have approached women to develop sustainable livelihoods. Women’s groups are starting to process pineapple and sell the products to the local market, and have set up a mineral water business sourced from a spring in Manjau Village Forest.
- One partner has successfully promoted a local land-use system called pampa in Lariang Landscape. It is implemented by women to plant food crops for daily needs on land located near settlement areas and with an average size of 0.5 ha. This land-use system has been integrated in participatory mapping and participatory land-use planning in Sigi District.
LIBERIA - Country Programme

WHERE WE WORK, THE PROBLEM WE WORK ON, AND OUR APPROACH

The Society for the Conservation of Nature in Liberia (SCNL) works with communities around Sapo National Park to improve park management and prevent destructive activities. They are targeting a logging company involved in illegal logging that has not committed to its social agreements with communities. The society also established nine site support groups (SSGs), who work on alternative livelihood projects.

Volunteers to Support International Efforts in Developing Africa (VOSIEDA) is targeting a company that is logging illegally in Numopoh community forest. VOSIEDA is building the capacity of communities for independent forest monitoring and is investigating forest abuse in Sinoe County through Community Forest Development Committees (CFDCs) and Community Forest Management Bodies (CFMBs). This will 1) enable CFDCs and CFMBs to hold companies accountable for fulfilling social agreements; 2) aim for these bodies to effectively use revenue from forest concessions to fund community development; and 3) aim for forest concession companies to work with the Forestry Development Authority (FDA) to uphold the standards under VPA FLEGT process.

The Sustainable Development Institute (SDI) supports communities in Sinoe County in negotiations with the palm oil company Golden Veroleum Liberia (GVL). SDI trains and works with community monitors to gather evidence of GVL’s non-compliance with MOUs, and company policies on biodiversity and human rights standards. SDI uses grievance mechanisms at the national and international level to hold GVL to account and give communities access to legal and civil society support. SDI lobbies on the implementation of the Land Rights Act and the review of agriculture policy. Campaigns with international partners ensure that financiers of deforestation and human rights violators are exposed and that improved investment strategies are encouraged.

SDI also facilitates the national CSO Oil Palm Working Group, which ensures that NGOs are united and able to influence policies. The institute is part of the development of national strategies, policies and laws for the agriculture sector. The working group achieved a formal presence in the task groups organized by the Ministry of Agriculture for a national oil palm action plan and strategy. This enhances the chances of achieving GLA’s long-term outcome on agriculture legislation.

CHANGES IN CONTEXT IN 2019 (ECONOMIC, POLITICAL, ENVIRONMENTAL, ETC.)

Implementation of the *Land Rights Act* has been delayed due to a lack of resources. The inflation rate in Liberia is high, day-to-day costs have risen and people are struggling to survive. This has led to protests against the government and to a shift in priorities, where economic benefits have become more important. The Ministry of Agriculture is leading a new policy process to devise an action plan and strategy for the oil palm sector. This will provide new opportunities for halting deforestation and human rights violations and promoting a transition to community-based management of agriculture and forests. However, the lack of progress on implementation of the Land Rights Act will delay progress in achieving GLA’s outcome of improving land tenure for communities. SDI has shifted its work to benefits and livelihoods in these difficult economic times.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>MAIN EXPECTED OUTCOMES, 2020 (THEORY OF CHANGE)</th>
<th>PROGRESS IN 2019</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1 Lawmakers pass legislation on concessions and land that reflects the voices and concerns of rural communities whose livelihoods are affected by the concessions</td>
<td>CSOs, including SDI, created awareness of the Land Rights Act and supported communities in the formal process to acquire recognition of their customary lands. Although more communities have started to understand their roles and responsibilities, implementation of the Land Rights Act remains a challenge due to a lack of commitment and resources.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2 Concessionaires comply with national and international laws in their areas of operations</td>
<td>GVL stopped clearing land for expansion and started to negotiate with Numopoh and Tartweh communities on a permanent MOU as result of community complaints confirmed by the the Roundtable on Sustainable Palm Oil (RSPO). SDI assisted the communities with the complaint process and negotiations. After SDI mediation Equatorial Palm Oil (EPO) agreed to negotiate an MOU to address the concerns of Jogbahn communities.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3 New legislation in the agricultural sector that protects communities’ rights is enacted</td>
<td>Communities in Kpanyan Statutory District increased food production after training by SDI on understanding the value of their land, instead of giving land to GVL. The Ministry of Agriculture has taken the lead to develop a national oil palm strategy and action plan through the National Oil Palm Platform of Liberia and has included the CSO Oil Palm Working Group in the task groups.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
4 CSOs and INGOs influence EU/US policies that have an influence on forest and land in Liberia

The National Oil Palm Steering Committee delegated SDI as a representative of civil society to regulate compliance with the national and international framework. The executive director of the High Carbon Stock Approach started a formal grievance procedure, based on evidence provided by Milieudefensie, SDI and Friends of the Earth US on destruction of High Carbon Stock (HCS) and High Conservation Value (HCV) forests by GVL.

5 Communities are making demands on government and concessionaires in the implementation of policies and laws on forest and land management

Community members in Tartweh and Butaw, supported by SDI, staged a stay-home protest, demanding that GVL comply with their MOU. SCNL worked with communities to ensure that the concessionaires, government, and community leadership respect their rights, with FDA playing a mediating role. Jagbahn communities demanded compensation for crops on lands cleared by EPO after SDI and Milieudefensie published research on the clearing of HCV forests. VOSIEDA’s forest monitoring found illegal logging and non-compliance with the social agreement between Delta Timber Company and Numopoh, and increased media outreach on these issues through radio, journalists and CSO networks. The NGO Coalition of Liberia now demands full implementation of recommendations from VOSIEDA’s investigative report.

6 NGOs and CSOs hold companies accountable for human rights violations in their concession areas

After Milieudefensie and SDI provided support Butaw community engaged a law firm in a legal process against GVL for wrongful dismissal, destruction of shrines and graves, and illegal occupation of land. Community-based TIMBY monitors have reported on environmental and human rights issues, even after experiencing backlash and physical harm. VOSIEDA achieved increased participation of women and youth in community forests from three communities.

7 Alternative livelihood options are provided for communities affected by the Sapo Declaration

SCNL’s site support groups contributed to the reduction of pressure on Sapo National Park. The introduction of improved crop production in Wacaba and Juarzon is shifting community dwellers’ focus from the park to non-forest areas. Nine SSGs continue to be involved with livelihood programmes and are trained in community rights law, wildlife law, the Sapo Declaration and forestry reform law.

REFLECTION ON 2019 RESULTS

- SCNL had to postpone several activities because of early rainfall. SDI reacted to two unexpected opportunities: 1) supporting the Agriculture Agro Processing-Industrial Workers’ Union on the collective bargaining agreement with GVL; and 2) engaging with the Ministry of Agriculture process on the national oil palm strategy.

- We saw good progress on all the long-term GLA outcomes. Communities frequently ask for civil society support to help them stand up for their rights. SCNL’s successful strategies include the establishment of SSGs; training community members in advocacy and lobbying; and involving more women and youth. SCNL has learned to involve the community in the development of projects to ensure their sustainability. We need to develop new approaches to alleviate the concerns of communities about lack of revenue from forest protection.

- VOSIEDA’s successful strategies include the introduction of a radio advocacy platform, Forest Hour, to educate and raise awareness of forest issues; the contracting of journalists to produce reports, and training forest monitors.

- SDI has learned that collective actions by community members to defend their land rights are powerful and likely to succeed in protecting forests, avoiding human rights violations and improving land tenure.

- SCNL considers the involvement of women and youth in sustainable livelihood projects as vital and plans to recruit more women and youth to participate in SSGs. VOSIEDA involved women and youth by training them in independent forest monitoring. Women and youth are also encouraged to participate in the quarterly meetings of forest governance CFMBs and CFDCs. SDI acknowledged that women and youth have not been actively involved in decision making. To address this, women, youth and other marginalized groups form equal numbers of the participants selected for meetings, workshop and TIMBY training. To build and strengthen women’s confidence in decision making, SDI organized two conferences for women during the past year. Women were trained in roles and opportunities in negotiation, decision-making processes and forest governance and management.
WHERE WE WORK, THE PROBLEM WE WORK ON, AND OUR APPROACH

The GLA program in Nigeria focuses on the impacts of crude oil extraction and large-scale oil palm plantations. The core focus of the work is: 1) to influence government and business to develop and implement policies that protect natural resources and their inclusive and sustainable governance; and 2) to halt the expansion of oil palm plantations and land grabbing.

CHANGES IN CONTEXT IN 2019 (ECONOMIC, POLITICAL, ENVIRONMENTAL, ETC.)

Palm oil
The Edo State House of Assembly that was constituted after the elections in March 2019 has not been functioning as expected. As a result, the advocacy visits by palm oil coalitions planned by GLA partner Environmental Rights Action (ERA) for 2019 could not take place. Late in 2019, the media reported that the Edo State government was still planning to open up to more palm oil investors. Their quest for revenue has made them unwilling to halt the expansion of oil palm plantations.

Progress was made in the ERA-supported court case between a local farmer and Okomu Oil Palm PLC, which is likely to end in an out-of-court settlement. In Cross River State (CRS), the oil palm company Wilmar agreed to a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with the host communities, as a direct result of ERA organizing an oversight visit by State Assembly members. The CRS palm oil coalition continues to monitor the situation, to ensure that land grabbing by Wilmar has indeed been halted.

Crude oil
The clean-up of Ogoniland commenced in February 2019, but trained field monitors indicated that it was not being done correctly. In response, ERA issued a report on Key Performance Indicators (KPI) for proper clean-up. ERA’s 2019 campaigning and advocacy efforts have resulted in parliamentarians agreeing to oversee the clean-up.

MAIN EXPECTED OUTCOMES, 2020 (THEORY OF CHANGE) | PROGRESS IN 2019
--- | ---
1 | The Nigerian government is changing policies and laws to protect community rights, hold companies accountable for their impacts, and ensure the implementation of these policies and laws
Since 2011, ERA and other civil society groups have been campaigning for the clean-up of Ogoniland. Their goals were to raise public awareness on the ongoing impacts of pollution, increase pressure on the Nigerian government and the oil companies, and involve UNEP in the process. This ongoing pressure has led to the clean-up finally beginning in 2019. As a result, the Hydrocarbon Pollution Remediation Project (HYPREP) mobilized contractors for the Ogoni clean-up and oil companies released funds for the clean-up, eight years after the release of the UNEP report that it recommended.

2 | Companies and investors no longer support large-scale plantations and oil extraction projects that cause deforestation and land and forest degradation and negatively affect local people's rights and livelihoods, and they obey Nigerian law
A notable outcome in 2019 was that agribusiness company Wilmar formally expressed a willingness to engage with host communities to resolve various complaints and to put in place a new company-community MoU that reflects community needs. Prior to this visit, Wilmar did not acknowledge the complaints from the host communities. ERA, in collaboration with Community Forest Watch, has been campaigning against Wilmar’s land grabbing and environmental pollution activities since 2017. In 2019, ERA provided training in Environmental Impact Assessment and Free Prior and Informed Consent for communities under threat. They have begun to represent themselves to defend their land rights and to halt land grabbing.

3 | Local communities defend their rights and promote their own sustainable livelihood systems with companies and governments
Communities are now able to defend their land rights and to represent themselves on deforestation and compensation to the Cross River State House of Assembly. Policy makers are recognizing these rights and responding to community voices.
In 2018, a farmer in Edo State sought redress in court against an oil palm plantation company. In 2019 other affected farmers indicated an interest to join in the case. However, the company is pressuring the farmer to accept an out-of-court settlement.
There is increased public awareness and understanding of problems related to the production of crude oil and palm oil at the local, national and international levels.

From 2017 to 2019, ERA trained 100 independent monitors to monitor the Ogoniland clean-up and report on the sites in their communities. This has built local people’s capacities to engage in on-the-ground monitoring and to inform international campaigning on the clean-up planned for 2020.

**REFLECTION ON 2019 RESULTS**

- The 2019 campaigns are moving forward gradually. Both government and corporations are increasingly responding to the campaigns, which has regularly resulted in action by government or companies.

- **Crude oil**: The Ogoniland clean-up finally began in 2019 after years of continuous campaigning. Consistent media campaigning and advocacy on implementing the UNEP report recommendations were effective. Continued civil society vigilance is still required, though, since reports by the field monitors confirm that the clean-up is not being done properly.

- Although ERA’s shadow reports on the status of the clean-up, and the 2019 KPI document, was commended by the government and will help guide HYPREP to ensure a successful clean-up, engagement with policy makers is still a challenge. This will be addressed in 2020 through further capacity building and key messaging to reach more policy makers and encourage them to act.

- **Palm oil**: Advocacy efforts regarding oil palm developments in Cross River State are paying off. State legislators are more willing to listen to the community and take steps to address their grievances, and media campaigns against land grabbing for oil palm plantations worked well. The campaigns not only increased awareness of the problems caused by oil palm plantations, they also forced Wilmar to respond in the media. Linking this approach to strong advocacy messaging — by ERA in support of the palm oil coalitions’ advocacy capacity — generated policy support and increased pressure on Wilmar to meet the communities’ demands. The context in Edo State is more challenging, however, and progress on working with policy makers has stalled.

- Overall, supporting coalition building worked very well. Coalition members work jointly and bring a stronger voice to the table than ERA can have alone. Their efforts also contribute to sustainability on the ground.

- Another notable improvement in 2019 was that women were more active in ERA’s coalitions on crude oil and palm oil. Women were represented at meetings and in a workshop that focused on making their voices count. The workshop also highlighted the impact of oil palm plantations on women and gave voice to their demands for compensation. ERA continues to encourage women to participate in its work.
WHERE WE WORK, THE PROBLEM WE WORK ON, AND OUR APPROACH

The GLA Programme works in three landscapes: Sierra Madre in Luzon; and Cagayan de Oro (CDO)-Tagoloan-Macajalar Bay, and the Teduray-Lambangian Ancestral Domain claim in Maguindanao, both in Mindanao. Partners NTFP-EP, Tangol Kalikasan and the Mabuwaya Foundation in the Sierra Madre landscape support indigenous peoples (IPs) in landscape governance, land rights, and improving law enforcement and sustainable practices. The Samdhana Institute, Safer River, Life Saver Foundation and Kitanglad Integrated NGOs in the Tagoloan-Cagayan de Oro Macajalar Bay landscape-seascape, focus on protection and restoration by local communities, IPs, governments and businesses. LRC and Timuay Justice and Governance (TJG) work on community forest governance in Teduray and Lambangian communities in Maguindanao in the Bangsamoro Autonomous Region in Muslim Mindanao (BARMM). Forest Foundation Philippines (FFP) supports landscape-level work through national and landscape dialogues, capacity strengthening in landscape governance, and research to provide evidence-based documentation and financial support for lobbying and campaigns. NTFP-EP also lobby and advocate for policies at the national level.

CHANGES IN CONTEXT IN 2019 (ECONOMIC, POLITICAL, ENVIRONMENTAL, ETC.)

A number of changes affected GLA partners and the communities they support. In December 2018, a Presidential Executive Order on ending armed conflicts had effects on the GLA landscapes. Some areas were further militarized, and NGOs, organizations and IPs were increasingly seen as being connected to the armed wing of the country’s communist party and thus considered terrorists. To deal with this situation, partners provided training in operational security and IPs contacted the Commission on Human Rights. 2019 was an election year, providing challenges such as the reorientation of new leaders and ensuring that documents were handed over correctly. The leaders of TJG reported a spike in land grabbing in the Teduray and Lambangian Ancestral Domain in the first year of implementation of the Bangsamoro Organic Law (BOL). The Bangsamoro Transition Authority urged the National Commission on Indigenous Peoples (NCIP) to cease delineating land and issuing certificates of ancestral domain title in BARMM, since this frustrates the efforts of IPs to secure land title.

### MAIN EXPECTED OUTCOMES, 2020

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>THEORY OF CHANGE</th>
<th>PROGRESS IN 2019</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>1</strong> CSOs and communities have improved skills, knowledge and tools for lobby and advocacy work</td>
<td>Members of the Dumagat-Remontado tribe in the southern Sierra Madre (SSM) voted No in the Free Prior and Informed Consent (FPIC) process for the Kaliwa Dam. This vote was the result of mobilization by GLA partners and a wider CSO coalition. NTFP-EP organized training for IP women; women from five ancestral domains are active in Kaliwa Dam advocacy. A CSO coalition led by GLA partners prepared for legal action. FFP identified experts who could provide evidence on the environmental effects of the dam and funded a risk assessment for SSM on the dam’s impacts. The Commission on Human Rights is investigating possible violations in the area of the proposed dam. Leaders of an indigenous group from Misamis Oriental and Bukidnon passed a resolution to stop oil palm planting in Sitio Bayawa, since the company did not obtain the community’s FPIC. As a result of an empowerment process by LRC, a community from Sitio Senamflidon proactively initiated and facilitated a village assembly to discuss how to secure their ancestral lands.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>2</strong> CSOs, forest-dependent and indigenous communities have greater influence in environmental and social justice policies and laws</td>
<td>The Cagayan De Oro River Basin Management Council adopted the GLA CSO coalition as a member of its Technical Working Group on the Protection of Ecosystem Services. The council acknowledged the critical role of the coalition in advancing its goals.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>3</strong> Government agencies improve procedures recognizing community tenure rights</td>
<td>Partners continued to lobby for the Indigenous and Community Conserved Area (ICCA) bill at the national level. IP organizations were established in Palaui Island and Baggoa. The IP community of Palaui spoke about their rights to an ancestral domain during the NCIP’s Survey Notification Briefing. The IPs persistently followed up with the NCIP until a Notice to Proceed was issued.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
### Government agencies improve enforcement of environmental and social justice laws and support multi-stakeholder efforts

A number of local government units in the Northern Sierra Madre developed and improved law enforcement plans, including monitoring. GLA partners provided law enforcement training and facilitated collaboration with Isabela State University.

A major breakthrough was the CDO city council enacting an ordinance to allocate annual funds for ecosystem restoration in the river basin. This was the result of years of lobbying and capacity strengthening by the GLA CSO coalition. In addition, the CDO Water District earmarked annual funds to restore CDO watersheds and support local government. The CDO River Basin Management Council, supported by a strong CSO coalition, was critical in gaining support among a large group of stakeholders.

### Multi-stakeholder groups and IP communities implement sustainable management of forest landscapes, revive traditional farming systems and pilot nature-based solutions

In the Sierra Madre, a local IP group started planting almaciga seedlings to complement cash crops. Their sustainable management plan targets raising 5,000 trees in five years.

Stakeholders approved the delineation for a Certificate of Ancestral Domain Title (CADT) for the Agta on Palaui. Without title, the IPs would not be consulted on any developments on the island.

Under the Shared Service Facilities Fund of the Department of Trade and industry, eight IP groups and community-based enterprises in the CDO/Tagaloan river basins received funds and logistical support for activities, some led by women and youth. GLA partners supported the groups in proposal development.

FFP organized three landscape-level dialogues and a national dialogue. As a result, partnerships were formed among CSOs, local government units and academic institutions. Stakeholders in two GLA landscapes were more proactive in advocating for landscape governance.

### REFLECTION ON 2019 RESULTS

- Overall, most GLA partners realized their 2019 plans, despite the security situation and the national elections. However, the ongoing security threat in SSM, portions of the Tagaloan landscape, and Maguindanao continues to affect activities. Due to ongoing challenges in the collaboration with the NCIP in Northern Sierra Madre, the GLA partner limited its activities to Baggao, Cagayan and Palaui Island. Heavy rains and a prolonged typhoon season also delayed some activities. Despite these challenges, partners realized a number of important results. Crucial factors in these successes included the use of verified knowledge and evidence, such as in the approval of the ordinance in CDO and in the Kaliwa Dam advocacy. Forming and participating in multi-sectoral alliances is also important. Particularly in the CDO landscape, it was pivotal to have a champion within the government.

- Partners also strengthened the capacities of communities in livelihood improvement. This is an important incentive for people to protect the environment. GLA partners differ in their strategies in private-sector engagement. In the CDO landscape, partners treat the private sector as partners; a dissent strategy proved not to be effective. In the nearby Bukidnon landscape however, NTFP-EP Philippines built the capacity of an indigenous group to stand up for their right to FPIC as an oil palm company started planting oil palm on their ancestral land. Partners choose their strategy based on tactical trade-offs and organizational strengths.
WHERE WE WORK, THE PROBLEM WE WORK ON, AND OUR APPROACH

In Uganda, the GLA programme is focused on oil palm development in the Kalangala Landscape; this is comprised of Kalangala and Buvuma districts, both of which are islands on Lake Victoria. This landscape was targeted because the two islands, which were originally forested, are endangered by the expansion of oil palm plantations by BIDCO, a multinational oil palm company. The company has support from the government, which promotes the development of palm oil for import substitution and improving livelihoods. As an agro commodity, oil palm has wide-reaching negative impacts on livelihoods, human rights and the environment and therefore requires civil society action to keep government and its partners in check. The Ugandan GLA partner Ecological Trends Alliance (ETA) works at the local and national level by engaging a range of stakeholders in order to limit the environmental problems caused by oil palm and improve community livelihoods. GLA adopted a lobby and advocacy approach to advocate for the major stakeholders: the communities. Strategies include stakeholder dialogues and multi-tier information dissemination to sensitize stakeholders on the impacts of oil palm. In addition, GLA partners carried out exchange visits, evidence-based research, and GPS mapping of forest buffer zone encroachment and land grabbing.

CHANGES IN CONTEXT IN 2019 (ECONOMIC, POLITICAL, ENVIRONMENTAL, ETC.)

The government introduced mandatory registration for NGOs with the Financial Intelligence Authority (FIA); all NGOs were required to hire a Money Laundering Officer, who had to be registered with the authority. This further restricted their ability to do their work. Government gave up its plans to pool all NGO resources in a fund controlled by the Ministry of Finance, however, as a result of lobbying by alliances of CSOs that ETA is a part of.

Pressure by communities as a result of GLA interventions in Buvuma District delayed the start of oil palm activities by BIDCO. Activities planned for 2018 under the Vegetable Oil Development Project (VODP) had been delayed to 2019 under the National Oil Palm Project, which replaced VODP. With VODP under pressure, the oil palm project in Buvuma took off in 2019 with the establishment of an oil palm nursery and a demand for communities to vacate land. The land was acquired by government and given to BIDCO, with the promise to the communities of benefits in the form of local government infrastructure. Marginal lands such as buffer zones and wetlands are also under pressure from oil palm developments, without any consequences for those who encroach on them. In addition, the price of fresh fruit bunches dropped significantly, which makes the single focus on this monoculture even more risky. Nevertheless, the delay created the opportunity for GLA to continue its work of sensitizing stakeholders on the negative impacts of oil palm and strengthening communities to defend their rights.

The Ministry of Agriculture, Animal Industry and Fisheries (MAAIF) and BIDCO intensified their activities in 2019. MAAIF moved to organize land and farmers for BIDCO in new oil palm hubs on the mainland in Buikwe and Mayuge districts. This increased pressure to acquire land by smallholder farmers in the new hubs, which intensified the demand to degazette forests such as South Busoga Central Forest Reserve.

In normal circumstances and oil palm timelines, harvesting would continue for at least 25 years. However, oil palm areas, including some belonging to smallholders in Kalangala, have grown beyond harvestable heights after only 15 years. During 2019, BIDCO proposed to clear and replant these palms but farmers are still servicing loans for them. The plan has not yet been implemented, but it could create an opportunity for GLA to advocate for intercropping.

Some changes have had a positive impact on the GLA, such as review and enactment of both the National Environment Act and the Uganda Wildlife Act. The environment act comes with stringent measures and tough penalties for environmental offenders. The wildlife act strengthens measures against illegal harvesting and prohibits access to protected wildlife areas, together with tough penalties for wildlife crimes both inside and outside protected areas. However, the wildlife act also allows for compensation for crop damage by wildlife, creating further resource constraints. The Sugar Bill is waiting to be approved by the president; it is expected to become law in 2020. Sugar cane is a major agro-commodity in the new hubs and zoning changes in the new act may reduce sugar cane growing while promoting oil palm expansion.

MAIN EXPECTED OUTCOMES, 2020 (THEORY OF CHANGE) PROGRESS IN 2019

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>MAIN EXPECTED OUTCOMES, 2020 (THEORY OF CHANGE)</th>
<th>PROGRESS IN 2019</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Oil palm expansion on both public and private lands is stopped/alternative models for inclusive and sustainable oil palm production are developed</td>
<td>Communities in Buvuma resisted selling their land and therefore delayed the start of the oil palm project in their area. Although this has not completely stopped the project from proceeding on Buvuma Island, it has stopped the government from acquiring land for BIDCO in the new hubs on the mainland; instead the government is organizing smallholder farmers. Research started in 2019 on alternative models to conventional oil palm growing such as intercropping. A guide that outlines and describes alternatives is being developed.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Communities are empowered and able to engage government and palm oil investors in rights-based advocacy</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>---</td>
<td>---</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Capacity development and exchange visits by GLA, coupled with information sharing and awareness, built confidence among the communities to freely express their concerns. At a high-level multi-stakeholder meeting in Kalangala (see item 4), women expressed concern over loss of access to ecosystem services (mainly fuelwood and water); youth described concern about unemployment; men focused on delayed court cases and unfulfilled promises of land title; and all participants expressed worry over the plummeting prices for fresh fruit bunches. The meeting was part of the field visit organized by GLA with the Royal Netherlands Embassy to support community empowerment.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>3</th>
<th>Empowered, informed and supportive local and national governments implement oil palm safeguards for forests to improve community livelihoods</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| | After undertaking and disseminating land-use studies, Buvuma District Local Government opened the boundaries of Nawaitale Local Forest Reserve in Buvuma, which was disputed forest land, for restoration, and used the land-use maps produced by ETA in the district plan for reclamation of buffer zones. Engaging the National Forestry Authority (NFA) in using this information and GPS mapping to prove the encroachments led to the opening of Kakonwa Central Forest Reserve (CFR) boundaries for planned restoration. With all the CFRs in Buvuma formerly obliterated, such restoration is a sign that the NFA intends to halt the encroachment on forest reserves. 

As an immediate result of the high-level field visit (see item 4), MAAIF and the International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD) recruited environment officers to support their actions on the ground, especially for buffer zones and chemicals. BIDCO (the government’s implementing partner) accepts that it must change its bad practices and reverse its illegalities on buffer zones and chemicals. |

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>4</th>
<th>A strong and vibrant civil society has favourable conditions for operating</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| | GLA country partners organized a successful field-based high-level multi-stakeholder exchange, bringing together IFAD, MAAIF, Kalangala district local government, BIDCO, and communities from Kalangala and Buvuma to discuss oil palm challenges and recommendations from ETA research. 

ETA also joined more CSO networks to strengthen resilience and develop a shared voice against increasing civil society restrictions. 

The Uganda Conservation Foundation recognized ETA as a strong CSO and elected one ETA staff member to its Board of Directors. This reflects confidence in ETA’s ability to influence other organizations while rallying more support for coalitions against ever increasing civil society restrictions. |

**REFLECTION ON 2019 RESULTS**

- Communities in Buvuma resisting and therefore delaying the start of the oil palm project was the most important outcome in 2019. Although this has not completely stopped the project from proceeding on Buvuma, it contributed to outcome 1. To better explain what is to be achieved under this outcome, it has been reformulated to add “alternative model for inclusive and sustainable oil palm production developed.” This accommodates new thinking in terms of alternatives such as inter-cropping.

- The participation of the Royal Netherlands Embassy opened doors, resulting in the field-based exchange between national and local government, the company, the embassy, GLA partners and communities that were affected by or profited from the oil palm developments. Further results include a partial out-of-court settlement for compensation by BIDCO, which was accepted by some community members, and pending court cases on farmers’ title to land. Whether the compensation was accepted out of good will or frustration from delayed justice has yet to be investigated.

- Regrettably, the GLA had to end its cooperation with Uganda partner NAPE in the course of 2019 (for more information, see the financial report). NAPE and ETA teamed up very well and their joint contributions significantly increased the quality and relevance of the outcomes. They jointly organized the successful high-level field exchange. NAPE has specifically contributed to awareness raising and direct support to communities on both Kalangala and Buvuma but was unfortunately no longer in the position to contribute to the foreseen long-term outcomes and follow-up of the results of the field exchange.
WHERE WE WORK, THE PROBLEM WE WORK ON, AND OUR APPROACH

In Viet Nam we work in the Srepok River Basin in the Central Highlands. We advocate for revised policies and practices, and provide models in the following broad areas: (1) conservation and management of natural forests and restoration of degraded forests; (2) sustainable production practices in (agro-)forestry commodities that don’t lead to further deforestation and depletion of water resources; and (3) implementation of integrated landscape approaches to natural resource management that involve the voices and interests of civil society and local communities, including both men and women.

CHANGES IN CONTEXT IN 2019 (ECONOMIC, POLITICAL, ENVIRONMENTAL, ETC.)

The revision of the Land Law has been delayed (again) and GLA partners will not be able to influence this directly before the GLA programme ends in December 2020. As an alternative strategy, the partners will share their knowledge and recommendations with other key actors, who will continue to take this forward after the GLA programme ends.

In 2019, Viet Nam became a member of the Programme for the Endorsement of Forest Certification (PEFC). The Forest Stewardship Council (FSC) is expected to officially launch its Standard for Viet Nam in early 2020. This creates an opportunity to strengthen the lobbying of GLA partners on the adoption of social and environmental safeguards by companies operating in the Central Highlands and in the country in general. Certification schemes provide an extra incentive for companies to adopt these safeguards.

Viet Nam’s Law on Environmental Protection is currently under review and GLA partners have been invited to contribute to the review process.

Since the outbreak of COVID-19 at the beginning of 2020 partners have been unable to travel to landscapes or to host meetings. The situation for the coming weeks remains unclear, but it is likely that plans for the final months of the GLA programme will need to be adjusted.

MAIN EXPECTED OUTCOMES, 2020 (THEORY OF CHANGE)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>PROGRESS IN 2019</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1. Forest owners restore and manage degraded forests</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Land disputes and restoration of degraded land have been dealt with in a participatory manner, and villagers were given opportunities to learn from successful models of better forest protection. Through lobbying and advocacy and the facilitation of GLA partners, Chu Yang Sin National Park set up restoration models on post slash-and-burn fields while local farmers for the first time discussed the land conflicts, including co-management options, with the local authority. The communities have revised their community forest management regulations, taking into consideration good examples from other successful forest protection models, including forest tenure reforms to improve access to forest resources for communities.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2. Government reviews and reforms the Forest Law, Land Law, Planning Law and related natural resource policies (ICCA, PFES, Forest Land Allocation, FLEGT-VPA) to make them more inclusive and sustainable</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
### REFLECTION ON 2019 RESULTS

- In 2019 there was more progress on agro-commodity issues than in the year before. GLA partners have put more effort into collaborations with actors in the coffee and rubber sectors, which has resulted in greater progress.

- At the September 2019 meeting the partners discussed the limited progress in terms of policy, which was due to the delay in the revision of the Land Law. However, there was progress in other policies (and their implementation), such as community forest management guidelines and forest management plans.

- Since the start of the GLA, the partners have aimed to establish a formal multi-stakeholder platform to facilitate integrated landscape governance, but progress has been very slow throughout the years. However, even without establishing a formal multi-stakeholder platform, there has been progress in establishing integrated landscape management. This includes strengthening the capacity of key actors in landscape thinking, developing stronger connections and more communication among various actors, and supporting formal and informal collaboration. It would be interesting to reflect more on why it is so difficult to establish formal landscape-wide platforms, and which alternative approaches might be used to promote integrated landscape governance in the future.

- All partners agree that gender is cross-cutting and important, but also indicated that they still find gender (and youth) issues difficult to resolve. It is not always clear how to integrate gender considerations into programmes and work plans, and even if they are it is still very difficult to effectively address gender inequality in practice. At the same time, GLA partners are increasingly able to achieve some of these desired gender outcomes in the GLA programme. We can see that building the capacity of women can be an effective way to empower them to speak out or to take action, which can lead to increasing access to resources such as seedlings, technical advice or finance.
AGRO-COMMODITIES (AC) - Thematic Programme

WHERE WE WORK, THE PROBLEM WE WORK ON, AND OUR APPROACH

The Agro-Commodities programme aims to decrease land-grabbing and tropical deforestation through the establishment and enforcement of regulations for production, consumption and financing, as well as voluntary measures and best practices in palm oil, soy and cocoa.

In 2019 we increased our efforts in the implementation of risk and security strategies for human rights defenders.

We engaged southern partners in international lobbying and advocacy on a UN binding treaty.

We increased our efforts on alternatives to the industrial palm oil and cocoa sector. Regulating the financial sector to promote transparency and prevent the financing of deforestation and rights violations remained a key area, using joint capacity building, divestment campaigns, dialogue with the Government of the Netherlands and engagement with the financial sector. We continued our lobbying at the national (the Netherlands) and EU level for EU policy and legislation against deforestation through strong partnerships with producing countries and due diligence legislation. We continued to support implementation of the corporate zero-deforestation 2020 pledges and a multi-stakeholder platform on soy in the framework of the Amsterdam Declarations, and to increase collaboration with civil society in South America.

CHANGES IN CONTEXT IN 2019 (ECONOMIC, POLITICAL, ENVIRONMENTAL, ETC.)

The media attention paid to the Amazon forest fires increased interest in forest protection. The Government of the Netherlands developed a forest strategy that recognizes the destructive role of agro-commodities in deforestation.

The European Commission’s focus on climate and forests increased strongly, and resulted in a Green Deal and EC communication on halting deforestation. Social and youth movements on climate contributed to the momentum.

There were more opportunities for legislative proposals on climate and forests at the EU level. We continued our lobby at the national level (including the Amsterdam Declarations Partnership) and mobilized NGOs on the harmful impacts of the Mercosur trade agreement on people and forests.

MAIN EXPECTED OUTCOMES, 2020 (THEORY OF CHANGE)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>MAIN EXPECTED OUTCOMES, 2020 (THEORY OF CHANGE)</th>
<th>PROGRESS IN 2019</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1.1 National-level policies and laws in producing countries are improved and better implemented</td>
<td>In Paraguay the law that extends the Reserve of the Biosphere of the Chaco to almost 8 million hectares was presented to the Senate after advocacy work. In Cameroon one plantation company agreed to not clear 55,000 ha of forested land and to manage this area with the affected communities.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1.2 At the EU and international level, the financial sector is regulated to eliminate land grabbing and deforestation for agro-commodity expansion</td>
<td>Milieudensie lobbied financial actors to divest from harmful projects. Journalists, activists and community representatives visited Brussels and The Hague. After two years of campaigning we see real progress, with the pension fund PGGM considering divesting from palm oil; De Nederlandsche Bank incorporating “stranded lands” as a sustainability risk; ING announcing that it would stop accepting palm-oil clients; Rabobank divesting from the palm oil company Indofood; the Dow Jones Sustainability Index removing the palm oil company Golden Agri-Resources; and FMO taking action on controversial projects in Liberia and DRC. The Dutch government and several other parties showed support for a brown taxonomy that identifies unsustainable investments, after lobbying and advocacy by IUCN NL and Milieudensie and a petition. IUCN NL organized dialogues between the NGO Palm Oil Platform and the Dutch Ministry of Finance, leading to consultation with NGOs on EU finance regulation and climate requirements. Dutch government representatives and Members of Parliament pressured the EU to take a proactive stance in the UN treaty negotiations. During a speaker tour organized by FoEE and IUCN NL, six Southern groups advocated for financial regulation and a UN binding treaty throughout Europe. This resulted in more support for treaty negotiations from members of the national and European parliament.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1.3</td>
<td>The EU carries out an ambitious Action Plan to remove deforestation products from its market, including binding measures for trade and rules for the financial sector</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1.4</td>
<td>The biofuel blending target in the EU is deleted as of 2021</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1.5</td>
<td>More uptake and policy support exists for best practices, including conservation measures and social, environmental and corporate integrity safeguards within the trade chains of palm oil, cocoa and soy</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2.1</td>
<td>Policy makers increase their support for alternative production and consumption models</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2.2</td>
<td>Policy makers and opinion leaders gain knowledge, and discuss and internalize alternative models for food, fuel and development</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**REFLECTION ON 2019 RESULTS**

- EU measures on imported deforestation are being developed. They might not be implemented within the scope of the GLA programme, but are on track and fulfil our policy requirements. The backlash by the Indonesian and Malaysian counter-lobby on deforestation and rights violations in the palm oil sector is still strong, but generally the EU decisions have been maintained.

- In the Netherlands coalition building succeeded on the EU communication on deforestation because there was one clear NGO demand.

- Since lobbying the EU can be complicated, GLA partners should align with NGOs that have less expertise and capacity to follow up. We need to continue to engage southern partners and urge the EC to address the needs of civil society and communities in forest countries.

- Some community members engaged in dissent strategies face increased security issues. We need to ensure that community leaders are fully aware of security impacts and mitigation measures beforehand.
WHERE WE WORK, THE PROBLEM WE WORK ON, AND OUR APPROACH

The GLA partners work on four issues related to forest and land governance, using complementary strategies to influence private- and public-sector actors: 1) international policy support for locally controlled forest and landscape management and inclusive business; 2) reducing illegal logging through monitoring and policy implementation of the VPA's Forest Law Enforcement, Governance and Trade (FLEGT); 3) promoting forest certification; and 4) innovative public-private financing tools for landscape management.

Highlights in 2019 include the increasing use of the Landscape Investment and Finance Tool (LIFT) by governments, private actors and NGOs for integrated landscape projects. IUCN NL is testing LandScale, a forest monitoring programme, in the coffee sector. Friends of the Earth (FoE) groups are implementing This Is My Backyard (TIMBY), an application that allows communities to monitor rights violations safely and act quickly. TBI launched FLEGT Watch in West Africa. IUCN NL achieved some good results in law enforcement using acoustic monitoring. Milieudefensie and FoE groups brought local struggles on rights and deforestation to international attention through grievance mechanisms and litigation. FoEI started to implement its feminist and system change strategic workplan, and TBI's community rights review paid specific attention to gender aspects.

GLA partners successfully promoted community-based forest management, stronger accountability systems, the role of economic drivers in biodiversity loss, and inclusive processes during meetings for the new Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD) objectives for the post-2020 agenda. We built capacity and connected southern partners with regional and international CBD events. TBI's research showed how local control can contribute to forest conservation and development.

CHANGES IN CONTEXT IN 2019 (ECONOMIC, POLITICAL, ENVIRONMENTAL, ETC.)

2019 saw great attention being paid to forests and biodiversity. Momentum was created when the Intergovernmental Science-Policy Platform on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services launched its Global Assessment on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services, calling for transformative change in all sectors of society. FoE used the report to strengthen lobbying and communication for the post-2020 CBD agenda.

The forest fires in the Amazon attracted media attention and made governments more willing to act.

Economic growth led to increased demand for carbon offsets, reinvigorating the carbon market and raising carbon prices. For IUCN NL this boosted the development of REDD+ projects and carbon offset schemes. Citizens’ concerns about deforestation in the Netherlands resulted in a strategy for national and international forests by the Government of the Netherlands. FoEI reacted strongly against reforestation plans from the fossil fuel sector due to concerns about greenwashing and impacts on the land rights of local communities. TBI advocated for more efforts from the Government of the Netherlands on the international forest agenda, and supported Ministries with research and policy analysis.

MAIN EXPECTED OUTCOMES, 2020 (THEORY OF CHANGE) | PROGRESS IN 2019
---|---
1 International policies support locally controlled and sustainable management of forested landscapes | Milieudefensie scaled up its projects with the FoE groups implementing TIMBY to document and take action on social and environmental harms. As a result, more than 100 community monitors sent in reports of violations; many of these monitors required increased security measures. Evidence from FoE groups was accepted by the High Carbon Stock grievance mechanism.

FoE and FoEI groups contributed to the lobby of the Council of the FAO, which included agroecology in its submission to the CBD. The Internationalist Solidarity System in FoEI has improved its operations, leading to increased documentation of human rights violations and a global response to local struggles.

TBI started to implement its community rights review in 11 countries, engaging CSO partners. All participating CSOs developed concrete suggestions for follow-up work.
| 2 | Illegal logging is diminished | TBI worked with community monitors in Ghana, Liberia and Côte d’Ivoire, who have started using forest change alerts for monitoring and advocacy. TBI launched FLEGT Watch in West Africa on 1 January 2019. It is still too early to say to what effect it has had. In Liberia, GLA partners introduced numerous issues in the VPA National Multi-Stakeholder Monthly Committee. This has led to responses and follow-up action from the Forest Authorities. IUCN NL introduced acoustic monitoring in villages in Indonesia. Local authorities are willing to integrate this monitoring into their work and legal proceedings. The spatial planning of seven provincial Forest Management Units has been fully aligned with social forestry planning in West Sumatra. |
| 3 | Certification of forestry, agro-forestry, commodities and landscapes is effectively scaled up | TBI’s contribution to forest conversion and local participation being addressed in PEFC’s global standard is now reflected in updates of national standards. In Ghana IUCN NL partner Nature Conservation Research Center is implementing the LandScale framework in Kakum National Park and Juabeso-Bia under the country’s Cocoa Landscape REDD+ Programme. Positive governance outcomes included new collaboration between communities, governments and eight international cocoa companies. It also resulted in the development of four new Community Resource Management Areas in high-impact areas in Ghana, and led to collaboration between private companies and government institutions such as the Forestry Commission and the Cocoa Board. Early results include a request by a coffee company to possibly replicate the process and LandScale in their production areas in Ethiopia. |
| 4 | Public and private finance support inclusive and sustainable management of forested landscapes | The application of LIFT in Cagayan de Oro River Basin in the Philippines resulted in investments by national and regional development banks and CSR funding for four agro-forestry and forest restoration programmes. Use of TBI’s Landscape Governance Assessment (LGA) approach increased. Solidaridad included the LGA methodology in its Landscape Toolbox. |

**REFLECTION ON 2019 RESULTS**

- Lobbying of the CBD is on track and is supported by international media and by scientific backing for the need for transformative change. However, opposition forces are getting stronger, negotiations are unpredictable and civil society needs to be better coordinated to support community-based forest management and prevent harmful corporate practices.
- A lesson from the community rights review, and from the landscape governance assessment, is that partners appreciate this work and expect the GLA to develop such actions. This stresses the relevance of an explicit learning agenda. Partners expressed interest in learning from each other, but peer reviewing has not yet borne fruit. Collaborative learning can be effective in discussing new strategies, but only if partners conduct the peer review themselves, instead of hiring a consultant.
- FoE groups made efforts to increase the participation of women in community-based forest monitoring to better understand the gender-specific impacts of deforestation and harmful business practices. There are cultural and security barriers to women engaging in forest monitoring. One successful strategy was found in Cameroon; local business women, who are used to travel, act as forest monitors.
- Milieudefensie found that once communities are aware of the potential of grievance mechanisms and court cases, they are eager to engage in those processes. IUCN NL found that the formation of a multi-stakeholder consortium, as part of the LandScale framework, is changing how government, civil society and companies work together.
WHERE WE WORK, THE PROBLEM WE WORK ON, AND OUR APPROACH

The Just Energy Transition (JET) programme focuses on the Niger Delta in Nigeria, the Greater Virunga landscape in Uganda and the Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC), and the Ituri landscape in DRC. It contributes to an inclusive pro-people process to encourage the transition from fossil fuels to renewable energy (RE) using community mobilization, campaigning, lobby and advocacy, capacity building, and litigation.

In 2019, ERA/FoEN Nigeria focused on engaging with the government; this resulted in funding support for RE projects. Cooperation between ERA, Friends of the Earth Europe and Milieudefensie supported communities affected by pollution to exercise their rights to legal solutions, which resulted in the Ikeberi community reaching an out-of-court settlement with oil company ENI.

In DRC, partners supported communities in their resistance to oil developments. Stakeholders from Ituri Province worked with Uganda’s GLA partners to participate in public hearings on the East African Crude Oil Pipeline project, so that their views could be integrated into the Environmental and Social Impact Assessment (EISA) review.

In Uganda, the Africa Institute for Energy Governance (AFIEGO) lobbied the government to invest in education and jobs in the solar market, to not allow new concessions with companies that supply expensive power, and to promote RE. AFIEGO supported the lobby and advocacy skills of women and youth champions, which enabled these groups to speak up publicly. Milieudefensie organized international consultations, including with interested groups in Latin America and West Africa, for a collective exploration of the need for North-South equity in order to achieve a just energy transition. An international exchange during COP 25 in Madrid with women activists explored a feminist perspective on JET.

CHANGES IN CONTEXT IN 2019 (ECONOMIC, POLITICAL, ENVIRONMENTAL, ETC.)

ERA established contact with newly elected political representatives, more of whom are showing an understanding of the need for an energy transition and a commitment to policy and budget support. In the UNEP clean-up of the Niger Delta, the process required close monitoring. FoEE, ERA and Milieudefensie set up a research project late in 2019 (to be carried out in 2020), to investigate the extent to which the UNEP recommendations on the clean-up are being implemented.

Several oil projects were delayed in the cross-border area by community mobilization, but continuous vigilance remains necessary since land acquisition continues. The Ugandan government organized public hearings on the ESIA studies for the pipeline project, but failed to include the communities affected.

MAIN EXPECTED OUTCOMES, 2020 (THEORY OF CHANGE) PROGRESS IN 2019

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Expected Outcomes</th>
<th>Progress in 2019</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1 CSOs are unified around a common ideology on an inclusive and just energy transition</td>
<td>In DRC, Nigeria and Uganda, mobilization campaigns in communities strengthened local JET coalitions and their capacity to lobby and to advocate against oil exploitation. CSOs and communities from DRC and Uganda worked together to halt oil activities in ecologically sensitive cross-border areas. CSOs in the JET coalition shared case studies of a sustainable JET framework and support for JET campaigning, research and advocacy work in 2020. They also started to explore a gender and feminist perspective on JET.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2 Relevant national government agencies in Africa focus progressively to promote an inclusive and just energy transition</td>
<td>The Nigerian government raised funds through international Green Bonds for the country’s transition to RE. Advocacy by the Nigerian JET coalition led to government acknowledgement of a roadmap for an inclusive and just energy transition. AFIEGO’s advocacy contributed to supportive government policy on increasing household off-grid RE use in Uganda. The government’s promotion of fossil fuel development was halted, due to effective awareness-raising and mobilization at local community level.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3 Best practices of community involvement in inclusive and just energy transition exist in the selected landscapes</td>
<td>Communities in the Virunga landscape in DRC and in Nigeria and Uganda have mobilized against dirty energy and for solar energy, particularly due to the active involvement of women and youth as JET promotors. In Nigeria 12 communities now use RE, and 200 Ugandan households have access to off-grid solar energy. Women and youth groups in Uganda were trained in lobby and advocacy skills to oppose fossil fuel developments, skills they used during the ESIA public hearings.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
| 4 | New or existing oil exploration/extraction projects are halted or delayed | The Ikeberi community in Nigeria reached an out-of-court settlement with oil company ENI, which empowered the community and provided compensation.

Oil projects in the Greater Virunga and Ituri landscapes have been delayed through community mobilization, court cases, demands for land compensation and pressure on the DRC and Ugandan governments. AFIEGO and partners commenced a court case in France against Total oil company, supported by IUCN NL, which generated international support. Communities from Uganda and DRC have been mobilized through mobile cinema campaigns on the negative impacts of oil exploration. |

**REFLECTION ON 2019 RESULTS**

- In 2019, the JET programme increased its cross-border activities between DRC and Uganda, and its activities in Salonga, to prepare for threats of oil developments. The programme also supported Ugandan partners, together with Amis de la Terre France, to start a litigation case against Total.

- JET partners have built strong coalitions; this put considerable pressure on oil companies and governments. Partners feel like part of a movement, which is the biggest potential of the JET programme, and further expansion of the coalition is foreseen for the coming years.

- All of the partners indicated that major progress was made in mobilizing communities for energy access and against deforestation. A lot was achieved in local awareness raising and community mobilization. This has been an important component of the campaigning and advocacy power of the JET partners and has resulted in the halting of oil projects and adoption of renewable energy. For example, in Uganda, AFIEGO's community involvement has generated women and youth champions who actively resist oil developments and promote renewable energy, resulting in increased energy access. There are drawbacks to promoting RE, including the increasing price of RE products and the quality of the products. Despite the delay of oil projects in Virunga and Queen Elizabeth national parks, continuous civil society vigilance remains necessary, since DRC and the Ugandan governments are still interested in oil development in this cross-border area.

- All of the partners continued with policy engagement. ERA saw an increase in policy makers recognizing and supporting its campaigns. A drawback is that much of the RE funding is directed to government and business and not civil society.

- Several partners engaged in litigation activities and campaigning. The use of the courts puts pressure on policy makers and companies to enforce laws and to be more mindful while making decisions affecting ecologically sensitive areas. Legal action generates international support and attention, but it does not always deliver justice. Processes can take a long time and the desired results are not guaranteed. Media engagement was a key strategy; it ensured that partners’ civil society watchdog work was widely visible and not covered up by governments or private companies.

- In Uganda, Nigeria and DRC, women are part of committees of CSO coalitions or community groups. In Uganda, these committees are key in the mobilization of communities. Despite the substantial role played by women at the community level it remains a challenge to ensure that their voices and perspectives are systematically integrated. ERA is planning to further address women's advocacy and campaign capacity needs in 2020. AFIEGO decided to empower local women so they could speak up during public hearings. An important lesson learned by all partners is to integrate gender from the start, and to include women's organizations in the JET coalitions. In response to this need, Milieudefensie started a JET and gender initiative.