FORESTED LANDSCAPES FOR EQUITY

GREEN LIVELIHOODS ALLIANCE

ANNUAL PROGRESS REPORT 2018

MAY 2019
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Date: May 2019

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Cover photo: Indigenous elder with rattan fruit, Philippines · J. van der Ploeg

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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 60 civil society organisations (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 currently works in 16 landscapes in nine focus countries worldwide (see Annex 3). Equally importantly, the GLA addresses 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).

This report proudly presents the results achieved in 2018. It is encouraging to see these results, given the often gloomy outlook on the state of forests worldwide and the people who depend on them. In 2017 a Global Forest Watch (GFW) report demonstrated that the rate of tree cover loss in tropical forests had doubled since 2008.3

The loss of these tropical forests directly contributes to climate change. A recent report by the Intergovernmental Science-Policy Platform on Biodiversity and Ecosystems Services4 provides an alarming message about the world’s dwindling biodiversity and ecosystem services. Along with the destruction of forests and their biodiversity, there is growing neglect of and violence against the people, including indigenous people, who rely on them and defend them.5 Moreover, the ability of civil society to speak out against large economic and political powers is increasingly under threat.

At the same time there is enormous potential in tropical forested landscapes. They provide solutions to some key global concerns, such as climate change, water scarcity, food insecurity and loss of biodiversity. Worldwide, 1.6 billion people, many of whom are the world’s poorest — nearly 25% of the world’s population — rely on forests for their livelihoods.

Forests store huge amounts of carbon. The role of indigenous groups and local communities is becoming vital in safeguarding the forests that are left.6 On average, forest degradation has been less severe or even absent in areas held or managed by indigenous peoples and local communities, and this is exactly where the GLA puts its focus. The results achieved by the alliance in 2018 show that it is possible to make a difference at the national and international levels. The alliance strengthened civil society in the South to achieve more inclusive and sustainable forest governance, while also addressing the drivers of forest loss and degradation. These drivers are often related to consumption in the North and to production (frequently unsustainable) in the South. This report shows what civil society can achieve through collaboration, dialogue, dissent and capacity strengthening.

2018 was the third year of the five-year GLA programme. In July 2018, a mid-term review (MTR) global meeting generated lessons for the remainder of the programme, which are included in the GLA 2019–20 planning. In mid-December 2018 the findings summarised in the MTR report were submitted to the Dutch Ministry of Foreign Affairs. A report on the project “Final lifeline for Atewa Forest in Ghana”, will be submitted separately to the Ministry as well.

Chapter 2 provides an overview of results achieved, based on a thorough analysis by partners and GLA Alliance members. Examples are highlighted throughout the text. (Annex 4 provides more insights into the progress per country and thematic programme.) Chapter 3 discusses the role of capacity strengthening on lobby and advocacy. Chapter 4 provides a number of cross-cutting elements, relevant for the programme as a whole.

1 This includes 38 first-tier CSOs and 22 second-tier CSOs, as well as 49 collaborations.
2 There are 16 landscapes in the focus countries and 2 landscapes in Cameroon and Paraguay, which fall under the thematic programmes.
3 See https://blog.globalforestwatch.org/data-and-research/2017-was-the-second-worst-year-on-record-for-tropical-tree-cover-loss.
2. TOWARD INCLUSIVE AND SUSTAINABLE GOVERNANCE OF FORESTED LANDSCAPES

The Green Livelihoods Alliance aims for inclusive and sustainable governance of forested landscapes; the ultimate goal is reduced deforestation and respect for the rights of forest-dependent communities. The work of the GLA partners revolves around four key conditions that are required in order to achieve inclusive and sustainable governance of forested landscapes.

- Communities have access to and benefits 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 marginalised 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.

The GLA’s efforts contribute directly to a number of the outcomes included 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 (see Box 1). An analysis of Directie Sociale Ontwikkeling (DSO) Dialogue & Dissent indicators 1, 2, 3, 4 and 6, is outlined in Annex 2.

2.1 Increased access to and benefits from forested land

Substantial forest areas are held, claimed and managed by local communities, including indigenous peoples. There is evidence that deforestation rates are often lower and carbon sequestration is higher in forests where the rights of indigenous peoples and local communities are legally recognised. This provides a strong rationale to scale up tenure reform in order to safeguard the world’s remaining forests.

Improved national-level policies, laws and practices

In 2018, GLA partners successfully lobbied for national-level policies that enable access to land and resources for forest-dependent communities. There was significant progress in the GLA’s focus countries Bolivia, Ghana, Indonesia, Liberia, the Philippines and Uganda, and in Paraguay and Cameroon.

The President of Liberia signed the Land Rights Act, a land law new to the African continent that formalises customary land ownership for communities. This gives communities power over decisions about their natural resources. The country’s Land Authority is required to support communities to identify and demarcate their land boundaries. GLA partners lobbied the relevant authorities and were part of the technical committee that drafted the law. They also mobilised communities and national and international citizens to raise awareness of the law and get input and support during public campaigns.

GLA partners in the Philippines contributed to a bill that supports Indigenous and Community Conserved Areas (ICCAs). Once passed by congress, this would be the first law in the world that acknowledges the role of indigenous communities in the conservation and management of ICCAs. These areas are characterised by significant biodiversity, important ecosystem services and cultural and spiritual values. The new law is expected to lead to improved forest conservation and protection. Another major achievement was the inclusion and recognition of the rights of non-Moro indigenous groups and their ancestral lands in the newly passed Bangsamoro Organic Law. The law provides for the Bangsamoro Region, replacing the former Autonomous Region in Muslim Mindanao. Without addressing indigenous peoples’ rights, the new law could have resulted in the oppression of indigenous peoples in the Bangsamoro Autonomous Region.

See www.wri.org/blog/2017/12/5-maps-show-how-important-indigenous-peoples-and-local-communities-are-environment.
GLA partners in Ghana pushed for the approval of a Wildlife Resources Management bill, which provides the legal framework for the establishment and management of Community Resource Management Areas. The new law would enable communities and civil society members to contribute to the sustainable management of wildlife and forests in their local area. Lobbying for the bill began in 2013, but changes within the government delayed its passage. The bill has now been submitted to Cabinet, and there is a good chance that it will be approved before the next change of government. Unfortunately, there were also setbacks in Ghana. Despite the strenuous efforts of GLA partners to achieve stronger tree tenure for local farmers, the Forestry Commission is unwilling to provide benefits to farmers who nurture naturally occurring trees on their farms. GLA partners will continue to advocate for an inclusive and sustainable solution for tree tenure.

All national policy processes demand long-term efforts and the determination of partners. After approval of a law or policy, there is a need to push for its implementation, and for adequate budgets, capacities etc. Changes in government often delay or frustrate the process, and require partners to adapt their strategies. But while governments may change, local communities are there to stay. Raising awareness and mobilising local constituents are important parts of the work that GLA partners do in long-term lobbying and advocacy processes.

GLA partners used a number of strategies to achieve the results listed above. They participated in technical working groups, they lobbied with concerned authorities, they mobilised public support and media and — perhaps most importantly — they involved local communities to ensure that their interests were heard and taken into account.

Increased implementation and enforcement of policies

Laws and policies succeed or fail by the extent to which they are implemented and enforced. Fortunately, in many cases the GLA’s efforts in 2018 resulted in improved implementation of laws and policies. They also led to increased monitoring and enforcement by governments and local community groups against illegal logging and mining, such as in Bolivia, Ghana, Indonesia and Viet Nam.

Where national policies were already in place, GLA partners supported communities to complete the requirements for obtaining land tenure permits. In 2018, five communities in West Sumatra, West Kalimantan and Central Sulawesi in Indonesia demarcated their administrative boundaries and applied for social forestry permits for a total area of 6,363 hectares (ha). Three other communities applied prior to 2017; their applications are still pending. The Ministry of Environment and Forestry approved social forestry permits for 11 villages, for a total of 14,266 ha; most communities had applied for these prior to 2018. These permits provide communities with land-use rights and create opportunities for improved livelihoods. In addition to providing benefits for communities, these areas are also important in stopping the expansion of palm oil estates (for other examples, see 2.3).

In Bolivia, GLA partners trained 18 communities as community guards of the Tucabaca Wildlife Reserve, which is increasingly threatened by activities such as mining and agriculture. These guards play an important role in monitoring illegal activities in the reserve, thus protecting water sources and local ecotourism. Partners have also been able to influence a number of actions by the national Forest and Land Audit and Social Control Authority (Autoridad de Fiscalización y Control Social de Bosques y Tierra, or ABT). After GLA partners requested information on timber volumes, ABT intervened in its regional offices due to irregular approvals of <20-hectare clear-cut plans in community-owned forests. This intervention was important in helping to control rampant illegal timber production, which has outcompeted legal timber in recent years. The
ABT also published simplified management guidelines for forest management plans. These guidelines reduce the costs of forest management planning and help communities continue sustainable forest management rather than relinquish forests for agro-commodities.

In Ghana, the Forestry Commission accepted the inclusion of non-state actors in its operational mechanism for reporting and dealing with illegal logging and mining activities. This presented an opportunity for non-state actors to hold people accountable for reported illegalities. Several community groups in the Juaboso landscape were able to stop timber companies from cutting trees on their lands and make them respect communities’ rights. At the same time, partners understand that in order to further increase enforcement, particularly by government, they might have to turn to legal action.

Civil actors stand up for their rights

Although good policies are important, it is also critical that local communities are aware of their rights and empowered to claim them. In 2018, community groups increasingly stood up for their rights. GLA partners supported this by raising awareness of communities’ rights and helping them to organise and mobilise. For example, empowered communities in Uganda delayed the acquisition of land by a palm oil company by rejecting the sale of land. Local communities in the Sinoe landscape in Liberia monitored violations by an oil palm company with the help of the mobile app This is My Backyard (TIMBY); see also Chapter 3 about this tool. These violations have been used by a local GLA partner in its advocacy for community rights.

2.2 Access to decision-making about land use and landscape governance

Forest governance can be inclusive and sustainable only if the interests of all stakeholders are taken into account. GLA partners work directly with and for marginalised groups in the landscape, including indigenous people, women and youth, who often have little power or influence in decision-making. In 2018 GLA partners supported local groups to voice their concerns and successfully lobbied decision-makers for more inclusion of these groups.

Empowered communities voicing their concerns

Results of the GLA’s efforts show increased commitment, awareness, organisation and action among community groups in all nine focus countries. The reasons for this were different in each country. In some cases, community groups are active because they are more aware of their rights and the violations of these rights; in other contexts, communities were empowered to block decisions or laws because of their negative effects. In Bolivia, various indigenous organisations and regional forestry organisations in the Chiquitania Region came up with a resolution to stop the proposed Forest and Land Law, which would limit the rights of indigenous people and increase the chances of land grabbing by migrant farmers and the agro-industry. At the local level in Indonesia a local women’s group in Pulakek Koto Baru village in the Mudiak Baduo landscape is now managing the local micro hydropower plant. GLA partners used a range of strategies to activate and mobilise these groups, such as training and awareness-raising workshops.

Increased involvement of local communities and CSOs in decision-making

In a number of cases governments provided more involvement for local communities and CSOs in policy development or decision-making processes regarding forest governance. This happened most notably in Viet Nam, where a number of outcomes show a greater involvement by CSOs and forest-dependent communities in law making. For example, local government authorities in the Central Highlands and Krong Bong District organised inclusive participatory processes that involved CSOs and local communities in land planning and policy development. This is significant, given the history, political system and role of civil society in Viet Nam. GLA partners employed approaches such as research, evidence collection and dialogue to support these efforts, given the constrained scope for activist approaches in Viet Nam. In Liberia the government recognised the mandate of the Civil Society Oil Palm Working Group by providing five places for the coalition as permanent members of the national technical working group for the oil palm sector, a multi-stakeholder platform. Previously, opportunities for local communities to engage with government and oil palm companies were scattered and uncoordinated. The coalition can now engage in a more coherent and coordinated way, allowing community voices to be heard at the national level.

Increased representation of indigenous people in local governance

In the Philippines and Indonesia, the GLA’s efforts increased the representation of indigenous people and local communities, including women, in local governance. In the Sierra Madre mountains in the Philippines, indigenous peoples’ representatives are now part of a local protected areas management board, which is in charge of an area of 350,000 ha. In the Cagayan de Oro river basin, indigenous groups have been empowered to participate as key stakeholders in the management council, thus bringing local knowledge to the management of the river basin. In Indonesia, five regional administrative units in the Mudiak Baduo landscape included relevant local knowledge, for example on agro-ecology and non-timber forest products (NTFPs), in their land-use development plans.
2.3 Sustainable practices in the management of forested landscapes

Ecosystems and forests provide a wide range of services to people and communities, such as sustained water provision, climate resilience, soil fertility and retention, biodiversity, pollination, carbon storage and erosion and flood control. The GLA supports solutions and practices to sustain these reliable and affordable services.

Government authorities and CSO employ more sustainable practices

In 2018, several local government authorities and civil society groups and communities developed and implemented more sustainable policies and practices. In Indonesia, for example, the Ministry of Environment and Forestry made the important decision to adopt the High Conservation Value (HCV) area approach at the landscape and jurisdictional levels; this provides a legal basis for implementing the approach. In practice this means that instead of implementing the HCV approach in isolated patches at the management unit level of palm oil companies, it can now be implemented at higher administrative levels in a more integrated way.

In Ghana, the district assemblies of Juaboso, Bodi and Bia East and West implemented sustainable actions as part of their Medium Term Development Plans. These included planting trees along river buffer zones to safeguard water resources and increase tree cover. This, along with increasing communities’ customary practices in natural resource management, has led to a decrease in illegal encroachment into buffer zones along water bodies.

Companies showing interest in more sustainable practices

Moving companies toward more sustainable practices remains difficult and takes time. GLA partners have achieved some success in this area, however. In Viet Nam, for example, a coffee company involved in the Initiative for Sustainable Landscapes by the Sustainable Trade Initiative started to apply agroforestry techniques to achieve more sustainable coffee plantations. This was based on an inventory of appropriate agroforestry practices carried out by the GLA. In Indonesia, a GLA partner was able to convince local palm oil companies to discuss sustainable oil palm development and investment as part of their efforts to reach out to private stakeholders. In another case in Indonesia, an oil palm company partnered with local communities to develop alternative livelihoods, including tree nurseries. In Ketapang Province, provincial and local governments, oil palm plantations, a mining company and several CSOs — including a GLA partner — developed an Essential Ecosystem Areas action plan and strategy to protect and restore the Laman Satong area within the Gunung Tarak landscape, which is an important wildlife corridor.

On the contrary, in Liberia a palm oil company withdrew its membership from the Roundtable on Sustainable Palm Oil (RSPO), stating that it could not fulfil the requirements to address the community complaints filed against it in 2012. Although the RSPO decision was positive for communities, since it recognised their complaints, the oil palm company renounced its responsibility instead of addressing the complaints.

Putting sustainable practices on the agenda

Awareness raising is an important step in getting an issue on the agenda. In Bolivia, GLA partners have been able to influence the public debate regarding genetically modified soy and agrochemicals by using social media in their advocacy. Awareness among concerned citizens caused the Bolivian Service for Agricultural Health to publish an official list of prohibited agro-chemicals. In Ghana, the use of media in relation to small-scale gold mining and planned bauxite mining and...
illegal logging in the Atewa Range Forest Reserve increased awareness among the general public of the need to oppose unsustainable practices, and moved the government to take action against illegal mining. In the Democratic Republic of Congo, GLA partners provided awareness-raising programmes on renewable energies through a range of media in the province of Tshopo.

**Strengthened livelihoods of forest dependent communities**

Supporting the development of sustainable alternative livelihoods is an important part of the GLA’s work. Without alternatives that provide income, people are often forced to continue unsustainable practices. In the Sierra Madre landscape in the Philippines, the GLA supported communities to apply for permits for the sustainable harvesting of non-timber forest products such as the high-value almaciga resin. Communities in the three GLA landscapes in Indonesia are earning more income than they did from unsustainable practices by sustainably harvesting rattan, bamboo and mushrooms under social forestry schemes. This has also increased food security as well as gender equality and the economic empowerment of women. For example, a women’s group has organised itself successfully and is now earning income by growing mushrooms. The women passed on their skills to others, leading to replication by other farmers’ groups, including some men who gave up illegal logging for mushroom farming. Another women’s group failed, however, due to a lack of organising and business skills. This taught the important lesson that not just technical skills matter.

### 2.4 Addressing global drivers of deforestation and climate change

Local, national and international developments are intertwined in a globalised world. The GLA addresses this through three thematic programmes.

**The Agro-Commodities programme** aims to reduce land grabbing and tropical deforestation and degradation for agro-commodities, with an emphasis on palm oil, soy and cocoa. In the **Forest and Land Governance programme**, the GLA strengthens the capacity of CSOs to lobby for international policies that support locally controlled and sustainably managed forested landscapes, decreased illegal logging, upscaling of certification of agro-forestry and commodities, and public and private finance for the sustainable and inclusive management of forested landscapes. The **Just Energy Transition (JET) programme** concentrates on Nigeria, DRC and Uganda. It contributes to pro-people and inclusive transition processes, moving away from crude oil/fossil fuels toward renewable energy. These programmes stimulate South-South, North-South and North-North learning and collaboration and a strong international policy environment that support GLA goals.

The main results are summarised in this chapter (see Annex 4 for detailed progress information).

**EU decision to phase out biofuel blending**

A major result in 2018 was the decision by the European Parliament, in agreement with the European Council, to adopt a new law to phase out the highest-emitting biofuels made from palm oil. Although the original intention of using biofuels was to replace fossil fuels (diesel and petrol) as a supposedly more sustainable solution, evidence shows that biofuels from these food crops are even more polluting than fossil fuels. Moreover, the production of these crops for biofuels competes with food production, and the deforestation caused by the plantations leads to climate change. GLA partners used a number of effective strategies, including collecting signatures on petitions from the North and the South. A very successful strategy was the GLA’s international campaign that connected CSOs from producer countries Indonesia and Liberia with policy makers in the EU. GLA partners who have witnessed the destruction of forests for agro-commodities production underlined the urgent need for European policy makers to phase out palm oil and other vegetable oils from biofuels. The lobbying was based on facts and figures and clear policy advice. However, due to the ban, a counter lobby by the palm oil sector and the Malaysian and Indonesian governments has intensified.

**Improved regulations in the EU and the Netherlands to reduce deforestation**

The GLA also contributed to progress on regulating the financial sector in the EU and in the Netherlands in order to reduce deforestation and land grabbing for agro-commodity expansion. The European Commission has adopted the recommendations of the high-level Expert Group on Sustainable Finance in its Action Plan on Sustainable Finance. This strengthens environmental, social and governance criteria and follows years of lobbying before and during the GLA programme. Also, several Dutch investors limited or stopped their controversial investments in industrial palm oil. At the European level, GLA partners engaged in the Amsterdam Declarations Group, which aims to achieve agro-commodity supply chains that are fully sustainable and deforestation-free. As a result of the combined efforts of NGOs, forest peoples’ organisations and activists — and more recently, by the private sector and some EU member countries — the European Commission is finally considering the development of an action plan on global deforestation. Given that the Netherlands is a major importer of forest-risk commodities, the GLA also advocated for the Netherlands to address deforestation. The Dutch Ministry of Agriculture, Nature and Food Quality is now exploring a national strategy on action against deforestation.

Less progress has been achieved on the UN Treaty on business and human rights within the European Commission; there appears to be a lack of political will to adopt binding rules for corporate entities. And in the Netherlands there has been
limited progress in deforestation and consumption and financing that does not support land grabs, due to a lack of binding rules.

**Certification of forestry, agro-forestry, commodities and landscapes is scaled up**

In West Africa, a network of forest monitors is being set up by GLA partners, called FLEGT Watch. The network is in the final stages of development. It will allow authorities to improve the enforcement of forest laws through real-time satellite-based alerts, and will allow CSOs to obtain alerts. The GLA also contributed to a new standard by the Programme for the Endorsement of Forest Certification that includes a reference to Voluntary Guidelines on the Responsible Governance of Tenure and to human rights, more restrictions on conversion into plantations, and inclusion of trees outside the forest.

**Community-based forest management included in the Convention of Biological Diversity (CBD)**

In 2018, GLA lobbied for the inclusion of community-based forest management within the framework of the CBD. The CBD has more forcefully embedded the issue of community based forest management in its framework, and allows for “other conserved areas” such as community lands to count towards the Aichi Biodiversity Targets.\(^8\) GLA partners learned that it is important to engage on an ongoing basis with national groups to ensure that international agreements are informed by national priorities and implemented by national-level actors.

**Increased support for Indigenous and Community Conserved Areas (ICCAs)**

The GLA stepped up its advocacy efforts for ICCAs in Africa, South East Asia and Latin America by strengthening the capacity of local ICCA networks and partners. The alliance also supported the steps necessary to map and register ICCAs and thus better protect people and forests. This is particularly urgent in Latin America, where political developments and insecurity pose a threat to the protection of forests and their indigenous inhabitants.

**The polluter pays**

The initial focus within the JET programme was the litigation of oil companies and countering the claim that fossil fuels bring development to the global South by showing that these fuels harm the environment and human rights. A number of court cases against oil companies are still ongoing. A good example of the progress here can be seen in Nigeria, where oil companies responsible for the pollution of Ogoniland made a contribution of US$ 180 million for clean-up (see Annex 4 on Nigeria for more information). This result was due to many years of campaigning of government and oil companies by GLA partners and other civil society groups. For example, they produced annual reports to follow up on the recommendations of the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP). GLA partners expects this result sets an example for similar cases.

**Renewed focus on and increased uptake of sustainable energy alternatives**

Although GLA partners in the focus countries Nigeria, DRC and Uganda agreed that the “Leave the Oil in the Soil” campaign should continue, this is realistic only if people have a sustainable energy alternative. This is currently missing. Partners therefore focused on energy alternatives. In 2018 there was increased community engagement and civil society mobilisation around energy alternatives and against fossil fuels. A number of communities in Uganda and Nigeria already have increased access to renewable energy. In Nigeria, the Senate Committee Chair on Ecology and Climate Change expressed his commitment to sponsor a draft National Renewable Energy Bill (drafted by a local GLA partner) and promote the transition from fossil fuels to renewable energy sources. Moreover, GLA partners joined forces with labour unions in 2018; the Dutch FNV and the Nigerian Labour Congress formally started working together. GLA members also acknowledged that the shift to renewable energy requires more minerals, often from forest-rich areas. It is important to ensure that minerals for renewable energies are sustainably sourced and do not stimulate further land grabbing and deforestation. This will be addressed further in 2019.

### 3. CAPACITY STRENGTHENING FOR EFFECTIVE LOBBYING AND ADVOCACY

In 2018, 60 CSOs in the GLA further strengthened their capacity for effective lobbying and advocacy (see Annex 2) through training, workshops and exchange visits. The GLA conducted its mid-term review in July 2018 to stimulate international exchange, learning and networking, which was very useful for joint reflection, learning and strategizing. Partners confirmed again that strengthening capacities for lobbying and advocacy is best done by linking them to a purpose, and learning by doing.

**Effective L&A through collaboration and exchange**

Collaboration between Northern alliance members and Southern CSOs was very effective and reinforced each other’s roles; for example, in the biofuel campaign. Both sides gained from this approach: southern CSOs strengthened their capacity

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8 See [www.cbd.int/sp/targets](http://www.cbd.int/sp/targets).
for action (for example, by media training), and gained insights into lobbying at the EU level. Northern Alliance members strengthened the messages in their campaign by involving Southern CSOs.

The GLA also further strengthened the lobbying and advocacy capacity of other CSOs, CBOs and citizens. In a number of countries, these groups, including women’s groups, participated in campaigns such as petitions and protest marches. Exchange visits and exchanges in 2018 allowed people to learn practical skills from similar work in other settings and proved useful for inspiration and replication. For example, as a result of an exchange visit to hydro dams by GLA partners and communities to a Shared Resources, Joint Solutions landscape with similar issues to theirs, local communities in the Sierra Madre in the Philippines increased their understanding of the potential impact of a planned dam and strengthened their motivation to defend their land. The same result occurred in Ghana, with a visit to bauxite mining sites, and in Uganda, to experience the impact of oil palm development. The GLA also increased its capacity for effective lobbying and advocacy by an Free Prior and Informed Consent exchange project in Africa and by organising webinars on themes that affect community forest management, such as the Convention of Biological Diversity, the “financialisation” of nature and agro-commodities.

Tool development
The GLA continued to develop and apply tools that focus on assessing opportunities for forest restoration and landscape investment and finance. These include a tool for participatory assessment of financial flows, the Landscape Investment and Finance Tool (LIFT), and the Restoration Opportunities Assessment Methodology (ROAM). Several GLA partners participated in training on using these tools and are currently applying what they learned. In several countries, partners used the results of the Landscape Governance Assessments carried out in 2017 to inform their lobby and advocacy strategies. Other organisations started using this assessment tool; Solidaridad used it in a landscape in Tanzania. The GLA started a study on community rights in 2018 in which CSOs are taking part. The study aims to increase the understanding of how land rights actually translate into better forest conservation and livelihoods and which interventions are most effective in which context. In Ghana, CSOs and the media learned how to use the Anti-Corruption Toolkit, as developed under the GLA, to monitor and act on unacceptable and illegal practices, in order to promote the enforcement of forest and mining laws. In Uganda, a role-playing game provided insight into the impacts of oil palm development and strengthened the adaptive capacity of communities who face difficult landscape-level choices.

Preparedness for counter-lobbying
Partners learned that they need to proactively prepare for a counter-lobby, especially in cases where significant results are achieved after an intensive period of campaigning. An example is the counter-lobby in Malaysia and Indonesia after the successful lobby for the ban on biofuels. Partners now increasingly plan budgets and capacity for response and communication after a successful campaign. The same issue applies to lobbying for implementation after policies and laws are adopted. In many cases partners need to pay long-term attention and take a proactive approach to ensure that any policy changes by public and private actors result in action.

The use of evidence
Capacity strengthening on the use of evidence is important; CSOs are more effective if they use reliable and verified knowledge and evidence to underpin their dialogue and actions. The GLA distinguishes three ways of generating and using evidence:
1. evidence for targeted lobby and advocacy (often to reveal violations);
2. empirical research into the effects of policies and practices; and
3. a combination of 1 and 2, meant to build a comprehensive case to support a certain position.

In 2018, GLA partners generated and used evidence for different goals and in different ways. People were trained in local monitoring tools, such as the mobile app TIMBY (This Is My Backyard) and GIS mapping. TIMBY allows local monitors to document rights violations and deforestation in a safe and credible way. A GLA partner in Liberia developed and started to use the application; CSOs in five other countries then started to use it, and still others are being trained. In a number of countries, local communities and CSOs collected information or conducted research in the field to improve land-use planning or decision-making by governments. For example, partners in DRC used land data from Beni and the Lubero and Rutshuru territories in their lobby for land reform.

Partners also encountered challenges in generating and using evidence. At the same time, they noticed that it is important to link up with respected, reliable and/or independent actors to collect the data that strengthens their credibility and position. In some cases, lack of access to good data challenged the ability of partners to come up with good counter-evidence regarding certain plans or decisions. Some partners found it difficult to obtain reliable information on suitable sustainable models (e.g., for plantations or agroforestry).

Communication and media

Partners also strengthened their capacities in communication. Mobilising journalists and the media proved to be an important strategy in a number of countries. It allowed partners to reach a critical mass and communicate messages to a large public (see also 2.3), while also forcing targeted actors to react. In general, using a number of different sources and approaches to disseminate messages enhanced effectiveness.

4. CROSS-CUTTING ISSUES

4.1 Civic Space

In 2018, a limited civic space affected the work of several GLA partners. In a number of countries where the GLA works — particularly Bolivia, DRC, the Philippines and Uganda — local partners and communities faced an increasingly restrictive operational environment. This included security risks and political measures that hinder the work of CSOs. In a number of countries, CSOs faced ongoing conflict situations; sometimes staff or community leads were the targets of threats or violence.

Strategies to deal with shrinking civic space

Improving this operational context proved to be challenging, but partners employed a number of strategies to deal with it. For example, a group of African GLA CSOs, together with their network of African environmental CSOs, developed and adopted a risk and security strategy. This included the installation of a security focal point, who started to implement the strategy in 2018. The GLA also lobbied for the binding UN Treaty on Business and Human Rights to increase access to justice for victims of rights violations by corporations (see also 2.4).

Collaboration between CSOs and governmental authorities

In light of these worrying developments, it was all the more encouraging to observe many examples of collaboration between CSOs and governmental authorities, particularly at the local level. As explained in Chapter 3, there are several examples of CSO and marginalised groups, such as indigenous peoples, who are involved in decision-making processes as result of the GLA’s capacity strengthening. So there is progress towards the goals of the GLA, including the increased participation of CSOs and forest-dependent groups in governance mechanisms.

4.2 Inclusion and gender

Promoting the inclusion of marginalised groups — including indigenous people, women and youth — is core to the GLA. Because women are often disproportionately affected by environmental injustice, climate change, natural disasters and exploitation of nature, the GLA has a heightened focus on improving gender equality. The results of the GLA’s work in 2018 are encouraging, with examples of improved economic benefits, mobilisation and empowerment of women’s groups, inclusion of women in governance structures and increased involvement of women in sustainable practices (See Chapter 2 and Annex 4).

In 2018 the GLA intensified its efforts to achieve more gender equality and to make its results more visible. The IUCN Global Gender Office supported GLA partners in mainstreaming gender issues in the implementation of their work through various activities, such as webinars, guidelines and a resource portal. As a result, partners implemented a number of actions, such as stimulating the equal participation of men and women in activities and consciously integrating gender into work plans and
4.3 Synergy, coalitions and learning

Strengthened collaboration

In 2018, GLA partners strengthened collaborations with each other and other stakeholders. GLA members collaborated on topics of shared interest, such as tools and knowledge development, and on certain thematic areas, such as ICCAs. In the Forest and Land Governance programme, Tropenbos and Milieudefensie collaborated in FLEGT Watch and TIMBY, and Tropenbos worked with IUCN NL and their partners to introduce a financial flow analysis module to the LIFT-tool. The landscape governance assessment tool improved because of collaboration by alliance partners and CSOs. This extended the scope of the GLA and enabled a greater diversity of CSOs to work with a landscape perspective. IUCN NL and Milieudefensie collaborated on the UN’s binding treaty on business and human rights.

A number of examples of increased collaboration led to more effective lobbying and advocacy. A good example is the Atewa campaign in Ghana, where the GLA partners each had different roles and complemented each other well. GLA partners from Vietnam, the Philippines and the Netherlands actively participated in the Global Landscapes Forum in Bonn. Several GLA partners co-organised a landscape finance pavilion and shared their experiences with landscape governance assessment in presentations and workshops.

Synergy and efficiency

Clearly, a number of issues were lifted to a higher level by people working together through the GLA, and opportunities for cooperation were based on complementarity and effectiveness. Sometimes direct collaboration is a challenge. For example, IUCN NL and Milieudefensie, have different opinions when it comes to divesting or investing in palm oil. This is not a problem, since goals can be attained using different routes. Appreciative dialogue strengthens each approach and position. In Liberia, existing national coalitions are strong (for example, on conservation, palm oil and land rights), meaning that forming another coalition with GLA partners exclusively would not be efficient. In Indonesia, collaboration mainly occurs between GLA partners and their external stakeholders, such as companies or local governments, because they are working on different islands. All GLA partners, however, appreciated joint capacity-strengthening activities, information exchanges and alignment of strategies. This has broadened their scope and at some cases has enabled them to adopt new approaches or adjust their L&A strategies. The Landscape Governance Assessment developed by Tropenbos, for example, was very helpful in the L&A of IUCN NL’s partners in the Philippines.

Collaboration with the Dutch Ministry of Foreign Affairs

In terms of collaboration with the Dutch ministry, the GLA collaborated on several policy dossiers, such as the EU Action Plan against Deforestation and Forest Degradation. Increased exchanges and complementary fields of knowledge led to better outputs, such as a higher quality of lobbying papers. The GLA also experienced some effective collaborations with embassies.
GLA members in Uganda were invited by the embassy to give input into its five-year strategic plan. One of the action points was a planned joint field visit to the GLA landscape Kalangala by the Deputy Ambassador. In the DRC, the Dutch Embassy has supported GLA partners by providing them with space in the embassy to discuss sensitive topics.

5. FINAL REMARKS

Three years of programme implementation have clearly shown the growth and value of the GLA collaboration, both in the Southern countries and in the Netherlands. Building partnerships takes time, especially when partners come from different networks and schools of thought. By investing in sharing, reflection and relationship building, the GLA has developed into a strong alliance that is ever more relevant thematically. The program-wide outcome analysis performed for this annual report was the first done for the GLA at this scale and reveals the richness and significance of more than 300 outcomes. The thematic programmes effectively build bridges between countries and various policy-making levels, which are highly valued by partners at all levels. These effects are expected to expand over the next two years, since initiatives can build on the experiences and the capacity development in 2016–18.

The mid-term review in 2018 gave useful indications for programme adjustments and where and how to intensify our strategies. It also provided insight in the GLA ToC and how it is determined by context factors. Based on the MTR we have intensified our capacity strengthening or lobby efforts on six topics 1) gender equality 2) the post 2020 biodiversity goals in the Convention on Biological Diversity 3) the binding UN Treaty on Business and Human Rights 4) country specific responses to ‘shrinking civic space’ 5) the work on indigenous and community conserved areas or “territories of life” and 6) a ‘community rights review’. Based on the results in 2018, there is no need to make other adjustments in the overall ToC, its underlying assumptions and strategies. At the country and thematic level, some partners adapted their strategies and adjusted their outcomes to a changing environment.

As described in Chapter 2, the GLA programme contributes to outputs and outcomes of the Inclusive Green Growth result frameworks. In the coming period, the alliance looks forward to further strengthening the linkages and its contribution to those frameworks.
FORESTED LANDSCAPES FOR EQUITY

GREEN LIVELIHOODS ALLIANCE
ANNUAL PROGRESS REPORT 2018

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>
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<tr>
<td>Bolivia</td>
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<td>IUCN NL</td>
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<td>IUCN NL</td>
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<td>Tshopo, Mongala and Ituri provinces</td>
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<td>FoE-Ghana</td>
<td>National level, and Atewa and Juaboso landscapes</td>
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<td>Total</td>
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<td>Collaborations Landscapes</td>
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<td>3</td>
<td>38</td>
<td>22</td>
<td>49²</td>
<td>18³</td>
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Table notes:
1. CSO partners contracted by GLA and implementing GLA thematic programmes, but not in GLA focus countries.
2. 110 CSOs are active in the GLA programme: 38 first tier, 22 second tier and 49 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.
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. 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 for sustainable and inclusive development**

Laws and policies stand or fall by the extent to which they are implemented, enforced and complied with. In 2018, a total of 99 harvested outcomes show improved implementation of laws, policies and practices of public, private and civil actors that significantly contribute to inclusive and sustainable forested landscape governance.

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

Firstly, 11 outcomes show that the GLA has been successful in protecting forests and halting illegal forest conversion in various landscapes. For instance, in Bolivia, the National Forest Controlling Authority (ATB) intervened when clear-cutting plans were irregularly approved in community owned forests. Just like National Forest Officials in Uganda confirmed that the encroachment on a forest area was illegal. The Indonesian Ministry of Environment and Forestry conducted field monitoring, to collect evidence on illegal plantations by an oil palm company in peatlands and protected areas. The outcomes have in common that the GLA monitored and investigated the situation, presented its findings to the authorities, who in turn, intervened or investigated further. Capacity building also played a role, such as in the DRC where officials were trained in the application of laws and legal instruments relating to environmental crimes.

Secondly, the GLA has contributed to improved implementation of policies that benefit local communities to apply sustainable practices 12 times. For instance, in Viet Nam, regional authorities facilitated local people to plant cash crops on the degraded land to improve their livelihoods. In the Philippines, local and regional authorities granted funds to several communities, for instance for a Rural Improvement Club, for promotion of trade in products developed by indigenous peoples in the Southern Sierra Madre and to community-based NTFP enterprises.

Finally, the GLA alliance achieved 11 results in the implementation of laws or company practices concerning (the violation of) land rights. For instance when, as a result of a court case and a mediation process led by the GLA partner, a palm oil company and the regional authorities in Uganda, started the process of securing land titles for 8 farmers, to ensure tenure security and reduced conflict. In Indonesia, GLA partners supported communities to apply for land tenure permits through the social forestry scheme. In 2018, the Ministry of Environment and Forestry approved social forestry permits for 11 villages, for a total of 14,266 ha, providing them with land-use rights and opportunities for improved livelihoods. At international level, the RSPO Complaints Panel recognized complaints from 5 Liberian communities against a palm oil company, ordering it to stop work on disputed lands and address FPIC, human rights, and environmental issues.

50 of the harvested outcomes under DD1 show civil actors taking concrete actions that significantly contribute to inclusive and sustainable forested landscape governance.

To ensure government officials actually enforce policies for the protection of forests and rights, evidence on violations of land rights, illegal logging and mining is vital. For this purpose, the GLA has capacitated local forest monitors and guards in a.o. Bolivia, Ghana, Indonesia, Liberia, Cameroon, Philippines and Viet Nam. This resulted in local communities becoming active in monitoring their forests. For instance in Bolivia, 18 communities have been capacitated to act as community guards of the Tucabaca Reserve. These communities play an important role in monitoring illegal encroachment of the reserve, thus protecting water sources and maintaining its attraction of eco-tourism. 2018 also saw an increase in the usage of monitoring data by civil society, in campaigns and direct complaints to companies.

In addition, 11 outcomes concerned communities who contribute to more sustainable use of their forests. Communities ended illegal logging practices and hunting for bushmeat, started restoring degraded areas, and applied more sustainable agro-forestry practices to halt industrial plantations while at the same time contributing to local livelihoods. Often, these outcomes were achieved through awareness raising, field visits and exchanges, as well as research into viable sustainable alternatives.
DD2 - # of laws, policies and norms/attitudes, blocked, adopted, improved for sustainable and inclusive development

In 2018, the GLA has harvested a total of **93 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, 60 outcomes show that public and private actors adopted laws and/or policies that contribute to inclusive and sustainable forested landscape governance.

At local or regional level, public actors adopted 21 policies or regulations for more sustainable practices. For example in the Philippines, where the City Development Council of Cagayan de Oro approved restoration through the CDO River Basin project and the local council in Cagayan de Oro allocated an area for a restoration project.

28 outcomes show policy change at national level. For example, the President of Liberia signed The Land Rights Act in September 2018, a Land Law that legalizes customary communities’ ownership of their lands. In January 2018, the Committee on Indigenous Cultural Communities and Indigenous Peoples of the Philippines approved the Indigenous Peoples Conserved Territories and Areas Bill, which contributes to the recognition of the contributions of indigenous people in natural resources governance. In Decree 156 guiding Viet Nam’s Forestry law, the Government of Viet Nam accepted forest as vital for sustaining and developing ethnic minority groups’ livelihood, communities as co-managers of forests, as well as improved transparency in policy making and implementation, contributing to access to forestland for local communities.

Partners employed diverse strategies to reach these results: they participated in technical working groups, lobbied with authorities and mobilized and involved communities to ensure their interests were taken into account. Public support and mobilization of local constituents is important in long-term lobby and advocacy processes, because even after adoption of a law or policy, there is often a need to continue to push for its implementation.

At international level, GLA partners contributed to 11 outcomes. The European Parliament voted to ban the use of palm oil to be counted towards the fulfilment of the EU renewable energy goals, which should lead to considerably lower imports of palm oil in the future. The Conference of Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity adopted a new decision on Protected areas and other effective area-based conservation measures (OECMs), that allow for community based land and forest management areas to be recognized on top of ‘official’ protected areas. The Programme for the Endorsement of Forest Certification (PEFC) has included the Voluntary Guidelines on the Responsible Governance of Tenure of Land, Fisheries and Forests (VGGT) as a reference for a requirement on tenure, which will strengthen community tenure rights in relation to forestry activities. Outcomes at international level were often achieved through a close cooperation between alliance members and national CSO groups. GLA partners participated in international working groups. Southern and Northern CSOs jointly lobbied at international institutions, demonstrated local struggles and provided feedback in consultation phases.

Moving companies towards adopting sustainable practices remains difficult and takes time. However in 5 cases, private actors have adopted favourable policies. For example, in November 2018 the parent company of Sudcam (a Rubber plantation company) announced to hand back 13,000 hectares dense forest from its concession in Cameroon. Later in the year, they announced to stop all clearing of forest in their concession until the sustainability commission made sufficient progress. Already since 2015, the GLA partner and citizens lobbied and engaged in dialogue to find a solutions for the effects of Sudcam on communities and forests. An example of collaboration with a private actor comes from Indonesia, where oil palm company PT BGA initiated to replicate the successful facilitation of alternative livelihoods (fishery, mushroom cultivation, etc.) by a GLA CSO in Laman Satong village in other villages, to increase the community’s income and reduce their dependency on the forest.

In 33 outcomes, civil actors agreed on actions or adopted plans that contribute to inclusive and sustainable forested landscape governance.

An example of civil society strengthening was harvested in the DRC. Congolese environmental civil society organizations developed an advocacy plan for forest sector reforms. This advocacy plan aims to improve the involvement of CSOs in the sustainable management of forest resources, strengthen the network of environmental CSOs and improve the forest policy in the DRC. In the Atewa forest in Ghana, Community Resource Management Committees developed 10 action plans to manage natural resources and address community specific environmental challenges in Atewa.
**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 2018, GLA partners contributed to 111 outcomes that demonstrate CSO positions are included in the debate.

Public and private actors, included CSOs’ or target groups’ demands on the political, corporate or media agenda 78 times (of the total of 111 outcomes). For instance, the Minister of the Federal Capital Territory in Nigeria openly acknowledged the gains of renewable energy and pledged to promote it, as a result of a high-level conference on Just Energy Transition by GLA partners. This outcome represents a break with the past, because the Nigerian government used to focus solely on fossil fuel. In Ghana, the GLA showcased evidence of illegal logging and violations of communities rights to the management of a logging company. As a result, the company contacted the organization and requested to meet them and the Forest Services Division to discuss the communities’ concerns in more depth. More GLA partners successfully used this approach to get support for their demands; presenting evidence and participating in dialogue and consultations.

Reaching the general public is also an important step in getting an issue on the agenda. GLA partners have been able to influence the public debate through the media (12 outcomes). Particularly in Bolivia, partners frequently succeeded in reaching the media. For instance when 3 national newspapers gave wide coverage to the problem of alluvial gold mining and its impacts on the environment and public health in Chiquitania, as well as exposing structural problems such as inaction of governmental environmental institutions and the judicial system. In Ghana, the media intensified exposure of illegal and unsustainable environmental practices in the past year.

As well as influencing the public debate, the GLA brings local struggles and voices to the international level to ensure demands from the global South reach decision-makers in the Netherlands, the EU and the UN. In 2018, 9 outcomes show the inclusion of demands from Southern civil society on the international agenda.

In addition to public actors including our demands, civil actors succeeded 33 times (out of the 111 outcomes) in participating in decision making concerning inclusive and sustainable forested landscape governance. Most notably in Viet Nam, a number of results show a bigger role for CSOs and forest-dependent communities. For example, local government authorities in the Central Highlands and Krong Bong District organised inclusive participatory processes that involved CSOs and local communities in land planning and policy development. This is significant, given the history, political system and role of civil society in Viet Nam. GLA partners mainly employ approaches such as evidence collection and dialogue, given the constrained space for activist approaches in Viet Nam. In Ghana, state and private actors spearheading the implementation of Ghana’s Cocoa Forest Initiative (CFI), accepted CSO representation on the CFI steering committee. CFI is a leading initiative, tackling deforestation and social and economic issues for cocoa smallholders. The outcome ensures CSOs and their constituent farmers have a say on key sector issues of interest and serves as a starting point for ensuring inclusiveness and transparency in cocoa governance in Ghana.

In the Philippines and Indonesia, we also see examples of increased representation of indigenous people and their knowledge in local governance structures, including women: in the Sierra Madre in the Philippines, indigenous representatives are now part of a local protected areas management board. In Cagayan de Oro, indigenous groups have been empowered to actively participate as key stakeholders in the CDO river basin management council.

**DD5 - # of CSOs with increased L&A capacities**

In 2018, 61 Civil Society Organisations in the GLA strengthened their capacity for effective lobby and advocacy. This number includes some of the first and second tier partners (DD6) but only those who have increased their capacity on at least 1 of the 5 Capacities for Lobby & Advocacy in the GLA capacity analysis tool. It also includes third tier partners (CSOs from LLMIC countries directly capacitated in the GLA programme, but without a direct contractual relation). The GLA also contributed to capacity strengthening of other CSOs, CBOs and citizens, which is not included in this figure. When other actors than our CSO partners change their behavior as a result of our interventions, these are harvested as outcomes. When relevant, they are included in DD1, DD2 or DD3.

Capacity building in 2018 ranged from trainings, workshops and guidance, to exchange visits. The GLA also conducted its mid-term review in July 2018 to stimulate exchange, learning and (re)strategizing.

The GLA has focused particularly on capacity strengthening in the use of evidence to underpin dialogue and actions. In 2018, an increasing number of people were trained in local monitoring tools, such as the mobile app TIMBY (‘This Is My Backyard’) and GIS mapping. In a number of countries, local communities and CSOs collected information or conducted research in the field to improve land use planning or decision-making by governments. Partners also strengthened their capacities in communication. Mobilizing the media and journalists proved to be an important strategy to mobilize a critical mass and communicate messages among a large public.
Collaboration and exchange between the Northern alliance members and Southern CSOs was a fruitful approach to strengthen GLA partners’ capacity for effective lobby and advocacy. Also at country level, the GLA strengthened capacities for lobby and advocacy most effectively through learning by doing, for instance by participating in campaigning and joining exchange visits. To ensure relevance, the GLA has also linked capacity strengthening to themes that affect community forest management.

The GLA continued with the development and sharing of tools and toolkits, such as the Landscape Investment and Finance Tool, a financial flow analysis module, the Restoration Opportunities Assessment Methodology (ROAM), the Landscape Governance Assessments, the Anti-Corruption Toolkit and role-playing games. Several GLA partners participated in trainings on using these tools and are currently applying what they learned.

**DD6* # of CSOs included in SPs programmes**

In 2018, the GLA consisted of 3 Dutch alliance members and 60 Civil Society Organisations, including 38 first tier partners and 22 second tier partners. The partners range from community based organisations, national CSOs to international network organisations. GLA alliance members and CSO partners play different roles in the programme. Sometimes they follow the GLA model of complementarity between a campaign organisation (the activist), a research organisation (or knowledge broker) and an organization more experienced in dialogue and collaboration (the convenor), while in other countries this distinction is less relevant. Because working in coalitions is often more effective to achieve our goals, the GLA partners also collaborate with an additional 49 CSOs and Community Based organisations (without a direct financial relationship). This entails working towards a common goal with these organisations through for instance a Memorandum of Understanding and in coalitions and networks.
The Green Livelihoods Alliance (GLA) aims for inclusive and sustainable governance of forested landscapes, assuming that this contributes to safeguarding the ecosystem-based International Public Goods (IPG): water, food security and climate stability.

GLA assumes that halting deforestation and forest degradation, and restoring degraded forested landscapes, is essential for the continued provision of IPGs (assumption #1). The GLA therefore aims to meet the following condition #1: positive changes in trends regarding forest cover and forest quality and an increased percentage of forests under improved management in GLA targeted landscapes and countries.

GLA has adopted a user-friendly and cost-effective method to assess changes in trends in forest cover and quality therein (condition #1) over the programme period (2016-2020). The aim is to gain insight in trends in changes in forest cover quantity and quality in GLA landscapes at the start of the programme (2000-2016). Additionally, as the assessment will be yearly updated until 2020, the impact of the GLA programme can be monitored by comparing trends in forest cover between 2000-2016 with trends between 2016-2020.

The assessment also gives support to the GLA activities by gaining insight in trends in the landscape and support partners in the use of spatial analysis for multiple purposes.

### ANNEX 3 – FOREST COVER TREND ASSESSMENT

1. Maps of the GLA landscapes are uploaded into Global Forest Watch (GFW) to visualize and assess forest cover loss since 2000 in the GLA landscapes.

2. Using the dataset developed by Hanssen et al. in GFW the quantity of hectares (ha) of forest loss is estimated and the total forest cover in 2000.

3. Forest quality has been assessed by adjusting the degree of canopy cover in GFW between >30%, >50% and >75%. Tree cover canopy density is used as an indicator for forest quality. This should be interpreted with caution and merely seen as a proxy for forest quality.

4. The data is imported into Excel for analysis of forest cover change and deforestation rates. Graphs are used to visualize trends in forest cover loss per year between 2000 and 2017 for each GLA (sub) landscape.

The information is presented in an easy to use 1-pager per GLA (sub) landscape.

The information is compiled for all GLA (sub) landscapes, enabling comparison between (sub) landscapes. This provides further context and insights.

1. Insight for the GLA organisations about trends in forest cover loss and pressures in the landscapes.
2. This information could be used as evidence that feeds into lobby and advocacy trajectories.

A toolkit will be constructed for partner organisations to update current factsheets with new GFW data and to create completely new ones.
GLA - Forest cover trend assessment

Average forest cover loss rates
GLA landscape

Years until forest cover area is reduced to 50% of the total landscape area

Forest cover versus forest cover loss

World Tropics

Average forest cover loss rate >30%

GLA 1278 ha y⁻¹ 0.55% y⁻¹

World Tropics 9832311 ha y⁻¹ 0.32% y⁻¹

See map above for the number reference
ANNEX 4 – 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 Chiquitanía Region. There are a number of challenges in this landscape, such as the unsustainable practices of the productive and extractive sector and limited enforcement of policies by the local and national government. In addition, local communities, small-scale producers and CSOs are not included in decision-making. GLA Bolivia works on these issues by lobbying for the productive sector to apply conservation innovations and for the sustainable management of natural resources. In addition, GLA Bolivia lobbies the national government to comply with and enforce environmental legislation and international agreements. GLA also builds the capacity of CSOs for inclusive and sustainable forest/landscape governance.

CHANGES IN CONTEXT IN 2018 (ECONOMIC, POLITICAL, ENVIRONMENTAL, ETC.)

Elections will be held in October 2019. The pre-electoral and electoral context allows for negotiations between the productive sector and the government to approve policies that favour deforestation. In addition, in the last decade public revenues have declined due to lower prices for raw materials and a greater dependence on exports. This has resulted in an economic crisis that for the moment is being contained by increased public investments in infrastructure and productive/extractive activities, such as hydro-electric plants, roads, cattle ranches and infrastructure. Adding to these developments are the recent approval of a law allowing the production of bio ethanol and the granting of land to upland farmers, thus expanding the agricultural frontier and increasing deforestation.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>MAIN EXPECTED OUTCOMES, 2020 (THEORY OF CHANGE)</th>
<th>PROGRESS IN 2018</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1 Management committees support the management of protected areas</td>
<td>GLA partners supported the strengthening of management committees of protected areas. Due to a lack of resources, these committees have been inactive. The committees now have an action plan, include more women leaders and collaborate more with other committees, governments and other institutions.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2 State institutions (central, departmental and municipal level) apply public private partnerships that support the sustainable management of their territories</td>
<td>The Authority for the Control and Social Control of Forests and Land (ABT) published updated management tools to facilitate the elaboration of integrated management plans for Indigenous communities. These guidelines reduce the costs of forest management planning and help communities continue sustainable forest management rather than relinquish forests for agro-commodities.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3 The Agro-ecological Platform of the tropics, subtropics and Chaco region develops tools to position agro-ecological products</td>
<td>The Agro-ecological Platform is empowered through weekly fairs, where it has been possible to make people in Santa Cruz aware of the importance of agro-ecological products and their relationship to the environment and health.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4 The media disseminates reliable information related to integrated forest and land management</td>
<td>Media attention for GLA concerns increased in 2018. The national media features articles on the current food production model and its impact on health. The national media also covers human rights issues and rights of nature.</td>
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<tr>
<td>5 Organizations and international alliances issue resolutions and/or decisions in response to complaints of non-compliance by the government</td>
<td>GLA partners create awareness of the issues of indigenous groups in international fora. In the United Nations Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues in New York, a woman representative of indigenous leadership from Bolivia presented a complaint about the plans for a mega hydro dam in the Beni River by the government and about human rights violations of Indigenous people in various regions in Bolivia. In addition, a Latin American coalition, consisting of a number of CSOs, including GLA’s Bolivian partners, contributed to recommendations regarding human rights violations in China. China committed to comply with 200 of the 300 recommendations.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>CSOs practise integrated management of their territories for the management of their natural resources</td>
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<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>
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**REFLECTION ON 2018 RESULTS**

- Although partners work to achieve all goals in the ToC, there is considerably more progress on some goals than on others. Given the complex political and pre-electoral context, partners agreed that the strengthening of CSOs and their role in defending their rights must be a main focus. Although the ToC and assumptions have not changed, problems such as agricultural expansion have become more urgent.
- Although deforestation rates in the landscape continue to increase, partners have been able to slow it down through the strengthening of protected area management, strengthening of local organizations to defend their rights, and improving the capacities of indigenous people in the use of their natural resources, thus ensuring an active occupation of the landscape.
- Partners want to continue with a number of strategies that turned out to be successful: 1) forming (and maintaining) alliances with journalists (TV, newspaper, radio) to influence public opinion; 2) generating and sharing evidence at international platforms and with the public sector; and 3) strengthening the management committees of protected areas in such a way that they can negotiate the demands of various stakeholders. Partners specifically strengthened women’s and youth’s leadership as part of indigenous and peasant communities so that these leaders are acknowledged and respected as decision makers and inspire the participation of other women and youth.
DR CONGO – Country Programme

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

IUCN NL and TBI work 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 and complementary approaches to address these problems. They 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 the gathering and dissemination of evidence to guide decision-making.

CHANGES IN CONTEXT IN 2018 (ECONOMIC, POLITICAL, ENVIRONMENTAL, ETC.)

- Due to the prolonged dry season, the impoverished communities bordering Virunga National Park (VNP) are turning to its limited natural resources to meet their livelihood needs, thus threatening the ecosystem and violating the law.
- A total of seven armed groups are involved in the illegal exploitation of natural resources in and around VNP. A total of 176 rangers have been killed while exercising their duties, 10 in 2018.
- In early 2018, the Congolese government revived oil exploration in Virunga and Salonga national parks.
- Elections caused unrest and hindered the advocacy work of partners; for example, by blocking the internet, social media and text messages.

MAIN EXPECTED OUTCOMES, 2020 (THEORY OF CHANGE) PROGRESS IN 2018

1. Land reform is carried out effectively
   - GLA partners generated land data through surveys with communities in three territories (Lubero, Rutshuru and Beni) in the Virunga landscape to guide the lobby on land reform.
   - A draft edict for different stakeholders was adopted and is stimulating more responsible behavior in terms of sustainable use of land and livelihoods. This edict is aimed at the local authorities and communities, in support of responsible land-use practices.
   - GLA stakeholders actively participated through working groups on the development of a land tenure policy at the national level, which is critical to the mitigation of conflicts in and around natural resources.

2. Authorities apply better law enforcement
   - GLA produced a well-documented report on the dysfunction of the judiciary (Parquet, Court and Prison) regarding violations in nature conservation. Based on the report, GLA recommended a set of actions to the law enforcement institutions (e.g., military auditor, police, and judiciary). Some key capacity-building activities have been planned with the law enforcement actors.
   - Three judicial officers and eco-guards from VNP were trained in how to enforce the laws of conservation. This strengthens the fight against wildlife crime in the landscape.

3. There is a harmonious relationship between communities and other stakeholders/the government
   - Partners developed and launched an early-warning communication alert mechanism for the Virunga landscape at the community level to prevent incidents and environmental crimes.
   - An operational mechanism for the cross-border exchange framework between fishermen from DRC and Uganda in the Virunga landscape is defined and shared with relevant actors.
   - Partners contributed to the restoration of ongoing and inclusive dialogue between the inhabitants of the protected areas and the local and park authorities in the Kahuzi-Biega and Virunga landscape.

4. Local communities, including women and youth, are involved in landscape protection
   - GLA partners created awareness on the part of communities and schools about being involved in conservation, protection and the reduction of conflicts in VNP. Students have been taught on the ecological and economic value of the protected areas in the Virunga landscape.
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<th>5</th>
<th>Illegal exploitation of natural resources is reduced</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>• Partners developed a communication plan to be better able to engage with communities and strengthen peaceful collaboration between communities and park management in Virunga.</td>
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<td>• GLA partners strengthened and promoted female leadership and economic empowerment in the logging sector in Ituri and Tshopo, which is traditionally dominated by men. 29 women are now included in the 7 associations of an interprovincial platform for artisanal timber producers.</td>
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<td>• Traditional chiefs, CSOs and artisanal timber producers started reforesting degraded areas in Mahagi Territory.</td>
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<th>6</th>
<th>Stakeholders engage in more responsible behavior</th>
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<tr>
<td>• Land-owners, customary chiefs and communities were trained in land governance and land management, and signed a commitment to stop any further reallocation of land from VNP.</td>
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<td>• The provincial administration and the Tshopo authorities, formerly reluctant to implement community forestry in Tshopo province, are now supporting local communities in the process of applying for land titles in three concession areas.</td>
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<td>• Artisanal loggers in Bumba, Lisala and Bongandanga created associations.</td>
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<td>• The Interprovincial Network for the Exploitation and Marketing of Timber (RINEC-Bois) lobbied the Minister of the Environment to enforce a five-year artisanal logging licence in Ituri, Bas and Haut-Uélé provinces, as set out in national regulations. RINEC Bois thus contributes to illegality in the sector.</td>
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<td>• The Minister of Environment amended the rate of taxation on timber exported by the Ituri and Tshopo artisanal loggers from US$ 100 for 0–10 m³ to US$ 10 for 0–300 m³. The lower tax rates encourage artisan loggers to formalize their operations (registering, licensing, paying taxes due etc.).</td>
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<tr>
<th>7</th>
<th>Peace and stability are achieved in Virunga and Kahuzi-Biega landscapes</th>
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<tr>
<td>• More than 23,000 inhabitants of VNP signed a petition to cancel all oil licences in the Virunga and Salonga national parks and presented the petition to the President of the DRC in Kinshasa.</td>
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<th>9</th>
<th>Threats to human rights and environmental defenders decrease</th>
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<tr>
<td>• An edict for the protection of journalist, human rights defenders and environmental defenders was close to final approval, making the Provincial Deputies of North Kivu involved in defending international humanitarian and environmental rights, including those of the press/journalists. Defenders of these rights are assisted in case of threats related to their work.</td>
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<tr>
<td>• GLA partners implemented security plans.</td>
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**REFLECTION ON 2018 RESULTS**

- Despite enormous challenges and constant external changes, partners continued to implement their activities and tried to adapt to changing circumstances. The elections at the end of 2018 caused some delay in activities; for example, in relation to the national forestry policy.
- 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.
- Judicial actors do not often intervene in the repression of environmental crimes as they do not sufficiently understand the environmental laws and there is no consistency in prosecution. There is a need for better coordination between judicial actors and for capacity strengthening.
- The choice of interested and influential partners, as well as the involvement of the private sector is important for more impact.
GHANA – Country Programme

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

GLA works in two landscapes in Ghana, Atewa and Juaboso-Bia, both high elevation tropical forest areas dominated by cocoa farming. A major part of the work to protect the Atewa forest received additional funding from the Flexible Fund for Dialogue and Dissent under the Strategic Partnerships for a one-year campaign against bauxite mining. GLA deals with policies and practices at the landscape and national level related to achieving sustainable and inclusive landscape governance. The alliance’s diversified lobby and advocacy interventions (campaigns, research, multi-stakeholder dialogues, capacity strengthening, collaboration between CSOs) focused on illegal logging and mining, cocoa and trees/forests, tree tenure reform and Community Resource Management Areas (CREMAs).

CHANGES IN CONTEXT IN 2018 (ECONOMIC, POLITICAL, ENVIRONMENTAL, ETC.)

In 2018 GLA did not face major changes in context, but several changes are worth mentioning:

• The ban on small-scale mining — as part of government measures to clean up the mining sector and get rid of illegal artisanal mining operations (galamsey) — has been lifted. This was done without concrete measures to ensure that the galamsey does not return, and without consultation with CSOs. This calls into question the efforts of government to take sustainability serious and to involve civil society in finding solutions.

• Six new administrative regions were created, which has implications for the GLA programme. The Juaboso-Bia landscape falls within one of the new regions and its capital city is now closer. This will facilitate easier engagement with government agencies at the regional level; however, establishing the necessary contacts and network has to start all over again. Programme actions will take longer due to new officers needing to become familiar with the GLA partners.

• A reshuffle of ministers affected the Ministry of Lands and Natural Resources (MLNR). It will take GLA and its partner CSOs some time to engage with the new minister and build rapport to enhance working relations.

• The Bauxite Development Act was passed by parliament. The Act provides for the establishment of a Bauxite Corporation, which gives the GLA a point of contact in the fight against bauxite mining in the Atewa landscape. With the existence of the corporation, it will be easier to engage government, especially in seeking information that is needed to inform the alliance’s advocacy strategies.

• The GLA Atewa campaign against mining has received broad public attention and resulted a much more balanced discussion on the impacts of bauxite mining.

MAIN EXPECTED OUTCOMES, 2020

1. Sustainable and inclusive landscape governance is achieved
   Several complementary outcomes contributed to sustainable and inclusive landscape governance. Local government authorities formulated environmental actions in their medium-term development plans. Traditional Authorities are reviving customary practices to support sustainable environmental management. Communities in the Juaboso-Bia landscape have significantly reduced encroachment of buffer zones along water bodies. The media intensified its advocacy on sustainable environmental management. Atewa in particular got a lot of media attention, because of bauxite mining plans conflicting with nature conservation and water supply.

2. Mining and logging operations conform to national laws and international standards
   The Forestry Commission (FC) adopted an Independent Forest Monitoring (IFM) process. Communities within Juaboso-Bia and the adjacent Sefwi Wiawso landscape reported infractions to the Forest Service Division through the IFM, and are demanding compliance and accountability from private and public institutions in order to curb illegal logging practices. The media paid increased attention to illegal and corrupt logging and mining practices. Tropenbos Ghana partnered with Client Earth to update and produce copies of the compilation of forest laws book, commonly called the Green Book. The Green Book gives law enforcement agencies ready access to comprehensive information about the country’s forest laws.

3. The cocoa sector adopts and applies climate-smart practices and landscape standards
   CSOs, especially GLA partners, now participate in the Cocoa Forest Initiative (CFI) process, which was previously dominated by the state and private actors. They are now well represented at all levels of the process, which was established to ensure inclusive governance and implementation. Both GLA landscapes are part of the initiative.
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<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td><strong>Tree tenure is reformed to make benefit sharing more equitable</strong></td>
<td>GLA contributed to the formal discussion on reform of the law. However, progress is extremely slow. MLNR and FC are unwilling to cede part of the management fees (for trees in off-reserve areas) to farmers as part of the reforms, and the timber industry (private companies) is opposed to paying tree benefits to farmers under the proposed reforms.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td><strong>CREMAs are legalised, institutionalised, effectively utilised and up-scaled</strong></td>
<td>MLNR was forceful in passing the Wildlife Resource Management Bill to strengthen CREMAs in Ghana. The bill is almost ready, but parliament requested a better elaboration of the sanctions. GLA has been instrumental in creating a formal national working group on CREMAs in which governments, communities and NGOs are represented.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td><strong>CSOs are better able to participate</strong></td>
<td>The Government of Ghana is getting more responsive to CSOs, who are also better organised, as shown by its readiness to listen to them. For instance, the government agreed to change the bauxite authority in the Bauxite Bill to a corporation before the bill was passed into law. However, the government lags in sharing information and in allowing NGOs to participate in government decisions, such as lifting the ban on illegal mining.</td>
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**REFLECTION ON 2018 RESULTS**

- **On strategies:**
  (a) Mobilising communities to raise their voices on issues that the GLA is championing has proved to be effective because it signals to the government that constituents are involved in the fight for sustainably managed forested landscapes. This is a large constituency, and government takes these signals seriously. (b) Capacity building was a key approach used in 2018 and it yielded good results. For instance, increased reporting on natural resources issues was due partly to the increased capacity of the media to understand the natural resources issues that are part of the national discourse. (c) Media campaigns turned out to be very successful. They put pressure on government, especially in relation to galamsey, proposed bauxite mining in Ateawa, and illegal logging. This raised the awareness of the general public on the need to rise up against practices that are detrimental to the environment. As a result, the government took action to stop many illegally operating mines. (d) It was apparent that in dealing with government, where dialogue is not getting the desired results, GLA should adopt a more dissenting approach to cause the government to act. For example, tree tenure reform required a more radical approach. It was agreed that partners should focus on changing the Concessions Act, 1962, under which the state owns naturally occurring trees that are nurtured by farmers. GLA partners also decided to see if a legal challenge can be mounted against the Forestry Commission to address overall mismanagement by the agency. 

- **On gender:** All GLA partners include women in programme activities and appointed an officer responsible for gender. These officers lead internal gender actions, embed gender in the institutional culture, and are guided by the gender policy.
WHERE WE WORK, THE PROBLEM WE WORK ON, AND OUR APPROACH

GLA works in three landscapes in Indonesia: (a) Mudiak Baduo (720,000 ha), West Sumatra Province; (b) Gunung Tarak Landscape (500,000 ha), West Kalimantan Province; and (c) Upper Lariang Watershed (530,000 ha), Central Sulawesi Province. GLA’s efforts mainly address poor natural resource governance at the village, district, province and national level. They do this by contributing to inclusive spatial planning, establishing a multi-stakeholder platform to improve natural resource governance, improving the practices of oil palm companies while resisting their expansion, and supporting communities in their conflicts with oil palm companies. GLA also lobbies government to accelerate social forestry (SF) and agrarian reform (TORA) and develop sustainable economic activities based on forest products and services.

CHANGES IN CONTEXT IN 2018 (ECONOMIC, POLITICAL, ENVIRONMENTAL, ETC.)

- Presidential campaigns have contributed to social fragmentation, which could lead to social conflicts even after the election;
- The Ministry of Environment and Forestry/MoEF’s policy and programmes (social forestry, agrarian reform/TORA, essential ecosystem areas, etc.) may be discontinued after the presidential election;
- Information about concession permits in non-state forest areas is not accessible, leading to poor land-based investment governance at the regional level;
- Governments at all levels lack commitment to Government Regulation No. 13/2017 on minimum forested areas in islands, leading to poor forest landscape governance;
- The EU policy on removing palm oil from transport fuel will have positive impacts (reduced deforestation, smallholders may gain windfall profits as they are excepted from the ban) and negative impacts (disincentive for palm oil certification, NGOs may be blamed). Indonesia has threatened to withdraw from the Paris Agreement.
- Due to the earthquake and tsunami in Central Sulawesi, GLA work in that area was halted for a considerable time, with partners turning to disaster relief. Work has now resumed. To an extent, the earthquake and the collective effort afterwards have contributed to stronger collaboration between civil society organisations.

MAIN EXPECTED OUTCOMES, 2020

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>MAIN EXPECTED OUTCOMES, 2020 (THEORY OF CHANGE)</th>
<th>PROGRESS IN 2018</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1 Spatial planning becomes more equitable and sustainable</td>
<td>Several villages in all three landscapes conducted participatory mapping and land-use planning as a basis for developing nature-based village projects, followed by other villages using their own resources. At least two districts governments agreed to apply inclusive Strategic Environmental Assessment as a basis for spatial plan review, and for policy and programmes.</td>
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<tr>
<td>2 Government, private sector, communities and CSOs coordinate interventions and investments at a landscape level</td>
<td>GLA partners successfully influenced the MoEF and High Conservation Value Resource Network to define a HCV landscape/jurisdictional approach, and supported them to develop guidelines. GLA partners also successfully facilitated stakeholders in essential ecosystem areas, social forestry areas and community management areas to establish multi-stakeholder platforms, and to develop collaborative action plans.</td>
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<tr>
<td>3 Oil palm growers sustainably manage their concession, while traders/buyers conduct sustainable trade</td>
<td>There are some improvements by oil palm companies; e.g., in High Conservation Value management and Corporate Social Responsibility, yet conflicts with communities persist. GLA has supported several communities to defend their land against violence related to large oil palm plantations and has stimulated MoEF to revoke industrial forest plantation permits in peatland production forests. GLA has also started to strengthen the capacities of independent oil palm smallholders in plantation practices.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4 Communities protect and use the forest for sustainable livelihoods</td>
<td>GLA has successfully facilitated villages to develop businesses based on forest-based sustainable livelihoods, e.g., ecotourism, non-timber forest products (rattan, orchids), organic farming, mushroom farming and micro-hydro power. Community members are encouraged to protect their forest through inter-village joint patrols, community journalism and sustainable livelihoods to prevent forest destruction. Several community groups (e.g., in West Sumatra) have been able to take action towards reclaiming seized land as a result of GLA capacity support (e.g., paralegal training) and joint action. GLA partners were also successful in ensuring legal follow-up on illegal resource use in some districts.</td>
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</table>
Local communities have a greater involvement in sustainable forest and land management

GLA has successfully proposed expansion of state forest areas for social forestry (SF) to the MoEF, and encouraged West Sumatra and West Kalimantan provincial governments to increase their SF target areas. So far, 30 villages (56,000 ha, more than 14,000 ha of which was approved in 2018) gained SF management rights in the GLA landscapes; another 14 villages are in various stages of the application process. Following permitting, GLA supported them to practise sustainable forest and livelihood management. GLA convinced the local Forest Management Unit to support the SF programme and reviewed the unit’s overlapping working areas with SF in West Sumatra and West Kalimantan.

REFLECTION ON 2018 RESULTS

• **On outcomes:** Good progress was made in the areas of more equitable and sustainable spatial planning and inclusive local governance; more coordinated interventions and investments at a landscape level; and community-based protection and use of the forest for sustainable local livelihoods. There were some improvements by oil palm companies, but conflicts with communities persist and the willingness of oil palm growers to sustainably manage their concessions, and of traders/buyers to conduct sustainable trade is lagging. GLA members assumed that oil palm companies sourced from independent smallholders; this was not true in the selected landscape, and this required us to focus on other aspects of the palm oil supply chain.

• **On strategies:** Training in participatory planning at the village level was important and effective in advancing the goals of the GLA. The preferred mode of capacity building was “learning by doing” — i.e., linking training to practical work. Shared capacity building and mutual empowerment were among the most common and most appreciated forms of collaboration between partners; partners find each other because of specific skills offered by another partner. Another factor driving partners together was the occurrence of the earthquake and tsunami in Lariang landscape, which spurred a joint activity to revise the spatial plan. More than half of the reported outcomes (40 out of 69 outcomes) were reported to have resulted from one form or another of evidence, illustrating the power of evidence. The strategy to influence big oil palm growers to map their supply chain was not successful, and GLA revised the strategy, turning to smallholder empowerment.

• **On gender:** Some outcomes show a change in gender equality, e.g., by developing economic activities (mushroom farming). The earthquake in Lariang led to the revival of the Pampa customary land system: this is land management for and by women, sometimes communal, sometimes individual. The custom was abandoned due to the emerging cash economy and the loss of support by men, but after the disaster it was re-established in some villages with support from GLA. The harvest was used to supply field kitchens after the earthquake. The participatory approaches to land-use planning all explicitly consider women.
LIBERIA - Country Programme

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

In Liberia, Milieudensie works with its local partner SDI/FoE Liberia; Tropenbos International works with VOSIEADA, and IUCN NL works with SCNL, in complementary efforts for the same landscape: Sinoe County. SDI supports communities in the Sinoe landscape that already have a Memorandum of Understanding with Golden Veroleum Liberia (GVL) and it helps communities in the early phases of negotiations to advocate more strongly in the negotiations. VOSIEADA is building the capacity of local community organisations in the Sinoe landscape on forest governance and community leadership and accountability. It targets a company that is logging illegally in Numopoh and achieved progress in that the Forestry Development Authority (FDA) is now researching this company. SCNL works with communities around Sapo National Park to improve park management and prevent destructive activities such as mining in the park.

CHANGES IN CONTEXT IN 2018 (ECONOMIC, POLITICAL, ENVIRONMENTAL, ETC.)

- In 2018 the Land Rights Act was passed after more than ten years of campaigning. This is a turning point for community rights, especially in the forest areas of Liberia. The new law means that for the first time, communities will have legal ownership over their customary lands. The implementation of this law faces many challenges, including loopholes that can be misused by corporate actors to exploit communities. And a huge challenge is that the Liberian Land Authority does not have yet the capacity and resources to implement the Land Rights Act. However, there are opportunities for communities that are engaged in community-based forest management, because their land rights are much clearer and stronger with the new law in place.
- For the palm oil sector, not much has changed in Liberia. Voluntary certification has shown its limitations, as when GVL quit the Roundtable on Sustainable Palm Oil (RSPO) after a damning decision by the RSPO complaints panel. The outgrower models are not functioning, communities are not getting the benefits they have a right to, and intimidation and rights violations occur daily.

MAIN EXPECTED OUTCOMES, 2020 (THEORY OF CHANGE)

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<tr>
<th>MAIN EXPECTED OUTCOMES, 2020</th>
<th>PROGRESS IN 2018</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1 Lawmakers pass legislation on concessions and land that reflect the concerns of rural communities whose livelihoods are affected by the concessionaires</td>
<td>• In September, the President of Liberia signed the Land Rights Act, which legalises communities’ customary ownership of their lands.</td>
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<td>2 Communities make demands on government and concessionaires in the implementation of policies and laws on forest and land management</td>
<td>• A logging company agreed to stop harvesting logs in the seven forests blocks around the buffer zone of Sapo National Park after pressure from communities that were consulted by FDA (through a stakeholder meeting) • NGOs that are operating around the park are joining together in their efforts on the management of the park.</td>
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<tr>
<td>3 NGOs and CSOs hold companies accountable for human rights violations in their concession areas</td>
<td>• The NGO Coalition of Liberia has taken a strong and public stand to support the Numopoh community in claiming its rights, and the benefits from the Delta Timber Company (DTC) that are due to them. The FDA has reacted to community and civil society protest by committing to conducting investigations into DTC’s operations. • Capacity building by communities around the GVL palm oil plantations led to 15 reports on illicit conversion activities and rights violations around the plantations, making use of TIMBY (a mobile app for monitoring). • By strengthening their capacity, communities are in a stronger position in their negotiations with GVL and government authorities.</td>
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<tr>
<td>4 New legislation in the agricultural sector that protects community rights is enacted</td>
<td>• The RSPO Complaints Panel issued its final decision that recognised the community complaints against GVL filed by Butaw, Tarjuowon, Du Wollee Nyennue and Numopoh in Sinoe County in 2012. The decision required GVL to stop work on disputed lands and address FPIC, human rights, and environment.</td>
</tr>
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</table>
### CSOs and INGOs influence EU/US policies that have an influence on forests and land in Liberia
- SDI has engaged in several international campaigns that have led to improved national and international (including the U.S. and NL) attitudes to regulating the financiers of agri-business.
- The Liberian civil society oil palm working group has grown to 13 official and 3 affiliate members. They are engaging governments and oil palm companies at the national and international level to improve policies and practices. This working group (which includes GLA) has been recognised by the Liberian government.

### Concessionaries comply with national and international laws
- The Numopoh community has publicly denounced the Delta Timber Company (DTC). It has requested that FDA stop the company from operating. The community has also stopped DTC itself several times when the company wanted to enter community forests to cut more trees. It has requested legal support.

### Providing alternative livelihood options for communities affected by the SAPO Declaration
- 8 of 9 communities in the landscape have agreed to engage in cassava production with support from SCNL as a livelihood initiative. The intention is to reduce pressure on the park for livelihoods.

### REFLECTION ON 2018 RESULTS
- All GLA partners have put much effort into ensuring that communities increasingly hold logging companies (Vosieda, SCNL) and palm oil companies (SDI) accountable for human rights violations in their concession areas. They are also empowering communities to make demands for themselves of government and concessionaires in the implementation of policies and laws on forest and land management. The GLA partners are stepping up their efforts through the Oil Palm Working Group in Liberia — to assist communities in their struggles and promote alternative community-based economic development.
- In 2018, civil society groups started coordinating more. They realised that unity is important to combat counter forces such as businesses who supply illegal miners and hunters in Sapo National Park with their equipment.
- Improvement in gender equality is visible. Women are taking on leadership duties in the Site Support Group, pilot livelihood initiatives focus on women and youth, and women’s involvement in the engagement of duty bearers is promoted. Annual women’s conferences on land and natural resources over the past two years have broadened the interest of women in county-level decision making, especially related to land and forest resources. In addition, women in government at the county level are using these conferences to actively push for more women to engage and take on leadership positions within the county.
WHERE WE WORK, THE PROBLEM WE WORK ON, AND OUR APPROACH

In Nigeria, the GLA programme is a collaboration between Environmental Rights Action (ERA) and two coalitions of community-based organisations: one on crude oil in the Niger River Delta, and one on palm oil in Edo State and Cross River State. Milieudefensie and Friends of the Earth Europe cooperate closely with ERA in the Nigeria programme for mutual capacity building and joint lobbying and litigation. The GLA programme addresses two major issues: rights violations and environmental degradation caused by the impacts of crude oil extraction and large-scale palm oil plantations. The activities related to both oils pose a severe threat to forested landscapes, through deforestation or degradation of forested areas. Consequently, they have a significant impact on livelihoods in Nigeria. The focus of the GLA programme is protecting forested landscapes and livelihoods through supporting community land rights. To achieve this, the GLA focuses on using evidence-based research on the socio-economic impacts of crude oil and palm oil to raise awareness and support the lobbying and advocacy process. Building coalitions and capacity are also central to the programme, in particular the capacity of coalitions and communities to engage with the relevant authorities. The programme also uses litigation to stop new and existing plantations, enforce land rights and halt oil and gas exploration.

CHANGES IN CONTEXT IN 2018 (ECONOMIC, POLITICAL, ENVIRONMENTAL, ETC.)

2018 has seen violent conflict in the Niger River Delta region. The government failed to intervene in some areas. In addition, private companies were clearly reluctant to change their unsustainable behaviour and practices. Finally, threats to community activists have increased as a result of a shrinking civic space.

In January 2018, the Edo State government, in their quest for job creation and economic development, allegedly allotted more land to Okomu Oil Palm PLC for expansion of their oil palm plantations. This has a negative impact on GLA’s goal of reducing such expansion.

MAIN EXPECTED OUTCOMES, 2020 (THEORY OF CHANGE) | PROGRESS IN 2018
--- | ---
1. The Nigerian government changes its policies and laws to protect community rights, hold companies accountable for their impacts, and ensure the implementation of these policies and laws | Crude oil:
- Notable progress was made in influencing the national government; for instance, when the House of Representatives Committee on Environment and Habitat inaugurated the National Technical Committee. ERA is a member of this committee, which advises the government on the National Oil Spill Detection and Response Agency’s amendment bill.
- For years, international and Nigerian CSOs, including the GLA, have been urging the government in joint campaigns to ensure that the clean-up of Ogoniland is carried out according to UNEP recommendations. In 2017 only US$ 10 million was released to the Hydrocarbon Pollution Remediation Project, the UN body overseeing the clean-up. However, our pressure has resulted in oil companies paying US$ 180 million to for the clean-up. Contractors were mobilised, though the actual clean-up has not yet begun.

2. Companies no longer implement large-scale plantations and oil extraction projects that cause deforestation, land and forest degradation that negatively affect local people’s rights and livelihoods, and they abide by Nigerian laws | In 2018, the GLA increased legislators’ awareness of the negative impact of oil palm plantations in Cross River State. We expect this will lead to stricter regulations by the government and a halt to investment in large-scale oil palm plantations in the region.

3. Local communities defend their rights and promote their own sustainable livelihood systems to companies and governments | • We can see real progress in the strength of communities in the landscape to stand up for their rights.

Palm oil:
- Training in field monitoring for community members has helped to build their capacity to monitor and report on land grabbing for oil palm plantations expansion. This has empowered community members to take action. For example, a farmer from Odiguetue community took legal action against Okomu Oil Palm PLC in order to address the destruction of people’s livelihoods in his community. This was the first time one of the aggrieved farmers approached ERA and sought redress through a court case against Okomu; such action is unusual because of fear of retaliation by the company. The GLA assisted the farmer, resulting in a first hearing later in the year.
### Crude oil

- Field monitors were also trained to monitor the clean-up process to ensure community ownership. The monitoring resulted in the publication of Ogoni Clean Up: *When will clean up start and when will the first drop of oil be cleaned up?* This was distributed and will be used as part of follow-up training.

### Palm oil

- The GLA campaigned against land grabbing and the activities of Wimar in Cross River State, including an advocacy visit to the state’s House of Assembly, which received widespread media attention. As a result, the Investigation Manager of the Roundtable on Sustainable Palm Oil (RSPO) acknowledged the campaign and requested ERA to channel their concerns to RSPO’s complaints system.

### Crude oil:

- For the first time, the body mandated by the Federal Republic of Nigeria to oversee the clean-up of Ogoniland (HYPREP) openly responded in the media to ERA’s demands. Although some responses to the media coverage were negative, HYPREP’s action demonstrates that it is aware that it is monitored and that it needs to effectively implement the clean-up.

### REFLECTION ON 2018 RESULTS

- The Nigeria country programme saw valuable results in 2018, but many of these results were due to multi-year processes. The outcomes achieved on the UNEP clean-up by HYPREP, for example, followed years of campaigning, mobilisation and media reports. The lesson learned is that although progress can be slow it is worthwhile to put continuous pressure on the government and the oil companies.

- We are satisfied with the progress we have made in the campaign against oil palm expansion in Cross River State. State legislators are more willing to listen to the communities and take steps to address the communities’ grievances.

- This success can be traced back to GLA’s capacity-building efforts. We prioritised policy engagement and advocacy skills in 2018 for the crude oil and palm oil coalition members. This resulted in real ownership of the coalitions in the campaign, which was apparent when the communities and CBOs took the lead in organising protests, including a women-led protest against land grabbing in Edo State.
PHILIPPINES - Country Programme

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

The GLA works in three landscapes in the Philippines: the Cagayan de Oro (CDO) river basin, Maguindanao Province in Mindanao and the Sierra Madre landscape in Luzon. Indigenous Peoples (IPs) are present in all landscapes and have an important role in forest management and use, but have a limited say in governance. The GLA partners aim to strengthen the role of IPs and forest-dependent communities, local governance and tenure arrangements and foster the implementation of sustainable practices by communities and other stakeholders. In addition to work at landscape level, GLA partners operate at the national level and increase the capacities of national and landscape actors to support collaborative efforts on landscape governance.

CHANGES IN CONTEXT IN 2018 (ECONOMIC, POLITICAL, ENVIRONMENTAL, ETC.)

The ability to operate at the local and national level continues to decrease. In the Bangsamoro Autonomous Region in Muslim Mindanao, the extension of martial law caused threats to local IP leaders. In addition, the national government issued guidelines requiring CSOs to report on their activities, which may be used against them. Several developments in the three landscapes pose a major challenge for partners, such as the proposed construction of the Kaliwa dam in the Sierra Madre, the construction of roads in several areas (often as part of the government’s “Build Build Build” project), and the expansion of palm oil in the Tagaloan River basin.

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<tr>
<th>MAIN EXPECTED OUTCOMES, 2020 (THEORY OF CHANGE)</th>
<th>PROGRESS IN 2018</th>
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| 1 Improved skills, knowledge and tools of CSOs and communities in lobby and advocacy work for tenure instruments, stricter enforcement of forest protection laws, and improved sustainable forest landscape management techniques | • As a prerequisite of the lobby and advocacy outcomes in the programme, the GLA invested in strengthening civil society. As a result, IP groups in the Sierra Madre, including women’s groups, established and applied for accreditation of IP organisations. The representation of IPs in the Protected Area Management Board of the Southern Sierra Madre Mountain Range also increased. GLA partners supported IPs in the FPIC process and in defending their rights in relation to the proposed Kaliwa dam.  
• CSOs shared good practices and challenges in landscape dialogues and improved the use of verified evidence, communication and networking for lobbying and advocacy purposes. |
| 2 Increased and strengthened influence of CSOs, forest dependent and indigenous communities in environmental and social justice policies and laws. | • GLA partners contributed to two major outcomes on improved rights to land for indigenous people. The newly signed Bangsamoro Organic Law (which provides for the Bangsamoro Region, replacing the former Autonomous Region in Muslim Mindanao) recognises indigenous peoples’ rights. This is the result of lobbying by GLA partners; these rights were overlooked in previous versions of the law.  
• The Committee on Indigenous Cultural Communities and Indigenous Peoples of the House of Representatives approved the Indigenous Peoples Conserved Territories and Areas bill. GLA partners and other CSOs provided important input to this bill. CSOs also contributed to the implementing rules and regulations of a new sustainable forest management act. |
| 3 Improved procedures by government agencies to recognise community tenure rights | • The leadership of the National Commission on Indigenous Peoples approved and awarded a Certificate of Recognition to Timuay Justice and Governance (an IP group) as the Indigenous Political Structure in their landscape in Maguindanao. |
| 4 Improve enforcement by government agencies of environmental and social justice laws and support for multi-stakeholder efforts in 1) community-led restoration, conservation and sustainable use of forests, 2) stricter compliance and community-based enforcement strategies, 3) improved river basin governance, and 4) implementing co-management | • The GLA was able to influence government actors, particularly in more inclusive governance of forests. For instance, the secretary of the Department of Environment and Natural Resources appointed 11 indigenous peoples as members of the Northern Sierra Madre Natural Park Protected Area Management Board and approved a strategic plan for the future of the park. The National Commission on Indigenous Peoples increased its support for the issuance of a certificate of affirmation. At the local level, the Municipal Local Government Unit of Tanay in the Province of Rizal recognised Indigenous Peoples Mandatory Representatives from an additional four barangay districts. |
| 5 | Multi-stakeholder groups and IP communities implement sustainable management of forest landscapes, revive traditional farming systems and pilot nature-based solution models | • In CDO, a local government unit utilised the maps of high risk areas produced by local GLA partners to prioritise restoration efforts in the city and reserved funds for their implementation. Another local government unit offered a plot of land for a restoration demonstration farm.  

• In the Maguindanao and the Sierra Madre landscapes, IP groups upscaled sustainable farming and livelihood practices, supported by local and provincial government units.  

• IP cultural advisors in the Tagaloan and CDO river basin expressed their support for legislation for Payment for Environmental Services.  

**REFLECTION ON 2018 RESULTS**

Overall, GLA partners are satisfied with progress toward the goals, although they face security issues and a number of threats to their landscapes (see above under Changes in Context). In Maguindanao, the awarding of Certificate of Recognition to the indigenous Timuay Justice and Governance (the indigenous political structure of the Teduray and Lambangian IPs) and recognition of IP rights in the *Bangsamoro Organic Law* is a major step forward in the safeguarding of IP rights to land. Partners in the Southern Sierra Madre had to shift their attention to the campaign on the proposed construction of the Kaliwa dam, which would threaten the area's IP and biodiversity. The GLA team can cope with these challenges because strong partnerships and networks have been established and mobilized. Elections delayed some activities of the partners, both at the landscape and the national level. Partners mostly used a dialogue approach to reach their outcomes.
WHERE WE WORK, THE PROBLEM WE WORK ON, AND OUR APPROACH

The GLA programme in Uganda is implemented in the Kalangala landscape, which comprises Kalangala and Buvuma districts on two islands in Lake Victoria: Bugala and Buvuma. This landscape was targeted because the two islands are in different phases of expansion of oil palm plantations by BIDCO, a multinational oil palm company. Oil palm has been established on Bugala for ten years; in Buvuma it is about to start. The Ugandan implementing partners, the National Association of Professional Environmentalists, and Ecological Trends Alliance, have worked at the local and national levels by engaging a range of stakeholders, in order to limit the environmental problems caused by oil palm and to safeguard forests for improved community livelihoods.

Strategies include engaging national and East African Legislative Assembly stakeholders, involving the media, stakeholder dialogues, multi-tier information dissemination and simulation games to sensitise stakeholders on impacts of oil palm. In addition, GLA partners have carried out exchange visits, evidence-based research, and GPS mapping of forest buffer zone encroachment and land grabbing. The programme also lodged a complaint on behalf of the communities to the compliance Advisor Ombudsman. In addition, the CSO partners built national and international networks and connected local struggles with international lobbying and advocacy by the GLA; for example, putting pressure on the World Bank.

CHANGES IN CONTEXT IN 2018 (ECONOMIC, POLITICAL, ENVIRONMENTAL, ETC.)

• The passing of the National Environment Act is a positive change because it has incorporated the potential for offsets, Payment for Ecosystem Services and economic valuation of resources in the new law.
• The proposed merging of the National Forestry Authority with its parent Ministry could disrupt progress and hinder the networks already created within the GLA.
• In spite of GLA engagement in 2018, a new phase of the International Fund for Agricultural Development’s funding for oil palm companies was approved.
• The operational context in Uganda is further limited; for instance, by the need to sign Memoranda of Understanding with the districts where NGOs work, which is a costly and time-consuming process. In addition, social media taxes and transaction taxes limit media engagement strategies and lead to communities reporting directly to NGOs on injustices at the landscape level, since they may not be able to afford the tax on social media. Some government officials have branded NGOs as saboteurs of government programmes on several occasions. Finally, the requirement for NGOs to register with the Financial Intelligence Authority and the implementation of the anti-money laundering act further limit NGOs’ ability to operate.

MAIN EXPECTED OUTCOMES, 2020

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<th>(THEORY OF CHANGE)</th>
<th>PROGRESS IN 2018</th>
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<tr>
<td>1 Oil palm expansion on both public and private lands is stopped</td>
<td>• An exemplary outcome of the progress in halting oil palm expansion, was the resistance of seven landlords with large areas of land to selling their land to the government for oil palm growing; instead, they used the land for growing food crops.</td>
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| 2 Empowered communities able to engage government and palm oil investors on rights-based advocacy | • GLA staff have the capacity to use GIS evidence-based research and simulation games as tools to raise community awareness of the impacts of oil palm growing.  
• The empowerment of communities in the landscape was evident when they boldly expressed their concerns and desires to high-level stakeholders. Another type of empowerment is evident in community members from villages in Buvuma District, who formed sustainability villages. In these villages, community members were trained to ensure that marginalised people were included in the development processes in their village and in coming up with solutions to sustainability problems together. |
| 3 Empowered, informed and supportive local and national governments understand the need for oil palm safeguards, and for protecting forests for improved community livelihoods | • Research and meetings between local stakeholders and researchers gave landscape stakeholders insight to the impacts of oil palm developments in Kalangala and Buvuma.  
• Notable outcomes were achieved where government officials implemented policies in favour of forest protection and community rights:  
• The Kalangala District Land Board started the process of providing land titles for eight farmers whose land was grabbed by an oil palm company. The process included surveying the land and signing transfer forms from the landlord to the complainants to enable title processing. |
| 4 | • The Buvuma District local government wrote to BIDCO to respect the 200-metre buffer zone, after the GLA notified it that BIDCO was not respecting it.  
|   | • The executive arm of the government withdrew amendment of Article 26 of the Constitution by Parliament, which would have given the government absolute power to acquire land for development without first compensating land-owners.  
|   | A strong and vibrant civil society has favourable conditions to operate  
|   | GLA has strengthened its partnership and partners are making use of each other’s strength and complementary roles and building synergies with the country’s other strategic partnership, SRJS, and with the partners in the Just Energy Transition thematic programme.  

**REFLECTION ON 2018 RESULTS**

• The Uganda programme has seen progress in the area of gender and women’s participation. For instance, women are getting more involved in counteracting the negative impacts of oil palm. In addition, when communities filed claims for land compensation, not just the men (which was usual in the past) but the women demanded compensation.  

• One of the more successful strategies of the programme was working with landlords in Buvuma who opposed land acquisition. This resulted in their acting as ambassadors and empowering communities. Working with the Royal Embassy of Netherlands was positive as well. GLA gave input to their five-year strategic plan, which was a real proof of partnership, to be followed up by a planned joint field trip to Kalangala.  

• Research as part of the Uganda programme has resulted in valuable lessons learned to be shared. Partners need to use their experiences in the existing oil palm areas to preemptively advocate in new areas marked for oil palm on the mainland. Communities need to be aware that research shows that instead of plantations bringing economic benefits, they jeopardise livelihoods. The profits of oil palm plantations are only short-term and only for those with more than 2.5 hectares of land. Plantations displace people and people face food insecurity because of oil palm; if there is not enough farmland, food has to be imported from the mainland at a higher price. Research also clarified that the situation on Buvuma, where oil palm development will mainly replace subsistence farming, is completely different from that in Kalangala, where plantations replaced forests. When people in Buvuma lose their land to plantations, this could lead to migration.
VIET NAM – Country Programme

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

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

CHANGES IN CONTEXT IN 2018 (ECONOMIC, POLITICAL, ENVIRONMENTAL, ETC.)

• The Law on Forestry and Law on Planning become effective on 1 January 2019. The new planning law will change the planning process to bring all sectoral plans together in a provincial master plan, but it is not yet clear how this will be implemented.
• A Strategy for Region IV Forest (Central Highlands) was discussed and finalised; it provides the policy framework for any activities in the forestry sector in the landscape.
• The Dak Lak Provincial People’s Committee approved the proposal on developing 18 solar energy projects in the Central Highlands (period 2018–20 and vision 2030), which might put additional pressure on land.
• The Voluntary Partnership Agreement (FLEGT-VPA) between Viet Nam and the EU was signed in 2018. The Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development will develop policy, technical guides and infrastructure for VPA implementation in 2019.

MAIN EXPECTED OUTCOMES, 2020 (THEORY OF CHANGE)

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<th>PROGRESS IN 2018</th>
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<tr>
<td>1 Forest owners restore and manage degraded forests</td>
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<td>(a) Selected households are now committed to implementing agroforestry combined with long rotation timber planting (as opposed to short-rotation acacia), and have developed skills in this model. (b) Based on support from GLA partners for participatory land-use planning, local authorities in Gung Re commune, together with local people, jointly revised their short- and long-term development plans and identified opportunities for restoration. (c) Through L&amp;A and facilitation by GLA partners, Lak Forestry Company in the Central Highlands decided to opt for co-management of parts of their forest land. This allows communities to secure access to land for restoration and at the same time reduces conflict between the community and the company.</td>
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<tr>
<td>2 Government reviews and reforms Law on Forestry, the Land Law, The Law on Planning and related natural resource policies (ICCA, PES, Forest Land Allocation, FLEGT-VPA) to be inclusive and sustainable</td>
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<tr>
<td>(a) GLA partners have successfully influenced the implementing regulations (policies and circulars) of the Law on Forestry, linking lawmakers and local people, to ensure that local concerns were heard and considered (including recognition of sacred forests, strengthening of community rights (tenure); and the right to participate in forest policy processes). (b) GLA provided evidence that led the government to effectively monitor land use and the management of land for state forest enterprises that was not used effectively. This led to a government decision to reallocate such lands to local people/communities. (c) A strong push from the Ministry to establish a monitoring and evaluation system for PES was a major achievement. GLA partners were involved in L&amp;A for developing a new Circular on PES under the Forestry Law and built capacity for PES monitoring for grassroots organisations. (d) Advocacy on ICCAs was strengthened through evidence provided by GLA partners. The topic was intensively discussed by parties and widely reported in the public media. Policy recommendations on ICCAs were presented to the Viet Nam Forest Protection and Development Fund.</td>
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<tr>
<td>3 The production of agro-commodities happens in a sustainable way; it does not lead to further deforestation, does not over-use water resources and companies implement practices that increase its resilience to climate change</td>
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<td>Some progress was made in establishing small-scale demonstrations of improved agroforestry and forest plantation practices. A model for so-called “landscape coffee” was adopted by a coffee company. A model to introduce long-rotation timber gained interest from potential investors and was supported and promoted by the provincial government. However, these achievements are smaller in scale than expected, probably because efforts in this area are relatively limited and the challenge is large.</td>
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REFLECTION ON 2018 RESULTS

- **On outcomes**: In the area of policy and advocacy the recognition of ethnic minorities’ livelihoods and traditional culture in law, and government support for PES were the two most significant achievements. Some progress was made in the area of restoring and managing degraded forests. Progress was limited in the area of climate-smart agricultural (agro-commodities) practices, and there were fewer outcomes in the area of the integrated landscape approach than in 2017.

- **On strategies**: Several strategies were used to achieve forest restoration: piloting models (transition from monoculture plantation to mixed agroforest/plantations) to show what works; identifying land-use conflicts (study) to show the extent of the problem and, through dialogue, make people aware of their rights and responsibilities in participatory land-use planning; and research and dialogue to build the relationship between a forest company and a community to identify an area for restoration with the participation of the community. Strategies that contributed to achievements in the area of policy development were building a strong coalition of CSOs, a strong organisational network with government, collaboration with media, the use of storytelling and fact-finding field trips, and direct collaboration with relevant committees of the National Assembly. However, the topic of illegal logging was not sufficiently addressed. Therefore, GLA partners decided to work more closely with other organisations and to explore the potential of an inventory of locally applied agroforestry models (made by a GLA partner) as the basis for follow-up steps.

- **On gender**: Women leaders used the skills they obtained from courses such as communication, networking, and landscape governance assessment, and spoke out their interests in public events and policy processes. One of the participants, Ms Chau, was identified as an inspirational example for many others. It is noted that working with women-led organisations is contributing to empowerment of women.
AGRO-COMMODITIES (AC) - Thematic Programme

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

The goal of the Agro-Commodities Programme is to decrease land-grabbing and tropical deforestation by addressing the international drivers of the expansion of unsustainable agro-commodities. Organisations in the programme (the three Dutch Alliance members and their GLA partners) aim to regulate the production, consumption and financing of agro-commodities, and to establish a more sustainable model that includes agro-ecology. GLA partners also works on voluntary measures and best practices in palm oil, soy and cocoa. The AC programme is executed at various levels, ranging from capacity building of local CSO partners to lobbying at the Dutch and EU level.

Combining international campaigning with bringing advocates from producer countries to policy makers in the Netherlands and the EU proved to be very effective. CSO partners underlined the need to eradicate palm oil and other vegetable oils from biofuels, which raised much interest on the part of policy makers. The lobby was based on solid research by CSOs from producing countries and on clear policy advice.

CHANGES IN CONTEXT IN 2018 (ECONOMIC, POLITICAL, ENVIRONMENTAL, ETC.)

- Due to the China –U.S. trade war, a great shift in EU soy imports took place. Currently the EU imports mainly from the U.S. and China buys more soy from South-America. Several European actors claim they have less leverage in combating deforestation in South-America as a result of this. However, this is likely a temporary situation and may shift back once relations between China and the U.S. improve.
- The European Commission and the French government, as well as a growing number of supermarkets, financiers, etc., have established regulations or policies to decrease or ban the use of palm oil. This has resulted in threats of a trade war from the Malaysian and Indonesian governments and increased lobby efforts by these governments and the palm oil corporations at the European level. This undermined policy achievements in the EU; e.g., loopholes were introduced in the RED delegated act to enable the continuation of palm oil use for biofuels.

MAIN EXPECTED OUTCOMES, 2020 (THEORY OF CHANGE)

| National-level policies and laws in the producing countries are improved and better implemented through support by international-level capacity building and collective actions, and through national regulations conforming to international standards and agreements | • Good progress was achieved in Cameroon and Paraguay, where companies increasingly complied with international standards (one company gave back 13,000 hectares of high-value forests that would otherwise have been converted) and a planned law that was potentially destructive for forests was stopped. In contrast, in Bolivia almost all soy is genetically modified and alternative production models have a low priority. |
| At the EU and international level, the financial sector is regulated to eliminate land grabbing and deforestation for agro-commodity expansion | • Good progress was achieved in the EU, where new regulations under the Sustainable Finance Action Plan strengthen environmental, social and governance criteria for transparency and due diligence. • Regulation through the UN Treaty on Business and Human Rights remains a slow process; the European Commission continues to block progress because of limited political will to establish binding rules for corporate entities. Some progress was achieved when the European Parliament adopted a resolution in support of the UN treaty process in October 2018. • In the EU-Indonesia trade negotiations, palm oil has become a controversial issue. GLA has been increasingly successful in mobilising its constituencies and collaborating to influence the negotiations. • After GLA’s campaigns, more and more financiers decided to stop financing controversial palm oil clients in 2018. |
| The EU carries out an ambitious Action Plan to address deforestation products in its market, including binding measures for trade and rules for the financial sector | • After many delays, the European Commission launched a consultation on an action plan against deforestation. In general, NGOs are stronger and more united in their call for legislation at the EU level to halt deforestation. • Input from Southern GLA partners to the EU action plan was used in an international policy paper that served as an input in the EC consultations. |
| The biofuel blending target in the EU is deleted and the biofuel demand from the EU no longer boosts the demand for agro-commodities | • In 2018, the European parliament adopted a law to phase out the highest-emitting biofuels made from palm and soybean oil, and to remove the target for food-based biofuels after 2020. Since this led to a counter-lobby, the GLA is continuing its campaigns on the issue. |
There is more uptake and policy support for best practices, including conservation measures and social, environmental and corporate integrity safeguards within the trade chains of palm oil, cocoa and soy

Policy makers increase their support for alternative production models, with more attention to the long-term environmental and social impacts of palm oil, cocoa and soy production

Policy makers and opinion leaders better understand alternative models (for food, fuel and development) due to info gathered and distributed by CSOs

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<tr>
<th>REFLECTION ON 2018 RESULTS</th>
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<tr>
<td>• There were tangible results in the programme in halting deforestation and increasing the resilience of communities in GLA focus countries, as well as in Paraguay and Cameroon.</td>
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<td>• Capacity building initiatives have been successful, in particular building research capacity for verified evidence and in security and risk management. The best results were achieved through learning-by-doing approaches with clear outputs (e.g., a report) and by meeting the needs of CSOs. There are opportunities for improvement, however, in using the evidence in lobbying and advocacy.</td>
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<td>• In terms of International policy, GLA celebrated the expected reduction in the consumption of palm oil for biofuels in the EU. This can reduce the expansion of palm oil plantations and lessen the resulting pressure on community lands and forests. Many other factors — such as market prices and international market flows play a role here and other countries who import vegetable oils or palm oil could learn from this experience. It remains important to not focus only on value chains or commodities, but to look at changing the system to increase local control and rights for people.</td>
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The Amsterdam Declarations Partnership has gained momentum in some countries of the EU. The GLA is lobbying within this platform for safeguards in soy and cocoa.

The EU experienced growing attention for alternative production models. In addition, the EU protein plan has received political support from the European Parliament. Reducing the consumption of meat and agro-commodities a has become more important in the plan.

GLA started to compile global experiences in inclusive small-holder palm oil production as alternatives to the large-scale plantation model.
FOREST LAND GOVERNANCE (FLG) - Thematic Programme

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

To promote sustainable and inclusive Forest and Land Governance, the GLA lobbies for improved international policy and supports capacity development for locally controlled forest and landscape management. The GLA aims to reduce illegal logging through monitoring and implementation of Voluntary Partnership Agreements under the EU Forest Law Enforcement, Governance and Trade Action Plan (VPA-FLEGT). GLA partners promote certification of forestry and landscape initiatives, and advocate for public-private financing for landscape management.

Milieudefensie, Tropenbos International and IUCN NL work together on this cause with Friends of the Earth International and national partners worldwide, using both different and complementary strategies.

CHANGES IN CONTEXT IN 2018 (ECONOMIC, POLITICAL, ENVIRONMENTAL, ETC.)

- An important development was the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD) increasingly embedding community-based land and forest management in its frameworks. This is important, because the negotiations for the post-2020 agenda have begun and the recent report from The Intergovernmental Science-Policy Platform on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services (IPBES) shows that the world’s food and ecological systems are on the brink of collapse. Therefore, GLA increased its engagement to increase its lobbying power and ensure that the alliance connects national issues to international initiatives. The GLA also promotes the establishment and recognition of Indigenous and Community-Conserved Areas (ICCAs) and ICCA legislation in GLA countries in Asia, South America and Africa. This is all the more urgent given the increased government and corporate land claims on indigenous territories and the conflicts and human rights violations connected to these claims.

- Corporate ambitions to compensate for CO2 emissions through the planting of trees are increasing in the context of the green energy transition and the Paris Agreement on climate. Attention needs to be given to ensure that such projects don’t introduce industrial tree plantations that could contribute to land rights violations and ecosystem conversion. We will monitor that such projects do not divert attention from deforestation in other areas and from decarbonizing the energy sector.

MAIN EXPECTED OUTCOMES, 2020 (THEORY OF CHANGE)

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<tr>
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<tr>
<td>1 International policies support locally controlled and sustainable management of forested landscapes</td>
<td>• The FLG programme is influencing the CBD to embed community-based forest management more effectively in CBD frameworks. The GLA will step up its efforts to engage national CSOs to ensure that international-level decisions are informed by national groups’ priorities and positions. It will also increase its lobbying at the national level to ensure that national governments implement international agreements.</td>
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<td>• With the Committee on World Food Security (CFS) and the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) there was less progress. An planned CFS event on the impact of large-scale plantations on food security did not take place, but GLA continues to lobby for it to happen in 2019. In terms of the UNFCCC Milieudefensie and FoEI are reviewing their strategy to halt the financialisation of nature.</td>
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<td>• GLA partners in West Africa have exchanged information about experiences with FPIC implementation. Through GLA’s focus on improving skills and tools for verified evidence and local monitoring of rights violations, the alliance is better able to address rights violations through campaigns that attracted extensive media attention and through a successful lobby, including at the international level. Currently, six Friends of the Earth (FoE) groups have started using TIMBY, an app for community-based monitoring of risks to nature and people’s rights. FoE is using this verified evidence in its national and international advocacy. GLA partners are stepping up their use of grievance mechanisms based on verified evidence.</td>
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<td>2 Illegal logging is diminished</td>
<td>• Good progress has been made to set up a network of forest monitors in West and Central Africa. FLEGT Watch is in final stages of development; it will allow authorities to improve the enforcement of forest laws through real-time satellite-based alerts, and will allow CSOs to obtain alerts.</td>
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### Certification of forestry, agro-forestry, commode-ties and landscapes is effectively scaled up

- The new standard of the Programme for the Endorsement of Forest Certification includes a reference to voluntary guidelines on the responsible governance of tenure of land, fisheries and forests in the context of national food security, a reference to human rights, more restrictions on conversion into plantations, and inclusion of trees outside the forest.

### Public and private finance support inclusive and sustainable management of forested landscapes

- GLA partners reflected on how to shift power using finance strategies at the landscape level. The challenge is not to work on concepts and theory, but to anchor the work in local communities and actors who depend on the landscape. Since companies base their decisions on economic considerations, NGOs have to learn how to better deal with this in their collaboration with companies.
- IUCN NL continued to promote the Landscape Investment and Finance Tool (LIFT) across landscapes. A large number of actors from the public and private sector engaged.
- The Restoration Opportunities Assessment Methodology has been applied in Viet Nam, and there has been an exchange about the methodology with actors from the Philippines and Indonesia.
- GLA partners were present at the Global Landscapes Forum and co-organised the landscape finance pavilion, increasing awareness and lobbying with private and public actors.
- The Landscape Governance Assessment tool was increasingly being adopted by other actors and CSOs across landscapes participated.
- The Landscape Assessment of Financial Flows (LAFF) tool was tested in Indonesia.

### Reflection on 2018 Results

- The GLA knows that it is on the right track, because other actors from the private and public sector and civil society are taking over or incorporating its positions, strategies and tools. For example, the Dutch climate fund — which included inclusive finance and mainstreaming of the landscape approach — is being used by other actors. The use of the TIMBY app is proliferating amongst CSOs to improve verified evidence gathering.
- Ongoing high-intensity capacity building and lobbying and advocacy contributes to collective progress in strengthening the legal and policy framework at the international level for local control.
- In its work on inclusive and green finance, the GLA contributes to a gradual shift in the financial sector toward green investment. This can slow deforestation rates when less finance is available for destructive projects and more finance is available for projects that explicitly consider the role of forests, the restoration of degraded ecosystems and the sustainable use of ecosystems and the services they provide.
JUST ENERGY TRANSITION (JET) - Thematic Programme

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 DRC and the Ituri landscape in Uganda. Millions of people in these three countries have limited access to energy and must rely on fuel wood and charcoal for cooking, which leads to deforestation. At the same time, governments predominantly rely on oil exploitation for their energy needs. The JET programme therefore aims for an inclusive and pro-people transition process, moving away from oil/fossil fuels toward renewable energy in a way that focuses on access to energy at the local level and exposes non-sustainable solutions.

JET activities include litigation and awareness raising on the impacts of fossil fuels. For example, it is claimed that fossil fuel exploitation will bring development in the global South, while it actually ends up fueling conflict, and harming the environment and human rights. The programme uses a range of capacity building strategies, e.g., learning-by-doing, community mobilisation, exchange visits and building alliances, as well as capacity building and advocacy for community-based renewable energy alternatives.

CHANGES IN CONTEXT IN 2018 (ECONOMIC, POLITICAL, ENVIRONMENTAL, ETC.)

Increasingly, partners’ focus goes beyond merely resisting oil/gas exploration toward addressing the need for an energy transition, including at the policy/political level. In their work, partners encounter challenges, such as continued insecurity in the targeted areas (due to the presence of armed groups), a challenging political environment and a strong lobby by the fossil fuel industry. All these factors contribute to a reduced scope for civil society activism. At the same time, oil exploration activities in the focus countries continue. In DRC, the government confirmed that Virunga and Salonga national parks will be opened up to oil exploration and drilling. In the Albertine Graben region in Uganda, oil projects moved forward despite criticism by civil society and a temporary halt of activities, as a result of mobilising communities and putting the limelight on violations in procedures.

MAIN EXPECTED OUTCOMES, 2020 (THEORY OF CHANGE)

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| 1 | CSOS are unified around a common ideology on inclusive and just energy transition | A core strategy in the JET programme is strengthening coalitions of CSOs working together toward a transition.
| | | • JET partners and like-minded organisations such as the Dutch and Nigerian labour unions reached common ground on what a just energy transition entails, and developed a joint manifesto in April 2018. In turn, the Nigerian partners developed a specific manifesto on renewable energy principles, strengthening their cooperation. Some Nigerian policy makers have already expressed their support for the principles. Subsequently, CSOs from 52 countries built a consensus on a just energy transition during a global conference on the topic.
| | | • In DRC and Uganda, JET partners strengthened a coalition with other CSOs and a global movement of activists to promote just and inclusive energy. |
| 2 | Relevant national government agencies in the African focus countries progressively promote an inclusive and just energy transition | Despite the lack of political will faced by the GLA partners, 2018 saw promising progress toward favourable policies for a just energy transition.
| | | • In June 2018, the Senate Committee Chair on Ecology and Climate Change in Nigeria announced his support for the draft National Renewable Energy Bill drafted by ERA, and promoted the transition from fossil fuels to renewable energy sources in Nigeria. This is a real breakthrough for the programme; the Nigerian government has changed from not recognising the JET concept to now considering a Renewable Energy bill.
<p>| | | • In August 2018, Uganda’s Rural Electrification Agency launched the Electricity Connections Policy. The target of the policy is to connect more than 1.9 million households in hard-to-reach areas in Kasese to off-grid solutions by 2027. |</p>
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<th>Best practices of community involvement in inclusive and just energy transition exist in the selected landscapes</th>
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<td>• In 2018, the programme engaged in capacity building and awareness raising for communities. This included high-quality audio-visual tools that highlighting the devastating impact of oil exploration developments in DRC and Uganda. As a result of capacity building in DRC, more people are convinced of the value of the equitable energy transition, which translates into behavioural and attitudinal change.</td>
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<td>• In Nigeria, communities in Edo, Delta, Rivers and Bayelsa states were made aware of the impacts of deforestation and climate change in combination with demonstrations of alternatives such as efficient cook stoves and solar energy. This resulted in increased purchase and use of alternative energy sources in the targeted communities.</td>
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<td>• In Uganda, local communities mobilised themselves against oil exploration developments in Virunga and Salonga national parks. The Ministry of Energy in Uganda committed to providing renewable (solar) energy as a result of advocacy by communities affected by oil exploitation.</td>
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<td>• In DRC, communities and CSOs engaged for the first time with the national government on the issue of renewable/alternative energy.</td>
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<td>New or existing oil exploration and extraction projects are delayed or halted</td>
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<td>• Partners continued with litigation against ENI and Shell in 2018 to demand the clean-up of Ogoniland, compensation for the victims and preventative action. As a result, ENI offered an out-of-court settlement to the affected communities.</td>
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<td>• An exchange between ERA and FoE Togo on the impact of fossil fuel industries on fisher communities has led to a campaign to halt oil extraction in Togo.</td>
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<td>• In November 2018, communities in Bullisa, Uganda openly denounced the Tilenga Oil Project’s ESIA study report in a public hearing attended by the company and government officials. They said that the report did not provide adequate mitigation to minimise conflicts over the use of transboundary resources.</td>
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**REFLECTION ON 2018 RESULTS**

- The JET programme gained momentum in 2018 by formulating joint manifestos on a just energy transition. Two international conferences on just energy transition contributed to enhancing CSOs’ capacity by building knowledge and consensus on what a just energy transition entails. The JET manifestos and research findings from both conferences will form the basis for joint campaigning and advocacy during 2019 and 2020.
- Communities in JET’s focus countries in Africa (Nigeria, DRC and Uganda) are mobilising to leave oil in the ground, but this is a realistic goal only if people have a sustainable energy alternative. In all JET countries, there is a lack of an enabling environment for the transition toward renewable energy. That is why the programme will continue to focus on setting the agenda at the government level, as well as engaging and mobilising communities.