

## Preserving a unique ecosystem with exceptional biodiversity in the Togo-Volta Highlands

<b>Pays</b>	Ghana
<b>Bénéficiaire</b>	Herp Conservation Ghana (HERP GHANA)
<b>Montant total du projet</b>	1 18 866 €
<b>Montant de la subvention</b>	36 700 € (31%)
<b>Partenaires financiers</b>	Rainforest Trust (39 014 €), New England Bioloab Foundation (5 152 €), Fondation Ensemble (4 900 €), Herp Ghana (33 100 €)
<b>Durée du projet</b>	18 mois
<b>Signature de la convention</b>	13 avril 2018

### CONTEXTE

The project intervention area will be located within the Togo-Volta Hills in Eastern Ghana (200 km North-East of Accra). These mountains contain many forest species that are isolated from the more expansive rain forest blocks to the west and east. It is therefore a priority conservation site that harbours endemic plants and animals. It is home for example to the critically endangered Togo slippery frog (*Conraua derooi*, CR) and at least five other threatened species (e.g. *Hyperolius torrentis*, EN, *Necrosyrtes monachus*, CR, *Phataginus tricuspis*, VU, *Phataginus tetradactyla*, VU, *Amietophrynus togoensis*, NT) and a very rare plant species.

Habitat degradation, forest loss and hunting are driving declines in wildlife population and destroying the unique ecosystem that support these endemic species. Frog Hunting is fun activity particularly high among the youth. Local people believe that eating the Togo slippery frogs' meat makes you immune to a number of diseases. In contrast to frog hunting, "bushmeat" hunting is perpetrated by the elderly folks mainly for the purpose of supplementing household income.

Uncontrolled extraction of water from the village stream also leads to reduce quantity and quality of stream water needed for successful frog tadpole development. Washing and bathing in the stream also releases toxic chemicals into the stream with possible catastrophic consequence on this critically endangered frog.

Herp Ghana was created in 2006 by a small amphibian conservation interest group at the Kwame Nkrumah University of Science and Technology and adopts participatory, interdisciplinary and trans-disciplinary approaches and / or processes to understand and mitigate threats to species and their habitat.

### OBJECTIFS

This project aims to strengthen protection of the unique biodiversity of the Volta-Togo Highlands of Ghana through promotion of community-based governance and management of natural resources and development of livelihoods compatible with biodiversity conservation.

### PRINCIPALES ACTIVITÉS

The expected outcomes of the project are:

- 3 Community Resource Management Committees (CRMC) and one Community Executive Committee (CEC) are set up to be both the implementing unit for the Community Resource Management Area (CREMA) initiative;



- the CREMA core area (300 ha) is demarcated and mapped out;
- the biodiversity and the hunting pressure are assessed through monitoring data collection;
- the ecotourism sector is strengthened and 25 eco-guards are trained and have increased their income.

Pour en savoir plus [www.ffem.fr](http://www.ffem.fr)  
Contact projet : Caleb OFORI  
[calebofori@gmail.com](mailto:calebofori@gmail.com)

