ADDENDUM 1

ADDITIONAL COMMENTS

(Submitted by members of the Expert Working Group on Culture and Social Complexity in collaboration with the authors and editors of the IUCN Action Plan for the Conservation of Western Chimpanzees 2019-2029)

PROPOSAL FOR A CONCERTED ACTION FOR THE NUT-CRACKING CHIMPANZEES OF WEST AFRICA (*Pan troglodytes verus*) ALREADY LISTED ON APPENDICES I AND II OF THE CONVENTION

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INFORMATION FROM THE DRAFT IUCN WESTERN CHIMPANZEE ACTION PLAN

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. UICN (2019). *Plan d'action régional pour la conservation des chimpanzés d'Afrique de l'ouest* (Pan troglodytes verus) *2019–2029*. Gland, Suisse: Groupe de spécialistes des primates de la CSE/UICN.

Executive Summary

In 2016, IUCN uplisted the western chimpanzee, *Pan troglodytes verus*, from "Endangered" to "Critically Endangered" (Humle *et al*. 2016), reflecting its increasingly dire conservation status. It has been extirpated in three countries – Burkina Faso, Togo and Benin – and today survives only in Côte d'Ivoire, Ghana, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Liberia, Mali, Senegal and Sierra Leone. Of the four recognised chimpanzee subspecies, *Pan troglodytes verus* under the greatest threat (Tranquilli *et al.* 2014; Humle *et al.* 2016). Recent estimates of population change have documented its decline in numbers (Kühl *et al.* 2017). Its population is estimated to have dropped by 80 per cent between 1990 and 2014, to approximately 52,800 individuals (Heinicke *et al.* 2019; Kühl *et al.* 2017). Concurrently, the four chimpanzee subspecies have experienced a range reduction of 20 per cent in just eight years. Much of this contraction can be linked to habitat loss, besides poaching and disease.

Amidst population declines, over 10 per cent of the current western chimpanzee population occupies habitat already earmarked for large-scale infrastructural plans (Heinicke *et al*. 2019b), and this in addition to extensive overlap with land earmarked or suitable for industrial extraction or agriculture (Rainer and Lanjouw 2014; Wich *et al*. 2014). Much of the subspecies' population remains unprotected, with only 17 per cent of western chimpanzees occurring in protected areas, leaving 83 per cent under no formal protection. This subspecies occurs in a region with high human population growth, exposing it to potential direct conflict with both large-scale and small-scale development. West Africa is anticipated to experience one of the world's highest rates of urban (Seto *et al.* 2012) and industrialised development (Rainer & Lanjouw 2017). Rates of habitat loss are unlikely to slow but rather are likely to escalate; future forest loss is estimated to reach 20 per cent by 2030, and over 60 per cent by the year 2050 (Palminteri *et al.* 2018). Nearly 40 per cent of these chimpanzees already live within 5 km of human settlements, and nearly 60 per cent within 5 km of a road (Heinicke *et al.* 2019b). There is, therefore, a pressing need to mitigate, reduce or remove ongoing threats in the face of the clear pattern of chimpanzee losses, and to capitalise on conservation opportunities as they arise.

In light of this, western chimpanzees are on a clear trajectory to extinction unless drastic measures are taken immediately. For this reason, a four-day workshop was convened in Monrovia, Liberia, in December 2017 to determine the actions needed to ensure the survival of western chimpanzees. Hosted by the Section on Great Apes of the IUCN SSC Primate Specialist Group (SGA), Flora & Fauna International (FFI) and the Forestry Development Authority of Liberia, the workshop brought together 62 participants, which included personnel from governmental departments of the eight countries of the western chimpanzee's range, donor organizations, conservation and civil-society non-governmental organizations (NGOs), and international scientists. This document reports on the outcomes of the workshop, and details a proposal for a path forward, providing a collective call for concrete action towards saving this subspecies.

The current plan describes the current status and threats to *P. t. verus*, based on expert evaluation of the scientific knowledge available to date. A considerable amount of new data has informed us as to the distribution and status patterns of this subspecies since the previous action plan, and a deep analysis of the threats to chimpanzee populations have led for a call to address these threats and drivers. Specifically, subsistence agriculture and poaching, including live capture, were identified as the two highest threats to chimpanzees, followed by industrial and artisanal mining, disease, negative interactions between people and chimpanzees, industrial agriculture and road infrastructure development. Multiple indirect drivers also continue to threaten chimpanzees in the region. They include inconsistencies in laws across countries, lack of consideration of chimpanzees in land-use planning, inadequate governance of industry, inadequate financial and logistical resources for chimpanzee conservation, and overall weak environmental governance.

The plan outlines actions, methods, and indicators, identifies implementers, and proposes a budget required for the completion of the objectives identified in each strategy. The aim of this document is to achieve a collective vision:

The extract below represents sections related to chimpanzee cultural and genetic diversity that are included in the Western Chimpanzee Action Plan.

Establish a Baseline of Cultural Diversity

Chimpanzees are well known to have culture, in which different communities demonstrate different cultural norms or behavioural variants. Chimpanzee cultural variation can differ across scales, ranging from neighbouring communities (see, for example, Luncz *et al.* 2012) to regions (see, for example, Kühl *et al.* 2019). Most of what we know about chimpanzee culture stems from long-term research sites (see, for example, Whiten *et al.* 1999), but our understanding of the behavioural repertoire of chimpanzees grows as an increasing number of unhabituated populations are monitored. It is therefore very likely that there are undiscovered cultural variants of chimpanzee behaviours. However, behavioural diversity is likely to decline across the western chimpanzee's geographic range if it is not considered during conservation planning (Kühl *et al.* 2019). We therefore need to better understand the influence of anthropogenic pressures on such trends and preserve population-level mechanisms by which cultural capacities are supported. In order to adequately conserve behavioural diversity, a baseline of cultural diversity across the western chimpanzee range must first be established to guide action and enhance the attention towards populations that may otherwise be considered of lower conservation value based on size and genetic diversity alone.

Objective 2.2: By early 2022, a baseline on behavioural and cultural diversity of western chimpanzees and their conservation is created.

Table 4-7. Actions needed to establish a baseline of cultural diversity

Actions	Methods	Indicators	Implementers
Establishment of a baseline understanding of the existing behavioural and cultural characteristics of western chimpanzee populations.	Undertake a review to identify gaps of existing published and unpublished data.	Database on behavioural and cultural diversity developed; geographic ranges of selected behaviours available. Report of data gaps published.	Research organizations: Max Planck Institute (MPI) (PanAf, the Pan African Programme: The Cultured Chimpanzee and A.P.E.S., the Ape Populations Environments Surveys Portal), African Primatological Society (APS), Centre Suisse de Recherche Scientifique (CSRS)
Development of a formal protocol to include collection of information on behavioural and cultural diversity into chimpanzee field surveys.	Establish a protocol by reviewing existing methodology as part of an SGA working group.	Final protocol is available.	The Section on Great Apes (SGA) of the IUCN SSC Primate Specialist Group
Identification of policies and conservation management practices into which conservation of behavioural and cultural diversity can be integrated, such as the Convention on Migratory Species, Protected Area (PA) management plans.	List policies and conservation management activities and identifying those in which the inclusion of the conservation of behavioural and cultural diversity would have the greatest impact.	List of policies and conservation management is available.	SGA
Development of a strategy to include the	Identify specific targets for the protection of	Strategy is available.	Research organizations: MPI (PanAf and A.P.E.S.),

protection of chimpanzee behavioural and cultural diversity into chimpanzee conservation.	behavioural and cultural diversity by a working group, which is then finalized by a stakeholder meeting.		APS, CSRS
Development of an indicator to measure progress of conservation targeted at behavioural and cultural diversity.	Develop a metric that measures the occurrence and abundance of select behavioural and cultural traits over time.	Indicator is available.	Research organizations: MPI (PanAf and A.P.E.S.), APS, CSRS

Incorporating Culture and Genetic Diversity in Land Use Planning (LUP)

The addition of culture and genetic diversity as conservation targets for western chimpanzees should encourage their incorporation into LUP processes.

Objective 6.14: By the end of 2028, an integrated land-use and chimpanzee population management plan incorporating cultural and genetic diversity is adopted by Range States.

Objective 6.15: By 2021, 40 per cent of existing regional multi-sectorial decision-making platforms (MSPs) contribute to strengthening the coordination of western chimpanzee conservation across range states.

Objective 6.16: By the end of 2021, stakeholders have engaged with or established regional platforms that incorporate chimpanzee cultural and genetic diversity into their planning.

Table 4-18 (cont.). Actions needed for integration of conservation planning into LUP across sectors and Strategic Environmental Assessments (SEAs)

Actions	Methods	Indicators	Implementers
Development of a standard approach for incorporating cultural and genetic diversity of chimpanzees into LUP that include the different stakeholder sectors.	Initiate stakeholder dialogue to develop standard approach.	Report providing recommendations for incorporating genetic and cultural chimpanzee diversity into LUP exercises.	The Great Apes Survival Partnership (GRASP), West Africa Biodiversity and Climate Change (WA-BiCC), Manu River Union, non-governmental organizations (NGOs), government representatives.

Objective 8.11: By the end of 2021, relevant stakeholders have publicly endorsed the value of genetic and cultural diversity of western chimpanzees.

Objective 8.12: By the end of 2023, the value of maintaining the cultural and genetic diversity of western chimpanzees is articulated in performance standards and policies of financing institutions and the private sector, and compliance to these standards is monitored.

Increase Awareness of the Value of Chimpanzee Genetic and Cultural Diversity

Lastly, as outlined in Strategy 2 (Research Gaps), chimpanzees are one of a few species which demonstrate culture across populations (see, for example, Whiten *et al.* 1999), and this warrants specific and targeted attention as a conservation tool (see, for example, Brakes *et al.* 2019; Kühl *et al.* 2019). Once sufficient cultural and genetic baselines are established (see Strategy 2: Research Gaps), therefore, efforts should be made across stakeholders not only to preserve chimpanzee numbers, but also to preserve cultural baselines on the merit of genetic and cultural diversity value. Campaigns focused on the communication of chimpanzee culture, its similarities to human culture, and the added conservation value of preserving cultural diversity should also be a priority, as well as outlining the need for preservationist actions that have been proposed here and by others.

Table 4-31. Actions needed to increase awareness of the value of chimpanzee genetic and cultural diversity

Actions	Methods	Indicators	Implementers
Development of a 'road map' to initiate awareness raising of the importance of cultural and genetic diversity of chimpanzees to policymakers.	Meeting of western chimpanzee conservation stakeholders.	Road map developed and distributed.	NGOs, research institutions
Conduct awareness, outreach and advocacy campaigns and capacity development to policy makers regarding chimpanzee cultural and genetic diversity.	Design an awareness and outreach campaign.	Language of cultural and genetic diversity incorporated into plans/policies of relevant stakeholders.	NGOs, researchers, environmental journalists, species working groups

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