

Organizational Profiles

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CENTER FOR APPLIED BIODIVERSITY SCIENCE (CABS)

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

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CONSERVATION INTERNATIONAL

Conservation International (CI) is an international, nonprofit organization based in Arlington, VA. CI's mission is to conserve the Earth's living natural heritage, our global biodiversity, and to demonstrate that human societies are able to live harmoniously with nature.

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CONSERVATION INTERNATIONAL GHANA

Conservation International Ghana's work started in 1990 with the Kakum National Park, where the habitat of globally threatened species was secured against further degradation and species extinction through innovative ecotourism development. To further secure Kakum National Park, CI-Ghana implemented the Cocoa Agro-forestry Programme in partnership

with Kuapa Kokoo, assisting cocoa farmers within the Kakum Conservation Area to adopt ecologically sustainable agronomic practices for increased production. This agroforestry initiative has provided a buffer zone and additional wildlife habitat for the threatened species within the park. As a result of CI-Ghana's interventions, Kakum National Park currently receives about 80,000 visitors annually, contributing significantly to the socio-economic development of Ghana.

From the project site at Kakum National Park, CI-Ghana has expanded its focus to the national level. CI-Ghana's work focuses on preventing species extinction, increasing protection and improving management of the remaining forest fragments, and the development of biodiversity corridors. To curb the threat of species extinction in Ghana, as a result of the bushmeat trade, CI-Ghana carried out a two-year nationwide bushmeat campaign. This was done in partnership with the Wildlife Division, Atomic Energy Commission, Ghana Standards Board, Food and Drugs Board, the Ministry of Food and Agriculture and the Environmental Protection Agency of Ghana. In partnership with the Ministry of Environment and Science, CI-Ghana provided technical support, secretariat and funding for the completion of the National Biodiversity Strategy for Ghana. To ensure the effective implementation of the strategy, CI-Ghana also provided technical support for the formulation of the action plan. Currently, CI-Ghana is represented on the National Biodiversity Committee in Ghana.

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