

Project Update: April 2021

Following obtaining the necessary permit from the Ministry of Scientific Research and Innovation (November 2020), the field campaign started. The following sites were visited between December 2020 and March 2021: Kribi, Nko'olong, Epimimbang, Niete, Mangamba, Njombe-Penja, Mbanga, Manjo, Loum.

Goliath frogs were observed at some sites: Nko'olong (four), Epimimbang (five), Mangamba (eight), Njombe-Penja (17). During our field trip several sympatric species as *Phrynobatrachus auritus*, *Petropetides* sp, *Leptopelis* spp, *Scotobleps gabonicus*, etc. were also observed.

A total of 12 focus group discussions were organised in five different villages. These meetings gathered a total of 454 participants. Discussion with locals were made essentially on their interaction with goliath frog, why they eat them and if they might be interested in other sources of proteins. Additionally, locals were asked what they would potentially need to renounce to goliath frog meat.

We are now actively preparing for the save the frog day where awareness will be further raised among various stakeholders on the need to conserve the amphibians and goliath frog particularly.

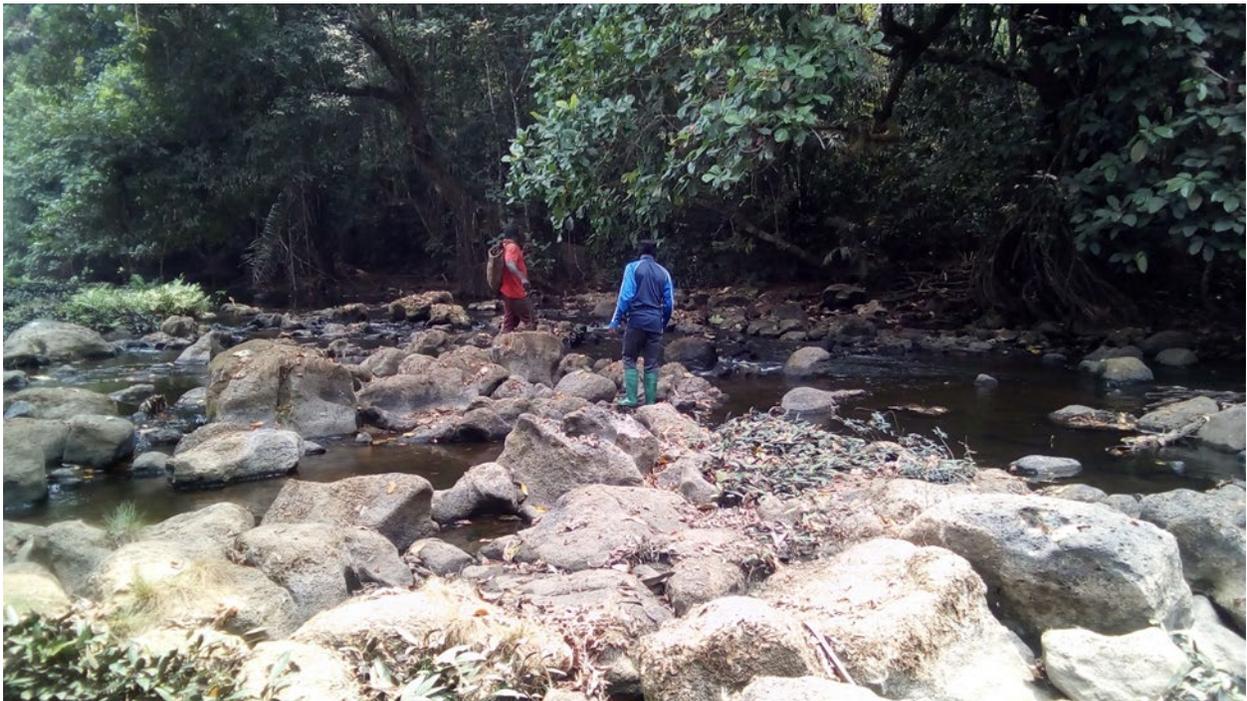


Figure 1: Team out for day reconnaissance survey in Goliath frog habitat.



Figure 2: Geraud Tasse actively searching for Goliath frogs.



Figure 1: Focus group discussion in Nko'olong.



Figure 2: Focus group discussion in Mangamba.



Figure 3 children interested in goliath frog in Mangamba



Figure 4: Juvenile Goliath frog observed in Epimimbang



Figure 5: observed Goliath frog nest with old eggs



Figure 6 Scotobleps gabonicus observed as partly sympatric to Goliath frogs



Figure 7: Anthropogenic disturbances: A woman using the water body harbouring Goliath for laundry



Figure 8: Forest burning is still practiced even in the vicinity of Goliath frog habitat



Figure 11: Fishing undertaken by various age groups in water bodies harbouring Goliath frog.