

Ecology and Conservation of the White-necked *Picathertes*

<u>Goal:</u> to enhance the conservation status of *Picathartes gymnocephalus*, while improving socio-economic opportunities for local communities.

Objectives

- 1. Increase understanding of *Picathartes* populations, reproduction, and habitat use within the Ayum, Subim and Bosam-bepo forest reserves.
- 2. Enhance local, national and sub-regional expertise for management of the *Picathartes* across its global range.
- 3. Develop livelihood opportunities in targeted project communities

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Current Conservation Efforts

- A habitat protection approach based on cocoa landscapes using CREMA.
 - Initial CREMA; 19 communities
 - 20 additional communities
- Livelihoods-cocoa productivity-climate smart approaches
- Climate Change
- Biodiversity monitoring
 - mammals
 - Birds (Rockfowl)
 - vegetation in cocoa landscapes

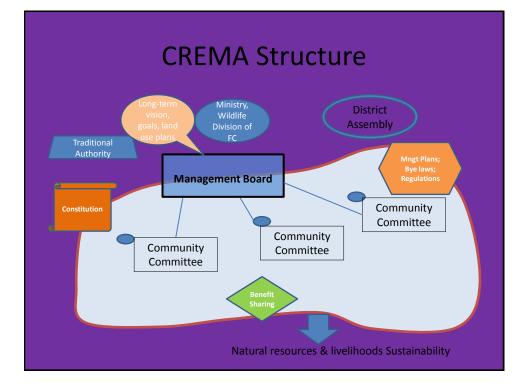
Approach to sustainability: CREMA

Originally focused on wildlife conservation and managementecotourism and NTFPs....on the fringes of PAs

Today adopted to general participatory governance of natural resources

A mechanism that devolves wildlife management authority to local communities

- Involves one or more communities
- Geographically defined area
- Based on existing community decision making structures with executive and constitution
- Institutional structures and processes are backed by a local government bye-law.



CREMA Roadmap

- Develop CREMA governance and management structures.
- Develop and approve CREMA constitution.
- Define the CREMA boundary
- Preparation and approval of Local Government Byelaw.
- Recognition of the CREMA by the Wildlife Division.
- Devolution of management authority by the Minister of Lands and NR

CREMA advantages toNRM Sustainability

- Well defined tenure on all aspects of NR
- Direct financial benefits to communities
- Enables landscape planning process
- Brings structured management to areas outside the PA system

Challenges

- Elite capture
- Conflicts
- Funding inadequacy

Conclusions

 CREMA seems the most viable democratic tool to community participation in natural resources management

