



IUCN SSC PSG SGA/SSA¹ ARRC (Avoid, Reduce, Restore and Conserve) Task Force

Status of the ARRC Task Force's engagement with the Dynamic Mining Bon Ami Bauxite Mining Project in Guinea

October 2nd, 2025

The Bon Ami Bauxite Project (hereafter referred to as 'project'), located in the Boké region of the Republic of Guinea, is being developed by Dynamic Mining. The project involves a bauxite mine and associated infrastructures, including a haul road to bring the ore from the mine to an export terminal near the Rio Nunez river. The project also consists of barging/transshipment operations to transport the bauxite down the Rio Nunez river to load onto ocean vessels. The presence of the Critically Endangered Western Chimpanzee (*Pan troglodytes verus*) has been confirmed within the project's area of influence, and the project first contacted the IUCN SSC PSG SGA/SSA ARRC Task Force in 2020 to align with the International Finance Corporation Performance Standard 6, GN73.

Engagement with the ARRC Task Force started in 2020, and an independent panel of experts provided guidance on its area of influence, chimpanzee baseline surveys and mitigation strategies aimed at addressing the project's impact on chimpanzees. Unfortunately, the ARRC Task Force has not seen much progress since the last 'Status of Engagement' letter was sent to the project in July 2024. In our last comments sent to the project in March 2024, we highlighted that the project's assessment of the residual impacts on chimpanzees was inadequate as it was based solely on habitat loss and failed to account for all direct and indirect impacts of the project on chimpanzees. We therefore recommended basing the estimate for residual impacts on a worse-case scenario which assumes that mitigation measures are ineffective and impacts on chimpanzees can be significant, i.e. using the upper limit of 44 individuals. Considering the 13-year duration of the project, the slow reproductive rate of chimpanzees and the time delay in developing and implementing an offset plan, as well as the risk of leakage of threats to chimpanzees outside the target offset area, we also noted that the preferred option from the project to offset with the COHAB project in the Fouta Djallon region of Guinea would not suffice to attain a Net Gain (NG).

We therefore recommended that offset actions and investment would need to occur across a wider landscape than the current remit of the COHAB project, or include additional sites, to achieve a NG of at least 44 individuals. The target offset site(s) will depend on the number of chimpanzees present, the threats they currently face, the sustainability and effectiveness of ongoing actions aimed at addressing these threats and the additionality that the project can offer to conserve chimpanzees at the offset site. A calculation of averted loss, accounting for time delays and uncertainties of success using a reasonable multiplier, then needs to be made to ascertain the appropriateness of offset options and the financial investment that would be

¹ International Union for the Conservation of Nature (IUCN) Species Survival Commission (SSC) Primate Specialist Group (PSG) Section on Great Apes (SGA) and Section on Small Apes (SSA)

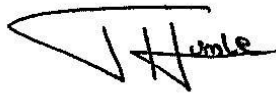
needed to achieve a NG of a minimum of 44 individuals. Also please kindly note that the ARRC Task Force is pushing for the permanence of offsets, and that the project therefore needs to ensure the long-term sustainability of the offset projects they will support.

In August 2025, we were recontacted by the project and had an online meeting. We highlighted then the need to:

- prepare and send us for review the Terms of Reference for the recruitment of the technical partner who will be gathering more detailed data on chimpanzees and the community conservation strategy that will inform revision/update of the Biodiversity Management Plan and refinement of residual impacts on chimpanzees, as we wish to ensure that the partner has the desired skills, e.g. expertise in chimpanzee survey and human-chimpanzee cohabitation and community-based conservation, expertise in data analysis and interpretation in a mining context ideally.
- ensure that the more detailed survey phase extends over at least 9 months, considering the time also for the analysis of the data and writing up the final report with revision of mitigation measures for direct and indirect impacts if/as needed.
- ensure that proper indicators with thresholds for the monitoring & evaluation are developed in a revised BMPP, and applied throughout the entire duration of the project, allowing also for adaptive management.
- develop a Biodiversity Offset Plan and start implementing the offset strategy asap.

Finally, as per our MoU with the project, we still expect the project to submit its chimpanzee survey data to the A.P.E.S. database.

Best regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'T. Humle', with a large, stylized initial 'T'.

Dr Tatyana Humle, Coordinator of the ARRC Task Force