



COP25  
Fauna & Flora International (FFI)

**WONEGIZI REDD+  
PROJECT,**  
*LOFA COUNTY, LIBERIA*

5<sup>TH</sup> DECEMBER 2019, MADRID

# FAUNA & FLORA INTERNATIONAL (FFI)



## ***Mission***

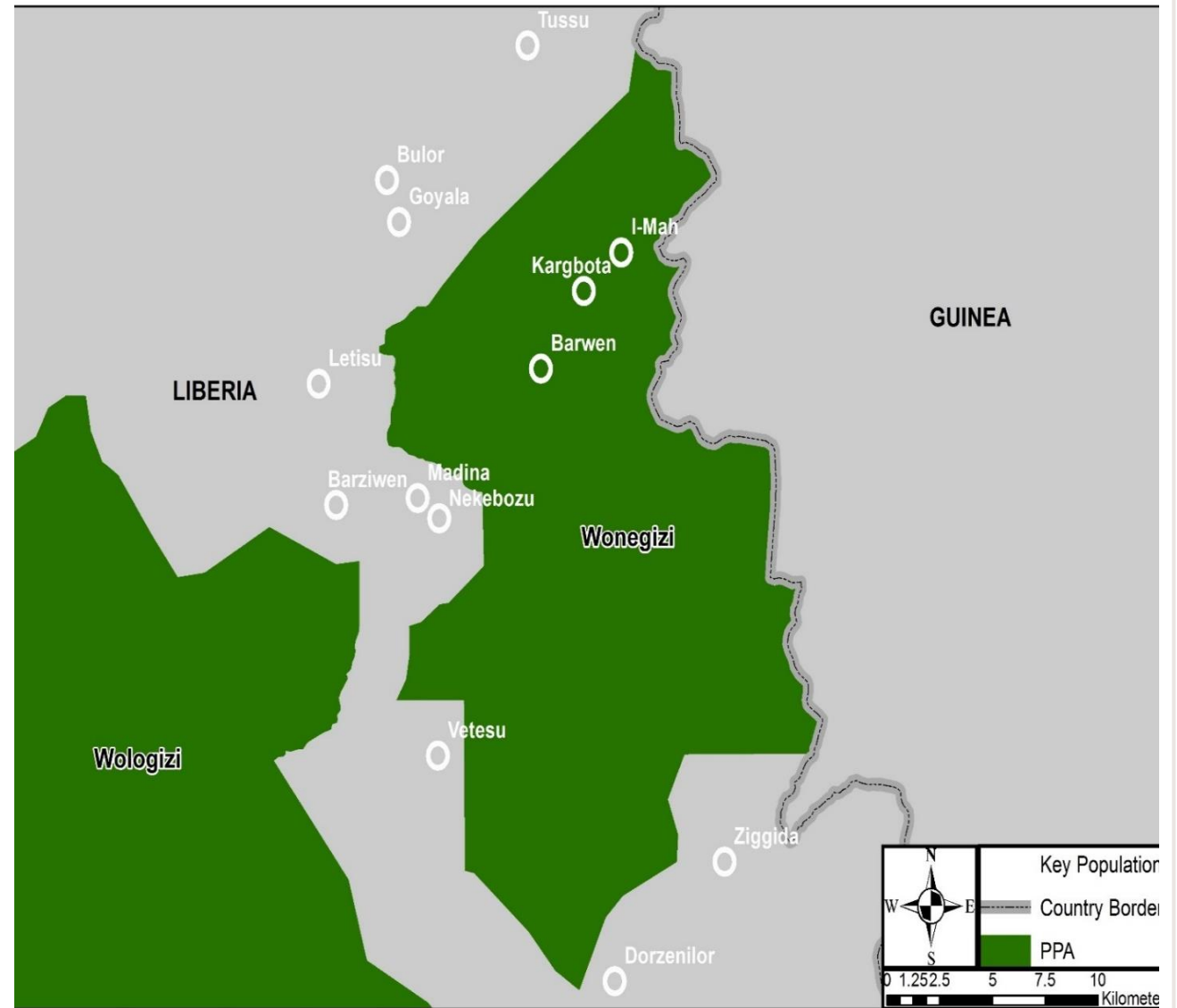
***To act to conserve threatened species and ecosystems worldwide, choosing solutions that are sustainable, based on sound science and take into account human needs***

- International Conservation NGO
- Founded in 1903
- Over 140 projects in 40 countries
- Commitment to local partnerships and capacity building
- Pursues innovative approaches to conservation



# WONEGIZI REDD+ PROJECT

- Partnership with the Government of Liberia FDA and Skills and Agricultural Development Services (SADS)
- Proposed Protected Area (PPA)
- 28,000+ ha high conservation value forest
- 10,000+ subsistence farmers, 13 towns
- REDD+ (VCS & CCBS) as a mechanism for threat mitigation and income for ecosystem protection and operationalisation of PPA



# WONEGIZI REDD+ PROJECT



- Gazettement of a PPA into a Multiple Use Reserve (MSUR)
- Co-management of MSUR including joint patrolling and biomonitoring
- Conservation agriculture transformation programme and Sustainable Livelihoods Activities

*E.g. Farmer Field Schools and Village Savings and Loan Association (VSLA) training, Participatory Market Systems Development (PMSD)*





# SAFEGUARD INFORMATION SYSTEM COMPLIANCE



- FFI is already complying through the application of the Climate, Community and Biodiversity Standard (Cancun Safeguards)
- FFI is preparing the submission for 2019 – Fieldwork ongoing





# STAKEHOLDER ENGAGEMENT AND FPIC - PROCESS

- Alignment with the National FPIC guidelines and CCB Standards
- Commitment to net positive community impact
- Parallel processes for the gazettement & REDD+

## Process:

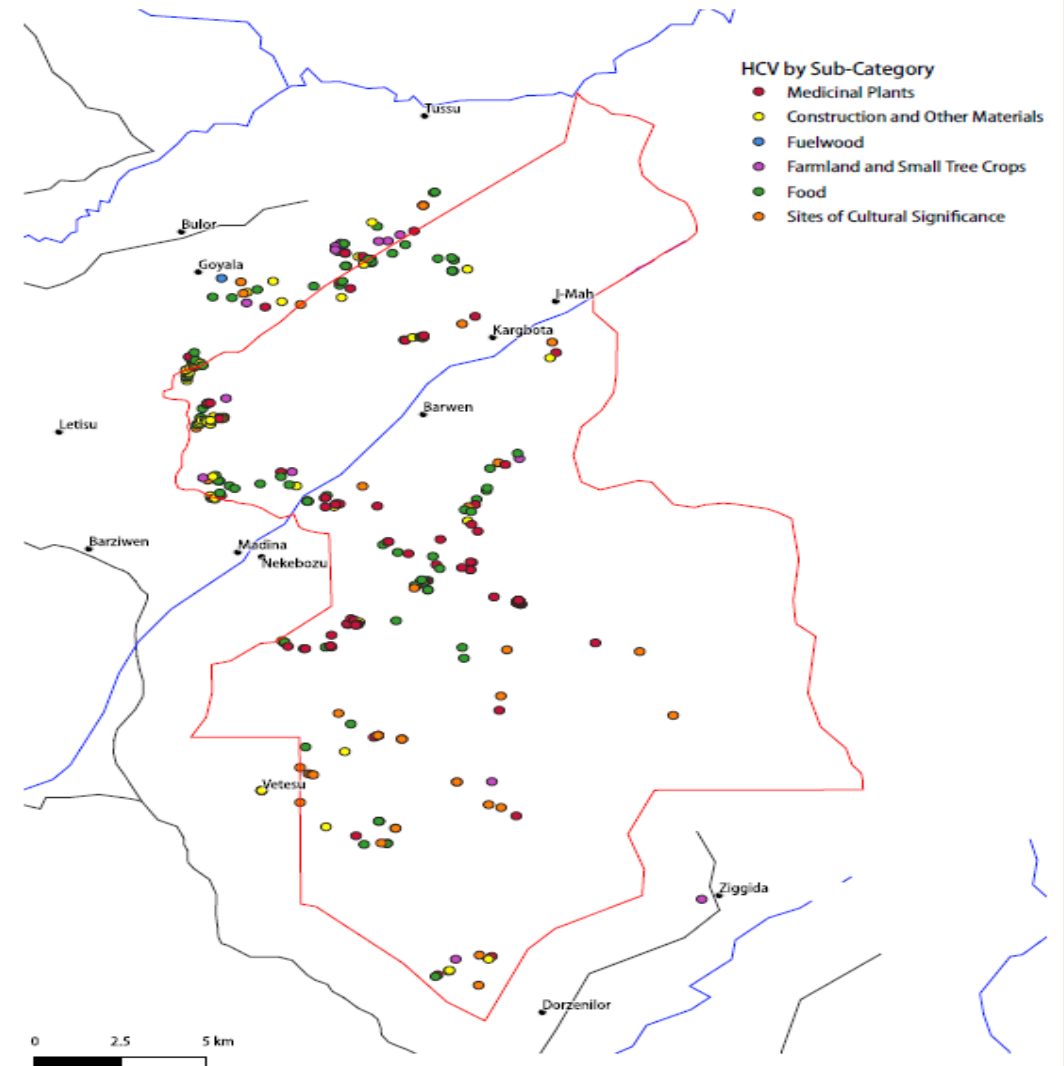
- Stakeholder mapping
- Catalogue of previous and ongoing land conflicts over the last 10 years
- Socio-economic baseline and SIAs
- HCV5&6 Assessment (basic necessities and cultural values)
- Continuous stakeholder engagement, with communities, government & civil society



# STAKEHOLDER ENGAGEMENT AND FPIC - REALITIES



- Extensive effort: over 150 community meetings in 2019 alone
- More than consultations, also collecting data communities need to make informed decisions (e.g. SIA, HCV, etc.)
- Provision of information in different format: posters, flyers, actual documents, translations in Liberian English/Lorma/Mandingo
- Land Rights Act: legal review commissioned, communities added
- Involvement of independent civil society organisation



# STAKEHOLDER ENGAGEMENT AND FPIC - REALITIES

- Iterative process, developing drafts and seeking feedback from communities
- No official/international agreement on what constitutes consent so it very much down to local conditions, each community will decide what consent means to them
- FPIC is ongoing process, communities might change their mind





# GRIEVANCE MECHANISM

- Draft project FGRM developed and socialised, but not formally operationalised
- Realities on the ground: constant presence, easier to address and resolve grievances by workstream
- Now adopting the GoL GRM and supporting local implementation in Wonegizi
- 2020: capacity building and training of GRCs and focal point, conflict management training, development of a community level documents, etc.



# FLAGGING AND LINE HARMONIZATION IN WONEGIZI

## Objectives:

- Wonegizi demarcated into management zones(core and multi-use) to provide environmental and financial benefits
- Communities aware of and in agreement with position of the boundary line.





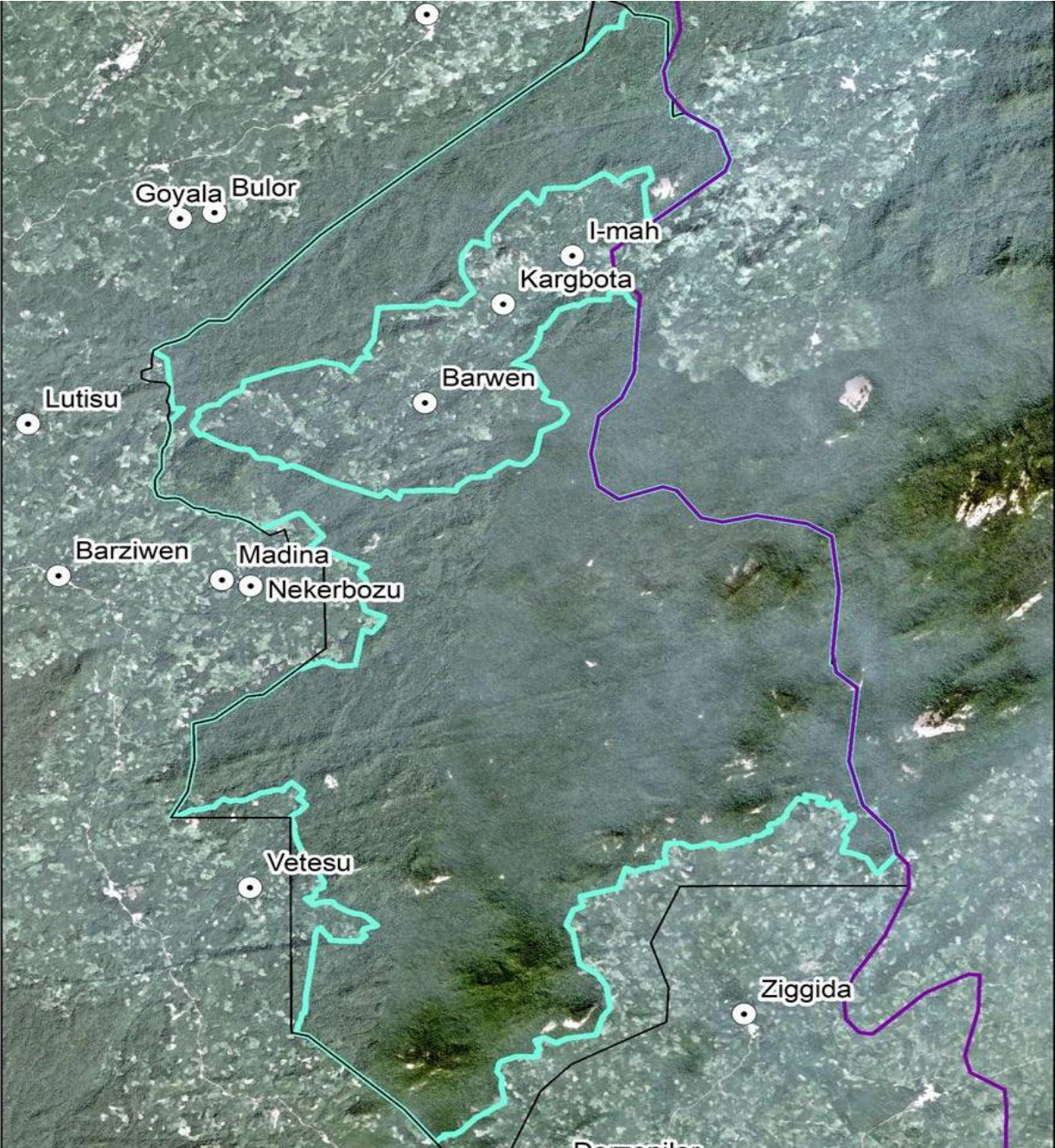
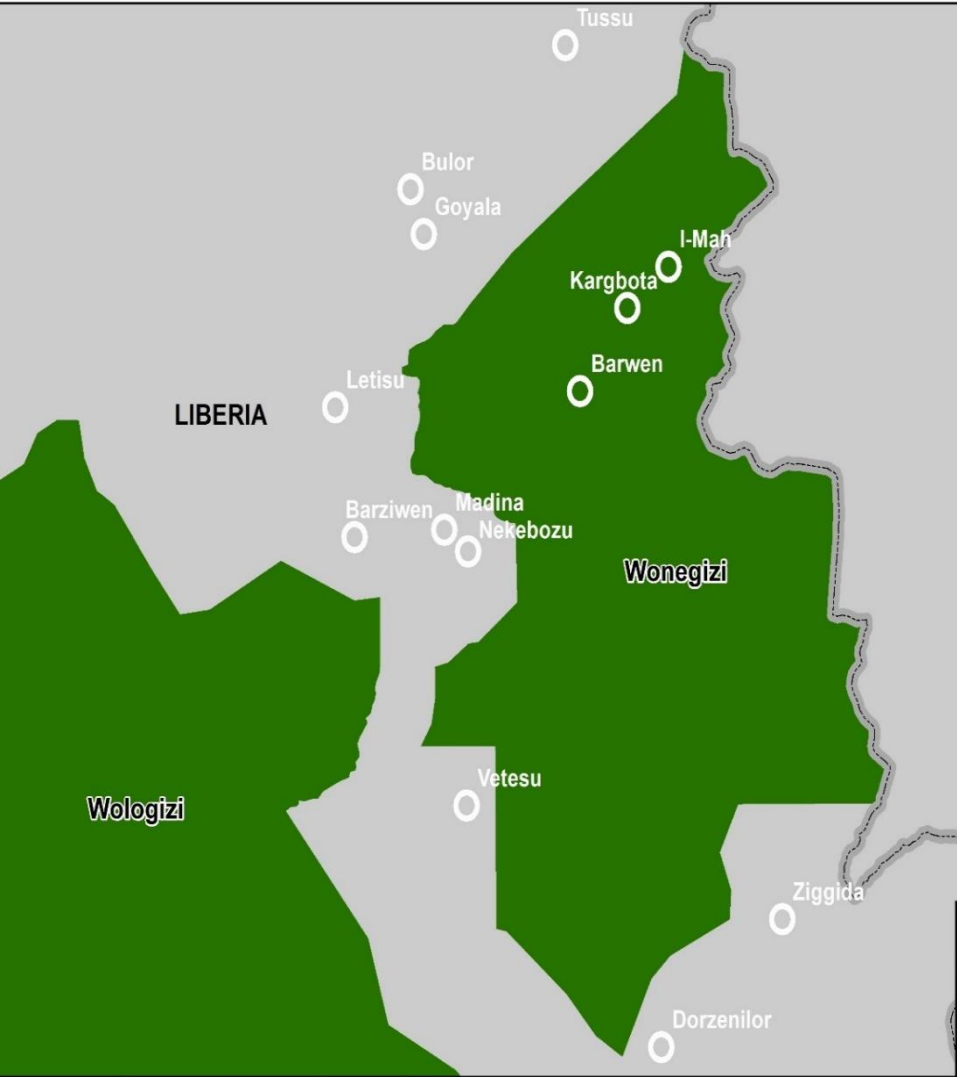
# THE DEMARCATION PROCESS

- Started by GOL (2013/2014)
- Process halted due to the Ebola Disease outbreak (2014)
- FFI and FDA resume demarcation in 2016 through:
- Sustained stakeholders engagement and involvement into the process
- Establishment of flagging line (10 months, Nov, 2016- Aug. 2017)
- Flagging line harmonization





# WONEGIZI MAP, BEFORE AND AFTER HARMONIZATION





## CHALLENGE

- Balancing agricultural expansion and conservation of resources.

## ACHIEVEMENTS

- Full community participation in agreeing the line as part of the broader consent process / effective resolution of community grievances leading to an agreed line





# Thank you

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