



# ANNUAL REPORT

**2025**



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## MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT OF THE NGO

*"Acting locally to respond to global  
emergencies in aquatic biodiversity  
conservation"*

**Dear partners, donors, friends,**

At the start of this new year, the entire Aquatic Species team would like to send you our best wishes for health, peace and hope.

The past year has reminded us how essential the protection of aquatic ecosystems is to the balance of our planet and the future of generations to come. Thanks to your commitment and trust, we have been able to consolidate our conservation, research and support actions in favour of aquatic biodiversity.

The year 2025 marked a new stage for Aquatic Species, with a change of presidency, the renewal of the executive board and the expansion of the board of directors, strengthening our governance and our collective vision.

Within this framework, we have continued to pursue structural projects, notably the national peatland mapping project with the Ministry of Water and Forests, as well as actions in favour of sustainable fishing in partnership with the Ministry of the Sea, Fisheries and the Blue Economy. At the same time, we supported 13 interns of all levels in Gabon and France, contributing to the emergence of a new generation of conservationists.

The coming year looks promising, driven by the commitment of everyone involved, new partnerships and the opening of new areas of intervention.

Thank you for being part of this collective adventure. May this new year be rich in projects and concrete progress for aquatic ecosystems and biodiversity.  
Wishing you all a very happy new year.



*Dr. Christy Achton Nkollo-Kema Kema*

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# 1. AQUATIC SPECIES ONG ?

## Who are we?

Aquatic Species NGO is a Gabonese organisation that brings together volunteers with diverse backgrounds and skills, united by a shared commitment to preserving aquatic biodiversity and future generations.



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### Vision

Preserved and sustainably managed aquatic ecosystems, where biodiversity contributes fully to the development, resilience and food security of populations.

### Missions

Conserving and promoting Gabon's aquatic biodiversity by combining science, fieldwork and community engagement for sustainable management and human well-being.

### Valeurs

- Science:** actions based on reliable data and knowledge.
- Communities:** participation and local knowledge at the heart of conservation.
- Commitment:** responsibility, integrity and sustainable action.
- Partnership:** cooperation and multi-stakeholder dialogue.



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## 2. STRATEGIC PRIORITIES

### Strategy 1 – Promote ecological research and monitoring

Promote scientific research and ecological monitoring, incorporating local ecological knowledge, in order to sustainably improve knowledge of aquatic biodiversity and its habitats and inform conservation decisions.



### Strategy 2 – Ensuring the conservation and sustainable management of aquatic ecosystems

Implement concrete actions in the field to protect, restore and sustainably manage priority aquatic ecosystems.



### Strategy 3 – Involve local communities in the conservation of aquatic ecosystems

Strengthen the involvement of local communities and promote sustainable practices that improve livelihoods and food security.



### Strategy 4 – Contribute to governance and advocacy for the sustainable management of aquatic ecosystems

Contribute to improving policies, legal frameworks and governance mechanisms related to aquatic biodiversity



### Strategy 5 – Encourage local community engagement

Increase public awareness, environmental education and youth engagement in the preservation of aquatic ecosystems.



### Strategy 6 – Partnerships and capacity building

Develop strategic partnerships and strengthen the technical and institutional capacities of conservation stakeholders.



### 3. RESULTS BY PROGRAMME



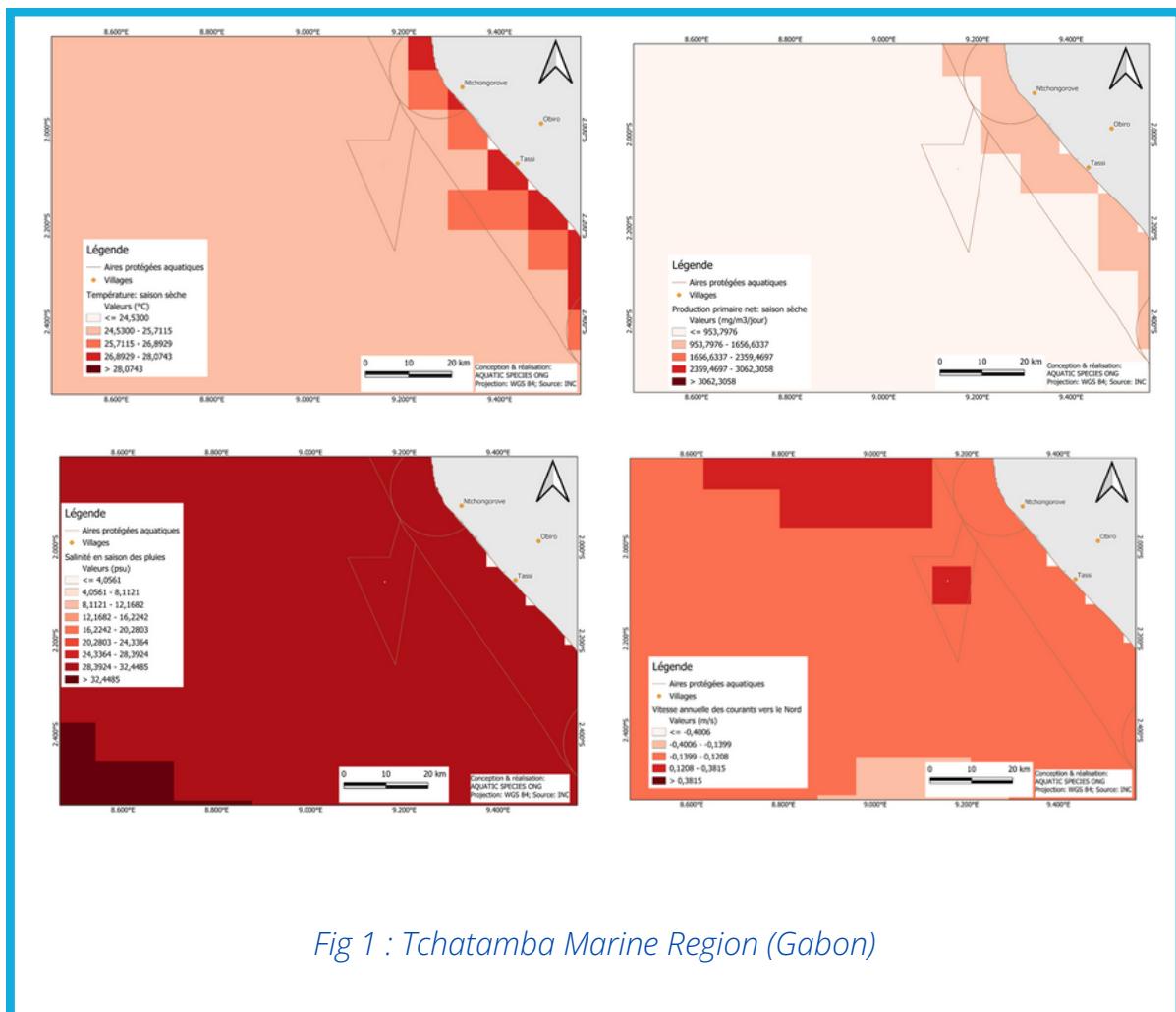
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## 3.1. OCEAN & WETLANDS PROGRAMME

*The objective of this programme is to conserve and restore Gabon's oceans and wetlands through science, ecological monitoring and support for local communities.*

### 3.1.1. Contribution to establishing an environmental baseline for the Tchatamba marine region (Gabon) in 2023

In 2025, Aquatic Species contributed to establishing a quantified environmental reference state for the Tchatamba marine area, based on four key physical-chemical indicators derived from 2023 satellite data: temperature (25–26 °C in the dry season,  $\approx$  24 °C in the rainy season,  $\leq$  6–7 °C at depth), salinity (> 33 to 20–24 psu), net primary production ( $\approx$  950–1600 to 1800–3600 mg/m<sup>3</sup>/day) and marine currents (up to  $\approx$  0.38 m/s towards the north), in order to strengthen ecological monitoring and environmental decision-making.



## ***Identification of a functional marine ecosystem with high ecological value: Tchatamba marine region***

*Scientific characterisation of marine diversity with the identification of 38 species, distributed between pelagic and benthic habitats, and calculation of high diversity indices ( $H' = 3.469$ ).*



*Fig 2 : Anatifes ( Lepas spp.)*



*Fig 3 : Ombrine ( Umbrina spp.)*

### **3.1.2. Establishment of collaboration with the non-governmental organisation The Nature Conservancy (TNC)**

A strategic meeting held with the NGO The Nature Conservancy (TNC) provided an opportunity to strengthen discussions on sustainable freshwater ecosystem management mechanisms, capitalise on TNC's experience in Bas-Ogooué, and identify concrete opportunities for multi-stakeholder collaboration to improve wetland governance and conservation.



*Fig 4 : Meeting between members of Aquatic Species and TNC*

### **3.1.3. Participation in the preview screening of the film Ocean on the African continent**

Institutional participation on 6 June 2025, in the preview screening of David Attenborough's film about the ocean, organised at the invitation of the Ministry of the Environment, helped to raise awareness of the challenges of preserving marine ecosystems and consolidate Aquatic Species NGO's advocacy for the conservation of marine and coastal environments among public actors.



### **3.1.4 Inter-institutional technical support for the collection and analysis of spatial data on peatlands in Gabon**

Technical support provided from 22 to 29 June 2025 by Aquatic Species NGO enabled the use of innovative technologies (aerial drones) as part of the peatland project led by the Laboratory of Geomatics, Applied Research and Consulting and the Directorate General of Aquatic Ecosystems at Loango National Park, strengthening spatial data collection, the accuracy of ecological monitoring and decision support for ecosystem conservation.



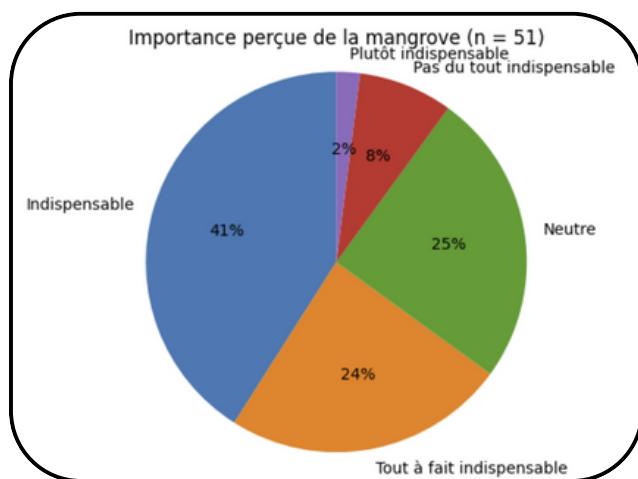
*Fig 5 : Peatland area in Loango Park*

### 3.1.5 LOPA wetland experimental plot

*Site Lopa is a wetland area composed of mangroves, located in Angondjé in the municipality of Akanda, northeast of the parliamentarians' housing estate on the left bank of the Angondjé River.*

65% of respondents consider mangroves to be essential or absolutely essential, confirming strong local recognition of their ecological and socio-environmental value.

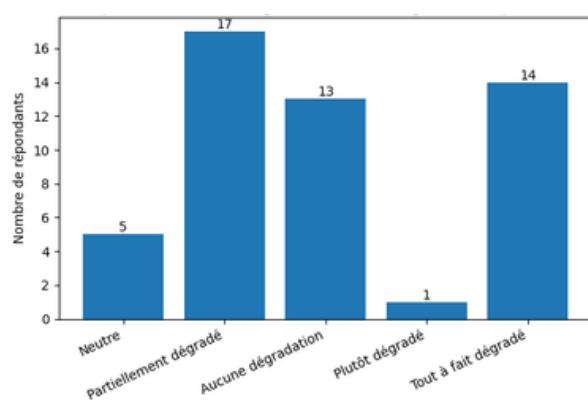
Conversely, 25% express a neutral perception and 10% consider them to be of little or no importance, revealing differences in perception that highlight the need to strengthen targeted awareness-raising and community involvement in order to consolidate support for conservation and sustainable management actions.



*Fig 6 : Perception of the LOPA mangrove forest*



*Fig 7 : Drone view of the LOPA wetland*



*Fig 8 : Perception of the state of degradation of the LOPA wetland*

Nearly two-thirds of respondents (63%) perceive partial to severe degradation of the mangroves at the Lopa site, while a quarter of respondents perceive no degradation, highlighting a contrast in perceptions and the need for actions combining ecological restoration and targeted awareness-raising.

## 3.2. SUSTAINABLE FISHERIES PROGRAMME

*The objective of this sustainable fishing programme is to contribute to the sustainability of Gabonese artisanal fisheries by producing reliable data, co-managing with communities and supporting fisheries governance.*

### 3.2.1. Support for the Kango fishing brigade

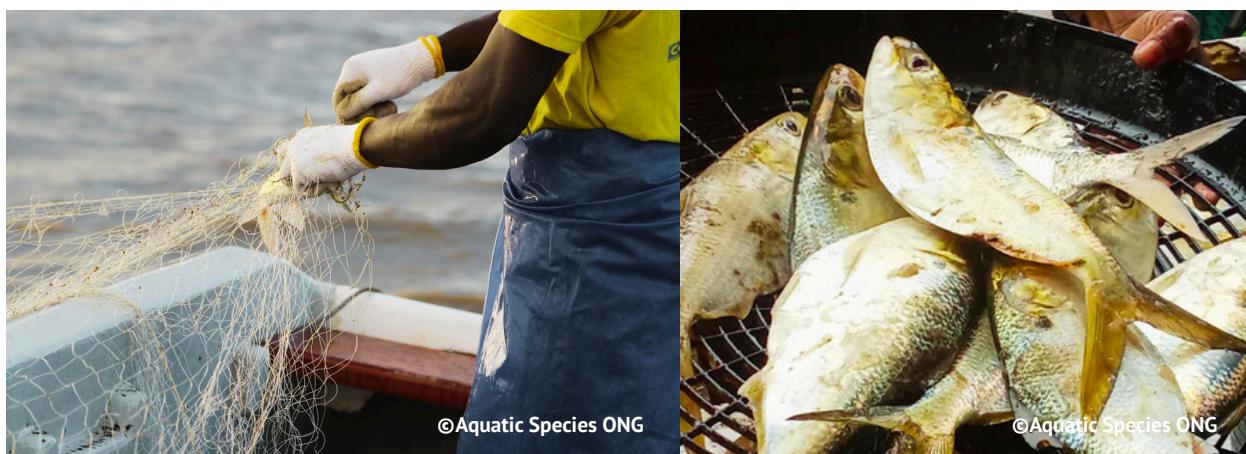
Support was provided for the installation of the Kango Fisheries Brigade sign on 28 January 2025, contributing to the strengthening of local fisheries governance, the visibility of fisheries control services and the promotion of sustainable and responsible fishing.



*Fig 9 : Signage for the brigade in Kango*

### 3.2.2. Biomass data collection in the Kango fishery

In collaboration with the Kango fisheries brigade, Aquatic Species NGO has compiled a fisheries database covering twelve consecutive months, from December 2024 to November 2025. This work has provided a better understanding of how the artisanal fishery in Kango operates and laid the operational foundations for a sustainable fishing system, supporting more responsible management of local fishery resources.



*Fig 10 : Overview of fishing activities in Kango area*

### 3.2.3. Monitoring of elasmobranchs in Kango

T Three areas (Lebhé, Maga, Aloum) have been identified as priority and sensitive sectors of the Kango fishery, based on a survey of fishermen conducted in 2025, providing an operational decision-making tool for targeting management, monitoring and co-management actions for fishery resources.

A peer-reviewed scientific article published on 31 December 2025 in the European Scientific Journal documented the distribution of elasmobranchs in the Komo Estuary based on the local ecological knowledge of fishing communities, providing a robust scientific basis for spatial planning, conservation and sustainable management of estuarine fisheries in Kango.



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## **Territorializing Aquatic Biodiversity: Local Ecological Knowledge (LEK) and Elasmobranch Distribution in the Kango Estuary (Gabon)**

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<https://doi.org/10.19044/esj.2025.v21n35p123>

[www.cujournal.org](http://www.cujournal.org)

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Fig 11 : Overview of paper published on the elasmobranchs in Kango area



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Fig 12 : Accidental catch of juvenile shark



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Fig 13 : Accidental stingray sting

### **3.2.4. Support for the mobilisation of funding for local communities of two Gabonese fishing cooperatives (Coopérative Équatoriale des Pêcheurs du Gabon – CEPG; Coopérative des Pêcheurs de Bambouchine – COPEB) in favour of sustainable fishing**

Aquatic Species NGO provided two targeted technical support initiatives, respectively to the Bambouchine Fishermen's Cooperative (COPEB) and the Equatorial Gabon Fishermen's Cooperative (CEPG), to mobilise funding for sustainable fishing. This support focused on the joint formulation of project concept notes, based on the needs expressed by the cooperatives, particularly in terms of strengthening fishing equipment, and aligned with national priorities for the sustainable management of fishery resources.

The project proposals were finalised and submitted on time to the Gabon Biodiversity Preservation Fund (FPBG) before the deadline of 23 November 2025, strengthening the capacity of COPEB and CEPG to access financing mechanisms and structure sustainable actions for the benefit of artisanal fishermen.



*Fig 14: Working session between members of the NGO Aquatic Species and members of the CEPG on the call for funding*



*Fig 15 : Working session between members of the NGO Aquatic Species and COPEB on the call for funding*

### 3.3. MANATEE & CROCODILE PROGRAMME

*The objective of this programme is to conserve the manatee (*Trichechus senegalensis*) and ensure the sustainable and regulated exploitation of the dwarf crocodile (*Osteolaemus tetraspis*) based on science and community co-management.*

#### 3.3.1. Presentation of preliminary project results to the Minister responsible for fisheries in Gabon

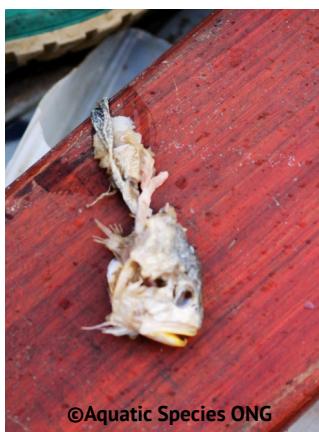
A high-level advocacy meeting held on 7 July 2025 with the Minister of Fisheries and Blue Economy mobilised the commitment of the government authority in charge of fisheries to the prospects for sustainable management of the conflict between fishermen and manatees in Kango.



*Fig 16 : Meeting with Ms. Laurence Ndong, Minister of Fisheries*

#### 3.3.2. Establishment of a database to monitor predation of fish by manatees

A database on the predation of fishery products by manatees was established over a one-year period (December 2024-November 2025), providing additional information on estimates of predicated catches, the identification of conflict areas and the fishing gear affected.



*Fig 17 : Fish preyed upon by manatees*

### 3.3.3. Participation in the UNDP Gabon Knowledge Fair

1 institutional advocacy action, carried out during the UNDP Gabon Knowledge Fair (3–5 June 2025), presented the initial results of the project on the conflict between fishermen and manatees in Kango, reinforcing the commitment of government members and highlighting the expected socio-economic benefits, including securing the livelihoods of fishermen and the sustainable management of aquatic resources.



*Fig 18 : Group photo featuring Mr Mays Mouissi, Minister for the Environment and Climate, Ms Gninga Chaning Zenaba, Minister for Entrepreneurship, Trade and SMEs, Ms Okanga-Guay, Director of LAGRAC, Mr Farelle Nzigou, Head of Department at AGEOS, Ms Nkollo - Kema Kema Christy Achtone, President of the NGO Aquatic Species*

### 3.3.4. Mapping of areas of conflict between manatees and fishing activity

A map of fishing gear and areas of conflict between fishermen and manatees was produced in the Kango region, providing a decision-making tool for conflict prevention and the implementation of appropriate management measures.



*Fig 19 : Manatee attacking fish caught in a net during a fishing trip*

### 3.3.5. Mapping of manatee stranding areas

In 2025, 100% of reports of stranded manatees (*Trichechus senegalensis*) were recorded in the database, i.e. five cases for which the causes of death could not be determined after external visual examination.



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Fig 20 : Manatee carcasses listed in the database

### 3.3.6. Testing mitigation measures for manatee predation in fishing nets

Pilot projects were carried out with fishermen in the Kango region to test the implementation of a measure to mitigate predation of nets by manatees, based on the use of an acoustic repellent. These actions pave the way for identifying operational solutions aimed at sustainably reducing conflicts between fishermen and manatees.



*Fig 21: Mitigation protocol pilot test mission*

### 3.3.7. Anthropogenic pressure on the dwarf crocodile in the Estuary region

80% of crocodile carcasses observed (4 out of 5) in the Estuary region were dwarf crocodiles (*Osteolaemus tetraspis*), compared to a single case of false gavial (*Mecistops leptorhynchus*), revealing significant anthropogenic pressure on this species and highlighting the need to strengthen management and sustainable exploitation mechanisms, as well as awareness-raising and monitoring actions appropriate to its partial protection status.



*Fig 22 : Accidental capture of crocodiles*

## 3.4. CETACEAN & SEA TURTLES PROGRAMME

*The objectiv of this programme is to conserve cetaceans and sea turtles through research, ecological monitoring and the active involvement of local communities.*

### 3.4.1. Improve knowledge on bottlenose in Tchatamba region

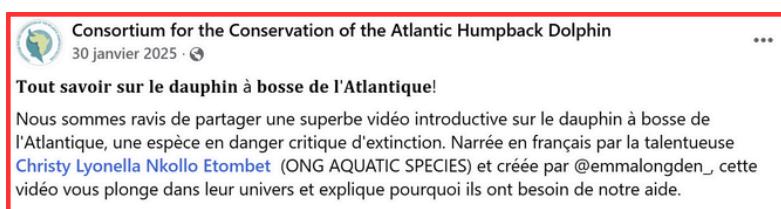
Observations of bottlenose dolphins (*Tursiops truncatus*) were made during a three-day exploratory mission conducted in January 2025 in the Tchatamba region. The mission, conducted using the point transect observation method, involved a total of 21 hours of observation (seven hours per day) from an observation platform located at least five metres above ground level. This work has helped to strengthen scientific knowledge of local marine biodiversity and contribute to establishing an environmental baseline for the area.



*Fig 23: Point transect observation in the Tchatamba Marine Region*

### 3.4.2. Support for the dissemination of information in French on conservation efforts for the Atlantic humpback dolphin

Aquatic Species NGO contributed to conservation efforts for the Atlantic humpback dolphin, a species classified as critically endangered, by producing the French-language narration for the introductory video of the Atlantic Humpback Dolphin Conservation Consortium (AHDCC), published on 30 January 2025. This initiative has improved the accessibility of information, raised awareness among French-speaking audiences and increased the visibility of issues related to the conservation of this endangered species at the regional level.



*Fig 24: Overview of the CCHAD Facebook post*

### 3.4.3. Raising awareness and visibility of the Atlantic humpback dolphin

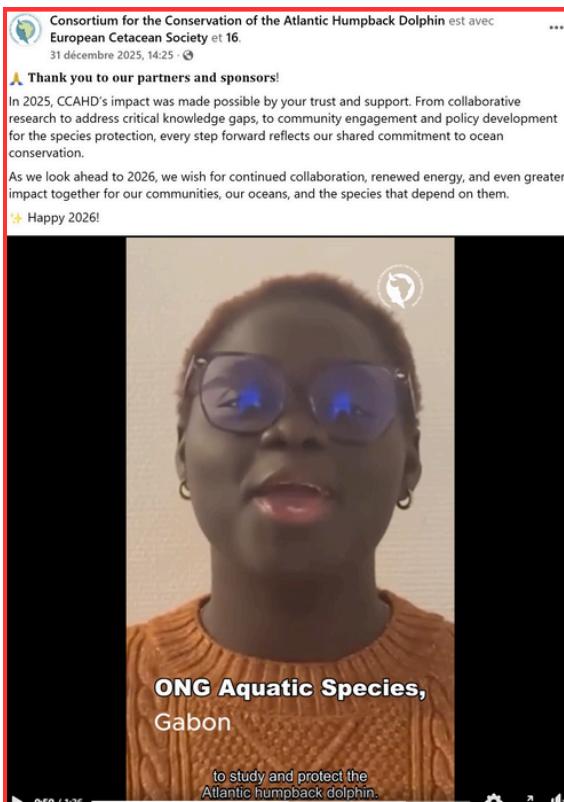


Fig 25: Preview of the awareness video

Aquatic Species NGO contributed to conservation efforts for the critically endangered Atlantic humpback dolphin by participating in an awareness video produced by the Atlantic Humpback Dolphin Conservation Consortium (AHDCC), involving several sub-regional NGOs and published on 31 December 2025 (<https://fb.watch/EnlsdQTSIj/>), thereby improving access to information, raising awareness among French-speaking audiences and increasing regional visibility of the conservation challenges facing this endangered species.

### 3.4.4. Technical capacity building on stranding networks

Targeted support for an NGO member to participate in a seminar on the stranding network in France has helped to strengthen technical and organisational capacities in the long term. The knowledge and skills acquired in the areas of facilitation, coordination and management of stranding networks are intended to be transferred to other members and partners, thereby contributing to the structuring and professionalisation of national and regional stranding monitoring systems.



Fig 26: Training workshop on strandings

### 3.4.5. Support for science communication



Support for an international scientific contribution, presented at the European Cetaceans Society Congress in Ponta Delgada (Azores, Portugal), identified six profiles of fishermen in Gabon with medium to high capacity to provide reliable local ecological knowledge on cetaceans in the Gabonese coastal zone. This knowledge concerns in particular the humpback whale (*Megaptera novaeangliae*), the Atlantic bottlenose dolphin (*Sousa teuszii*), the bottlenose dolphin (*Tursiops truncatus*) and the common dolphin (*Delphinus delphis*). This contribution reinforces the scientific value of local ecological knowledge (LEK) and its integration into cetacean monitoring and conservation programmes in Gabon.

Fig 27: Présentation of scientific communication

### 3.4.6. Support to building capacity for monitoring of marine fauna

1 support for a member of the NGO Aquatic Species to attend a specialised training course at the University of La Rochelle (France) helped to strengthen national technical expertise in Gabon in the collection and analysis of data on marine megafauna from aerial platforms, contributing to the improvement of ecological monitoring methods and the quality of data produced for marine conservation.



Fig 28: Support for scientific training

### **3.4.6. Update of the sea turtle database**

In 2025, the sea turtle stranding database was updated following the reporting of a stranding of an olive ridley sea turtle (*Lepidochelys olivacea*) in the Owendo region, strengthening mortality monitoring, early warning and response capacity for sea turtle conservation.



***Fig 29: Marine turtle stranding in Owendo reported by OMP***

## 3.5. EDUCATION & AWARENESS PROGRAMME

*The objectiv of this programme is to raise awareness, train and mentor local stakeholders and students, both in person and online, to promote the conservation of aquatic biodiversity and sustainable practices based on knowledge.*

### 3.5.1. Sensibilisation au port minéralier

More than fifty employees of Owendo Mineral Port (OMP) were made aware of the major challenges of marine ecosystem conservation during World Environment Day, organised by OMP on 5 June 2025. This initiative helped to raise awareness of the impact of pollution on the oceans and the need to adopt more responsible practices.



*Fig 30: View of agents aware of pollution issues*

### 3.5.2. Awareness raising on fisheries regulations

In Kango and Libreville, nearly 90 local stakeholders and authorities were educated about sustainable fishing on 13 and 14 November 2025, as part of a joint initiative by the Ministry of Fisheries and the NGO WildAid, supported by the NGO Aquatic Species, to strengthen the co-management of small-scale fisheries in Gabon.



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*Fig 31: Overview of participants during the awareness raising on fisheries regulations*

### 3.5.2. Raising awareness among the communities of Loango National Park for a new CCGL



Fig 32: Au village Setté Cama



Fig 34: Villages made aware in the Loango Park area

From 16 to 22 January 2025, 58 participants, comprising members of local communities from 13 villages and administrative authorities from the Loango region, familiarised themselves with the challenges and role of the Loango National Park Local Management Advisory Committee, following an initiative led by WWF Gabon with the support of the NGO Aquatic Species, thereby strengthening the park's participatory governance.



Fig 33: Overview of team for this mission

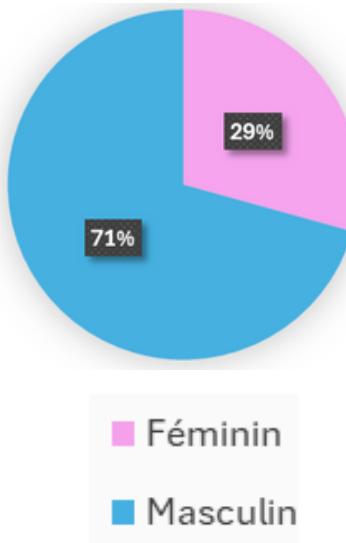


Fig 35: Percentage of people aware, by gender

### 3.5.3. NGO website visit metrics

As of 31 December 2025, the Aquatic Species website had recorded a 157.6% increase since it went live on 23 November 2025, with an international audience from 17 countries, dominated by Gabon, France and the United States.



Fig 36: Map of countries visiting the website

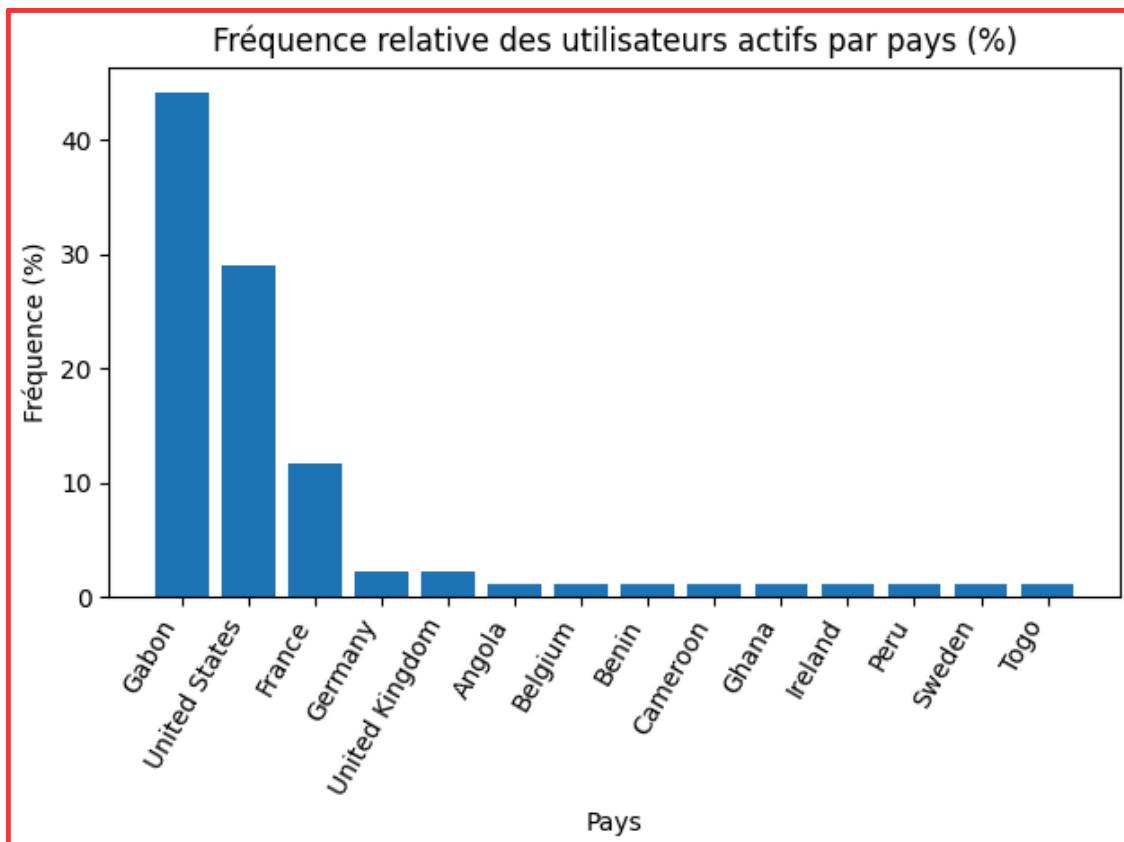


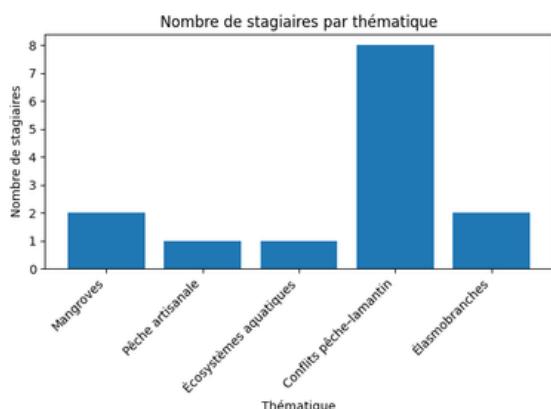
Fig 37: Active users by country

### 3.5.4. Monitoring of school interns within the NGO

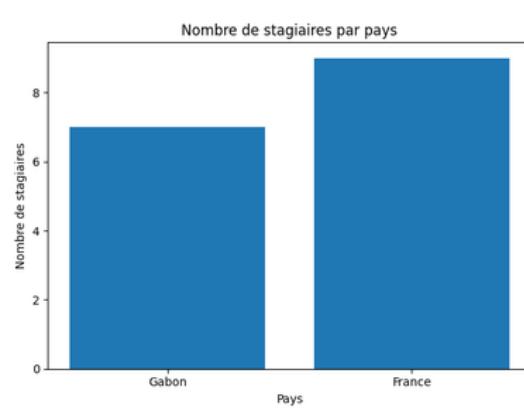
In 2025, out of a total of 14 interns (Bachelor's, Master's and Doctorate) from institutions in Gabon and France, 86% of internships were completed, significantly strengthening knowledge of aquatic biodiversity. The work focused mainly on fishing-manatee interactions (8 interns), mangroves (2) and elasmobranchs (2), supplemented by artisanal fishing (1) and aquatic ecosystems (1), generating scientific results that can be directly used for the conservation and sustainable management of aquatic resources.

*Tableau 1: Summary of the status of trainees*

Statut / Niveau	Institution	Discipline	Nombre de stagiaires	Statut du stage
Stagiaire (Licence)	École Nationale des Eaux et Forêts	Environnement / Gestion côtière	1	Finalisé
Stagiaire (Licence)	École Nationale des Eaux et Forêts	Pêche / Ressources halieutiques	1	Finalisé
Stagiaire (Master)	Université Bordeaux Montaigne	Géographie	1	Finalisé
Stagiaire (Doctorant)	Université Omar Bongo	Géographie	1	En cours
Stagiaires (Master)	Université de La Rochelle	Géographie	8	Finalisé
Stagiaire (Master)	Université Omar Bongo	Géographie de la pêche	1	Finalisé
Stagiaire (Master)	Université Omar Bongo	Biogéographie	1	En cours



*Fig 38: Number of trainees per subject area*



*Fig 39 Number of intern per country*

## 4. PERFORMANCE MONITORING FRAMEWORK BY STRATEGIC AREA: 2025 RESULTS

Table 2: Performance framework

Strategic Axis	Key Indicators	Results Achieved in 2025
1. Research & Knowledge	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Number of months of data collected / Existence of functional databases / Level of ecological perception within communities / Number of data derived from Local Ecological Knowledge (LEK) / Number of scientific publications / Number of supervised interns</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- <b>12 consecutive months of fisheries data collected in Kango (Dec. 2024 – Nov. 2025)</b></li> <li>- <b>4 operational databases:</b> artisanal fisheries, manatee predation, strandings, and aquatic fauna observations</li> <li>- <b>1 study on community local ecological knowledge</b> conducted on the mangrove status at the Lopa site (Agondjé, Akanda), highlighting its importance for riparian communities</li> <li>- <b>1 peer-reviewed scientific article published</b> (<i>European Scientific Journal</i>, 31/12/2025)</li> <li>- <b>1 international scientific contribution</b> (<i>European Cetaceans Society Conference, Azores</i>) identifying <b>6 fisher profiles</b> capable of providing reliable LEK on coastal cetaceans</li> <li>- <b>14 interns supervised</b> (<i>Bachelor's, Master's, PhD levels</i>)</li> </ul>

# PERFORMANCE MONITORING FRAMEWORK BY STRATEGIC AREA: 2025 RESULTS

Strategic Axis	Key Indicators	Results Achieved in 2025
2. Conservation & Ecosystem Management	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Number of sensitive areas identified / Number of maps produced / Number of pilot conservation actions / Number of scientific baselines for restoration</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- <b>3 priority areas identified</b> within the Kango fishery (<i>Lebhé, Maga, Aloum</i>)</li> <li>- <b>1 map of fishing gears and human–manatee conflict zones</b> produced</li> <li>- <b>1 pilot mission</b> testing an acoustic deterrent to reduce manatee damage to fishing nets</li> <li>- <b>1 sensitive wetland identified</b> (<i>Lopa, Agondjé, Akanda</i>) based on the perceptions of <b>63% of surveyed riparian communities</b></li> </ul>
3. Communities & Sustainability	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Number of participatory assessments conducted / Number of communities involved / Number of local stakeholders sensitized / Level of community engagement</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- <b>Participatory assessments</b> conducted with artisanal fishers in Kango</li> <li>- <b>13 villages involved in local governance dynamics</b> (Loango region)</li> <li>- <b>≈ 90 fishers and local stakeholders sensitized</b> to sustainable fishing practices</li> <li>- <b>1 participatory assessment conducted at the Lopa site in Agondjé (Akanda)</b>, indicating that 35% of respondents do not perceive the importance of mangroves</li> </ul>

## PERFORMANCE MONITORING FRAMEWORK BY STRATEGIC AREA: 2025 RESULTS

Strategic Axis	Key Indicators	Results Achieved in 2025
4. Governance & Advocacy	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Number of institutional meetings / Number of advocacy actions / Number of contributions to public policy mechanisms</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- <b>1 high-level advocacy meeting with the Minister of Fisheries and the Blue Economy (07/07/2025)</b></li> <li>- <b>1 institutional advocacy action conducted during the UNDP Gabon Knowledge Fair</b></li> <li>- <b>1 contribution to the installation of the official signboard of the Kango Fisheries Brigade</b></li> <li>- <b>Scientific and community-based results provide a solid evidence base for dialogue with authorities on wetland governance</b></li> </ul>
5. Awareness-Raising & Citizen Engagement	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Number of people reached / Number of events organized or supported / Number of outreach materials and media reach</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- <b>Over 50 staff members of Owendo Mineral Port (OMP) reached during World Environment Day activities</b></li> <li>- <b>Participation in 3 major national events (Knowledge Fair, preview screening of the film Ocean, scientific conferences)</b></li> <li>- <b>2 regional contributions to awareness videos on the Atlantic humpback dolphin (CCHAD)</b></li> <li>- <b>Promotion of Gabonese fishers' Local Ecological Knowledge (LEK) as a lever for citizen engagement</b></li> </ul>

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Strategic Axis	Key Indicators	Results Achieved in 2025
6. <b>Partnerships &amp; Capacity Building</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Number of active partnerships / Number of technical support actions delivered / Number of specialized trainings completed / Level of international visibility</li> </ul>	<p><b>- 1 strengthened strategic partnership with <i>The Nature Conservancy (TNC)</i>- 1 drone-based technical support activity</b> provided to the peatland project (<i>Loango National Park</i>)- <b>1 specialized training supported</b> at the <b>University of La Rochelle (France)</b>, strengthening national expertise in <b>aerial monitoring of marine megafauna</b>- <b>International web audience increased by +157.6%</b>, with visitors from <b>17 countries</b></p>

## 5. CHALLENGES FACED IN 2025



Financial constraints on ensuring the continuity of long-term monitoring (fishing, cetaceans, mangroves).



Dependence on project funding to maintain data collection systems.



Need to strengthen local capacities (fishermen, brigades, community relays).



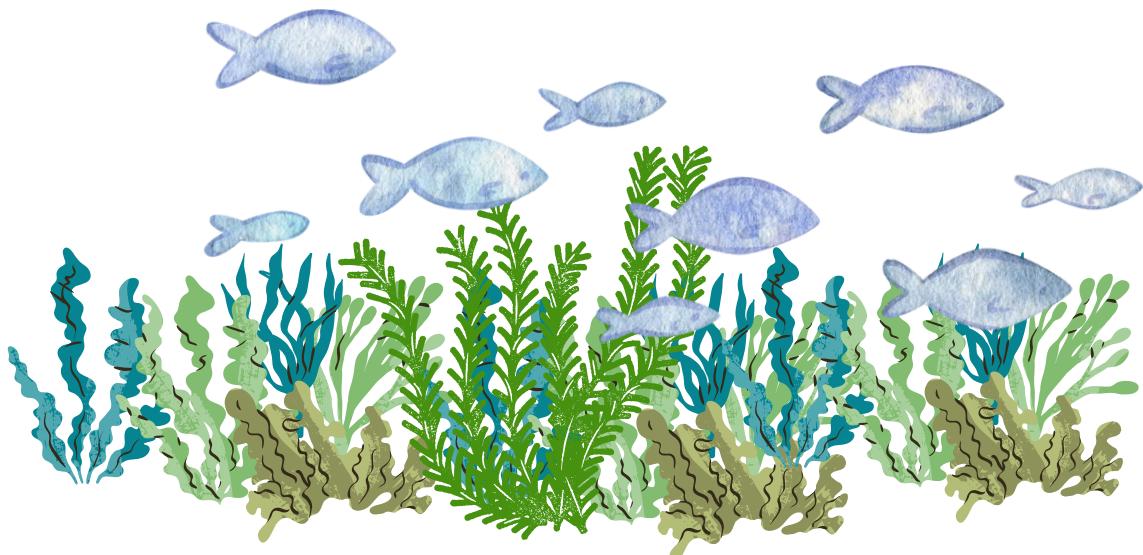
Weak formal institutional integration of certain scientific results into public policy.



Still partial spatial coverage of certain priority areas (wetlands, urban ecosystems, marine areas).



High operational burden for supervising trainees.



## 6. Key outlook by strategic focus areas



*Sustain the data collection system and the promotion of results*



*Move from knowledge to pilot implementation (priority areas, mitigation measures)*



*Structure co-management mechanisms (fishing, wildlife, mangroves).*



*Test solutions that reconcile conservation and livelihoods*



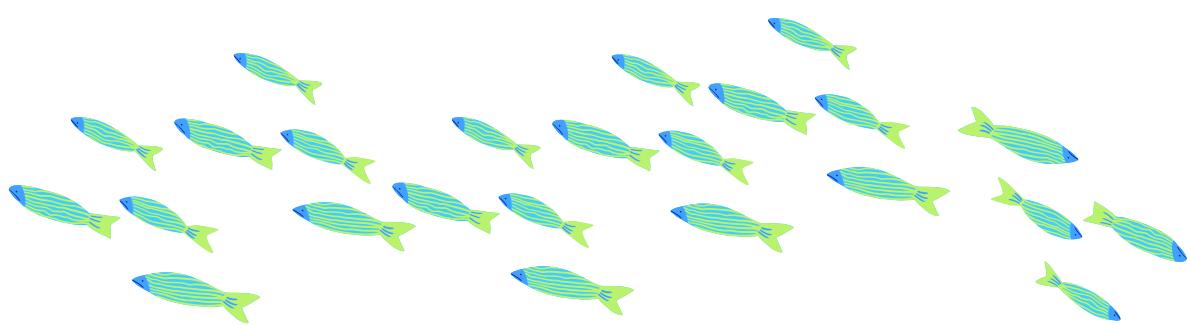
*Formalise frameworks for collaboration with authorities*



*Amplify popular science communication*



*Consolidate existing partnerships*



# Acknowledgements to partners and funders

We express our deep gratitude to all our institutional, technical and financial partners for their ongoing commitment and valuable support. Their collaboration, trust and availability have been instrumental in the implementation and success of the actions carried out.

Thanks to these strong and constructive partnerships, it has been possible to strengthen conservation, research and awareness-raising initiatives and make a lasting contribution to the protection of the ecosystems and species concerned.

We sincerely thank them for their support and their shared commitment to working towards a more sustainable future.



*Together protect our aquatic biodiversity*



Aquatic Species s'engage  
à préserver les  
écosystèmes aquatiques  
pour le bien-être des  
communautés locales

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