

COUNTRY PROFILE: GUINEA

Introduction

Located on the Atlantic coast, Guinea is bordered to the north by Guinea Bissau, Senegal, and Mali, and to the south by Sierra Leone, Liberia, and Côte d'Ivoire. Guinea is endowed with vast natural resources especially mining (bauxite, diamonds, gold) and hydropower resources (some of western Africa's major rivers—the Gambia, the Niger, and the Senegal—rise in Guinea).

However, Guinea's economy is still largely dependent on agriculture. The country was at the heart of the 2014 Ebola outbreak.

National Economic and Social Development Plan (PNDES) 2016-2020¹

The *Plan National de Développement Économique et Social (PNDES) 2016-2020* aims to operationalize over the 2016-2020 period, the Vision of an emerging and prosperous Guinea by 2040.

Through the 2016-2020 PNDES, the government intend to respond to the various development challenges posed by the socio-economic and environmental situation, while ensuring post-Ebola health monitoring; alignment with international development agendas - the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), the Paris Agreement, the African Union (AU) Agenda 2063, the New Deal, the 2020 Vision of ECOWAS; the establishment of a robust programmatic framework for development actions; improving the effectiveness and efficiency of public spending; the adoption of an effective tool for mobilizing internal and external resources, including private investment.

The PNDES has set itself the overall objective of "promoting strong, quality growth to improve the well-being of Guineans and bring about a structural transformation of the economy, while putting the country on the path of sustainable development". Two final results are expected from this overall objective, namely (i) "by 2020, the well-being of the Guinean population is improved, inequalities are reduced and intergenerational equity is guaranteed" and (ii) "the sustainable structural transformation of the Guinean economy is underway".

Some of the aimed targets are: (i) to increase the country's human development index (HDI) from 0.411 in 2014 to at least 0.482 in 2020; (ii) reduce the incidence of poverty from 55.2% in 2012 to at least 45.0% in 2020 and (iii) increase the country's forest cover from 25.9% in 2014 to at least 28% in 2020; (iv) reduce the proportion of species plants and animals threatened from 5.4% to 5.0% in 2020 (v) to accelerate the growth of the primary sector to reach at least 8.1% by 2020; (vi) increase the share of manufacturing in GDP from 8.3% in 2015 to at least 9.5% in 2020; (vii) increase the share of manufacturing products in exports from 7.5% in 2013 to 12.5% in 2020.

To achieve these results and reach the targets set, the overall PNDES 2016-2020 strategy will consist, on the one hand, in establishing solid institutional foundations, as well as in developing human capital, favour the acceleration of economic growth and the reduction of inequalities. On the other hand, it will consist of: (i) developing the agro-sylvo-pastoral and fishery sector, to make it a real lever for reducing both poverty and food insecurity; (ii) to promote a manufacturing industry incorporated in the primary and mining sectors, making it possible to exploit all the value chains of their respective sectors; (iii) integrate the mining sector with the rest of the economy, through promotion of competitive SMEs / SMIs in the supply of domestic goods and services to mines, and the investment of a significant proportion of mining revenues in the agro-forestry-pastoral and fishery sector.

¹ République de Guinée, Ministère du Plan et de la Coopération Internationale (MPCI). Plan National de Développement Économique et Social 2016-2020, Volume 1 - Document principal

<https://pndesguinee.org/images/documents/pndes/PNDES%20Volume%201.pdf> Accessed January 2020

Specifically, the PNDES strategy revolves around four development pillars: (i) the promotion of good governance for sustainable development, (ii) sustainable and inclusive economic transformation, (iii) inclusive human capital development; and (iv) sustainable management of natural capital.

Population & Human Development

Guinea's HDI value for 2018 is 0.466— which put the country in the low human development category— positioning it at 174 out of 189 countries and territories. Between 1990 and 2018, Guinea's HDI value increased from 0.278 to 0.466, an increase of 67.3 percent. Over the same period, Guinea's life expectancy at birth, currently at 61 years, increased by 11.2 years, mean years of schooling increased by 1.5 years and expected years of schooling increased by 6.1 years. Population growth is 2.8%. Guinea's HDI is below the average of 0.507 for countries in the low human development group and below the average of 0.541 for countries in Sub-Saharan Africa.

From the late 1980s, Guinea received a large influx of refugees as a result of wars in neighbouring Sierra Leone and Liberia, exacerbating internal tensions. The 2014-2016 Ebola outbreak caused over 2,500 deaths, affecting Guinea significantly.

Demographic and other development indicators			
Human Development Index (HDI)	0.466	Literacy rate (ages >15)(2014)	32%
HDI rank	174	Mean years of schooling (2018)	2.7
Inequality-adjusted HDI	0.130	School enrollment primary (2016)	91.51
Population size (2018)	12,414,318	School enrollment secondary (2014)	39.33
Population growth rate (2018)	2.83%	Population living below income poverty line, PPP \$1.90 a day (2012)	35.3
Projected population in 2030 ²	17,021,000	GNI per capita, PPP (current int. \$)	2,460
Urban population (2018)	36.14%	Labour force (2018 est.)	4,502,810
Rural population (2018)	63.86%	Labour force participation rate	64.6%
Life expectancy at birth (2017)	61 years	Unemployment rate (2018)	3.61
Infant mortality (per 1,000 live births) (2018)	64.9	Political rights (1=Most Free, 7=Least free)	5
Population using basic drinking water sources (2017)	61.90%	Civil Liberties (1=Most Free, 7=Least free)	4
Population using improved sanitation facilities (2017)	22.72%	Corruption perception index	28/100 Rank: 138/180
Population with access to electricity (2017)	35.44%	CPIA gender equality rating (1=low to 6=high)	3

Political context

Since its independence in 1958, the country has experienced periodic armed conflict, attempted and actual coups, civil and political unrest and contested elections. In 2010, Professor Alpha Condé won Guinea's first presidential election since the independence, but the election was marred by irregularities and political violence. Condé was re-elected for a second five-year term in October 2015 as the opposition boycotted the elections.

Guinea is a fragile country with heightened risks of social and political instability, weak institutional capacity, and pervasive poverty. Political tensions, social unrest, protests, and widespread strikes have occurred frequently since 2018. In December 2019 and despite months of protests, President Alpha Condé announced changes to the constitution that would allow him to stand for a third term in presidential

² United Nations, Department of Economic and Social Affairs, Population Division (2019). World Population Prospects 2019, custom data acquired via website. <https://population.un.org/wpp/DataQuery/>

elections scheduled to take place at the end of 2020. Weak institutional capacity weighs on the implementation of economic policies and reforms³.

In terms of property rights, Guinea's score in the 2019 Index of Economic Freedom is 34.7 (repressed) as enforcement of these rights depends on Guinea's corrupt and inefficient legal and administrative system. Land sales and business contracts generally lack transparency, and land often has overlapping deeds. There is a pervasive culture of impunity and corruption within public institutions.

In international relations, Guinea is usually aligned with : the G-77, the Non-Aligned Movement (NAM) and the African Group. The country belongs to the following international organizations and UN agencies (non-exhaustive list)⁴: ACP, AfDB, AU, Commonwealth of Nations (British), COMESA, EAC, ECOWAS, EITI, ICRM, Interpol, IOC, IOM, ISO, WCO, FAO, IAEA, ICAO, IFAD, WBG, ILO, IMF, IMO, ITU, UNESCO, WHO, WIPO, WMO, WTO.

Economic Overview

Guinea's economy is dominated by services, which in 2018 accounted for 41% of the gross domestic product (GDP), followed by industry and agriculture with around 24% of GDP. Beyond the loss of human life, the Ebola crisis resulted in an economic slowdown in 2014-2015, but the economic performance has gradually recovered with growth surging from 3.8% in 2015 to 10.5% in 2016, before dropping to 8.2% in 2017. According to the African Economic Outlook 2019, real GDP was projected to grow by 6% in 2019 and 2020, underpinned by expansion in services and the extractive subsector, while manufacturing's contribution remains weak due to limited access to factors of production⁵.

The country possesses significant, however underexploited, hydropower potential. It is also the second largest producer of bauxite in the world, and also rich in other minerals, such as iron, gold and diamonds⁶. It is expected that over the medium term, other than large, expected foreign direct investment (FDI) inflows into the mining industry, increased infrastructure investment to boost construction and agricultural activities will also contribute to drive economic growth.

Guinea is a founding member of the 15-member Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS). Its economic freedom score is 55.7, making its economy the 120th freest in the 2019 Index.

Economic indicators 2018 ⁷	
GDP (current US\$)	10,907,214,994
GDP growth (annual %)	6.16
Agriculture, forestry, and fishing, value added (% of GDP)	24.26
Industry (including construction), value added (% of GDP)	24.81
Services, value added (% of GDP)	41.53
Exports of goods and services (% of GDP)	37.60
Imports of goods and services (% of GDP)	53.02
Gross capital formation (% of GDP)	18.93
Domestic credit provided by financial sector (% of GDP)	22.98
Tax revenue (% of GDP)(2017)	n.a.
Personal remittances, received (% of GDP)	0.26
Index of economic freedom in 2019 (rank in the world) ⁸	55.7 (120)

³ International Monetary Fund (2019). Guinea Second Review of the Arrangement under the Three-Year Extended Credit Facility, financing Assurances Review, and Request for a Waiver of Nonobservance of Performance Criterion. IMF Country Report No. 19/30. Washington D.C. <https://www.imf.org/en/Publications/CR/Issues/2019/01/28/Guinea-Second-Review-of-the-Arrangement-under-the-Three-Year-Extended-Credit-Facility-46557> Accessed January 2020

⁷ World Development Indicators, The World Bank. Data retrieved December 2019

⁸ <https://www.heritage.org/index/country/guinea> Accessed January 2020

Agriculture. Guinea has significant agricultural potential. It has 6.2 million ha of arable land, 25% of which is cultivated annually; and 364,000 ha of irrigable land, of which less than 10% is developed⁹. The National Plan for Agricultural Investment and Food Security (2018–2025) aims to reduce the food trade

Main crops	Production 2018 (tons)	2014-2018 (%)
Rice	2 339 747	18
Maize	818 544	17
Fonio	508 525	7.4
Millet & Sorghum	271 114	4.72
Peanuts	770 105	82.6
Manioc	1 895 396	32.8
Main export crops	Production 2018 (tons)	2014-2018
Coffee	50 000	20.5
Cocoa	31 054	31
Cotton	5 325	38.4
Cashew nuts	41 186	27.9

deficit, which reached \$686 million in 2017. Ongoing reforms include a new land code reducing the time required to transfer land ownership and developing 10 agri-food processing zones throughout the country¹⁰.

Agriculture is the main source of employment in Guinea and is critical for poverty reduction and rural development. The sector provides income for 57 percent of rural households and employment for 52 percent of the workforce. In addition, Guinea benefits from sunshine and natural conditions favouring the cultivation of a wide range of products, including fruits, vegetables, coffee, and cocoa. Farmers in Guinea largely engage in subsistence agriculture, growing crops on small plots of land to feed themselves and their families. Yet inadequate infrastructure and poor access to agricultural extension services, technologies and inputs, undermine potential productivity¹¹.

Infrastructure. The high cost of infrastructure has been a barrier to development. Guinea suffers from chronic electricity shortages; poor roads, rail lines and bridges; and a lack of access to clean water. However, Guinea is well-placed to increase its export earnings by becoming a significant supplier of energy to its fellow ECOWAS members. Within the sub region, power grids are being constructed among seven countries, with Guinea as the energy hub. Guinea could export up to 1,493 gigawatt- hours of electricity by 2022. Guinea does not yet have paved roads to the three countries it borders— Côte d'Ivoire, Guinea-Bissau, and Liberia— and according to the African Development Bank, work under way will take five years to link them to Guinea's capital, Conakry. Recent laws addressing road maintenance and public-private partnerships for infrastructure will help in this regard¹².

Infrastructure ¹³			
Energy (2016)		Transportation	
Electrification total population	33.5%	Airports (with paved runway)	16 (4)
Electrification urban areas	82.2%	Railways (kms) (2017)	1,086
Electrification rural areas	6.9%	Roadways (unpaved) (kms)	44,301 (40,955)
Electricity generating capacity	550,000 kW	Waterways (kms)	1,300 (Niger)
Pipelines (kms)	n.a.	Major seaports	Conakry, Kamsar

⁶ CBD Country profile

⁷ World Development Indicators, The World Bank. Data retrieved December 2019

⁸ <https://www.heritage.org/index/country/guinea> Accessed January 2020

⁹ African Development Bank. Guinea Country Strategy Paper 2018 -2022 (September 2018). https://www.afdb.org/fileadmin/uploads/afdb/Documents/Boards-Documents/Guinea_CSP_2018-2022.PDF Accessed January 2020

¹⁰ African Development Bank 2019. African Economic Outlook 2019. Country Notes: Guinea.

https://www.afdb.org/fileadmin/uploads/afdb/Documents/Publications/2019AEO/AEO_2019-EN.pdf Accessed January 2020

¹¹ <http://www.fao.org/agriculture/ippm/projects/guinea/en/>

¹² African Development Bank 2019. African Economic Outlook 2019. Country Notes: Guinea.

https://www.afdb.org/fileadmin/uploads/afdb/Documents/Publications/2019AEO/AEO_2019-EN.pdf Accessed January 2020

¹³ <https://www.cia.gov/library/publications/the-world-factbook/geos/gv.html> | Accessed January 2020

Manufacturing. Most of manufacturing in Guinea centers around agri-food industry, the brewery, the manufacture of soft drinks, flour milling, the production of paint and cement, and its contribution to the economy remains weak. However increasing the contribution from the sector to GDP from 8.3% in 2015 to 9.5% in 2020, as well as increasing the share of manufactured products in exports, is one of the targets of the PNDES to achieve the structural transformation of the economy. This development is heavily reliant on the development of the infrastructure (energy and transport) to lower the cost of production, and favoring public-private partnerships.

Mining. Guinea has exceptional mining potential, including two-thirds of the world's known bauxite reserves, as well as gold, iron, and diamonds. According to the African Development Bank, one of the country's economy weaknesses is its overreliance on mining, which develops on the sidelines of the rest of the economy, thus discouraging an inclusive redistribution of the economic potential of this sector. On average, over 80% of exports come from the mining sector, with a 12% contribution to GDP and a low contribution to jobs (2.6%) and tax revenue (17%). With about 20 megaprojects planned until 2022, the mining sector is expected to grow considerably. In response, Guinea was to complete by the end of 2019 a strategy paper on the domestic links between mines and other strategic sectors of the economy^{14,15}. Guinea has been declared compliant with the Transparency Initiative of extractive industries (EITI) in July 2014.

Trade.

Top-10 export markets for goods and export goods in 2015 (\$)			
Country		Exported goods	
Ghana	346,506,953	Gold (including gold plated with platinum)	631,487,076
India	257,567,675	Aluminium ores and concentrates	576,329,336
United Arab Emirates	156,064,903	Unused postage, banknotes, stock, share or bond certificates and the like of similar title	119,490,492
Spain	135,881,614	Boats, floating devices	80,974,133
Germany	114,784,738	Natural rubber, and gums;	26,046,679
Ireland	98,883,662	Nuts	20,648,596
France	88,994,076	Cocoa beans	18,882,610
USA	84,232,968	Coffee	11,520,642
Ukraine	48,982,230	Plastic	6,354,745
Canada	44,088,768	Electric generating sets and rotary converters	6,318,820
Top-10 import markets for goods and import goods in 2015 (\$)			
Country		Imported goods	
China	319,216,639	Petroleum oils and other mineral oils	310,169,069
Netherlands	287,208,674	Rice	227,850,694
India	232,834,762	Medicaments	117,106,553
Belgium	173,457,142	Boats, floating devices	84,398,890
France	142,887,576	Motor cars and other motor vehicles	67,313,627
United Arab Emirates	139,267,328	Construction machinery	52,343,939
USA	57,209,384	Sugars	47,575,994
Ghana	56,976,371	Palm oil	40,047,733
Singapore	54,026,970	Machinery parts	35,300,553
Lebanon	49,134,504	Cigars, cigarettes	34,674,280

International Trade in Goods and Services based on UN Comtrade data.

Developed by the Department for International Trade and the Dept. for Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy in the UK.

<https://comtrade.un.org/labs/dit-trade-vis/?reporter=324&partner=0&type=C&year=2015&flow=2>

¹⁴ Latest statistics on the extractive industry production can be found in the *Annuaire Statistique des Mines et Carrières 2018*, published in June 2019 http://www.stat-guinee.org/images/Publications/SSN/mines/Annuaire_Mine_2018.pdf Accessed January 2020

¹⁵ African Development Bank 2019. African Economic Outlook 2019. Country Notes: Guinea.

https://www.afdb.org/fileadmin/uploads/afdb/Documents/Publications/2019AEO/AEO_2019-EN.pdf Accessed January 2020

Environment

The Republic of Guinea has a tropical climate with the alternation of two seasons (dry and rainy) whose duration varies according to the regions. The country includes four natural regions with distinct biophysical characteristics, namely: i) Lower Guinea, or Maritime Guinea, region of the coastal plain on the Atlantic coast; ii) Middle Guinea, made up of mountain ranges (culminating at 1,400 m); iii) Upper Guinea, which includes the upper Niger River basin and its main tributaries; iv) Forest Guinea, to the southeast, is a mountain region that encompasses various ranges of the Guinean ridge including the Nimba Mountains (1,752 m)¹⁶.

Guinea has a very dense hydrographic network of more than 1,100 rivers distributed in 23 river basins, 14 of which are international. Several rivers in the sub-region take their source there, the largest of which is the Niger river (4,200 km long), hence the name "West African water tower". There are some 27 hydroelectric dams and many dams for agricultural water use. Little is known of the actual status of groundwater across Guinea, but it is recognised that both groundwater and surface water face pollution pressures in many areas, including from urbanisation, industry, waste production and agriculture¹⁷.

Geography and land-use data ¹⁸	
Land area (sq. km); surface (sq. km)	245,717; 245,857
Terrestrial protected areas (% of total land area) ¹⁹	35.6
Forest area (% of land area, 2017)	25.9
Primary Forest (% forest land, 2017)	0.99
Planted Forest (% forest land, 2017)	1.63
Other naturally regenerated forest (% forest land, 2017)	97.38
Permanent cropland (% of land area) , 2017	15.46
Arable land (% of land area, 2011)	12.62
Agricultural land (% of land area, 2017)	59.01

Wildlife and protected areas

Guinea is home to a unique biodiversity in West Africa, notably in its relics of dense humid forests classified as high biodiversity areas (hotspot).

Guinea's main ecosystems groups identified are terrestrial ecosystems (dense moist forests, dense dry forests and forest galleries, savannahs, mountains, forest plantations, agrosystems and built ecosystems), freshwater ecosystems (1,161 rivers spread over 23 river basins), coastal and marine ecosystems (open coastal forests, mangroves, island and marine ecosystems) and built ecosystems (cities / villages, industry, mining areas). In terms of species diversity, 32 species of virus including Ebola; 3,062 plant species and 4,931 animal have been identified. These figures are likely to change with the update of the state of biodiversity in 2019, which include data collections carried out by scientific research institutions, the mining sector as part of environmental and social impact studies, national parks and nature reserves, NGOs, among others.

¹⁶ République de Guinée, Ministère de l'Environnement, des Eaux et des Forêts. Sixième rapport national de la Convention sur la Diversité Biologique (Décembre 2018). <https://www.cbd.int/doc/nr/nr-06/gn-nr-06-fr.pdf> Accessed January 2020

¹⁷ Upton, K. & O Dochartaigh, B.É. 2016. Africa Groundwater Atlas: Hydrogeology of Guinea. British Geological Survey.. http://earthwise.bgs.ac.uk/index.php/Hydrogeology_of_Guinea Accessed January 2020

¹⁸ Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO). FAOSTAT <http://www.fao.org/faostat/en/#data/EL> Accessed December 2019

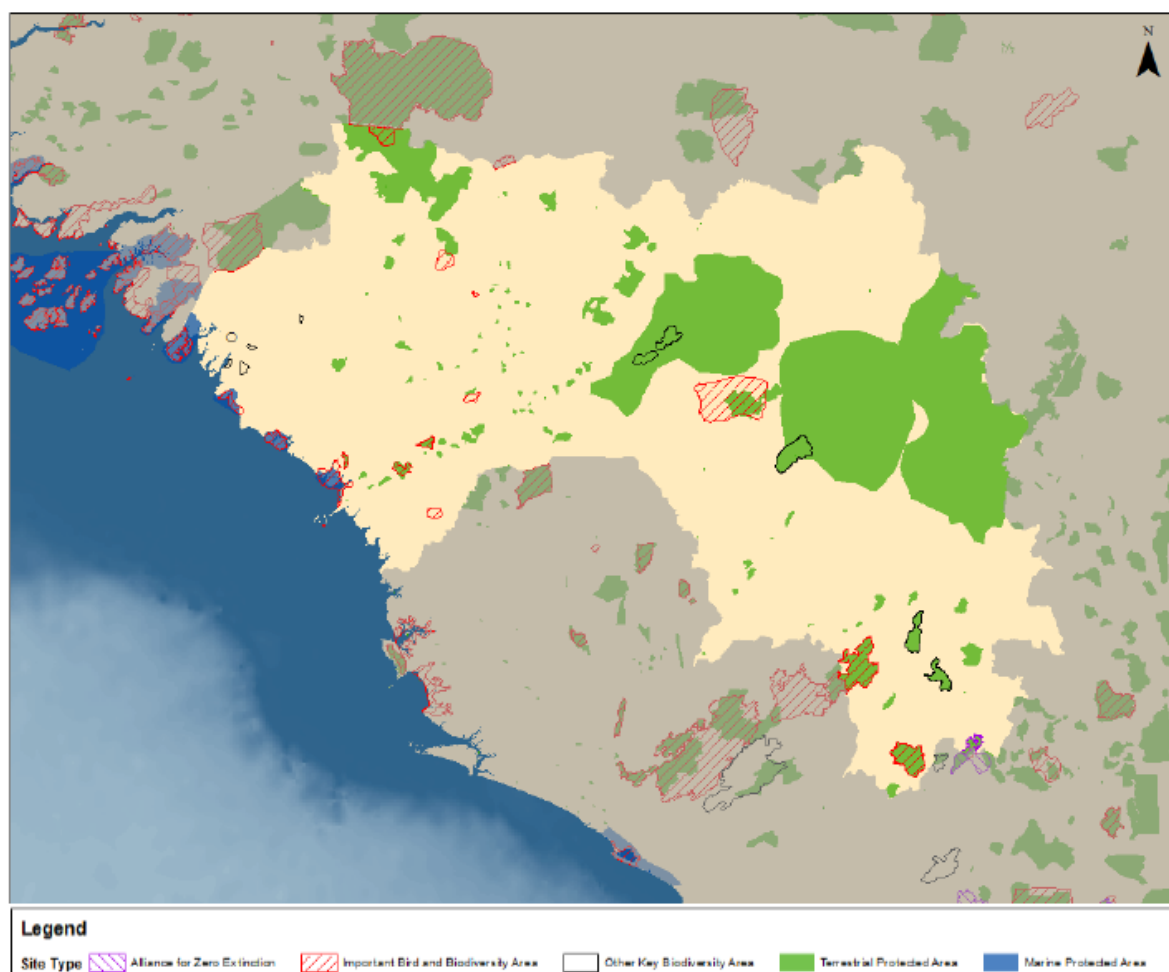
¹⁹ UNEP-WCMC (2020). Protected Area Profile for Guinea from the World Database of Protected Areas, January 2020. Available at: www.protectedplanet.net

The Guinean Government aims to increase the coverage of protected areas to 25% by 2025. Data from the WDPA, currently estimates at 35% the land covered by protected areas. To strengthen the efficiency of protected areas management, the Government created the Corps of Conservationists with a special paramilitary status.

Species with extinction risk assessments in Guinea published on the IUCN Red List		
Taxonomic group	Number assessed	Known threatened species
Amphibians	80	5
Birds	633	19
Fishes	1034	76
Mammals	237	29
Reptiles	69	9
Arachnids	5	0
Corals	8	0
Crustaceans	27	4
Insects	187	0
Molluscs	65	3
Other invertebrates	4	0
Ferns	10	0
Flowering plants	272	59
Gymnosperms	0	0
Total	2631	204
Total endemic species assessed/threatened	58	33

Protected Areas	
Designation	Number
Classified Forest	98
Faunal Reserve	1
National Park	3
Not reported	1
Strict Nature Reserve	1
Ramsar Site	16
UNESCO-MAB Biosphere Reserve	4
World Heritage Site	1
Coverage: 35.65% (terrestrial); 0.53% (Marine)	125
Key Biodiversity Areas (KBAs)	23

Map showing the overlap between Key Biodiversity Areas and Protected Areas.



Main pressures and drivers of biodiversity loss

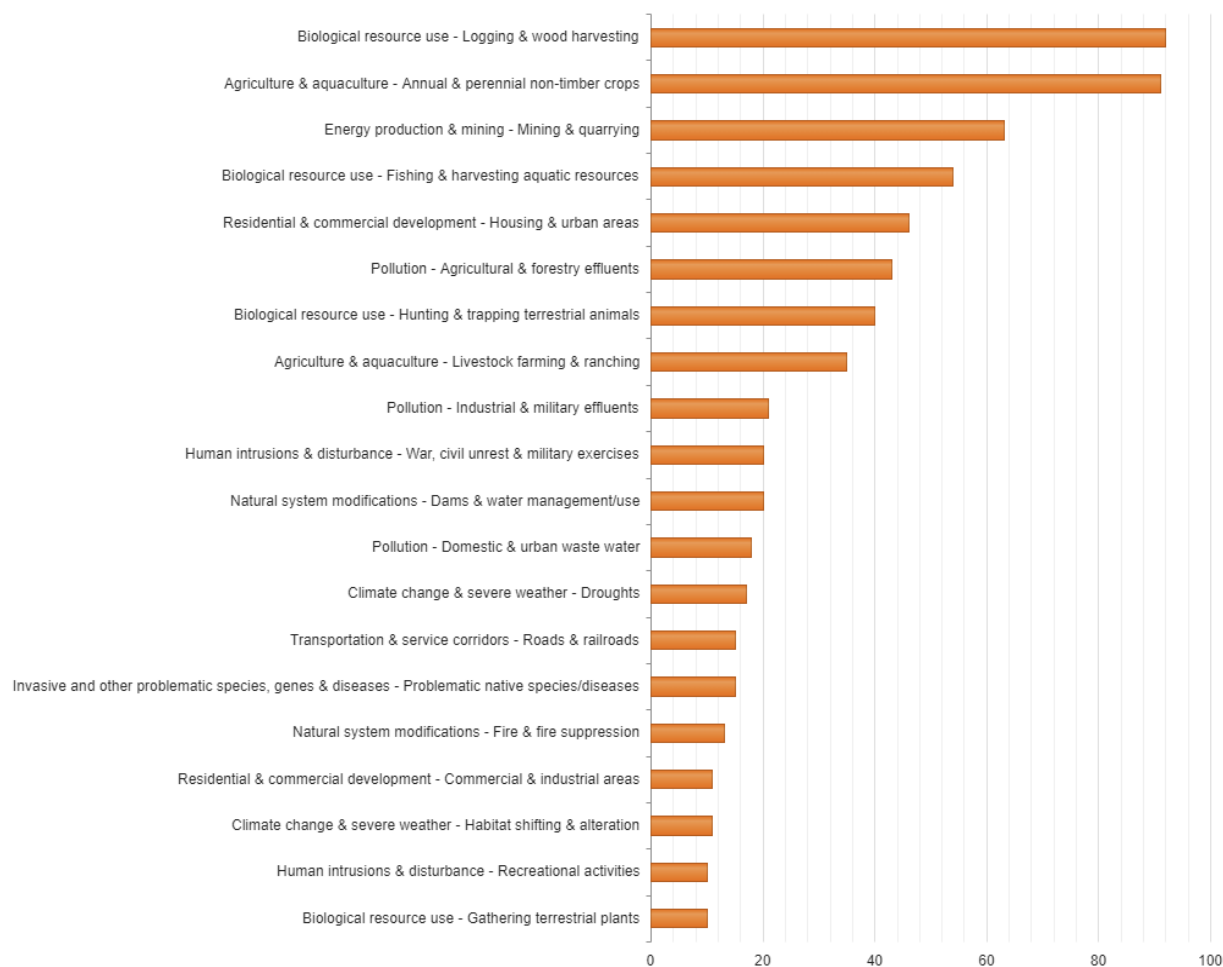
The exploitation of Guinea's natural resources is the source of various pressures on the environment due to illegal harvesting, unsustainable agricultural systems and practices including slash and burn, other unsustainable production methods. Water resources are threatened with pollution and as a corollary the reduction of flows, the silting up of the bed of rivers. Uncontrolled logging of forests and mangrove are dwindling resulting in declining plant cover and the loss of biodiversity. Industrial and artisanal mining also contribute to the loss of various resources by polluting the air, soil, ground and surface water and by degrading the landscape. Other drivers of biodiversity loss identified in the National Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan (NBSAP) include illiteracy, pressures due to population growth, and the political and economic context²⁰.

Data provided by the IBAT Country Profile for Guinea identifies the most significant global threats to species that occur in this country. The main threats are related to biological resource use (harvesting trees for timber or fuel, hunting, fishing), agriculture, and energy production and mining.

The Red List Index for Guinea exhibits a downward trend, indicating declining aggregate survival probability of the country's species, and it is currently at 0.894.

²⁰ République de Guinée, Ministère de l'Environnement, des Eaux et des Forêts. Stratégie Nationale sur la Diversité Biologique pour la Mise en Œuvre en Guinée du Plan Stratégique 2011-2020 et des Objectifs d'Aichi (Juillet 2016). <https://www.cbd.int/doc/world/gn/gn-nbsap-v2-fr.pdf> Accessed January 2020.

Most significant global threats to species that occur in this country



National legal environmental framework

The country has several policy and legal instruments for the protection of the environment which are explained in detail in the country’s NBSAP. Some worth highlighting are the constitution, the PNDES, the NBSAP itself, the national environment policy, the national forest policy and the forest code. In addition, the country validated in 2016 its Intended Nationally Determined Contribution (INDC), with a view to economic development taking into account climate issues.

The National Agency for the Coordination of Implementation and Monitoring of the Strategy and its Action Plan (ANCMOS) under the Ministry of Environment coordinates and monitors the implementation of the NBSAP and generally, Guinea’s international commitments under the Convention on Biological Diversity. Nevertheless, the sustainable management of biodiversity is supported by institutions such as Parliament, the Supreme Court, the Economic and Social Council, the National Institute of Human Rights and the ministries responsible for finance, planning, the environment, forests, agriculture, animal husbandry, mines and quarries, spatial planning and town planning, infrastructure, transport, cooperation, health, justice, administration of the territory and of decentralization, of social action and promotion of women and children.

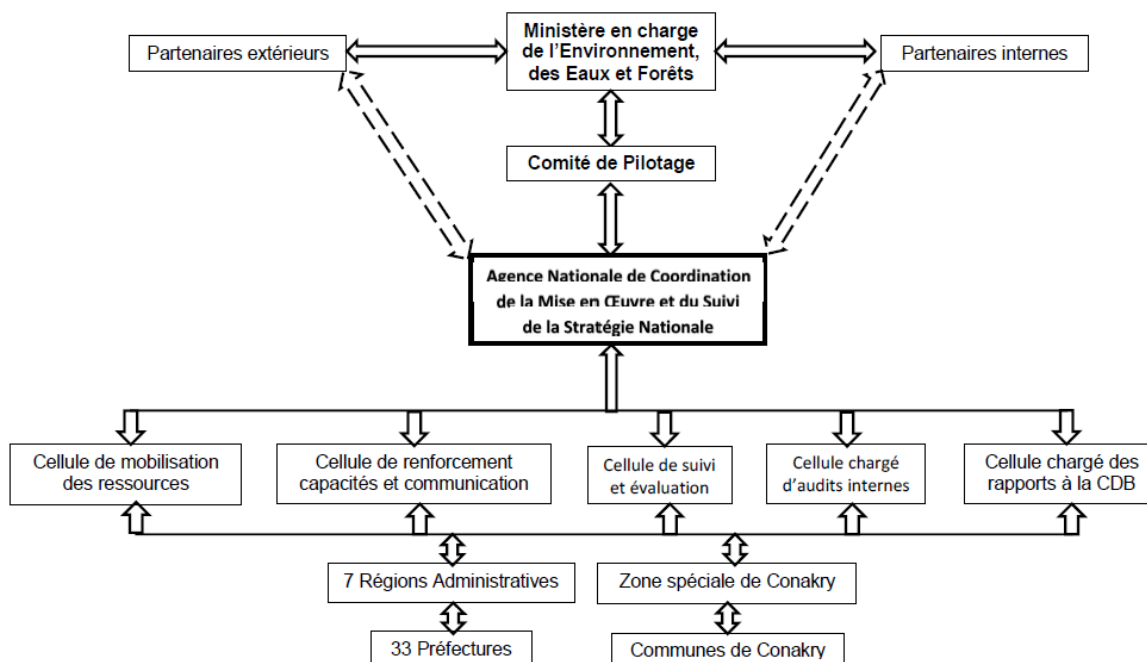


Figure 5.1. Organigramme de l'Agence Nationale de Coordination de la Mise en Œuvre et du Suivi de la Stratégie Nationale sur la Diversité Biologique et de son Plan d'Actions (ANCMOS).

International legal framework

Guinea is party of the following conventions of which the following have impacts on biodiversity (non-exhaustive):

- Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD)
- United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC)
- United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification (UNCCD)
- Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species (CITES)
- Basel, Rotterdam and Stockholm Conventions (BRS)
- Law of the Sea (UNCLOS)
- Montreal Protocol (Ozone Layer Protection)
- Ramsar (Wetlands)
- World Heritage Convention (WHC)
- Convention on Migratory Species (CMS)
- International Convention for the Regulation of Whaling (IWC)

National Commitments in Rio Conventions

In fulfilling its international obligations in these agreements, the country has submitted a number of national targets and/or plans to implement them.

Convention on Biological Diversity – NBSAP

Guinea's *Stratégie nationale sur la diversité biologique pour la mise en oeuvre en Guinée du Plan Stratégique 2011-2020 et des Objectifs d'Aichi* began in 2016 and runs until 2025. This strategy, which is fully part of a national and international approach, aims to: i) promote the reduction of direct and indirect impacts on biodiversity and the equitable distribution of the benefits it provides; ii) the contribution to integrated spatial planning and sustainable development by integrating biodiversity as a priority in all public policies to achieve the well-being of present and future generations; iii) the association in the action of all stakeholders; iv) mobilization through information, awareness and communication, elected officials and citizens, strengthening their capacity for action for a responsible and successful contribution.

The Strategy contains nine national priorities focused on broadly-described themes: stakeholder involvement and commitment; capacity-building (systemic and institutional); inventorying and valuation of traditional knowledge; reducing or halting pressures on biodiversity; protecting representative ecosystems; valuation of the benefits derived from biodiversity and ecosystem services; participatory planning for traditional knowledge management and capacity-building; coordination; and resource mobilization. Guinea has adopted 18 of the 20 Aichi Biodiversity Targets as national targets, to be achieved through 49 national projects. The total cost of implementing the Strategy is estimated at USD \$ 414 819 000.

For the first five-year period (2016-2020), activities, indicators, main implementation actors, supporting actors, follow-up actors and timeframes have been established for each national target. The country aims to improve institutional arrangements through the creation, by Presidential decree, of a Steering Committee, under the authority of the Ministry of Environment, Water and Forests, as well as a national agency for coordinating NBSAP implementation and monitoring. This Steering Committee will be comprised of representatives from a wide range of ministries, among which include those responsible for: the economy and finance; territorial administration and decentralization; mining; higher education and scientific research; energy; industry and small and medium-sized enterprises. The existing National Biodiversity Unit will serve as the advisory body to the Steering Committee.

United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change - NDC²¹

Guinea's NDC concerns the period from 2016 to 2030 and it is conditional on international support. The NDC has both an adaptation and mitigation component. Guinea estimates that there will be a reduction of 13% of greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions in 2030 compared to 1994, excluding land-use change and forestry. The sectors engaged in the National Commitment area agriculture, forestry, energy, water resources, coastal zone, livestock, fisheries and mines.

Guinea presents 3 adaptation commitments: i) Preserve the quality and quantity of water resources; ii) Put in place the measures needed to protect, conserve and manage ecosystems, revive economic activities and boost the resilience of communities in its coastal zone, and iii) Support the adaptation efforts of rural communities to develop agro sylvo-pastoral techniques enabling them both to continue their activities and preserve the resources on which they rely. Priority actions to achieve these commitments are also outlined.

Specific commitments for mitigation include previous commitments under the SE4ALL initiative for the energy sector, such as to produce 30% of its energy (excluding wood-energy) from renewable energy sources, improve the energy performance of the economy, disseminate practices and technologies that are energy-efficient and/or use alternatives to wood-energy and charcoal. Given the importance of mining, Guinea also committed to make the exploitation of mineral resources climate-compatible. Finally, the country also committed to manage its forests sustainably by stabilizing the area covered by mangroves, run afforestation programmes covering up to 10,000 hectares per year and ensuring effective conservation of classified forests and protected areas.

Guinea's NDC also identify cross-cutting measures needed to fulfill its commitments: meet the need for robust, accessible data, cross-sector medium-term strategic planning documents and monitoring of natural resources; promote the inclusion of climate change issues in planning and budgeting at local, sectoral and national level; take account of gender issues in all development programmes and projects; make information on environmental law and the causes and impacts of climate change widely available and accessible so as to raise public awareness.

United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification – LDN target²²

In the context of climate change and biodiversity loss, Guinea will strive to restore 375,000 ha, i.e. 55% of the total area of degraded lands, and limit to 1% (238,440 ha) the loss of non-degraded land relative to the 2000-2010 reference period with the aim of reaching land degradation neutrality.

Guinea's proposed specific targets are as follows:

²¹ Guinea's INDC

²² <https://knowledge.unccd.int/home/country-information/countries-having-set-voluntary-ldn-targets/guinea> Accessed January 2020

- Increase by 1.5% (150,000 ha) forest areas with reference to the 2010 baseline.
- Cut by half (324,700 ha) the amount of land showing negative productivity trends between 2000 and 2010.