SMART

Regional Technical Training Workshop – Central Africa

22nd – 26th March 2013

CEDAMM Training Centre, Lope National Park, Gabon

Training Report

Prepared by WCS on behalf of African Biodiversity Collaborative Group (ABCG)

the Jane Goodall Institute

WILDLIFE CONSERVATION SOCIETY

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Report prepared by

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Workshop hosted by

WCS-CEDAMM, Gabon

Acknowledgements

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Introduction

A regional SMART technical training was conducted at WCS's CEDAMM Training Centre in Lope National Park Gabon between the 22nd and 26th March, 2013. The training was aimed at SMART Administrators and Trainers operating in five francophone countries in central Africa. This was the first regional SMART training in Africa. The training focused on the SMART 1.0 and had five primary objectives:

- Introduce functionality of SMART 1.0
- Train national SMART focal points in how to use SMART
- Help focal points communicate effectively about SMART to implementing partners in home country/program
- Begin to build up a regional SMART community
- Set up a SMART database for each of the participating pilot sites

Trainers and Participants

A total of 16 participants representing five countries (Congo, Democratic Republic of Congo, Gabon, Cameroon and Central African Republic) and 11 protected areas attended the training over 4 days (see **Annexe I**). These participants consisted of technical advisors, trainers and GIS specialists operating in and directly supporting LEM in protected areas. Of these 16 participants, 4 were from WCS, 3 from WWF, 2 from JGI, 1 from AWF, 1 from Ministry of Water and Forests (Gabon), 1 from the Dzanga-Sangha Protected Area (Central African Republic), 1 from the Ministry of Sustainable Development and Forest Economy (Congo), 2 from the Ministry of Forests and Wildlife (Cameroon), and 1 from the Congolese Institute of Nature Conservation, (Democratic Republic of Congo). Three regional trainers conducted the training (Emma Stokes and Ruth Starkey from WCS and Cedric Sepulcre from WWF Gabon) all of whom had participated at the first SMART Training of Trainers workshop in South Africa in September 2012.

Workshop Format

The workshop followed the same format used in the first Training of Trainers workshop in South Africa in September 2012. An updated Training of Trainers manual was provided for SMART 1.0 in French, accounting for new software features added since September 2012 (i.e. gridded analysis and mapping projections). Local examples and a Central-Africa demonstration dataset were used in order to localize the training. Nine modules were covered including 1. Conservation Areas; 2. Patrols; 3. Mapping; 4. Data entry; 5. Querying and Analysis; 6. Reports; 7. Data management and administration.

Training on each module consisted of an overview in plenary and then a classroom exercise that enabled each participant to work individually through the step-by-step guidelines in the manual using the supporting files, with trainers circulating the room to provide assistance. Training was interactive in that participants were able to raise questions as they worked through the exercise. Each module concluded with a de-briefing in plenary and a summary of questions/problems

encountered. During the final day the workshop participants were able to apply their knowledge in setting up their own conservation area database for their site (see agenda in **Annexe II**).

All software bugs reported during the workshop were directly added to Assembla (https://www.assembla.com/spaces/smart-cs/wiki). Furthermore, a comprehensive list of feedback, clarifications and requests for new features raised by participants was submitted to Refractions and the SMART Partnership. These have been added to Assembla and assigned to the relevant SMART release (1.1 or 2.0).

Results of workshop questionnaire

A questionnaire was circulated to all participants at the end of the training (see **Annexe III**). A total of 15 completed questionnaires were received. The results of the questionnaire are summarized in the following pages. Overall, both the training and SMART were well received: 100% of respondents agreed that they would be able to use the knowledge and skills they had gained during the workshop. 100% of respondents with prior knowledge or experience of other LEM systems considered SMART an improvement over existing tools.

Recommendations for SMART implementation in Central Africa

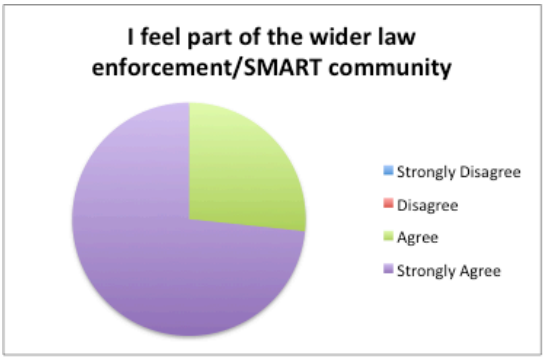
- A process of ongoing follow-up and site-level technical support was emphasized throughout the workshop as being necessary for effective site implementation. It was agreed that a) the SMART Partners should coordinate closely on providing site-level / national-level technical follow-up missions to provide additional training and mentoring to sites – particularly in setting up the database; and b) a francophone FAQ/Community forum should be established on the SMART website to enable participants to share problems, experiences and lessons learned. This will be discussed through the SMART Steering Committee
- A French translation of the SMART software is required for effective implementation in francophone Central Africa – this is ongoing and is expected to be completed in the coming 2-3 months.

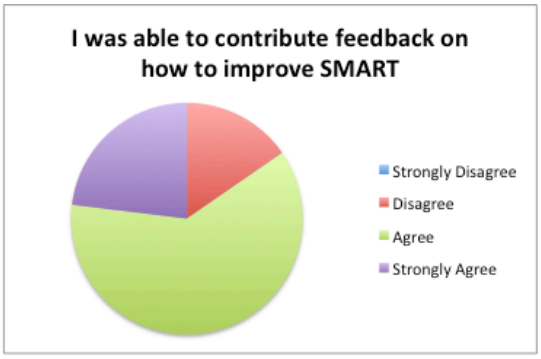
Recommendations for future SMART trainings

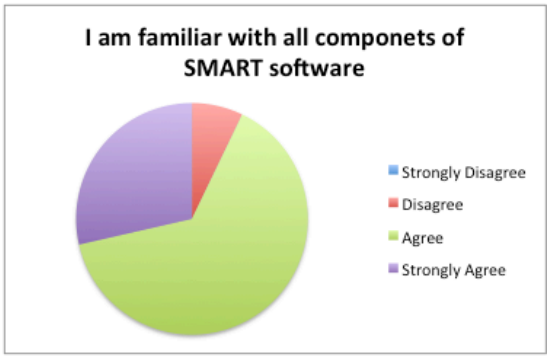
- We allocated only one day for applying participant knowledge to the creation of their own site-specific databases. We would recommend for future trainings that the training should be divided equally between a) using the manual/support materials and the demonstration database, and b) participants able to create their own site-specific databases with their own data. For this, clear instructions would need to be sent ahead of time to ensure that participants were able to bring data in the correct format for use during the training. We will put this into effect for the next SMART/ABCG training later this year.

- Localize the training as much as possible. For region-specific trainings use region-specific databases and examples. For smaller, national-level or site trainings, create real site-specific databases with site-specific data models appropriately localized to the correct language already prepared.
- Customize SMART trainings and content depending on the level of user. For example, trainings focused on data entry or manager level do not need to cover the full suite of modules included here. Only Administrator user levels need to understand how to create report templates for example.
- For full Administrator-level trainings, plan carefully. Covering all modules in 5 days is quite a packed schedule, particularly for participants who have had no prior experience or exposure to SMART and its user interface. It helped that almost all participants were experienced or familiar with MIST and the basic concepts of ranger-based monitoring tools. Bear this experience and technical skill-level in mind when selecting participants and planning the agenda.
- For full Administrator-level trainings, best to plan for at least one experienced trainer per 4-5 participants.
- Ensure all software bugs reported during the training are documented and reported by trainers (or their appropriate focal point) on Assembla
- Make a list of desirable features or broader issues raised during the workshop and send this to the institutional SMART focal point.

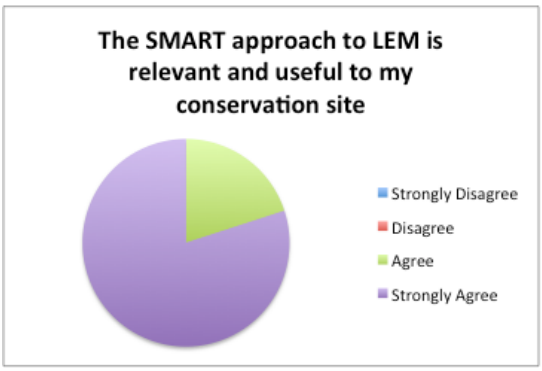
Course Objectives

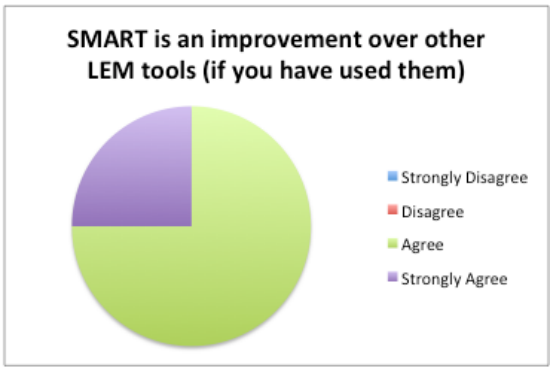




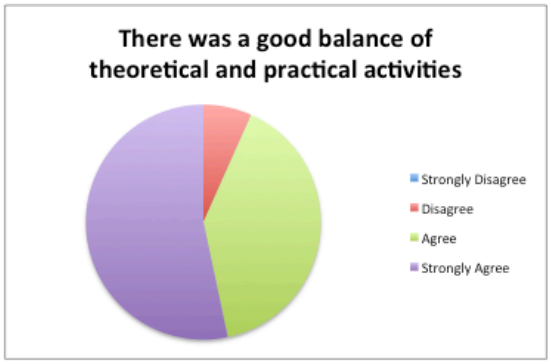


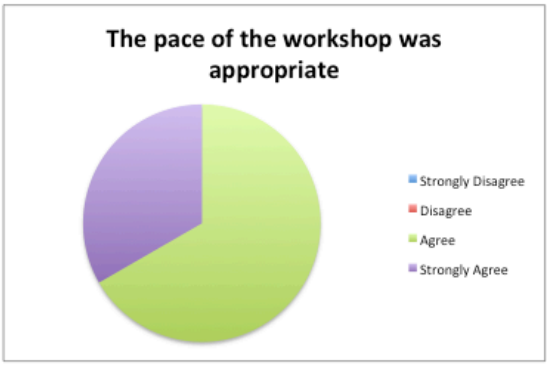
A. The SMART Approach



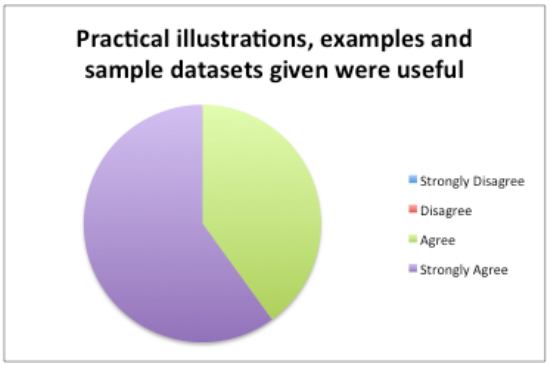


B. Training approach and content



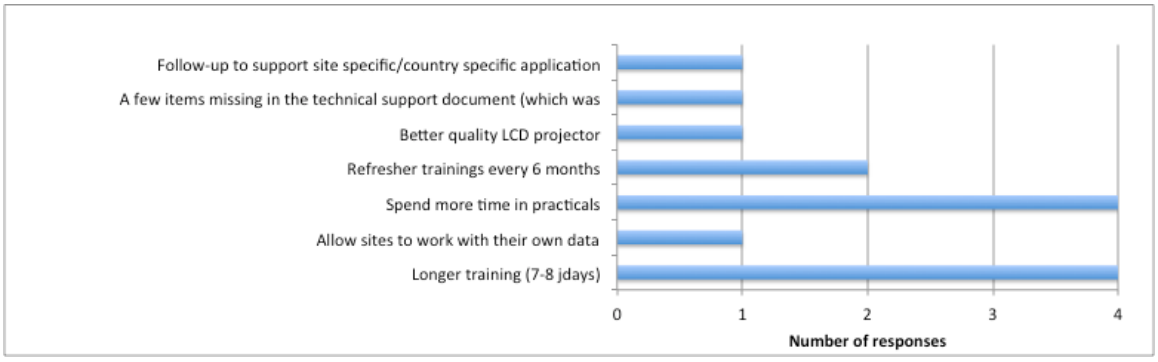


C. Training materials

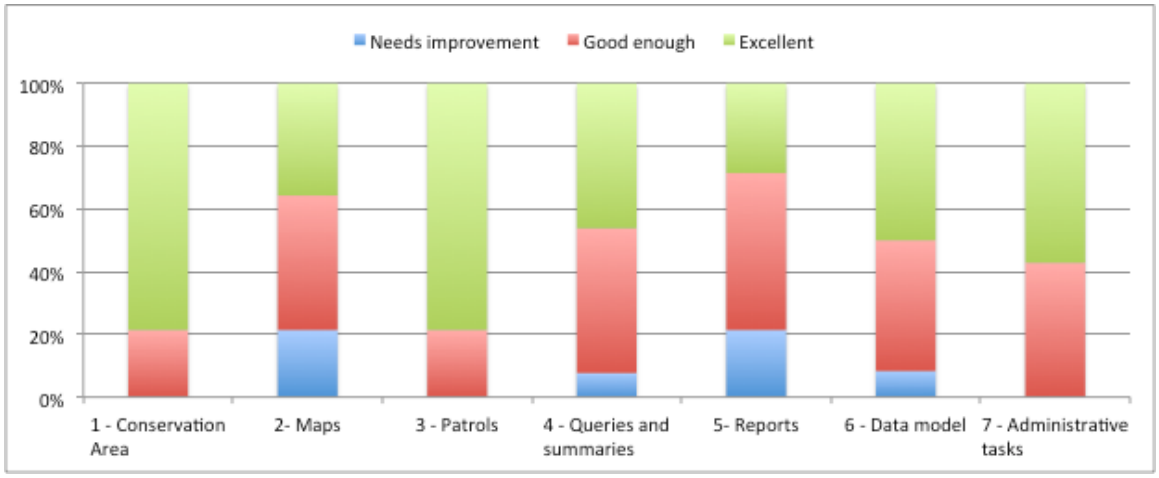


D. Overall

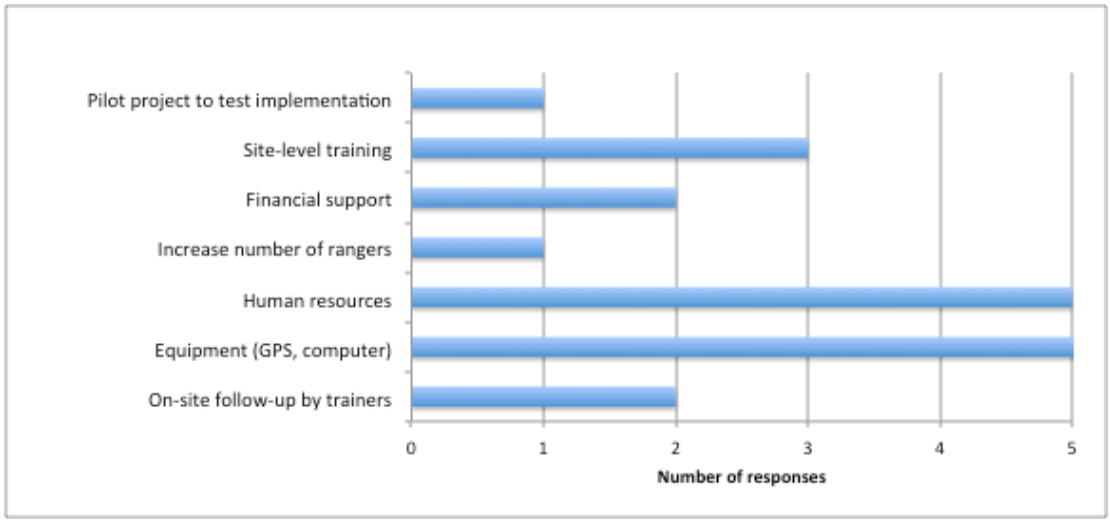
2. What improvements could be made to the training?



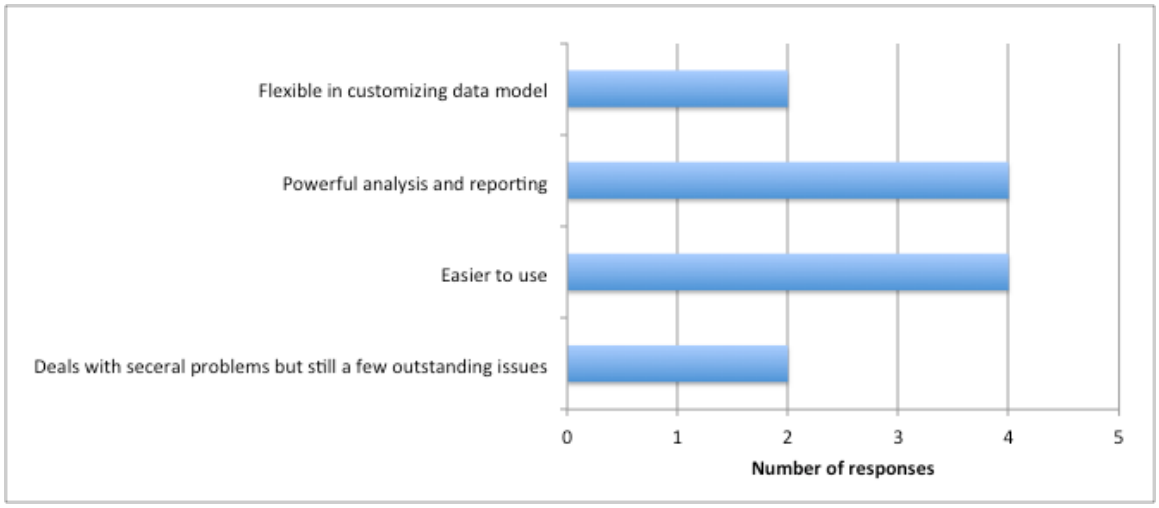
3. How does you rate the following components in SMART?



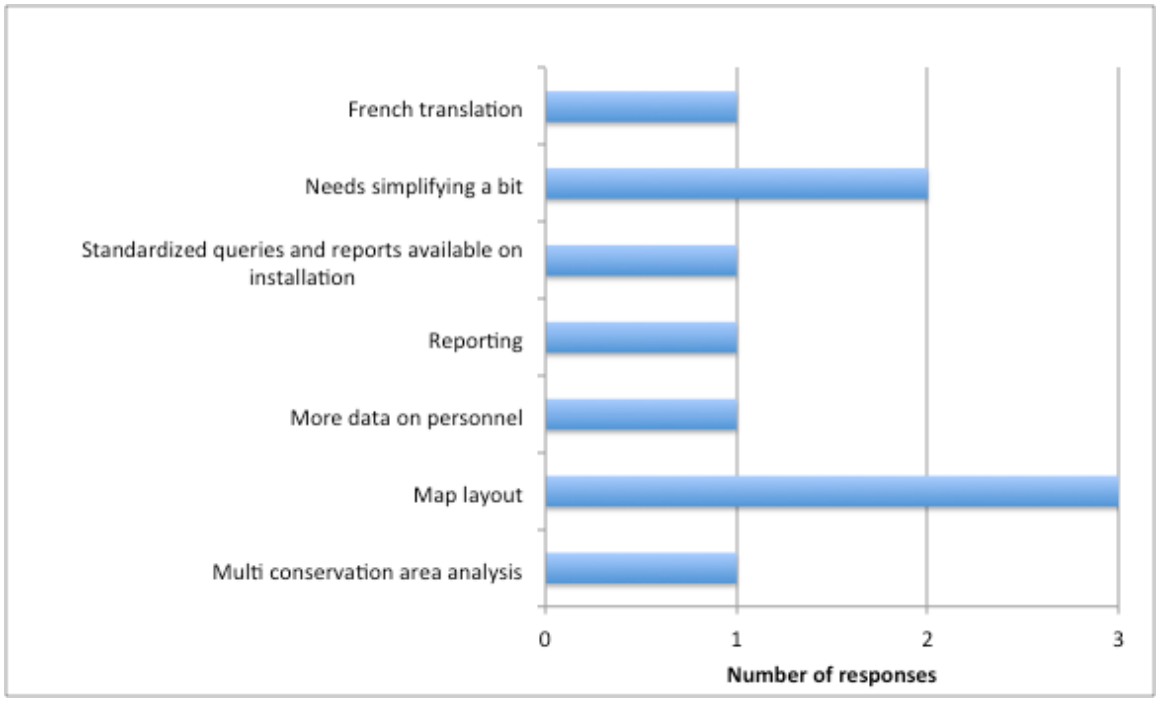
4. What resources do you need to implement SMART at your site?



5. How does SMART compare to other LEM tools?



6. How could SMART be improved?



Annexe I: List of participants

Name	Family Name	Site	Country	Agency	SMART User Level
Emma	Stokes	Trainer	Regional	WCS	Trainer
Ruth	Starkey	Trainer	Gabon	WCS	Trainer
Cedric	Sepulcre	Trainer	Gabon	WWF	Trainer
Serge	MIBAMBANI NDIMBA	National	Gabon	MinEF	LEM Focal Point
Gabin	Nzamba	Lope	Gabon	WCS	LEM Focal Point
Victor	Mbolo	TRIDOM	Congo	WWF	TA enforcement/Trainer
Diedonne	Ekotouba Bobomela	TRIDOM	Congo	WWF	TA enforcement/Trainer
Denis	Lambert	Dzanga National Park	CAR	DSPA	GIS assistant
Herbert	Ekodeck	Lobeke National Park	Cameroon	WWF	Anti-poaching coordinator
Rebecca	Atencia Fernandez	Tchimpounga	ROC	JGI	Country Director
Achille	Nsafou	Tchimpounga	ROC	JGI	Site Management/Trainer
Alain	Lushimba	DRC	DRC	AWF	Biological coordinator
Nianga	Leckosso	Tchimpounga	ROC	MinDDFE	Park Warden
Fortune	Iyenguet	Ndoki-Likouala	ROC	WCS	TA Monitoring/Trainer
Hilde	Vanleeuwe	Conkouati National Park	ROC	WCS	TA Suivi/Project Director
Ruffin	Ambahe Delarue	Deng Deng National Park	Cameroon	MinFOF	Biological TA/Patrol coordinator/Trainer
Edgar	Ambassa Ongono	Mbam-Djarem National Park	Cameroon	MinFOF	Biological TA/Patrol coordinator/Trainer
Martinique	Lusuna	Okapi Faunal Reserve	DRC	WCS	GIS expert
Nathanael Kasongo	Kakule	Okapi Faunal Reserve	DRC	ICCN	ICCN LEM Coordinator/MIKE officer

Annexe II: Workshop Agenda

SMART

Atelier de formation régional en Afrique Centrale

22 – 26 Mars 2013

Parc National de la Lopé, Gabon

L'ordre du jour

Préparé par WCS au nom du African Biodiversity Collaborative Group (ABCG)

the Jane Goodall Institute

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ECOFAC

Samedi, 23 Mars	**Ouverture, Introduction à SMART**	**CEDAMM, Lopé**
7 :00	***Petit déjeuner***	
8 :30 – 10 :00	Mot de bienvenue, présentation des participants et introduction aux objectifs de l'atelier Introduction et démonstration de SMART comme outil pour le suivi de l'application de la loi sur la faune	
10 :00-10 :30	***Pause café***	
10 :30-12 :00	Installation du logiciel SMART Module 1: Configuration d'une aire protégée Module 2: SMART – cartes	
12:00 – 13 :00	***Dejeuner***	
13 :00 – 15 :00	Module 3: Saisie des données - patrouille simple	
15:00 – 15:30	***Pause café***	
15 :30 – 16 :45	Réflexions sur le protocole de collecte de données	
18 :00	***Dîner***	

Dimanche, 24 Mars	**Collecte et saisie des données de patrouille**	**CEDAMM, Lopé**
7:00	***Petit déjeuner***	
8:30 – 10:00	*Sur le terrain :* Collecte de données d'une patrouille complexe (autour du CEDAMM)	
10:00 – 10:30	***Pause café***	
10:30 – 12:00	Module 3: Saisie des données - patrouille complexe	
12:00 – 13:00	***Déjeuner***	
13:00 – 15:00	Module 4 : Analyses: requêtes et résumés des données	
15 :00 – 15 :30	***Pause café***	
15 :30 – 16 :45	Module 4 : Analyses: requêtes et résumés des données (suite)	
18:00	***Dîner***	

Lundi, 25 Mars	**Analyse et rapportage des données de patrouille**	**CEDAMM, Lopé**
7:00	***Petit déjeuner***	
8:30 – 10:00	Module 5: Rapports	
10 :00 – 10 :30	***Pause café***	
10:30 – 12:00	Module 5: Rapports (suite)	
12:00 – 13 :00	***Déjeuner***	
13 :00 – 15 :00	Module 6 : Gestion de la base de données	
15 :00 – 15 :30	***Pause café***	
15 :30 – 16 :30	Module 7 : Fonctions administratives	
16 :30 – 18 :00	*Safari (Parc National de la Lopé)*	
19 :00	***Dîner***	

Mardi 26 Mars	**Mise en œuvre de SMART sur votre site**	**CEDAMM, Lopé**
7:00	***Petit déjeuner***	
8:15 – 10:00	Approche de gestion adaptive : comment utiliser les résultats SMART pour aider la conservation ?	
10:00 – 10:30	***Pause café***	
10:30 – 12:00	Besoins sur le site : personnes ressources, équipement, formation	
12:00 – 13 :00	***Déjeuner***	
13 :00 – 15 :00	Pratique/Evaluation	
16 :00	***Clôture de la formation***	
18 :00	***Fête !***	

Mercredi, 27 Mars	**DEPART DES PARTICIPANTS**
02 :00	***Départ train de la Lopé***
09 :00	***Arrivée train à Libreville***

Annexe III: Workshop Evaluation Questionnaire

Formation Régional en Afrique Centrale

CEDAMM, Parc National de la Lopé, 22 – 26 Mars, 2013

Evaluation de formation

Entourer uniquement UNE réponse par ligne

4 = Tout à fait en désaccord 3 = En désaccord 2 = d'accord 1 = Tout à fait d'accord

A	**Objectifs du cours**	**4**	**3**	**2**	**1**
1.	Les objectifs (ci-dessous) ont été atteints				
a.	Je me sens appartenir à une plus large communauté de LEM/SMART	**4**	**3**	**2**	**1**
b.	J'ai pu contribuer par mes retours à améliorer SMART	**4**	**3**	**2**	**1**
c.	Je suis à l'aise avec toutes les composantes de SMART	**4**	**3**	**2**	**1**
d.	Je suis capable de former d'autres utilisateurs à réaliser certaines étapes (ex. Saisie des données, utilisateurs de plus haut niveau etc)	**4**	**3**	**2**	**1**
e.	Je me réfère au Manuel comme ressource	**4**	**3**	**2**	**1**
B	**L'Approche SMART**				
2.	L'approche SMART du suivi de l'application de la loi est approprié et utile pour mon site	**4**	**3**	**2**	**1**
3.	SMART est une amélioration par rapport aux autres outils de suivi de l'appliction de la loi	**4**	**3**	**2**	**1**
C	**Contenu et approche de formation**	**4**	**3**	**2**	**1**
4.	Les idées, concepts et informations ont été présentés et communiqués de façon claire	**4**	**3**	**2**	**1**
5.	Les questions soulevées pendant la formation ont reçu les réponses	**4**	**3**	**2**	**1**

	adéquates				
6.	Les questions et la participation ont été encouragées	**4**	**3**	**2**	**1**
7.	Il y avait un bon équilibre entre les participants et les formateurs	**4**	**3**	**2**	**1**
8.	Il y avait une bonne interaction entre les participants et les formateurs	**4**	**3**	**2**	**1**
9.	Le lieu de la formation était approprié	**4**	**3**	**2**	**1**
10.	La durée de la formation était approprié	**4**	**3**	**2**	**1**
D	**Outils de formation**	**4**	**3**	**2**	**1**
11.	Le manuel est approprié et utile	**4**	**3**	**2**	**1**
12.	Les illustrations, exemples, et données fournies pendant la formation ont été utiles	**4**	**3**	**2**	**1**
E	**Et plus loin**	**4**	**3**	**2**	**1**
13.	Je peux appliquer les connaissances et techniques apprises pendant la formation dès mon retour au travail	**4**	**3**	**2**	**1**

14. Commet pourrions-nous améliorer la formation?

……

15. Quel est votre rôle dans l'utilisation de SMART:

a. Saisie de données b. Analyste c. Gestionnaire d. Utilisateur administratif e. Formateur

f. autre, précisez: ……

16. Notez les différentes composantes de SMART:

	Besoin d'amélioration	**Assez bien**	**Excellent**
Module 1 – Configurer une zone de conservation			
Module 2 – Navigation dans la carte			
Module 3 – Patrouilles			
Module 4 – Requêtes et Résumés			
Module 5 – Rapports			
Module 6– Gestion du modèle de données			
Module 7 – Fonctions administratives			

17. de quelle(s) ressource(s) avez-vous besoin pour mettre en oeuvre SMART sur votre site?

……

18. Comment trouvez-vous SMART par rapport aux autres outils de suivi de l'application de la loi?

……

19. Comment SMART pourrait-il être amélioré?

……

20. Autres commentaires et suggestions:

……..

Facultatif:

Nom: …… Email: ……

Employeur: ……..

Merci beaucoup!