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Lions of West Africa : ecology of lion (*Panthera leo* Linnaeus 1975) populations and human-lion conflicts in Pendjari Biosphere Reserve, North Benin
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Curriculum Vitae

Etotépé A. Sogbohossou was born on 4 June 1978 in Parakou, Benin. From 1995 to 2000, she studied at the Faculty of Agricultural Sciences, University of Abomey-Calavi, then at the National University of Benin, where she obtained an “Ingénieur Agronome” degree in December 2000. Just after her graduation, she became Research Assistant at the Laboratory of Applied Ecology at the University of Abomey-Calavi. She mainly participated in research on wildlife census and monitoring, rangeland management, and biodiversity conservation. She lectures to BSc and MSc students on fields related to wildlife census & monitoring methods, management of protected areas and large carnivore monitoring. She is also a member of CERGET NGO now CRGB (Research Centre for the Management of Biodiversity), a Beninese NGO working for the conservation of biodiversity. From 2001 to 2003, she has been in charge of the botanical part of the project African Medicinal Plants on the Net (PLAMENET) in Benin. She participated in several studies in Cameroon, Kenya and South Africa to nourish her passion for wildlife and large carnivores. With some other colleagues from the region, she participated to the creation of the Network on Lion Conservation in West and Central Africa (ROCAL in French) in 2002. She is in charge of Communication and Training of this network. She designed and led projects on carnivore conservation and human-predator conflict mitigation in Benin. From 2005 to 2008, with CERGET NGO, she led a project on the conservation of threatened medicinal plants with the creation of botanical gardens managed by local communities in northern Benin. In 2006 she came back as a student to the University of Abomey-Calavi to complete an MSc in Natural Resources Management. This MSc was an opportunity to explore phylogenetics of lion in West Africa with the Brookfield Zoo laboratory of Genetics, Chicago, US. After this MSc, she started a PhD on lion ecology in Pendjari Biosphere Reserve, Benin between the University of Leiden and the University of Abomey-



Calavi. In addition to a NUFFIC scholarship, she received a Kaplan Graduate Award from Panthera Foundation (2009-2010) and a Charlotte Fellowship from the African Wildlife Foundation (2010) to fund her PhD research.

Etotépé A. Sogbohossou is member of several networks among which the Cat Specialist Group and the World Commission for Protected Areas of the IUCN, the African Lion Working Group and the Society for Conservation Biology. As one of the first experts in carnivore conservation in West and Central Africa, she expects to significantly contribute to the sustainable conservation of endangered carnivores and other wildlife species in West Africa and to work for their sustainable cohabitation with human populations.