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Between Institutional Conservation and Peasant Strategies: Local Practices for Managing Human-Wildlife Conflicts Around Comoé National Park

Dokafolo Brahima SEKONGO[1], Guy Éric Anicet Quassy KOUAKOU[2], Anzian KOUACOU[3]

1 Master's in Sociology, Local Development, Peleforo GON COULIBALY University, Ivory Coast, dokabrahimasekongo@gmail.com

2 Environmental Sociologist, Peleforo GON COULIBALY University, Ivory Coast,quassy@gmail.com

3 Sociologist, Peleforo GON COULIBALY University, Ivory Coast, kouacouanzian@yahoo.fr

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ABSTRACT

Around Comoé National Park, wildlife incursions into agricultural lands create tension between institutional conservation goals and the preservation of livelihoods for local communities. This study analyzes local practices for managing human-wildlife conflicts and how they relate to institutional mechanisms for biodiversity protection. It is based on a qualitative and comprehensive approach, conducted with 45 participants selected through purposive sampling in nine villages in the Bouna, Nassian, and Dabakala sectors.

The data collected through semi-structured interviews, field observations, and literature review, were subjected to thematic content analysis and triangulation

The results reveal a variety of farmer strategies involving field surveillance, scarecrows, sound devices, used mosquito nets, and smoke, as well as trapping and killing animals. These practices reflect trade-offs between crop protection, food security, and compliance with hunting bans.

Their effectiveness remains limited by the persistence of incursions. According to respondents, inadequate institutional responses, the absence of compensation, and a lack of training undermine reporting efforts and cooperation with park managers. Village conservation and development associations, however, provide forums for collaboration on monitoring and combating poaching.

The study highlights the need for a collaborative management approach that combines recognition of farmers' traditional knowledge, technical support, and consideration of agricultural damage, to reconcile wildlife conservation with the security of livelihoods.

Key words: Human-wildlife conflicts; farmer strategies; institutional conservation; local governance; Comoé National Park.

1. INTRODUCTION

Biodiversity conservation in protected areas raises a central sociological question concerning the relationship between wildlife protection and the preservation of local communities' livelihoods. At the interfaces between agricultural lands and protected areas, interactions with wildlife bring together stakeholders with differing responsibilities, interests, and constraints (Meyer and Börner, 2022; Stevens, Rawat, Satterfield, 2024).

On the one hand, managers pursue goals of habitat and species conservation, while on the other, farmers seek to protect their crops, their livelihoods, and their food resources. Animal incursions thus represent situations in which the social conditions of conservation are negotiated (Galley and Anthony, 2024; Matsuura et al., 2024).

The guidelines of the International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN) advocate for a contextualized understanding of human-wildlife conflicts and for analytical and decision-making approaches that involve local communities, researchers, government agencies, and conservation professionals (IUCN, 2023).

This perspective calls for a joint examination of the damage caused by animals and the social and institutional responses it elicits. Indeed, these conflicts go beyond mere physical confrontations between humans and animals. Redpath et al. (2013) show that they also involve disagreements among human groups regarding the objectives, methods, and consequences of biodiversity conservation. Crop destruction therefore constitutes agricultural damage, while disputes regarding its prevention, reporting, or management reflect the relationships between communities and institutions.

In this context, farmers' practices for protecting fields represent a subject of sociological analysis, as they draw on experiential knowledge, available resources, and trade-offs between competing demands. Surveillance, scaring, trapping, and culling have different consequences for wildlife and farmers.

Understanding them requires examining the meanings that actors attribute to these practices, the constraints they address, and their relationships with conservation authorities. Hill (2021) emphasizes, in this regard, that coexistence and conflict are not necessarily mutually exclusive situations.

A community may recognize the value of conserving wildlife while simultaneously challenging the consequences of its presence or the methods used to protect it. Located in northeastern Côte d'Ivoire and designated a World Heritage Site since 1983, the Comoé National Park (PNC) provides a relevant setting for examining these tensions. Their diversity of habitats including savannas, gallery forests, and other forest formations gives it major ecological importance, while agricultural activities on its periphery pose a management challenge (UNESCO, n.d.). In its 2021–2023 action plan, the Ivorian Office of Parks and Reserves (OIPR), responsible for managing the PNC, notes that human-wildlife conflicts observed in certain nearby villages are likely to compromise the sustainable management of this protected area. (OIPR, 2021).

The issue, therefore, concerns the relationship between conservation requirements and the practices developed by local communities to address agricultural damage. The central question is: How do communities living near Comoé National Park develop their practices for managing human-wildlife conflicts, and how do these practices relate to institutional conservation mechanisms? The study aims primarily to analyze these practices and their relationship to institutional conservation.

More specifically, the objectives are to (i) identify crop protection practices and the justifications behind them; (ii) understand the constraints and institutional perceptions associated with their implementation; and (iii) examine the

forms of cooperation and tension between local communities and park managers.

This research is based on the hypothesis that farmers' strategies result from trade-offs between protecting livelihoods, available resources, and perceptions of institutional responses. When these institutional responses are deemed insufficient, certain defensive practices come into conflict with conservation objectives. This hypothesis guides a comprehensive analysis of discourses and practices, without claiming to establish a statistically proven causal relationship.

2. METHODOLOGY

2.1 Methodological Framework

This study adopts an empirical sociological approach using a qualitative methodology aimed at description and understanding. Data from semi-structured interviews, field observations, and literature reviews were cross-referenced during the analysis to establish connections between discourses, practices, and institutional contexts. This approach was chosen due to the complexity of human-wildlife conflicts, which involve agricultural, social, environmental, and institutional dimensions; understanding these requires grasping the experiences and meanings attributed to them by the actors involved.

Furthermore, the research is based on a descriptive approach. It aims to characterize local crop protection practices, the constraints associated with their implementation, and the relationships between local communities and managers of the Comoé National Park. From a comprehensive perspective, it examines the reasons cited by stakeholders to justify their strategies and attitudes toward conservation.

The integration of these various sources allows for the contextualization of farmers' practices and an understanding of the forms of cooperation and tension with institutions. The analysis distinguishes between observed practices, reported behaviors, and solutions proposed by the respondents. External scientific publications contribute to the contextualization and discussion of the results, without constituting additional empirical data on the study area.

2.2 Study area

This research was conducted on the outskirts of Comoé National Park, located in northeastern Côte d'Ivoire. The study covers nine villages spread across three sectors: Bania, Koflandé, and Kokpingué in the Bouna sector; Kakpin, Banvayo, and Gansé in the Nassian sector; Amaradougou, Gorowi, and Wendéné in the Dabakala sector (Figure 1). The investigations focused primarily on village areas and farms exposed to wildlife incursions. Agricultural production in the study area includes, in particular, maize, cassava, yams, rice, peanuts, vegetable crops, and cashews.

This study area is characterized by interactions between agricultural activities and biodiversity conservation. Farmers, traditional and village authorities, community representatives, and officials from the Ivorian Office of Parks and Reserves (OIPR) are all involved, each with different responsibilities and interests. The proximity of farms to the protected area thus provides a relevant context for examining reported agricultural damage, crop protection practices, and the relationships between local residents and managers.

The villages were selected in consultation with OIPR officials, based on recurring reports of animal incursions. This selection makes the studied periphery a particularly suitable setting for analyzing the interplay between smallholder strategies and institutional conservation. However, it focuses on situations prone to human- -wildlife conflicts and does not allow the selected localities to be considered representative of all areas bordering the park.

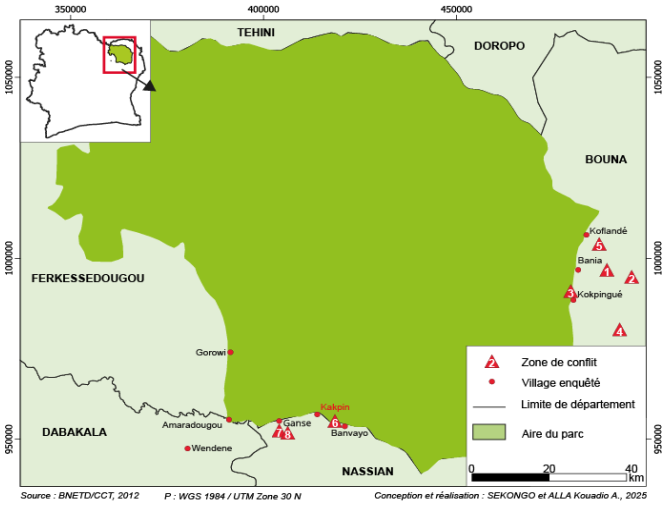


Figure 1: Location of Comoé National Park and the areas surveyed.

2.3. Study population

The study population consists of stakeholders involved in interactions with wildlife and its management on the outskirts of Comoé National Park, in the Bouna, Nassian, and Dabakala sectors. It includes farmers, livestock herders, fishermen, and traditional hunters, as well as traditional and village authorities, representatives of youth and women, and officials from the Ivorian Office of Parks and Reserves (OIPR).

The analysis focuses primarily on local communities facing animal incursions and agricultural damage, while incorporating information gathered from community leaders and park managers. These stakeholders play complementary roles.

Farmers develop practices to protect their livelihoods; local authorities help mobilize villagers and disseminate information; and OIPR agents work to conserve wildlife. This diversity allows us to understand the experiences, expectations, and relationships that shape local management of human-wildlife conflicts, without assuming homogeneity among local communities or the statistical representativeness of the respondents.

2.4 Sampling and Sample Size

The study employed a purposive sampling approach, selecting participants based on their knowledge of animal incursions, their experience with agricultural damage, and their involvement in local human-wildlife conflict management. This methodological choice was driven by the desire to gather in-depth information from stakeholders with direct knowledge of the interactions between agricultural activities and conservation on the outskirts of Comoé National Park.

A total of 45 people were interviewed, with five participants from each of the nine villages studying. The categories included farmers, traditional and village authorities, youth and women's representatives, and conservation stakeholders. Their selection was based on the relevance of their experiences, knowledge, and responsibilities for understanding crop protection practices and relationships with park managers.

The investigations were conducted in Bania, Koflandé, and Kokpingué in the Bouna sector; in Kakpin, Banvayo, and Gansé in the Nassian sector; and in Amaradougou, Gorowi, and Wendéné in the Dabakala sector. These locations were selected in consultation with OIPR officials due to recurring reports of animal incursions. This strategy thus prioritizes the richness of information and the diversity of experiences over statistical representativeness. The results therefore provide a contextualized understanding of the situations studied, though they cannot be generalized to all populations living near the park.

2.5 Data Collection Techniques and Tools

Data collection combined two complementary components literature review and field surveys to cross reference information sources and better understand local practices for managing human-wildlife conflicts around Comoé National Park.

The first component involved gathering scientific publications and documents on interactions between human populations and wildlife, agricultural damage, and conservation strategies in Côte d'Ivoire and other contexts. This literature review helped contextualize the study, identify the main dimensions of human-wildlife conflicts, and provide points of comparison for the analysis of empirical data.

The second phase was based on a field survey conducted in the nine selected villages, following a preparatory meeting with OIPR officials. Semi-structured interviews—both individual and group—were conducted with selected stakeholders using an interview guide. The discussions focused on the parties involved in the conflicts, the animals implicated, the nature and timing of the damage, crop protection practices, reports made to managers, and expectations regarding the handling of incursions. In addition, direct observations, guided by an observation grid, were used to document visible damage and the devices installed on farms. The interviews were recorded using a cell phone, while GPS coordinates were collected in some of the affected fields. Community liaisons and an OIPR agent facilitated access to the localities. The use of interpreters also enabled communication in local languages.

The combination of these techniques facilitated the triangulation of documentary information, statements, and observations. It made it possible to compare the perspectives of the stakeholders and contextualize their practices, while distinguishing between observed behaviors, reported experiences, and proposed solutions. This approach contributes to the credibility of the analysis— —though it does not, on its own, allow for measuring the effectiveness of the strategies or systematically verifying the animal origin of each instance of damage.

2.6 Data Processing and Analysis

The collected data underwent qualitative processing involving the transcription of interviews, manual coding, and thematic content analysis. Information derived from interviews, field observations, and literature reviews was organized to understand local practices for managing human-wildlife conflicts and their relationship to institutional conservation efforts.

Initially, the interview recordings were transcribed to the corpus for analysis. The verbal data were then sorted and classified into categories related to the research question.

These categories focused on experiences with animal incursions, reported agricultural impacts, crop protection practices, perceptions of institutional responses, and forms of cooperation with managers of the Comoé National Park. Qualitative summary tables were used to organize the information without assigning it statistical significance.

From a comparative and comprehensive perspective, the discourses of the various categories of stakeholders and the three sectors studied were compared to identify convergences and divergences in the experiences, justifications, and strategies described. Particular attention was paid to the distinctions between monitoring, deterrence, capture, and culling, as well as between individual farm protection and collective participation in conservation. The analysis also differentiated between the observed practices, reported behaviors, and solutions proposed by the respondents.

Finally, the interpretation was based on a cross-referenced analysis of interviews, observations, and documentary sources. This triangulation made it possible to contextualize the information and examine the links between agricultural damage, farmer constraints, and institutional relationships. Assessments regarding the responsiveness of managers and the lack of compensation were treated as reported experiences and perceptions, without constituting an exhaustive evaluation of the OIPR's actions. This approach thus allows for a contextualized understanding of the social logics that structure local practices, without establishing generalizable causal relationships.

2.7 Theoretical Framework

The analysis of local practices for managing human-wildlife conflicts around Comoé National Park is based on an integrated theoretical framework that combines the conservation conflict approach, the conflict levels model, and a comprehensive interpretation of farmers' strategies. These complementary perspectives enable an examination of agricultural damage, the meanings attributed to protective practices, and the relationships between local communities and conservation institutions.

In the conservation conflict approach, animal incursions are understood as tangible events whose management involves differing interests, responsibilities, and expectations. Redpath et al. (2013) show that these conflicts also involve disagreements among human groups regarding the objectives and methods of biodiversity protection. On the park's periphery, farmers seek to protect their crops and livelihoods, while managers pursue species and habitat conservation goals. The analysis thus distinguishes between damage directly caused by animals and tensions related to its prevention, reporting, and management.

This perspective is further explored by the model developed by Zimmermann et al. (2020), which distinguishes between conflicts over material issues, tensions associated with the deterioration of relationships among stakeholders, and more deeply rooted antagonisms. This model encourages identifying the nature of the difficulties encountered before defining appropriate responses. In this study, it allows us to examine the links between reported agricultural losses, institutional expectations, and expressed dissatisfaction, without presuming the existence of identity-based conflicts or automatically assigning a level of escalation to the surveyed localities.

A comprehensive analysis of farmers' strategies, meanwhile, aims to reconstruct the reasons stakeholders give for their behaviors. Surveillance, scaring away, trapping, and culling are analyzed as context-specific actions, developed based on experiences with incursions, available resources, work constraints, and perceived institutional responses. Understanding these practices does not require assuming their effectiveness is proven, nor does it require systematically interpreting them as a rejection of conservation. Hill (2021) emphasizes in this regard that coexistence and conflict can coexist within human-wildlife relationships.

Residents can thus contribute to park monitoring while simultaneously challenging the agricultural consequences of wildlife incursions and the ways in which these issues are addressed. From this integrated perspective, the analysis examines how the experience of damage and the possibilities for protection shape farmers' trade-offs, and then how these practices interact with institutional requirements and cooperation mechanisms.

The guiding hypothesis is that, when available resources and institutional responses are deemed insufficient, certain defensive strategies may come into conflict with conservation objectives. This framework serves as a lens for interpreting the reported social mechanisms, rather than an established causal sequence. It allows us to understand human-wildlife conflicts as configurations involving ecological interactions, agricultural constraints, and institutional relationships, the regulation of which depends on the concrete conditions of cooperation among the actors.

3. Results

3.1 Crop Protection Practices and Farmers' Justifications

The communities surveyed employ various practices to protect their crops from animal incursions (Table 1). One set of practices relies on surveillance and deterrence. These include maintaining a presence in the fields, setting up scarecrows, hanging used mosquito nets and noise-making materials, and using smoke. According to the farmers, these measures aim to keep animals away by simulating a human presence or by eliciting a fear response.

Surveillance requires family involvement. Several participants reported that their children help with this task, while a farmer from Gorowi said he handles it himself when his children are at school.

"I myself prefer to go chase away the animals that enter my plantation so my children can go to school…"

Crop protection thus appears to be an activity integrated into the organization of agricultural and domestic work.

A second set of practices includes trapping and reported culling. The respondents involved describe these practices as ways to limit crop destruction and deter further incursions. In Bania, a farmer explains:

"I set traps in my field to catch the wild animals that come to eat my crops."

Other suggestions involve fencing off farms and authorizing hunting. These reflect expectations for protection and should not be equated with measures that have been implemented.

Table 1: Crop Protection Practices and Associated Justifications

Practices or proposals	Justifications given
Field monitoring	To detect incursions and prevent crop damage
Scarecrows	Simulate human presence to scare away animals
Hanging used mosquito nets	Deter animals from entering farms
Suspended noise-making devices	Produce noises designed to repel wildlife
Use of smoke	Keep animals away and signal a presence
Setting traps	Capturing animals that damage crops
Shooting	Stopping damage and deterring animals from returning
Fencing off fields	Preventing access to crops without culling
Authorizing hunting	Reducing incursions or the perceived abundance of animals

Source: D. B. Sekongo (2025)

These results reveal a diverse range of responses. The justifications focus primarily on crop preservation and the pursuit of protection deemed accessible.

3.2 Institutional constraints and perceptions associated with protection practices

The implementation of these practices is primarily hindered by repeated incursions. Farmers describe animals returning despite surveillance and the installation of deterrent devices. Some accounts highlight the difficulty of maintaining a continuous presence in the fields. According to participants, this constraint limits the ability to always prevent damage. The testimony of this farmer in Amaradougou illustrates these facts:

"Every time, we chase away the animals that come to eat our crops. But a short time later, they come back. It's really hard to protect our crops…"

Respondents also mention a lack of training and technical support. The practices used rely mainly on available resources and local experience.

Institutional regulations feature prominently in the discussions. Some participants view the hunting ban as a restriction on their ability to protect their crops. Others associate it with a supposed increase in the number of animals in the park. These explanations shed light on their perceptions, without demonstrating a change in animal populations or a causal relationship between hunting restrictions and incursions.

Finally, several respondents report a lack of responsiveness following reports or interventions limited to mere observation. In Nassian, a youth representative states:

"Often they just come to make a simple report and don't compensate us."

Table 2: Reported Institutional Constraints and Perceptions

Dimension	Data Collected	Described consequences or limitations of scope
Persistence of incursions	Damage reported despite the measures taken	Protection deemed insufficient by some producers
Availability of labor	Family supervision and support related to school obligations	Difficulty maintaining a continuous presence
Technical support	Reported lack of training and support	Use of locally controlled resources and practices
Hunting restrictions	Prohibition perceived as a limitation on possible responses	Requests for authorization and challenges to certain requirements
Explanations for incursions	Supposed abundance of animals or lack of food	Local interpretations not ecologically verified
Intervention by managers	Lack of response or findings deemed insufficient in some accounts	Dissatisfaction and the usefulness of reports called into question
Compensation	No compensation, according to the participants concerned	Expectation that agricultural losses will be covered

Source: D. B. Sekongo (2025)

The statements show that producers evaluate institutional responses based on their perceived ability to protect crops or account for losses. They thus distinguish between the existence of an intervention and whether it meets their expectations.

3.3 Forms of Cooperation and Tension Between Local Residents and Managers

Relationships between residents and managers involve both cooperation and dissatisfaction. Village chiefs and community representatives relay the OIPR's awareness-raising messages. Village conservation and development associations (AVCDs) also participate in monitoring and reporting information regarding hunting and poaching.

In Bania, a youth representative describes this collaboration

"We work with the OIPR; if we see a hunter in the park or on its outskirts, we immediately notify OIPR officers."

In Amaradougou, the village chief reports local opposition to the presence of poachers.

"When we see people entering the park to hunt animals, we confront them when we can, or we notify park officials."

These accounts show that certain stakeholders are committed to protecting the park, even when they express concerns about agriculture.

Tensions primarily concern the means of defending crops and the follow-up measures taken in response to damage. The reported trapping and culling conflict with wildlife protection objectives. Requests for hunting also reflect a ly challenging perceived restriction. Furthermore, some respondents indicate that the lack of expected responses discourages them from reporting incidents.

The remarks of the village chief of Kakpin illustrate this analysis:

"We've informed park officials several times when we've noticed damage in the park, but they rarely come. That discourages us."

Table 3: Cooperation and Tensions in Relations with Park Managers

Relationship Profile	Observed Manifestations	Implications of the findings
Awareness-raising	Village leaders relaying OIPR messages	Participation in disseminating guidelines
Community monitoring	Report on hunting and poaching activities	Reported contribution to park protection
Opposition to poaching	Reports of poachers' presence in Amaradougou	Local commitment, not generalized to all villages
Reports of damage	Communication directly or through community intermediaries	Existence of contacts between producers and managers
Challenges to authorized methods	Requests for hunting permits	Disagreement on agricultural protection options
Defensive practices	Trapping and reported culling	Conflict with conservation goals
Institutional dissatisfaction	Interventions deemed insufficient and reported lack of compensation	Cooperation called into question in some accounts
Participation in decision-making	Limited information on the influence of associations	Co-management and decision-making authority not established

Source: D. B. Sekongo (2025)

4. Discussion

The results highlight the diversity of practices employed by farmers to protect their crops, including surveillance, deterrence, trapping, and reported culling. These responses are shaped by past experiences with wildlife incursions, available resources, and expected outcomes. Understanding them therefore requires contextualizing them within the agricultural and social conditions under which they are implemented. This interpretation aligns with Pooley et al. (2021), who propose analyzing coexistence in its ecological, social, and cultural dimensions, moving beyond an interpretation focused exclusively on damage to examine the conditions under which humans and wildlife share landscapes.

Around Comoé National Park, surveillance and deterrent measures thus represent attempts to adapt to the presence of wildlife, though their use does not necessarily indicate stable coexistence or long-term effectiveness.

The family-wide mobilization required for surveillance also highlights the existence of burdens that potentially exceed production losses. The rotation of duties between children and adults reflects adjustments to school and farming obligations. From this perspective, Ainsworth et al. (2020) emphasizes the value of integrating local and scientific knowledge by comparing their points of convergence, their divergence, and priorities for action. Such an approach could enable the evaluation of management strategies with producers, considering their accessibility, their effects on incursions, and their consequences for wildlife. Recognizing farmers' experience, however, requires distinguishing between different strategies.

Trapping and culling directly harm animals, whereas monitoring and deterrence primarily aim to drive them away. Agricultural justifications shed light on these practices but do not demonstrate their compatibility with conservation objectives. The challenge, therefore, is to identify protection measures adapted to local constraints and whose effects can be evaluated.

Furthermore, the persistence of incursions, monitoring difficulties, and the reported lack of support limit producers' options for action. These constraints are intertwined with institutional perceptions. Some respondents view hunting restrictions as a limitation on their means of defense and consider interventions insufficient when they are limited to merely documenting the damage.

The model proposed by Zimmermann et al. (2020), which distinguishes between material problems and the relational tensions that may accompany them, helps shed light on this situation. Preventing incursions and addressing dissatisfaction with institutional oversight are two related but distinct dimensions. Thus, a technical improvement alone would not necessarily satisfy expectations regarding recognition and information.

Claims for compensation also raise the issue of the distribution of conservation burdens. Jordan et al. (2020) identify the unequal distribution of the costs and benefits of coexistence as an obstacle to its improvement.

The comments gathered can thus be interpreted as an expectation that the losses incurred by producers be taken into account, without allowing for a comprehensive assessment of the benefits associated with the park or a conclusion that such benefits are absent. Similarly, statements regarding animal abundance or food shortages within the protected area represent local interpretations that shed light on the respondents' reasoning but require verification against ecological data.

The analysis therefore highlights the perceptions guiding practices without providing an exhaustive evaluation of the OIPR's actions. An examination of intervention records and operational resources would provide a better understanding of the gaps between farmers' expectations and perceived institutional responses. The results clearly demonstrate cooperation regarding awareness-raising, monitoring, and the reporting of poaching. This finding aligns with Hill (2021), who argues that conflict and coexistence can occur simultaneously in human-wildlife relationships. Stakeholders can support park protection while challenging certain restrictions or intervention procedures. Their participation in specific activities does not, therefore, imply overall satisfaction with management.

Drawing on conflicts related to large European carnivores, Salvatori et al. (2020) emphasizes the importance of trust, communication, and institutional commitment in participatory approaches, as well as the expectation of concrete results. Despite differences in context, their work sheds light on accounts of discouragement following reports deemed to have gone unaddressed and calls for an examination of the continuity between information sharing, intervention, and feedback to stakeholders.

Village associations offer opportunities for dialogue, but their contribution to monitoring is not sufficient to establish their influence on decisions. The participatory learning experience analyzed by Kansky et al. (2024) among farmers in Namibia demonstrates the value of approaches that promote an understanding of governance, the identification of

interventions, and the strengthening of collaborative capacities. It suggests the relevance of forums that bring together residents and managers to examine problems and evaluate responses, without assuming their immediate transferability. The study thus provides qualitative support for the hypothesis of a link between agricultural damage, available resources, and perceived institutional responses, though it does not allow for the isolation of causal effects. Its contribution lies in identifying conditions for cooperation that warrant further exploration.

These could include recognition of agricultural concerns, accessibility to follow-up reports, and participation in defining solutions.

CONCLUSION

This study analyzes local practices for managing human-wildlife conflicts and their relationship with institutional conservation efforts around Comoé National Park. The results reveal a diverse range of practices, including surveillance, deterrence, trapping, and reported culling. These practices reflect trade-offs between crop protection, available resources, and conservation requirements. Their implementation is accompanied by constraints related to persistent incursions, the reliance on family labor, and a reported lack of support. Relations with managers combine community cooperation with dissatisfaction regarding interventions and the handling of damages.

The scope of these findings remains limited, however. The purposive sampling of 45 participants in nine villages selected for their recurring incursions prioritizes the relevance of the experiences without allowing for statistical generalization to the entire surrounding population. A single field campaign also does not allow for a full understanding of seasonal variations. The lack of systematic measurements of agricultural losses and the effectiveness of the measures limits the evaluation of these practices. Finally, translation challenges, institutional support, and the significant role of self-reports call for a contextualized interpretation of the results, without establishing general causality or providing an exhaustive assessment of the OIPR's actions.

The study thus highlights the value of a collaborative management approach that combines recognition of farmers' experiences, technical support, and follow-up on reports. Future research could combine seasonal observations, participatory evaluation of protection measures, and analysis of institutional procedures to clarify the conditions for coexistence that reconcile wildlife conservation with the security of livelihoods.

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