

**NON HUMAN PRIMATE CONSERVATION IN GUINEA-BISSAU (WEST AFRICA)**

C. Casanova<sup>1,2</sup> and C. Sousa<sup>3</sup>

<sup>1</sup>*Instituto de Ciencias Sociais e Politicas (Universidade Tecnica de Lisboa) and CAPP, Portugal,* <sup>2</sup>*Centro de Biologia Ambiental, Faculdade de Ciencias (Universidade de Lisboa), Portugal,* <sup>3</sup>*Faculdade de Ciencias Sociais e Humanas (Universidade Nova de Lisboa) and CRIA, Portugal*

*Presenter's Email: ccasanova@iscsp.utl.pt*

As many forest areas are being destroyed, many non human primates are becoming more seriously threatened and on the brink of extinction. Several primate species are present in Guinea-Bissau: chimpanzees (*Pan troglodytes verus*), both King and Western Red colobus (*Procolobus polikomos* and *Procolobus badius temminckii*), sooty mangabey (*Cercocebus torquatus atys*), patas monkeys (*Erythrocebus patas*), vervets (*Chlorocebus aethiops*), campbelli and petaurista monkeys (*Cercopithecus campbelli* and *Cercopithecus petaurista*), guinea baboon (*Papio hamadryas papio*) and galagos (*Galago senegalensis senegalensis*). As forest resources are dwindling at an alarming rate, we conducted a field survey (4 months) about humans hunting habitats and agricultural techniques used. We also conducted forest incursions to identify major primate threats, their presence or absence. Several primate species were identified and impact areas were recognized. There were hunters in all villages visited (N=178). Primate populations living in national parks and reserves are hunted and habitat destruction (slash-and-burn technique) occurs inside such protected areas. Although human survival is not dependent of primate consumption, the majority of the interviewed villagers and hunters hunted and some, although religious principles did not allow it, even ate baboon, wild pig and other animal carcasses. Our study identified heavy bushmeat trade (especially involving baboons, colobus and other primates) and pet trade routes. Finally, we will present maps regarding the presence and absence or recent disappearance of most primate species.

Keywords: Guinea-Bissau, Conservation, Non human primates, Threats