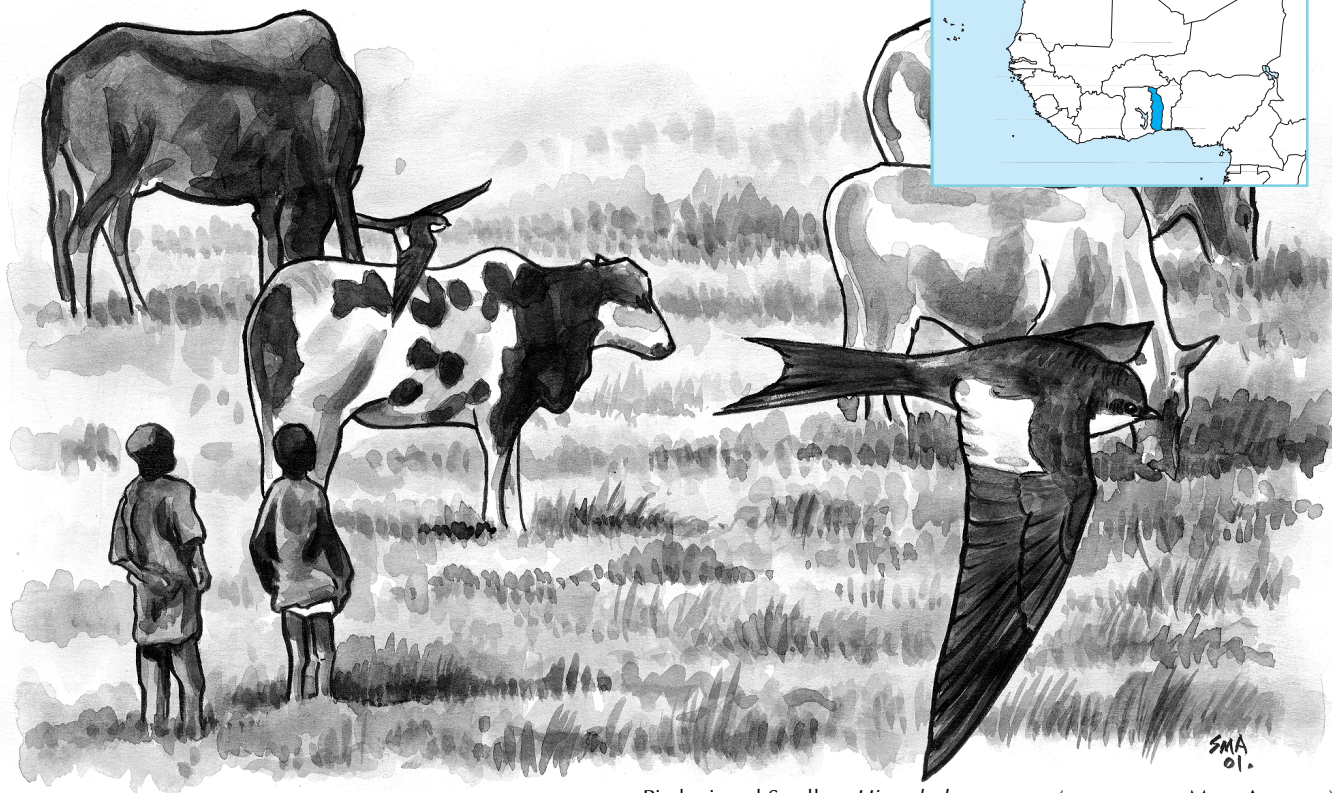


# ■ TOGO

R. A. CHEKE



Pied-winged Swallow *Hirundo leucosoma*. (ILLUSTRATION: MARK ANDREWS)

## GENERAL INTRODUCTION

The Republic of Togo is a narrow country covering 54,000 km<sup>2</sup>. The territory stretches 570 km northwards inland from the Atlantic coast of West Africa to its border with Burkina Faso at 11°N. The country's width ranges from only 50 to 135 km, with a coastline between Ghana, to the west, and Benin, to the east, of 70 km.

The main topographical feature is the ridge known as the Atacora Chain, which runs diagonally across the country from the south-west, where it extends into Ghana, to the north-east, where it penetrates into Benin. This feature means that the vegetation zones in Togo are not differentiated into strips of different types running parallel to the coast, as in much of West Africa, but rather run diagonally to it. Along the southern parts of the Atacora, west of a line joining the towns of Blitta, Atakpamé and Kpalimé, some forest remains, especially in the Plateaux Region. It is in these forest remnants that the most endangered of Togo's flora and fauna survives. The restriction of the forest to the western part of the country, apart from some isolates and gallery strips along riverbanks, and the lack of forest throughout most of central and northern Benin, accounts for the zoogeographically interesting Togo-Benin (or Dahomey) Gap. This gap of mostly savanna vegetation lies between the forest block stretching eastwards from Nigeria and the Upper Guinea forests from Ghana westwards. Consequently, the forest fauna, including birds, of Togo and Benin is impoverished in comparison with that of Ghana and Nigeria. The Togolese forest avifauna is akin to that of Ghana and there are no forest species recorded from Togo which do not also occur in Ghana.

Despite its small size Togo has a diversity of habitats. In addition to the forest remnants, there is some Sudan savanna in the north-western corner and there are extensive tracts of both northern and southern Guinea savanna. Areas of submontane forest and grass-covered hills are found in the Togo highlands, and there is an important coastal lake (Lake Togo) and a coconut palm-lined coastal strip. Two major river systems flow through the country.

The Mono system in the southern half of the country drains through southern Guinea savanna and derived savanna to reach the sea. The Oti river system, in the north, flows through northern Guinea savanna into the Volta Lake in Ghana.

The pattern of the seasons is typical for West Africa and is determined by the movements of the Inter-tropical Convergence Zone (ITCZ) bringing rain from April to October. However, the topography also influences precipitation such that the areas of highest rainfall are not the southernmost parts of the country, but lie in a band running from 7° to 10°N across the centre of the territory. During the dry months, the Harmattan wind blows from the north bringing hot dry air almost to the coast.

The population in 1993 was 3,900,000 with an annual average increase between 1990 and 1993 of 3.2%. Administratively, the country is divided into five Régions and 21 Préfectures, with the capital, Lomé, situated on the coast, against the border with Ghana. Much of the country, especially the coastal area, is densely populated (68 people/km<sup>2</sup>) and cultivation is intense. Staple foods include yams, cassava, beans, groundnuts, maize, sorghum, millet and rice. Much cotton is grown and there are some sugar plantations. In the forested Plateaux Region, cocoa and coffee are cultivated, as are fruits such as banana and pineapple. Small ruminants are plentiful and there is some pastoralism with nomadic livestock. Phosphate mines are an important economic resource in the south-east. Although substantial areas have been set aside as reserves, they are increasingly subject to encroachment, poaching, deforestation and a breakdown in the systems designed to protect them.

## ORNITHOLOGICAL IMPORTANCE

Although it is the third-smallest country in West Africa (after the Gambia and Guinea-Bissau), 624 species of bird have been recorded in Togo. Of these, 408 are known or thought to be breeding residents, 109 are Palearctic migrants, 80 are intra-African migrants

<b>Table 1.</b> Summary of Important Bird Areas in Togo.			4 IBAs covering 5,085 km <sup>2</sup>		
IBA code	Site name	Administrative region	Criteria (see p.11; for A3 codes, see Table 2)		
			A1	A3	A05
TG001	Oti Valley Faunal Reserve	Savanes		✓	
TG002	Kéran National Park	Savanes		✓	
TG003	Fazao-Malfakassa National Park	Centrale	✓	✓	✓
TG004	Misahöhe Forest Reserve	Plateaux	✓		✓
Total number of IBAs qualifying:			2	3	2

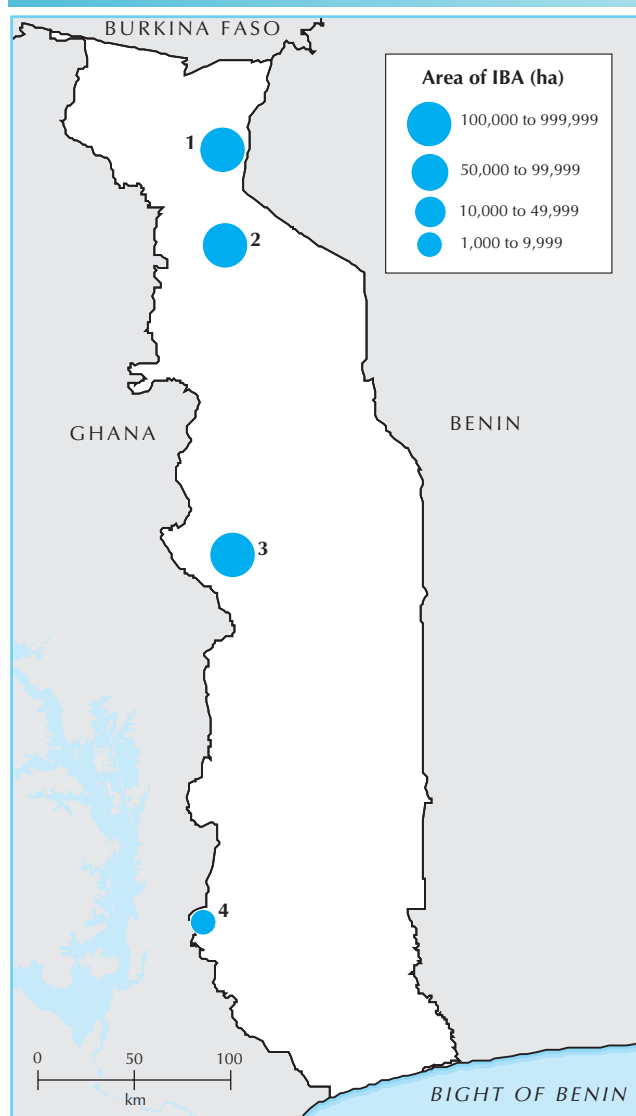
and the remainder are vagrants, including some from the Nearctic—a *Sterna hirundo* ringed in the USA has been recovered at Lomé.

Twelve species of global conservation concern have been recorded. Four of these, *Aythya nyroca* (VU), *Circus macrourus* (NT), *Gallinago media* (NT) and *Glareola nordmanni* (NT), are migrants from the Palearctic, the status of which ranges from vagrant to uncommon (*G. media*). Also non-breeding migrants are *Morus capensis* (vagrant) (NT) and *Sterna balaenarum* (uncommon) (NT). The remainder, (all NT), *Ceratogymna cylindricus*, *C. elata*, *Phyllastrephus baumanni*, *Malaconotus lagdeni*, *Illadopsis rufescens* and *Lamprotornis cupreocauda*, are all thought to be resident, but only *C. elata* and *P. baumanni* are known from more than single, scattered records. *Ceratogymna cylindricus*, *I. rufescens* and *L. cupreocauda* as well as *Apalis sharpei*, of which there is also only one record, are all species of restricted range, of the Upper Guinea forests Endemic Bird Area (EBA 084).

Parts of two biomes occur in Togo. Almost all the country falls within the Sudan–Guinea Savanna biome (A04) and 38 species restricted to it have been recorded nationally. Small outliers, however, of the Guinea–Congo Forests biome (A05) are found in parts of the western highlands and 113 species restricted to this biome are, so far, known to occur.

Of the many species of Palearctic migrant which visit Togo in the dry months, concentrations of *Delichon urbica* and *Apus melba* are the most remarkable, given their rarity in other African countries. Migrating terns, including *S. balaenarum* and *S. dougallii* and waders use the coastal habitats but some species of Palearctic waders also occur on passage inland, usually at wetland sites. The latter also host wetland species such as *Balearica pavonina*, *Ardea cinerea* and *Plectropterus gambensis*.

**Map 1.** Location and size of Important Bird Areas in Togo.



**Table 2.** The occurrence of biome-restricted species at Important Bird Areas in Togo. Sites that meet the A3 criterion are highlighted in **bold**. Species of global conservation concern are highlighted in **bold blue**. Any other species with a restricted range are highlighted in blue.

**A04 – Sudan–Guinea Savanna biome** (38 species in Togo; three sites meet the A3 criterion)

IBA code:	001	002	003	004
<i>Falco alopex</i>	✓	✓	✓	
<i>Vanellus superciliosus</i>				
<i>Streptopelia hypopyrrha</i>				
<i>Pocephalus senegalus</i>	✓	✓	✓	
<i>Musophaga violacea</i>	✓	✓	✓	
<i>Merops bullocki</i>	✓	✓	✓	
<i>Coracias cyanogaster</i>			✓	
<i>Lybius dubius</i>	✓	✓		
<i>Galerida modesta</i>	✓			
<i>Hirundo leucosoma</i>		✓		
<i>Corvinella corvina</i>	✓	✓		
<i>Cossypha albicapilla</i>		✓		
<i>Myrmecocichla albigrons</i>		✓		
<i>Turdoides reinwardtii</i>	✓	✓		
<i>Cisticola ruficeps</i>				
<i>Cisticola rufus</i>		✓		
<i>Hypergerus atriceps</i>	✓	✓		
<i>Eremomela pusilla</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓
<i>Muscicapa gambagae</i>				
<i>Anthoscopus parvulus</i>				

IBA code:	001	002	003	004
<i>Nectarinia coccinigaster</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓
<i>Emberiza affinis</i>		✓		
<i>Nesocharis capistrata</i>				
<i>Pytilia phoenicoptera</i>		✓		
<i>Pytilia hypogrammica</i>			✓	
<i>Lagonosticta rufopicta</i>		✓		
<i>Lagonosticta rara</i>			✓	
<i>Lagonosticta larvata</i>		✓		
<i>Estrilda caerulea</i>		✓		
<i>Estrilda troglodytes</i>	✓	✓		
<i>Vidua interjecta</i>		✓		
<i>Vidua togoensis</i>		✓		
<i>Petronia dentata</i>	✓	✓		
<i>Plocepasser superciliosus</i>		✓		
<i>Ploceus heuglini</i>	✓	✓		
<i>Lamprotornis purpureus</i>	✓	✓		
<i>Lamprotornis chalcurus</i>		✓		
<i>Ptilostomus afer</i>	✓	✓		
Number of species recorded:	16	28	9	2

**Table 2 ... continued.** The occurrence of biome-restricted species at Important Bird Areas in Togo. Sites that meet the A3 criterion are highlighted in **bold**. Species of global conservation concern are highlighted in **bold blue**. Any other species with a restricted range are highlighted in blue.

<b>A05 – Guinea–Congo Forests biome</b> (113 species in Togo; two sites meet the A3 criterion)							
IBA code:	001	003	004	IBA code:	001	003	004
<i>Tigriornis leucolophus</i>		✓		<i>Bleda canicapilla</i>			✓
<i>Accipiter erythropus</i>			✓	<i>Nicator chloris</i>			✓
<i>Urotriorchis macrourus</i>				<i>Criniger barbatus</i>			✓
<i>Spizaetus africanus</i>		✓		<i>Criniger calurus</i>			✓
<i>Francolinus lathamii</i>		✓		<i>Dryoscopus sabinii</i>			
<i>Francolinus achantensis</i>		✓	✓	<i>Laniarius leucorhynchus</i>		✓	
<i>Sarothrura pulchra</i>	✓		✓	<i>Malaconotus cruentus</i>			✓
<i>Himantornis haematopus</i>			✓	<i>Prionops caniceps</i>			✓
<i>Columba iriditorques</i>			✓	<i>Neocossyphus poensis</i>		✓	
<i>Turtur brehmeri</i>			✓	<i>Alethe diademata</i>			✓
<i>Psittacus erythacus</i>		✓		<i>Stiphornis erythrothorax</i>			✓
<i>Tauraco persa</i>		✓		<i>Illadopsis rufescens</i>			
<i>Cercococcyx mechowi</i>			✓	<i>Illadopsis puveli</i>			✓
<i>Chrysococcyx flavigularis</i>			✓	<i>Illadopsis fulvescens</i>			✓
<i>Centropus leucogaster</i>				<i>Phyllanthus atripennis</i>			✓
<i>Caprimulgus nigriscapularis</i>				<i>Apalis sharpei</i>			
<i>Telacanthura melanopygia</i>				<i>Camaroptera supercilialis</i>			
<i>Rhaphidura sabinii</i>				<i>Camaroptera chloronota</i>			✓
<i>Neafrapus cassini</i>				<i>Eremomela badiceps</i>			
<i>Alcedo leucogaster</i>				<i>Sylvietta virens</i>			✓
<i>Merops gularis</i>				<i>Sylvietta denti</i>			
<i>Merops malimbicus</i>				<i>Macrosphenus concolor</i>			✓
<i>Eurystomus gularis</i>			✓	<i>Hylia prasina</i>			✓
<i>Tockus albocristatus</i>			✓	<i>Hylia violacea</i>			✓
<i>Tockus hartlaubi</i>			✓	<i>Muscicapa ussheri</i>			
<i>Tockus fasciatus</i>		✓	✓	<i>Muscicapa epulata</i>			
<i>Ceratogymna fistulator</i>		✓		<i>Muscicapa comitata</i>		✓	
<i>Ceratogymna subcylindricus</i>				<i>Muscicapa cassini</i>			✓
<i>Ceratogymna cylindricus</i>				<i>Bias flammulatus</i>			✓
<i>Ceratogymna atrata</i>			✓	<i>Platysteira castanea</i>			✓
<i>Gymnobucco calvus</i>			✓	<i>Platysteira blissetti</i>			✓
<i>Gymnobucco peli</i>				<i>Trochocercus nitens</i>		✓	✓
<i>Pogoniulus scolopaceus</i>			✓	<i>Terpsiphone rufiventer</i>			✓
<i>Buccanodon duchaillui</i>				<i>Anthreptes fraseri</i>			✓
<i>Tricholaema hirsuta</i>			✓	<i>Nectarinia seimundi</i>			✓
<i>Indicator maculatus</i>		✓		<i>Nectarinia reichenbachii</i>			
<i>Prodotiscus insignis</i>			✓	<i>Nectarinia cyanolaema</i>			
<i>Campethera maculosa</i>			✓	<i>Nectarinia fuliginosa</i>			
<i>Campethera nivosus</i>			✓	<i>Nectarinia adelberti</i>			✓
<i>Dendropicos gabonensis</i>			✓	<i>Nectarinia superba</i>			
<i>Dendropicos pyrrhogaster</i>			✓	<i>Pholidornis rushiae</i>			✓
<i>Smithornis rufolateralis</i>			✓	<i>Nigrita bicolor</i>			✓
<i>Hirundo nigrita</i>				<i>Nigrita luteifrons</i>			✓
<i>Psalioprocne nitens</i>				<i>Spermophaga haematina</i>			✓
<i>Psalioprocne obscura</i>		✓		<i>Ploceus aurantius</i>			
<i>Coracina azurea</i>			✓	<i>Ploceus nigerrimus</i>			
<i>Andropadus gracilis</i>			✓	<i>Ploceus tricolor</i>			✓
<i>Andropadus ansorgei</i>				<i>Malimbus scutatus</i>			✓
<i>Andropadus curvirostris</i>			✓	<i>Malimbus malimbicus</i>			✓
<i>Calyptocichla serina</i>				<i>Malimbus rubricollis</i>			✓
<i>Baeopogon indicator</i>			✓	<i>Poeoptera lugubris</i>			
<i>Chlorocichla simplex</i>			✓	<i>Onychognathus fulgidus</i>			✓
<i>Thescelocichla leucopleura</i>		✓		<i>Lamprotornis cupreocauda</i>			
<i>Phyllastrephus scandens</i>			✓	<i>Oriolus brachyrhynchus</i>			✓
<i>Phyllastrephus baumanni</i>			✓	<i>Oriolus nigripennis</i>			✓
<i>Phyllastrephus albigularis</i>			✓	<i>Dicrurus atripennis</i>			✓
<i>Phyllastrephus icterinus</i>				Number of species recorded:	1	15	67

CONSERVATION INFRASTRUCTURE AND PROTECTED-AREA SYSTEM

Legislation concerning protected zones is covered by the Environment Code of Act No. 88-14 of 3 November 1988. The Département des Forêts, de la Chasse et de l'Environnement (Department of Forests, Hunting and the Environment) within the Ministère de l'Environnement et du Tourisme (Ministry of Environment and Tourism) is responsible for the administration and management of National Parks and Faunal Reserves. The responsibility for forests resides with the Ministère du Développement Rural (Ministry of Rural Development). The national legislative framework currently recognizes the following categories of protected area, in which all exploitation, other than the collection of water and dead wood, is strictly prohibited.

- Parc national—there are three National Parks comprising 9% of the country. All were well protected by legislation, enforced by lengthy prison sentences for infringements involving wildlife, until 1991 when there were widespread abuses in the wake of political upheavals. Two of the National Parks are included here as IBAs, the third, the Fosse aux Lions National Park, is small (1,650 ha) and was a stronghold of a small population of elephants *Loxodonta africana*.
- Réserve de Faune—nine Faunal Reserves have been designated; Abdoulaye, Akaba, Djamdé, Galangashie, Haho-Yoto, Kpèssi, Togodo and the Oti Valley. The Togodo Faunal Reserve was established as a Ramsar site in 1995. The Oti Valley qualifies as an IBA and others may yet be found to do so but data are insufficient.
- Forêt Classée—there are 53 Forest Reserves, few of which receive adequate protection.

Even before the political events of 1991, it was estimated that only 12 of Togo's protected areas were protected effectively.

INTERNATIONAL MEASURES RELEVANT TO THE CONSERVATION OF SITES

Togo has ratified the Convention on Biological Diversity, the Convention on Migratory Species (including the African-Eurasian Migratory Waterbird Agreement), CITES, the World Heritage Convention, the Convention to Combat Desertification, the Convention on Climate Change and the Ramsar Convention, under

which two areas, Kéran National Park and Togodo Faunal Reserve were designated as Ramsar Sites on 4 July 1995. Togo participates in UNESCO's Man and Biosphere Programme. Regionally, Togo has also ratified the African Convention on the Conservation of Nature and Natural Resources.

OVERVIEW OF THE INVENTORY

This inventory includes four sites, covering 5,085 km<sup>2</sup> or about 9.4% of the land area of the country. The sites cover most of the important habitat-types in the country and include 32 of the 38 Sudan–Guinea Savanna biome (A04) species known from Togo and 79 of the 113 Guinea–Congo Forests biome (A05) species. Of the presumed resident species of global conservation concern, only two, *Ceratogymna elata* and *Phyllastrephus baumanni* are included in the sites here selected. The remainder, *C. cylindricus*, *Malaconotus lagdeni*, *Illadopsis rufescens* and *Lamprotornis cupreocauda*, are each currently only known from single records from widely scattered, separate localities which do not justify IBA status. Further surveys are required, not only in sites already identified but also, in particular, in the western part of the Plateaux Region, around Badou (the Akposso area) and in the environs of Pagala (Adélé mountains), for additional sites that hold these and the other Guinea–Congo Forests biome species not yet included. Additional surveys are also required of wetland sites, including Lake Togo, to determine whether any merit IBA status. The reason for the omission of a site on the coast visited by *Sterna balaenarum* (up to 75 birds, July to January) is that the coastal strip is so degraded that it is unrealistic to designate an IBA there.

COMMENTS ON THE INVENTORY

- The boundaries of the Oti Valley Faunal Reserve, followed here, include its later, south-eastward extension which made it contiguous with Kéran National Park, and therefore differ from those shown on some early maps.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

I am grateful to Dr J. Frank Walsh for information and advice and to Dr L. D. C. Fishpool for comments on earlier drafts.

SITE ACCOUNTS

Oti Valley Faunal Reserve

Admin region Savanes

Coordinates 10°35'N 00°40'E

Area 147,840 ha Altitude 109–167 m

TG001

A3 (A04)

Faunal Reserve

Site description

The site consists of an extensive area of savanna and seasonally flooded grassland on either side of the Oti river, stretching from the north-east corner of the country, against the international frontiers with Benin and Burkina Faso, south to adjoin Kéran National Park (IBA TG002), immediately east of the town of Sansanné-Mango. The main habitats include riverine woodland with *Diospyros mespiliformis* and *Anogeissus leiocarpus*, riverine scrub with *Mimosa pigra* and *Mitragyna inermis* and grasslands of *Andropogon* spp., *Hyparrhenia* spp. and *Heteropogon* spp. with scattered *Borassus aethiopum* palms. Some isolated patches of Sudan savanna also occur, with *Acacia* spp., *Combretum* spp., *Tamarindus indica* and *Balanites aegyptiaca*. The site is immediately adjacent to both Pendjari National Park (IBA BJ002) in Benin and the Arli–W–Singou complex (IBA BF008) in Burkina Faso.

Birds

See box and Table 2 for key species. In addition, *Circus macrourus* and *Gallinago media* have been recorded, including a count of 20 of the latter on one occasion, thought to have been birds on passage. One species of the Guinea–Congo Forests biome has also been recorded; see Table 2. The Oti valley is also nationally important for

concentrations of wetland species e.g., up to 250 *Balearica pavonina*, 250 *Ardea cinerea*, 200 *Ciconia ciconia*, 300 *Plectropterus gambensis* and 100 *Glareola pratincola*. *Ephippiorhynchus senegalensis* breeds and *Gorsachius leuconotus* has been collected.

Key species

A3 (A04) Sudan–Guinea Savanna biome: 16 of the 38 species of this biome that occur in Togo have been recorded at this site; see Table 2.

Other threatened/endemic wildlife

Mammals of global conservation concern include *Gazella rufifrons* (VU).

Conservation issues

Encroachment of land settlements, gathering of firewood, poaching and possible alterations to the Oti river's flow patterns caused by the construction of the Kompienga dam in Burkina Faso on the Oualé river, one of the tributaries of the Oti, are the main threats.

Kéran National Park

Admin region Savanes

Coordinates 10°08'N 00°41'E

Area 163,640 ha Altitude 114–260 m

TG002

A3 (A04)

National Park, Ramsar Site

Site description

Situated immediately south of Oti Faunal Reserve (IBA TG001) in

the north of the country, Kéran National Park is composed principally of the flood-plain of the Koumongou river, a tributary of the Oti. The Koumongou is reduced to stagnant pools in the dry season but floods quickly during the rains. The main vegetation-types include wooded savanna dominated by *Daniella oliveri* and *Butyrospermum paradoxum*, good gallery forest beside the Koumongou and open, sparsely-vegetated, plains with some rocky ground. The site includes the Mare-aux-Lions, a small wetland area close to the Koumongou river which is attractive to birds and mammals. The main road north through Togo to Burkina Faso cuts across the northern part of the park.

■ **Birds**

See Box and Table 2 for key species. In addition, *Circus macrourus* has been recorded. The park is notable for large, conspicuous species such as *Ephippiorhynchus senegalensis* and *Neotis denhami*, both of which breed, and up to 60 *Anastomus lamelligerus*. The gallery forest provides the most northern patch of habitat in the country suitable for such species as *Apaloderma narina* and *Hypergerus atriceps*.

**Key species**

A3 (A04) Sudan–Guinea Savanna biome: 28 of the 38 species of this biome that occur in Togo have been recorded at this site; see Table 2.

■ **Other threatened/endemic wildlife**

Mammals of global conservation concern include *Loxodonta africana* (EN).

■ **Conservation issues**

Although well protected until 1991, with guards enforcing regulations, including speed restrictions for vehicles travelling on the main road through the park, serious problems arose after the political upheavals that then took place. Indiscriminate hunting, uncontrolled land settlements and taking of firewood became widespread. It is not known how the birds have been affected but the larger species such as bustards will almost certainly have suffered, along with the larger mammals.

**Fazao-Malfakassa National Park**

Admin region Centrale

Coordinates 08°40'N 00°43'E

Area 192,000 ha Altitude 250–848 m

**TG003**

A1, A3 (A04, A05)  
National Park

■ **Site description**

Fazao-Malfakassa National Park is situated in the centre-west of the country, near, and at one point against, the international border with Ghana. The park holds the most extensive area of undisturbed vegetation in Togo. The terrain is rugged and includes the Monts de Malfakassa in the north and the Monts du Fazao in the centre with a precipitous cliff-face, the Falaise de Boulowou, along its western edge. It is the only National Park with such characteristics in West Africa. The habitat is varied and includes savanna woodland (*Afzelia africana*, *Anogeisus leiocarpus* and *Isoberlinia doka* communities and *Monotes kerstingii*–*Uapaca togoensis* communities), good stands of gallery forest (*Dialium guineensis*, *Antiaris africana*, *Berlinia grandiflora*), submontane forest and grass-covered hilltops.

■ **Birds**

See Box and Table 2 for key species. The site is important on account of its large size and undisturbed habitat. It is one of the few places in the country where *Bucorvus abyssinicus* occurs and is a refuge for many of the rarer birds of prey (e.g. *Hieraetus dubius* and *Spizaetus africanus*), as well as *Guttera pucherani* and *Francolinus lathamii*. The

area probably harbours many as yet unrecorded species, especially in the well-wooded valleys of the Kpaza and Koué rivers.

**Key species**

A1 *Ceratogymna elata*

A3 (A04) Sudan–Guinea Savanna biome: Nine of the 38 species of this biome that occur in Togo have been recorded from this site; see Table 2.

A3 (A05) Guinea–Congo Forests biome: 15 of the 113 species of this biome that occur in Togo have been recorded from this site; see Table 2.

■ **Other threatened/endemic wildlife**

Mammals of global conservation concern include *Panthera leo* (VU), *Loxodonta africana* (EN) and *Cephalopus dorsalis* (LR/nt). In addition, *Pan troglodytes* (EN) is reputed to occur.

■ **Conservation issues**

The park suffered from increased poaching after the political upheavals of the early 1990s. Other threats include illegal gold prospecting which damages riverine habitats (e.g. in the Loukoulou river), illegal honey-gathering and a plan to build a road through the park to Ghana. The F. Weber Convention signed an agreement with the Government of Togo in 1990 to manage the park and its hotel for 25 years.

**Misahöhe Forest Reserve**

Admin region Plateaux

Coordinates 06°57'N 00°35'E

Area c.5,000 ha Altitude 250–740 m

**TG004**

A1, A3 (A05)

Forest Reserve

■ **Site description**

Situated in the Togo mountains, north-west of the town of Kpalimé, adjoining the border with Ghana, the reserve consists of steep hillsides supporting semi-deciduous forest dominated by *Antiaris africana* and *Chlorophora excelsa*. Also included is the Forêt Classée de Damétui, just to the north-east of Misahöhe. Other tree species include *Albizia adianthifolia*, *A. zygia*, *Alstonia congensis*, *Bosqueia angolensis*, *Cola cordifolia*, *Dialium guineense*, *Harungana paniculata*, *Khaya grandiflora*, *Macaranga spinosa*, *Malacantha alnifolia*, *Pycnanthus angolensis*, *Terminalia superba*, *Trichilia africana*, *Triplochiton scleroxylon* and *Uapaca heudelotii*. There are a number of settlements within the site which is also bisected by a road linking Kpalimé with Dafo in Ghana. The area is of historical interest as the site of a field station of the early German colonists, and a German cemetery remains.

■ **Birds**

See Box and Table 2 for key species. In addition, *Circus macrourus* has been recorded, as have two species of the Sudan–Guinea Savanna biome; see Table 2. Misahöhe is the type-locality of *Phyllastrephus baumanni* and of *Camaroptera chloronota*. It is the only site in Togo from which many forest species have been recorded.

**Key species**

A1 *Phyllastrephus baumanni*

A3 (A05) Guinea–Congo Forests biome: 67 of the 113 species of this biome that occur in Togo have been recorded at this site; see Table 2.

■ **Other threatened/endemic wildlife**

The site is the type-locality of the tree-frog *Hyperolius baumanni*.

■ **Conservation issues**

Threats include deforestation, encroachment by small farms, fire and firewood collecting.

**BIBLIOGRAPHY**

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