



# Conference Briefing Pack

## Salutations!

We are honoured to welcome you to the ESG Conference on the Simandou project, jointly organized by Rio Tinto Simfer and Winning Consortium Simandou (WCS).

In October 2022, we conducted a Biodiversity workshop with civil society stakeholders focused on the Simandou Mine and its associated infrastructure. This year, in response to the insights gained from our engagement with local stakeholders, we are pleased to host you a two-day ESG Conference focused on key areas of the project, including Biodiversity, Environment, Communities, and Local Development.

This briefing document provides you with all the information you will need across the two days to get the most out of your time with us. We hope you enjoy the conference!



Simandou ESG Conference Briefing

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## Simandou ESG Conference Briefing

### Introduction

#### Introduction

In 2022 WCS and Rio Tinto Simfer came together and ran a roundtable with civil society stakeholders regarding the developments surrounding the Simandou Mines and associated infrastructure. In response to recent engagement with local stakeholders, and as an extension to the 2022 ESG roundtable, a two-day conference focused on Biodiversity, Environment, Communities, and Local Development will be held in November 2023 in Conakry.

#### Objectives

The ESG Conference will enable Simandou Project Partners and key stakeholders to strengthen relationships and share information about the development of the Project. Project leadership from the respective entities will have the opportunity to listen to concerns and expectations from stakeholders and provide important project updates. For attendees, this engagement represents an opportunity to better understand the project, improve alignment on technical HSSEC matters and build capability and capacity on key thematic areas.

This year's agenda will combine thematic information sharing sessions with capacity building opportunities and networking receptions with the aim of offering a valuable experience for stakeholders with different thematic interests and levels of expertise.

#### Objectives:

- Share information on project progress across key areas identified as most relevant through engagement prior to the conference.
- Listen and better understand stakeholders' views and concerns about Simandou and identify opportunities for collaboration and meaningful dialogue.
- Contribute to building stakeholder understanding on key issues relevant to the project and Guinea.

Our diverse audience will include subnational, national, and international civil society organizations (CSOs) with a keen interest in Simandou and the Guinean mining sector.

Your expertise and perspectives are invaluable to the success of the Simandou Project, and we believe that this conference will serve as a pivotal platform for collaboration and progress. We hope that you can attend and are excited about taking part in the conference, which will provide us with an opportunity to jointly shape the Simandou project's future and make it a success.

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## Logistics

Welcome to the Riviera Royal Hotel in Conakry where the 2023 Simandou ESG Conference will be taking place. We will be using three rooms in the hotel for our sessions across the two days:

1. **Nimba**
2. **Samori**
3. **Ziama**



Please follow the signage around the hotel to find the room you are looking for, or feel free to ask one of hosts for help and directions.

Coffee breaks will be served regularly throughout the conference while lunch and breakfast refreshments will be served in the restaurant. If you have any dietary requirements, please make this known to restaurant and hotel staff.

In the event of a fire or emergency, please follow signs to the nearest exit and follow the instructions of Riviera Royal Hotel staff.

All sessions will be delivered in either French or English, with translation services available in each room. Please pick up a headset and choose a language if you would like a session translated.

Please use the QR code posted around the conference for key supporting materials.

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**Agenda and Session Briefings**

We have prepared an agenda that covers the wide range of ESG topics that relate to the Simandou Project. Through this agenda, we hope to provide a holistic update on key areas to our stakeholders and encourage shared learning for all parties.

This year’s agenda will combine thematic information sharing sessions with capacity building opportunities and networking receptions with the aim of offering a valuable experience for stakeholders with different thematic interests and levels of expertise.

We have set out the session title, type, location and presenters below.

<b>Key: Session format</b>
Presentation
Panel
Training
Poster Session



Simandou ESG Conference Briefing

**DAY 1 – November 15<sup>th</sup> 2023 – MORNING SESSIONS**

Time	Main Conference Room
08:00 – 08:30	<b>COFFEE &amp; REGISTRATION</b>
08:30 – 10:30	<p><b>Session 1A. Panel welcome and project update</b></p> <p><b>Welcome Addresses</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Rio Tinto Guinea Country Director: Samuel Gahigi</li> <li>▪ WCS Head of Sustainable Development: Rui Shiliang</li> <li>▪ CTG Chairman: Bouna Sylla</li> <li>▪ Minister of Environment and Sustainable Development: Safiatou Diallo</li> <li>▪ Minister of Mines and Geology: Moussa Magassouba</li> </ul> <p><b>Project Update</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Rio Tinto Simfer Acting Project Director Mine: Jean-Francois Laurin &amp; Rio Tinto Simfer Managing Director: Chris Aitchison</li> <li>▪ WCS Project Director: Mr Wu Qiong</li> </ul> <p><b>Facilitator:</b> Djibril Tamsir Niane (WCS)</p>
10:30 – 11:00	<b>COFFEE BREAK</b>
11:00 – 12:30	<p><b>1B. Joint Rio Tinto Simfer and WCS ESIA Updates</b></p> <p><b>Presenters:</b> Kofi Boa-Antwi (RTS); Aly Conde (RTS); Allie Ommer (WAI); Christophe Derrien (Artelia)</p>
12:30 – 13:30	<b>LUNCH</b>

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## DAY 1 – November 15th 2023 – AFTERNOON SESSIONS

	BIODIVERSITY	COMMUNITIES & SOCIAL	ENVIRONMENT
13:30 – 15:00	<b>1C. Biodiversity Update</b> <b>Leads:</b> Frederic Mathieu & Guy Rondeau (WCS); Sekou Soumaoro (RTS)	<b>1D. Communities, Social and Local Development Update</b> <b>Leads:</b> Coralie Jiayin Guo (WCS); Yacoub Diarra (WCS); Candace Ramcharan (RTS); Fanta Keita (RTS); Djissangouley Coly (RTS); Mamoudou Berete (RTS); Karamoba Dioubate (RTS); Cindy Wilhelm (RTG); Mohamed Conde (RTG)	<b>1E. Environment Poster Session</b> <b>Leads:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Water Monitoring (Fabory Zoumanigui RTS)</li> <li>Waste (Souleymane Diaby RTS)</li> <li>Erosion &amp; Rehab (Mohamed Kante RTS)</li> <li>Flora (Denise Molmou RTS)</li> <li>Environment RED (Cindy Wilhelm, Mohamed Conde RTG)</li> <li>Sinepolo Lopez Saouromo (WCS)</li> <li>Keita Mohamed (WCS)</li> <li>Mohamed Lamine Diakite (WCS)</li> </ul>
15:00 – 15:30	<b>COFFEE BREAK</b>		
15:30 – 16:30	<b>1F. Mitigation &amp; Restoration Measures</b> <b>Leads:</b> Balde Abdoulaye & Djiba Kourouma (WCS); Sekou Soumaoro (RTS); Roger Delamou (RTS)	<b>1G. Health and Safety: Community and Workforce</b> <b>Leads:</b> Zhang Qiao & Camara Saliou (WCS); Candace Ramcharan (RTS); Fanta Keita (RTS); John Perry (RTS)	<b>Environment Poster Session</b> <i>Cont'd</i>
16:30 – 17:30	<b>1H. Biodiversity Offsets: Simandou mine and infrastructure</b> <b>Leads:</b> Harry Nevard (RTS); Goh Ter Yang (WCS)	<b>1I. Human Rights: Due diligence; key considerations</b> <b>Leads:</b> Candace Ramcharan (RTS); Karamoba Dioubate (RTS); Alpha Oumar Camara (WCS)	

## Simandou ESG Conference Briefing

DAY 2 – November 16<sup>th</sup> 2023 – MORNING SESSIONS

Time	BIODIVERSITY	COMMUNITIES & SOCIAL	CLIMATE CHANGE
08:00 – 08:30	<b>BREAKFAST</b>		
08:30 – 09:30	<b>2A. Charismatic Species: Landscape Level Connectivity</b> <b>Facilitator:</b> Daphnee Turcotte <b>Panellists:</b> Christophe Boesch (WCF); Noemie Cappelle (Biotope); Elhadj Saliou Diallo (Guinee Ecologie)	<b>2B. Translating Mining-driven Growth into Human Development</b> <b>Facilitator:</b> Hassan Hilal Sylla <b>Panellists:</b> Dr Penda Diallo (ASI); Jeremy Strauss (WB); Dr. Ismael Fofana (MEF)	<b>2C. COP28: What does COP28 mean for Guinea?</b> <b>Presenter:</b> Dr. Ibrahima Sory Cisse (MEDD); Mamadou Ciré Camara (UNDP)
09:30 – 10:30	<b>2D. Biodiversity Monitoring Techniques</b> <b>Leads:</b> Mory Kourouma (RTS); Alex Konate (RTS); Frederic Mathieu (WCS)	<b>2E. Encouraging Community Engagement with Nature</b> <b>Leads:</b> Ibrahima Camara (RTS); Dantily Diakite (RTS); Fanta Keita (RTS); El-hadj Ousmane Tounkara (WCS)	<b>2F. Climate Change: How can communities adapt to coming changes?</b> <b>Lead:</b> Dr. Demba Aissata Samoura (UoN)
10:30 – 11:00	<b>COFFEE</b>		
11:00 – 12:30	<b>2G. Protection or Development? Mutually exclusive or mutually beneficial...</b> <b>Facilitator:</b> Dr Penda Diallo (ASI) <b>Panellists:</b> Aissata Beavogui ; Mamady Koivogui (CODEC); Roland Yameogo (IFC); Dr Ibrahima Diallo (CGDEM)	<b>2H. Harnessing Local Content Opportunities for Inclusive Growth</b> <b>Leads:</b> Victor Bangoura (RTS); Mamadou Ly (WCS).	<b>2I. Nature-based Solutions in Guinea Part 1</b> <b>Lead:</b> Cindy Wilhelm (RTG) <b>2I. Nature-based Solutions in Guinea Part 2</b> <b>Lead:</b> West Africa Blue
12:30 - 13:30	<b>LUNCH</b>		

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**DAY 2 – November 16<sup>th</sup> 2023 – AFTERNOON SESSIONS**

<p>13:30 – 14:30</p>	<p><b>2J. WCS Nursery &amp; Restoration Update</b></p> <p><b>Lead:</b> Balde Abdoulaye (WCS); JAF – Guinée; GEVIC; VDD</p>	<p><b>2K. Elusive Quest for Jobs and Economic Transformation: How Guinea Can Leverage Mining for More Inclusive Growth</b></p> <p><b>Lead:</b> Jeremy Strauss, WB</p>	<p><b>2L. Proposed National Park Network</b></p> <p><b>Leads:</b> Dr Karim Samoura &amp; Commandant Aboubacar Samoura (MEDD)</p>
<p>14:30 – 15:30</p>	<p><b>2M. Forest Elephants in Guinea</b></p> <p><b>Presenters:</b> Christophe Boesch (WCF)</p>	<p><b>2N. Transparency in Mining Sector</b></p> <p><b>Facilitator:</b> Oumar Totya Barry (Action Mines Guinée)</p> <p><b>Panellists:</b> Dr. Alpha Abdoulaye Diallo (PWYP Guinea); Bachir Camara (MMG); Ismael Diakite (President of Chamber of Mines)</p>	<p><b>2O. Decarbonising Guinea: Renewables</b></p> <p><b>Lead:</b> Ahmed Keita (Ministry of Energy)</p>
<p>15:30 – 15:45</p>	<p><b>Closing Session and Closing Group Picture (Main Room 1)</b></p>		
<p>15:45 – 17:30</p>	<p><b>2P. GIS Training</b></p> <p><b>Lead:</b> Elise Gravel (RTS)</p>	<p><b>Refreshments served outside throughout session</b></p>	

## External Presenters and Panellists – Biographies

We are delighted to welcome a number of external speakers to the conference. They will be taking part in presentations and panel discussions across the two days, bringing their expertise and insight to each session. These speakers will be supplementing the ESGs experts from Rio Tinto Simfer and WCS to deliver the conference. Please find a brief biography for each external speaker below.

### 2A. Charismatic Species: Landscape Level Connectivity

External Speaker	Biographies
 <p><b>Panellist:</b> Prof. Christophe Boesch <i>Wild Chimpanzee Foundation</i></p>	<p>Prof. Christophe Boesch is the Founder and President of the Wild Chimpanzee Foundation (WCF). Prof. Boesch and the WCF received the St Andrews Prize for the Environment in 2015. Prof. Boesch began working on chimpanzees in the Taï forest in Côte d'Ivoire in 1979. His work on the evolution of chimpanzee culture has been synthesised into a book '<i>Wild Cultures: A Comparison between Chimpanzee and Human Cultures</i>'.</p>
 <p><b>Panellist:</b> Noémie Cappelle <i>Biotope Guinea</i></p>	<p>Noémie Cappelle works as a biodiversity consultant and is an expert in primates and monitoring methods at Biotope SAS. Biotope is an independent organisation that has supported the Simandou project from design to implementation, applying consultation methods and resolving all regulatory obstacles related to environmental standards.</p>
 <p><b>Panellist:</b> Elhadj Saliou Diallo <i>Guinea Ecologie</i></p>	<p>Elhadj Saliou Diallo works for Guinée-Ecologie, a non-governmental organisation that works to protect the environment and conserve biodiversity in Guinea. It was founded in 1989 and has been involved in various projects such as restoring mangroves, promoting sustainable agriculture, and raising awareness among local communities.</p>

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**2B. Translating Mining-driven Growth into Human Development**

External Speaker	Biographies
 <p><b>Facilitator:</b> Hassane Hilal Sylla <i>Economic Journalist</i></p>	<p>Mr. Hassane Hilal Sylla is a television presenter at the JT Djoma media group, an economic journalist, and media communications consultant. Alongside his journalistic and consultative activities, Mr. Sylla also holds the position of Executive Director at the Dubréka Theatre Festival and is passionate about communication and debate.</p>
 <p><b>Panellist:</b> Dr Penda Diallo <i>Aluminium Stewardship Initiative</i></p>	<p>Dr. Penda Diallo is a Qualitative Research Manager at the Aluminium Stewardship Initiative, and Honorary Lecturer at the Camborne School of Mines, University of Exeter.</p> <p>Dr. Diallo is an academic, researcher, author, trainer, and Environmental, Social &amp; Governance Specialist focusing on the mining sector, working at the intersection between NGOs, academia, industry, government, and rural and local communities. She is the author of 'Regime Stability, Social Insecurity and Bauxite Mining in Guinea: Developments Since the Mid-Twentieth Century.' Her research publications are published in various outlets, including journals, policy briefs, news analysis, and books.</p>
 <p><b>Panellist:</b> Jeremy Strauss <i>World Bank</i></p>	<p>Mr. Jeremy Strauss is a Senior Private Sector Specialist at the World Bank focusing on francophone Africa. Prior to joining the Bank, Mr. Strauss has managed economic growth and human development programs, projects and partnerships at USAID and the World Health Organisation (WHO). He comes from a management consulting background and has helped companies and governments in Europe, North America, Africa and Asia create enterprise value. Mr. Strauss has managed engagements in the financial sector, agribusiness, manufacturing, energy, mining and regional economic development. He read history and French at Vassar College, and has an MBA from University of California, Los Angeles (UCLA).</p>
 <p><b>Panellist :</b> Dr. Ismael Fofana, <i>Ministry of Finance</i></p>	<p>Dr Ismael Fofana is an expert in economic policy modelling and evaluation at the Ministry of Economy and Finance. Formerly, he was the Director of the West and Central Africa Office of the International Food Policy Research Institute in Dakar. He holds a PhD in economics from the University of Paris 1 - Sorbonne. He conducts research and provides technical support to strengthen capacities to improve economic development policies in Africa. His work focuses on issues related to agri-food and trade policies, gender economic inequality, and poverty reduction.</p>

**2C. COP28: What does COP28 mean for Guinea? *Different sectoral perspectives***

**Presenter:** Dr. Ibrahima Sory Cisse  
*Ministry of Environment*

**Presenter:** Mamadou Ciré Camara  
*United Nations Development Programme*

**2F. Climate Change: How can communities adapt to coming changes**

External Speaker	Biographies
 <p><b>Presenter:</b> Dr. Demba Aissata Samoura <i>Scientific Research Officer University of N'Zerekore</i></p>	<p>Dr. Demba Aissata Samoura is a Scientific Research Officer at the University of N'Zerekore. He holds a PhD and specializes in the management of the environment and natural resources. Dr. Samoura also specializes in leading scientific research projects and community resilience to climate-induced disasters. Other areas of expertise include humanitarian affairs, ecological resilience, and environmental protection.</p>

**2G. Protection or Development?**

External Speaker	Biographies
<p><b>Facilitator:</b> Dr Penda Diallo <i>Aluminium Stewardship Initiative</i></p>	<p><i>Please find Dr. Penda Diallo's biography above.</i></p>
 <p><b>Panellist:</b> Aissata Beavogui <i>President of Women in Mining (WIM) Guinea, Former DG of Guinea Alumina Corporation (GAC)</i></p>	<p>Mrs. Beavogui has over 20 years of global experience in both the Financial Services and Extractives industries. She is a sustainability expert with extensive knowledge of the International Finance Corporation (IFC) Performance Standards. Mrs. Beavogui is the first and only female Director General of a mining company in Guinea. During her time with the Guinea Alumina Corporation (GAC), she also held the position of Director of Compliance and was responsible for carrying out a \$1.4 billion international project financed by multilateral funds.</p> <p>In 2018, she participated in the founding of the Guinean Bauxite Environmental Network, a group of mining companies that are members of the Chamber of Mines and whose mission is to minimise the ecological footprint of bauxite extraction on the environment.</p>
 <p><b>Panellist:</b> Mamady Koivogui <i>CODEC</i></p>	<p>Mr. Mamady Koivogui is a Guinean Environmental Consultant who is representing CODEC (civil society). Mr Koivogui has expertise in project's E&amp;S impacts assessment and due diligence in the mining sector with over 10 years of field experience. CODEC's mission is to carry out actions promoting the rights of project's affected communities, support the guinean government in the legal and regulatory reforms related to natural resource governance and contribute to local communities' awareness.</p>
 <p><b>Panellist:</b> Roland Yameogo <i>IFC</i></p>	<p>Mr. Roland Yameogo has been the Resident Representative of the International Finance Corporation (IFC), the private sector arm of the World Bank Group, in Guinea for more than 2 years. He is responsible for managing IFC's approximately \$1 billion portfolio in Guinea, program execution, both in terms of investments and business climate, and advisory services. Prior to his role as Resident Representative, Mr Yameogo was a Senior Investment Officer in IFC's Infrastructure and Mines Department in Washington, D.C., where he was responsible for executing project financing in Latin America, the Caribbean, and Africa. He holds an MBA in Finance from the University of Southern California.</p>

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**Panellist:** Dr Ibrahima Diallo  
Centre Guinéen du Droit de  
l'Environnement et des  
Mines (CGDEM)

Dr Ibrahima Diallo is the founder of the Centre Guinéen du Droit de l'Environnement et des Mines (CGDEM). He is an environmental consultant with 14 years' experience in the mining sector in Guinea. He has participated in the drafting of several legal and political texts, including: the amended mining code, the environment code, the general ESIA guide, the environmental control guide and the national CSR policy. He is the author of several environmental studies in the mining sector, both for consultancy firms and for technical and financial partners such as UNDP, GIZ, AFD, USAID, WB and ADB. He has taken part in several impact studies (ALUFER, SAG, CBG Extension), community audits (SMB, SMD), and diagnostic studies of environmental practices in mines (rehabilitation, climate change, biodiversity, CSR, human rights and monitoring, etc.). He holds a doctorate in Public Law from Cheikh Anta Diop University in Dakar, on the subject of: "Legal and institutional framework of mining governance in the Republic of Guinea: challenges for sustainable development".

## 2K. Elusive Quest for Jobs and Economic Transformation

**Presenter:** Jeremy Strauss  
World Bank

*Please find Jeremy Strauss' biography above.*

## 2L. Proposed National Park Network

**Presenter:** Dr. Karim Samoura  
Ministry of Environment and Sustainable Development

**Presenter:** Mr Commandant Aboubacar Samoura  
Ministry of Environment and Sustainable Development

## 2M. Forest Elephants in Guinea

**Presenter:** Dr. Christophe Boesch  
Wild Chimpanzee Foundation

*Please find Dr. Christophe Boesch's biography above.*

**2N. Transparency in Mining Sector**

External Speaker	Biographies
 <p><b>Facilitator:</b> Mr. Oumar Totya Barry <i>Action Mines Guinée</i></p>	<p>Mr. Oumar Totya Barry is a project manager with Action Mines Guinee. He works specifically on the adoption of the law on beneficial ownership in the Guinean mining sector. Mr Barry is a graduate in International Relations, and PhD student at the University of Lyon. He specialises in geopolitical research in relation to mineral resources, and authored the book '<i>La Guinée et la CBG: Les enjeux d'undilemme géopolitique</i>'.</p>
 <p><b>Panellist:</b> Dr. Alpha Abdoulaye Diallo <i>PWYP Guinea</i></p>	<p>Dr. Alpha Abdoulaye Diallo is a doctor by training and a Guinean activist. He has been President of the Publish What You Pay Coalition in Guinea (PWYP Guinea) since 2017. In January 2022, he was appointed to the National Transitional Council (CNT) as the representative of Civil Society Organisations (CSO).</p>
 <p><b>Panellist:</b> Bachir Camara <i>Ministry of Mines and Geology</i></p>	<p>Mr. Bachir Camara is the Secretary General of the Ministry of Mines and Geology. He has over 18 years of experience in the petroleum, gas, and mining extractive industries, and has managed multi-functional and culturally diverse teams in different areas. Mr. Camara holds MBAs from the Johnson School, (Cornell University, New York) and the Stephen J.R. Smith School of Business (Queen's University, Kingston, Canada) and master's degrees in maintenance management from École Nationale Supérieure d'Arts &amp; Métiers, Paris and Mechanical Engineering (Université Claude Bernard de Lyon). Prior to being appointed Secretary General of the Ministry of Mines and Geology, he was the Advisor in charge of Mines and Energy at the Primature. He's also a member of the Strategic Committee on Simandou.</p>

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 <p><b>Panellist: Ismaël Diakité</b> <i>Chamber of Mines</i></p>	<p>Mr Ismael Diakité is the Chairman of the Board of Directors of the Chamber of Mines of Guinea, and the High-Representative of the SMB-Winning Consortium. He is in charge of the Business Development and Compliance, Key Stakeholder’s management and the management of the corporate image. Previously, Mr. Diakité worked 10 years for Rio Tinto as Managing Director for Guinea, Director of the Board of the USD 20 billion worth Simandou iron ore major mining and Infrastructures Project and also over sighting Rio Tinto Simfer interests in the Bauxite Operation and export in CBG (Compagnie des Bauxites de Guinee).</p>
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20. Decarbonising Guinea: *Renewables*

External Speaker	Biographies
 <p><b>Presenter: Ahmed Keita</b> <i>Ministry of Energy and Hydrocarbons</i></p>	<p>Mr. Ahmed Sékou Keita is the Secretary General of the Ministry of Energy and Hydrocarbons. He joined the Guinean administration in 2012, serving successively as Legal Advisor (Expert) at the Office of the High Commissioner for State Reform and Modernization of the Administration (HCREMA), Technical Assistant at the Civil Cabinet of the Presidency of the Republic, Deputy National Director in charge of External and Institutional Relations at the Ministry of Human Rights and Public Freedoms and Deputy Inspector General of Public Administration (IGAP) at the Ministry of the Civil Service, State Reform and Modernization of Administration (MFPREMA). Prior to being appointed Secretary General of the Ministry of Energy and Hydrocarbons, he was Head of Cabinet at the Ministry of Mines and Geology.</p>