Benin, Burkina Faso and Niger declare a new transboundary Ramsar Site

14 September 2018

Benin
Burkina Faso
Niger

The governments of Burkina Faso, the Republic of Benin and the Republic of Niger have agreed to collaborate in the management of six exceptional Ramsar Sites that lie on both banks of the Niger and Pendjari Rivers. They have thereby established the third African “transboundary Ramsar Site” covering 2.95 million hectares of Sudano-Saharan savannah, with vegetation types including grasslands, shrublands, wooded savannah and extensive gallery forests.

The transboundary area is home to the largest population of elephants in West Africa and most of the large mammals typical of the region, such as the cheetah, lion and leopard.

It includes the following Ramsar Sites: in Burkina Faso, Parc National d’Arly (Site no. 1884, 795,289 ha) and Parc National du W (Site no. 492, 385,000 ha); in the Republic of Benin, Zone Humide de la Rivière Pendjari (Site no. 1669, 483,366 ha) and Site Ramsar du Complexe W (Site no. 1668, 926,927 ha); and in the Republic of Niger, Parc National du W (Site no. 355, 385,000 ha) and Zone Humide du Moyen Niger (Site no. 1073, 52,180 ha).

The Secretariat is extremely pleased to congratulate the governments of Burkina Faso, the Republic of Benin and the Republic of Niger on their declaration and looks forward to learning more about their successful transboundary management and conservation activities.