



## The Forestry Development Authority (FDA)

### Report on the Posting of SER & Demarcation Result in the Chedepo Applicant Community Forest; Rivergee County

**Submitted To:** Koko B. Dennis  
**Senior Extension Officer**

**Department** **Community Forestry Department**

**PREPARED BY:** G. Alvin Roberts  
**Extension Officer**

**Date:** **June 19, 2017**



## **Introduction**

On June 13, 2017 a team of three (3) comprising Mr. G. Alvin Roberts, Extension Officer, Mrs. Victoria Karlon, Inventory Officer and Mr. Emmanuel B. Wilson, Driver, departed Monrovia for Rivergee and Grand Gedeh Counties to facilitate the posting of results of **Validation and Social Economic & Reconnaissance Survey Result to Establish an Authorized Forest Community** in Putu and Chedepo applicant community forests.

The team makes a stop in Pennokon Town, Putu Administrative District where a meeting was held to post the results. The team continues to Jarkaken Town, the seat of Chedepo Administrative District, Rivergee County.

In the two applicant communities, participants from various towns/villages of the applicant communities gathered at town halls where subsequent introduction and objective of the visits were done by the team leader; that the exercise was in two phases but will be done at once, phase one (1) has to do with the posting of the SER Survey result while phase two (2) was Posting of the Validation result as well. These results will be posted for thirty days which is step six (6) of the nine steps of the CRL.

## **Objective**

The objective of the exercises are in accordance with Chapter 2, Section 10, of the Community Rights Law (CRL) and its Regulations,

which provides that both SER & Validation result must be posted for thirty days in the given Communities and adjacent Communities prior to the dispute resolution.

## **Methodology**

The methods used by the team during the exercises were the Community Entry methods and the Participatory Rural Appraisal (PRA) tools.

These include;

- Met with Local authorities and informed them about the Mission.
- Delivered letters from the Managing Director of FDA to the Local Authority
- Held town hall meetings (for Posting SER & Validation results for the establishment of an authorized community forest status)
- Entertained Questions and Answers for clarity
- Posting SER & Validation results to be reviewed for 30 days

## **Proceedings**

On June 15, 2017. The team arrived in Jarkaken Town, Chedepo Administrative District for the posting of their results.

The community people representing the 9 towns assembled at the town hall for the meeting. Prominent persons from the Chedepo applicant community that were present in the meeting included the

District Commissioner Hon. Bolton Dwehswen, the Community Forest representative, Mr. Josiah Welleh and Mr. Sylvester Kenta, Youth President.

During the meeting, we reviewed with them the nine steps to remind them of the efforts they have made to reach to the current step and what they need to do to advance to the remaining ones. We display the two results and drilled them through by explaining to them that every information on the SER survey result was what they provided during the SER survey period. Mrs. Victoria Karlon, Inventory Officer from the GIS department took up the Chedepo forest map and explained it to them. They agreed to everything on the map yet except that Gbaquiah Town and Torroken Town was on the map but not in the list of towns in the SER Survey result. The District Commissioner, Hon. Dwehswen promised to meet with the people reach the people of Gbaquiah to address the issue while Torroken is surely part of their forest and should be included on the list.

We distributed sets of copies to each representative of the affected towns and villages launched the posting of the results for thirty (30) days in designated forest Communities in the presence of the local authorities and the concerned community members. The community members were instructed to continue the posting of the result at key points in adjacent communities where those who were not present during the exercise, will be able to see the two results.

At the end of the exercises, the community members and the local authority thanked the FDA team for the education on the various steps of the CRL which gave rise to the Social Economic Survey and validation results, one of the procedure leading to communities' forest status. According to local leaders, they hope to see FDA for the next step as soon as possible.

We departed for Monrovia upon completion of the work the following day.

### **Observations**

- Community representatives from attended the meeting low numbers.
- Community representatives complained about transportation and feeding.
- The long gap in time from previous step reduces the community people's interest to some extent.

### **Constraints**

- Bad road condition in this rainy season.

### **Recommendations**

- Adequate mobilization of community members for a day or two before SER & validation results are taken to them for posting.

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## Socio-Economic and Resource Reconnaissance Survey Result

### COMMUNITY PROFILE SUMMARY

#### COMMUNITY INFORMATION

**Name of Community:** Chedepo Community Forest:

**Number and Names of Towns and Villages:** 9 towns & villages

|    |            |   |           |
|----|------------|---|-----------|
| 1. | Putuken    | 4 | Bleataken |
| 2. | Gbajilaken | 5 | Jarkaken  |
| 3. | Klaborken  | 6 | Cheboken  |

**Location:** Chedepo Administrative District

**Clan History:** The Chedepo community had been in existence since 1810 to present, the people of Chedepo migrated from Suden in the 13 century and settle in Ivory Coast during the 15 century, later went to Grand Gedeh County. Today during Taylor administration, River Gee were able to obtain its County status.



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## RESOURCES

### Forest Types:

- Primary forests ... YES
- Secondary forest ... YES
- Mangrove forest ... N/A
- Sacred forest ... YES
- Stream buffer zones ... YES
- Water Falls -N/A
- Swamp—up to 50

**Rivers:** Watersheds/ catchments N/A, streams and creeks – 30 & above; river – 2 (name?)

**Wildlife:** all monkeys, *all duikers (red, black, gazelle, duikers-black back, yellow back, zebra)*, royal antelope, air dear ground hog, porcupine, squirrel, opossum, mongoose, leopard, turtle, snakes (*cassava, black, green and yellow, water*), leopard, pigmy hippo, bongo, alligator, turtles, Giant forest hog, golden cat, Giant pangolin, cat fish, red-belly fish, zeekepa (grasshopper), dizzlegolu, birds (eagle, pigeon, water birds, pepper bird, rice bird, honey bird, hawks, hornbills, owl, blue jay, blue wing, all butter flies etc.

**NTFP:** Thatch, can wood, xylopa, Bush pepper, gana-gana, bitter cola, Uapaca fruit, Walnut fruit, Tali bark, rattan, bitter root, palm (*wine, cabbage, fronds*), Mahn tree (calpocalyx seed), batter kola, kia etc.

## LIVELIHOODS

**Fishing:** Nearby rivers

**Farming:** Rice, vegetable gardening, cassava, eddoes, plantain, banana, ginger, sugar cane, pine apple, corn, maize/okra

**Animal Husbandry:** Household subsistence level rearing of goats, sheep, poultry and dogs

**Tree crops:** oil Palm, mangoes, rubber and cocoa

**NTFP:** bitter kola, ratten, Bush meat, bush pepper, country spice Palm wine, mushroom griffonia and ganger Mankindo palm, bush meat, fish, walnut, ratten, bitter root, palm-thatch, bush kola, etc.

**Other enterprises:** N/A



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|   |   |
|---|---|
| <p><b>SOCIO ECONOMIC DATA</b></p> <p>Population: 18,705<br/>         Ethnic Groups: Grebo<br/>         Literacy Rates: 62%<br/>         Religion: Christian</p>   | <p><b>GOVERNANCE</b></p> <p><b>Community organizations:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- village saving group</li> <li>- hands program</li> </ul> <p><b>Community administration:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>-Name of County: River Gee County</li> <li>-Name of Superintendent: Philip T. Jah</li> <li>-Name of District: Chedepo</li> <li>-Name of Commissioner: J. Bolton Dwehswen</li> <li>-Local authority (town chiefs, paramount chiefs)</li> </ul> <p><b>Other NGO and Projects:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- OXFARM</li> <li>- UNICEF</li> <li>- LACE/PNO</li> <li>- German-Agro Action</li> </ul> |
| <p><b>INFRASTRUCTURE</b></p> <p>Schools: <i>Primary/ elementary- 6, Junior-Senior high - 2</i><br/>         Wells: <b>traditional- 24; Modern Hand Pump- 32</b><br/>         Creeks: 15<br/>         Clinic: Traditional=169; <i>Government Health Clinic - 2</i><br/>         Town Hall: 1<br/>         Religious Facilities: <i>Churches - 66</i><br/>         Transportation: Motorbikes (most popular); Car/pick-up; goods truck, mini-bus<br/>         Agriculture Processing: N/A</p> | <p><b>LTPR ISSUES</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Size of proposed forest <math>\geq 5,000</math>ha</li> <li>- Tribal Land Deed</li> <li>- Customary land belonging to the community people</li> <li>- The land was already set aside for the purpose of forestry</li> </ul>   |



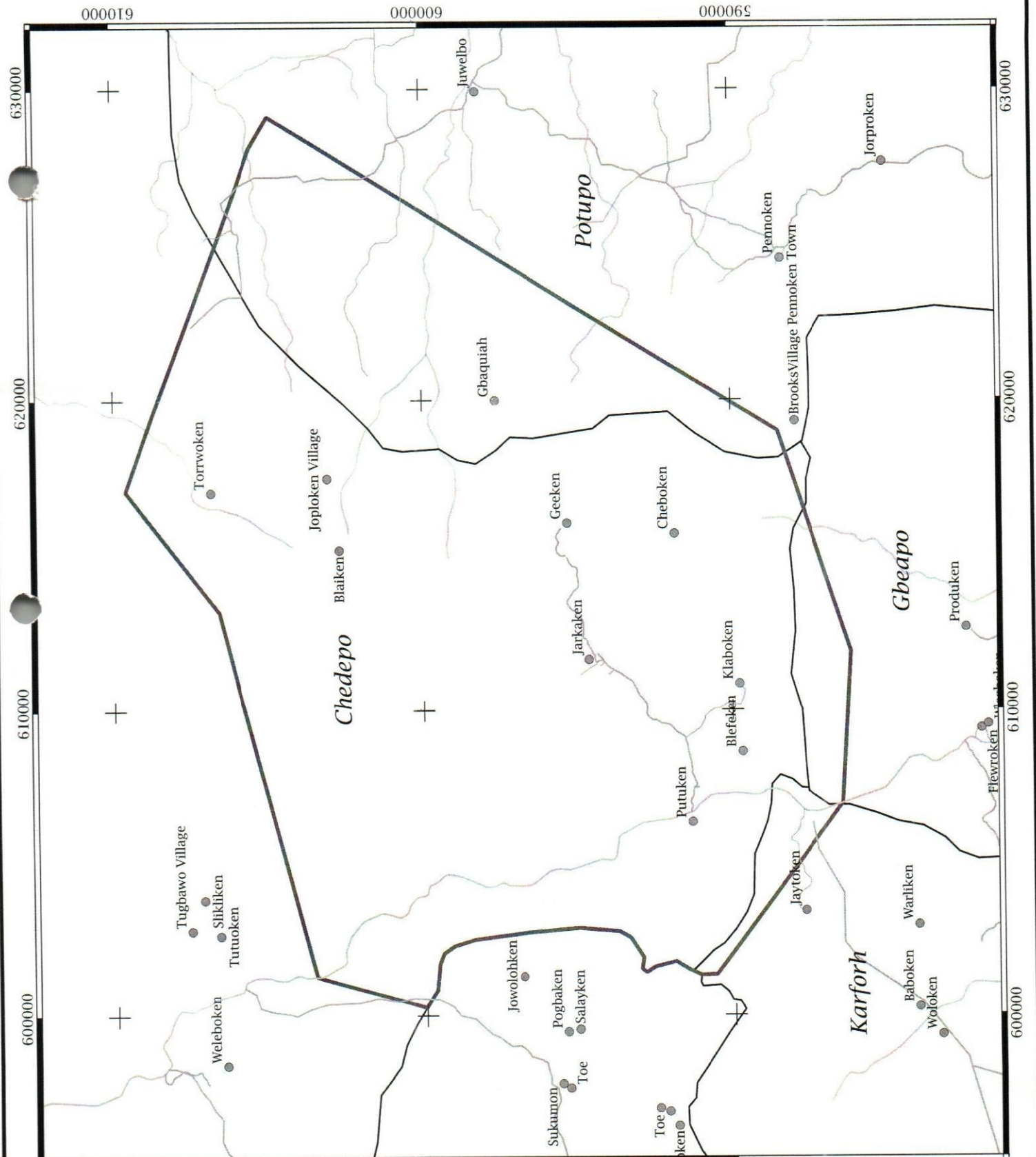


**Location Map of  
Chedepo  
Community Forest  
with a total area  
of (42,890.1  
Hectares) located  
in RiverGee  
County.  
Republic of  
Liberia**

Map Source: Geographic  
Information System & Remote  
Sensing Division of FDA.  
June 20, 2016

**Legend**

- Towns/Villages
- Roads
- Primary Roads
- Secondary Roads
- Tertiary Roads
- Rivers/Streams/Creeks
- District Boundaries
- ▭ Chedepo CF Boundary



**FORESTRY DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY (FDA)**

Official Letter Signing Sheet for Posting Results of SER Survey and Demarcation:

District:

| No. | Name                | Position            | Community | Contact #  | Date      | Signature   |
|-----|---------------------|---------------------|-----------|------------|-----------|-------------|
| 1   | Robert B.F. Nyenaka | Dist. Com           | Butta     | 0886824622 | 14/6/2017 | [Signature] |
| 2   | J. Belton           | Dev. Sec. Co. Comm. | Chelopo   | 0777337990 | 15/6/17   | [Signature] |
| 3   |                     |                     |           |            |           |             |
| 4   |                     |                     |           |            |           |             |
| 5   |                     |                     |           |            |           |             |
| 6   |                     |                     |           |            |           |             |
| 7   |                     |                     |           |            |           |             |
| 8   |                     |                     |           |            |           |             |
| 9   |                     |                     |           |            |           |             |
| 10  |                     |                     |           |            |           |             |
| 11  |                     |                     |           |            |           |             |
| 12  |                     |                     |           |            |           |             |
| 13  |                     |                     |           |            |           |             |
| 14  |                     |                     |           |            |           |             |
| 15  |                     |                     |           |            |           |             |
| 16  |                     |                     |           |            |           |             |
| 17  |                     |                     |           |            |           |             |
| 18  |                     |                     |           |            |           |             |

Approved G. Alvin Roberts

Date June 15, 2017

FORESTRY DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY (FDA)

Attendance Sheet for the Posting of Results of SER Survey and Demarcation

Community Chedepe, District: Chedepe, County: Riverge

| No. | Name               | Position             | Community | Contact #  | Date       | Signature          |
|-----|--------------------|----------------------|-----------|------------|------------|--------------------|
| 1   | J. Bolton Awelison | Country Commissioner | Jarkaken  | 0777337990 | 15/6/2017  | <i>[Signature]</i> |
| 2   | Joseph Wilson      | Inspector            | Jarkaken  |            |            | <i>[Signature]</i> |
| 3   | Agnesa Amisias     | P/C                  | Kyaboda   | Chaladon   |            | <i>[Signature]</i> |
| 4   | ROTOE, TOESIN      | Farmer/Teacher       | Pustiken  | 0770583756 | 15/06/2017 | <i>[Signature]</i> |
| 5   | T. Sylvester Gbey  | Farmer               | Bleatiken | 0770345573 | 15/6/2017  | <i>[Signature]</i> |
| 6   | Wilson m. Slen     | Elder                | Jarkaken  | 0777334732 | 15/6/2017  | <i>[Signature]</i> |
| 7   | Sylvester Keta     | youth                | Jarkaken  | 0775118138 | 15/6/2017  | <i>[Signature]</i> |
| 8   | Sereniah Bueh      | Farmer               | Jarkaken  | 077117120  | 11/11/17   | <i>[Signature]</i> |
| 9   | Kellin D. Wlaxton  | Youth                | Jarkaken  | 0726775290 | 15/06/17   | <i>[Signature]</i> |
| 10  | Robert B. TOE      | Youth                | Jarkaken  | 0776540700 | 15/06/17   | <i>[Signature]</i> |
| 11  | Sherney Weah       | Farmer               | Jarkaken  | 0775674485 | 15/06/17   | <i>[Signature]</i> |
| 12  | Darius Dubeh       | Teacher              | Jarkaken  | 0770345865 | 15/06/17   | <i>[Signature]</i> |
| 13  | ABEDNEGO C. DWEH   | E.D.A. W.            | Jarkaken  | 0776003009 | 15/06/2017 | <i>[Signature]</i> |
| 14  | Tutuiko M'Esag     | E.D.A. W.            | GEEKEN    | 0776155203 | 11/11/17   | <i>[Signature]</i> |
| 15  | Phillip S. Weah    | M.I.A.               | Jarkaken  |            | 11/11/17   | <i>[Signature]</i> |
| 16  | Amos Sakaali       | Farmer               | Jarkaken  |            | 11/11/17   | <i>[Signature]</i> |

Approved: G. Alvin Roberts *[Signature]* Date: June 15, 2017

FORESTRY DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY (FDA)

Attendance Sheet for the Posting of Results of SER Survey and Demarcation

Community Chedapp, District: Chedapp County: Rivergode

| No. | Name               | Position    | Community | Contact #   | Date     | Signature |
|-----|--------------------|-------------|-----------|-------------|----------|-----------|
| 1   | Charles weah       | Farmer      | Sarkaten  | ---         | 15-06-17 | ---       |
| 2   | Robert Weah        | Farmer      | Moatent   | 0775007660  | 11/11    | ---       |
| 3   | Robert S. Toa      | Farmer      | Greeken   | ---         | 11/11    | ---       |
| 4   | Jerome S. Gbea     | Farmer      | Greeken   | 0775897171  | 11/11    | ---       |
| 5   | Joe Gbe            | Farmer      | Greeken   | ---         | 11/11    | ---       |
| 6   | F. Barthee Sampson | 11          | 11        | ---         | 11/11    | ---       |
| 7   | Anthony Farley     | 11          | 11        | 0776586818  | 11/11    | ---       |
| 8   | Jefferson Karpel   | Electrician | Sark.     | 07724412902 | 11/11    | ---       |
| 9   | Robert B. Pelaya   | Farmer      | Greeken   | 07790538395 | 11/11    | ---       |
| 10  | Alfred C. Yound    | Farmer      | Greeken   | ---         | 11/11    | ---       |
| 11  | BROWN Williams     | M, I, A,    | Greeken   | ---         | 11/11    | ---       |
| 12  | Henry Suen         | Farmer      | Sarkaten  | 0886343440  | 11/11    | ---       |
| 13  |                    |             |           |             |          |           |
| 14  |                    |             |           |             |          |           |
| 15  |                    |             |           |             |          |           |
| 16  |                    |             |           |             |          |           |

Approved: G-Alvin Roberts

Date: June 15, 2017

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FORESTRY DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY (FDA)

Attendance Sheet for the Posting of Results of SER Survey and Demarcation

District: Chedapo County: Ruvengere

| No. | Name                         | Position | Community  | Contact #  | Date       | Signature          |
|-----|------------------------------|----------|------------|------------|------------|--------------------|
| 17  | BODAL, TUESON                | Teacher  | PUTUBEN    | 0770583756 | 15/06/2017 | <i>[Signature]</i> |
| 18  | <del>W. BYINOSTER</del> GREY | Farmer   | B1 sotika  | 0770345573 | 15/6/2017  | <i>[Signature]</i> |
| 19  | LILSON M. SWEN               | Elder    | THAKOTE    | 0772324732 | 13/04/17   | <i>[Signature]</i> |
| 20  | ROBERT S. PEGAYO             | Farmer   | Geeken     | 0770538595 | 15/6/17    | <i>[Signature]</i> |
| 21  | ANTHONY FANLEY               | Elder    | Jebokor    | 0776581818 | 15/6/17    | <i>[Signature]</i> |
| 22  | Sydney Swen                  | YOUTH    | Chabot     | 0772511888 | 15/6/17    | <i>[Signature]</i> |
| 23  | Henry Swen                   | Elder    | Blalike    | 0788034340 | 11         | <i>[Signature]</i> |
| 24  | Neremiah Swen                | Farmer   | Jarkakan   | 0771171206 | 15/7/17    | <i>[Signature]</i> |
| 25  | Jefferson Kaipel             | Farmer   | Chaj Liaka | 0776417902 | 11         | <i>[Signature]</i> |
| 26  |                              |          |            |            |            |                    |
| 27  |                              |          |            |            |            |                    |
| 28  |                              |          |            |            |            |                    |
| 29  |                              |          |            |            |            |                    |
| 30  |                              |          |            |            |            |                    |
| 31  |                              |          |            |            |            |                    |
| 32  |                              |          |            |            |            |                    |