



# NAPA

## News from African Protected Areas

Nouvelles des Aires Protégées en Afrique



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PAPACO coordinator

### Black or white?

The conservation of nature is all but an inert material. Those who care about nature do so with passion. All those who take no interest in the subject (that is to say, unfortunately, the vast majority) look at them with, at the very best, misunderstanding, often amusement, sometimes pity. But those who are really interested in environmental preservation and are willing to invest their time and energy to defend our nature, always do it with a sincere and total commitment.

This commitment often leads to taking positions that are quite excessive, sometimes verging on stereotype. Nothing fundamentally surprising... but the impact on the results we are able to get in terms of conservation is then dramatic. Especially when these positions divide our conservation champions through theoretical debates, almost academic discussions, rather than to gather them to face together the challenges which threaten nature, and specially protected areas in Africa.

Examples abound.

"The rhino conservation needs organized horn trade, as the horn can be easily harvested without killing the animal, and the revenues will help to finance rhino protection..." say some, among them ranch managers who actually raise and hold on their private land the greatest number of these animals. "It would create an uncontrollable market where demand (mainly from Asia) will exceed supply, will boost poaching by creating a legal flow and

eventually precipitate the extinction of the species" respond those who argue for the perpetuation of the ban on any form of commercialization.

"The involvement of local people is the only sustainable solution to protect the parks, they know how to protect their nature and have incentives to do so, if they get tangible benefits from conservation" say some, especially on the basis of promising community-based protected areas experiences. "These people will not protect the inside of the PA any better than they did outside, they will fuel the ranks of poachers and loggers and it will only get worse with population growth," suggest others who fight, day after day, against encroachments in their reserves.

"We must ban all forms of destructive industrial activity in protected areas all over the world and preserve natural areas because they are our heritage" propose some, such as, recently, the IPACC (Indigenous Peoples of Africa Coordinating Committee). "With nearly 15% of the terrestrial land already protected, it is simply impossible and developing countries have an inalienable right to exploit their resources, therefore we must find a compromise " suggest others, some of them having already forged alliances with these industries.

"The priority is to preserve the species in situ and protect vast, complete and functional ecosystems, although it may prove difficult in some places and for some species," one hears, especially in the mouth of scientists. "To save these iconic threatened species, we must breed them in a safe place and therefore transfer them where conservation works, outside their country of origin if necessary" we receive in echo, especially in Southern Africa where the practice of wildlife farming is widespread.

"Conserving of nature means respecting its integrity, preserving its wealth and defending uncompromisingly all its components against the rapacity of men" highlight some, as those who fight for animal rights. Others argue instead that "Conservation goes through the sustainable use of nature, as one needs to have an incentive in order to preserve a resource in the long run, including through consumption of animals or plants "and therefore will promote hunting, for instance.

And so and so...

The list is endless. There is not one of those statements that is not right and that has not, in one place, at a time, met its full justification. Who is wrong, who is right, it's an impossible question to answer. What works here and now will not work elsewhere, or tomorrow. What the PA managers in South Africa do corresponds in no way to what is feasible in Mali and vice versa, and the fact that they perform better in terms of conservation does not mean that their model could be exported with the same impacts. Protecting Addax in Aïr Ténéré, in Niger, is another challenge than breeding Cape Eland... Contexts, pressures, culture, abilities, levels, means are different from one place to another... and what counts is to identify in each place and at each time the solution that will produce the best results. This should be our only dogma, if any.

Nothing is all white, nothing is all black. And nothing should be gray! We do not need to all agree on what to do. And we do not need to compromise on our principles, our ideas; no compromise please! What matters is that we are able to unite our energies to make conservation a success. And that this union multiplies our energy, reinforces our commitment. The real question is not who is right or wrong between us all but how we face together the challenges that protected areas, flora and fauna in Africa, are exposed to. These challenges are here and created by the development of Africa as we see it happening.

This NAPA actually illustrates this huge diversity of conservation in Africa through 22 short stories from 15 countries of the continent. They will be presented in Sydney, at the World Parks Congress ... by their actors themselves, speaking with one voice.

**WPC – 7 months to go!**

## Conservation Management Training Program of African Wildlife Foundation

AWF is now accepting applications for the 2014–2016 class of the Conservation Management Training Program (CMTM). CMTM is an intensive program that offers recent master's degree graduates the opportunity to launch their careers in African conservation while working alongside AWF's conservation leaders both at the organization's Nairobi headquarters and in priority landscapes across Africa. CMTM graduates are well positioned to take on long-term roles within AWF and will receive special consideration for employment with the organization throughout their careers.

To learn more about the structure of the program, required qualifications, compensation, and the application process, please refer to the [official brochure](#) here:

[http://www.awf.org/sites/default/files/2014%20CMTM%20Brochure\\_FINAL.pdf](http://www.awf.org/sites/default/files/2014%20CMTM%20Brochure_FINAL.pdf)

Please follow this link to apply online: [http://www.awf.org/about/careers/apply?career\\_id=1563](http://www.awf.org/about/careers/apply?career_id=1563)



## Must consult: a directory to find a potential donor!

In order to help national NGO, FIBA ([www.lafiba.org](http://www.lafiba.org)) tries to improve their access to funding, especially in relation with small grants. For this purpose, FIBA has developed a Donors Directory for West African Conservation organizations. This directory of donors makes an inventory of the many donors which are potentially interested to fund small projects for management and conservation of biodiversity in West African countries, or could support you with equipment or capacity building activities. This directory isn't exhaustive of course and the funding processes of donors may evolve through time... but this document proves to be a quite good tool to help you in your fundraising activities. Don't hesitate to download the document on FIBA's website: [http://www.lafiba.org/index.php/fr/documentation/boite\\_a\\_ouils/supports\\_de\\_communication](http://www.lafiba.org/index.php/fr/documentation/boite_a_ouils/supports_de_communication) or on [www.papaco.org](http://www.papaco.org)



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12 – 19 November 2014



## Twenty-two stories to know a little bit more about conservation in Africa... On the road to the World Park Congress!

We have received more than **150 proposals** (coming from **33 African countries**) following the call for applications to participate to the World Parks Congress that Papaco has launched in December (see NAPA 70 and 71). We would like to thank all the applicants for the high quality and richness of the stories they sent to us, which demonstrate the wide variety of initiatives that are going-on, on the continent, in relation to protected areas conservation.

After a rigorous selection - the possible choices were many and decisions really difficult to make! - 22 candidates were selected. Together, these 22 stories will deliver a consistent message about present and future of Africa's protected areas at the Congress, in November. The stories we have chosen cover key aspects of conservation: governance of protected areas, effective management tools, innovative ways for conservation and development and so, and so...

### Stream 1

Transparency and accountability in management results, effective collaboration between stakeholders... are essential ingredients to ensure adaptive management of protected areas and thus achieve the objectives they pursue for biodiversity conservation. This is well illustrated by the results of effectiveness assessments of protected areas management conducted in Botswana (Motshereganyi Virat Kootsositse). Various tools may be used to improve efficiency on the ground. Like, for instance, some methods of land use planning and multiple uses management, developed in the Ngorongoro Conservation Area (Freddy Safieli Manongi). This is also the case in Kenya, in OI Pejeta Conservancy (Martin Mulama) where an innovative model of wildlife / livestock integrated management is applied. This concerted conservation planning process may sometimes justify that we restore the ecosystem through animals' translocations, as it was done in the Lubombo Transfrontier Conservation Area (Leseho Sello), in South Africa.

### Stream 5

Reconciling development challenges with conservation goals or how to achieve a balance between exploitation of natural resources and biodiversity conservation? This involves increasing the awareness and involving better the "development stakeholders" and sometimes, granting them a real role in conservation of nature. This is interestingly illustrated in the case of the largest park of Uganda, through a close cooperation between institutions in charge of environmental protection and those in charge of the management of oil and gas (Tom Okello). Also, in sensitizing and involving people in the environmental management of highly populated areas like the Valley of Sitatunga (Martial Kouderin), in Benin. Mobilization of certain sectors of development to enhance protected areas economic contribution generates a diversity of agreements between stakeholders. This is the case of the ecotourism projects in Hluhluwe- iMfolozi Park, in South Africa (Sakhile Nsukwini) or in Mantadia National Park (Ravaka Ranaivoson), in Madagascar, where the living conditions of local populations have improved thanks to the provision of economic benefits. Once adopted by communities, NGOs, businesses, donors, etc., these approaches have led to the creation of sustainable enterprises based on new funding models that encourage the conservation of important ecosystems such as marine areas in Madagascar (Aladstair Harris).

### Stream 6

Governance of protected areas can take many shapes, but its quality depends mainly on the decision-making processes that are developed by all stakeholders impacting or impacted by the management of the protected areas.

In Africa, new models of governance helping local communities to become fully responsible for their own natural resources are emerging. This is illustrated through the process of recognition of community protected areas, at national level, in DRC (Joseph Itongwa). Another example is given by AFAUDEB and its village hunting areas in Burkina Faso (Alexis Kaboré). Also, in some marine community-based protected areas of Senegal (Salatou Sambou and Binta Ba) or thanks to the conservation approach based on gender, developed in Rwanda (Dancille Mukakamari).

But there are also many other governance models that are fruitful, as underlined by the example of shared governance in the mountains of Chimanimani - Nyanga (Togarasei Fakarayi), in Zimbabwe, or the "Biodiversity Stewardship" initiative in South Africa (Daniel Marnewick). The private governance approach, in the case of the natural reserve of NamibRand (Nils Odendaal), in Namibia, is another good case. On another scale, cross-border governance adds a dimension of coordination practices between countries, whether in terms of management practices, decision-making processes, benefit-sharing, etc. The Ais Richtersveld Transfrontier Park (Nicholas De Goede), in South Africa, and the Great Virunga Landscape (Georges Muamba), in DRC, illustrate both well these ideas.

Reliability and sustainability governance systems are intimately linked to their ability to capture the real needs and expectations of stakeholders who will be at the heart of these decision-making systems. Taking into account the rules of local communities in terms of land tenure and use of natural resources, participatory-mapping enables to enhance the important social, cultural and historical knowledge of these peoples, and thus promote their rights to participate fully in the management of protected areas, as illustrated by Jean Bruno Ngounogbia, in Central African Republic. Similarly, researches on shared decision-making powers benefit to PA good management, as it is the case in the Tanoé forest reserve (Inza Koné), in Côte d'Ivoire.

### Stream 8

Connecting people to nature is the priority for the coming decades to ensure that future generations will feel involved and commit to conserve nature within and beyond protected areas. To achieve this, the Wildlife Clubs of Kenya supervises activities that encourage young people and schools located around national parks to participate in specific management activities for conservation (Mary Otieno).

Read the summaries of these stories in next pages...

## Stream 1 : reaching conservation goals

### Restore Transfrontier Conservation Areas.

Maputo Special Reserve (MSR) (which is the core area of the Usuthu-Tembe-Futi (TFCA) was recently extended with a view to create a contiguous ecological system and ultimately drop the fences between the Parks and thereby reintroducing an old elephant migratory route. Translocation of wildlife into this area was therefore justified by the following objectives: (i) Complete various levels of chain and restore natural processes essential for Maputo Special Reserve; (ii) Address the requirements of re-establishing the biodiversity mix previously present in this globally recognized biodiversity hotspot; (iii) Improve game viewing potential for tourism development.

### Leseho Sello

Lubombo Transfrontier Conservation Area,  
South Africa



### Motshereganyi Virat Kootsositse

BirdLife, **Botswana**



### Management effectiveness of protected areas

This proposal presents work done on protected areas in Botswana showcasing how best cooperative management can benefit protected area network management. It considers monitoring biodiversity, financial and operational management in protected areas with an aim to provide relevant data that could be used not only in decision making for policy formulation and review but also for mainstreaming activities that are geared towards reaching conservation goals. Extensive assessments have been done over these years to understand current management operations and evaluate whether this is working or not. There are critical lessons to be learnt and shared.

### Wildlife-livestock integration model: an innovative approach of conservation.

The Conservancy demonstrated leadership by pioneering the wildlife-livestock integration model when it was considered inconceivable. The model itself was as a result of creative thinking to achieve a win-win situation for wildlife conservation in a region dominated by pastoralists. Outputs of the initiative thus far that includes increased wildlife numbers, tourists, revenue streams and an established community development program, presents optimism that conserving goals can be achieved. By allowing organized grazing of the community livestock in the Conservancy when there is less graze outside, the initiative demonstrates an effective and equitable model of protected area. In return there is tolerance of wildlife outside the Conservancy and neighboring communities are willing to participate in conservation issues.

### Martin Mulama

OI Pejeta Conservancy, **Kenya**



### Freddy Safieli Manongi

Ngorongoro Conservation Area Authority (NCAA), **Tanzania**



### 45 Years of multiple used management areas : case of Ngorongoro

Ngorongoro Conservation Area (NCA) was established in 1959 as a multiple used management area. Recent data (2013) indicate that 87,683 people are living inside NCA. Numbers of livestock (cattle, goat and sheep) have increased to 131,509 cattle, 163,207 goats and 166,872 sheep in 2013. Tourism has improved and accounts for 99.99% of the NCA income which is about US 35,000,000 annually. The proposal will provide lessons learnt in the management of multiple used management areas in savannah. It will describe the practical challenges facing the NCA and potential and practical solutions to overcome them. Wildlife-people-tourism conflicts that exist at NCA are unique and will provide unique lessons to be learned by protected area management practitioners across the world.



## Stream 5: conservation and development goals

### Socio-economic impacts of Nompondo community living around Hluhluwe-iMfolozi park.

Hluhluwe-iMfolozi Park (HiP) communities have suffered a great neglect economically in the past and it's the most impoverished region in KwaZulu-Natal. The aim of this study was to investigate the socio-economic impacts of ecotourism in rural areas adjacent to the HiP with specific reference to Nompondo community which is adjacent to the HiP. The study indicates that the socio-economic impacts in all the identified specified areas (except with participation in the management of the park where local communities are not fully involved) were positive, such as: access to resources of the park, participation in the operation and management of the park, job opportunities, promotion of ecotourism which involves community facilities and handicraft development, ect.

### Sakhile Nsukwini

Southern African Wildlife College (SAWC),  
South Africa



### Martial Kouderin

Centre Régional de Recherche et d'Education pour un Développement Intégré (CREDI-ONG), Bénin



### Community based natural resource management in the « Vallée du Sitatunga »

The "Valley of Sitatunga" initiative took root at thirty kilometers from the capital of Benin, an area characterized by a huge demographic increase and a wide expansion of urbanization. In such a context, how could livelihoods standards of local communities be improved without damaging the ecosystem on which they rely? This "Valley of Sitatunga" initiative provides concrete answers to this question through public awareness, creation of a community nature reserve, establishment of community management bodies and implementation of concrete and participatory management activities (elaboration of a land use plan, building of community infrastructures and development of income-generating activities as an alternative to the exploitation of natural resources).

### Addressing the critical balance between mining development needs and conservation in Uganda.

In Uganda, commercially viable quantities of oil and gas resources have been discovered in the country's Albertine Rift region. Unfortunately, the Albertine rift region, where the oil and gas reserves have been discovered, has the highest biodiversity in the country. The area has five national parks, eight wildlife reserves and several forest reserves. Within MFNP, 5 oil wells fields have been discovered. Key questions are: can oil and gas co-exist with conservation in a national park? Is it legal to exploit oil in PAs? Are oil and gas activities escalating human wildlife conflicts? Does PA authority have capacity to manage impacts? This proposal aims at exploring best practices that Uganda government institutions responsible for environmental, protected area and oil and gas management and other stakeholders are doing to achieve this critical balance between getting oil out of the reservoirs while not compromising conservation in Uganda's largest and oldest MFNP.

### Tom Okello

Uganda Wildlife Authority, Uganda



**Ravaka Ranaivoson**Fondation Tany Meva, **Madagascar****Value of natural resource and contribution to sustainable development.**

Economical valorization of natural resources is a key step to make population aware of their importance and to raise awareness on the need to preserve these resources. The economic promotion of natural resources is not only based on their sustainable exploitation in short-medium term, but also on the economic benefits they can generate over the long term if they are not exploited (ecosystem services, ecotourism, etc.). These different forms of economical valorization of natural resources are key arguments to include in national economic policies and to strengthen citizen support to conservation. Examples of such economic promotion of natural resources have already been initiated in some areas of Madagascar at small scale level: in Andasibe, in the eastern part of Madagascar, the villages along the Mantadia National Park have benefited from 50% of park fees, to be allocated to local development projects (schools, agriculture development...).

**Village by village: creating a climate of change for locally-led marine conservation in Madagascar.**

Blue Ventures, a social entrepreneurship organization, is promoting integrated, multidisciplinary approaches to marine conservation and coastal poverty alleviation in Madagascar. Over the last decade these models have guided national fisheries policy and have been replicated by communities, NGOs, businesses, donors and government agencies along thousands of kilometers of Malagasy coastline. These approaches enabled the creation of the largest locally managed marine protected areas in Madagascar and the Western Indian Ocean region, catalyzed a real change in community-led fisheries management, established sustainable aquaculture and ecotourism businesses, and developed new approaches to financing and promoting marine conservation.

**Aladstair Harris**Blue Ventures, **Madagascar****Stream 6 : improve PA governance quality****Daniel Marnewick**BirdLife South Africa, **South Africa****"Biodiversity stewardship", an example of partnership between government, NGO and land owners.**

Through voluntary legal agreements with landowners, Biodiversity Stewardship provides a cost effective conservation tool for securing biodiversity, promoting the sustainable management of natural resources (by meeting the objectives of economically-viable land use such as agriculture, livestock farming and tourism) and expanding the protected area network outside of state-owned national parks and nature reserves. In collaboration with provincial conservation agencies/departments and partner environmental organizations, for the past three years BirdLife South Africa has engaged landowners towards declaring around 100 000 ha of Protected Environments in three priority IBAs. A number of financial mechanisms are being explored to ensure the sustained management of these areas. Such schemes need to be landowner driven, and financed through innovative schemes, e.g. payment for ecosystem services.

### Involvement of local population in governance of park and their peripheral area.

The 3 million hectares of W- Arly- Pendjari complex are highly threatened by human pressure coming from its peripheral areas. To face these challenges, AFAUDEB (a local NGO) brings tangible solutions on the ground by supporting collaborative governance mechanisms to manage natural resources and protected areas. These solutions reconcile conservation management and enhancement of local communities livelihood. After 10 years, concrete results are visible on the ground: more community protected areas are created, policies adopted by local communities and approved by the administration are enforced, natural resources are better promoted (use of non-timber forestry products, ecotourism), incomes from protected areas dedicated to fringe villages are increasing, ecological monitoring is carried out by villagers themselves, new local stakeholders are involved in governance, including decentralized bodies....

#### Inza Kone

Centre Suisse de Recherches Scientifiques en Côte d'Ivoire, Côte d'Ivoire



### Community empowerment for the conservation of critically endangered primates and their habitat in south-eastern Côte d'Ivoire.

Because it is the habitat of three endemic and critically endangered primates considered as the most threatened ones in West Africa, Tanoé forest is considered as a top priority site for primate conservation in this region. In 2006, started an innovative community-based management program for that forest in collaboration with the nine neighboring villages and with the support of local and international partners. The main activities of this Program include (i) community organization and capacity building for conducting routine conservation activities and implement development projects, (ii) technical support for the gazetting process of the Tanoé forest and forest surveillance, (iii) biological surveys and bio monitoring with the involvement of local communities, (iv) awareness campaigns using appropriate approaches, (v) support to local development projects. This project also demonstrates that research continuously feeds conservation and vice-et-versa. This community based managed protected area succeeded to significantly decrease the intensity of encroachments, agricultural clearings and hunting/poaching in the Tanoé forest.

### Best Practice Guideline on Transboundary Conservation in the Ai/Ais-Richtersveld Transfrontier Park.

The Ai/Ais-Richtersveld Transfrontier Park (ARTP) has been performing extremely well in all facets of Transboundary conservation. This would include managing a transfrontier park reflecting on governance structure, the nature of the joint decisions, method of joint implementation, involvement and role of local communities in decision making, cooperation on law enforcement and successes or challenges thereof, training of park staff as well as benefit sharing models. ARTP was one of the first Transfrontier Parks to draw up a Joint operations strategy that is fully functional, a simple live document for day to day operations that helped the management of both parks to work on a common goal.

#### Nicholas De Goede

Ai/Ais-Richtersveld Transfrontier Park, South Africa



#### Alexis Kabore

Association Faune et Développement au Burkina (AFAUDEB), Burkina Faso





**Nils Odendaal**

NamibRand Nature Reserve,  
**Namibia**

**The NamibRand Nature Reserve, a model for private conservation.**

The NamibRand Nature Reserve is probably the largest private nature reserve in Southern Africa, extending over an area of 202,200 ha. The Reserve shares a 110km border with the Namib-Naukluft National Park. To date, sixteen former livestock farms have been rehabilitated into a single continuous natural habitat. Recognizing the importance of wilderness areas, the NamibRand Nature Reserve has exclusively set aside more than 15% of its total area for wilderness. The NamibRand Nature Reserve is a non-profit private nature reserve. All landowners belonging to the Reserve have signed agreements and adopted a constitution which sets aside the land for conservation – now and in the future. The Reserve is financially self-sustaining mainly through high quality, low impact tourism.

**Toward legal recognition of community based protected areas in Democratic Republic of Congo.**

Today in DRC, access to natural resources in protected areas remains totally prohibited for local communities and indigenous peoples. They remain marginalized and therefore their participation in governance and management systems of natural resources is almost nonexistent. However the creation of Aboriginal and Community Heritage Areas and Territories allowed circumventing these prohibitions and showing the effectiveness of collective governance, based on knowledge and traditional practices. This proposal outlines the stages of the process by which the DRC is recognizing these modes of local governance in its own legislation.

**Itongwa Joseph**

Réseau des Populations Autochtones pour la Gestion Durable des Ecosystèmes Forestiers en RDC (REPALEF), **RDC**

**Georges Muamba**

Secrétariat de Collaboration des Grand Virunga,  
**RDC**

**Transfrontier collaboration: opportunities and challenges.**

Transfrontier cooperation for the conservation of the Great Virunga landscape has been experienced between Uganda, the Democratic Republic of Congo and the Republic of Rwanda over the last 15 years. Today the impacts of this cooperation can be measured by the significant increase of the population of Mountain Gorillas. Conservation actions have been jointly carried out in community development and tourism...

**Gender approach in conservation in Rwanda**

Women are key actors and holders of significant knowledge and skills related to biodiversity conservation and natural resource management. In many countries however, it is observed huge inequalities between men and women's control of, access to and benefit from natural resources. Gender promotion and women empowerment is one of the strategic ways to achieve conservation and development goals. ARECO-RWANDA NZIZA in partnership with the park authority, National Women Council, Local Administration and other stakeholders has launched an initiative on gender and women empowerment on protected areas. ARECO currently works with almost 4500 members of cooperatives with 75% of women. After series of training, women are involved in community based forestry including bamboo development, fruit domestication, beekeeping, energy saving, rain water harvesting, agriculture in both protected area zones. This initiative brought insight because women are now recognized as key actors, owners of the project activities.

**Dancille Mukakamari**

The Association Rwandaise des Ecologistes (ARECO-RWANDA NZIZA), **Rwanda**



### Salatou Sambou

Association des Pêcheurs de la Communauté Rurale de Mangagoulack (APCRM), **Sénégal**



### Marine protected area and governance by local communities in Casamance

The community based protected area (CPA) Kawawana has been created because of overfishing by non-local boats in a rich mangrove ecosystem in Casamance (Senegal). Eight villages have united to voluntarily create their own CPA and develop a management plan, with internal zoning and precise usage rules for each zone. The communities carry their own scientific monitoring with fisheries control 3 times a year. They monitor socio-economic impacts and assess management actions impacts in the PA. The results show a clear recovery of fish stocks (in terms of quantity and quality), a gradual restoration of the ecosystem and direct benefits for the villages. This "protected area" costs nothing to the state and is maintained through the voluntary cooperation of fishermen and support from the entire local community. The governance framework of Kawawana is the fishermen's association itself, supported by the rural municipality and the governmental Fisheries agency.

### Participative management plans and step forward for marine protected areas in Senegal

In the past, marine protected areas were created through a top-down approach by the Senegalese wildlife authority. This process generated huge frustration among local populations. But Senegal has recently switched to a new and more constructive approach. Henceforth, the new MPAs are established with the participation and full involvement of local actors throughout the process of creation and design of management rules. Participatory management plans have already been developed with the communities.

### Binta Ba

Direction des Aires Marines Communautaires Protégées, **Sénégal**



### Togarasei Fakarayi

BirdLife, **Zimbabwe**



### Participative management in the Chimanimani-Nyanga Mountains biodiversity conservation corridor

In an effort to promote and enhance collaborative and coordinated approach to biodiversity conservation, a Stakeholder Management Advisory Group (SMAG) was established at each Key Biodiversity Area in the Chimanimani-Nyanga Mountains. Role of a SMAG is to advise the authority responsible for the management of a site, assist in provisioning of solutions to problems faced at the sites, and help raise awareness on biodiversity conservation. Local Conservation Groups (LCGs) were also established in communities adjacent to these KBAs. The LCGs are groups of voluntary people who share the same interest of conserving biodiversity. They get trained in programmes such as resource monitoring and biodiversity conservation, and help raise awareness in communities on the importance and value of biodiversity. To date, some networks have already been established among the SMAGs and LCGs to promote sharing of knowledge and experiences along the Chimanimani-Nyanga Mountains biodiversity conservation corridor.

### Participative mapping : a tool made for involving local communities

Participatory mapping provides a considerable advantage as a tool to guide decision-making and to improve good governance of protected areas and improve their management. By taking into account the customs of local communities in terms of land tenure and use of natural resources, participatory mapping can enhance their social, cultural and historical knowledge, and thus promote their rights to fully participate in the management of natural resources in accordance with the laws and policies on biodiversity conservation of the country. This tool, when used as a basis for discussion, facilitates dialogue and collaboration between all the different stakeholders involved in the management of AP. It has been successfully applied in central Africa.

### Jean Bruno Ngounogbia

ONG Maison de l'Enfant et de la Femme Pygmées, Centrafrique



## Stream 8: inspiring a new generation

### Mary Margaret Otieno

Wildlife Clubs of Kenya (WCK), Kenya



### Engaging the youth in the conservation of key ecosystems in Kenya.

Wildlife Clubs of Kenya (WCK) implement activities that engage the youth living around National Parks and other key ecosystem such as Lake Victoria and the Mau Catchment. The program is based on the premise that since the future of our country lies in the youth, the battle against biodiversity loss cannot be won sustainably without the active participation of all the segments of society, especially the youth. In addition to building the capacity of the youth in environmental conservation and enhancing their skills in implementing conservation projects, this program aimed at instilling a commitment to environmental stewardship in Kenya's next generation and encouraging sustainable lifestyles. WCK works with students and teachers in 2000 schools to improve knowledge about the environment, increase awareness of conservation issues, and encourage participation in hands-on activities.



This program is supported by the French Agency for Development (Afd), The Fondation internationale pour le Banc d'Arguin and by the BIOPAMA project (EU)



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