African Wildlife Foundation (AWF) Partnership for Africa

UN CSD 16 Partnership Fair
May 07 2008
Kaddu. K. Sebunya

AWF Mission

The African Wildlife Foundation, together with the **people of Africa**, works to ensure the wildlife and wild lands of Africa will endure forever.
Challenges

- Land use
- Exploitation of wildlife species
- Human-wildlife conflict
- Invasive alien species
- Pollution and contaminants
- Climate change
- Livelihoods/economic growth

Our Theory of Change

The survival of Africa’s extraordinary wildlife depends on the protection of large, living landscapes that sustain life and benefit people.
Five Main Strategies

• Conserving Land
• Understanding and Protecting Species
• Creating Conservation-Friendly Businesses
• Empowering People through Education and Training
• Engaging governments

Major Partnerships

• African Governments
• Africa Channel
  – Rebranding Africa
• The Nature Conservancy
  – Modeling land trusts
• Starbucks
  – Conservation farming
• US Forest Service
  – Fire, water management
• US Fish and Wildlife Services
  – Species applied research
• Donor governments and Agencies
AWF partnership solutions to Africa’s development: a case in D. R. CONGO

CARPE

• Central African Regional Program, the USG contribution to the Congo Basin Forest Partnership (CBFP).
• CBFP is a Presidential Initiatives with 34 partners seeking to reform forestry practices, promote economic development, and improve governance.
• Central Africa Forestry commission (COMIFAC) - Yaoundé Declaration signed by D.R. Congo, Gabon, Eq. Guinea, Rep Congo, Cameroon, Central African Republic, and Chad.
• There 12 landscapes
12 CARPE landscapes

CONGO HEARTLAND

- 74,000 sq. km
- Ecology is globally significant – part of the Congo basin forest ecosystem
- Home to diverse and important species – bonobo ape, fisheries and other rare societies, etc
- Home to 0.5 people dependent on wild resources to meet their needs
- Formally impacted by civil war
Biodiversity Conservation Targets

- Central Congolian forests:
  - Evergreen lowland forests
  - Flooded swamp forests
- Floodplain ecosystem: rivers, wetlands
- Species: fish, Congo peacock, Bonobo

Threats to Conservation

- Deforestation due to agricultural expansion and human settlements
- Commercial bush meat hunting/trade
- Inadequate agricultural policy/lack of market access
- Unsustainable fishing practices
- Industrial logging (potential to resume commercial timber extraction)
Land Use Planning Objective

• Consolidate assessment of needs of local human population and biodiversity into a land use plan.
• It is assumed that its implementation will render the landscape ecologically, socially and economically viable

Our Partners

• The D.R. Congo Government
• US Government - USAID-CARPE
• CARE International
• Conservation International
• Bonobo Conservation Initiative
• Netherlands Development Org. (SNV)
• World Agroforestry Centre—ICRAF
• WorldFish Center
• University of Maryland
• US Fish and Wildlife Service
• DRC Government
• National NGOs and local communities
Partners cont…

• Arcus Foundation
• French Ministry of Foreign Affairs (FFEM)
• Columbus Zoo
• Alexander Abraham Foundation
• Frankenberg Foundation
• African Development Bank
• US Fish and Wildlife Services

Methods and Results Phase 1
Phase 1 lessons

- Partnership structure was developed based on project zonal outcomes and expertise instead of thematic
- Focus on delineated geographical areas
- Uncohesiveness in landscape emerged
- Deficiency in data
- Flexibility and adaptation
- Stakeholder involvement
- Government responsibilities

Phase 2 – Thematic expertise

- Biodiversity resource and sustainable use practice, enterprise development, GIS processes
- Agriculture and agro-forestry
- Civil society institutional capacity building, participation and conflict resolution
- Diversity, gender role of women and minority groups.
- Fisheries
- Satellite imagery, mapping and monitoring
Results

- Cohesive approach – members utilizing each others expertise
- Joint decisions
- More understood/ amenable to stakeholders
- Easy reporting and monitoring
- Easy fundraising
- Joint representation
- Spatial modeling
Lessons Learnt

- HCP process – initial scoping – setting project targets, threats and opportunities, prioritization, stakeholder participation
- Consortium building and structure – synergistic composition / participatory
- Ownership of the process by stakeholders
- Communication strategy
- Shared landscape vision, objectives and desired conditions
- Spatial modeling and satellite imagery
Thank You…!

SNV – www.snvworld.org

WorldFish – www.worldfishcenter.org

ICRAF – www.worldagroforestry.org

University of Maryland – www.umd.edu

REFADD – Le Reseau Femmes Africaines Pour le Developpement Durable

Government and People of the Democratic Republic of Congo