



2005  
ANNUAL REPORT

LANDS SUSTAINING  
*Life*





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BURCHELL'S ZEBRAS (EQUUS BURCHELLI), BOTSWANA. ©JAMES WEIS/EYESONAFRICA.NET



AFRICA MUST MANAGE HER  
 CONSERVATION LANDS ON  
 A SCALE THAT TRANSCENDS  
 VILLAGES, PROTECTED AREAS  
 AND EVEN ENTIRE NATIONS.  
 FOR AS THE LANDS GO,  
 SO GOES THE WILDLIFE.  
 SO GO THE PEOPLE.  
 SO GOES THE FUTURE OF AFRICA.

## OUR MISSION

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

FRONT COVER: ELEPHANT, TANZANIA. ©C.R. SHOLLEY; SUNSET, BOTSWANA. ©BEVERLY JOUBERT; BOYS OF THE LUVALE PEOPLE, SOUTHWESTERN ZAMBIA. ©CHRIS JOHNS

# BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Recently, a young Maasai pastoralist told one of our staff members, “You are wise to focus on land because all life springs from the soil.” We were inspired by his comments because they underline the importance of land conservation as the key strategy for protecting wildlife—indeed, for sustaining all life.

Some people may be surprised that land conservation is the primary strategy of an organization keenly focused on wildlife conservation. We hope supporters and friends of the African Wildlife Foundation will respond with a simple affirmation: Of course!

Like wildlife everywhere, the wildlife of Africa needs vast open landscapes to live, to move, to migrate and to propagate. Isolated islands of protected land will not suffice to ensure that wildlife survives and thrives.


Indeed, the scale of conservation required for sustaining Africa’s wildlife forces us to adopt an expansive agenda, the landscape agenda. We cannot limit our attention to formation and support of national parks or other traditional protected areas. We also must be open to creative conservation strategies.

To succeed, we are working on innovative approaches to protecting land, including forming private land trusts at national as well as local levels in several nations. We are leading the formation of community-owned reserves on lands owned by local people. Further, we are working to engage private landholders in conservation where ecotourism returns surpass other economic uses.

Our vision also requires a strong focus on the well-being of local people. In all of our work, we are determined to secure the economic benefits of conservation for local people as well as empower local citizens to manage their own lands.

Thank you for joining us to conserve land and sustain life—both the life of Africa’s incomparable wildlife and of the people who receive sustainable economic and social benefits when we do our job well.

  
Patrick J. Bergin, Ph.D.  
President & CEO

  
Helen W. Gichohi, Ph.D.  
Vice President for Program



AS THE NEWLY ELECTED chair of the AWF Board, I’d like to reflect for a moment on the mission statement that stands behind everything we do:

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

I am particularly struck by the phrase, “together with the people of Africa.” The African Wildlife Foundation is the only organization that works solely in Africa, that is 100% focused on Africa, and is therefore truly African in both its outlook and its makeup.

While those who support AWF are increasingly multi-national, our staff is 85% African. No other conservation organization can say that, just as no other conservation organization can say that it is working to include Africans at the highest levels—including the Board of Trustees. In fact, this year, we will begin the practice of holding the annual meeting of the Foundation in Africa.

Finally, no other organization shares AWF’s emphasis not just on Africa’s wildlife, but on its “wild lands.” Large landscape management has emerged as the only viable way to sustain wildlife over the long term, and it is in this area that AWF’s experience and leadership truly shine. We like to say that in Africa, the “lands sustain life.” And it is our job to sustain the lands.

Thank you for your interest and support of this remarkable organization. It is an honor to serve you.

  
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Chair, Board of Trustees

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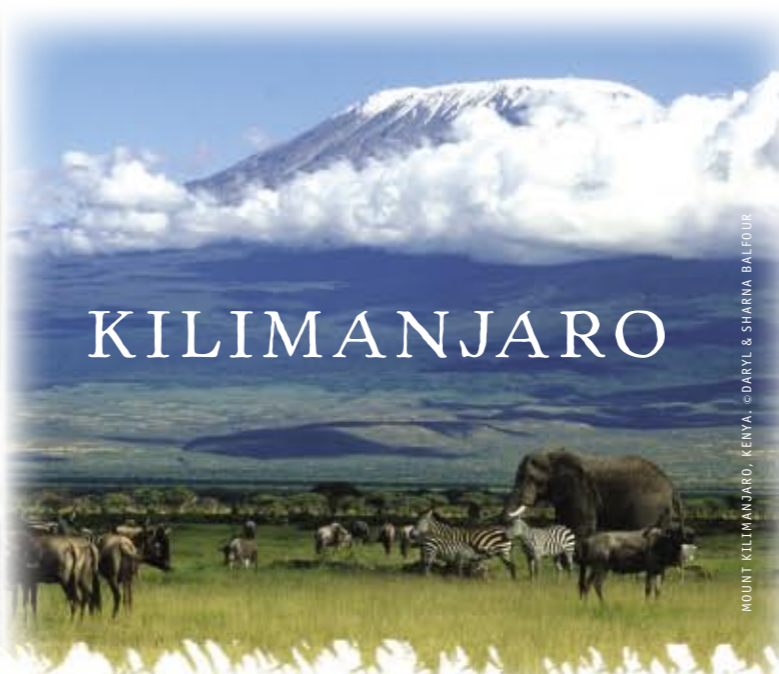
CONGO

BONOBO, DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC OF CONGO. © JOHN WATKIN



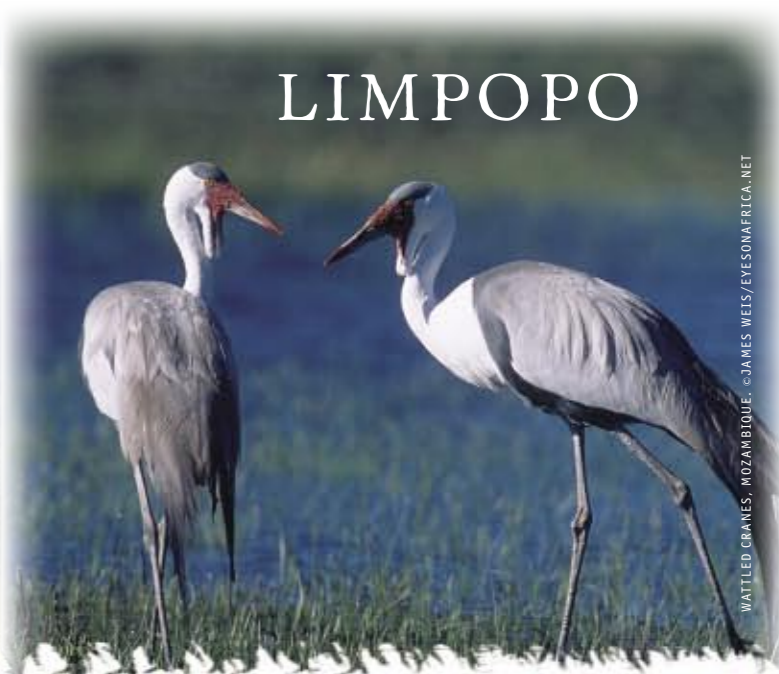
KAZUNGULA

LION, BOTSWANA. © JAMES WEIS/EYESONAFRICA.NET



KILIMANJARO

MOUNT KILIMANJARO, KENYA. © DARYL & SHARNA BALFOUR



LIMPOPO

WATTLED CRANES, MOZAMBIQUE. © JAMES WEIS/EYESONAFRICA.NET

# THE AFRICAN HEARTLANDS

All of Africa's lands sustain life. But certain key landscapes are absolutely essential to conservation—thanks to their unmatched concentrations of wildlife, and their potential to sustain viable populations for centuries to come.

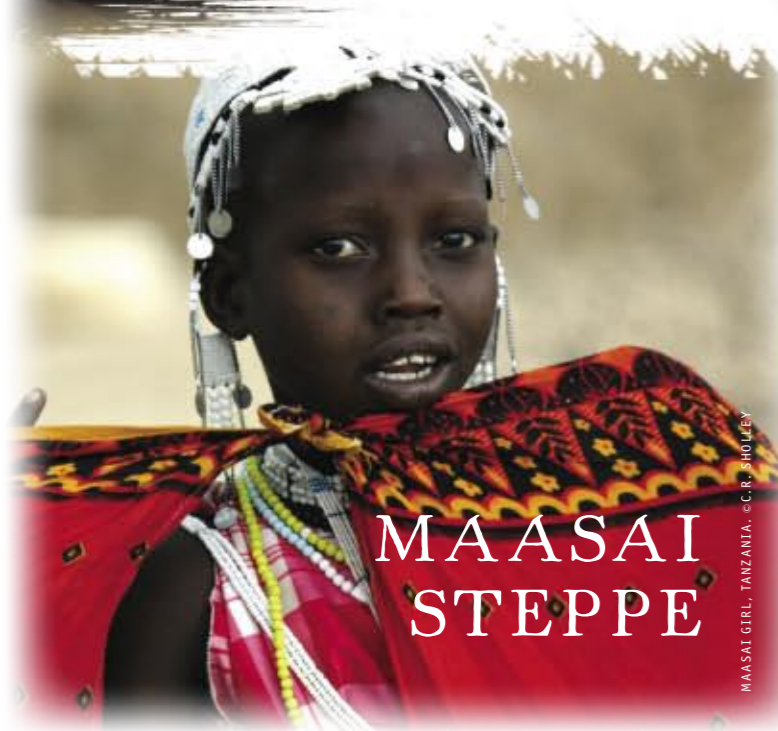
AWF has done the hard work of identifying those landscapes, and we call them the “African Heartlands.”

Far larger than any park or reserve, an African Heartland combines national parks and local villages, government lands and private lands into a large, cohesive conservation landscape that often spans international boundaries.

In an African Heartland, people and wildlife live side by side, and the needs of both are balanced.

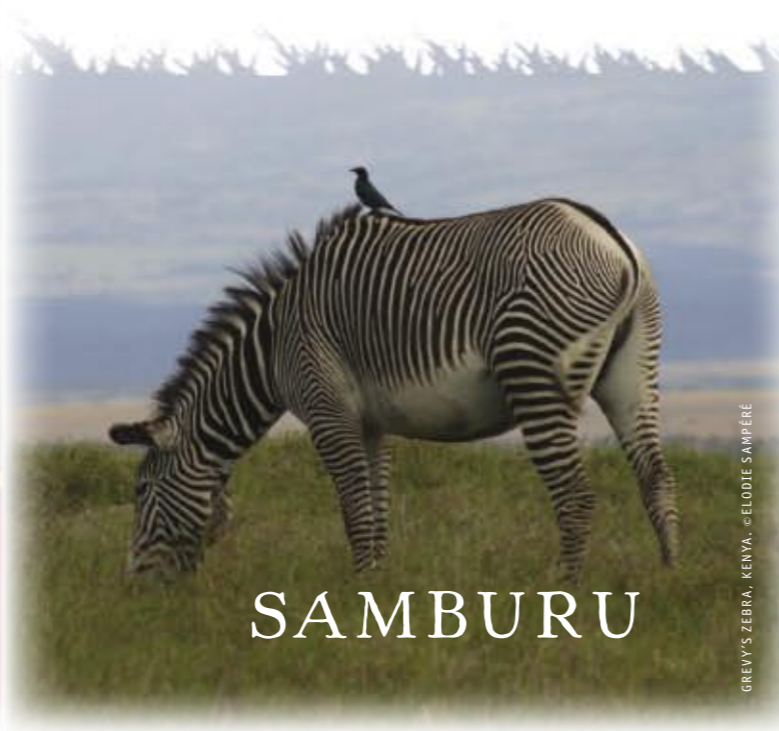
In an African Heartland, AWF works with stakeholders to design conservation strategies, create policies and practices, and pioneer projects that benefit all concerned.

In an African Heartland, the future of Africa—its wildlife, habitat and people—will be secured.



MAASAI STEPPE

MAASAI GIRL, TANZANIA. © C.R. SHOLEY



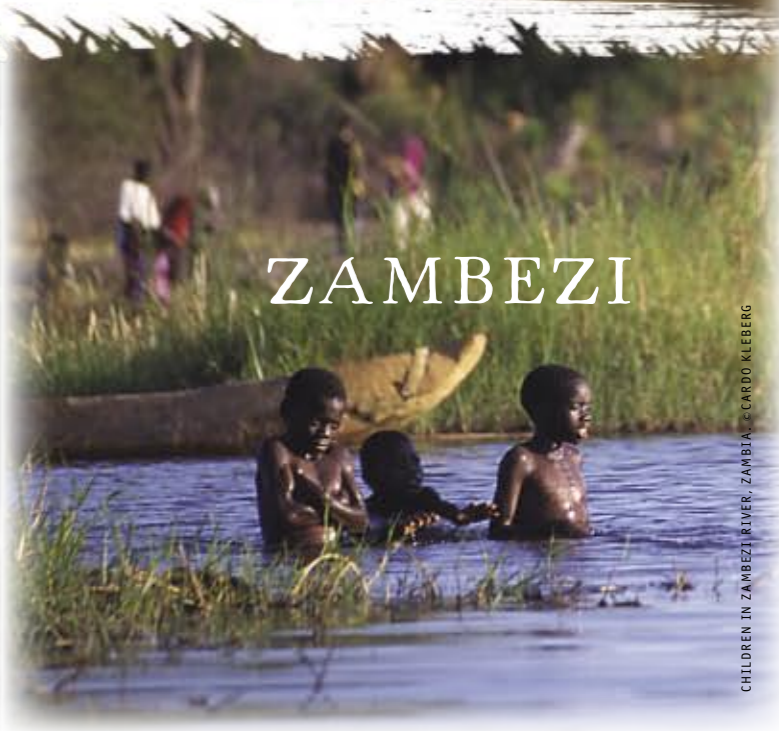
SAMBURU

GREY'S ZEBRA, KENYA. © ELODIE SAMPÉRE



VIRUNGA

MOUNTAIN GORILLAS, RWANDA. © MARYKE GRAY



ZAMBEZI

CHILDREN IN ZAMBEZI RIVER, ZAMBIA. © CARDO KLEBERG

# THE AFRICAN HEARTLANDS



## CONGO HEARTLAND

*Democratic Republic of Congo*

**LANDSCAPE:** Located in the center of the Congo Basin, this Heartland is a globally significant area of intact rainforest.

**TARGET SPECIES:** The exotic and endangered bonobo, Congo peacock and forest elephant.

## KAZUNGULA HEARTLAND

*Botswana, Namibia, Zambia, Zimbabwe*

**LANDSCAPE:** One of the world's greatest cataracts—Victoria Falls—is the crown jewel in this vast landscape where river systems and wetlands eventually give way to a woodland-grassland mosaic with vital wildlife migration corridors.

**TARGET SPECIES:** Largest concentration of elephant in Africa; lion, cheetah, giraffe, hippopotamus, rhinoceros, leopard; many species of antelope, goliath heron, bream and tigerfish; many medicinal and endemic plant species.

## KILIMANJARO HEARTLAND

*Kenya, Tanzania*

**LANDSCAPE:** Africa's highest peak and most famous landmark rises in the center of this scenic Heartland—surrounded by a variety of ecosystems from wetlands to semi-arid savannah. Here, you'll find Kenya's Amboseli National Park, Tanzania's Kilimanjaro and Arusha National Parks and vast community lands tended by the Maasai people.

**TARGET SPECIES:** Africa's best-known and most-studied elephant population; the endangered cheetah and wild dog; declining tree species of juniper and ebony.

## LIMPOPO HEARTLAND

*Mozambique, South Africa, Zimbabwe*

**LANDSCAPE:** This vast Heartland covers areas of Mozambique, South Africa and Zimbabwe. Centered on the Limpopo River, it includes world-famous Kruger National Park.

**TARGET SPECIES:** Africa's largest rhino population, along with rare ungulate, predator, hippopotamus; a rich birdlife, insects and diverse aquatic life.

## MAASAI STEPPE HEARTLAND

*Tanzania*

**LANDSCAPE:** A mosaic of baobab acacia trees scattered across vast savannah, this is one of the world's richest remaining reserves for wildlife—with two of Tanzania's most frequented National Parks. Lake Manyara National Park, in particular, is recognized internationally as a Biosphere Reserve and includes key migration corridors, dispersal areas and breeding grounds.

**TARGET SPECIES:** Large predators like lion, leopard, cheetah and wild dog; elephant; and locally endangered ungulates like fringe-eared oryx, kudu and gerenuk.

## SAMBURU HEARTLAND

*Kenya*

**LANDSCAPE:** Located just north of the equator in the rain-shadow of Mt. Kenya, this Heartland marks the northernmost point of AWF's work—and is home to intact wet montane forests, dry cedar forests, plateau grassland, acacia grassland and the Eswaso Nyiro River—along with parts of Mt. Kenya National Park, Samburu National Reserve and extensive ranch and communal lands.

**TARGET SPECIES:** Northern specialists species like reticulated giraffe, Somali ostrich, and Grevy's zebra live alongside elephant, lion, hyena, leopard and black rhino.

## VIRUNGA HEARTLAND

*Democratic Republic of Congo, Rwanda, Uganda*

**LANDSCAPE:** Virunga volcanic highlands and the Bwindi Impenetrable Forest National Park highlight a region of incredible biodiversity that spans parts of Democratic Republic of Congo, Rwanda and Uganda.

**TARGET SPECIES:** The last 700 mountain gorillas in the world, along with chimpanzee, golden monkey, giant forest hog, African buffalo and a rich birdlife.

## ZAMBEZI HEARTLAND

*Mozambique, Zambia, Zimbabwe*

**LANDSCAPE:** This three-country, transboundary region of Zimbabwe, Zambia and Mozambique offers some of the most breathtaking landscapes in southern Africa, featuring the mighty Zambezi River and its surrounding tributaries, wetlands and flood plains.

**TARGET SPECIES:** Hippopotamus, elephant, buffalo, impala, sable and roan antelope; eland, nyala, crocodile, black rhinoceros, wild dog, cheetah and lion.



LION (PANTHERA LEO), KENYA. © JAMES WEIS/EYESONAFRICA.NET



*I* “I’m not a research scientist or a gorilla expert. I’m a lawyer. But a lawyer is exactly what the wildlife in Kenya needed most.

“You see, in my country, land can be owned by the government, an individual or the community. And while the government has set aside a lot of protected land, there was no legal framework to encourage communities to do the same.

“After years of hard work, funding from USAID, and the cooperation of government and community partners, AWF has helped to create the Kenya Land



Conservation Trust—  
the first in the  
nation's history.



*“The Trust will act like an individual in the land marketplace. It can lease or purchase land. It can enter into management agreements with farmers or ranchers. It can even compensate landowners for the opportunity costs—the grass, plants, and water—that wildlife consumes on their land.*



*“Thanks to the Trust, we can now expect to set aside land across Kenya—because now, there are legal ways to benefit from it.*

*“Everybody needs a good lawyer. For the wildlife in Kenya, that lawyer just happens to be me.”*

NYOKABI GITAHU  
AWF Legal Associate

# LANDSCAPE CONSERVATION

*Wildlife needs vast, unfettered wild lands to live, to move, to migrate, to propagate. AWF works with governments and local villages, private interests and national parks to create large-scale conservation landscapes.*

## LAND TRUST OPENS A NEW CHAPTER IN KENYA CONSERVATION

In 2005, one of AWF's most important conservation victories didn't happen in the field, the lab or the classroom. It happened in the halls of government.

The fact is that the legal framework for conservation in any given country is critical—especially in African countries, where law and policy are still evolving after decades of colonial rule.

That's why AWF was thrilled to announce the registration and incorporation of the Kenya Land Conservation Trust (KLCT)—the first national land trust in Kenya's history.

The KLCT is empowered to act as a player in the private marketplace—creating economic incentives and brokering agreements to encourage the conservation-friendly use of private lands.

Overseen by a board of directors, with community representation, the formation of the KLCT was simply facilitated by AWF—its real ownership lies firmly in the hands of the local people. Through the KLCT, communities can negotiate easements on private land for wildlife, compensate individual landowners for the opportunity costs, and

even purchase land outright.

For the first time, an entity whose entire focus is on conservation exists in Kenya with all the legal rights of a private landowner. This is a first for Kenyan law, a landmark for Kenyan conservation—and a precedent-setting victory in the fight to conserve the lands that sustain life across East Africa.

## MANYARA RANCH SCHOOL MAKES MOVE

When AWF took over the management of Manyara Ranch (a working cattle ranch that occupies a vital wildlife corridor in Tanzania), we got more than we bargained for: a fully functioning, 800-student, 15-teacher primary school.

The Manyara Ranch School provides education and boarding to the children of Maasai families for miles around. But while this was the best-performing school in the entire Monduli District, it had two serious problems. First, it was a substandard, run-down facility barely adequate to meet the children's needs.

Second, the school sat in the heart of the ranch—right in the middle of the wildlife migration corridor. This location was unsafe not only for the wildlife, but for the children.

For several years, AWF has been working

to secure funding to relocate and rebuild the school. Now, thanks to a generous grant from the Annenberg Foundation in Los Angeles, the Manyara Ranch Primary School is finally on the move.



© C. R. SHOLLEY

Soon the children will be able to attend school in a newly constructed facility, with clean classrooms and dorms. They will be a safe distance away from the migration routes—giving wildlife full freedom to roam the ranch—and a lot closer to vital healthcare and communication facilities.

Now that conditions at the school are looking up, so are the children—to a future that is brighter and more promising than anything they had ever imagined.

## NATIONAL PARK PUT IN INTERNATIONAL SPOTLIGHT

Southern Africa's vast transnational Limpopo Heartland is perhaps best known for the world-famous Kruger National Park. Yet not far away, in Mozambique, is an equally fascinating park that is virtually unknown: Banhine National Park.

This 7,000 km<sup>2</sup> jewel is home to extensive inland wetlands, and is a key source of water in the arid lands surrounding it.

Yet Banhine National Park has received little of the attention—and the income—that Kruger enjoys. It has virtually no capacity for proper wildlife management.

Worst of all, Banhine has only a remnant of its once significant endangered wattled crane population, and its antelope and other rare ungulates (like Lichtenstein's hartebeest) have been largely wiped out.

But in October 2004, AWF signed an agreement with Mozambique's Ministry of Tourism—and embarked on a plan to restore the infrastructure of the park.

Because baseline data on the biodiversity, geology and hydrology of Banhine National Park simply doesn't exist, one of the keystones of our plan is to establish an international research center.

AWF is constructing the research center and marketing it to the international scientific community. Research fees paid by international researchers will be used to staff the center and manage the park. What's more, AWF is negotiating with the international program of the U.S. Forest Service to provide expert advice for watershed and hydrological assessments.

Today, construction of the center is completed, and only the drilling of a borehole for water remains to be finished. Thanks to international support, and the growing interest of scientists around the world, the new research center is a vital first step in helping Banhine National Park travel the long road to recovery.

## TAKING THE HEARTLANDS' PULSE

An African Heartland is a complicated place—where AWF works with a range of stakeholders to balance the needs and priorities of both wildlife and people.

That's why AWF conducts regular

consultations and workshops with our stakeholders as part of the Heartland Conservation Process (HCP) in order to adaptively plan conservation strategies and monitor the impact of our interventions in the African Heartlands.

This year, two important HCP workshops were held—one in the Congo Heartland in the Democratic Republic of Congo and the other in the Limpopo Heartland in southern Africa.

In the Congo Heartland, the workshop brought together key stakeholders to conduct a conservation threats and opportunities analysis—leading to a clear articulation of priority conservation and development strategies. It defined precisely what the various stakeholders must do to tackle threats to biodiversity, and identified opportunities for improved livelihoods through sustainable natural resource management. It was a groundbreaking planning exercise—and laid the foundation for important work in the years to come.

In Limpopo, the HCP meeting presented an opportunity to focus more attention on the Mozambican side of the landscape—an area just beginning to realize its tremendous conservation potential.

Developed with assistance from The Nature Conservancy, AWF's Heartland Conservation Process is a comprehensive framework for directing and managing conservation action in the African Heartlands—until each becomes a strong and sustainable conservation landscape.

*A Heartland is  
a complicated place—  
where AWF works with  
a range of stakeholders  
to balance the needs  
and priorities of both  
wildlife and people.*

AWF has determined that it's necessary to work on a 15-year time horizon in order to have significant impact on these landscapes—calling for major investment, long-range planning, and a great deal of patience. But 15 years is a modest investment in a landscape that took millions of years to create.



© THIERRY BLANCHET



## COMMUNITIES GIVE PARK MORE PUNCH

In the western half of Limpopo Heartland is one of the world's "super-parks"—a vast, transnational park comprised of the Kruger National Park in South Africa, Limpopo National Park in Mozambique and Gonarezhou National Park in Zimbabwe.

Yet, as impressive as these parks are, they form only a part of the Heartland—and only a fraction of what is needed to protect the landscape, ecosystems and abundant wildlife of this region.

That's why AWF has been working with communities along the edges of these parks, finding opportunities to set aside privately held land to extend the effective reach of these protected areas.

This past year, great strides were made in two key communities: Huntington in South Africa and Cubo in Mozambique.

In Cubo, a Community Nature Reserve has been established—the first in Mozambique. And outside the Reserve, agro-forestry techniques have been introduced to improve fodder for livestock in the remaining land.

In Huntington, years of complex negotiations are finally bearing fruit as an 8,000-hectare piece of community land is finally close to being set aside as a Community Nature Reserve to be managed in partnership with the Sabi Sand Game Reserve. Private safari operators and ecotourism interests are eager to help develop facilities there that will generate significant income for the community—while ensuring that the wildlife is protected.

Both of these developments have demanded complex negotiations with multiple stakeholders. It has demanded the best AWF has to offer in community mobilization and facilitation, land-use zoning and legal support and brokering. But our best is exactly what Africa's wildlife deserves.

©JUAN PABLOS MOREIRAS



## WELCOME CENTER OPENS DOORS TO THE FUTURE

It's just a welcome center. A single building, at the entrance to one national park, in one African country.

Yet that one welcome center will benefit thousands of people, protect a vast landscape, and protect Uganda's endangered population of mountain gorillas.

The Virungas are home to almost half of the world's endangered mountain gorillas. Yet it is surrounded by a large and growing

*It's a welcome center.  
But its doors do more  
than greet tourists—  
they welcome a  
better future for  
the entire landscape.*

human population—a population that is still very poor. Which means that unless the park is managed as part of a larger landscape, outside pressures will eventually overwhelm the park's resources. And increase the threat to the mountain gorilla population.

To meet that threat, AWF, with funding from the U.S. Agency for International Development (USAID), is playing the lead role in designing and building a visitors and education center for the Mgahinga National Park. A world-class welcome center attracts more tourists to the park, and leaves them well-informed about the mountain gorillas they come so far to see.

The Center gives the park staff a valuable meeting point for training and improving their conservation skills—not to mention their morale.

It enhances the professional reputation of the Uganda Wildlife Authority, and provides inspiration for creating similar facilities at other parks.

It offers the surrounding community a place to meet and plan additional eco-friendly businesses. It even provides a sales outlet for community merchandise, infusing much-needed cash into the landscape at large.

It's just a welcome center. But its doors do more than greet tourists—they welcome a better future for the entire landscape.

## PEOPLE'S DEFENSE FORCE JOINS FIGHT FOR CONSERVATION

In the heart of the Maasai Steppe Heartland, a division of the Tanzania People's Defense

Force controls a 9,000-acre property. Known as "Jeshi ya Kujenga Taifa" (National Youth Service) or JKT, this military group was to use the land for training exercises. However, a lack of funds and personnel means the land has largely been neglected.

So this year, the JKT did what perhaps no military group in Africa has ever done before—they turned the management of the land over for conservation and entered into an enterprise partnership with AWF.

In January of 2005, both parties signed an agreement sealing their partnership and protecting a critical elephant corridor near

©THERY BLANCHET



AWF's Manyara Ranch. AWF is now acting as the broker for tourist concessions.

As important as the land is, so is the precedent this sets: for the first time, AWF has created an innovative partnership with a military body not normally given to conservation. We'd like to think it won't be the last.



BONOBO (*PAN PANISCUS*), DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC OF CONGO. © JOHN WATKIN



*In the '90s, I worked in the Congo with bonobos—the primates most closely related to humans. Then civil war erupted. And I wondered if I'd ever go back.*

*“On a return visit in 2002, I was shocked at what I saw. It wasn't just the plight of the*




*bonobos—it was the state of the people. They struggled just to get food and clothing.*

*They were turning to the forest for their survival—and destroying it in the process.*

*“I vowed that if I ever went back, it would only be to benefit the people as much*

as the wildlife.

*“Then, in 2003, AWF invited me to become their coordinator for landscape conservation in the Congo.*

 *“Land use law and forestry policy in the Congo are still being written. Here is a golden opportunity to forge policy that can help people and wildlife alike.*

*“More than any other organization, AWF works with the local people—teaching forestry, creating management plans for logging, micro-enterprises, and sustainable agriculture.*

*“Is it more important to save the bonobo or help the people? Thanks to AWF, that’s one choice I’ll never have to make.”*



JEF DUPAIN

*Congo Heartland Coordinator*

# SPECIES CONSERVATION

*To ensure that our work is based on conservation science, AWF invests in applied conservation research, from securing species and habitats to creating nature-based enterprises. Our conservation team is the backbone of our effort to ensure that Africa’s wildlife survives forever.*

## COMBING WETLANDS FOR WATTLED CRANES

The largest and rarest crane in all of Africa, the wattled crane once thrived in the wetlands of Mozambique’s Banhine National Park. But civil war, lack of management, and dry-season encroachments by farmers destroyed the population. At one point, only 10 cranes were thought to remain in the entire park.

So in 2005, AWF pulled out all the stops—beginning with an aerial survey that used Global Positioning Systems (GPS) to count the cranes and map their distribution. A ground survey then identified key nesting habitats. But counting the wattled cranes is only the first step. Plans are at an advanced stage to train game wardens and local community leaders to be involved in future surveys—and students and lecturers from the University of Edward Mondlane in Maputo will also be engaged to undertake detailed anthropogenic, ecological, and hydrological studies.

The expected end result is a gold mine of information on the wattled crane and other birds with similar habitat needs (like the saddle-billed stork). Even more important, the entire community is now committed to helping the wattled crane population regain

its strength—and return to its former splendor. So far, the news is good: seven cranes have been identified and the population seems to have a good chance of bouncing back.

## RHINOS SUDDENLY ON THE ROPES

In the 1970s and 80s Zimbabwe was a rhino conservation success story. Unlike some rhino range states to the north, Zimbabwe had increased its rhino numbers to the point that by 1987, it had over 1,700 black rhinos representing almost half of the world’s total population. When poaching escalated in the 1990s, many rhinos were moved to Intensive Protection Zones (IPZs), some were secured in sanctuaries, ranches and conservancies. With active protection in these areas, poaching had been virtually contained. And rhino birth rates rose substantially.

Then, disaster struck again. The changing political situation in Zimbabwe led to economic sanctions. Many international donors no longer had a way to support Zimbabwe’s rhinos. Ultimately, the government funding to IPZs dropped drastically, almost leaving them to fend for themselves.

Especially vulnerable was the Sinamattella IPZ in Hwange National Park (part of

AWF's Kazungula Heartland). Suddenly, rhinos were being lost. So in 2004, AWF decided to help stop the carnage. Despite the danger, and even though most organizations were pulling out of Zimbabwe, AWF re-engaged. With support from the United States Fish and Wildlife Service, we supported the recruitment of 11 new rangers.

We equipped the rangers with everything from binoculars to GPS units to camping equipment. We provided hundreds of gallons of fuel for their Land Rovers, and fuel for air surveillance.

Finally, AWF supported increased monitoring efforts, so that the rangers would know where the rhinos are at all times.

With continuing AWF support, results have been remarkable. No new rhino poaching has been reported since June 2004. Calves have been born and Hwange's rhino population appears to be once again on its way to recovery.

Zimbabwe is still experiencing severe problems. But in the Sinamatella rhino Intensive Protection Zone, at least, there is reason to hope that the best is yet to come.



©DARYL & SHARNA BALFOUR

## SCOUTING FOR WILD DOGS IN SAMBURU

Wild dogs are rare, unusual, a terrific tourist draw—and Africans have begun to truly appreciate the value they add to their ecology and economy. But that wasn't always the case.

Viewed as vermin and a threat to livestock, wild dogs were exterminated throughout the 20th century. Today there are just 3,000 to 5,500 left in all of Africa. And while some populations have shown modest recovery, others are still declining.

*Twelve scouts from five communities are employed to monitor wild dogs. AWF supplies these experienced trackers with hand-held radios and GPS units—and pays their salaries.*

A decade ago, wild dogs were virtually wiped out in the Samburu Heartland area in Kenya. Today, however, there are 200 dogs in 13 packs—thanks to cooperative work between local land owners, AWF, the AWF-supported Samburu Laikipia Wild Dog Project (SLWDP), and community organizations such as Namunyak Wildlife Conservation Trust.

Right now, 12 scouts from five different communities are employed specifically to monitor wild dogs. AWF supplies these experienced trackers with hand-held radios and GPS units—and pays their salaries.

In December 2004, four more scouts from the Kirimon community were outfitted and trained. Using radio tracking methods, they located a pack with 10 newborn pups.

Just as important, AWF has fostered a dialogue between local communities and key

©C.R. SHOLLEY



researchers from SLWDP to ease landowners' concerns about the wild dogs' presence. Because AWF has established good rapport with many of these communities, research has been expanded into new areas.

Today, Samburu's wild dogs are making a slow but steady comeback. With the help of AWF's partners, along with your support, we can ensure that their numbers have nowhere to go but up.

## RWANDA RALLIES AROUND GORILLA NAMING CEREMONY

"Byishimo," which means "happiness." "Impano," which means "gift." Those would be beautiful names for any infant—but the fact

that they were given to newborn mountain gorilla twins makes them all the more special.

On June 25, 2005, President Paul Kagame, wildlife authorities, conservation groups, and residents of Rwanda came together for the naming of these twins—and 28 other endangered mountain gorilla babies.

For Rwanda and its people, conservation of mountain gorillas is more than simply preserving one of the world's last great ape species. The gorillas are the country's main tourist attraction, earning more than \$2.5 million every year—the third-highest source of foreign currency in all of Rwanda.

President and Mrs. Kagame presided over a ceremony featuring traditional dances and poems—and personally gave the celebrated gorilla twins their new names.

Of the only 700 mountain gorillas surviving in the world, 380 are in Rwanda, making this occasion a symbol of hope for the future of the gorilla—and the future of Rwanda itself. AWF and our partners in the International Gorilla Conservation Program (Fauna and Flora International and World Wide Fund for Nature) continue to work harder than ever to make sure the mountain gorilla continues its comeback.



©MARYKE GRAY



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## 23,000 ELEPHANTS, THREE NATIONS, ONE LANDSCAPE

In the Zambezi Heartland, one of Africa's largest elephant populations roams a vast landscape that crosses national boundaries. When the elephants are in each of the countries (Mozambique, Zambia or Zimbabwe), they are protected by the respective authorities. But until recently, no one treated the landscape as a whole. No one had the big picture on why, when or where the elephants went. Until now.

With funding from the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, AWF has brought all the parties together to develop a Heartland-wide management strategy for the elephants.

The first step, of course, was research. A series of aerial surveys has been tracking elephant movement for the past four years—backed up by meticulous documentation on the ground.

Next, AWF facilitated workshops that brought together participants from Zambia,

Zimbabwe and Mozambique. Together, they are harmonizing their strategy for managing the elephants they all share.

Today, AWF is seeking input from the Director Generals of all three wildlife authorities, moving toward ratification of the overall strategy in 2006, and incorporating it into a regional strategy.

*No one treated the  
landscape as a whole.  
No one had the big picture  
on why, when or where  
the elephants went.  
Until now.*

The elephants, of course, have always known the land was a single entity. They've simply been waiting for us to catch up.

## GREAT CATS GET THE LAW ON THEIR SIDE

Great cats and rare canids are some of the most admired—yet most feared—creatures on earth. The very things that make them great also put them in direct conflict with humans. Because of their vast hunting range and lethal prowess, they are rapidly disappearing from the face of the earth.

In 2005, just after an AWF-hosted visit to Africa by several U.S. Congressmen, the United States Government introduced the Great Cats and Rare Canids Act—offering new opportunities for the conservation and protection of seven felid and five canid species around the world. Many of those species are in Africa—and are the focus of some of AWF's most urgent and high-profile work.

### LEOPARD (*Panthera pardus*)

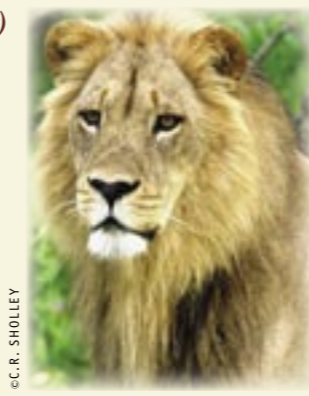


© JAMES WEIS/EYESONAFRICA.NET

A master of stealth and surprise and the most adaptable of the large predators, leopards can survive in almost any habitat—except one that is shrinking. *AWF is helping to protect important habitats and the prey species leopards need to survive.*

### LION (*Panthera leo*)

The most social of the great cats, lions live in family groups called prides. Once found throughout the continent, lions are now confined to sub-Saharan Africa. Their numbers have



© C.R. SHOLLEY

plummeted in the last 20 years, declining from as many as 100,000 to an estimated 23,000—a decline of more than 75%. *AWF is protecting the lands that sustain lions—and performing important research into lion movement and conflict with humans in our Kazungula, Kilimanjaro, Maasai Steppe and Zambezi Heartlands.*



© C.R. SHOLLEY

### CHEETAH

(*Acionyx jubatus*) Sprinting at 70 miles per hour, the fastest animal on land, and

faster than almost every bird, the cheetah is losing ground to habitat loss, poaching, and disease. *AWF is helping to safeguard cheetah habitat.*

### AFRICAN WILD DOG (*Lycaon pictus*)

One of Africa's most endangered animals, wild dog populations are persecuted as pests and devastated by disease from domestic dogs. Between 3,000 and 5,500 are left in the wild. *AWF is working with partners to train scouts to monitor wild dogs, and pioneer livestock management techniques that minimize contact between the dogs and local communities in Samburu and Maasai Steppe Heartlands.*



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### ETHIOPIAN WOLF (*Canis simensis*)

The global population is currently estimated at only 400 adults. The population is threatened by habitat loss and fragmentation, human factors (such as persecution and overgrazing), and domestic dogs (direct competition, disease vectors and hybridization). *AWF helps with emergency vaccination programs and other interventions to help this remnant population cling to life.*



© STUART WILLIAMS



LOCAL COFFEE FARMER, KENYA. ©THE IMAGE BANK



*“Is African coffee strong enough to make it in the global marketplace? Just ask Starbucks.”*

*“Arguably, the best quality Arabica coffee on earth grows in east Africa’s volcanic soils—coffee so good, it is often blended with lesser beans to boost their flavor.”*



*“Coffee is also a conservation-friendly crop. Elephants don’t like java—so the plants create a valuable buffer zone between movement corridors and food crops. And since specialty coffee needs shade, growers are motivated to*



*replant the forest.*

*“So when a new law propositioned that Kenya’s coffee growers sell their coffee beans directly to the market, AWF jumped on the opportunity. A couple of years later, here we are: helping local growers produce coffee for Starbucks.*

*“We approached Starbucks because they have strict quality standards that are sensitive to both human beings and the environment.*

*“For me, it’s unbelievably gratifying to use my business skills to present African excellence to the world.*

*“So next time you drop by Starbucks, ask for an African blend. And enjoy a taste of our economic future.”*

MOSES KANENE  
*Program Manager*

# CONSERVATION ENTERPRISE

*Africa’s human population is growing—often at wildlife’s expense. Conservation enterprises give communities economic incentives to conserve their lands—and treat wildlife not as a threat to their livelihoods, but as a boon to their prosperity.*

## STARBUCKS HELPS BLEND COFFEE WITH CONSERVATION

To most people, it’s just coffee. To the people of the Kilimanjaro and Samburu Heartlands, it’s a chance to secure a better livelihood for the farmers, slow the destruction of the Mount Kenya and Mount Kilimanjaro forests, secure critical watersheds, protect elephant corridors, and reduce human/wildlife conflict. In other words, African coffee isn’t just strong—it’s powerful.

AWF has been developing a partnership with Starbucks since 2002, after seeing the great work they have done in Latin America with the C.A.F.E. Practices (Coffee And Farmer Equity) methodology for sustainable coffee production. Upon reaching agreement on a project for the African Heartlands, we signed a three-year Memorandum of Understanding in March 2005.

Now we are hard at work securing government approvals, identifying project sites, adapting C.A.F.E. Practices for the region, and training farmers to grow coffee sustainably—and to meet Starbucks’ high quality standards.

The beauty of Starbucks’ C.A.F.E. Practices is that it establishes verifiable standards for growing and milling coffee in ways that

are sensitive to both people and the environment. The higher our growers and producers score, the more stable their relationship with Starbucks and wildlife can become. Eventually, the farmers hope to enjoy premium pricing that is shielded from market fluctuations, and credit extensions that are invaluable in helping small growers develop into prosperous farmers.

Ironically, elephants don’t like coffee beans (which is why coffee plants make ideal wildlife corridor buffers). But we have a feeling they’ll appreciate the benefits that coffee-growing brings for the wildlife and the people alike.

## AWF DIVES INTO RIVER MARKETING IN CONGO

In AWF’s Congo Heartland, decades of civil war have virtually destroyed the infrastructure. Since there is no way to transport goods to market, agricultural production has fallen into ruin. People have moved into the forest, illegally hunting—and taking a huge toll on the wildlife.

AWF’s Congo Heartland team quickly realized that the only way to protect the wildlife was to revive agriculture in the area—by providing transportation to market.



© CARE INTERNATIONAL

But how do you do that when the roads are in ruins?

The answer, of course, is the river. The Lopori and Maringa rivers tie the entire Heartland together. Before the civil war, boats plied their waters regularly, ferrying people and goods.

After consulting with local people and other NGOs, and with the support of the Netherlands Ministry of Foreign Affairs (DGIS) AWF initiated the Congo Boat Project. Already, an AWF-funded cargo barge, the Ferbo I, has begun traveling up and down the Congo and Maringa Rivers to collect agricultural products from local farmers. Carrying approximately 700 tons of cargo, the Ferbo I will stop at six ports to sell essential products to communities along the river and pick up products to sell in the capital, Kinshasa. The total journey takes two months (one month each way) and covers 3,200 kilometers.

If the Boat Project succeeds, we believe 30 to 40% of the people who went into the forest in the past few years will head back to their farms; back to sustainable agriculture that will in time leave the forest—and its precious wildlife—intact.

## DEVELOPING A LODGE, BUILDING COMMUNITY

It's easy to say, "Here's some land—let's build a lodge." It's hard to actually make it happen. In the case of the luxury Kijabe Lodge in Kenya, the actual building was the last—and least—of the challenges.

AWF first proposed this luxury ecolodge to the stakeholders of the Kijabe Group Ranch in 2001. But the villages in the ranch had issues in governance—including non-existent by-laws and accountability systems. Also, unauthorized grazing on the set-aside land was rampant, and a major shortage of water plagued both wildlife and domestic stock alike. Most important, the Kijabe community needed to develop a level of expertise before it could take on such a complex project. It required technical knowledge, business education and landscape management skills. And it needed to allow for women to participate in ranch affairs.

For the past few years, AWF has been patiently addressing these problems with a series of negotiations and educational workshops. Meanwhile, two cottages, a kitchen and a swimming pool have been built; a private investor has been secured; final hydro-

*When the surrounding communities are poor, even the best-managed landscapes are under pressure. The more people turn to subsistence farming to survive, the more habitat is fragmented and wildlife is disturbed.*

logical surveys are in progress, and construction of a 16-bed lodge will be completed by July 2006.

In other words, the ecolodge is just the icing on a cake that has been baking for a long time. But it is precisely this kind of long-term, careful community consensus-building that AWF does best—and Africa needs most.

## POOR COMMUNITIES, RICH POTENTIAL

When the surrounding communities are poor, even the best-managed landscapes are under pressure. The more people turn to subsistence farming to survive, the more habitat is fragmented and wildlife is disturbed.

The European Commission understands the problem well and has given AWF a five-year grant to address the challenge through a project called SUBRAP: "Scaling Up Benefits for Rural Area Populations."

With SUBRAP funding, AWF is targeting 16 impoverished communities in Zambia, Botswana, Zimbabwe and Mozambique.

Within these areas, totaling more than 2 million hectares of land, 250,000 people have little control over the commercial use of their land and their natural resources. Poaching is widespread, and profitable wildlife enterprises that benefit the local communities are few and far between. In short, wildlife does little to alleviate poverty and the people do little to protect the wildlife.

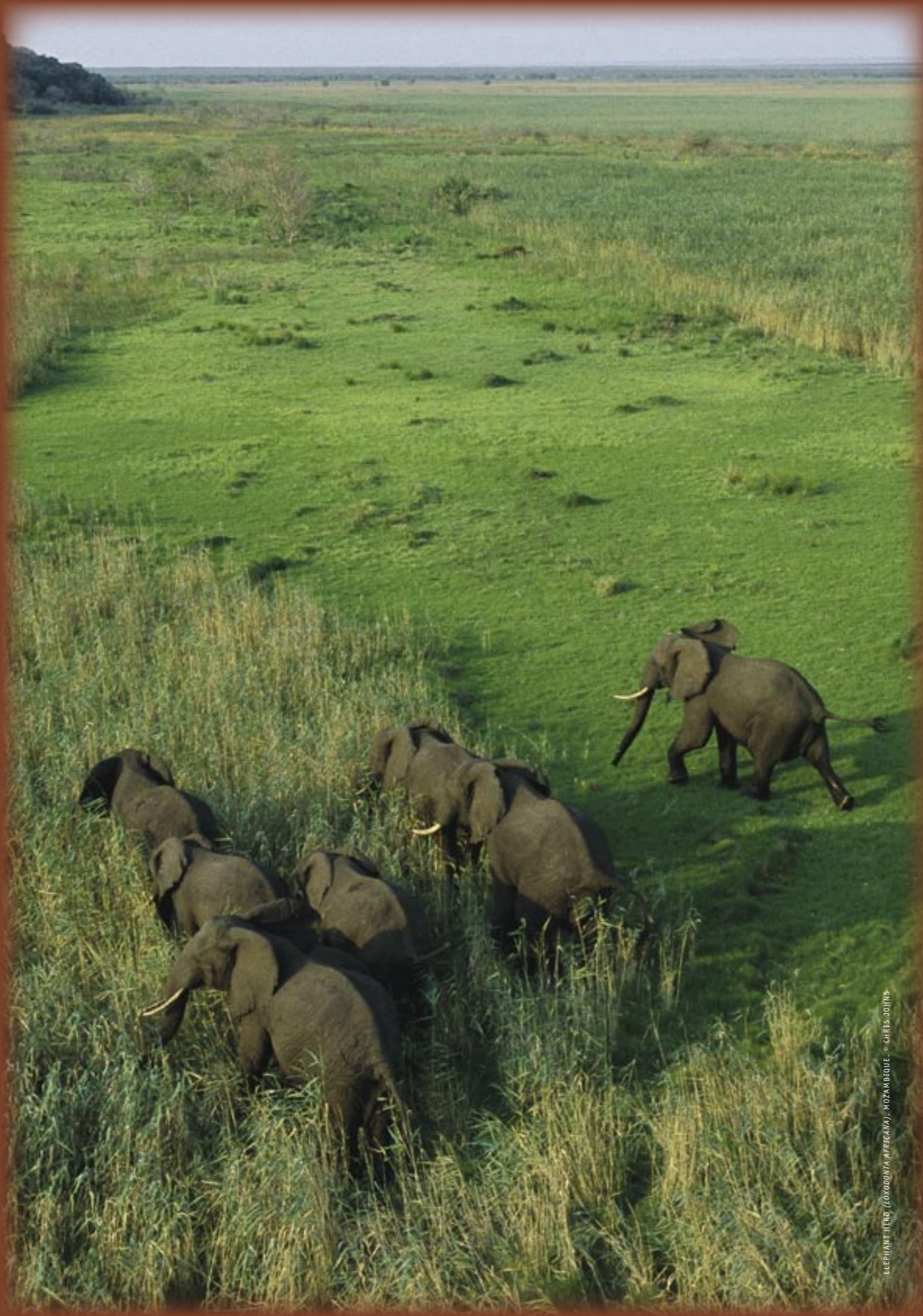
Village by village, community by community, AWF is working with governments, other NGOs and selected private sector agencies to turn the situation around. By connecting community areas with one another, AWF is helping these communities to "scale up" their landscape and conservation business planning. Like so much of AWF's work, it is a complex process that depends entirely on earning the trust and cooperation of the people. Fortunately, AWF has its "boots on the ground"—and the dedicated African staff—to make this process a success.

AWF is best positioned to "scale up benefits" for the rural poor—not least because it has been investing in its dedicated staff for 40 years.



© CARDO KLEBERG





ELEPHANT HERD (LOKODONTA AFRICANA), MOZAMBIQUE. © CHRIS JOHNS



*For years, the people of Mozambique fought for independence. Then they fought each other. By the time a stable nation emerged in 1996, this beautiful land was devastated.*



*“Ironically, the war hit the wilderness hardest. Wildlife was destroyed to feed soldiers, and all conservation infrastructure was completely demolished.*

*“Today, Mozambique has a critical shortage of conservation personnel at every level. In the vast 7,000 km<sup>2</sup> of Banhine National Park, for example,*

there are only six  
game guards!



“AWF has every reason to focus so intensely on Mozambique. We are one of the few conservation organizations working there directly with the government and willing to take on such a monumental challenge.

“Last October, the Mozambique Ministry of Tourism recognized this commitment by signing a historic agreement with AWF. Now we are training people quickly — from post-graduate students to game wardens to community groups.

“Mozambique’s recovery won’t happen overnight. But if I have my way, it will happen faster than anyone thought possible.”

SIMON MUNTHALI  
Program Director, Limpopo Heartland



# CONSERVATION LEADERSHIP

*We have always understood that Africa’s greatest resource is her people—and AWF invests heavily in training and educating Africans to take the lead in conserving their own natural heritage.*

## MOZAMBIQUE BUILDS CONSERVATION MUSCLE

Mozambique has paid a terrible price for its years of civil war. Thousands of people were killed. Infrastructure and institutions were wiped out. Conservation efforts collapsed.

Today, Mozambique is fully committed to rebuilding its conservation infrastructure. And AWF leads the list of partners who have offered to help—especially since our Limpopo and Zambezi Heartlands cover key biodiversity areas of the country.

Above all else, Mozambique’s conservation efforts require a pool of trained professionals. So, this past year, AWF sponsored three protected area officials to attend the Mweka College of Wildlife Management in Tanzania and train as park wardens. When they are finished, these three professionals—Victor Roasario Guedes, Caqssamo Ussemame Mohomed Bay and Acacio Jose Teodoro Ntauma—will be ideally placed to manage Mozambique’s new and emerging protected areas.

In addition, AWF will support three government-selected officials from the Ministry of Tourism in their pursuit of master’s degrees at the University of Natal in South Africa. Their studies in protected area management and community-based natural resource

management will prepare them to support protected areas and provide technical input into conservation policy throughout Mozambique.

## 88 SCOUTS KEEP TRACK OF AMBOSELI

In the Amboseli ecosystem, six group ranches cover 1.2 million acres—an area 14 times the size of the famous Amboseli National Park. It takes a lot of human capacity to monitor the wildlife in such a vast region—and capacity is precisely what AWF is working to provide through the Amboseli-Tsavo Game Scouts Association (ATGSA)

A joint project of AWF, ACC (African Conservation Centre) and KWS (Kenya Wildlife Service), the Amboseli-Tsavo Game Scouts Association has 88 community scouts systematically reporting on wildlife movement, human-wildlife conflict and poaching.

One of the main challenges the scouts face is a lack of standardized recording—a situation that springs from their low literacy levels. On the other hand, it is precisely those scouts with the greatest understanding of the bush who have the least schooling. AWF continues to invest in these knowledgeable individuals, training them and developing creative, “user-friendly” recording systems.

Together, these scouts are keeping the landscape safe for wildlife—and prosperous for the people who depend on it.

## A HIGHER DEGREE OF EMPOWERMENT

In spite of all its advances, Africa still faces the challenge of widespread poverty, tight public budgets, and growing pressure on wildlife. Today, the need for African conservation professionals to lead their own conservation movement is greater than ever.

AWF built on a long tradition of empowering Africans by initiating the Charlotte Conservation Fellowship in 1996. Created to honor AWF supporter Charlotte Kidder Ramsay, Charlotte Fellowships provide educational and financial assistance to Africans pursuing Master's or Doctoral studies—men and women who have shown a true potential for conservation leadership.

Funding from the John D. and Catherine T. MacArthur Foundation has helped AWF broaden the scope of its program into the Central African region. And with support from Charles and Judy Tate, AWF has been able to provide undergraduate scholarships specifically to students from the Samburu landscape.

In 2005-2006, AWF is awarding all of its Charlotte Fellowships to candidates from

Mozambique—where fresh capacity is so urgently needed.

In 2004, AWF selected two outstanding Charlotte Fellows, along with two MacArthur Scholars, and one Tate Scholar—all drawn from a large pool of worthy candidates.

*Today, the need for African conservation professionals to lead their own conservation movement is greater than ever.*



**ALMAZ KEBEDE** of Ethiopia was awarded a Charlotte Fellowship to work on her Ph.D. in Range Sciences at Utah State University, USA. As a scientist with the Ethiopian Wildlife Conservation Organization (EWCO), Almaz helped come up with a Management Plan for Awash National Park, and studied the impact of livestock grazing on species composition and biomass.

Almaz's research focuses on ways to control invasive species in Ethiopia's Alledghi Wildlife Reserve—a habitat for the endangered Grevy's zebra.



**ALFRED KIKOTI** of Tanzania has been awarded a Charlotte Fellowship to study for a Ph.D. in Ecology at the University of Massachusetts, USA. An AWF veteran since 2001, Alfred is an Elephant Research Officer in Kilimanjaro Heartland.

Alfred's career has been outstanding. In 1997, the Ministry of Natural Resource, Tourism and Environment gave him a commendation and fellowship to attend the World Youth Conference. And in 1998, the U.S. "Man and the Biosphere" program awarded him a certificate of International

Participation.

Alfred's doctoral research investigates how elephants can co-exist with humans, and provides scientific evidence to guide AWF's policies on landscape management issues.



**ANECTO KAYITARE** of Rwanda was awarded a MacArthur Scholarship to study for a Master's in Environment, Development and Policy at the University of Sussex, UK.

After stints at the United Nations Development Program (UNDP), the University of Rwanda and the World Bank, he joined the International Gorilla Conservation Program (IGCP) in Rwanda as a Program Officer and soon became the Regional Transboundary Officer. While with IGCP, Anecto was involved in the restructuring of ORTPN, the government body that oversees wildlife management and the national parks in Rwanda. He is also a co-author of the publication, "Transboundary Natural Resource Management for Mountain Gorillas."



**JENEIS NASIEKU**, a 22-year-old Kenyan from Samburu, won a Tate Scholarship to pursue a Bachelor's degree in Wildlife Management at Moi University, Kenya. Jeneis wants to pursue a career in wildlife conservation and education—and ultimately lead the way for female conservationists in the male-dominated Samburu area.

## PRIMING PEOPLE TO MANAGE WATER

Without water, no land can sustain life. That's why it's critical that Africans develop the capacity to assess the condition of key watersheds in the landscapes they live in. To make that happen, AWF has forged a strong partnership with the United States Forest Service (USFS)—a premier expert in hydrological science. And this year, that partnership paid off—as together, we helped communities conduct key watershed assessments in the Zambezi and Virunga Heartlands.

©CARDO KLEBERG



In our Zambezi Heartland, local volunteers were trained to conduct ground research to support an aerial survey of the main water systems. This work was then combined with three consultative meetings involving 45 local stakeholders to discuss the key threats to river systems' health.

The news was fairly good—while floodplain agriculture has expanded, the overall condition of Zambezi landscapes is sound. In the Virunga Heartland, however, the picture is far more questionable—and complex.

Home to the endangered mountain gorilla, this landscape also has one of the highest human population densities on the continent. Communities surrounding the parks suffer from a lack of access to reliable water sources, forcing them to encroach upon the parks in search of water.

At the request of the International Gorilla Conservation Program (IGCP), AWF and the USFS partnered again, training communities to conduct much-needed research examining the state of water systems throughout the area.

The results are still forthcoming—but for the first time, a true assessment of the region's water resources is on the way. And the first step will have been taken toward building the capacity of Africans to manage the water, and thereby the entire landscape, of one of the most fascinating regions on earth.

©HARRY VAN DER LINDE

# CONSERVATION PARTNERS

*Our mission to ensure the wildlife and wild lands of Africa will endure forever is more than one organization can accomplish. AWF works with partners around the world to raise funds, design strategies, and implement programs. Highlighted here are four organizations that have been especially important this year to AWF. We deeply appreciate their support and look forward to watching our partnership grow.*

## ANNENBERG FOUNDATION

The Annenberg Foundation's mission is "to enhance the public's well-being through improved communication." At the core of that mission is a passionate commitment to education—a passion AWF shares.

This year, the Annenberg Foundation awarded AWF the funds to complete construction of the Manyara Ranch School in Tanzania. A priority of the Maasai Steppe Heartland initiative, this school will enable children to learn in an enhanced environment while protecting

a vital piece of wildlife corridor.

A trustee

and other representatives of the Annenberg Foundation visited Tanzania in July, toured the region with AWF staff, and, in a sense, became students themselves. They learned about AWF's conservation efforts, the critical role education plays—and the key role they themselves now play in those efforts.

For more than 15 years, the Annenberg Foundation has championed the cause of education. Now they have contributed to the future education of hundreds of Maasai children—and ultimately, to the future of Tanzania's wildlife.

The ANNENBERG FOUNDATION

## PAPIO WINES

Papio Wines, which takes its name from the Latin word for baboon, is known to most for its fun-loving take on what makes a wine good. To AWF, Papio is known for supporting its namesake and helping us protect primates and their natural African habitats.

Ever since 2003, the company has been donating a portion of its profits to AWF to protect some of Africa's most rare and treasured primates—such as the chimpanzee, golden monkey, mountain gorilla and bonobo, along with their habitats.

Papio recently extended its partnership with AWF through August 2007, donating \$120,000 over the next two years. Their commitment to their namesake is highlighted on their label, website and merchandising materials.

So the next time you pour yourself a glass of Papio's Chardonnay, Cabernet Sauvignon, Merlot or Pinot Grigio, know that you're not only enjoying an award-winning California wine—you're helping to conserve African wildlife.



## UNITED STATES AGENCY FOR INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT (USAID)

Perhaps no partner has worked more closely with AWF than the United States Agency for International Development (USAID). Whether it has come from its central organization or through one of its missions in Africa, USAID's strong and sustained support has helped to shape the landscape-level approach at the very core of AWF's mission.

Throughout our various Heartlands, USAID funding has enabled AWF to lead a landscape-level conservation program to provide opportunities for economic development.

In the Virunga region of the Democratic Republic of Congo, Rwanda and Uganda, USAID's CARPE (Central African Regional Program for the Environment), Gorilla Directive and mission level support have allowed for the protection of biodiversity together with opportunities for enhanced livelihoods.

In Kenya, USAID funding of CORE

(Conservation of Resources through Enterprise) is helping AWF lead a consortium of organizations to support conservation enterprises, and encourage wildlife conservation on community land adjacent

to Kenya's protected area systems.

In our Samburu, Kilimanjaro and Maasai Steppe Heartlands (Kenya and Tanzania), the Conservation of Resources in African Landscapes (CORAL/GCP) Program is helping

AWF tackle conservation challenges at the landscape level.

And in Tanzania, USAID funding of Partnership Options for Resource Innovations (PORI) has led to some of AWF's most celebrated successes—from the founding of the Tanzania Land Conservation Trust to the operation of Manyara Ranch.

Through these and other programs, AWF and USAID's long-standing partnership is a prime example of what can happen when government and non-profit agencies work side by side.

## THE EUROPEAN COMMISSION

AWF understands that working at the landscape level—especially in transboundary contexts—requires long-standing and trustworthy partnerships. That's exactly what the European Commission has provided through its funding for AWF's Scaling Up Benefits for Rural Area Populations (SUBRAP) Project.

SUBRAP is designed to empower communities to harness and manage their social and natural resources and thereby "scale up" socio-economic benefits and reduce vulnerability to poverty and food insecurity.

In January 2005, AWF began implementing an EC-funded SUBRAP project that will last for four years, benefiting the Kazungula, Zambezi and Limpopo Heartlands. Through it, AWF is showing that the best way to sustain Africa's wildlife is to help local communities sustain themselves.



# SHAPING POLICY

*AWF works to influence policies that strengthen conservation at every level: local, national and international. We influence treaties, recommend legislation, and facilitate land-use practices that help everyone—from small communities to entire nations—manage their lands successfully and sustainably.*

## TRANSFORMING TRANSBOUNDARY POLICY

Five of AWF's eight Heartlands cut across international boundaries. This means that transboundary natural resource management is crucial if the integrity of these landscapes is to be maintained. AWF is currently working with partners ranging from governments to local communities to regional bodies to

harmonize the policy and legal framework in order to ensure effective transboundary natural resource management.

In the Virunga Heartland, for example, lush afro-montane forests cover parts of the Democratic Republic of Congo, Rwanda and Uganda. To protect them, and the mountain gorillas that depend on this forest habitat, AWF works through the International Gorilla Conservation Program to: develop regional collaboration, to improve transboundary



© C. R. SHOLLEY

policy, and to increase respect for effective natural resource management.

In southern Africa, transboundary protected area initiatives have suffered from confusion, conflict and social justice issues—primarily because policy has been driven from the top down, from the government to the communities, without regard for local concerns.

Politicians and conservationists, for example, may see “parks” as ecological anchors in a connected landscape—while communities resent the parks because they fear alienation from their land and natural heritage.

AWF is working to increase the role of local communities in transboundary conservation management to forge policy that is neither “top-down” nor “bottom-up”—but strikes a balance in the interest of all concerned.

In the Kazungula and Zambezi Heartlands, AWF has piloted important fisheries work along the Zambezi River—the lifeline of these landscapes. Because the river runs through Zimbabwe, Zambia, Namibia and Mozambique, AWF is working with the governments of all four nations with a view to developing a regional framework to improve fisheries monitoring and management. Together, we will make sure the Zambezi River continues to sustain life far into the future.

## SIGNING MEMORANDUMS, SAVING MOUNTAIN GORILLAS

To see a mountain gorilla in the wild, you must have a permit—and those are few and far between. These precious pieces of paper are the key to profitability for the tourist industry on the edge of Bwindi Impenetrable National Park in Uganda.

This year, those profits are being placed in the hands of the local people—thanks to the breakthrough signing of an MOU (Memorandum of Understanding) between

the Uganda Wildlife Authority and the Nkuringo Conservation Development Foundation (NCDF). Located on the southern edge of Bwindi Impenetrable National Park, the Nkuringo Tourism Area has tremendous potential—and the NCDF has been commissioned (facilitated by AWF) to represent its interests.

With the MOU came exclusive rights for six gorilla permits—clearing the way for the construction of a high-end community ecolodge in Nkuringo.

For the first time, a local community will profit directly from gorilla tourism. They will decide how the money is spent. They will improve their education, their healthcare, their infrastructure.

For the first time, the people who live next door to the mountain gorillas will have a powerful incentive to be good neighbors.

## TRANSBOUNDARY ELEPHANT MANAGEMENT

Southern Africa is home to the largest concentrations of elephants in the world. But with this bounty comes many challenges—due to the tremendous damage and conflicts elephants can cause to the natural environment and with local people. And the greatest challenge of all springs from government policies and legislation that are not coordinated across national boundaries.

In the Zambezi Heartland, AWF is currently working with the governments of Zambia, Zimbabwe and Mozambique to develop a regional elephant management plan and policy for elephants in the Lower Zambezi area.

Already, AWF has established mechanisms for regional cooperation and coordinated the first-ever transboundary elephant count. Soon, the region's first transboundary elephant management plan will be complete—and a new era in conservation management will have begun.

# PUBLIC EDUCATION & OUTREACH

*The world is full of people who would love to help conserve Africa's wildlife—if they only knew about the scope of AWF's solutions. That's why AWF engages in public education and outreach—attending conferences, holding fundraising events, publishing online newsletters and doing all we can to spread the message and attract new members to the AWF family.*

## AWF AWARDED TOP CHARITY RATINGS

Four stars for four years in a row—that's what the African Wildlife Foundation has earned from Charity Navigator. As America's premiere charity evaluator, Charity Navigator



ranks non-profit organizations according to their financial health and organizational integrity. AWF also meets all of the Better Business Bureau (BBB) Wise Giving Alliance Standards for Charity Accountability. The BBB Wise Giving Alliance collects information on hundreds of non-profit organizations.

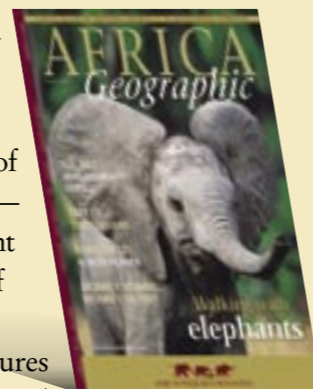
## AWF LIGHTS UP TIMES SQUARE

For the past three years, AWF has informed travelers about our mission with eye-catching posters in 18 major airports. But this year brought something new—a special holiday season ad campaign across New York City. Displayed on the NBC Astrovision Video Screen in the heart of Times Square, these Public Service Announcement (PSA) TV spots ran 16 times a day from November 13-27, 2005. At the same time, AWF is now advertising in New York City's commuter rail stations. It's all part

of a concerted campaign to teach millions of people about African wildlife—and make them aware of the urgency of our work.

## NEW AWF MAGAZINE BREAKS NEW GROUND

It was a groundbreaking achievement: this year, AWF launched its first magazine. Produced quarterly in partnership with *Africa Geographic*, it is created entirely in Africa for the benefit of our Baobab Society members—some of AWF's most important donors. Combining the best of *Africa Geographic* magazine's content with special AWF features on Heartlands, Species, Travel and more, the magazine is a must for anyone who is passionate about this great continent.



## AWF STAFF RUNS WILD IN 2005 LEWA MARATHON

This July, the wildlife of Lewa Conservancy made room for legions of stampeding humans during the annual Safaricom Marathon. This year's event fielded a record 650 runners from

over 20 countries, including many world-class athletes. Among the masses were some of AWF's finest, including Adam Henson, David Williams, and Richard Hatfield of the Nairobi Center.

Organized by the UK-based conservation charity, Tusk Trust, in conjunction with AWF's partner, Lewa Wildlife Conservancy, the Safaricom Marathon is a key fundraising event that supports a wide range of development programs and conservation initiatives. Generating well over \$100,000 this year, the marathon has raised more than \$700,000 since 2000.

## TURNING MEMBERS INTO CONSERVATION ADVOCATES

At 60,000 strong and growing, AWF's membership is a constituency of advocates with the potential to advance the cause of African conservation around the world. And the better educated they are, the more effective they can be.

That's why AWF works hard to keep its members informed with a variety of communication pieces, including a quarterly print newsletter, three monthly e-newsletters, and customized appeals alerting members to urgent crises.

Our website ([www.awf.org](http://www.awf.org)) continues to be a key resource not only for our members but for the general public—and is playing a major role in recruiting AWF membership far beyond the borders of the United States.

## NEW AWF VIDEO STARS AFRICAN STAFF

AWF's long-awaited new corporate video debuted this year on DVD. Combining stunning wildlife footage with in-the-field interviews with AWF staff and partners, the new video effectively captures AWF's vision—and has

already been put to good use in conferences, donor mailings, fundraising dinners and other special presentations. At last, AWF has an effective tool for communicating the work of 45 remarkable years in less than 10 minutes.

## AWF, STARBUCKS AND THE STUDIO OF BART WALTER PARTNER AT SUMMIT

To showcase our pioneering partnership between a corporation and non-government organization, AWF and Starbucks co-sponsored the 2005 "U.S.-African Business Summit."

Hosted and organized by the Corporate Council on Africa (CCA), this event is designed to encourage U.S. investment in Africa. A key component of AWF's presence was an exhibition of bronze sculptures created by internationally known artist Bart Walter. Life-sized cheetahs and a bluff-charging mountain gorilla silverback were just some of the more than 30 bronzes that adorned the conference hall lobby, reminding all attendees of the need to conserve wildlife—one of Africa's most important resources.



© C.R. SHOLLEY



MAASAI GIRAFFE CALF (GIRAFFA CAMELOPARDALIS TIPPELSKIRCHII), TANZANIA. ©C.R. SHOLLEY



*“Sitting just a few feet away from a silverback changed our lives. That’s why we wanted to protect theirs—by creating a living legacy to help the mountain gorilla thrive for generations to come.”*

KATIE DOYLE & RICHARD CUNNINGHAM

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### LEAVING A LIVING LEGACY

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Before their first trip to see mountain gorillas in 1989, Katie Doyle and Richard Cunningham had already seen much of the continent’s wildlife. Yet nothing they’d encountered prepared them for the effect these magnificent creatures would have on their lives.

“Sitting just a few feet away from a silverback—me looking at him, him staring back at me—was one of the highlights of my life. We just watched each other in silence, an unspoken awareness filling the space between us,” Katie remembers.

Katie and Richard have responded to this life-changing experience by making outright gifts to strengthen AWF’s efforts to protect mountain gorillas. They also designed a strategy to include AWF in their estate plans. Their seven-figure bequest by will is a leadership gift that will support fundraising efforts to create a substantial endowment for ongoing mountain gorilla conservation. It is a living legacy to help AWF ensure that conservation victories stand the test of time.

“Katie and I are both business people,” says Richard, “and we look for opportunities where our donations will make a difference. AWF has established solid criteria to measure success and we know our donations are good investments.”

If you have been touched by the majesty of Africa’s wildlife—a silverback gorilla, a newborn giraffe calf, a regal lioness—and wish to ensure that they survive in their native habitats forever, please consider including AWF in your will or estate plans.

*To learn more about gifts by will or retirement asset planning, life insurance, real estate, and income producing gift arrangements, please contact Gregg R. Mitchell, Vice President for Development and Communications by calling toll-free at 888-494-5354 or visit [www.awf.org](http://www.awf.org).*

# HELP SUSTAIN AFRICA'S WILDLIFE

WHEN IT COMES TO sustaining the lives of Africa's wildlife, your contributions to conserve wild lands, protect imperiled species and empower Africa's people go a long way. Your contributions are key to unlocking the full potential of our programs. While grants we receive are usually tied to a specific program, membership and other gifts from you give AWF the ability to expand our mission greatly and respond quickly to urgent needs.

With your contributions, the black rhino, mountain gorilla and elephant will continue to recover, the great cats will stop their sudden decline, and the bonobo will return from the brink of extinction.

With your help, more Africans will be educated and equipped to become leaders at the highest levels of wildlife management and research. With your support, more communities will tap the economic power of conservation—greatly raising their standard of living.

Will you help? Thank you for standing with AWF. We appreciate you, and we look forward to a long and rewarding partnership.

## WAYS TO GIVE

**CASH OR CREDIT CARD GIFTS.** You can write a tax-deductible check or make a contribution by Visa, MasterCard, Discover or American Express. A monthly sustainer program is also available. Or go online and pledge an amount, and while you are there, shop in our online store or adopt an African Animal, or apply for an AWF credit card.

**GIFTS OF APPRECIATED SECURITIES.** With this option, you receive a tax deduction for the fair market value of appreciated securities, avoiding all or part of your capital gains tax (please check with your financial advisor). Securities can easily be transferred electronically.

**GIVING AT YOUR WORKPLACE.** If your workplace participates in the Combined Federal Campaign (CFC #0919), Earth Share or United Way, you can contribute to AWF through payroll deductions. Also, many employers have matching gift programs, enabling you to double

or even triple your contribution.

**GIFTS HONORING A FRIEND OR FAMILY MEMBER.** A contribution to AWF is a fitting remembrance of birthdays, weddings, anniversaries and memorials — especially when it is accompanied by an AWF card notifying others of your gift.

**BEQUESTS AND PLANNED GIFTS.** You can provide for the future of Africa's wildlife while meeting personal estate and financial goals. Options include bequests and life income gifts as well as a beneficiary of your life insurance or IRA.

For more information, please contact:

African Wildlife Foundation  
1400 16th St. N.W., Suite 120  
Washington, D.C. 20036, USA  
+1-202-939-3333  
toll-free: 888-4-WILDLIFE or 888-494-5354  
e-mail: [plannedgiving@awf.org](mailto:plannedgiving@awf.org)

*The African Wildlife Foundation is a non-profit 501(c)(3) tax-exempt corporation. AWF's IRS tax ID number is 52-0781390. All contributions to the Foundation are tax-deductible to the extent allowed by law.*

In Africa, it is the lands that sustain life. But increasingly, it is the individual donor who sustains the African Wildlife Foundation. With a growing base of more than 60,000 individual donors, AWF

finished Fiscal Year 2005 with Operating Revenues of \$18.5 million, enjoying healthy growth in revenues from individuals, corporations and foundations.

While AWF continued to receive a significant amount of donations from a variety of U.S. and European government partners, a decline in this type of funding this year underscores the increasing difficulty we face as we endeavor to secure environmental funds from government aid agencies.

Program expenses totaled \$15.9 million, with nearly \$9.5 million supporting field activities and the balance supporting our public education and membership programs.

Significantly, supporting services expenses were down more than \$600,000—a reflection of our ongoing efforts to work smarter and to improve our financial management through the use of technology.

In FY 2005, AWF continued to exceed charity standards with more than 87 percent of total spending devoted to program activities. Finance and administrative expenses accounted for just 5 percent of total spending, and fundraising expenses were 8 percent.

Important and growing sources of funds to AWF include endowments, bequests, and contributions towards special campaigns—which are invested to provide income for our programs and long-term financial security to the organization. AWF members have recognized the importance of leaving a lasting legacy and have continued to provide for Africa's wildlife through bequests.

AWF's fast-growing membership and ever-increasing efficiency are helping us weather the storm of decreased government support for environmental programs. Thanks to you, we continue to lead the way in conservation management at the large landscape level.

Together, we are ensuring that Africa's lands sustain life—and that they always will.



Thomas W. Nichols  
Vice President for Operations and Chief Financial Officer

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# FUNDING & FINANCIAL OVERVIEW

## STATEMENT OF ACTIVITIES

For the year ending June 30, 2005, with comparative totals for 2004

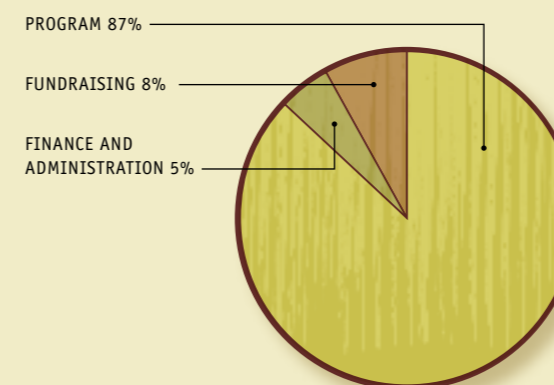
	2005	2004
<b>CURRENT YEAR OPERATING REVENUES AND EXPENSES</b>		
<b>Revenues</b>		
Individuals	\$ 5,494,341	\$ 5,866,628
Corporations and foundations	399,208	124,042
Government grants and contracts	7,281,646	7,649,794
In-kind contributions	4,978,964	5,005,845
Nonoperating income utilized	1,024,052	1,792,537
Royalties and other earned revenues	162,796	78,675
<b>Total unrestricted revenues, gains and other support</b>	<b>19,341,007</b>	<b>20,517,521</b>
<b>Expenses</b>		
<b>Program expenses:</b>		
Conservation field and policy programs	9,465,826	9,829,569
Public education	5,498,087	6,238,622
Membership programs	914,129	393,044
	<b>15,878,042</b>	<b>16,461,235</b>
<b>Supporting services expenses:</b>		
Finance and administration	858,689	1,193,018
Fundraising	1,402,743	1,678,226
	<b>2,261,432</b>	<b>2,871,244</b>
<b>Total expenses</b>	<b>18,139,474</b>	<b>19,332,479</b>
<b>CURRENT YEAR OPERATING REVENUES OVER OPERATING EXPENSES</b>	<b>1,201,533</b>	<b>1,185,042</b>
<b>NONOPERATING ACTIVITIES</b>		
Bequests and endowments	1,752,476	803,752
Income from long-term investments	472,312	858,603
Nonoperating funds utilized	(1,024,052)	(1,792,537)
<b>TOTAL NONOPERATING ACTIVITIES AND PLEDGES</b>	<b>1,200,736</b>	<b>(130,182)</b>
<b>Increase (Decrease) in net assets</b>	<b>2,402,269</b>	<b>1,054,860</b>
Net assets at beginning of year	9,775,307	8,700,411
Net assets at end of year	\$ 12,177,576	\$ 9,755,271

## STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION

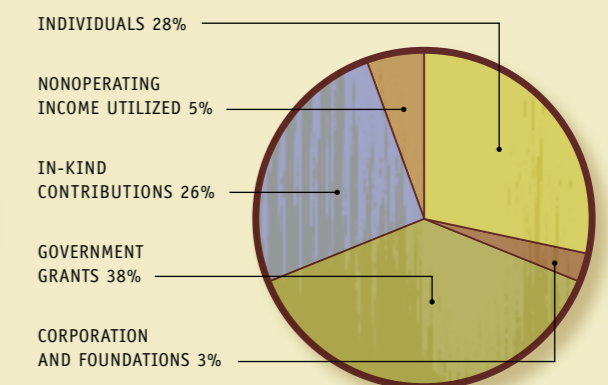
As of June 30, 2005

	2005	2004
<b>ASSETS</b>		
Cash and cash equivalents	\$ 1,865,748	\$1,162,146
Investments	6,347,220	6,760,233
Accounts receivable	92,776	160,068
Government grants receivable	692,152	542,945
Pledges receivable	2,940,854	1,678,521
Prepaid expenses	542,520	132,079
Advances to partners	304,120	449,501
Property and equipment	91,520	128,371
Office rental deposit	11,324	11,324
Beneficial interest in perpetual trust	413,647	363,426
<b>Total assets</b>	<b>13,301,881</b>	<b>11,388,614</b>
<b>LIABILITIES</b>		
Accounts payable and accrued expenses	502,821	427,910
Refundable advances	535,926	1,100,841
Annuities payable	85,558	104,592
<b>Total liabilities</b>	<b>1,124,305</b>	<b>1,633,343</b>
<b>NET ASSETS</b>		
Unrestricted	9,747,096	8,178,710
Temporarily restricted	1,581,426	1,136,081
Permanently restricted	849,054	440,480
<b>Total net assets</b>	<b>12,177,576</b>	<b>9,755,271</b>
<b>TOTAL LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS</b>	<b>\$13,301,881</b>	<b>\$11,388,614</b>

**TOTAL EXPENSES**  
\$18,139,474



**TOTAL OPERATING REVENUES**  
\$19,341,007



# WITH MUCH GRATITUDE

*Our deepest appreciation to everyone who supported AWF during the period between July 1, 2004 and June 30, 2005. Thanks to your generosity, AWF is able to strengthen and extend its efforts to protect African wildlife and their habitats. While space does not allow us to list all donors, please know we are grateful to every friend of AWF.*

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*The Baobab Society honors those individuals who support the African Wildlife Foundation with annual gifts of \$1,000 to \$9,999. The baobab tree, a source of moisture, food and shelter to the inhabitants of Africa's arid plains, is an apt symbol for those individuals who sustain AWF's conservation efforts.*

*\$5,000 to \$9,999*

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