





ABCG Presentation, Washington DC: Increasing Conservation Land, Wildlife Protection and Benefits to Landowners

USAID/Uganda Tourism for Biodiversity Program

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USAID/Uganda Tourism for Biodiversity Program



- USAID/Uganda Supported Program Cooperate Agreement
- **Implementing Agency:** Africa Wildlife Foundation
 - **Total Budget:** \$10 million over 4 years national program
 - **Goal:** To leverage tourism to achieve sustainable biodiversity conservation and economic growth for Uganda
 - Collaborating with UWA and NFA.







Carefully planned and implemented tourism investments can be a powerful driver for conservation by providing incentives to communities to conserve important habitats and resources and by supplying financial means for governments and communities to invest in conservation







- Improving the management of protected areas require an integrated landscape approach that includes PAs, boarding habitat, and neighboring people,
- 2. Tourism is an engine to fuel better protected area management and provide incentive for communities to live with wildlife and their involvement in habitat management
- To be sustainable, enhancing tourism products and value chain linkages must take a market-driven business-oriented approach that stimulates revenues, economic growth, and jobs.





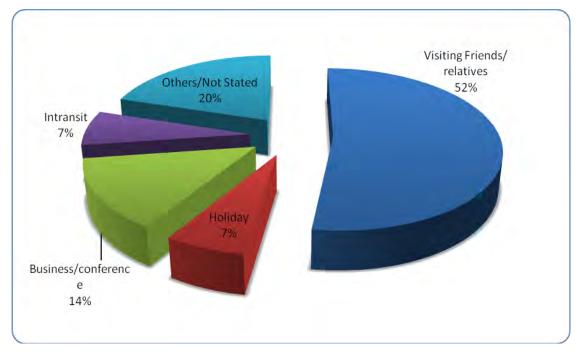


- Government of Uganda
 Uganda Wildlife Authority
 US Forest Service
- Uganda National Forest Authority
 Local District Councils
 US Peace Corps
- Uganda Community Based Tourism Association (UCOTA)
 Private sector
- Jane Goodall Institute Uganda





Sector Statistical Abstract 2011 Figure 1: Distribution of Tourist Arrivals by Purpose as of 2011

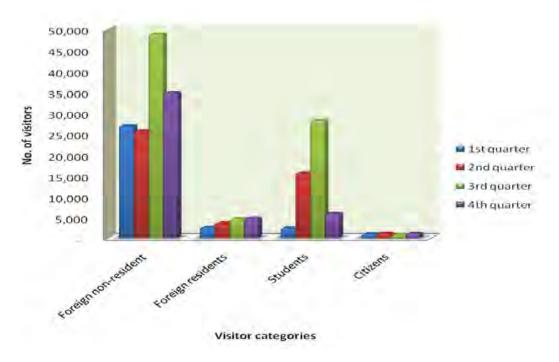


Source: Uganda Bureau of Statistics





Sector Statistical Abstract 2011 Figure 2: Distribution of Visitors to National Parks



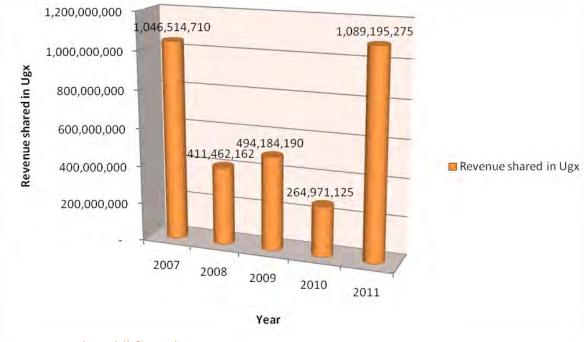
Source:Uganda Bureau of Statistics





Sector Statistical Abstract 2011

Figure 3: Summary of revenue shared with communities (2007-2011)



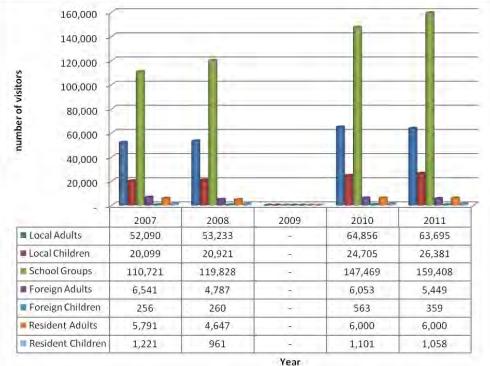
Source:Uganda Wildlife Authority





Sector Statistical Abstract 2011

Figure 4: Distribution of Visitors to UWEC by Category from 2007 to 2011



Source: Uganda Wildlife Education Centre





Project Sites



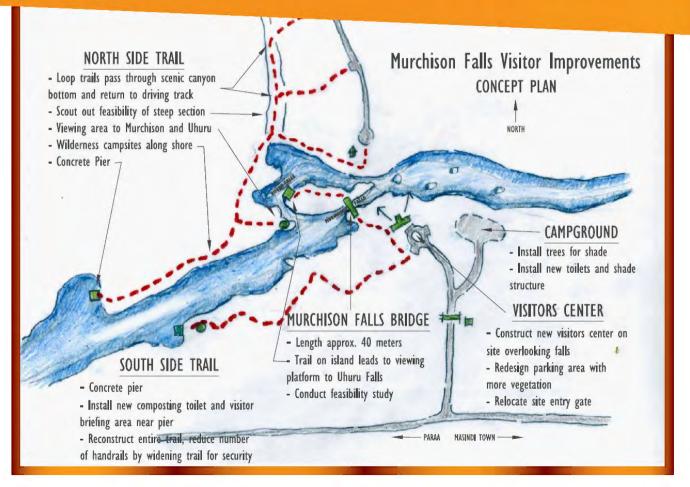




Murchison Falls National Park







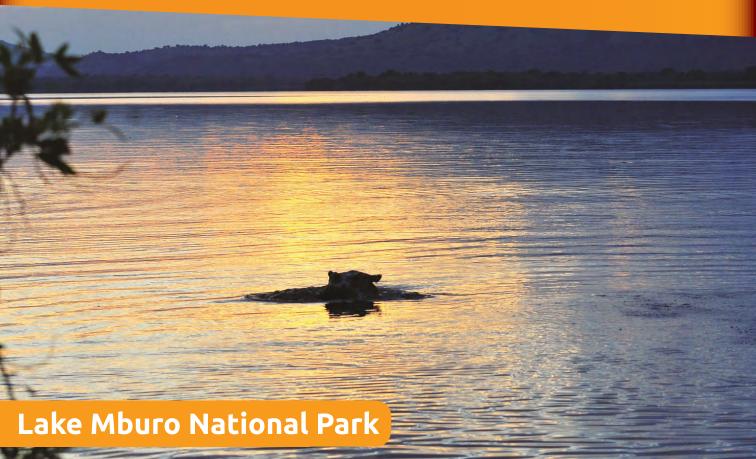
















Kidepo Valley National Park







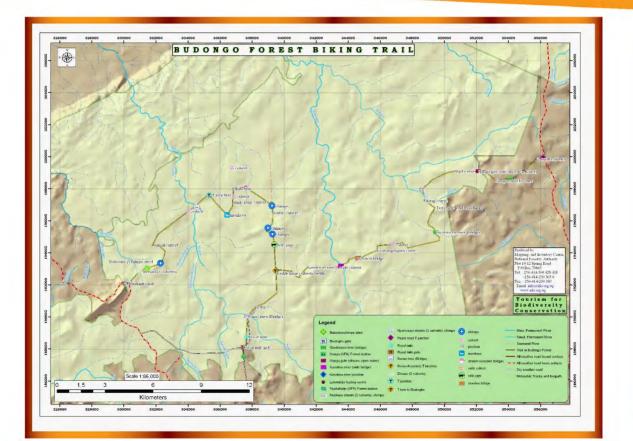




Budongo Forest Reserve











Kalinzu Forest Reserve





National Crosscutting Activities





Monitoring and Evaluation





Lake Mburo National Park





Lake Mburo National Park 🖌

- 1800 Traditional kings grazing and hunting land
- 1800-1900 hit by severe rinderpest epidemics
- Vegetation increase tsetse fly human and livestock death - Livestock and human population
- Significant increase in wildlife
- 1958 1963 gazetted as game reserve (241 families)
- 78Sq.Km government breeding ranch
- 1983 formation of park









Lake Mburo Ecological Description

- Uganda's only protected area to contain impala, only one in the southern part with zebra and eland, an Important Bird Area (IBA)
- Habitat to a diversity of rare, threatened and endangered species, including the papyrus yellow warbler (Chloropeta gracilirostris) (vulnerable) and the shoebill (Balaeniceps rex) (lower risk: near threatened).
- The Park contains a series of small lakes that constitute an important catchment area, a unique grassland ecosystem, important wetlands that are breeding grounds for the national bird of Uganda the crowned crane.







Lake Mburo Ecological Threats

- Unclear and unmarked sections of the boundary cause disputes between park management and neighbouring communities.
- Poaching.
- Grazing inside the Park by pastoral communities.
- Wildfires burn approximately 50% of LMNP annually.
- Many of these issues derive from an overall impression by people within the region that the Park is 'vacant' land from which they do not benefit.





Lake Mburo Adjacent Landuse

- Most land privately owned divided ranging from 3 to 1250 acres
- Government ranch about 30Sq.Km
 - Livestock and mixed farming
 - Small towns development and high population
 - Fencing Debate





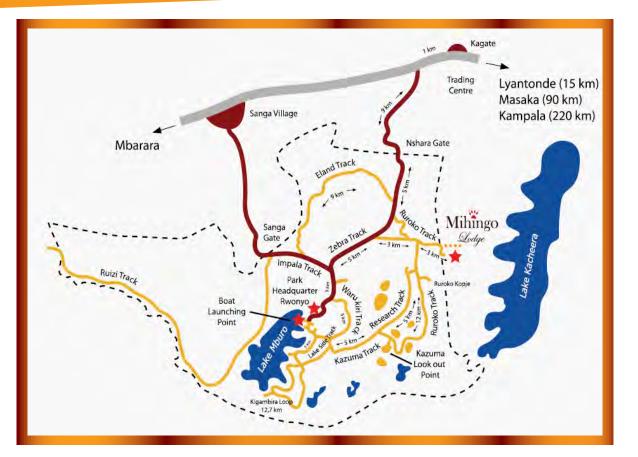
AWF - USAID Intervention

- Park management plan
- Park Tourism development, planning, management
- Accurate Mapping of proposed conservancies
- Conservancy Ecological assessment
- Conservancy Tourism market assessment
- Conservancy formation





Lake Mburo Tourism Situation







AWF - USAID Intervention

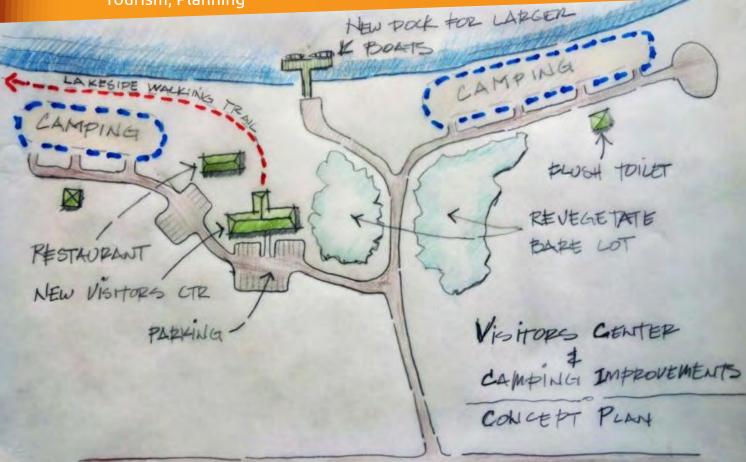
Capacity of UWA in tourism planning and management

Column 1

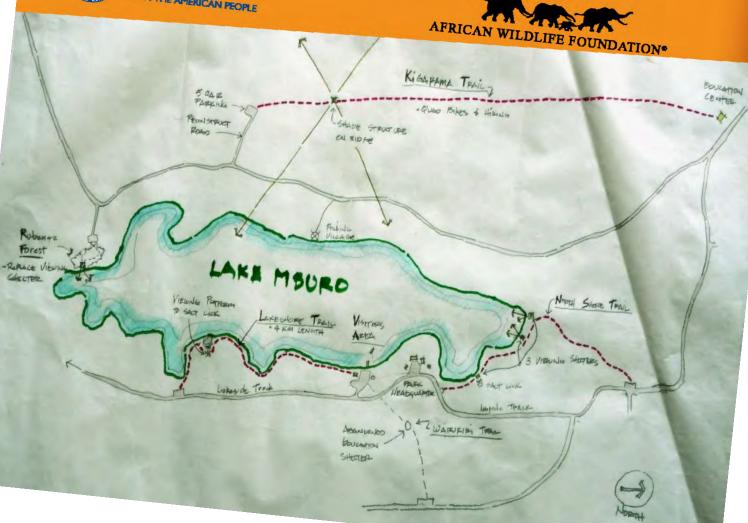




Tourism, Planning



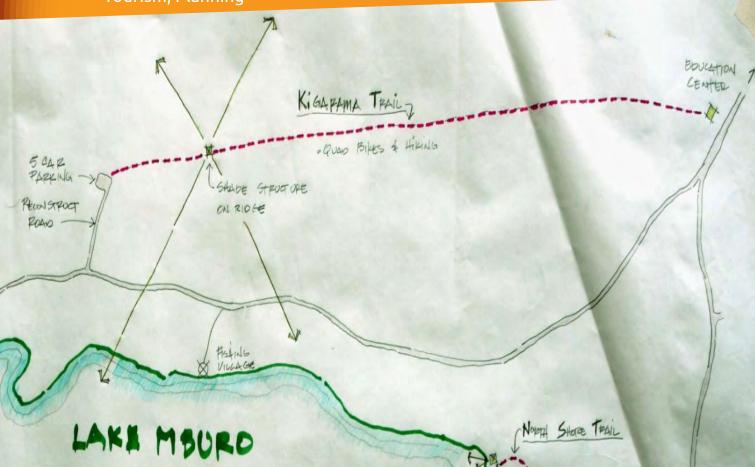








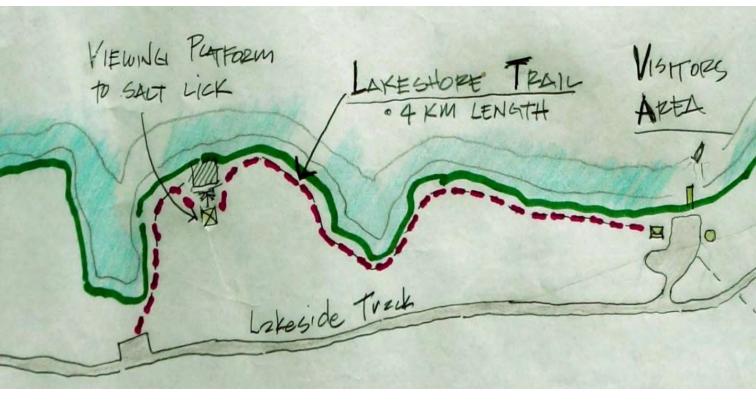
Tourism, Planning







Tourism, Planning







Community Mobilization and awareness







Conservancy?

Conservancies are essentially areas of land managed for conservation, with various enterprises embedded in the landscape where those enterprises derive revenue from conservation dependant activities.







Benefits from Conservancies

- Conservancies complement state owned and managed protected areas by providing additional habitat and refuge for wildlife.
- Conservancies diversify the tourism economy by offering a different type of tourism product. For example, walking safaris, hunting and cultural interaction are often more prevalent in conservancies.
- Conservancies diversify land management, providing a range of habitat types to support a broader diversity of wildlife and ecosystems.
- Conservancies enable the direct engagement and empowerment of communities and private landowners to take part in and benefit from conservation.
- Conservancy management can encourage greater understanding of more ecologically sustainable land use practices within the community.





Conservancy Benefits in Relation to PAs

- *Threatened ecosystems.* Not all ecosystems are represented in the protected areas.
- Incomplete ecosystems. Park boundaries are often not in line with modern principles of protected area design, leaving key areas of ecological importance unprotected.
- *Park size.* While many parks are large by world standards they are nevertheless too small to support viable populations of species and encompass whole ecosystems.
- *Ecological isolation.* Many protected areas are islands of habitat;







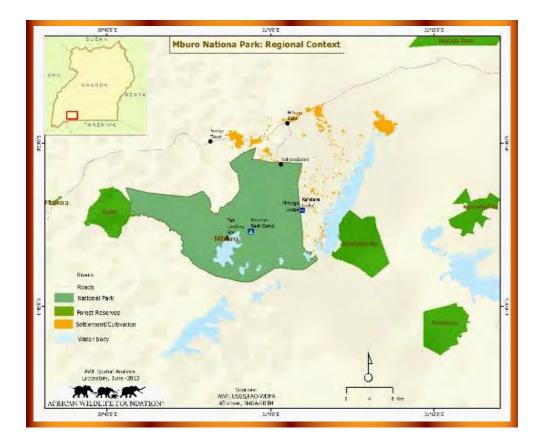
Examples of Conservancy Components

- Well defined property and/or land user rights.
- A land area large enough to support wildlife and a diversity of tourism experiences.
- Strong demand for wildlife viewing and/or safari hunting, i.e. a vibrant tourism economy.
- Meaningful engagement of landowners especially where communities are the primary owners and adjacent neighbours; that includes equity in conservancy ownership and benefits
 - Strong by-laws and constitutions that ensure good governance, transparency, conservation parameters and guidelines, code of conduct, membership obligations, management objectives, and revenue sharing are essential.

Adopted and updated scientifically based management plans for wildlife and habitat conservation and management.



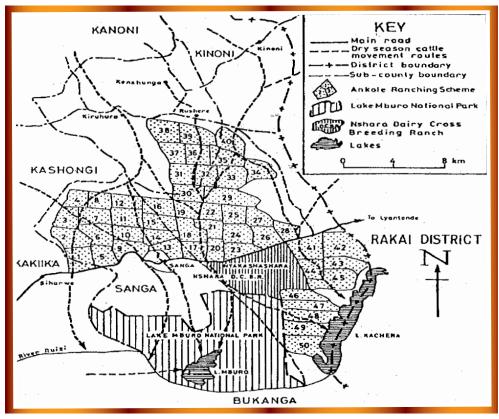






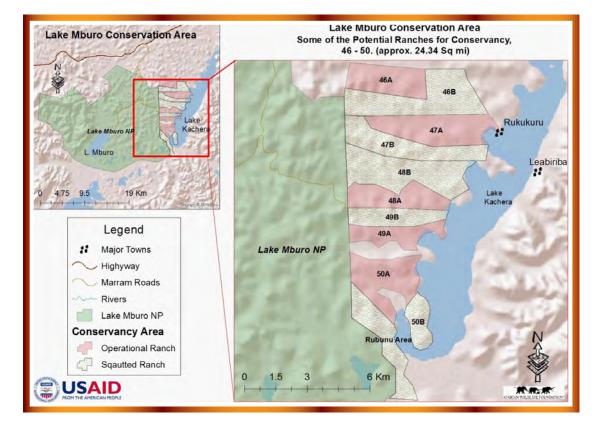


Park Management Plan – Conservancy; North –16 Sq. Miles & South - 25Sq. mile





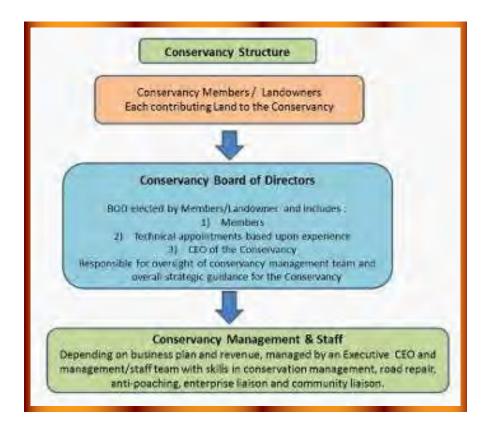








Conservancy Structure









Thank you!