



2017 SEMI-ANNUAL REPORT



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AFRICA BIODIVERSITY COLLABORATIVE GROUP

April 28, 2017

Africa Biodiversity Collaborative Group

2017 SEMI-ANNUAL REPORT

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III. ACRONYMS

| | |
|--------|---|
| ABCG | Africa Biodiversity Collaborative Group |
| ANDM | Alfred Nzo District Municipality |
| AFR/SD | Bureau for Africa/Office of Sustainable Development |
| AWF | African Wildlife Foundation |
| CARPE | Central Africa Regional Programme for the Environment |
| CAZ | Corridor Ankeniheny Zahamena |
| CCC | Community Conservation Committee |
| CCRO | Certificate of Customary Right of Occupancy |
| CI | Conservation International |
| CIRAD | French Agricultural Research Centre for International Development |
| CLG | Comité Locale de Gestion |
| CSA | Conservation South Africa |
| CoP | Community of Practice |
| ERPD | Emissions Reduction Program of Democratic Republic of Congo |
| GME | Greater Mahale Ecosystem |
| FAO | Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations |
| FSC | Forest Stewardship Council |
| FY | Fiscal Year |
| FZS | The Frankfurt Zoological Society |
| DRC | The Democratic Republic of the Congo |
| FOCAC | Forum on China Africa Cooperation |
| GCI | Global Change Impacts |
| ICCN | Institut Congolais pour la Conservation de la Nature |
| INDC | Intended Nationally Determined Contributions |
| IUCN | International Union for the Conservation of Nature |
| JGI | The Jane Goodall Institute |
| LGC | Local Governance Committee |
| LRTR | Land and Resource Tenure Rights |
| LUM | Land Use Management |
| MODIS | Moderate Resolution Imaging Spectroradiometer |
| MSPA | Morphological Spatial Patter Analysis |
| NAPA | National Adaptation Programmes of Action |
| NGO | Non-governmental Organization |
| PHE | Population, Health and the Environment |
| RDCS | Regional Development Cooperation Strategy |
| REDD | Reducing Emissions from Deforestation and Forest Degradation |
| SICODA | Siiba Conservation & Community Development Association |
| SSA | Sub-Saharan Africa |
| TNC | The Nature Conservancy |
| USAID | United States Agency for International Development |
| WASH | Water, Sanitation and Hygiene |
| WCS | Wildlife Conservation Society |
| WRI | World Resources Institute |
| WWF | World Wildlife Fund |

I. EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

This report by the Africa Biodiversity Collaborative Group (ABCG) covers the semi-annual period from October 1, 2016 to March 31, 2017 of the United States Agency for International Development (USAID) Cooperative Agreement No. AID-OAA-A-15-00060. ABCG is a consortium of seven U.S.-based international conservation non-governmental organizations (NGOs): African Wildlife Foundation (AWF), Conservation International (CI), the Jane Goodall Institute (JGI), The Nature Conservancy (TNC), Wildlife Conservation Society (WCS), World Resources Institute (WRI) and World Wildlife Fund (WWF).

ABCG's overarching goals of a) mainstreaming biodiversity in human well-being and development agendas; b) promoting good conservation practices; and (c) strengthening the role of social and development institutions in biodiversity conservation and human well-being, are being pursued within the context of five thematic foci. This report provides an overview of progress made on these thematic tasks and include:

1. Land and Resource Tenure Rights
2. Land Use Management
3. Managing Global Change Impacts
4. Global Health Linkages to Conservation: Population Health and Environment; Fresh-Water Sanitation and Hygiene
5. Emerging Issues

Technically, ABCG's programmatic approach involves conducting analyses of critical issues affecting efforts to conserve Africa's biodiversity; designing and implementing pilot projects to assess and demonstrate the feasibility of innovative approaches for addressing those issues; and leveraging output to promote data-driven decision-making and viable trade-offs associated with using and managing land and natural resources. Further, ABCG aims to build strong partnerships with local African institutions as the foundation of Communities of Practice (CoP). ABCG members cooperate through those CoP to improve best practices across the relevant conservation, development and rights stakeholders, whose activities affect, and are affected by, biodiversity conservation efforts.

Land and Resource Tenure Rights (LRTR): Through its efforts of securing tenure rights in the target ecosystems, the task group supported the Tanganyika Provincial Government in the Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC) to gazette Kabobo Wildlife Reserve. The decree includes provision for local co-management which will help ensure sustainable resource use and community participation in conservation of Africa's largest forested country. The group also designed research in Tanzania on group Certificate of Customary Right of Occupancy (CCRO) and the resulting report, Common Property Resources in Tanzania, was finalized in December 2016 and is now under review. The report presents a review of the progressive land and natural resource management policies and laws in place in Tanzania which provide a comprehensive framework for enabling local communities to varyingly administer, manage and sustainably utilize their land and natural resources.

Land Use Management (LUM): The LUM task group has developed several novel and important spatial analyses and models for characterizing the landscape, establishing evaluation metrics, and understanding drivers of change across the working landscapes. In the Republic of Congo the task group has developed a draft forest ecosystem map for the entire planning region. Biodiversity survey data has been consolidated to enable the creation of a new, complete biodiversity survey data base for northern Congo. In DRC, through spatial modeling, key drivers of forest loss and project locations of potential future forest loss in the DRC's six CARPE landscapes between 2015 and 2020 have been identified, these are: elevation, slope, rainfall, protected area status, logging concession status, and proximity to the rural complex, conflict, rivers, settlements, and road. In collaboration with other partners, the task group has developed an ecosystem map, a forest condition layer and a human pressure model. In Tanzania, the team has compiled data to map crop suitability and potential yields under rain fed versus irrigated agriculture for the three major investment crops (maize, rice, sugarcane). A map of carbon stock has been established by surveying sample plots in Madagascar. This information, coupled with satellite images, was used to create a seamless continuous carbon stock map for the entire area of interest.

Managing Global Change Impact (GCI): The task group has begun documenting the coping responses of human communities to climate change through data collection in 18 sites across 9 countries (Cameroon, Gabon, DRC, Kenya, Tanzania, Zambia, Mozambique, Madagascar and Namibia). In addition, the contemporary climate and future climate analysis using the Climate Wizard (Girvetz et al., 2009) application, as well as a continent-wide analysis to map where the key discrete climate-related events (storms, droughts, etc.) and longer-term changes (shifting seasonality, etc.) are likely to occur has been completed. The review of countries NAPAs (National Adaptation Programmes of Action) and INDCs (Intended Nationally Determined Contributions) has been completed, and the review of peer-reviewed literature is ongoing with 1,100 publications reviewed out of 2,064 total.

Global Health Linkages to Biodiversity Conservation—Population, Health and the Environment (PHE): The PHE task group has completed a literature review on existing integrated PHE projects to identify best practices and promising approaches in this area. The review is currently under finalization and is expected to be completed in the coming quarter. A PHE meeting held in October 25-26, 2016 in Tanzania introduced PHE to participants and encouraged them to adopt and integrate PHE activities. The meeting led to the establishment of the PHE Zonal Network in Western Tanzania as a strategy for scaling up the PHE approach and building capacity in line with the national PHE Strategic Plan. Trainings were organized in Tanzania to provide communities with agronomic skills to practice sustainable and climate-smart agriculture and with an understanding of how PHE are interconnected and ways to improve communication and engagement to solve problems related to the environment, health and livelihoods. In southeast Cameroon, the group carried out various capacity building and awareness sessions on PHE among different community groups.

Global Health Linkages to Biodiversity Conservation—Fresh Water Sanitation and Hygiene (FW-WASH): The task group has completed a [Gender Analysis Report: One Health: Integrating Freshwater Conservation, WASH and Rangeland Management in South Africa's Mzimvubu Catchment](#). The report highlights key gender issues and constraints to be addressed through Conservation South Africa (CSA)'s One Health Project which aims to improve the health of people, animals and ecosystems in this important watershed in the Eastern Cape. Several trainings and capacity building meetings were held in South Africa on improved hygiene practices and stakeholder meetings to discuss WASH activities in Uganda leading to the district leadership's pledge to support the implementation and sustainability

of the WASH activities. The first CoP meeting was convened in Nairobi, Kenya, where the participants confirmed the CoP's scope of work, agreed on membership targets and called for establishing an online platform for interaction. The LinkedIn platform for member interaction was created and is now operational.

Emerging Issues (EI): The Secretariat released a second call for concepts in early September 2016 under two themes, Conservation Planning for Infrastructure Development and Conservation Planning for Integrated Agricultural Landscape Management. The Steering Committee selected two of the four proposal submitted. The two winning proposals were: *WCS/JGI: Mapping Conservation Investment Priorities in Uganda* and *CI/WCS: Establishing a Community of Practice to Share Best Practices and Enhance Learning from the Vital Signs Monitoring System and the Resilience Atlas in East Africa*. The total amount awarded was \$100,015.

2. INTRODUCTION

2.1 PROGRAM OVERVIEW

ABCG continues to be a thought leader in identifying and developing strategies to address high-priority threats to biodiversity in Africa by generating new knowledge, fostering CoPs, and sharing best practices with stakeholders including local communities, conservation professionals, NGOs, and policy and decision makers in Africa, the US, and beyond. In so doing, ABCG provides support in program planning, implementation, evaluation, knowledge management and outreach to USAID-supported biodiversity conservation programs in Africa.

ABCG's mission is to tackle complex and changing conservation challenges by catalyzing and strengthening collaboration, and bringing the best resources from across a continuum of conservation organizations to effectively and efficiently work towards a vision of an African continent where natural resources and biodiversity are securely conserved in balance with sustained human livelihoods. Achieving ABCG's vision requires: a) mainstreaming biodiversity in human well-being and development agendas; b) promoting good conservation practices; and c) strengthening the role of social and development institutions in biodiversity conservation and human well-being. ABCG's overall objectives are to:

- Promote networking, awareness, information sharing among U.S. conservation NGOs working in Africa, to encourage information exchange and idea sharing with African partners;
- Identify and analyze critical and/or emerging conservation issues in Africa as priorities for both future NGO action and donor support;
- Synthesize collective lessons from field activities and share them with the broader multi-sector community in the United States and Africa; and
- Support USAID in implementing the Bureau for Africa, Office of Sustainable Development (AFR/SD)'s Regional Development Cooperation Strategy (RDCS) and USAID's Biodiversity Policy in Africa, focusing on: a) conserving biodiversity in priority places, and b) integrating biodiversity as an essential component of human development.

The AFR/SD RDCS Development Objectives align with ABCG's strategies for linking learning to Communities of Practice, generating new knowledge, and influencing partners to demonstrate a results chain for knowledge management to develop its capacity to identify, create, represent, distribute, and enable adoption of information and experiences critical to the strategy's success.

2.2 THEMATIC TASK ACTIVITY AREA

In partnership with USAID/AFR/SD, ABCG focuses on four key issues that strongly influence the effectiveness of biodiversity conservation efforts: a) land and resource tenure rights, b) land use management, c) understanding the impacts on biodiversity of change processes operating at a global scale, and d) understanding the linkages between global health and biodiversity. Working groups are composed of the ABCG member staff with relevant expertise. Further, a fifth working group was formed to identify and develop strategies to respond to new and emerging issues affecting biodiversity conservation in Africa, primarily through a small grants program. The below summary of task activity implementation is organized according to country, region, or landscape for each task group. Where only a subset of member organizations participate, they are noted in the subheadings.

3. SUMMARY OF PROGRAM IMPLEMENTATION

3.1 TASK ACTIVITY I: LAND AND RESOURCE TENURE RIGHTS

3.1.1 Task Activity Description

Land and resource tenure rights influence the achievement of biodiversity conservation objectives and comprise: a) the rights accorded individual landowners to manage private lands and b) the recognition of collective (community or customary) rights of people living on state lands. They represent fundamental assets—primary sources of livelihood, nutrition, income, wealth and employment. Land and resources are a basis for security, status, social identity and political relations, and, for many rural people, they have historical, cultural and spiritual significance. Strong rights and secure tenure are central to families and communities maintaining their land and resources, including biodiversity.

The LRTR working group is developing and testing strategies and tools that place greater land and resource management authority in the hands of local resource users, thus creating incentives for them to exercise their authority in ways that are consistent with biodiversity



Kabobo Wildlife Reserve, DRC. Photo Credit: WCS

conservation and sustainable use of renewable resources. The task members are piloting new approaches for securing tenure in three critical ecosystems: Greater Mahale Ecosystem, Tanzania (TNC, JGI); Kilombero Valley, Tanzania (AWF, WRI); and Kabobo Reserve, DRC (WCS, WWF). These ecosystems are anchors for biodiversity that support livelihoods for growing local populations. Strengthening rights and securing tenure, especially over the community lands managed as common property, are central to the conservation of this biodiversity. The findings and outcomes of these pilot studies will have important implications for other communities and conservationists working across the continent.

3.1.2 Key Achievements

WCS and WWF – Kabobo Wildlife Reserve, DRC

WCS

WCS supported the Tanganyika Provincial Government to gazette Kabobo Wildlife Reserve. This is a foundational milestone for ABCG as the decree includes a provision for local co-management, the first of its kind in DRC. This is also a major step towards more fair participation in conservation in Africa's largest forested country. Contributing to this, WCS: 1) facilitated meetings between the Local Governance Committee (LGC) and ICCN; 2) finalized the free-prior-informed consent process with communities; 3) trained members of four Community Conservation Committees (CCC) on roles and responsibilities of the committees, the co-management system, and developed an awareness and monitoring plan for the CCCs. Resulting from these processes are two reports: Community Conservation Committee Training Report (Appendix 4.4) that supports capacity building to engage in co-management, and a Land Tenure Analysis Report (Appendix 4.3) that will inform government efforts to combine different protected areas in the landscape into one, large protected area.

WCS also facilitated the Tanganyika Environment Minister's visit to Washington, D.C. to develop a fundraising portfolio for Kabobo. WCS supported the Minister's visit to the United States to explore financing mechanisms for Kabobo and other environmental priorities in the province. Bringing him onto a world scene works to strengthen investment in the Reserve, and supports capacity building of the Ministry in its efforts to protect forested watersheds and resources in the region.

WWF

Nothing to report this period.

AWF and WRI – Southern Tanzania

AWF

AWF successfully engaged with the leadership of the Tanzania Land Commission and secured permission to conduct surveys to assess tools that work for local communities to feel genuinely empowered with access and use rights over land in the Kilombero Valley in Southern Tanzania. Negotiations for the survey modalities are underway and an agreement is secured to work with the Land Commission staff to assess applicability of Group CCROs as recommended by the consultancy report.



Kilombero Valley, Tanzania. Photo Credit: AWF

WRI

WRI assisted in designing the research on group CCROs in support of AWF, TNC, JGI and WRI investments in Tanzania, identified Andrew Williams, independent consultant, to conduct the research, and was the principal financial supporter of the consultancy.

The resulting report, *Common Property Resources in Tanzania*, was finalized in December 2016 and is now under review by several external specialists, including Fred Nelson, Executive Director of Maliasili Initiatives, and Stephan Nimbi, Director of Tanzania's National Land Use Commission. The report presents progressive land and natural resource management policies and laws which provide a comprehensive framework for enabling local communities to varyingly administer, manage and sustainably utilize their land and natural resources. This paper provides an overview of these laws and analyses how effective these laws have been, particularly over the last 15-20 years from when most were promulgated, in enabling communities to secure tenure over their common property resources – principally grazing, forests and wildlife. The report will be prepared for publication during the coming quarter of FY 2017.

WRI has held multiple discussions with experts on the various land reforms currently underway in Tanzania (wildlife management areas, land policy) to develop an outreach plan and influence strategy to advance the findings and recommendations in *Common Property Resources in Tanzania*. WRI has consulted: Emmanuel Sulle (Institute for Poverty, Land and Agrarian Studies), Andrew Williams (independent consultant), Fred Nelson (Maliasili Initiatives), Edward Lekaita (Ujamaa Community Resource Team), Stephen Ninbi (Director General of the National Land Use Planning Commission), Godfrey Eliseus Massay (Tanzania Natural Resource Forum) and other stakeholders.

TNC and JGI – Western Tanzania

JGI

JGI has been an active partner in the development and production of the report *Common Property Resources in Tanzania* alongside WRI and AWF. The report will inform future JGI programming in land use planning activities in Western Tanzania funded by both ABCG and other USG sources. TNC played an active role in helping to identify the CCRO consultant, Andrew Williams.

3.1.3 Best Practices and Lessons Learned

WCS and WWF – Kabobo Wildlife Reserve, DRC

WCS

Success factors include the level of stakeholders' involvement at local and provincial levels; participatory gazettement of forests can be better supported by communities the earlier they are involved in the process. As part of this local involvement, WCS established the LGC for the Kabobo Reserve, which meets every quarter to discuss conservation issues.

The activities conducted to establish Kabobo are providing insight and inspiration to other protected areas in eastern DRC. For example, this process will be used to develop a new community reserve to the west of Kahuzi-Biega National Park, and the lessons learned from the creation of Kabobo will help ICCN with their processes to categorize the provincial Ngandja Reserve to a National Reserve in a way that follows proper community consent procedures. The community structure created may also help inform the WWF-supported Itombwe Reserve with regard to best practices with communities.

AWF and WRI – Southern Tanzania

AWF

In March 2017, engagement meetings were held with the Director General of the National Land Use Planning Commission, Dr. Nindi, to secure support for the assessments to be done under this task in Kilombero Valley. This time investment resulted in buy-in for the planned activities that are now confirmed for work to start in the next quarter in collaboration with the Commission. It is thus important to accept that in order to influence policy, implementation should involve land authorities that have the mandate for planning and policy formulation



*Dr. Nindi, National Land Use Planning Commission, and Jimmiel Mandima, AWF in Kilombero Valley, Tanzania.
Photo Credit: AWF*

3.1.4 Challenges and Constraints

WCS and WWF – Kabobo Wildlife Reserve, DRC

WCS

New insecurity in and around the Kabobo Natural Reserve caused by violence between Batwa and pastoralists (Banyamulenge and Fuliro) over control of land and resources has caused a delay in the next steps of the new Reserve, and threatens to cause more disruption in monthly activities. WCS has contacted the DRC USAID office to help determine how the project can benefit from peace building activities in the region. WCS will spend time in Q3&Q4 exploring a concrete approach that uses Kabobo as a platform for reducing conflict. This may include using the LGC as a means to bring Batwa and Bantu communities together to address pastoralist leaders from South Kivu.

AWF and WRI – Southern Tanzania

AWF

The existence of many land focused initiatives in Tanzania that are not adequately coordinated delayed field implementation of planned activities under this task to allow for engagement to clarify roles in order to avoid duplication of effort and possible conflict. This is what was achieved towards the end of the reporting period as captured above.

WRI

The new government in Tanzania has launched a series of land reforms (wildlife management areas, land policy) that threaten to undermine village lands and community

rights over their land and natural resources. For example, the draft Land Policy provides a new definition of village land that recognizes lands that are used and occupied. Under this definition, village land that are held as common property, including rangelands, forests, and wetlands, would become General Lands under government control. If this new definition of village land becomes law, villages would no longer have control of their common property, the land that is protected by the group CCROs.

TNC and JGI – Western Tanzania

TNC

TNC'S activities related to land use and titling using CCROs in the Greater Mahale Ecosystem (GME) was put on hold to wait for the outcome of the report, *Common Property Resources in Tanzania* by Andrew Williams, a resource that was created to provide guidance to TNC and others that work on community rights and land tenure in Tanzania. TNC understands that provision of CCROs to individual households and farmers could potentially lead to land fragmentation instead of land consolidation and that individual CCROs could make it easier for households or farmers to sell their lands. On the other hand, providing group CCROs is associated with a different set of risks in the GME. Following the release of the report and several in-depth internal discussions, TNC has decided to continue to support individual CCROs because of the importance of supporting smallholder farmers and other community members in maintaining land and resource tenure, to promote equal access and ownership, and to improve access to loans as land with CCROs can be used as collateral to secure bank loans. TNC will also support group CCROs, but these will be likely be structured as collective forest protection CCROs.

JGI

JGI'S original targets of issuing individual CCRO'S in project villages has been put on hold pending the publication and assessment of the findings of the report *Common Property Resources in Tanzania*. Based on this document, it is now likely that the issuance of CCROs to protect group property will be included in project activities in addition to individual CCROs. To proceed to issue individual CCROs in advance of the report'S publication would have been inappropriate.

3.1.5 Upcoming Events

Western Tanzania – TNC and JGI

TNC On April 20, 2017 in Mpanda, Tanzania, an awareness and capacity building workshop on land use and land titling through CCROs will be conducted for 37 district and local leaders from 7 villages where the project will support provision of both individual and group CCROs in Mpanda District. The village leaders expected to attend the workshop include Village Chairpersons, Village Executive Officers, Chairpersons of Village Land Use Management Committee, Ward Secretaries and Divisional Secretaries. From the District, members of the Participatory Land Use Management team are expected to attend; the event will be officiated by Mpanda District Executive Director.

JGI

JGI staff and community partners are meeting throughout April 2017 to digest the findings of the Common Property Resources in Tanzania report and adjust project activities as appropriate.

3.2 TASK ACTIVITY 2: LAND USE MANAGEMENT

3.2.1 Task Activity Description

Historically, conservation has been a reactive discipline, and land-use planning utilized as a tool for achieving conservation outcomes has often been reactive as well. As problems arise, the conservation sector often initiates a new planning process to assess impact and identify solutions. This piecemeal approach to conservation planning is insufficient to address the complex realities and conservation challenges of today. The task group has found that every target landscape is being reshaped, not by a single driver, but by a suite of drivers including population growth, changing resource utilization patterns, economic development and climate change. Conservation planning frameworks need to recognize this reality and incorporate the current and forecasted future cumulative impact of these drivers of change to identify more robust conservation interventions.

This task group is developing a methodological approach to conservation and land use planning based on scenario analysis, and guidelines for its application, to incorporate equitable and climate-smart alternatives into land use decisions for conservation. The methodology will be used in four landscapes to replicate a landscape-level planning process with multi-sectoral stakeholders in order to better understand drivers of landscape change: 1) northern ROC (two northern provinces Sangha and Likouala) - WCS, WRI, JGI; 2) eastern DRC (Maiko-Tayna-Kahuzi-Biega CARPE landscape) - JGI, WRI, WCS; 3) western Tanzania - AWF, WRI, JGI, CI, WCS, and; 4) Madagascar (Corridor Ankeniheny Zahamena) - CI, WCS. Ultimately we will develop alternative scenarios for sustainable development and conservation of biodiversity.

3.2.2 Key Achievements

3.2.2.1 Characterizing the landscape, establishing evaluation metrics, and understanding drivers of change

A key component of developing prioritization analysis and scenarios is the creation of a spatial database and models to be used within the analysis. Several novel and important spatial analyses and models have been completed.

WCS, WRI, JGI – Republic of Congo

Significant advances have been made towards a complete and up to date forest ecosystem map for the entire planning region. The draft map has had input from WCS experts and CIRAD, the French agriculture and environmental research institute, and has accumulated

decades of work on the forest ecology of the area. The forest ecosystem map integrates new data on forest biomass, derived from work done by NASA on the north Congo Emissions Reduction Programme (ERPD); the acquisition of these data indicates a strong collaboration with The Forest Carbon Partnership Facility in the Congo ERPD process.

The team has completed an analysis of the historical incidence of fire in the planning region (up to and including recent catastrophic fires associated with the 2016 El Nino event). The analysis shows an apparent link between logging activity and fire in the open forest types west of the Sangha. These results can now be taken into consideration in conservation prioritizations, by ensuring that parts of this open forest type are included in conservation set aside proposals. Furthermore, in areas that will be subjected to disturbance, the rehabilitation of logging roads should be practiced to reduce the drying effects of forest edges and human access post logging.

Biodiversity survey data has been consolidated between the partners (WCS and WWF) to enable the creation of a new, complete biodiversity survey data base for northern Congo. This required some pre-processing to ensure data sets can be analyzed concordantly. This is time consuming, but will enable fine-scale modelling of the responses of wildlife densities to alternative future scenarios across the planning region using methods comparable to those of Maisels et al (2013).

JGI, WRI, WCS – DRC

WRI has applied a spatial modeling approach to identify key drivers of forest loss and to project locations of potential future forest loss in the DRC's six CARPE landscapes between 2015 and 2020. Ten variables (elevation, slope, rainfall, protected area status, logging concession status, and proximity to the rural complex, conflict, rivers, settlements, and roads) were identified as the most important factors influencing spatial patterns of deforestation in this CARPE landscape.

WCS and WWF (with CIRAD, Forest Stewardship Council (FSC)) have developed an ecosystem map from Gond et al. (2015) for terra firme forests and Betbeder et al. (2014) for the swamp forests. Gond et al. (2015) had previously identified 10 forest classes that were significantly different in their EVI index (photosynthetic activity) assessed based on multi-temporal analysis of MODIS scenes and characterized them based on cross-referencing with field inventory data on forest structure (basal area, stem/ha), function (percent of deciduous trees) and maturity (percent of pioneer species). Structure and maturity were used to describe the condition of the forest (primary, secondary and degraded forest).

WCS and WWF (with CIRAD, FSC) have also developed a forest condition layer. Forest cover data from 2000 and 2014 (determined from Hansen et al., 2013) was analysed using the Morphological Spatial Pattern Analysis (MSPA) fragmentation algorithm (Soille & Vogt, 2009). A window size of 300 m was used for the edge width, which determines the distance between non-forest and core forest. This window size was chosen based on Shapiro (2016), which produced a similar analysis for the DRC. This analysis divided forest cover of the year 2000 and the year 2014 into four fragmentation classes based on spatial pattern: core, inner edge, outer edge and patch forest. Based on the transition between fragmentation classes between 2000 and 2014 the fragmentation classes were reclassified to primary, secondary deforestation and degradation according to Shapiro (2016).

Finally, WCS and WWF (with CIRAD, FSC) have created a human pressure model. It was decided to include two data layers on human pressure in the analysis: 1) a fire map and 2) a layer modeling human pressure based on access and population density distribution. To fire map was created based on MODIS data from 2000-2016 showing the frequency of fire (count of fires) in 1,000 m pixels. No confidence thresholds were applied for the fire detected being a fire. In order to evaluate pressure on the environment, it was decided to create an accessibility model weighed by population distribution among settlements.

The team is leveraging a derived map representing the risk of human conflicts (warfare) across the region, from a recently published study (Hammill et al. 2015), factoring attitudes towards armed conflict risk into selection of protected areas for conservation. Conflict is likely to reduce the condition of habitat for wildlife and ecosystems due to complex relationships between conflict, industry (e.g. mining) and degradation.

AWF, WRI, JGI, CI, WCS – Tanzania

The task group has compiled data from the Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) of the United Nations Global Agro-Ecological Zones “Potential Agro-climatic Yields” to map crop suitability and potential yields under rain fed versus irrigated agriculture for the three major investment crops (maize, rice, sugarcane).

CI, WCS – Madagascar

A map of carbon stock has been established by surveying sample plots. Forest land use parameters surveyed were: tree height and tree diameter at breast height. A soil sample was also taken for later processing at the laboratory. An allometric equation is applied to the dendrometric parameters of the forest to obtain a value of carbon per hectare units at the plot location. This information, coupled with satellite images, is used to create a seamless continuous carbon stock map for the entire area of interest. Carbon stock will serve as ecosystem services in later analysis. Evolution of carbon stock and emission from deforestation will be analyzed later in the process to evaluate possible ex-ante emission reduction revenue.

The forest cover was evaluated for 2005, 2010 and 2013, producing a deforestation rate for the 2005-2010 and 2010-2013 periods. Forest cover and deforestation was derived from an analysis of Landsat satellite imagery. Landsat has a ground resolution of 30x30 m allowing useful scale units of 1/100,000 and the most practical for trend analysis in subnational scale along the Corridor Ankeniheny Zahamena (CAZ). Along with forest cover change, deforestation is analyzed as it represents the threats to the forest ecosystem and an important factor in evaluation of potential greenhouse gas emissions.

The agricultural suitability is derived from a global map produced by (Florian et al, 2014) and downscaled to fit the area of interest. In this analysis, only rice, corn and cassava have been taken in account as those are the most dominant crop in CAZ. Also, as part of threats to the ecosystems, we have analyzed fire occurrences (derived from MODIS, 1 km resolution). This product is part of the effort to mainstream the FIRECAST¹ product to conservationist in countries that CI is working.

¹ FIRECAST is a CI product that uses satellite observations to track ecosystem disturbances such as fires, fire risk conditions, deforestation, and protected area encroachment, and delivers this time-sensitive information to decision makers through email alerts, maps, and reports.

A field visit was conducted to identify which species are most important and be chosen as target species. Four species has been identified from this trip: *Varecia variegata*, *Indri indri*, *Coua sp.* Another ongoing trip is going to determine which species to monitor from the western part of CAZ.



Unsustainable production, woman collecting her harvest from rain fed rice, Tavy in CAZ. Photo Credit: Andriambolantsoa Rasolohery, CI/ Madagascar

3.2.2.2 Develop Alternative Scenarios and Recommend Response Options

The core of the task is to explore alternative scenarios and recommendations for land-use planning and biodiversity. This broad activity is underway in each case study. The following is an update on the completion of draft prioritization analyses:

WCS, WRI, JGI – Republic of Congo

Using the compiled data on forest habitat and condition (derived from the above ground biomass data) a draft spatial conservation prioritization has been completed to test methods for integrating multiple drivers of change into conservation planning, and explore metrics for evaluating future provision of key features (bushmeat, ecosystems, area for logging and economic development).

Through literature review and analysis of stakeholder interests and priorities identified in the 2016 workshop, four major scenarios for land use planning were proposed: 1) Manage forest concessions to meet REDD++ guidelines; 2) Sustainably hunt seed-dispersing mammals (duiker) to maintain future carbon and food stocks; 3) Manage mining concessions to protect key biodiversity areas; 4) Future expansion of the road network. Importantly, these scenarios are linked to priority economic sectors in and to development aspirations of local governments in addition to species and habitat conservation.

This work has been coordinated with the FSC regional working group on High Conservation Value mapping, to ensure the results are useful and applicable to the wider region. It is envisaged that the same prioritization approach can be incorporated into the revised FSC standards for forest management for the Central African region.

JGI, WRI, WCS – DRC

Using compiled data on ecosystem types, current protected areas, and species endemic to the Albertine Rift Valley, a draft spatial conservation prioritization based only on biodiversity values has been completed using the decision-support tool, Zonation. Scenarios for progressing the analysis have been proposed, based on incorporating single versus multiple drivers of ecosystem degradation to find current and future “risk-free” places to protect biodiversity. These are contingent on layers representing each driver being completed by the team.

AWF, WRI, JGI, CI, WCS – Tanzania

Using compiled data on ecosystem types, and data from the Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) of the United Nations Global Agro-Ecological Zones on suitability of the region for 4 crops, a draft spatial conservation prioritization has been completed and presented to stakeholders at the recent workshop. The prioritization, implemented in the decision support tool Marxan with Zones, aims to balance multiple stakeholder objectives and requirements for different types of zones across the landscape (e.g. intercropping, grazing, wildlife protection). Zoning allows planners and decision-makers to maintain multiple landscape values such as: 1) Minimize loss of hunting areas, 2) Achieve high yields from cropping, 3) Ensure adequate biodiversity representation. Calculated the opportunity cost of conservation based on the value of land for alternative (non-conservation) uses.

Through literature review and analysis of stakeholder interests and priorities identified in the May 2016 workshop, we have identified six potential scenarios for land use planning: 1) Protected area effectiveness: Reduced effectiveness in some/all protected areas due to increased human population pressure and unsustainable/illegal hunting; 2) Change in technology: Rain fed agriculture replaced by irrigated agriculture; 3) Marketing of a new/emerging crop not currently targeted for investment (e.g. Irish potatoes, avocado); 4) Climate change (e.g. rainfall change or drought) affecting crop yields + ecosystem persistence (or climate change effect on water availability). 5) Policy change: recognize and gazette (lock in) current agricultural land, so that land is managed effectively; 6) Improved knowledge, agri-tech or industries that a) maximize yields or b) increase market values of products.

3.2.3 Best Practices and Lessons Learned

WCS, WRI, JGI – Republic of Congo

A significant advantage of the ABCG project is that it comes at a time when two sets of stakeholders are seeking answers to similar questions. Republic of Congo is developing its jurisdictional REDD programme for the north, and is seeking input to ensure that biodiversity is safeguarded during the implementation of the programme. At the same time, the FSC is seeking to revise its rules for the conservation of High Conservation Value areas across the whole central African sub-region. The alignment of objectives between jurisdictional REDD

and the development of new guidance for FSC certified forest concessions at the regional level provides a unique opportunity to leverage the work of the ABCG project. Both sets of stakeholders are seeking ways to identify and protect the most valuable areas of forest, and both can make use of the same methodological building blocks, created with support from ABCG, to achieve their aims. The regional High Conservation Value mapping exercise is likely to inform forest management across several million ha of forest concession in Gabon and Cameroon, beyond the limits of the Congo planning region chosen for this study, which was itself chosen to match the jurisdictional area for the Emissions Reduction Programme.

JGI, WRI, WCS – DRC

Twenty stakeholders from 12 local and international organizations/agencies in North and South Kivu provinces in eastern DRC participated in the first prioritization workshop. Participants included members of civil society groups and representatives of key government ministries (notably the DRC park service, ICCN). Getting the appropriate mix of government stakeholders to attend the workshop was a challenge. Prior to the upcoming second workshop in mid-2017, visits to the Ministries of Mining and the Environment will ensure representation from these key stakeholders.

AWF, WRI, JGI, CI, WCS – Tanzania

The formulation of questions and objectives is critical to ensure that scenarios are relevant to the salient land use planning issues in the region. It is essential to have the right, well-informed and intentioned people in the room in order to set appropriate objectives and as importantly, identify related data sources. The round of presentations on key topics helped create a knowledge basis for objective-setting but also got people engaged in the process. The presence of Tanzanian journalists and airing of segments on national TV generated interest both within the room and potentially across the country. With the press, it was important to portray the event more as planning for sustainable development vs. a conservation planning exercise.

CI, WCS – Madagascar

The main lesson thus far is the need for flexibility when adapting to transitions of government officers, as well as maintaining communication.



The forest after one cycle of tavy. Most of the tree has died. Photo Credit: Andriambolantsoa Rasolohery, CI/ Madagascar

3.2.4 Challenges and Constraints

WCS, WRI, JGI – Republic of Congo

The approach to ecosystem classification has been participative and collaborative, involving many researchers in the field from several different countries. As a result the process has taken longer than anticipated, due in large part to the difficulty of discussing spatial analysis over large distances. The main actors have been able to meet twice, once in France and once in Brazzaville (under the auspices of FSC and ABCG) which has enabled considerable progress to be made, but the collaboration remains challenging due to the dispersed nature of the actors.

A further significant challenge is the inclusion of relevant government stakeholders in Republic of Congo. Due to the complexity of mapping and modelling processes involved in habitat, biodiversity, fire risk mapping etc., these are by their nature academic exercises which require considerable expertise. While every effort is made to keep government stakeholders abreast of developments, it remains a constant challenge to ensure local stakeholders understand the ways in which the different data sources can be used. In order to avoid these potential pitfalls, it is essential that the project continues to be framed as providing tools to maximize the efficiency of the Emissions Reduction Programme (something to which the Congolese government remains committed). The support from the stakeholders engaged in that process is critical to the success of ABCGs work.

Data collection and analysis of biodiversity data required data sharing agreements to be established between WWF and WCS. While data sharing is a common problem, it appears there is no common solution and time and attention were required to ensure both parties were satisfied with the agreement.

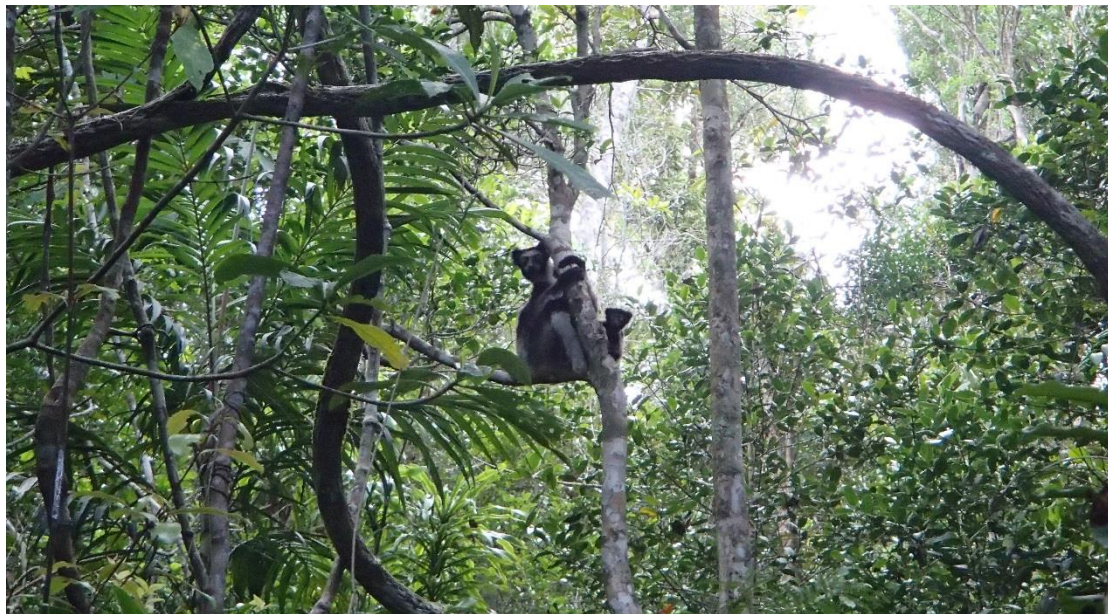
JGI, WRI, WCS – DRC

A key challenge for this project is securing up-to-date comprehensive data on the condition of the region, relative to the major drivers of change: deforestation, hunting, and mining (current and future potential locations of impacts from concessions).

A second challenge is understanding where and how indigenous lands might be incorporated into conservation prioritization. Studies indicate increased condition in forests if indigenous people are appropriately engaged in the REDD and conservation process, but there is little on-ground capacity to do this, and it is unclear where this engagement would best benefit biodiversity.

AWF, WRI, JGI, CI, WCS – Tanzania

A significant challenge in this project is securing quality spatial data to serve as scenario inputs. The vast scale of the region makes it difficult to secure comprehensive, representative datasets for features such as wide-ranging wildlife species. To compensate for specific conservation target data, we may have to use proxy datasets such as key biodiversity areas and ecosystems.



Indri indri is chosen to be the target species to be modeled for the land use. Photo Credit: Harison Randrianasolo, CI/Madagascar

CI, WCS – Madagascar

As the tools produced are not completed yet, and the activities are still ongoing, it is too early to talk about success. The main lesson taken is the need for flexibility when working with changes of government officers, as well as maintaining communication.

3.2.5 Upcoming Events

WCS, WRI, JGI – Republic of Congo

The team is planning a workshop in Brazzaville, Republic of Congo scheduled for mid-2017 for stakeholders to vet, review, and provide feedback on preliminary scenarios and prioritization outputs. The workshop is focused towards regional land use management and political stakeholders, and participants have been identified from NGOs (WCS, AWF, TNC, JGI, and WRI), international research centers (CIRAD, University of Queensland), international partnerships (Forest Carbon Partnership Fund), regional government and national government. USAID participation is requested.

JGI, WRI, WCS – DRC

The team is planning the second planning workshop in Goma or Bukavu, DRC for mid-2017. Stakeholders will review and provide feedback on scenarios and prioritization outputs.

AWF, WRI, JGI, CI, WCS – Tanzania

A second workshop is anticipated to present scenarios and develop strategies for land use planning and communication to relevant agencies likely in July. It may be staged in Dar es Salam or Dodoma considering many key stakeholders are based there. An invitation to the USAID mission will be extended.

CI, WCS – Madagascar



Members of the Community based Association Vonona from the Corridor Ankeniheny Zahamena performing a periodic patrolling. Photo Credit: Harison Randrianasolo, CI

A few workshops have been planned to: 1) Identify data gaps and find sources, and 2) Design the data collection and update. One of these workshops will be held in Toamasina on April 23rd – 25th and a second workshop in Ambatondrazaka on May 2nd – 5th. The outcome of these workshops will be a clear roadmap on data analysis and parameters to use on the scenario modelling.

Other workshops are planned in June to invite all stakeholders to take part in the scenario evaluation and validation. Four scenarios will be presented: 1) for biodiversity/natural capital, 2) for ecosystem services, 3) for sustainable agriculture, and 4) development of infrastructures. Each scenario will be used as tool for decision in land use planning and to help with the design and implementation of regional development plan.

3.3 TASK ACTIVITY 3: GLOBAL CHANGE IMPACTS

3.3.1 Task Activity Description

A major oversight of most assessments of climate change has been the inadequate consideration of indirect impacts on biodiversity due to human responses to climate change (e.g. changes in human use of natural resources). This working group will document coping responses of human communities to climate change in a number of African countries, and the impacts of these responses on biodiversity. It will map these responses to observed and projected changes in climate, and provide guidance regarding adaptation strategies that are most likely to be successful for people while also benefiting biodiversity conservation efforts. Tools and guidance will be developed for use by governments, NGO's and the communities themselves.

3.3.2 Key Achievements

Human Response Field Surveys

Data collection is currently underway from a total of 18 sites across 9 countries, with 45 key informant interviews being conducted at each site. Data is being compiled from completed sites (see below), and analysis will begin once all surveys have been completed.

Survey sites (including status) are as follows:

WWF

- Masai Mara, Kenya (completed)
- Sesheke, Zambia (completed)
- Kunene region, Namibia (ongoing)
- Kirindy Mite National Park and Barren Island, Madagascar (established completion in May 2017)

TNC

- Monduli District, Tanzania (completed)
- Kiteto District, Tanzania (completed)

JGI

- Gombe - Masito – Ugalla, Western Tanzania (completed)
- Gombe - Masito – Ugalla, Western Tanzania (completed)

WRI

- Matutuíne District-Maputo Province, Mozambique (completed)
- Chókwè District-Gaza Province, Mozambique (completed)

CI

- CAZ (Corridor Ankeniheny Zahamena) East and West sides, Madagascar (scheduled completion in June 2017)
- COFAV (Corridor Fandriana Vondrozo), Madagascar (scheduled completion in June 2017)

AWF

- Maringa Lopori Wamba, DRC (completed)
- Kilombero Valley, Tanzania (completed)

WCS

- Mbam Djerem National Park, Cameroon (scheduled for implementation May 2017)
- Ivindo National Park, Gabon (completed)
- Loango National Park, Gabon (completed)



Human response survey, Makame, Tanzania. Photo Credit: TNC

Through partnerships with local organizations (WRI partnered with Centro Terra Viva in Mozambique and WWF partnered with the Integrated Rural Development and Nature Conservation in Namibia), a number of field staff have received training in best practices for interview methodology, as well as increased knowledge on climate impacts.

WWF-Literature Review

A review of countries NAPAs (National Adaptation Programmes of Action) and INDCs (Intended Nationally Determined Contributions) has been completed, and the review of peer-reviewed literature is ongoing. To date, 1,100 publications have been reviewed out of 2,064 total. WWF held a meeting in October 2016 where input to the literature review methodology was provided. Organizations in attendance included WWF, International Union for the Conservation of Nature (IUCN), the United Nations Environment Program-World Conservation Monitoring Centre, Birdlife International, Institute of Development Studies, Fauna and Flora International, Oxfam, TRAFFIC, CARE, and Leeds University.

The scope of the literature review ended up being a lot larger than originally planned, hence the delay. WWF has consulted with 10 external organizations on the structure of the review, is reviewing NAPA's and INDC's for all countries, and are reviewing over 2000 peer-reviewed publications (from a shortlist of over 20,000) published in the last 10 years.

TNC-Map Human Responses in Relation to Climate Impacts and Conservation Impact

TNC has conducted the contemporary climate and future climate analysis using the Climate Wizard (Girvetz et al., 2009) application. The Climate Wizard generates a spatial analysis of 22 “derivative climate metrics” based on temperature and precipitation modeled on daily downscaled projections. Analyses have been completed for nine African countries, as well as a continent-wide analysis to map where the key discrete climate-related events (storms, droughts, etc.) and longer-term changes (shifting seasonality, etc.) are likely to occur. This assessment will elucidate regions where people are most likely to exhibit good and bad coping strategies. The nine countries completed (Cameroon, Gabon, DRC, Kenya, Tanzania, Zambia, Zimbabwe, Mozambique, and Madagascar) comprise the locations of the human response field surveys needed to develop the typology of climate change responses. As human response surveys are being completed their locations will be mapped into GIS and overlaid with the climate maps generated by the climate analysis. Based on their location, information from the human response surveys will be categorized (i.e., “binned”) by parameterized climate variables (i.e., areas on increasing/decreasing rainfall related events, temperature and moisture directional change, etc.). Following this, a correlation matrix will be developed to identify human responses to climate change events.

CI-Develop a Typology of Human Responses to Climate Change

The optimal design of the typology framework is currently being assessed based on the field data collected by each organization, and the complementary data from the literature review. The goal is to link adaptation/coping responses to past climatic changes, characterizing the likely benefits and impacts on biodiversity of the identified adaptation responses. Guidance will focus on beneficial responses that could be replicated (based on future climate projections), and solutions to responses that negatively impact biodiversity.

All surveys will be complete before the end of FY 2017. As we collect and upload them, they are already being made available to the public through WWF’s crowdsourcing platform: <https://www.wwfclimatecrowd.org/>. Once analysis of all sites is complete, a database will be published on the ABCG website. The same is true for the literature review. Publishing these materials may extend into FY 2018.



Human response survey, Makame, Tanzania. Photo Credit: TNC

3.3.3 Best Practices and Lessons Learned

While the communities surveyed are those which ABCG members are engaged in other activities, documenting the impacts of climate change has not been a core component of field activities. The data gathered and guidance developed from this project will allow the development and implementation of solutions that reduce the vulnerability of these communities to climate change, while helping biodiversity.

At the Monduli site in Tanzania, the key informants understood the questions and responded well to the surveys relating vivid experiences (the area of northern Tanzania has been intensively impacted by climate change). The questionnaire was translated into Kiswahili and enumerators recruited who were fluent in Kiswahili and Maa (Maasai language), which was a significant advantage during data collection (having Maa speakers for the Makame surveys also helped to smooth data collection). We learned that women should only be interviewed by women and men by men based on several embarrassing proposals to our female enumerator.

3.3.4 Challenges and Constraints

Due to a delay in finalizing the survey instrument, data collection was completed for only one site in FY 2016. However, the remaining 20 sites will be completed in FY 2017.

Field staff identified a number of challenges to survey implementation, which can be summarized below:

WCS

In Gabon, interviews conducted by WCS field staff found difficulty in discerning changing weather in relatively static equatorial climate, issues with temporal interpretation of weather patterns, negative local perceptions for the value of social studies, and a lack of willingness to discuss sensitive issues, for example hunting practices. A WCS field staff member noted:

“For the survey, we met 50 interviewers for Loango and 45 people for Ivindo with women included, but not very many. Very few women were heads of household for the site of Ivindo. On the other hand for Loango, we were able to meet some women especially in the sector of Rabi-village in which the culture of the banana is dominant. In general, the survey was conducted in good conditions for both sites. The only difficulties were: 1) in the understanding of the weather by the interviewers. Because being in a hot and humid country with many rivers, it is sometimes difficult for the populations to notice certain changes and especially to bring out what we want to know. For the notion of climate, popular understanding revolves around the notion of time. The second difficulty, 2) was the dissatisfaction of the populations with the different social studies in their villages which did not often follow. At this level, there is sometimes incomprehension between activities related to the political sphere and those related to conservation and science. It should also be noted that in all two sites, the impact of livelihoods is not only the result of climate change but also the devastation of food crops by animals (mainly elephants). This reduces plantation yields, and sometimes leads to movements of populations to other environments or to other activities.”

JGI

- Reluctance of fishermen to discuss changing fishing habits (e.g. net size, location) that are driven by declining yields, but which are currently illegal.
- Population growth (based on both migration and natural increase) came up repeatedly as a driver of livelihood difficulties and land use conversion that has a negative impact on the environment.
- While there seems to be broad consensus that the weather has changed, this is not connected to any wider or more complex theory of climate change. There is scope for further engagement in awareness raising activities with adaptation activities consistent with biodiversity conservation outcomes incorporated into them.

TNC

The main challenge in the Makame villages (Tanzania) was the long distance required for surveyors to reach each of the 8 villages (the drive is six hours from Arusha).

CI

This year has seen the most extreme impacts of climate change in eastern Madagascar for at least the last 5 years. Hence, it was challenging for key informants to relate to impacts in years prior to this year.



Human response survey, Makame, Tanzania. Photo Credit: TNC

3.4 TASK ACTIVITY 4: GLOBAL HEALTH LINKAGES TO BIODIVERSITY CONSERVATION: POPULATION HEALTH AND ENVIRONMENT

3.4.1 Task Activity Description

The PHE task activity is based on an integrated vision of health that links the health of wildlife populations, humans, domestic animals, and ecosystems. The main goal of PHE is to improve ecosystem health and conservation outcomes in tandem with improved human health for communities living in and around areas of key biodiversity.

The objective of this task is to pilot a PHE integrated approach in two different geographical areas, Western Tanzania and Southeastern Cameroon by implementing and promoting effective approaches that integrate biodiversity with actions that contribute to improved global health. The expected outcomes are to: 1) build multi-sectoral partnerships to ensure biodiversity conservation and human well-being outcomes are achieved in tandem, 2) strengthen the evidence base for USAID and others of

successful examples that integrate biodiversity conservation and development, and 3) incorporate PHE into conservation and development planning.

The main activities to achieve the task objective are to: 1) analyze existing PHE integrated approaches and identify best practices and promising approaches in this field through a literature review and interviews with PHE practitioners and experts in the field, and; 2) pilot activities in two sites to explore the interrelationships and interdependencies between PHE, combining actions to reduce deforestation, while improving food and nutrition security and conserving watersheds. Throughout these activities, the inclusion of women and marginalized populations, such as the poor and youth in decision-making processes is particularly important in relation to health and ecosystem services, and will be a key component of piloting and promoting best practices in PHE activities. The resulting information will contribute to assessing the efficiency of a PHE approach, including how actions taken in one sector influence the other two, to ultimately conserve the health of the ecosystem and that of humans who depend on it.

3.4.2 Key Achievements

One of the task group's objectives is to analyze existing integrated PHE projects to identify best practices and promising approaches in this field through a literature review and interviews with PHE practitioners and experts in the field. The end goal is to use the findings of the literature review to pilot PHE projects in two sites, Western Tanzania and Southeast Cameroon, where PHE task group members have ongoing PHE project activities. The first draft of the literature review was ready for peer review at the end of September 2016. The document was sent to a total of 10 external reviewers (6 reviewers in October 2016, 4 reviewers in February 2017). The comments from reviewers are presently being addressed and the literature review document is expected to be finalized by the end of April 2017.

JGI – Western Tanzania

JGI hosted a PHE meeting in western Tanzania, from October 25-26, 2016, with 13 individuals representing TNC, CARITAS International, Belgium Technical Cooperation, Millennium Villages- Tabora, Kigoma Development Promotion Agency, Community Empowerment Development Organization, as well as key district and regional representatives from the Kigoma and Katavi region. The goal of the meeting was to introduce them to PHE, encourage them to integrate activities and join the Tanzania PHE Network². This meeting was facilitated by Dorah Neema, Coordinator for the National Steering Committee for PHE in Tanzania, which is hosted by the Ministry of East Africa Cooperation, and seeks to ensure environmental consideration, health and population are mainstreamed in the country's development processes. Key results from the workshop include:

- Participants' awareness of PHE increased and they continued to promote the approach upon returning to their institutions. All the representatives of the NGO's have reported sharing information with their colleagues in staff meetings and the district representatives participated

² The Tanzania PHE network is composed of organizations that are implementing or seeking to implement PHE. It includes both governmental and non-governmental organizations and aims at ensuring environmental considerations, health and population are mainstreamed in the country's development processes.

in Council Management Team meetings to educate the leadership of departments within the district on PHE.

- The PHE Zonal network in Western Tanzania was established as a strategy for scaling up the PHE approach and building capacity in line with the national PHE Strategic Plan.
- JGI's Community Development Officer, Phoebe Samwel, was selected to attend the PHE training organized by Pathfinder in Kenya in January, 2017. This has ensured that JGI's internal capacity and that of western Tanzania for understanding and implementing PHE continues to grow.



Workshop held from October 25-26, 2016 at the JGI-Educational Center in Kigoma, Tanzania. Photo Credit: JGI

TNC – Tuungane, Tanzania

The following trainings helped to provide communities with agronomic skills to practice sustainable and climate-smart agriculture and with an understanding of how PHE are interconnected and ways to improve communication and engagement to solve problems related to the environment, health and livelihoods.

- Farmer Field School Trainings: 890 farmers (407 male, 483 female) from 16 project villages attended Farmer Field School (FFS) Training Sessions where they learned about agronomic practices for both field and horticultural crops. A total of 353 smallholder farmers adopted climate-smart agriculture of which 315 were involved in maize production, 10 in rice production and 28 in horticultural crops. In addition, 16 villages supported in Uvinza District with 1 ton of Nigeria 4(2) Cassava variety which is resistant to Cassava Mosaic Virus.

- PHE Drama group trainings: 100 youths were trained on how to use theatre for development (T4D) techniques to transmit PHE information to large audiences. Tuungane is working in low literacy communities and T4D techniques have proven effective and efficient in increasing community participation and engagement on various issues of PHE. To date, 10,000 people, including youths and adults, have been reached (30,000 directly and 60,000 indirectly) with PHE messages in the project area through drama groups skits.
- New Model Households (MHs) recruited: 474 new households were registered as MHs after meeting the criteria. The project is now supporting a total of 1,211 MHs, a number above the project target of 1000 by December 2016.



Adolescent mothers at market place after a preliminary training on entrepreneurship, Tuugane Tanzania. Photo Credit: TNC

WWF – Lobeke National Park, Southeast Cameroon

Below are the main activities that were accomplished during this reporting period:

- *The village association as a symbol of women’s dynamism around the Lobeke National Park: A survey on women's associations in the project area was conducted to investigate how women's participation and their contribution in village associations help empower them. Data was collected in 9 villages (300 women, 300 men). Results show that there are more women-only associations; women feel empowered when part of an association; both women and men’s associations make their members more resilient to various unpredicted events (sickness, weather events, etc.).*

- *Capacity building on basic principles of sustainable agriculture in households and training centers:* During this period, 25 women were trained in basic principles of sustainable agriculture. This workshop was led by the head of the agricultural post of the Mambele and Yenga area. The aim was to show women how to reduce the environmental impacts of agricultural practices. At the end of the meeting, the women recommended that the community field they own be used to pilot practical exercises on the topics covered. They also realized that shifting cultivation represents a danger for the sustainable fertilization of the soil.
- *Food security and nutrition training:* With the support of the District Health Officer and nurses from three health centers, WWF organized an awareness raising campaign, with monitoring and referral of malnourished children conducted by six local community relays who are involved in malnutrition prevention and screening operations. A total of 200 women from Women's associations in the project area, participated in an awareness campaign on the recognition of malnutrition signs and links between sustainable agriculture, food security and nutrition.
- *Support for household latrines construction:* Health Scouts supported efforts in their communities on aspects of household latrine construction, awareness on causes and harm of malnutrition and on hygiene and sanitation in households. As community relays, Health Scouts perform awareness campaigns and educational sessions at least twice a month among women and men in villages. A total of 80 latrines were built in households during this reporting period. In some areas of the park the digging of latrines is becoming more systematic, but this activity remains lower in the Baka Pygmy communities.
- *Promotion of hygiene and sanitation best practices in schools:* 25 school Environmental Health Clubs developed their action plans this school year. Activities in schools and colleges cover three areas: student activities around clean school environment (school grounds, latrines, hygiene, etc.); monitoring of prevalence of diseases related to the consumption of unsafe water (supported by teachers); and the reinforcement of students' capacities.



Sensitization of women and men on good child nutrition practices and clinical signs of malnutrition. Photo Credit: Olivier Njounan, WWF-Cameroon

3.4.3 Best Practices and Lessons Learned

JGI – Western Tanzania

To enhance the likelihood of success in our efforts, JGI is implementing activities in close communication with the national PHE task force. Additionally, by having PHE network leaders in western Tanzania who are continuously looking for opportunities to engage and educate key government partners and other NGO's, such as through the Council Management Teams and the Gombe Masito Katavi Steering Committee, JGI will continue to build a network that supports PHE both in government and non-government agencies.

TNC – Tuungane, Tanzania

TNC is finding that the use of drama and storytelling is very successful in communicating PHE messages and that community engagement remains paramount to ensure that Tuungane project goals are met and that the communities accept and engage in PHE behaviors.

The Tuungane Drama Group aims to not only raise awareness of threats to the Greater Mahale Ecosystem (GME), but also to encourage communities to actively participate and express their viewpoints on the PHE process. Since the project started applying drama techniques, a remarkable shift in the thinking and an increased trust by community members has been seen, they now more openly discuss issues from family planning to fish breeding sites protection.



PHE drama group performing in the community. Photo Credit: Nelson Mmari, TNC

WWF – Lobeke NP, Southeast Cameroon

The will to see improvements in the wellbeing of their community is the main incentive for the heads of the health centers, the various mayors of the villages at the periphery of the Park and the various administrative authorities, to produce an impact and affect the behavior of community members. These are the first actors capable of driving or weakening the implementation of actions at the community level. Then the commitment of community members to carry out activities follows. This commitment is most evident among women and youth. As a best practice, WWF believes that having interacted first with the main target groups of the project and then go broader, has produced good results.

The first lessons learned from this reporting period relate to women and their ability to better support actions for the management of natural resources than men. In fact, when they are engaged in actions that meet their needs and interests, such as the health and wellbeing of their children and their livelihoods, their commitment level increases.

The second lesson learned is the types of activities that facilitate community involvement in natural resource management. Indeed, current activities that allow communities to follow best practices in children's diets are a source of admiration. Also, women who have had the chance to visit the Park with a local guide (visits arranged by the project) and learn new things have an increasingly positive outlook about the benefits that the Park can bring them and the reasons for its protection.



Strengthening women's capacities and harvesting plantain in the community farm of Mambele village, Cameroon. Photo Credit: Olivier Njounan, WWF-Cameroon

3.4.4 Challenges and Constraints

JGI – Western Tanzania

JGI has not yet begun implementation of the PHE pilot activity this year. A decision was made to wait on the literature review and its recommendations, to ensure that the key activities we propose are validated through the results of this work. JGI is currently discussing with TNC/Pathfinder and the PHE network the option of having a knowledge exchange to TNC's Tuungane project demonstration plots and understand how food security activities have been incorporated into their work and at what scale they are operating. JGI will send district staff and key community health volunteers for the exchange.

TNC – Tuungane, Tanzania

Lack of village Agricultural Extension Officers: The lack of extension services in the program area continued to limit smallholder farmers in the adoption of climate smart agriculture (e.g., some of the farmers were unable to identify appropriate land for farming or used inappropriate crop varieties, plant spacing, and/or pesticides, etc.). To address this, the project, in collaboration with Mubondo Agriculture Training Institute and Uvinza District Agriculture Department, conducted a ten-day training course for 81 Community Agriculture Workers from the project villages. These new workers will work in coordination and under supervision of the few Government Agriculture Extension Officers available in the area.

Outbreak of crop pests and diseases: About half of maize farms in the target villages were infested by stalk borers, including farms with demonstration plots where the Farmer Field School sessions were convened. Because most farmers had no access to pesticides, their maize crops suffered substantial damage; estimates of losses were between 10 and 30 percent. Some of the farmers tried to apply ashes to control the pest without success.

WWF– Lobeke NP, Southeast Cameroon

A difference of perception between the external actors and partners involved in the activities caused differential levels of engagement at the onset of the project. After this finding, adjustments were made to how the project engages with these actors/partners, so that as activities move forward, they now involve several varieties of leaders engaged at both the community and administrative levels.

This pilot implementation also faced some delays in conducting the baseline survey. The procedural constraints for the selection of the consultant made this process longer than anticipated. In the future, the project will trigger this kind of procedure at least six months early, to avoid delays.



Example of a latrine constructed at household level by community members with technical support from health scouts. Photo Credit: Olivier Njounan, WWF-Cameroon

3.4.5 Upcoming Events

JGI – Western Tanzania

A knowledge exchange visit to TNC's Tuungane project by JGI staff, members of the regional and national PHE network, district staff and select community health volunteers will give insight on how food security activities have been incorporated into their work and at the scale to which they are operating. We expect between 15 and 20 people to participate in this visit.

TNC – Tuungane, Tanzania

In late April 2017, as part of the “empowering women component”, this project will work, in collaboration with regional livestock laboratories, to vaccinate approximately 100,000 chickens in the GME against Newcastle disease (where about 70 percent of all chickens die of the disease). Because most of the chickens in the GME are owned by women, this will lead to a more reliable source of income for women and food for the household.

In the second week of May 2017, TNC will create and organize a group of adolescent mothers in the project area to train them on entrepreneurship skills.

In the second week of June 2017, TNC will conduct a community training on food security and post-harvest loss management.

WWF– Lobeke NP, Southeast Cameroon

The most important upcoming event that will take place starting at the end of April 2017, is the collection of baseline survey data. This event will mobilize several actors and partners and will be conducted in the large majority of villages in the buffer zone of Lobeke National Park.

The second event will be conducted in May/June 2017 and will focus on a large community awareness campaign on hygiene, sanitation and the environment. The project receives direct support and collaboration from the administrative and municipal authorities to conduct community awareness campaigns. At least one local NGO will be mobilized for this purpose and will drive the awareness caravan in most villages with the traditional authorities.

3.5 TASK ACTIVITY 4: GLOBAL HEALTH LINKAGES TO BIODIVERSITY CONSERVATION: FRESH WATER SANITATION AND HYGIENE

3.5.1 Task Activity Description

By linking freshwater conservation (FW) and water, sanitation, and hygiene (WASH), ABCG aims to reduce watershed degradation and pollution, thereby improving the health of freshwater ecosystems. In support of the USAID Biodiversity Policy, this task proactively engages diverse, local community actors in development activities to mitigate impacts and provide compensation for biodiversity loss to deliver positive conservation outcomes. This task builds on FW-WASH integration guidelines and monitoring and evaluation framework created during ABCG's previous phase.

Conservation South Africa (CSA), a local affiliate of CI, with technical assistance from CI, is piloting the ABCG FW-WASH integration tools in the Alfred Nzo District of South Africa's Eastern Cape Province (ANDM). JGI is piloting these tools in local villages in the Albertine rift region of Hoima and Masindi Districts, also known as the Budongo-Bugoma Corridor. The task members will share learning from these pilots through the creation of a Nairobi-based Community of Practice (CoP) to build capacity in sub-Saharan Africa, led by AWF and supported by CI, for advancing integrated FW-WASH projects.

3.5.2 Key Achievements

CSA-South Africa

In South Africa, Conservation South Africa (CSA) completed a [Gender Analysis Report](#) and is disseminating it to colleagues in the Umzimvubu Catchment. Several training and capacity building meetings were held during this period, including a door-to-door awareness program, in partnership with the Alfred Nzo District Municipality (ANDM) on improved hygiene practices. The program trained 16 individuals from the community (11 men and 5 women) and reached 279 households (102 men, 162

women and 15 unidentified³) in CSA's pilot sites. CSA will begin to incorporate health data through the establishment of a Health Protocol. CSA hired a consultant to design the protocol and health data collection began in March 2017.



Water monitor volunteer taking water quality measurements at a rehabilitated spring. Eastern Cape, South Africa. Photo Credit: Conservation International/N. Kwayimani

- Trained 14 community members, eco-rangers and water monitor volunteers (11 men and 3 women) on water quality monitoring and collection of water quality data in early October
- Trained 9 community members, eco-rangers and water monitors (7 men and 2 women), on how to input water data into a smart phone application. Use of smartphone technology for data collection was made possible by a leveraged grant from CI's Millennium Innovation Lab in late October
- Trained 20 Health and Safety Officers (15 men and 5 women) in hygiene best practices and the linkages between WASH and livestock herding
- Held 4 check in meetings with the 4 villages to inquire about improved state of water quality, community satisfaction with CSA efforts and status of rehabilitated springs in November and December.
- Trained 16 community members (11 men and 5 women) in sanitation best practices for peer-to-peer awareness raising in February
- Reached 279 households (102 men, 162 women and 15 unidentified) with peer-to-peer sanitation best practices awareness raising, in partnership with ANDM
- Designed and distributed 350 sanitation best practices stickers, printed in the local languages Sotho and Xhosa, with leveraged funds from the Starwood Foundation
- Distributed the CSA gender analysis report to the other 28 members of the Umzimvubu Catchment Partnership Programme in March 2017

JGI-Uganda

In Uganda, JGI facilitated three stakeholder meetings to discuss WASH activities, two focused on how to strengthen local government involvement. The government meetings brought together 14 district officials and local leaders from Masindi District Local Government and Budongo Sub-county⁴. One key result was the district leadership's pledge to support the implementation and sustainability of the WASH activities. The team designed four posters with messages on germ transmission, importance of hand washing, sanitation and hygiene practices, and protection of river banks and printed 2,000 copies. The

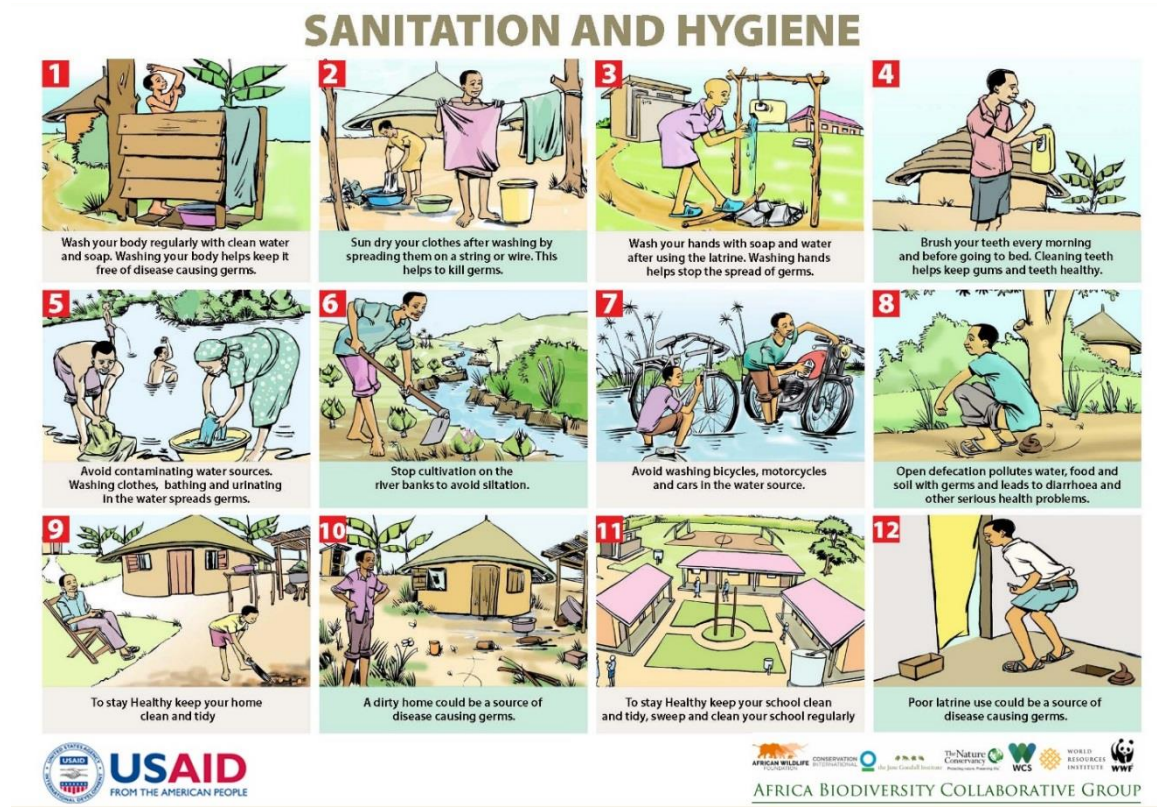
³ Individuals signed a participant log and voluntarily self-identified as male or female.

⁴ The Chief Administrative Officer (CAO), Water Officer, Senior Lands Officer, Wetlands Officer, Health Officer, Veterinary Officer, Environmental Officer, Education Officer, Leader of Operation Wealth Creation, and the Community Development Officer of Budongo Sub-county

gender consultant submitted the final version of the gender analysis report, which will be shared with ABCG and USAID for their input before it is disseminated.

- Disseminated 2,000 copies of WASH education posters (Figure 1) in the Uganda pilot site. The posters have messages on germ transmission, importance of hand washing, sanitation and hygiene and protection of river banks, which reduce siltation of water sources.
- Sensitized and trained 20 teachers from 10 area schools in WASH best practices.
- Held a community engagement meeting to get updates from each village on WASH. Over 100 people participated (82 men and 41 women), representing the 9 water user committees, the Village WASH clubs, religious and local leaders, school representatives and the executive of the community development association - SICODA
- Completed a stakeholder engagement report completed for the Uganda pilot site

Figure 1 | JGI WASH education poster



Nairobi CoP

The first meeting of the CoP was convened in Nairobi, Kenya, where the participants confirmed the CoP scope of work, agreed on membership targets and called for establishing an online platform for interaction. Nine participants attended the first meeting, representing six NGOs and one government department, who will provide additional names for prospective members. Following that meeting, task members created a LinkedIn Group for the CoP and uploaded guidelines on how the CoP will operate.

- Completed a [report](#) for the first CoP meeting held in Nairobi, Kenya on October 21, 2016. It was made available on LinkedIn Group platform and ABCG.org

- Created and shared a [guidance note](#) on the LinkedIn Groups online platform with the 13 CoP participants.



Inaugural meeting participants for the Nairobi-based Community of Practice. Nairobi, Kenya. Photo Credit: AWF

3.5.3 Best Practices and Lessons Learned

CSA and JGI Pilot Implementation

Task members and pilot site implementation teams exchanged experiences and lessons learned during the process of conducting and applying the gender analysis findings in a virtual meeting. There were three shared themes between the projects:

- Despite geographic and cultural differences, gender plays a significant role in successful conservation and human health outreach;
- Entrenched cultural attitudes may impede women’s contributions and work against project objectives, and;
- Tweaking project activities to incorporate insights from gender analysis can help to challenge these norms— and improve conservation outcomes.

JGI-Uganda

A key lesson for JGI was that the effectiveness of by-laws to demonstrate how initiatives that build community management of the environment are best administered at the local level. The by-laws are also critical in enhancing the decision-making processes because of the inclusive participation of local stakeholders in their enactment, monitoring and enforcement of WASH activities.



WASH sensitization posters developed for dissemination in schools and community gathering areas. Masindi, Uganda. Photo Credit: JGI

JGI aided the adoption of the WASH education and awareness campaign by helping teachers integrate WASH themes into topics that are found in the Uganda Primary School curriculum. Through the lessons, pupils learn about WASH across all disciplines in the primary school curriculum (science, mathematics, English, and social studies). This allows teachers to continue to disseminate WASH/Conservation messaging after the end of project. The teachers are trained and involved in the pre- and post-monitoring changes in knowledge, attitudes and practices. The awareness program is also designed to ensure broad impact beyond the classrooms; teacher training and WASH integration into school lessons is complimented by other activities such as, mobile environmental education and awareness in schools by the JGI team, as well as community education and awareness village meetings.

Continued empowerment of local institutions can lead to even more engagement of communities. For example, during implementation last year, JGI worked with a Siiba Conservation & Community Development Association (SICODA) that was established with representation from all the villages and

has the responsibility for monitoring and ensuring that they are protecting their forests/water catchment areas. SICODA organized a conservation tournament while the youth were on holiday to keep them busy and get them excited about conservation. The winning team was presented with a Conservation Cup, provided by JGI. SICODA contributed funds to present the winners and runners up with goats.

Nairobi CoP

The CoP learned that building its agenda around issues that are already seen as priorities by existing networks is important for sustainability. For example, KEWASNET⁵ already had a plan to establish a platform to serve its network members, so the creation of the ABCG CoP can fill this need and further expand the reach of the ABCG moderated platform.

3.5.4 Challenges and Constraints

CSA-South Africa

In South Africa, three constraints delayed activity implementation during this period. First, the project lead's laptop was stolen in December 2016. Thankfully, CSA identified funds from another donor to replace the laptop and much of the program information was recovered from past emails and/or the task Google Drive. Another constraint was the turnover in outreach staff, namely the water monitoring volunteers, who obtained paying jobs elsewhere because of the training they received from CSA. While this is a success for improving local capacity, this is especially time consuming for project staff because program leads must return to the traditional courts to ask for official identification of new people to work with CSA before these new volunteers can be trained. CSA staff are brainstorming a solution to overcome this obstacle. The third constraint was the prolonged search for a consultant to design the Health Protocol due to a limited applicant pool. After many interviews, the team selected Bandile Ndlazi, and finalized his Terms of Reference in late February.

⁵ Kenya Water and Sanitation Network – a network founded in August 2007 to enable civil society organizations involved in the Water and Sanitation Sector to work in a coordinated manner.



CSA and ANDM partners show school children how to conduct a river health assessment and see impacts of land uses and invasive species on water resources during national Water Week. Eastern Cape, South Africa. Photo Credit: CI/N. Kwayimani

JGI-Uganda

In Uganda, the gender analysis identified gender role stereotypes, reinforced by men and women, that inhibit equitable participation in WASH. These stereotypes drove low participation of women in awareness activities and compromised JGI's ability to meet WASH targets. To address this, separate meetings for women will be organized, which are intended to increase women's participation but also increases meeting costs. Additionally, JGI is reviewing key awareness messages to incorporate topics on cultural stereotypes and implications on WASH equity. JGI will not print new materials for this messaging, because that is not in the budget, but rather introduce these topics in planned meetings. To use time and resources efficiently, JGI will bring on board women mobilizers to ensure increased female participation in planned/budgeted meetings. These meetings will have separate sessions for women and men and a joint plenary session.

Nairobi CoP

The CoP members who expressed interest in creating the LinkedIn Group were slow to enlist. Asking existing members to suggest additional participants for the group will be a focus of quarter four activities.

3.5.5 Upcoming Events

- During the fourth quarter of FY 2017, CSA will co-host a Climate and WASH Summit at ANDM's offices in Mt. Ayliff to share on-going work in the pilot sites and improve local decision makers' understanding about the connection between freshwater ecosystems and WASH.
- A follow up, in-person CoP member meeting will be convened in Nairobi, Kenya during the third quarter of FY 2017.

3.6 TASK ACTIVITY AREA 5: EMERGING ISSUES

3.6.1 Task Activity Description

The Emerging Issues Small Grants program builds on ABCG's position as a partnership of seven international conservation NGOs with a strong field presence in priority biodiversity areas across the continent by creating teams to analyze emerging threats or opportunities, and convening stakeholders in the U.S. and Africa to present data and catalyze discussion. Through its small grants program, ABCG identifies and develops strategies to respond to emerging issues that are likely to shape conservation priorities in the coming years, and influences the effectiveness of biodiversity conservation efforts in Africa.

African institutions working with ABCG members play key roles in identifying these issues, and planning and implementing the pilot projects supported by Emerging Issues Small Grants. Through participatory processes, Emerging Issues Small Grants promote gender equality, capacity building for local African institutions, and women's and youth empowerment as powerful drivers for inclusive and sustainable development.

Eligible applicants are the member organizations of ABCG. A minimum of two ABCG members must partner to develop and submit an application with one member serving as the lead applicant and primary contact for the proposal. Furthermore, partnering with a local African civil society organization or government agency is required for consideration.

In addition, a project concept under the Emerging Issues Small Grants program should:

- Propose a novel or innovative approach, which incorporates a new technology or model for addressing an emerging issue;
- Engender ABCG's core competencies: generating knowledge, communicating best practices, and fostering communities of practice;
- Address issues that have application at the landscape level- beyond one country or at a transboundary or multinational scale, such as East and Southern Africa or West Africa;

- Include two or more member organizations with clearly defined roles and relationships;
- Include local partnerships with African intuitions and/or civil society and reflect a multi-stakeholder planning process with broad participation;
- Propose a tangible, short-term output (e.g., direct conservation impact, science product, due-diligence scoping study, pilot study conclusions, and/or policy recommendations); and
- Be consistent with and supportive of the [USAID Biodiversity Policy](#) and USAID Africa Bureau Regional Development Cooperation Strategy.

3.6.2 Key Achievements

ABCG has attained its Year 2 indicators under the *Intermediate Result: Steering committee reviews and awards small grants: 1) At least two proposals funded by the Steering Committee and 2) Two non-ABCG partners participating in Emerging Issues Small Grant funded projects* (Appendix 4.1: ABCG Phase II Monitoring and Evaluation Plan).

The Secretariat released a second call for concepts in early September 2016 with a prolonged deadline to allow for more meaningful consultations with local partners in determining project roles and activity design. Projects concepts were received in November 2016 for scoring and deliberation in December.

3.6.2.1 Thematic Areas

In order to determine the themes under which projects would be considered, ABCG tapped into the expertise of its community of practitioners in identifying new or emerging threats to biodiversity conservation in Africa. The Secretariat created and administered an online poll via Google Forms. The open ended survey was disseminated to the ABCG mailing list comprising nearly 2,000 conservation actors around the world.

The survey comprised the following five questions:

- 1) Which four emerging threats to biodiversity conservation would you suggest as priorities for intervention, in order of importance?
- 2) Which region of sub-Saharan Africa do you specialize in (check all that apply)?
 - West Africa (countries listed)
 - Central (countries listed, includes Cameroon)
 - East Africa (countries listed)
 - Southern Africa (countries listed)
- 3) In which country are you primarily located?
- 4) Which of the following categories best describes the industry you primarily work in?
- 5) Which of the following best describes your current work position?

The poll produced a significant reaction with 90 contributors representing a 45 percent response rate. Almost half of the overall response came from Africa as 47percent of respondents reported living in African countries. Additionally, the vast majority of respondents hold positions of management; 90percent functioned as Program/Middle Managers or above with 27percent operating at the Senior Manager or Director level. Finally, many respondents came from technical backgrounds with 22percent self-identifying as subject matter specialists.

Respondents identified diverse threats aggregated in Table 1.

Table 1 | Aggregated responses from community poll on emerging threats to biodiversity loss

| Threat | 1st | 2nd | 3rd | 4th | Total |
|--|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-------|
| Industrial agriculture, land conversion, food/ livestock production, plantations | 11 | 10 | 11 | 5 | 37 |
| Overexploitation, resource depletion, poor NRM | 2 | 1 | 4 | 2 | 9 |
| Unregulated logging, deforestation, charcoal production, wildfire | 6 | 7 | 3 | 1 | 17 |
| Mining, extractive industries | 4 | 7 | 3 | 2 | 16 |
| Habitat loss/degradation/fragmentation | 0 | 5 | 5 | 0 | 10 |
| Human encroachment, population growth | 14 | 4 | 4 | 6 | 28 |
| Wildlife trafficking, illegal trade, poaching | 10 | 9 | 10 | 11 | 40 |
| Bushmeat consumption and trade | 1 | 3 | 2 | 3 | 9 |
| Climate change, change in seasonality/ precipitation, low rainfall | 10 | 5 | 7 | 9 | 31 |
| Emerging economies, infrastructure development, large-scale investments | 3 | 6 | 2 | 3 | 14 |
| Poor governance, corruption, weak regulatory systems | 6 | 2 | 2 | 3 | 13 |
| Weak/retrogressive governments/policies | 1 | 1 | 1 | 0 | 3 |
| Low capacity for NRM, lack of conservation/development planning | 0 | 2 | 4 | 2 | 8 |
| Watershed destruction, pollution of waterways, inadequate WASH | 2 | 1 | 2 | 2 | 7 |
| Human wildlife conflicts | 1 | 1 | 2 | 1 | 5 |
| Pandemics, disease, anthroponosis | 0 | 3 | 2 | 2 | 7 |
| Land purchase by foreigners | | | | 1 | 1 |
| Globalization, increasing demand, foreign markets, growing wealth | 1 | 1 | 3 | 1 | 6 |
| Urbanization | 2 | 1 | 3 | 2 | 8 |
| Political instability, insecurity, civil conflict, failed states | 2 | 2 | 4 | 4 | 12 |

| | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Disempowered local communities | 0 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 1 |
| Lack of capacity of field conservationists, practitioners | 1 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 2 |
| China | 0 | 1 | 0 | 1 | 2 |
| Over fishing | 1 | 0 | 1 | 1 | 3 |
| Economic and social inequality, unemployment | 0 | 0 | 2 | 1 | 3 |
| Human migration, displacement | 0 | 1 | 0 | 1 | 2 |

Table 2 | Top four ranked responses to ABCG community poll on emerging threats to biodiversity loss

| Respondents Ranked Threats | |
|--|---|
| Human encroachment, population growth | 1 |
| Industrial agriculture, land conversion, food/ livestock production, plantations | 2 |
| Industrial agriculture, land conversion, food/ livestock production, plantations | 3 |
| Wildlife trafficking, illegal trade, poaching | 4 |

Population growth was ranked highest as the main underlying threat to biodiversity. After population growth, land conversion due to agriculture was the second and third greatest threat (Table 2). Land conversion also ranked second to population growth as the greatest threat. This underlines the relationship between population growth and food production leading to agricultural expansion/land conversion and ultimately habitat reduction.

Many of the drivers of land conversion were cited, including industrial scale agriculture, over exploitation, and extractive industries. Taken together with habitat loss, these accounted for a quarter of the overall survey response. Land conversion was also the second highest overall score after Wildlife Trafficking. Since Wildlife Trafficking was treated as an Emerging issues topic with a successful proposal in the first round, it was not considered for round two.

Given the overwhelming recommendation to minimize impacts from agricultural activities, the ABCG Steering Committee agreed that this area has not garnered adequate attention in relation to the scope of the challenge. The Secretariat therefore proposed that the theme of “Conservation Planning for Integrated Agricultural Landscape Management” be included. This theme also adhered to Selection Criteria 1. (Appendix 4.5), a topic that ABCG member organizations are not currently addressing.

Additionally, the theme of “Conservation Planning for Infrastructure Development” continued to be relevant. Since no proposals were funded in this area in the first call for concepts, the Steering Committee decided to reissue a call for concepts under this theme. This theme also represented a new dimension to an existing issue where an ABCG funded intervention would compel additional activities at scale.

Thus, the two themes for the second call for concepts were:

1. Conservation Planning for Infrastructure Development
2. Conservation Planning for Integrated Agricultural Landscape Management

Conservation Planning for Integrated Ag-Landscape Management

Rising demand from growing populations and economies is increasing pressure on production systems. By 2050, agricultural output will need to increase by 60 percent, compared to 2005, to support 2.4 billion people in sub-Saharan Africa, according to the UN. Agricultural expansion is the primary driver of land conversion in Africa, reducing the area of intact forests and causing habitat fragmentation, degradation and loss. As a result, wildlife is increasingly dependent on how croplands are managed. Other factors, such as unclear land tenure rights, overexploitation, and uncoordinated and often competing sectoral policies are contributing to competition and conflicts over land and its resources. Climate change is further multiplying these threats.

Addressing competing priorities at the landscape level through multi-stakeholder engagement processes is likely to minimize agricultural impacts and lead to better conservation outcomes, by explicitly addressing trade-offs and synergies among stakeholders and by building collaborative relationships. In practice, this approach has encountered difficulties including meaningful and equitable participation of all stakeholders. For example, powerful stakeholders need to be incentivized to join, but not allowed to dominate, and marginalized (e.g. indigenous communities, women) or unorganized actors (e.g. local farmers) need support and capacity building to engage in discussions.

ABCG invited proposals that encouraged stakeholder engagement in conservation planning applied to agricultural landscapes in Sub-Saharan Africa by:

- Sharing knowledge and experiences that involve stakeholder engagement in a landscape context
- Identifying challenges that need to be overcome to ensure effective engagement
- Determining strategies and approaches that can facilitate dialogues for sustainable landscape outcomes
- Applying this learning to benefit ongoing and new landscape-level initiatives

Examples of project activities included, but were not limited to: 1) regional knowledge-sharing events, including exchange visits, the exchange of tools and resource materials, regional conferences, and thematic workshops that allow leaders to share experiences and lessons learned; 2) case studies developed together with landscape initiatives, which document and communicate landscapes' defining experiences within their respective contexts from which others stand to learn; 3) collaborative production of knowledge products, including a training manual on monitoring and evaluating sustainable land management from a landscape perspective, a review of the state of landscape governance, a landscape labelling guide, a spatial planning guide, a ground based photo-monitoring guide.

Conservation Planning for Infrastructure Development

There is an unprecedented growing demand in Africa for mineral extraction, increased agricultural output and energy resources, all of which threaten African biodiversity and conservation. Investments in large scale infrastructure are high on Africa's agenda and this is core to the African Union Agenda 2063

Vision & Priorities, and the Forum on China Africa Cooperation Action Plan. Billions of development dollars are earmarked for Africa large dam projects, mega road and railway networks to upgrade sub-Saharan Africa's poor road network which lags far behind the rest of the world. These growing demands are due, in part, to Africa's economic growth rates over the last decade. According to the IMF, from 2011-2015 seven of the world's 10 fastest-growing economies were in Africa. This growth, in many places, is leading to poorly planned infrastructure development and ABCG seeks to engage development partners and governments to ensure that large scale infrastructure development does not undermine conservation and ecosystem services critical to wildlife and African livelihoods alike. Efforts to conserve biodiversity will fail if poorly planned large-scale infrastructure investments continue unchecked and without consideration of environmental impacts. There is an emerging and urgent need to identify major infrastructure projects and to help resolve conflicts between protecting the environment and supporting development.

ABCG sought proposals that addressed the threat of poorly planned infrastructure development in Sub-Saharan Africa. Project examples included: 1) tools designed for tracking and consolidating information on infrastructure projects, 2) support for sustainable and environmentally sound infrastructure planning, 3) review of environmental safeguard systems and the promotion of environmental best practices, and/or 4) tools to help key stakeholders improve decision making around infrastructure development, including choices about tradeoffs and highlighting where development and conservation objectives overlap.

3.6.2.2 Call for Concepts

A second call for concepts (Appendix 4.5 Emerging Issues Small Grants Call for Concepts) was released in early September 2016 for the Steering Committee members to share broadly within their organizations.

There were four concept submissions:

1. WCS/JGI: Mapping Conservation Investment Priorities in Uganda
2. CI/WCS: Establishing a Community of Practice to Share Best Practices and Enhance Learning from the Vital Signs Monitoring System and the Resilience Atlas in East Africa
3. WCS/WRI: Promoting Sustainable Land Use In The Bateka Plateau, Republic Of Congo
4. CI/WWF: How To Measure Success Of Innovative Integrated Land Use Sustainability Models

3.6.2.3 Selection Criteria and Award Process

The Steering Committee, representing the panel of judges, scored final proposals based on the Selection Criteria (Appendix 4.5 Emerging Issues Small Grants Call for Concepts). In order to prevent conflict of interest, the representatives whose organizations submitted the proposal under review did not participate in scoring.

The Steering Committee reviewed individual assessments during the quarterly Steering Committee meeting in December 2016 and discussed the strengths, weaknesses, and overall applicability of the four submissions. During this deliberation, several questions were raised, which were communicated to the two highest scoring applicants as requests for more information. These applicants were then awarded funding. The two winning proposals were: WCS/JGI: *Mapping Conservation Investment Priorities in*

Uganda and CI/WCS: Establishing a Community of Practice to Share Best Practices and Enhance Learning from the Vital Signs Monitoring System and the Resilience Atlas in East Africa.

Grant Amount

Grant funds disbursed in this second round of funding were \$100,015 through two awards of \$50,037 and \$49,978. The remaining \$34,339 will be used to amplify the results of current projects. This could take the form of a workshop or forum for sharing lessons learned or improving ABCG's dissemination channels, such as updating the website for improved functionality and user experience.

3.7 CENTRAL ADMINISTRATION

3.7.1 Key Achievements

3.7.1.1 Communications and Engagement Officer

The Secretariat completed the hiring process for a specialized professional to enhance ABCG's global communication and lead outreach efforts in Africa. The Communications and Engagement Officer has assumed a key role in building brand awareness, expanding ABCG's reach to target audiences, and driving the effort to grow communities of practice and cultivate leadership by African institutions in addressing critical biodiversity conservation challenges facing the continent. The Communications and Engagement Officer reports to and supports the Program Coordinator in ensuring timely implementation of communications activities, grant reporting, and coordination with the ABCG member organizations to contribute to achieving the program's objectives. This position is housed within the WCS field office in Nairobi.

3.7.1.2 Programmatic Meeting Coordination

The Secretariat coordinated regular, formal assemblies of representatives from each of the seven member organizations. The first quarterly Steering Committee meeting was held on December 02, 2016 primarily to review individual Emerging Issues project concept scoring and make selection decisions. The Committee also reviewed pipeline figures and the FY 2016 annual reporting process. The Secretariat shared updates on the hiring process for the ABCG Communications and Engagement Officer. Finally, Benita Hussain was introduced as WCS' new Steering Committee Representative and Jessica Torrens-Spence was welcomed in her role as anticipated Agreement Officer Representative (AOR).

A second Steering Committee meeting was held on March 29, 2017, where the Secretariat presented a pipeline analysis, and the AOR an update on USAID mechanisms for future funding and general outlook for 2018 given the US government transition. This produced a discussion on joint resource mobilization for solicitation to support ABCG Phase III. Other topics addressed included: task activity indicator alignment with USAID Standard Biodiversity Indicators, feedback from member and partner

consultations in Nairobi, the kick-off of the Nairobi Speaker Series and development of task output dissemination plans.

Washington DC Speaker Series

ABCG has co-hosted 8 brown bag events in this reporting period. This speaker series attracts experts from various conservation fields affiliated with or related to ABCG projects. ABCG has organized the following brown bags, all of which are non-direct ABCG member or project events:

1. [Briefing on the Tanganyika Provincial Environmental Support to Kabobo Natural Reserve, DRC](#) (March 2017)
2. [Scaling a Collective Land Rights Approach: the role of legal tools in Strengthening Tenure in Tanzania](#) (March 2017)
3. [The Past, Present, and Future: Building a regional M&E system for The Nature Conservancy in Africa](#) (January 2017)
4. [Beyond Silverbacks: Strengthening African Conservation Leadership](#) (November 2016)
5. [The Impacts of Conservation Intervention on Human Well-being](#) (November 2016)
6. [Conserving Our Global Freshwater Future in Africa](#) (November 2016)
7. [Performance Lending for the Environment: A Break Through for the Resourcing and Scale Challenges Faced by Conservation?](#) (October 2016)
8. [Getting Consumers to Care: An Interdisciplinary Approach to Urban Bushmeat Demand in Congo](#) (October 2016)

All events are posted on the [ABCG website](#) to reach broader audiences as part of our global engagement strategy. This activity also meets ABCG's objectives of encouraging the exchange of ideas and experiences with partners, affiliates, stakeholders and practitioners. This is done in part by offering an interactive forum where the discourse can continue online, for as long as the ABCG program runs.

3.7.1.3 Thematic Communications and Lessons Sharing

WASH

- Delivered a [task overview presentation](#), sharing year 1 achievements with 42 in-person and 15 on-line representatives from USAID, ABCG partner organizations and other NGOs, on November 29, 2016.
- Produced a video highlighting CSA's work for the November FW-WASH task presentation: [Conservation South Africa's "One Health" Initiative](#)
- AWF, CI and JGI delivered a task overview presentation to 15 USAID staff from the Climate change and biodiversity teams on March 9, 2017.
- Exchanged experiences and lessons learned during the process of conducting and applying the gender analysis findings in a virtual meeting among task members and pilot site implementation teams in March 2017. A blog about this exchange will be published during the third quarter of FY 2017 on the ABCG website.
- Developed a fact sheet describing how ABCG is building African capacity to conserve freshwater biodiversity resources while improving human well-being through integrated

FW-WASH activities. [Global Health Linkages to Biodiversity Conservation: the integration of FW-WASH](#)

LUM

- Developed a fact sheet describing the LUM task group's activities in the SAGCOT landscape of Tanzania: [Scenario-Based Conservation planning for a Sustainable Future in South-Western Tanzania](#)

3.7.1.3 Online Communications and Engagement

News and updates as well as publications from various themes are posted on the ABCG website in order to promote ABCG's work and enhance outreach. Partner news, events and other related conservation news are also posted on the website to support cross sharing of information. Website analytics for [abcg.org](#) reflect 2,044 visitors since October 1, 2016 with 67 percent of this figure being new users worldwide. In Africa, there is increasing interest with 21.5 percent of the global share, second to the Americas at 48 percent.

As part of ABCG's social media outreach, event output is echoed on all channels. In addition ABCG shares originally generated content and cross promotes news from its members, partners, and other key stakeholders working in African conservation. The [ABCG LinkedIn® page](#) has garnered increased attention over the past six months with total impressions reaching over 600. On ABCG's [Facebook page-ABCGconserve](#), total likes have increased from 884 in October 2016 to 1,001 likes as of March 30, 2017. On ABCG's [Twitter account-ABCGconserve](#), growth is reflected through an increased following of 586 as of March 31, 2017, representing 27 additional followers since October 2016.

ABCG's email marketing via event announcements, career opportunities, report releases and news highlights continues to serve as an important means for reaching audiences. Mailing list subscribers have grown from 1,774 to 1,976, a 115 percent increase over the previous reporting period. Additionally, the average email open rate is steady at 35 percent of all email notification sent out.

3.7.1.4 Africa Engagement

As part of enhancing ABCG visibility and fostering broader outcomes for the overall program deliverables, ABCG has ramped up activities on a strategy to increase engagement with African stakeholders including local, national and regional actors with mutual interest in biodiversity conservation. This strategy supports a key objective to nurture working relationships for the exchange of cross-cutting ideas, developments and challenges in order to promote adoption of ABCG products by target audiences, and receive insightful feedback in exchange.

Nairobi Member and Partner Meetings

The ABCG Coordinator and Communications and Engagement Officer held meetings with Nairobi colleagues from ABCG's member organizations (TNC, AWF, WWF, CI) and partner institutions (Conservation Alliance of Kenya, Kenya Wildlife Conservancies Association, Maliasili Initiatives and

African Conservation Center) and USAID staff in February 2017 as part of the induction schedule for the Communications and Engagement Officer. The meetings further served as an opportunity for ABCG to strengthen and develop relations with local stakeholders who support the implementation of the Africa Engagement Framework. Through these meetings, ABCG was also able to increase the awareness of its work among the various organizations.

ABCG was invited and has participated in two meetings of the Regional Conservation Directors Forum in Nairobi, an informal working group of Africa Regional Directors from nine conservation organizations, including several ABCG members (AWF, WWF, CI, and TNC, International Fund for Animal Welfare, African Network for Animal Welfare, IUCN, African Conservation Center, and Bird Life International). Monthly meetings aim to coordinate activities in order to influence policy objectives in East Africa, specifically (to start) around natural capital and illegal wildlife trade. The benefits of ABCG's participation in the meetings are myriad; besides developing partnerships, through the working group ABCG will be able to keep up to date with various activities in which the conservation organizations are involved, identify areas of collaboration and synergy, enhance its reach by sharing information with other stakeholders while promoting ABCG's work, and provide technical support, among others.

In March 2017, ABCG participated in the Conservation Investors Forum, hosted by CI's Verde Ventures program and partners and [World Water Day](#) celebrations hosted by TNC and partners. ABCG promoted these events through the website and social medial channels in efforts to raise awareness on conservation issues and promote members' work.

ABCG is also seeking to create a formal relationship with the 200 member strong Conservation Alliance of Kenya (including ABCG members AWF, WWF, TNC), through an MOU to align efforts as they develop a comprehensive knowledge management system to support decision-making, cross-learning and experiences at national, regional, sub-regional and international levels.

Nairobi Speaker Series

A key strategy for achieving ABCG's objective of promoting integrated conservation and development programming to protect biodiversity in sub-Saharan Africa is fostering information exchange and sharing lessons from field activities by organizing a speaker series. The ABCG speaker series provides a platform for bringing together conservations actors to learn, dialogue and establish connections. A Nairobi based [Speaker Series Guide](#) has been developed for implementation starting April 2017 with the aim of organizing monthly presentations featuring various conservation topics. The series is aimed at fostering information exchange and lessons sharing among conservation partners.

The goals of the ABCG speaker series are to: highlight conservation issues affecting Africa; promote best practices, tools, and success stories with cross-contextual applicability; raise awareness of ABCG, the coalition's collective activities, and priority themes; and, convene conservation/international development actors, catalyze discussion, and grow a multi-sectoral community of practice.

4. APPENDICES

4.1 ABCG PHASE II MONITORING AND EVALUATION PLAN

Table 3 | ABCG Phase II Monitoring and Evaluation Plan

| Intermediate Result | Indicators | Targets | Means of Verification |
|--|--|---|--|
| ABCG Central Administration | | | |
| Present the work of ABCG. | Number of external-facing events (meetings, workshops, brown bag talks, etc.) that occurred and were broadcast | At least 1 event per working group per year | Annual report; announced on social media; webinar recording posted to website |
| | Number of thought-leadership materials (analyses, white papers, peer-reviewed articles, etc.) distributed | At least 1 item per working group per year | Annual report; posted to website; announced on social media |
| | Technical reports on activities distributed | At least 1 per working group per year | Annual report; submitted to www.DEC.USAID.gov ; posted to website |
| Provide forum for information-sharing by others in African biodiversity conservation | Number of non-ABCG brown bag talks (i.e., by member-NGO staff on non-ABCG work, by non-ABCG people) that occurred and were broadcast | At least 10 per year | Annual report; announced on social media; webinar recording posted to website |
| Maintain online presence through listserv, website, Facebook, and Twitter. | Number of listserv subscribers | 2,500 “active” subscribers by Sept. 2018 | Constant Contact Email statistics |
| | Average open rate for listserv emails | 35percent email open rate | Constant Contact Email statistics |
| | Number of visits to website | 1,500 visits per month | Google Analytics administrative report |

| | | | |
|--|---|---|---------------------------------------|
| | Number of downloads from website | 450,000 total downloads | ABCG website administrative report |
| | Number of “likes” of Facebook page | 1,000 Facebook “likes” by 2018 | Facebook page administrative report |
| | Number of Twitter followers | 900 Twitter followers by 2018 | Twitter account administrative report |
| LRTR | | | |
| Provision of a Certificate of CCROs for six villages, Greater Mahale Ecosystem, Tanzania (TNC, JGI) | Number of joint workshops, symposia, research, and analysis held with stakeholders and partners | 2 workshops | Workshop reports |
| | Number of people receiving USG-supported training in natural resources management and/or biodiversity conservation (disaggregated by sex) | 492 (329 men & 163 women) | Workshop reports |
| | Number of changes in policies, programs projects and practices cited as a result of analysis and influence activities in this program | 1-2 policy, practice or program changes | Annual Progress reports |
| | Increase in number of policies, laws, agreements, and/or regulations that promote conservation of biodiversity | 1 policy or agreement/regulation | Annual Progress reports |
| Develop mechanism for easements and formal recognition of community and customary rights over land and natural resources, Northern rangelands, Tanzania (AWF, WRI) | Number of countries in which ABCG has contributed to drafting guidelines for private voluntary initiatives. | At least one country | Workshop reports |
| | Number of guidelines incorporated into national policies or regulations in at least one country. | At least 1 country adopts policy guidelines | Workshop reports |
| Establish new IUCN Category VI Protected Area, DRC (WCS, WWF) | Number of changes in policies, programs projects and practices cited as a result of analysis and influence activities in this program | 1 policy change | Annual Progress reports |
| | Number of joint/co-hosted workshops, symposiums, research and analysis conducted with stakeholders and partners | 2 workshops | Workshop reports |

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| | Number of people receiving USG-supported training in natural resources management and/or biodiversity conservation (disaggregated by sex) | 25 people | Workshop reports |
| | Increase in number of policies, laws, agreements, and/or regulations that promote conservation of biodiversity | 1 PA registration | Protected area registry in DRC government |
| Managing GCI on Biodiversity (Global Change) | | | |
| Implement human response field surveys and develop a typology of human responses to climate change | Number of sites surveyed Number of people interviewed | 21 10 per site | Annual report on field survey data |
| | Number of new analytic tools in biodiversity provided by USAID tested by key stakeholders in targeted African countries. | 1 typology | Annual report on field survey data |
| Produce literature review of human coping responses to climate change including outreach to development organizations | Number of organizations beyond ABCG partners that contribute to the review | 5 organizations | Bi-annual Report |
| Map human responses in relation to climate impacts and where people are likely to demonstrate varying coping strategies | Number of new analytic tools in biodiversity provided by USAID tested by key stakeholders in targeted African countries. (maps) | 4 maps | Bi-Annual Report |
| Identify and prioritize adaptation strategies that improve biodiversity outcomes | Number of sites in Africa for which strategies are identified | TBD, based on number of coping responses identified in the typology | Bi-Annual report |
| Develop and pilot a methodology to identify areas and prioritize adaptation efforts | Number of joint workshops, symposia, research, and analysis held with stakeholders and partners | 1 workshop | Annual Report |
| LUM | | | |
| Define objectives for each LUM site | Number of landscapes that set objectives | 4 landscapes | Progress report |
| | Number of joint workshops, analysis and research held with stakeholders and partners. | 4 workshops | Workshop report |

| | | | |
|---|---|--|--------------------------|
| Characterize the landscape, establish evaluation metrics, and understand drivers of change | Number of new analytic tools in biodiversity provided by USAID tested by key stakeholders in targeted African countries. | 4 key drivers of landscape change models tested 3 climate change landscape-scale assessments tested | Progress report |
| Develop alternative scenarios and recommend response options | Number of new analytic tools in biodiversity provided by USAID tested by key stakeholders in targeted African countries. | 4 trade off models comparing performance of future land-use plans tested | Progress reports |
| Provide decision support tools and build capacity for adoption | Number of new analytic tools in biodiversity provided by USAID tested by key stakeholders in targeted African countries. | 4 decision support frameworks tested | Progress report |
| | Number of people receiving USG-supported training in natural resources management and/or biodiversity conservation (disaggregated by sex) | 60 people | Workshop reports by site |
| Synthesize best practices based on experience in multiple landscapes and present them to fifth landscape | Number of NGOs (US-based and African) participating in the conservation and development COP | 5 NGOs | Lessons learned document |
| | Number of lessons that can be applied beyond initial pilot sites. | 2-3 per site | Lessons learned document |
| | Number of additional sites in which best practices from LUM are presented | 2 sites | Meeting report |
| | Number of countries in which best practices from LUM are presented | 2 countries | Meeting report |
| Global Health Linkages to Biodiversity Conservation (WASH & PHE) | | | |
| Joint pilot test the guidelines and M&E framework produced by ABCG members and development organizations engaged in WASH. | Number of new analytic tools in biodiversity provided by USAID tested by key stakeholders in targeted African countries. | 2 analytic tools tested | Project report |
| | Number of joint workshops, analysis and research held with stakeholders and partners. | 1-2 workshops per pilot site and 2-3 analysis or research efforts conducted per site | Project report |

| | | | |
|--|---|--------------------------------|---|
| Formalize an Africa-based COP and host online capacity-building events. | Number of capacity-building webinars for the COPs | 4-6 capacity-building webinars | Webinar recordings |
| | Number of NGOs (US-based and African) participating in the conservation and development COP | 10-20 NGOs | Names on participant lists and email addresses included in mailing list |
| Document lessons learned and proposed refinements to the ABCG Guidelines and M&E Framework through the Africa-based COP. | Number of proposed refinements to ABCG-designed tools as a result of pilot projects. | At least 3 per tool | Lessons learned document |
| | Number of lessons that can be applied beyond initial pilot sites. | 3-4 per site | Lessons learned document |
| Emerging Issues | | | |
| Steering committee reviews and awards small grants | Number proposals funded by Steering Committee each year | At least 2 | ABCG annual report |
| | Number of non-ABCG partners participating | 2 per year | ABCG annual report |

4.2 INDICATOR PROGRESS TABLES

4.2.1 Indicator Progress Table: Land and Resource Tenure Rights

Table 4 | Progress Indicators: Achieved progress versus planned for FY 2017

| INTERMEDIATE RESULTS | INDICATOR | Data Source | FY 2017 | | Comments on Target Achievement |
|---|---|-------------------------|--|--------------------------|---|
| | | | Annual Planned Target | Annual Cumulative Actual | |
| Provision of a Certificate of Customary Rights of Occupancy (CCROs) for six villages, Greater Mahale Ecosystem, Tanzania (TNC, JGI) | Number of joint workshops, symposia, research, and analysis held with stakeholders and partners | Workshop reports | 6 (JGI); 2 (TNC) | 0 | Target for life of project: 2 workshops; 3 workshops were held in FY16 (TNC) |
| | Number of people receiving USG-supported training in natural resources management and/or biodiversity conservation (disaggregated by sex) | Workshop reports | 140 (JGI); 492 (329 men and 163 women) (TNC) | 0 | Target for life of project: 492 (329 men and 163 women). 55 people were trained in FY 2016. No progress was made in the last 2 quarters due to a delay for the CCRO consultant report and need for internal discussions on provision of individual or group CCROs. Work will proceed in Q3 and with both group/individual CCROs (TNC) |
| | Number of changes in policies, programs projects and practices cited as a result of analysis and influence activities in this program | Annual progress reports | 2 (change is issuance of CCROs) | 0 | In progress to be included in the FY 2017 annual report. |
| Secure Village Land in the SAGOT agriculture corridor in Southern Tanzania (AWF, WRI) | Increase in number of policies, laws, agreements, and/or regulations that promote conservation of biodiversity | Annual progress reports | 1 (WRI) | 0 | Multiple land reforms underway in Tanzania expected to be finalized by end of FY 2017 |
| | Number of villages in which ABCG has contributed to securing land rights | Workshop reports | 16 | 0 | All assessments in the 16 villages expected to be completed by the end of FY 2017 |
| | Number of changes in policies, programs projects and practices cited as | Annual Progress reports | 0 (WCS) | 0 | In progress to be included in the FY 2017 annual report. |

| | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---------|---|--|
| Establish new IUCN Category VI Protected Area, DRC (WCS, WWF) | a result of analysis and influence activities in this program | | | | |
| | Number of joint/co-hosted workshops, symposiums, research and analysis conducted with stakeholders and partners | Workshop reports | 2 (WCS) | 2 | CCC Training report and land-tenure analyses (WCS) |
| | Number of people receiving USG-supported training in natural resources management and/or biodiversity conservation (disaggregated by sex) | Workshop reports | 0 (WCS) | 0 | In progress to be included in the FY 2017 annual report. |
| | Increase in number of policies, laws, agreements, and/or regulations that promote conservation of biodiversity | Protected area registry in DRC government | 1 (WCS) | 1 | Kabobo was declared a provincial reserve (WCS) |

4.2.2 Indicator Progress Table: Land Use Management

Table 5 | Progress Indicators: Achieved progress versus planned for FY 2017

| INTERMEDIATE RESULTS | INDICATOR | Data Source | FY 2017 | | Comments on Target Achievement |
|--|--|------------------|--|--------------------------|--|
| | | | Annual Planned Target | Annual Cumulative Actual | |
| Define objectives for each LUM site | Number of landscapes that set objectives | Progress report | 4 landscapes | NA | Target attained in FY16 |
| | Number of joint workshops, analysis and research held with stakeholders and partners. | Workshop report | 4 workshops | 1 | 1 workshop done in ROC and 1 planned for June 2017. 1 workshop done in DRC and 1 planned for June 2017. 1 workshop done in Tanzania. 1 workshop done in Madagascar, 2 workshops planned Madagascar June 2017 |
| Characterize the landscape, establish evaluation metrics, and understand drivers of change | Number of new analytic tools in biodiversity provided by USAID tested by key stakeholders in targeted African countries. | Progress report | 4 key drivers of landscape change | 2 | 4 models under development: condition model ROC, agricultural model Tanzania, deforestation/human pressure models for DRC, deforestation model Madagascar |
| Develop alternative scenarios and recommend response options | Number of new analytic tools in biodiversity provided by USAID tested by key stakeholders in targeted African countries. | Progress reports | 4 trade off models comparing performance of future land-use plans tested | 0 | 3 of 4 draft scenarios explored for Congo, DRC, and Tanzania |
| Provide decision support tools and build capacity for adoption | Number of new analytic tools in biodiversity provided by USAID tested by key stakeholders in targeted African countries. | Progress report | 4 decision support frameworks tested | 0 | |

4.2.3 Indicator Progress Table: Global Change Impacts

Table 6 | Progress Indicators: Achieved progress versus planned for FY 2017

| INTERMEDIATE RESULTS | INDICATOR | Data Source | FY 2017 | | Comment on Target Achievement |
|--|---|-------------------|-----------------------|--------------------------|--|
| | | | Annual Planned Target | Annual Cumulative Actual | |
| Implement human response field surveys and develop a typology of human responses to climate change (all orgs: AWF, CI, JGI, TNC, WWF (lead), WRI, WCS) | Number of sites surveyed | Survey Instrument | 21 sites | 12 sites | The remaining sites will be completed in the latter half of FY 2017 |
| | Number of people interviewed | Survey Instrument | 945 people | 540 people | Same as above |
| | Number of new analytic tools in biodiversity provided by USAID tested by key stakeholders in targeted African countries (CI lead) | Typology | 1 typology | 0 | In development for end of FY 2017 |
| Produce literature review of human coping responses to climate change including outreach to development organizations (WWF lead) | Number of organizations beyond ABCG partners that contribute to the review | Literature Review | 5 organizations | 10 organizations | Outreach to development orgs has exceeded the planned target by 50 percent |

4.2.4 Indicator Progress Table: Global Health—Population Health and Environment

Table 7 | Progress Indicators: Achieved progress versus planned for FY 2017

| INTERMEDIATE RESULTS | INDICATOR | Data Source | FY 2017 | | Comments on Target Achievement |
|---|---|--|-----------------------|---|--|
| | | | Annual Planned Target | Annual Cumulative Actual | |
| Analyze existing projects that integrate population with other health & environment sectors | Number of projects integrating PHE analyzed | Engage with PHE Policy and Practice group (DC-based NGOs) to develop analysis tools/criteria | 4 | 4 (document still in draft form, this number may change in the final version) | The literature review received comments from 4 more external reviewers and is being finalized for this reporting period |
| Identify best practices based on the analysis for integrated PHE projects at the regional and national scales | Number of successful approaches identified | Review existing and past projects for key success themes and compile various formats to share w/ ABCG and beyond | 5 | 5 | |
| | Number of PHE champions promoting PHE as a biodiversity conservation tool | See above | At least 5 | In progress | The PHE pilot projects are ongoing in two sites until year 3 of the ABCG project. This target will be completed at the end of the pilot projects implementation. |

4.2.5 Indicator Progress Table: Global Health—Water, Sanitation, and Hygiene

Table 7 | Progress Indicators: Achieved progress versus planned for FY 2017

| INTERMEDIATE RESULTS | INDICATOR | Data Source | FY 2017 | | Comments on Target Achievement |
|--|---|-----------------------|-----------------------|--------------------------|--|
| | | | Annual Planned Target | Annual Cumulative Actual | |
| Integrate gender considerations into project design and monitoring and evaluation (M&E) plan for two pilot sites | Completed gender analysis | Gender analyses | 2 | 2 | CSA report was reviewed and finalized by ABCG and USAID and was distributed among stakeholders in the Umzimvubu Catchment. JGI Final report undergoing formatting and review by communications team prior to sharing final draft with ABCG and USAID for feedback. |
| Joint pilot test the guidelines and M&E framework produced by ABCG members and development organizations engaged in WASH | Number pilot workshops, analysis and research held with stakeholders and partners | Progress report | 12 meetings | 9 meetings | Task members are likely to pass the planned target because of the importance of community engagement and participation in WASH activities and freshwater ecosystem conservation. |
| Formalize an Africa-based COP and host online capacity-building events. | Number of NGOs (US-based and Africa) participating in the COP | Online COP (LinkedIn) | 5-15 | 9 | Inaugural meeting engaged nine NGOs/government actors. The target for the first year implementation of the CoP (FY 2017) of 15 is on track to be met before the end of the FY 2017. |

4.3 EMERGING ISSUES SMALL GRANTS FY 2017 CALL FOR CONCEPTS



AFRICA BIODIVERSITY COLLABORATIVE GROUP

Emerging Issues Small Grants – Application

| | |
|---|----|
| Applicant information | |
| Name of Applicant Organization: | |
| Organization Mailing Address: | |
| Name of project lead (the project lead will be our contact person for the application): | |
| Job Title: | |
| Email: | |
| Phone: | |
| Alternate Contact (name, title, phone, email): | |
| Project information | |
| Project Title: | |
| Project Length: | |
| Amount of Request: | \$ |
| Total Project Budget: | \$ |
| Brief Summary of Request: | |

A. Emerging Issues Small Grants Description

Statement of Purpose

The Emerging Issues Small Grants program is an initiative of the African Biodiversity Collaborative Group (ABCG) whose aim is to tackle complex and changing conservation challenges by catalyzing and strengthening collaboration, and bringing the best resources from across a continuum of conservation organizations to effectively and efficiently work towards the **vision of an African continent where natural resources and biodiversity are securely conserved in balance with sustained human livelihoods**.

ABCG's objectives are as follows:

- To promote networking, awareness, information sharing and experience among U.S. conservation non-governmental organizations working in Africa;
- To encourage information exchange and idea sharing with African partners;
- To identify and analyse critical and/or emerging conservation issues in Africa as priorities for both future NGO action and donor support; and
- To synthesize collective lessons from field activities and share them with a broader multi-sector community in the United States and Africa.

The Emerging Issues Small Grants program builds on ABCG's position as a partnership of seven international conservation NGOs with a strong field presence in priority areas across the continent by creating teams to analyse emerging threats or opportunities, and convening stakeholders in the U.S. and Africa to present data and catalyse discussion. Through its small grants program, ABCG identifies and develops strategies to respond to emerging issues that are likely to shape conservation priorities in the coming years, and influencing the effectiveness of biodiversity conservation efforts in Africa.

African institutions working with ABCG partners will play key roles in identifying these issues, and planning and implementing the pilot projects supported by Emerging Issues Small Grants. Through participatory processes, Emerging Issues Small Grants promote gender equality, and women's and youth empowerment as powerful drivers for inclusive and sustainable development.

Grant Amount

Grant funds to be disbursed in this call for concepts are \$150,000. Individual awards will fall within a \$30,000 to \$50,000 range. ABCG expects to fund three projects in this round.

Submission of Application

Submit applications directly to the ABCG Coordinator by email: rhaagens@abcg.org no later than **October 28, 2016** for consideration. Please contact Rebecca Haagens, ABCG Coordinator, for assistance at 202.347.0672 Ext 30.

Decision about further processing of applications will be communicated to the organization following the quarterly ABCG Steering Committee meeting in November 2016. Awards are expected to be disbursed in January 2016 for a maximum one year grant period.

Reporting Requirements

Reporting requirements will include an interim progress report (narrative and financial) due 7 months following the receipt of the award and a final report due 13 months following the receipt of the award or one month following the close of the grant period. Reporting guidelines and templates will be provided to the successful awardees.

B. Eligibility

Eligible applicants are the member organizations of ABCG. A minimum of two ABCG members may partner to develop and submit an application with one member serving as the lead applicant and primary contact for the proposal. Partnering with a local organization is highly encouraged.

C. Thematic Areas

Emerging Issues Small Grants support the following sectors/areas through its Small Grants:

5. Integrated Ag-Landscape Management
6. Infrastructure Development

Integrated Ag-Landscape Management

Rising demand from growing populations and economies is increasing pressure on production systems. By 2050, agricultural output will need to increase by 60percent, compared to 2005, to support 2.4 billion people in sub-Saharan Africa, according to the UN. Agricultural expansion is the primary driver of land conversion in Africa, reducing the area of intact forests and causing habitat fragmentation, degradation and loss. As a result, wildlife is increasingly dependent on how croplands are managed. Other factors, such as unclear land tenure rights, overexploitation, and uncoordinated and often competing sectoral policies are contributing to competition and conflicts over land and its resources. Climate change is further multiplying these threats.

Addressing competing priorities at the landscape level through multi-stakeholder engagement processes is likely to minimize agricultural impacts and lead to better conservation outcomes, by explicitly addressing trade-offs and synergies among stakeholders and by building collaborative relationships. In practice, this approach has encountered difficulties including meaningful and equitable participation of all stakeholders. For example, powerful stakeholders need to be incentivized to join, but not allowed to dominate, and marginalized (e.g. indigenous communities, women) or unorganized actors (e.g. local farmers) need support and capacity building to engage in discussions.

ABCG invites proposals that encourage stakeholder engagement in conservation planning applied to agricultural landscapes in Sub-Saharan Africa by:

- Sharing knowledge and experiences that involve stakeholder engagement in a landscape context
- Identifying challenges that need to be overcome to ensure effective engagement
- Determining strategies and approaches that can facilitate dialogues for sustainable landscape outcomes
- Applying this learning to benefit ongoing and new landscape-level initiatives

Examples of project activities may include, but are not limited to: 1) regional knowledge-sharing events, including exchange visits, the exchange of tools and resource materials, regional conferences, and thematic workshops that allow leaders to share experiences and lessons learned; 2) case studies developed together with landscape initiatives, which document and communicate landscapes' defining experiences within their respective contexts from which others stand to learn; 3) collaborative production of knowledge products, including a training manual on monitoring and evaluating sustainable land management from a landscape perspective, a review of the state of landscape governance, a landscape labelling guide, a spatial planning guide, a ground based photo-monitoring guide.

2. Infrastructure Development

There is an unprecedented growing demand in Africa for mineral extraction, increased agricultural output and energy resources, all of which threaten African biodiversity and conservation. Investments in large scale infrastructure are high on Africa's agenda and this is core to the African Union Agenda 2063 Vision & Priorities, and the Forum on China Africa Cooperation (FOCAC) Action Plan. Billions of development dollars are earmarked for Africa large dam projects, mega road and railway networks to upgrade sub-Saharan Africa's poor road network which lags far behind the rest of the world. These growing demands are due, in part, to Africa's economic growth rates over the last decade. According to the IMF, from 2011-2015 seven of the world's 10 fastest-growing economies were in Africa. This growth, in many places, is leading to poorly planned infrastructure development and ABCG seeks to engage development partners and governments to ensure that large scale infrastructure development does not undermine conservation and ecosystem services critical to wildlife and African livelihoods alike. Efforts to conserve biodiversity will fail if poorly planned large-scale infrastructure investments continue unchecked and without consideration of environmental impacts. There is an emerging and urgent need to identify major infrastructure projects and to help resolve conflicts between protecting the environment and supporting development.

ABCG invites proposals that address the threat of poorly planned infrastructure development in Sub-Saharan Africa. Projects can include, but are not limited to: 1) tools designed for tracking and consolidating information on infrastructure projects, 2) support for sustainable and environmentally sound infrastructure planning, 3) review of environmental safeguard systems and the promotion of environmental best practices, and/or 4) tools to help key stakeholders improve decision making around infrastructure development, including choices about tradeoffs and highlighting where development and conservation objectives overlap.

D. Minimum Application Requirements

A valid project concept under the EMERGING ISSUES SMALL GRANTS must:

- Address one of the three thematic areas for biodiversity conservation in Africa.
- Reflect evidence-based best practices in the field and/or represent an innovative approach;
- Be based on a concept developed independently by the applicant(s);
- Be consistent with and supportive of the [USAID Biodiversity Policy and USAID Africa Bureau Regional Development Cooperation Strategy](#);
- Be proposed by organizations with the capacity and track record to execute within the time frame proposed
- Be able to meet a specific programmatic need or address a recognized knowledge gap; and

- Not be an advance proposal for a known USAID requirement that can be acquired through another competitive method

E. General Project Concept Guidelines

Project concepts should:

- Propose a novel or innovative approach, which incorporates a new technology or model for addressing an emerging issue
- Engender ABCG's core competencies: generating knowledge, communicating best practices, and fostering communities of practice
- Address issues that have application at the landscape level- beyond one country or at a transboundary or multinational scale, such as East and Southern Africa or West Africa
- Include two or more member organizations with clearly defined roles and relationships
- Include local partnerships with African intuitions and/or civil society evident in project design, planning, and implementation
- Reflect a multi-stakeholder planning process with participation from local partners
- Demonstrate explicit causal analysis showing intended impact of the activity
- Propose a tangible, short-term output (e.g., direct conservation impact, science product, due-diligence scoping study, pilot study conclusions, and/or policy recommendations).

F. Project Concept Proposal

1. Identified need *(Please limit your response to 200 words)*

- What conservation challenge or identified programmatic need do you plan to address with a partnership through the EIGP?

2. Proposed objectives and activities *(Please limit your response to 400 words)*

- What are your learning objectives?
- Why is the chosen method/ activities conducive to meeting your objectives?
- Is it cost-effective and realistic?

3. Outputs *(Please limit your response to 200 words)*

- What are the proposed short-term outputs/ deliverables?
- Who are the targeted beneficiaries of this work and how will they likely benefit from the outputs of this project?

4. Communications and Outreach *(Please limit your response to 200 words)*

- How will you incorporate and institutionalize any new knowledge gained or new practices learned through this partnership?
- Describe your plan for communicating the outputs and findings of your work to ensure maximum exposure.
- Who are your target audiences, who should know about this work?

5. Measuring impact *(Please limit your response to 300 words)*

- What are the intended intermediate and long term outcomes? Describe the project's theory of change.

- What is the likelihood of achieving longer-term changes to improve your model, or scale-up or replicate a particular aspect of your program?
- What are the potential challenges and risks to the sustainability of these changes/improvements and how do you plan on mitigating these risks?

6. Work Plan and Budget

Please submit a work plan and budget in the space below.

- Describe the key activities, members involved from each organization, and schedule for implementation over the one year grant period (Jan 2017-Jan 2018). All activities must be completed by Jan 2018. Please organize your response in table format.
- Submit a summary budget, including a breakdown by activity and partner.

Budget

Please complete budget table below. Add rows to the table as needed.

Note: For salary/benefits - include names of staff and position title, how much you're requesting for each, and percent of time each staff member will dedicate to the project [no less than 5percent]. Operating expenses are broken out by line item and many include costs for contractors, travel, supplies, communications costs, consulting services, meeting space, etc. Equipment or other capital expenses should not to exceed 50percent of your total request amount. Overhead or indirect costs may also be included in your budget at individual NICRAs. Please do not list unfunded or unrealized indirect costs as match under the "Non-ABCG funding" column.

| Expenses | ABCG request | Non-ABCG funding | Total Project Budget |
|----------------------------|---------------------|-------------------------|-----------------------------|
| Salary and Benefits | | | |
| Name/Title/percent time | \$ | \$ | \$ |
| Name/Title/percent time | \$ | \$ | \$ |
| Benefits | \$ | \$ | \$ |
| Operating | | | |
| Contractors | \$ | \$ | \$ |
| Travel | \$ | \$ | \$ |
| Supplies | \$ | \$ | \$ |
| Communications | \$ | \$ | \$ |
| Equipment | \$ | \$ | \$ |

| | | | |
|--|----|----|----|
| Other (list and add rows as needed) | \$ | \$ | \$ |
| Indirect Costs | | | |
| Indirect request can be a maximum 10percent of direct costs above. | \$ | \$ | \$ |
| | | | |
| Totals | \$ | \$ | \$ |

7. Implementing entities and key local partners *(Please limit your response to 500 words)*

- Describe how this partnership is best suited to addressing this emerging issue. What strengths do each organization bring to the partnership?
- Describe the multi-stakeholder planning process. How were the key local partners involved in project design?
- Give a short history of the key local partner organization(s), including a short description of the organizations legal status, financial and operational capacity. Maximum 200 words describing the national or local context in which the action will take place.

G. Key local partner information and profile

Please submit the following information for each key local partner. A key local partner is an essential constituent of the strategic partnership without whom the proposed project could not be accomplished. The project may also involve additional partners with secondary roles. Lead partners (ABCG members) may apply to work with one or more key local partners. Please submit basic information (the boxes below) about each organization that wishes to work with an ABCG member.

| Key Local Partner | |
|---|--|
| Organization Name | |
| Address | |
| Contact person | |
| E-mail address and phone number | |
| Legal status (nonprofit, for-profit, public-private partnership, other) | |

| | |
|---|--|
| Countries of operation | |
| Mission and Objective <i>(Please limit your response to 100 words)</i> | |
| Number of full time employees | |
| Describe current programs and partnerships <i>(Please limit your response to 100 words)</i> | |

H. Scoring Criteria

1) Applicant provides strong rationale for proposed activities, including a project theory connecting an identified knowledge gap and planning to on-the-ground actions and project goals

Applicant provides strong evidence of links between identified knowledge gaps and proposed actions. A planning process or theory of change specific to the thematic area is evident. Does the project presented represent a focused and specific approach to conservation for wildlife and ecosystems? In contrast, would you consider this project to be more focused on generalized conservation outcomes?

0 = applicant fails to make clear connections between cited knowledge gaps, a theme (wildlife trafficking, infrastructure development, capacity development) - focused planning process/theory of change, and the actions or activities proposed. Project goals may be more broadly conservation-driven than specifically theme-driven.

1 = either a high "0" or a low "2"

2 = applicant does a mediocre job of making connections between cited knowledge gaps, a theme-focused planning process/theory of change, and the actions or activities proposed.

3 = either a high "2" or a low "4"

4 = project is clearly part of a strategy focused on a thematic area, actions are well-linked to accepted literature and planning, conservation goals are clear.

2) Project will conduct novel or innovative actions for conservation under one of the thematic areas

Are the on-the-ground actions proposed novel or innovative based on your experience? This can be defined by the novelty of specific actions or methods proposed; or if the actions are 'business as usual'. Is there novelty or innovation in how, when, or where the projects proposes to engage in these activities?

0 = Project is typical conservation work; proposed actions add little to ABCG's current activities or general understanding of how to apply best practices and planning on-the-ground.

1 = either a high "0" or a low "2"

2 = some implementation activities may be novel to our work or understanding of applied practices. Actions proposed may already be represented in our workplan, but novel to a particular landscape or geography where local practitioners may benefit from learning about this work.

3 = either a high "2" or a low "4"

4 = Project proposes actions that are truly unique, will diversify our workplan with novel or innovative actions for adaptation, provide us with interesting stories to tell, and add value to our understanding of how tangible on-the-ground actions can benefit wildlife.

3) Partnerships

The applicant presents evidence of established relationships with necessary partners to complete work successfully. For example, if the project proposes work in government-held classified forest zones or national parks, we would expect that the local authorities would be listed prominently as a committed partner, appear in the budget, etc.

0 = key partners appear missing or partnerships do not appear strong enough to successfully complete proposed project.

1 = either a high "0" or a low "2"

2 = not sure; partnerships may be adequate to complete project.

3 = either a high "2" or a low "4"

4 = partnership group clearly has strong capacity, proven record of past conservation achievement and should be able to successfully complete proposed project.

4) Capacity Development

The project concept reflects a multi-stakeholder planning process with participation from local partners. The applicant has a clear strategy to build organizational/institutional capacity of key local partners to

manage similar projects, through the proposed activity, including transparent personnel, procurement, and financial management systems.

0 = little reference to inclusive project planning activities or only broad, generalized capacity-development principles included.

1 = either a high "0" or a low "2" in your opinion

2 = some evidence of the inclusion of local partners in identifying the conservation challenge, not down-scaled or localized.

3 = either a high "2" or a low "4" in your opinion

4 = clear evidence for proposed actions to mitigate an emerging issue based on more localized assessment, analysis, and stakeholder planning activities. Outlined strategy for building local capacities through close working relationships.

5) Applicant provides a strong plan for communicating lessons learned from the project about on-the-ground results. They effectively target audiences that will help to build interest and increase the likelihood for replicability

We are seeking projects that can effectively communicate lessons learned to other conservation practitioners about how to address emerging issues and potentially replicate actions across a landscape. We are seeking projects that utilize strong communications to increase or leverage the impact of our investments.

0 = Project fails to present a plan for communications activities that will effectively share lessons learned with other conservation practitioners.

1 = either a high "0" or a low "2"

2 = Project has potential communications value, but plans for relating lessons learned to other practitioners are not fully formed or need improvement.

3 = either a high "2" or a low "4"

4 = Project presents a clear plan to help communicate lessons learned to other conservation practitioners and a model for applied on-the-ground actions that may be replicable and transferrable across the landscape.

6) Potential for broad-scale impact

We are seeking projects that will create change at a broad level, either through landscape-scale efforts, or place-based efforts that directly support broader multi-jurisdictional conservation goals.

0 = project unlikely to ever realize broad-scale impacts.

1 = either a high "0" or a low "2"

2 = project has limited potential for broad-scale impact.

3 = either a high "2" or a low "4"

4 = strong evidence that project will have broad-scale impact either now or in the future.

Total of 24 possible points