

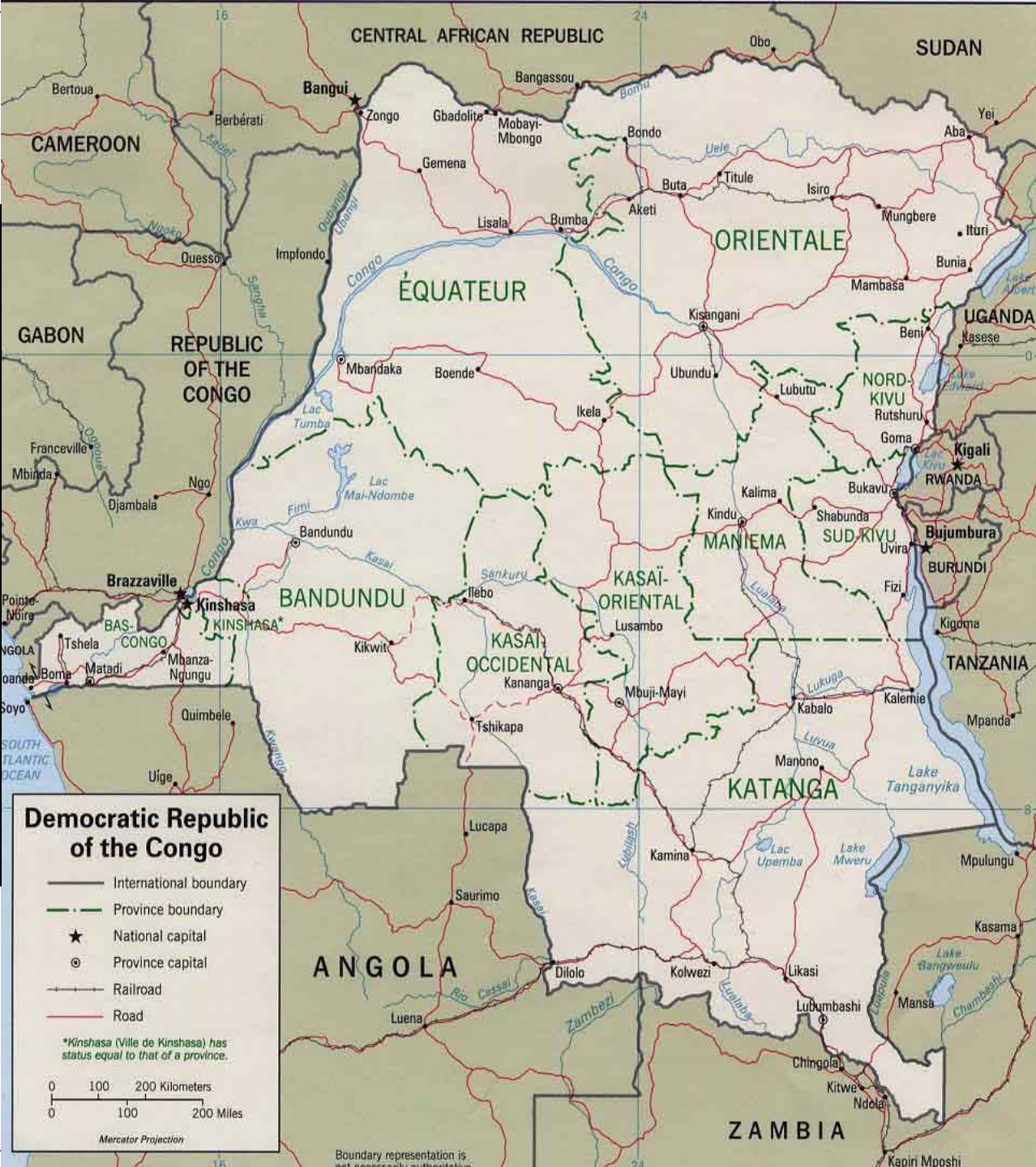


**Integrating traditional
knowledge into the PA
policies process to improve
conservation in eastern DRC**



**Dominique Bikaba,
Strong Roots Congo
Kahuzi-Biega National Park**

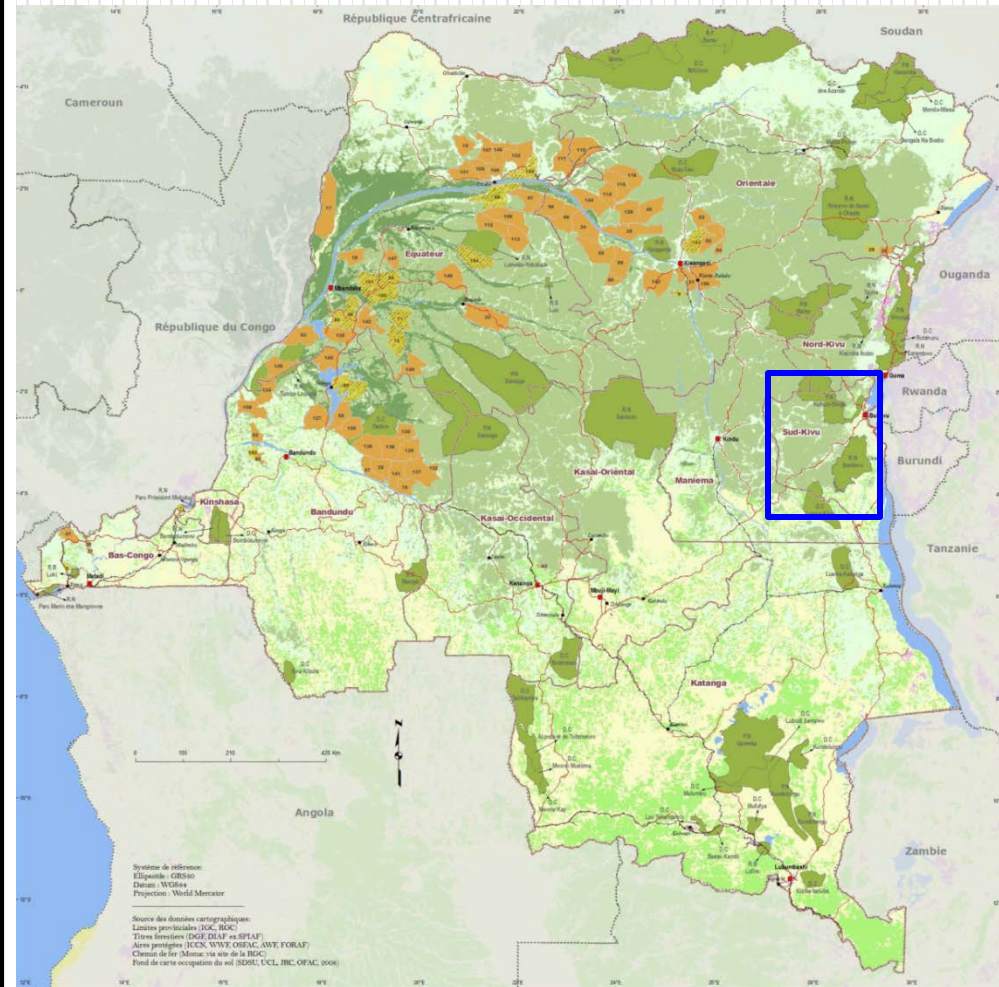
- ~1M Km² of forest, covering 50% of the national territory
- ~ 50% of the African forestland
- ~ 76% of the Congo Basin Forest
- ~ 10% of national territory covered by forests under protected areas status (23% of the country forests)



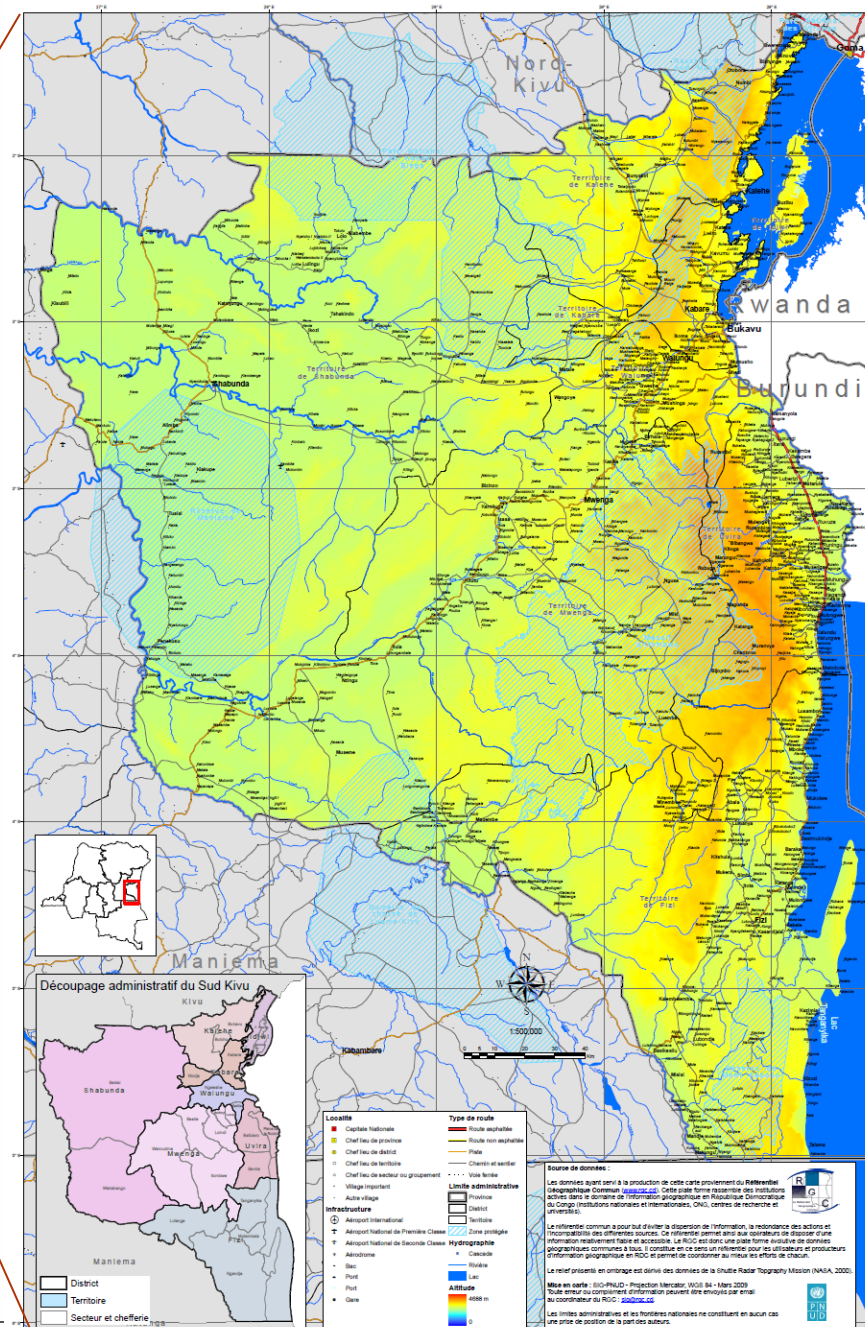
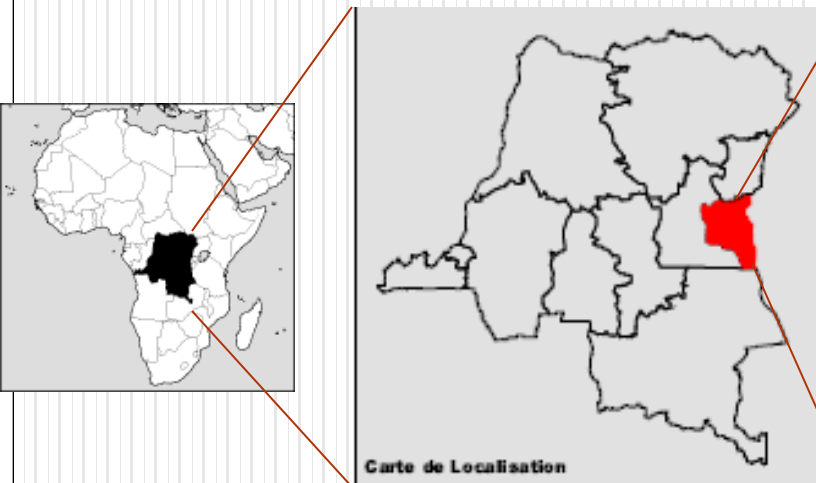
Five of the eight national parks are World Heritage Sites of the UNESCO including the Kahuzi-Biega National Park (1980)

The DRC government goal for 2020 is to pass from 10% of the national territory to 15% according to the 2002 Forestry Code.

This talk will focus on the South Kivu Province in the east of the Congo: Kahuzi-Biega National Park, Itombwe Natural Reserve and the Burhinyi “Community Forest”



Province du Sud Kivu



Area: 64,851sqKm (3 times the size of the country Rwanda)

Population: 3, 824,059 inhab

Capital: Bukavu (533.757 inhab)

Data from 2007

Protected Areas Management Policies: National and Global Policies

Conservation laws
Forestry Code
Mining Code
Etc.

Conventions, Treaties, Accords...
CBD, RAMSAR, CITES, UNESCO,
CARPE, COMIFAC, Etc.

Community Involvement

Protected Areas Managers in Congo **are not prepared** for Parks Management that implicates third parties like communities.
Issues of ignorance, lack of updated trainings, no good will. Needs of continuous trainings.

Protected Areas Management in DRC

- National Park
- Natural Reserves (Reserves and hunting domains, Reserves of biosphere, Forest reserves, Zoological and Botanic gardens)
- Community Forests: no proper management systems (legislation) exists



By law, 40% quota of the park's income should be awarded as restitution to the surrounding communities...

Protected Areas and Poverty alleviation

Conservation

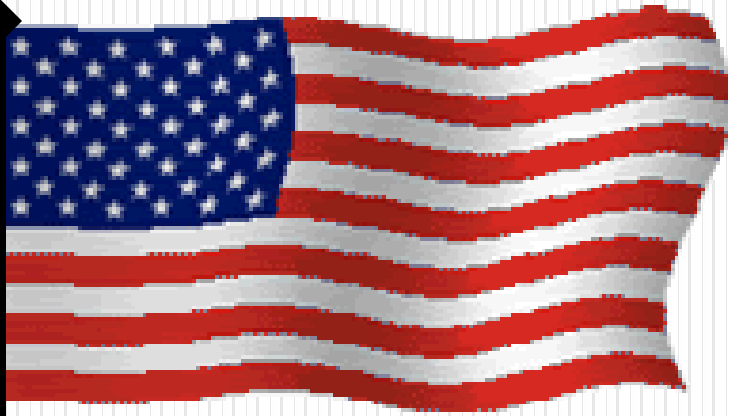
- Law enforcement and Tourism
- Communities engaged in conservation through Education programs
- Community based conservation (Traditional knowledge in Community Forests)

Development

- Communities needs assessment, Attitude to PA, Relations with the forest
- Poverty alleviation projects indicators
- Role of the national and international donors and policies towards local and indigenous communities

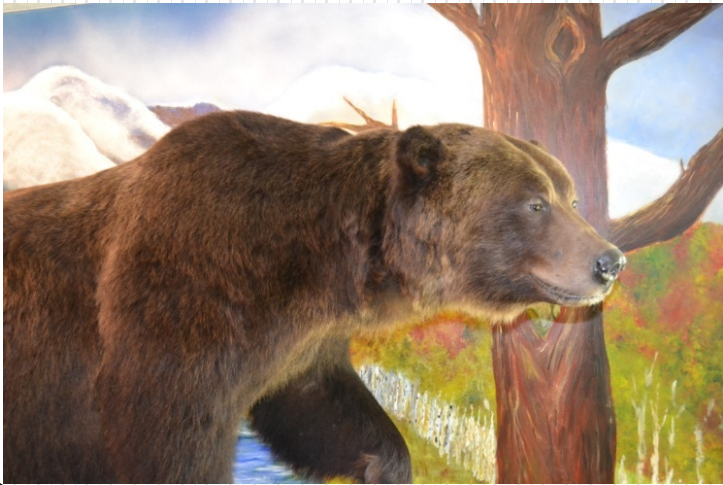
Not all conservation actions intend to reduce poverty and not all approaches to reduce poverty contribute to sustainable conservation





1872

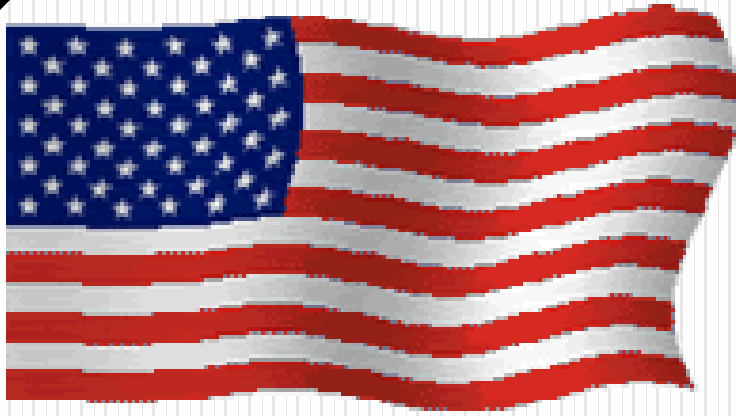
Yellowstone National Park



1925

Virunga National Park





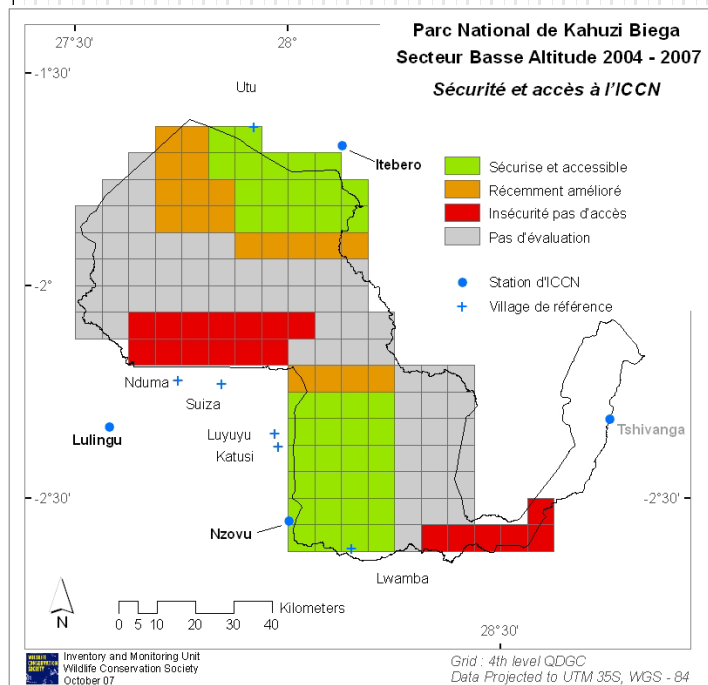
Federalism >< Decentralization

Land Use Plans

Forests Management

Issues of Indigenous Peoples

Kahuzi-Biega National Park



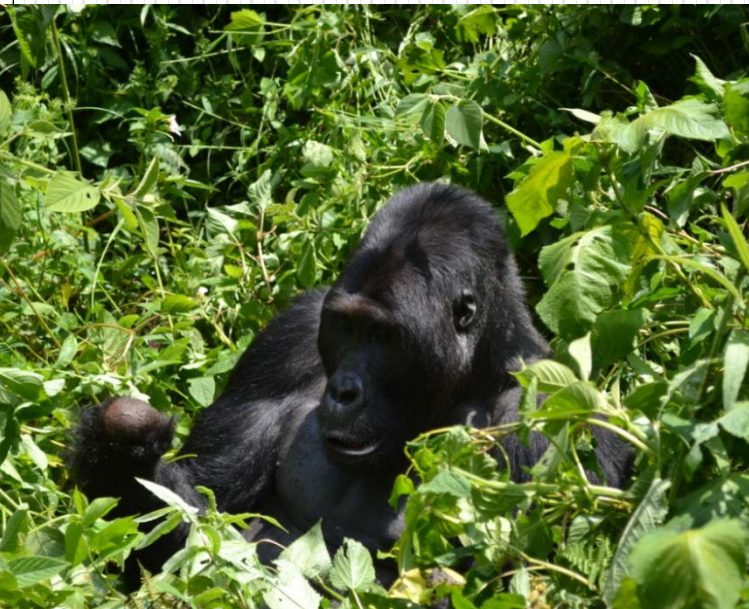
- The gorilla population dropped from 16,902 individuals in 1990s (Hall et al. 1998) to fewer than a thousand... the lowland part of the park, from 14,659 (*source above*) to 77 individuals in 2007 (WCS 2007)
- From 1998 to 2004 the gorilla population passed from 260 to 130 and more than 450 elephants slaughtered in the highland part of the park (WCS, 2004)
- The lowland part of the park not controlled by the park management



Main threats to the gorillas and other wildlife in KBNP



- Armed troops (Mostly FDLR)
- Poaching, mining and logging
- Human demography and poverty
- Diseases (anthropozoonoses)

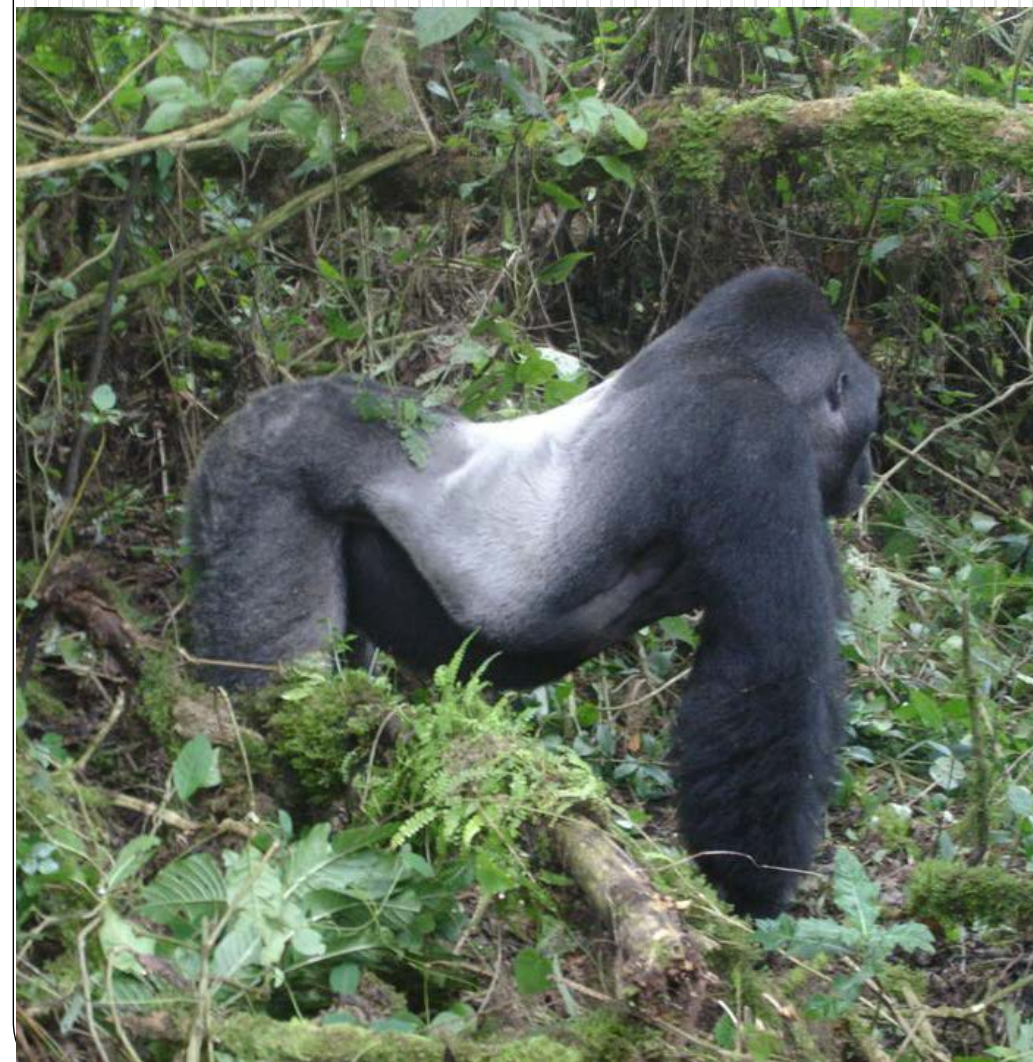




Strong Roots Congo in partnership with the Congolese Institute for Nature Conservation (ICCN) and other bodies (international, national and CBOs) has been developing different sustainable development projects for the long-term preservation of KBNP

Including:

- Reforestation Program;
- Environmental education program;
- Sustainable Land Management;
- Livestock and food security project
- Health and Conservation Program;
- Pygmy Land Project;
- Park Rangers Women's Cooperative
- Primates Long Term Record: NIP, including socioeconomic database;
- Extension to Itombwe, Bushema, Burhinyi and Ruzizi River.



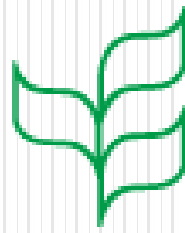




Next...

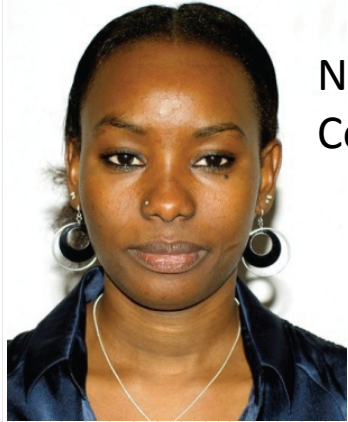
- National Institute of Primatology with Rural Documentation Centers
- Burhinyi Community Forest
- Enlarge the ongoing projects
- Pygmy Land Project
- And Policies...

CONSERVATION
INTERNATIONAL



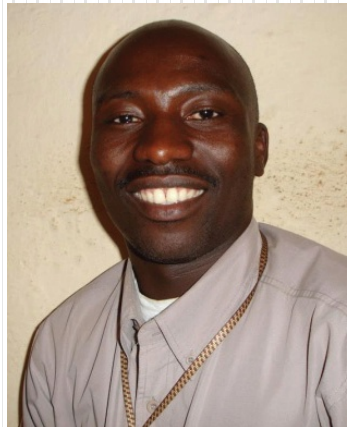
Convention on
Biological Diversity

Indigenous Leaders Conservation Fellowship



Name: **Hindu Oumarou Ibrahim**
Country: **Chad**

Name: **Juan Cusanero Elías**
Country: **Guatemala**



Name: **Dominique Bikaba**
Country: **Democratic Republic of Congo**

Name: **Akosita Rokomate**
Country: **Fiji**



INDIGENOUS LEADERS CONSERVATION FELLOWSHIP



"Ways to get traditional knowledge into policies process to improve conservation of protected areas in eastern Democratic Republic of Congo: analysis of the legal frame, planning, realities and practices"

Dominique Bikaba
Strong Roots, DR-Congo

Sponsored by:
Conservation International
Secretariat of the Convention on Biological Diversity

June 2012

In DRC, the Fellowship research project focused on Protected Areas management policies.

We explored how local views and traditional knowledge can be integrated in to these policies in order to advance sustainable biodiversity conservation.

We did a comparative study of Protected Areas management with respect to "National Parks", "Natural Reserves" and "Community Forests"

RESEARCH PROJECT

Objective:

Assess where and how local and indigenous communities' insights can best be integrated and applied in the design, planning and management of Protected Areas in DRC.

Conclusion:

While National Parks and Natural Reserves are managed by the central government in Kinshasa (capital of DRC), this report suggests that Community Forests should be overseen by provincial and local governments

Methodology:

- The research project considered the Kahuzi-Biega National Park and the Itombwe Natural Reserve as PA and the non protected forest (Burhinyi Community Forest) in South Kivu province
- Two lawyers collected and reviewed legal texts related to conservation and PA in DRC and extracted information relating to PA designation, planning and management policies
- Meetings were also held with environmental public officials at provincial and national levels as well as with other conservation stakeholders
- In addition, surveys, meetings, and a workshop were carried out with local communities and conservation
- In total, 801 individuals (442 men and 359 women) participated in socioeconomic and conservation surveys

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

CBD COP10 in Nagoya, Japan

From October 18-28, 2010, the project Fellow attended the CBD COP10 in Nagoya, Japan, where the Fellowship Program was officially launched

Course on GIS

"Tropical rainforest biodiversity: field and GIS tools for assessing, monitoring and mapping" and was held in Tanzania on July 1-14, 2011 by the Science Museum Network in Trentino, the University of Trentino (Italy) and the Udzungwa Mountains National Park (Tanzania).

Workshop and meetings at CI Offices

From February 22-25, 2011 at the CI Offices in Arlington to introduce the Fellows and provide an opportunity for sharing experiences and knowledge with staff at CI.

International Seminar on Protected Areas Management

On July 18 - August 6, 2011, in the Northern Rocky Mountains (USA) by the Universities of Montana, Idaho and Colorado, and the US Forest Service.





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BURHINYI COMMUNITY FOREST RESEARCH EXPEDITION REPORT

South Kivu Province, Democratic Republic of Congo

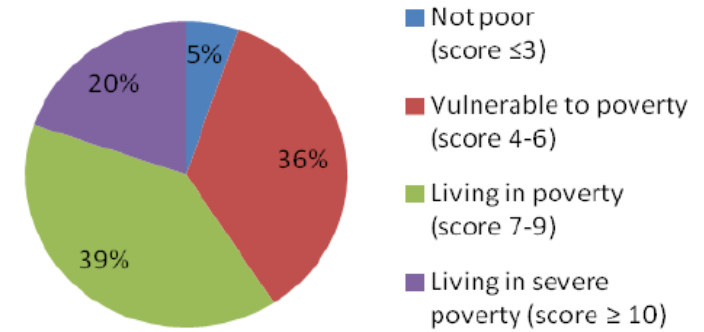
*Dominique Bikaba
Diane Cowel*

SRC, May 2012

Strong Roots, 31 Avenue Kasai, Bukavu, DRC www.strongrootscongo.org

The household poverty score was calculated using household-level indicators in six areas: demography, education, housing, health, food/economic security.

Household Poverty
(measured by Multidimensional Poverty Index)



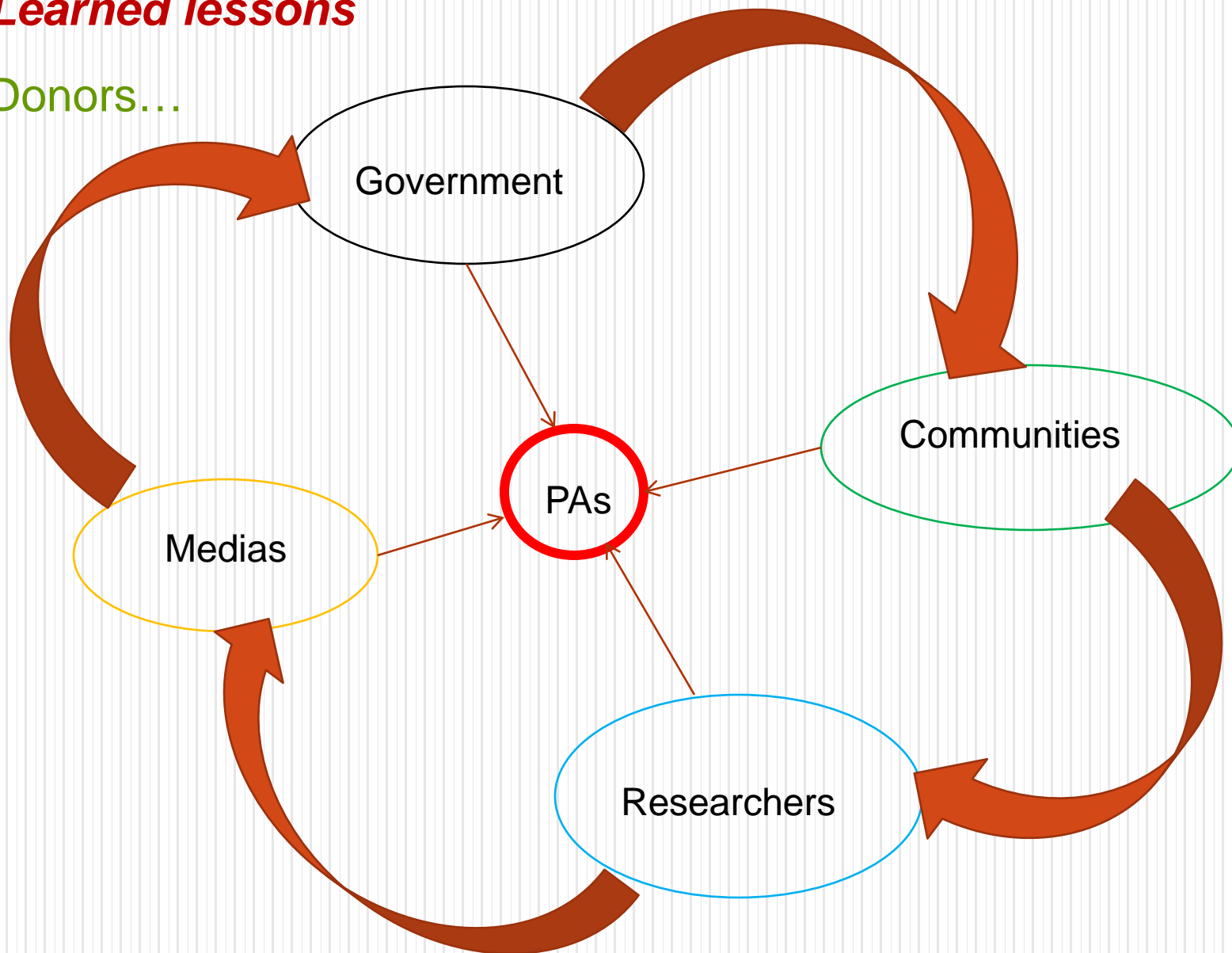
*Scale: 0 to 20, with:
 ≥ 7 = household living in multidimensional poverty
 ≥ 10 = household living in severe multidimensional poverty
 ≥ 4 = household that is vulnerable of becoming multidimensionally poor.*

- Household size: 7.1 persons
- 50% of household heads surveyed have never attended school
- The child mortality rate is 23% (29% in the *Cirere Sector*) with an average of 1.4 deceased children per household
- 50% of households engage in one or more livelihood activities that depend directly upon exploitation of forest resources (hunting, harvesting timber and non timber forest products, artisanal mining, and/or craft production).



Learned lessons

Donors...



Main Stakeholders in PAs Conservation

Acknowledgements

CONSERVATION
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Convention on
Biological Diversity

zerofootprint™



Partners In Conservation



Canadian
Ape Alliance

Equator
Initiative



KYOTO
UNIVERSITY





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Thank you