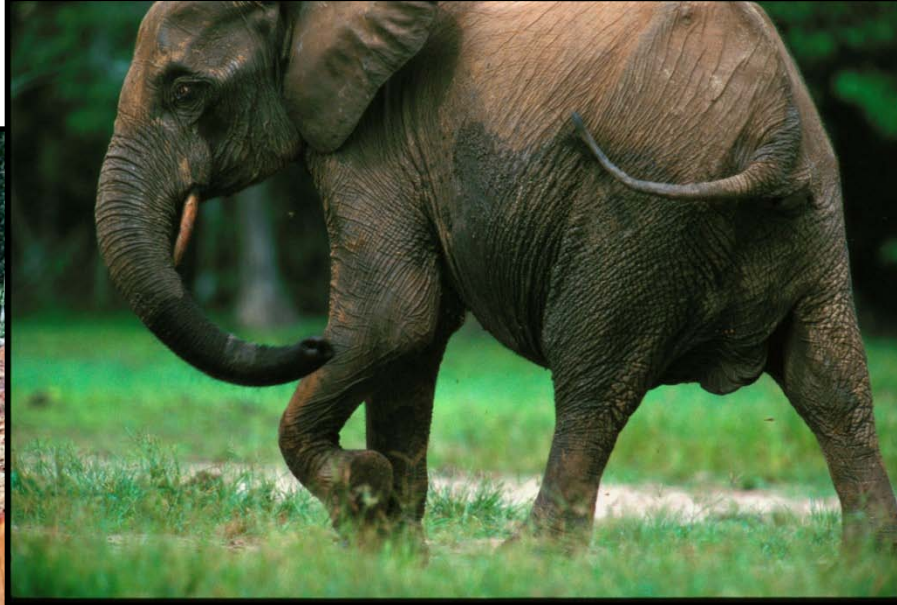
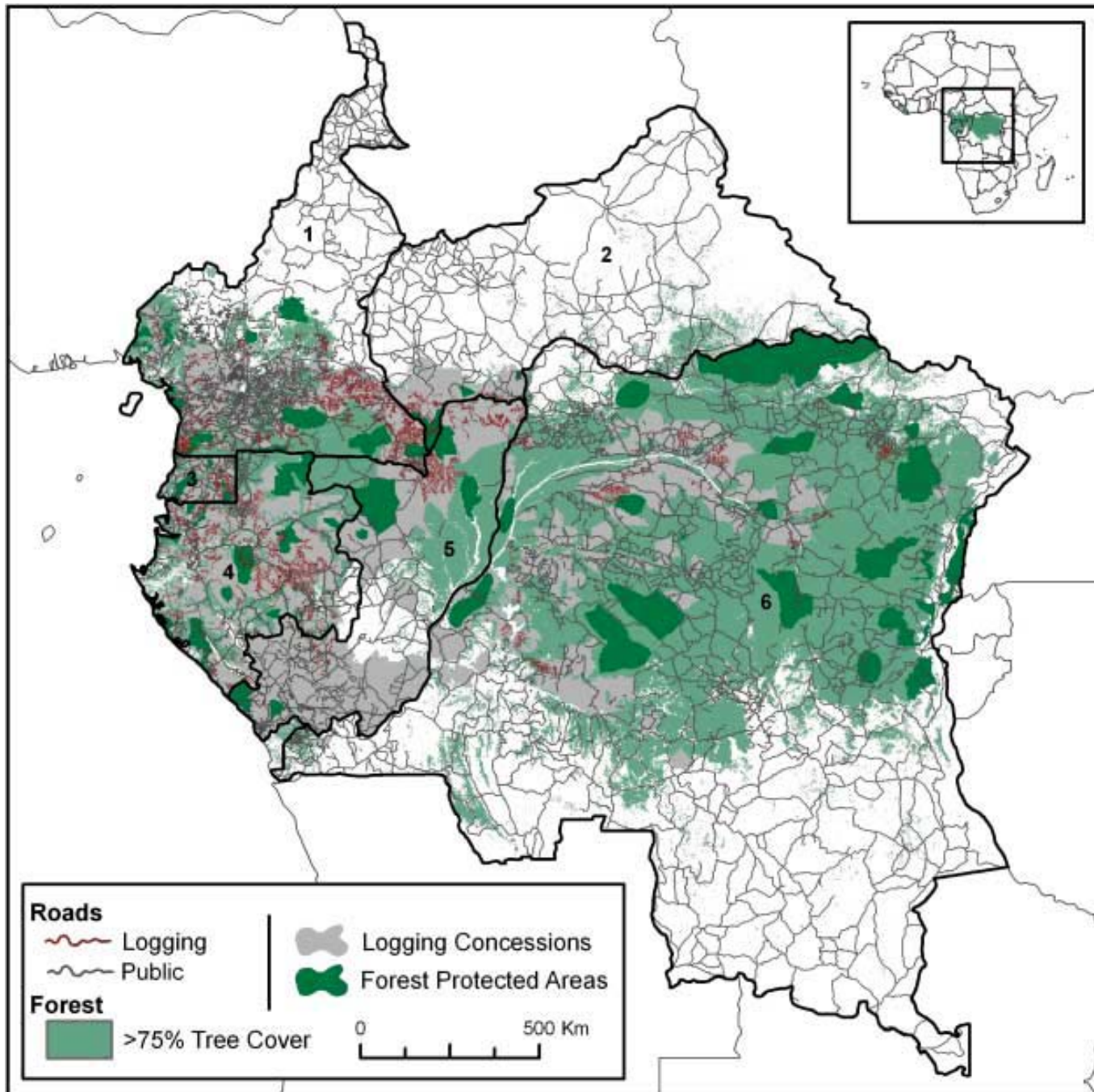


Private sector partnerships for conservation: Logging in the Congo



John Poulsen and Connie Clark



The bad news...

- Conducted over enormous spatial area
- Road construction fragments and opens access to frontier forest
- Rural population growth puts pressure on natural resources
- Market creation facilitates bushmeat trade



SUPERDOLL

PTC35000



The good news...



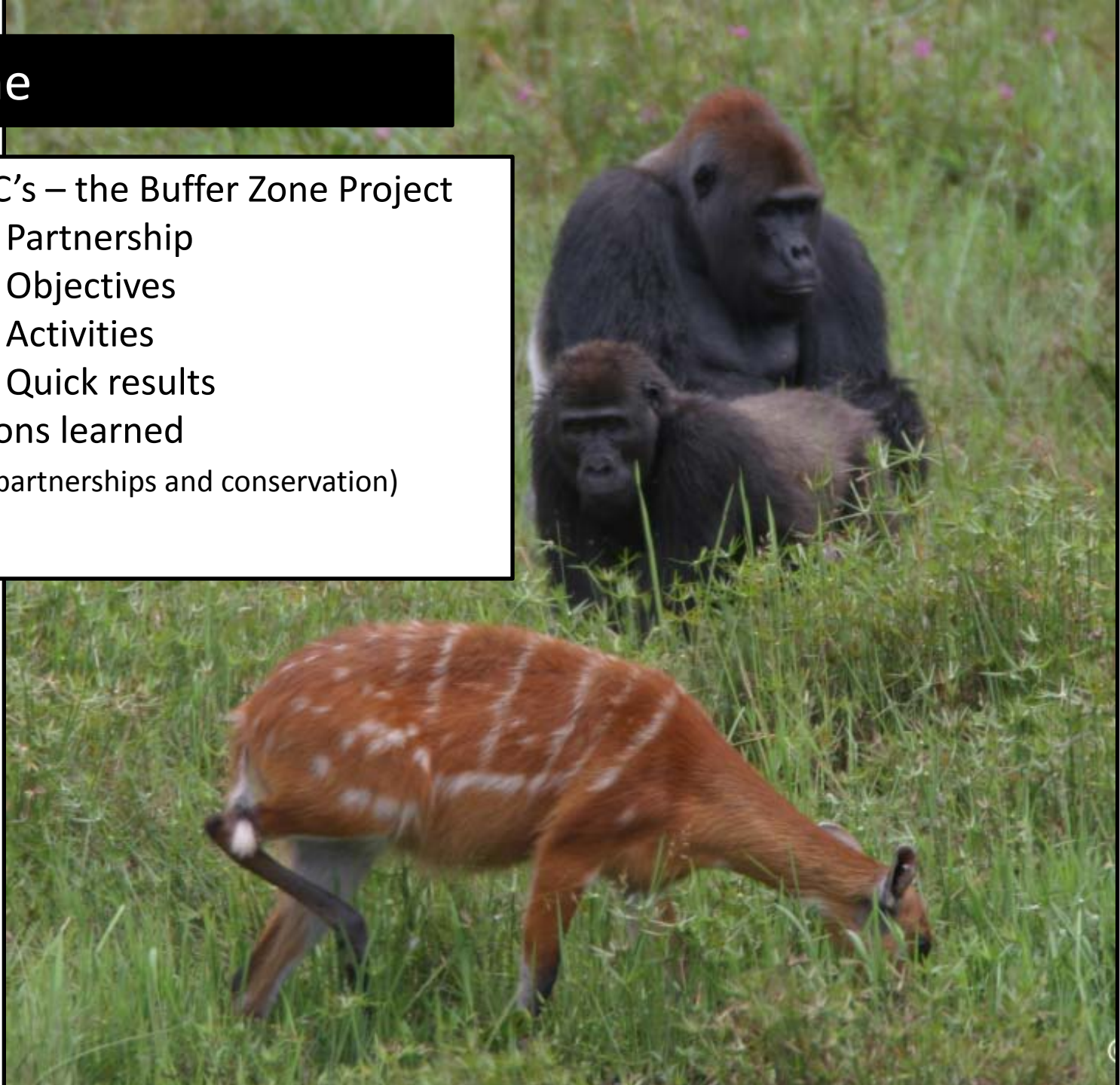
Outline

1. PSPC's – the Buffer Zone Project

- Partnership
- Objectives
- Activities
- Quick results

2. Lessons learned

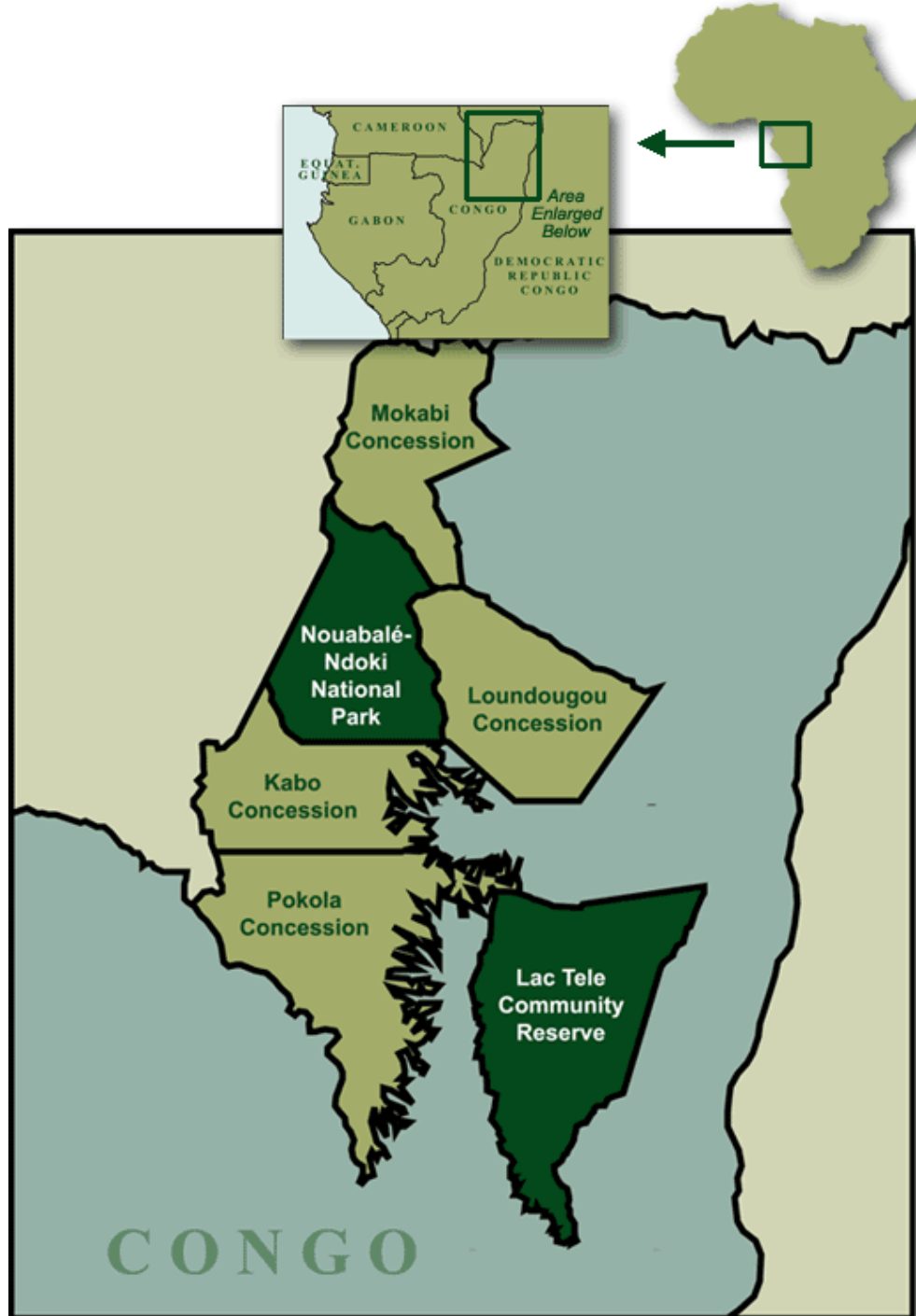
(for partnerships and conservation)



Northern Congo

Buffer Zone Project

Wildlife Conservation Society
Congolaise Industrielle des Bois
Ministry of Forest Economy



BZP Objectives

- Buffer NNNP from the negative effects of logging
- Manage forest ecosystem for sustainable timber extraction and to conserve biodiversity
- Work with local communities to develop sustainable management of natural resources and local territories



Buffer Zone Project

Wildlife Conservation Society

- Co-manager of project
- Technical advisor
- Seeks ~ ¾ of funding
- Lead on research and monitoring, awareness-raising, community conservation

Ministry of Forest Economy

- Co-manager of project
- Lead on law enforcement

WILDLIFE MANAGEMENT

Formal and informal meetings



Financial and logistical support



FORESTRY

Congolaise Industrielle des Bois

- Improved forestry (RIL)
- Enforcement of company rules
 - No hunting with snares
 - No transport of bushmeat, hunters, arms
 - Employees must hunt legally



Forest management

Logging

- RIL with 30-yr rotation
- 350,000 m³ annual production, 47 spp. (2006)
- 85% of wood is processed: 6 sawmills, 21 drying kilns

Roads

- Maximum road width standards
- No colonization allowed, roads closed after logging

Community development

- CIB social program attempts to incorporate rights of indigenous peoples into forestry

Certification

- Management plans adopted for all concessions
- FSC certification for all CIB concessions



Wildlife management

Enforcement of wildlife laws

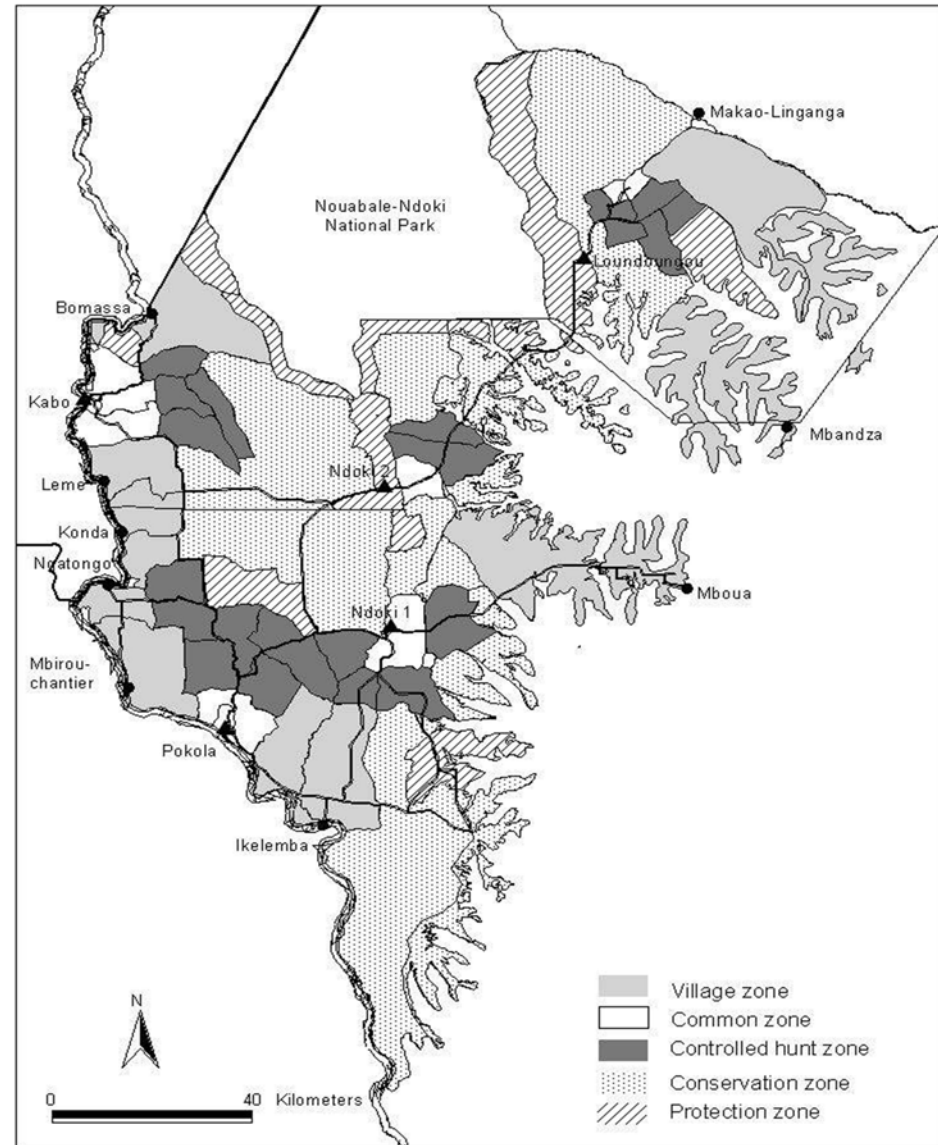
- Eco-guards enforce laws
- Prohibit poaching of endangered spp.
- Prohibit use of wire snares



Wildlife management

Spatial management of hunting

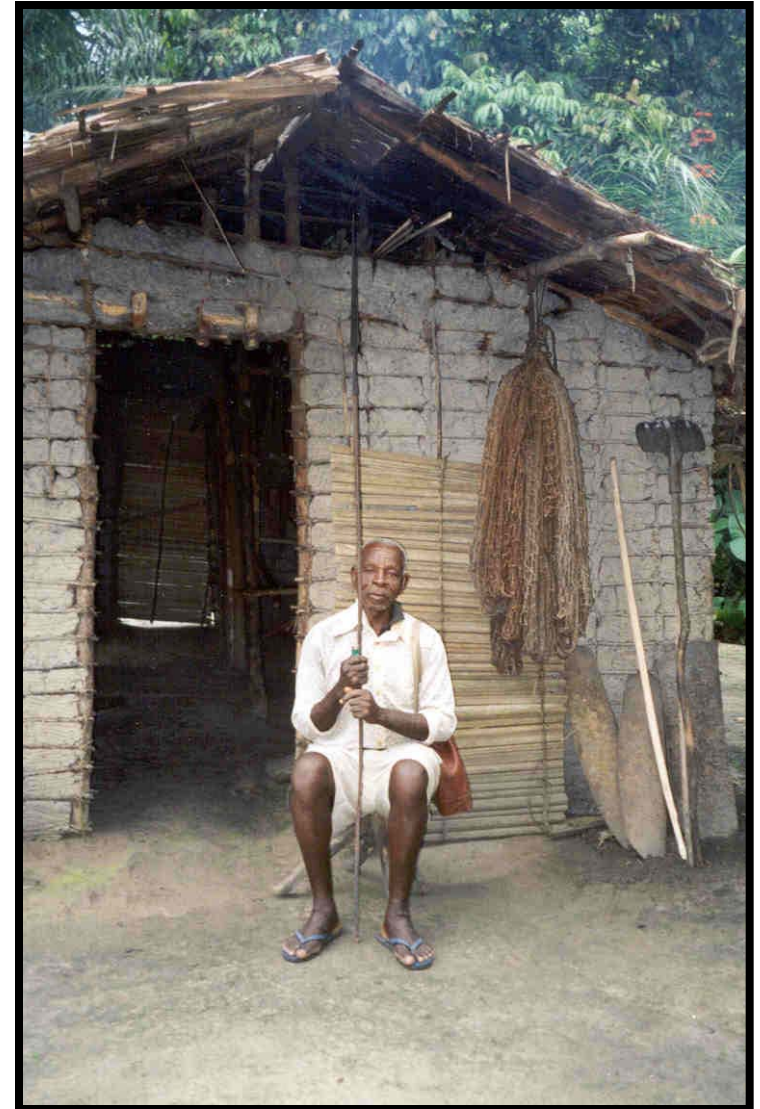
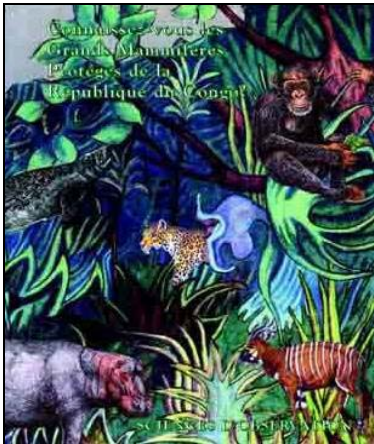
- Village hunting zone
- Common hunting zone
- No-hunting zone



Wildlife management

Community-based management

- Natural resource committees
- Alternative activities to replace bushmeat and hunting
- Awareness-raising and environmental education



Monitoring facilitates adaptive management

Ecological monitoring

- Large mammal surveys: 2002 and 2005
- Monitor forest clearings

Socio-economic monitoring

- Diets of local people
- Demographic changes
- Bushmeat availability

Law enforcement monitoring

- Poachers arrested and weapons seized
- Spatial distribution of arrests and confiscations



Has it worked? Where's the proof?

- Partnership maintained for 11 years (whew!)
- Landscape conservation active over 27,970 km²
- FSC certification of 3 CIB concessions
- Maintenance of densities of endangered animals (to date)¹
- No proof of unsustainable hunting (to date)²
- Importation of domestic meat (11% of requirement)
- BZP has influence Congo Forestry Code

¹ Clark et al. 2009; Stokes et al. 2010; ² Poulsen et al. 2009

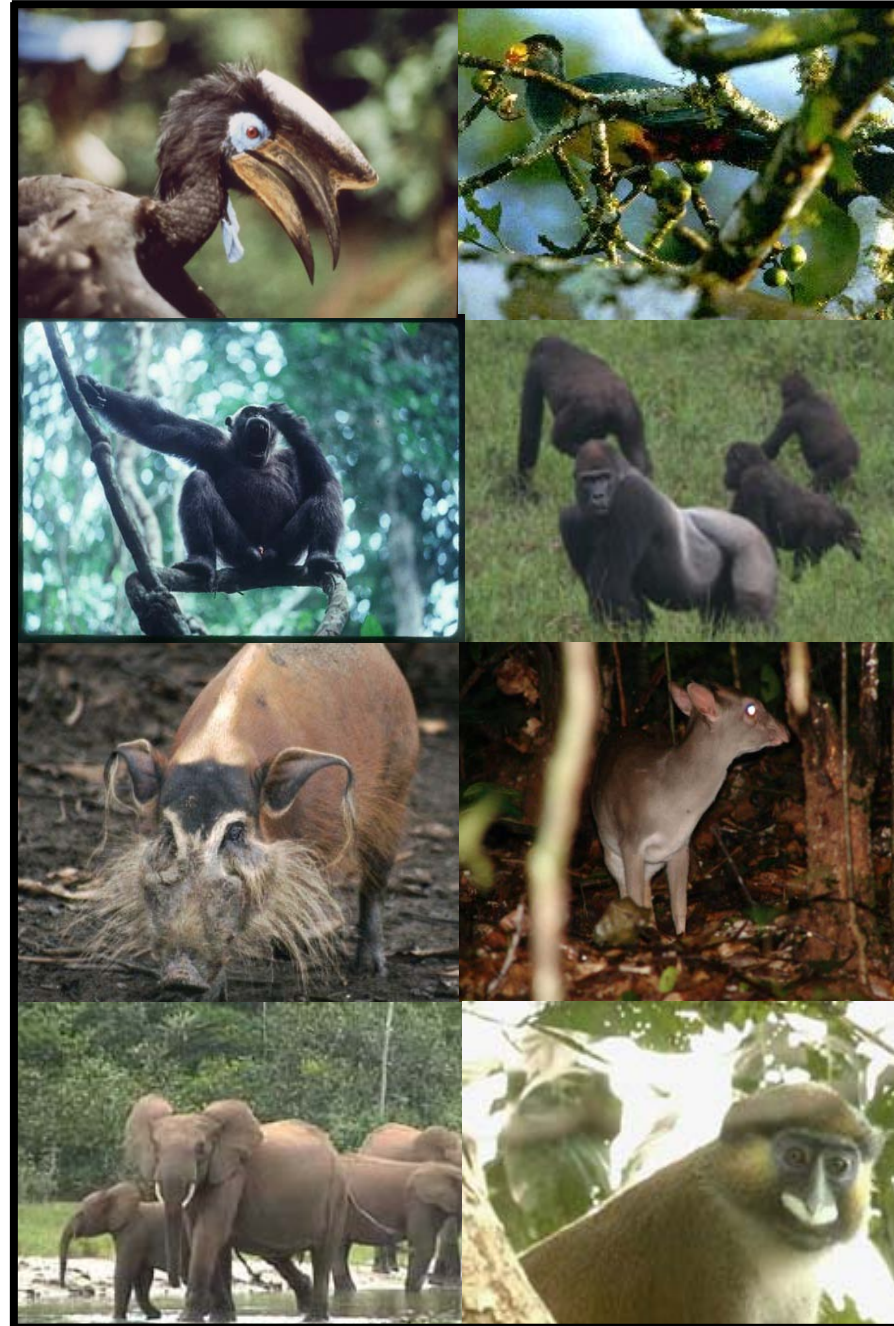
Lessons learned

Pro's for the private sector

1. Comply with legal standards
2. Project a “green” image
3. Expand access to markets
4. Conserve resources
5. Benefit from expertise

Pro's for NGOs

1. Access financial resources
2. Access high value biodiversity areas
3. Provide authority
4. Improve resource management from the inside



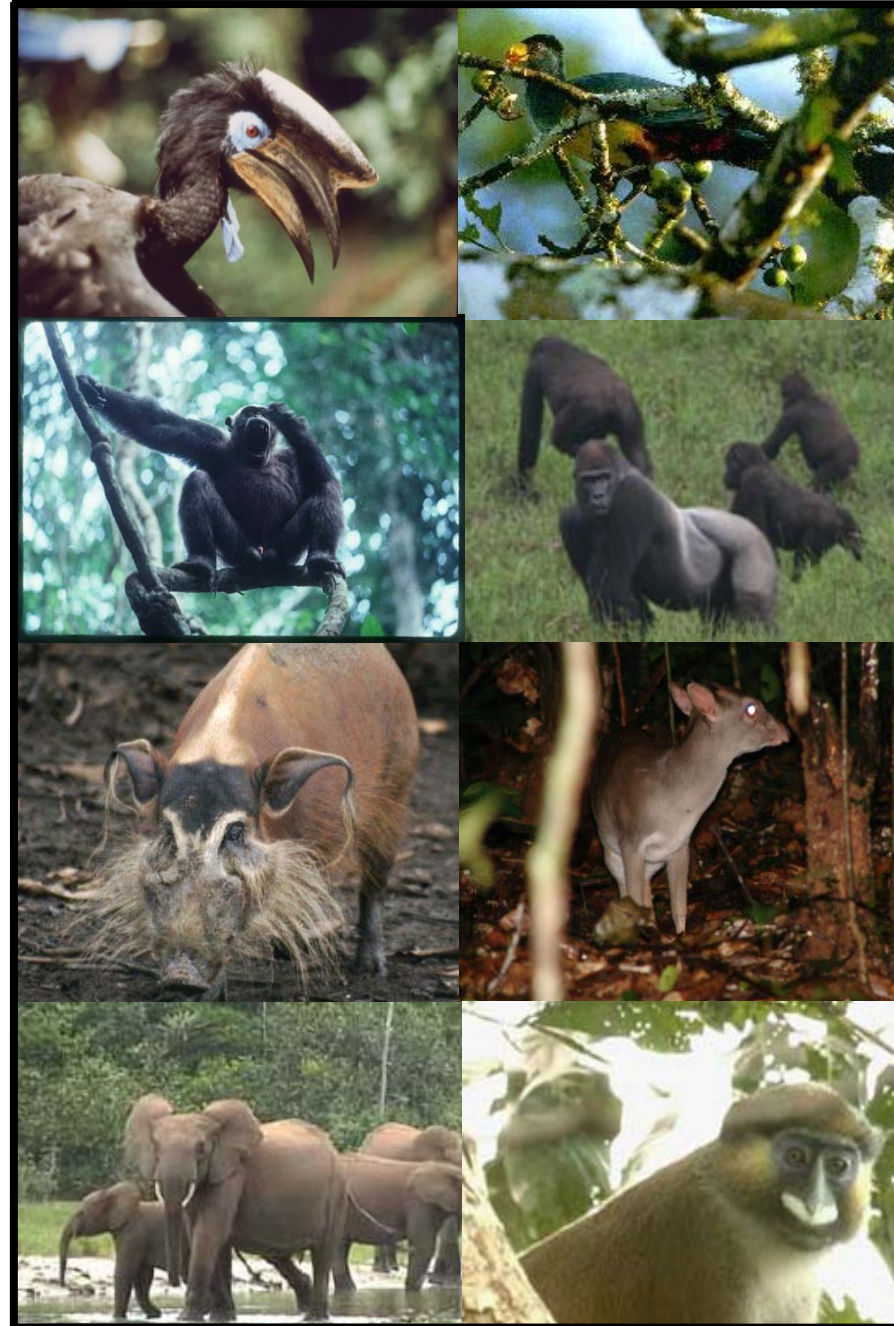
Lessons learned

Con's for the private sector

1. Take on financial/ logistical burdens
2. Receive bad press
3. Invite pressure to improve standards

Con's for NGOs

1. Sleeping with the enemy
2. Receive bad press
3. Invite pressure to compromise standards
4. Count on continuity



Keys to a successful PSPC

1. Strong personal relationships (esp. early in project development)
2. “Getting one’s hands dirty” inspires confidence
3. Hard times build trust
4. Formal methods to resolve conflict
5. Recognition of an evolving partnership
6. Support decisions/criticisms with data



Keys to conservation

1. Landscape conservation
2. Multi-faceted approach
3. Data and adaptive management
4. Involvement of multiple stakeholders
5. Formalization of land-use planning
6. Promotion of certification
7. Scale-up through policy intervention



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