

# The ABC's of ABCG

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[www.abcg.org](http://www.abcg.org)

# ABCG's Mission

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 Members



# Biodiversity Analysis & Technical Support (BATS)

BATS is a multi-partner USAID Bureau for Africa effort including:


- ▶ Chemonics International, International Resources Group (IRG) and Development Alternatives International (DAI)
- ▶ Environmental Law Institute
- ▶ USDA Forest Service International Programs
- ▶ Africa Biodiversity Collaborative Group (ABCG)



# BATS Key Issues:

- ▶ Country-level 118/119 assessments, including threats, analysis, and actions necessary for biodiversity and forest conservation
- ▶ Forest and biodiversity conservation in states vulnerable to crisis, in crisis, or emerging from crisis
- ▶ Collaborating with extractive industries to reduce environmental impacts
- ▶ Reviewing USAID/Africa's conservation history, lessons learned, and way forward
- ▶ Anticipating emerging issues and their impact on biodiversity conservation

# ABCG Tasks under BATS

- A. Future of Biodiversity in Africa/Dar Vision
  - B. Managing Extractive Industries to Protect Biodiversity, including a new focus on High Conservation Value Forest Assessments and Risk Assessment for Biodiversity
    - 1. Mining in DRC
    - 2. High Conservation Value Forest Assessment
  - C. Analyzing Biodiversity Conservation and Governance to Prevent Conflict and Crisis
  - D. Supporting Country 118/ 119 Operational Plans Biodiversity and Tropical Forestry
  - E. Integrating Approaches to Food Security and Biodiversity
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# ABCG Tasks under BATS

## F. Addressing Global Climate Change

1. Adaptation
2. REDD
3. Woodlands & Tradeoffs
4. Clean Energy & Charcoal
5. Grasslands & Carbon

## G. Global Health and Biodiversity

1. HIV/AIDS
2. WASH

## H. Forecasting and Analyzing Conservation Needs and Building Capacity on Critical Issues

1. Large-Scale Land Acquisition
2. SMART Law Enforcement
3. Western Indian Ocean
4. Faith & Conservation
5. Other Emerging Issues

# The Dar Vision for the Future of Biodiversity in Africa

By 2025, environmental degradation and biodiversity loss in Africa have been significantly slowed, people and nature are adapting to climate change, and species and ecosystem services are providing a foundation for human welfare in a society committed to sustainable economic development and equitable sharing of natural resource benefits



# Development of the Dar Vision

- ▶ USAID long time-scale review of key regions and conservation targets
- ▶ Commissioned the Africa Biodiversity Collaborative Group (ABCG) to:
  - Consult with experts in Africa and the USA on the future of biodiversity
  - Identify high-priority conservation issues and recommended approaches for policy makers, donors and practitioners
- ▶ Funded by USAID Africa Bureau's Biodiversity Analysis and Technical Support (BATS) program

# Consultation Process

- ▶ Experts meeting in Washington DC
- ▶ Experts meeting in Dar es Salaam, Tanzania
- ▶ IVth World Conservation Congress
- ▶ Society for Conservation Biology–Africa conference



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# Implementing the Vision

1. Mainstream biodiversity in human well-being and development agendas
2. Promote good conservation practices
3. Strengthen the role of social and development institutions in biodiversity conservation and human well-being



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# Mainstream biodiversity in human well-being and development agendas

- ▶ **Enhance greater accountability for sustaining biodiversity by private sector institutions**
- ▶ Promote restoration/rehabilitation of degraded system and resources to provide livelihoods
- ▶ Enhance the role of healthy ecosystems in mitigating risk and impact of emerging diseases



# Strengthen the role of social and development institutions in biodiversity conservation and human well-being

- ▶ Reach out to relief and development organizations for mitigating impacts of migration, HIV/AIDS and natural population growth
  - ▶ **Improve environmental literacy in all sectors of society and support it through improved information collection and exchange**
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