

# Africa Biodiversity Collaborative Group

Our mission is to advance understanding of critical biodiversity conservation challenges and their cross-sectoral solutions in sub-Saharan Africa. We aspire to produce applicable knowledge and put it into practice.



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## AFRICA BIODIVERSITY COLLABORATIVE GROUP



Biodiversity is being lost at an unprecedented rate, compounded by deforestation, poaching and illegal wildlife trafficking, infrastructure development, human-wildlife conflict, and climate change.

For more than two decades, ABCG has leveraged the wide-ranging networks of its members to improve, scale, and replicate innovative and effective solutions to solve biodiversity's most complex challenges across Africa.

## OUR APPROACH

ABCG's business planning process brought together key stakeholders to analyze our competitive advantage, explore governance needs, map a new approach to fundraising, and build a road map for additional partner engagement. The result is a better, more sustainable ABCG with a strategic approach highlighted by:

- **New emphasis on African leadership**
- **Adapting our governance structure to meet future needs**
- **Fresh fundraising strategies to ensure we have the resources to achieve our goals**

## Unique Value

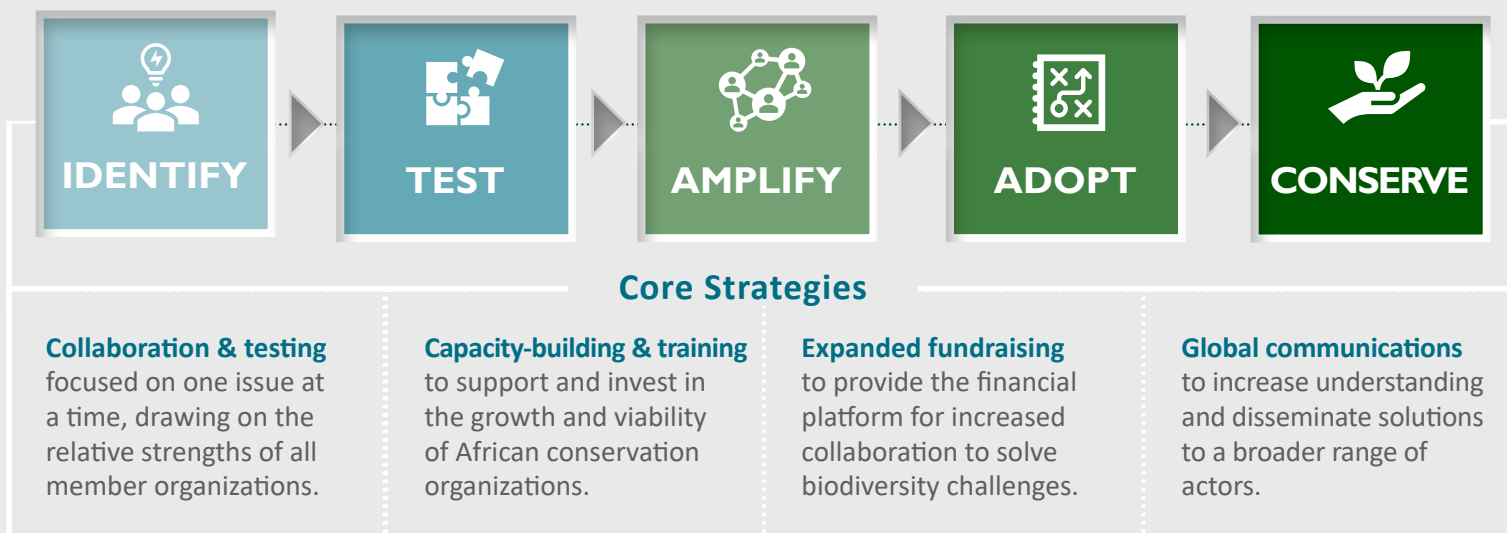
ABCG is a multi-institutional organization that brings together cross-sectoral entities to achieve greater impact than any one organization by itself could have. The result has been an enhanced ability to:

- **Tackle conservation challenges through innovative, African-led solutions that address African priorities**
- **Invest donor dollars in more effective solutions by connecting organizations large and small to achieve common goals**
- **Break down barriers between organizations to leverage technical expertise and improve conservation practices across disciplines, scales, and capacities**



## THEORY OF CHANGE

ABCG's theory of change relies on bringing together conservation organizations of all sizes, ensuring African representation and leadership, and collaborating to identify solutions that reduce critical threats and improve conservation results at scale.



## STRATEGIC FUTURE

### Transition to African Leadership

ABCG is committed to:

- **Increasing African leadership across all levels of governance and recruiting more African-led organizations as members**
- **Greater investment in grassroots projects in sub-Saharan Africa**
- **Expanded capacity-building for African conservationists, youth, and emerging leaders**

### Collective Impact

ABCG members will be guided by the *Collective Impact* model for working together, especially three critical principles:

1. **Shared Focus**
2. **Agreed-upon Measures**
3. **Multi-sectoral Approach**

### Biodiversity & Integration

ABCG will direct collective focus to cross-cutting themes that integrate conservation and development issues. Our strategies include:

- **Facilitating communication among conservation organizations**
- **Increased capacity building for African-led conservation entities**
- **Demonstrating the value of nature to human wellbeing and solving modern challenges**



Photo: Ami Vitale

## OUR GOALS

Over the next few years, ABCG will be guided by two priority objectives:

1. Strengthen collaboration to advance an Africa-driven agenda, supported by new ABCG membership model focused on African leadership and representation.
2. Implement fundraising strategy to diversify revenue sources and increase overall support to expand the use of evidence-based solutions to African biodiversity conservation challenges.

### Key Milestones

2021

#### Increase African leadership and representation

in the organization's steering committee and governance.

2022

#### Engage in new partnerships with African-led organizations,

expanding ABCG membership by at least six new organizations.

2023

**Diversify ABCG funding** and expand donor base to sustain the organization's growth and impact into the future.

2024

**Achieve collective impact** with one key shared issue or multi-sectoral theme.

## GOVERNANCE

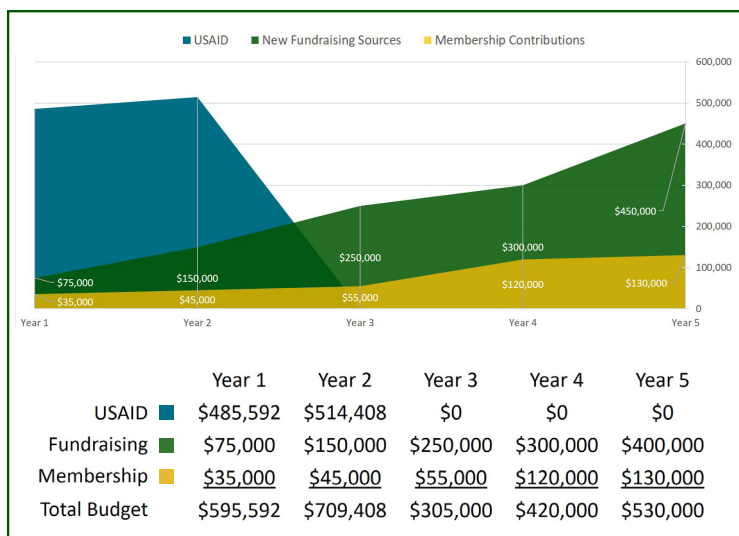
The ABCG governance structure is shifting to focus on engaging African leadership within its existing membership of seven institutions, and identifying new partnerships with African-led organizations.

Our structure includes:

- **The ABCG Steering Committee**, comprised of representatives from each member organization that together guide the ongoing development and strategic direction of the collaborative.
- **The ABCG Secretariat**, which is the backbone of the collaborative support structure that is dedicated to ABCG's management, outreach, communications, and fundraising. The Secretariat is based in the host location, which rotates among the members.

## FUNDRAISING & FINANCIALS

Transitioning from a sole-source fundraising model to a diverse portfolio will be critical to sustaining the growth and impact of ABCG into the future.



- **ABCG's plan aims to grow non-USAID funding** from \$0 to \$75,000 in year one and to \$250,000 by year three.
- **An increase in membership will yield additional revenue**, but fundraising will be the most important factor in ABCG's future success.