Building Land-Use Planning Skills in Africa

Kendall Jones (Wildlife Conservation Society)

David Williams (African Wildlife Foundation)

Gerald Mwakipesile (Ministry of Livestock and Fisheries - Tanzania)

Who is ABCG?

What does ABCG do?

Tackle complex and changing conservation challenges by:

- catalyzing and strengthening collaboration
- bringing the best resources from across a continuum of conservation organizations to improve scale and replicate solutions

Vision:

African continent where natural resources and biodiversity are securely conserved in balance with sustained human livelihoods
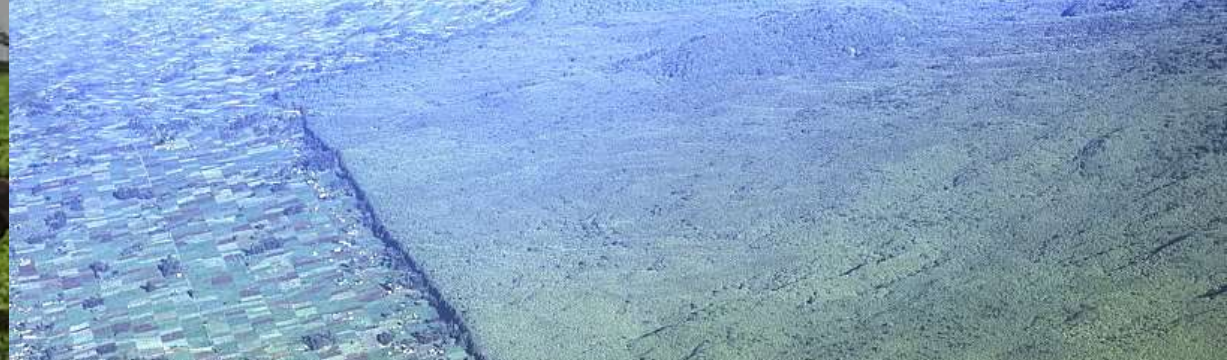
Healthy and productive landscapes are vital for biodiversity and people

Many of these values are declining due to human activities and unsustainable resource uses

We can use land-use planning to balance the benefits of various activities for human well-being and their impacts on biodiversity

What is land-use?

A combination of:

- **1)** Activities undertaken on land – e.g. agriculture, forestry, mining
- **2)** Institutional arrangements used to manage land – e.g. protected areas, forestry concessions, agricultural zones
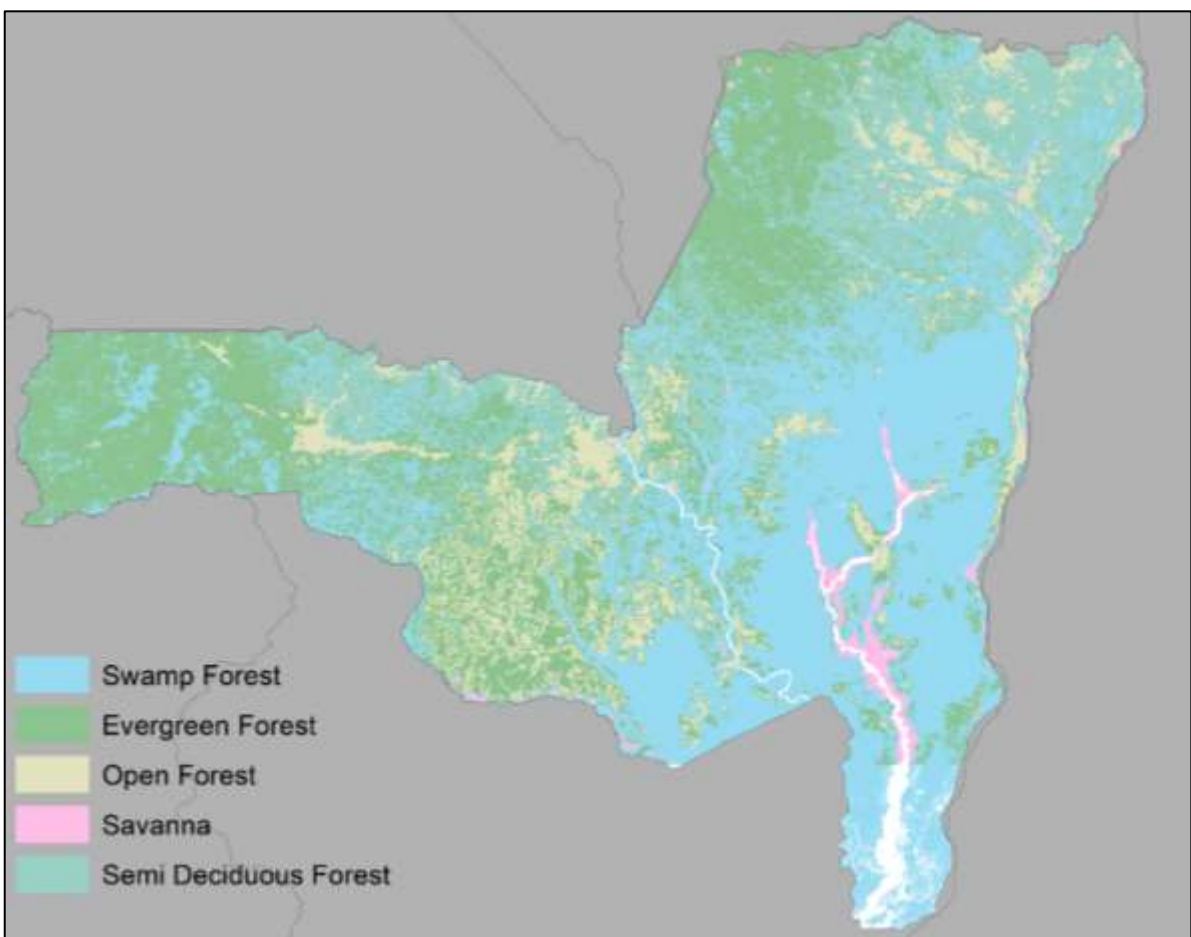
Land cover:

- Physical land surface, e.g.
  - Forest
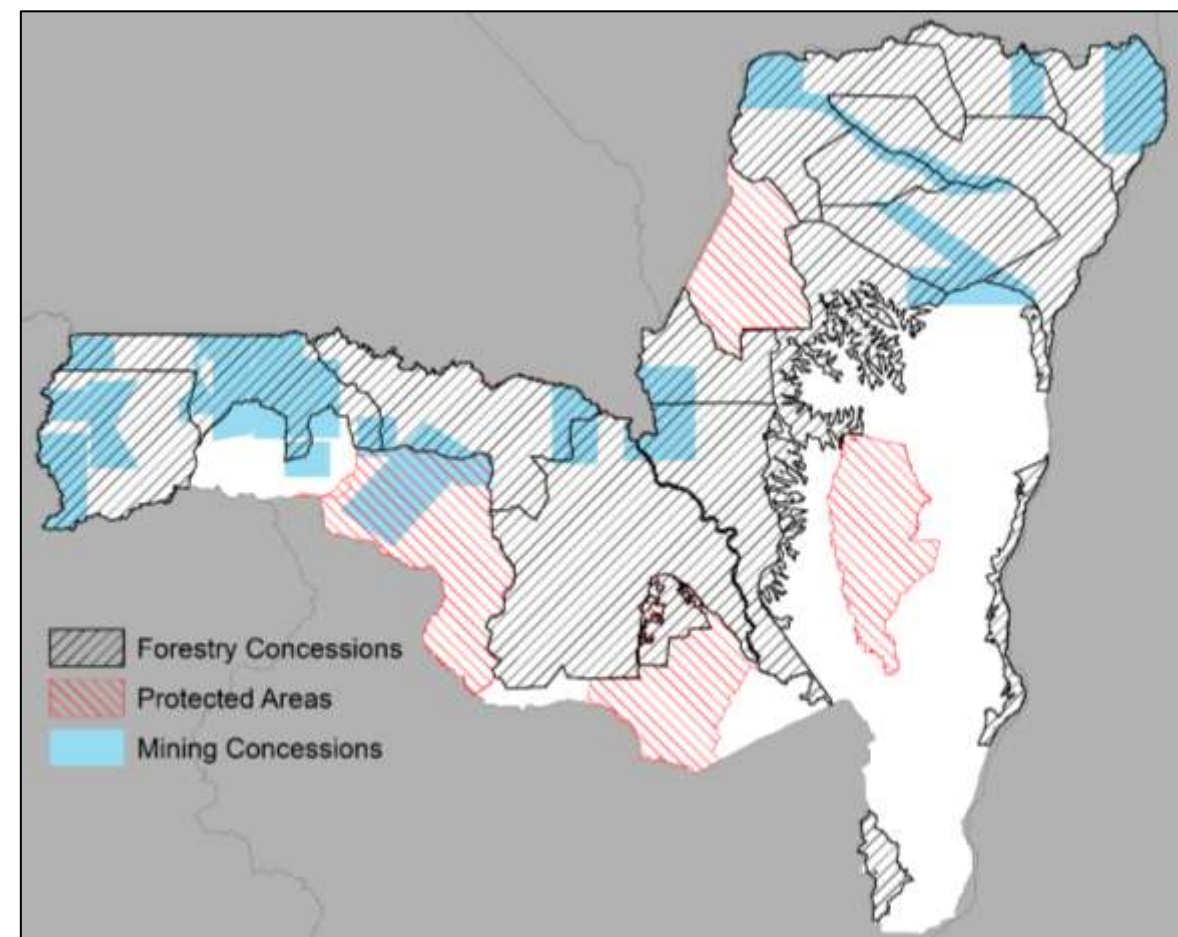 - Crops
  - Grassland
  - Desert

Land-use:

- How people use the land, e.g.
  - Agriculture
  - Conservation
  - Mining
  - Mixed

Land cover

Land-use

Land cover legend:
- Swamp Forest
- Evergreen Forest
- Open Forest
- Savanna
- Semi Deciduous Forest

Land-use legend:
- Forestry Concessions
- Protected Areas
- Mining Concessions

Land-use planning

a process of regulating land uses to promote desirable social and environmental outcomes and efficient use of resources

There is a clear need for land-use planning across Africa

**BUT**

In many cases capacity to undertake it is lacking

Land-use Planning Course Overview

- Provides an introduction to the theory and practical starting points of integrating biodiversity into land-use planning

- Modular curriculum of theory, case studies, group work and decision support tool training

- Designed for in-person delivery, but has been adapted for online use due to COVID

Structured Decision Making
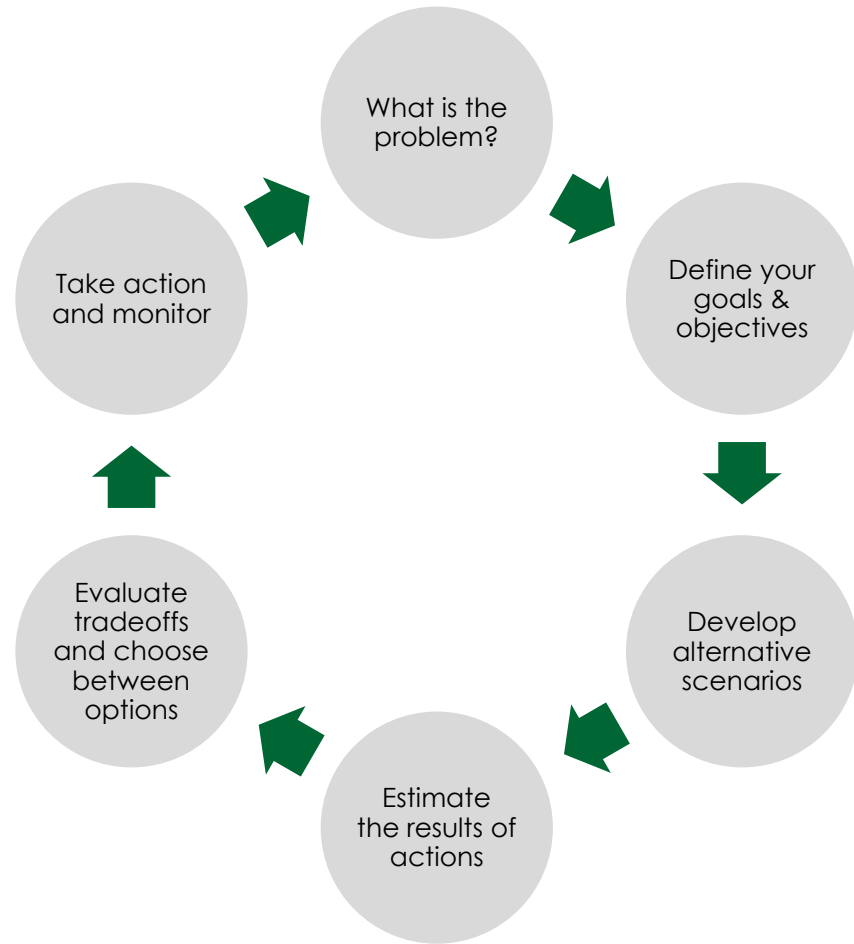
- Approach for careful and organized analysis of natural resource management decisions

- All course modules are linked back to the SDM process

Module Overview

Core Modules

1. Introduction to land use planning
2. Understanding the context of the landscape
3. Visioning and goal setting
4. Organising the planning process
5. Principles of effective planning
6. Identifying and selecting land-use strategies
7. Key datasets for land-use planning
8. Choosing between land-use options
9. Translating science into action
10. Monitoring & Evaluation

Additional Modules

a. Linking land-use planning & the mitigation hierarchy
b. Climate-smart land-use planning
c. Decision support tool training

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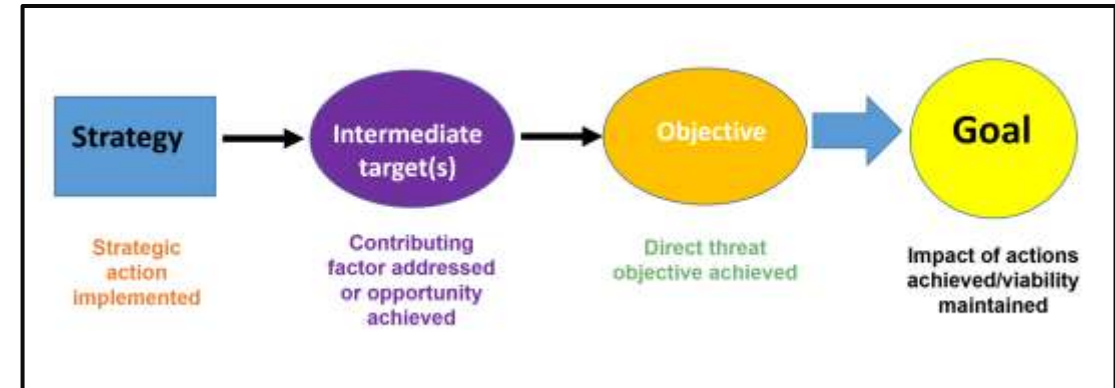10. Monitoring & Evaluation
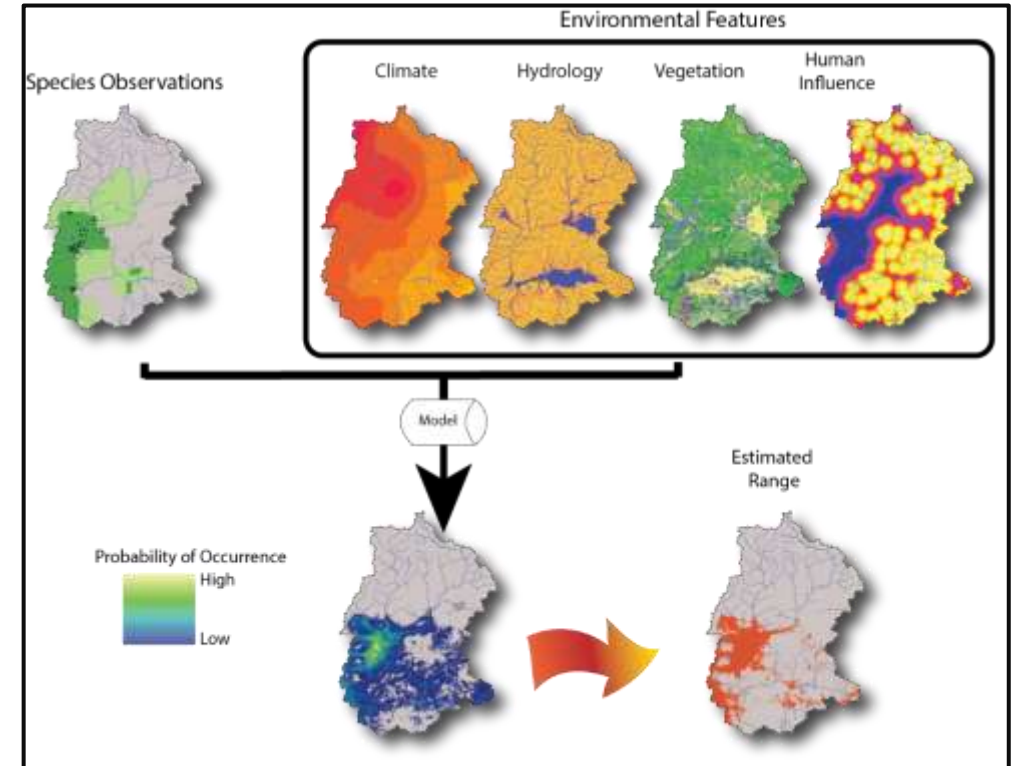
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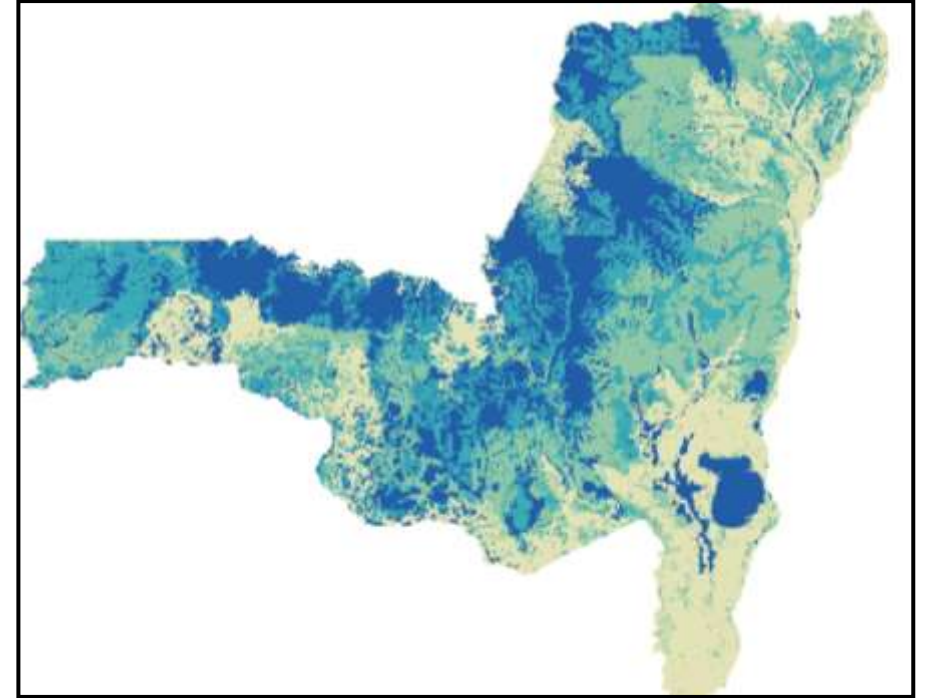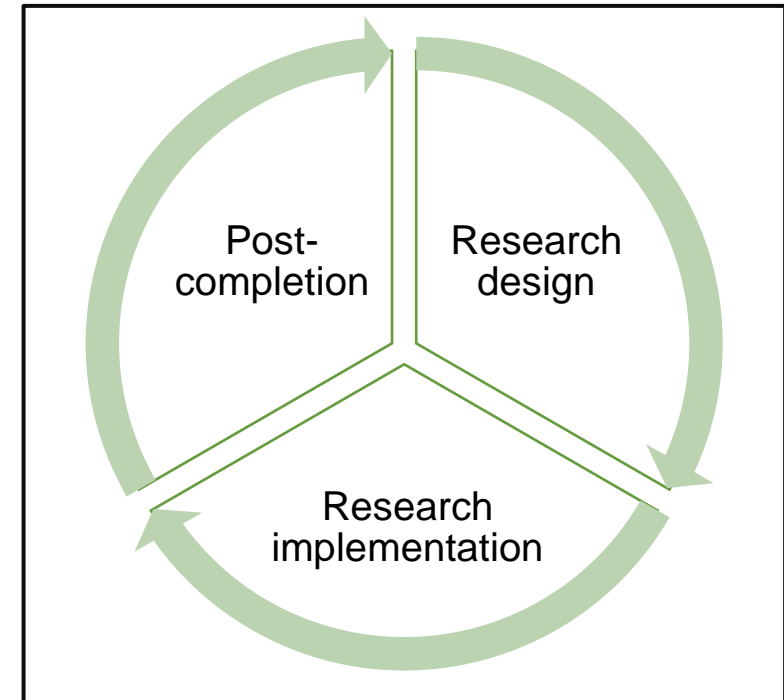10. Monitoring & Evaluation

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"Teamwork is essential here. Without it, we couldn't blame others for our mistakes."
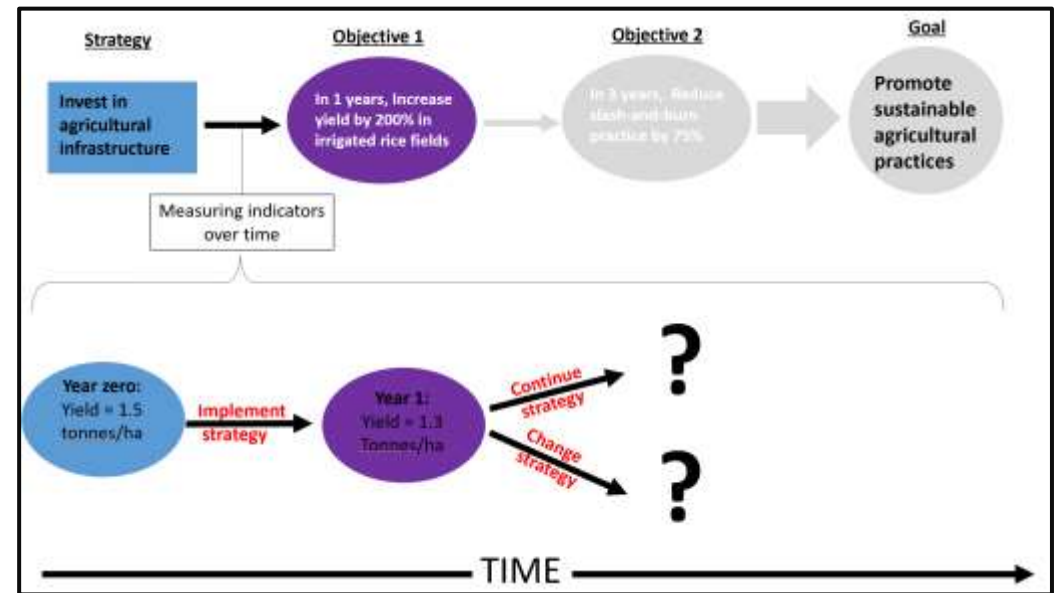
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A cyclic diagram showing three phases: Post-completion, Research design, and Research implementation.

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b. Climate-smart land-use planning
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Facilitator presentations

Each module begins with a brief presentation led by facilitators

This can be done live, or we have pre-recorded versions

Participant manual

- To accompany the presentation & exercises, each participant receives a manual they can refer to throughout the course

- This provides context for modules and repeats exercise instructions

Example exercise

Range of Endangered Primate

Range of Threatened Bird

Legend:
- National Park
- Forest
- Small-scale Farming
- Timber resources
- Lake
- River
- Road

Potential Gem Mine

Course Piloting

Madagascar

- 122 online participants (36% women), from:
  - Central govt. ministries
  - Regional and municipal government
  - National and local development & conservation NGOs

- Held in Malagasy, with slides translated to French and simultaneous interpretation for English speakers

Gabon/ROC

- 23 in-person participants (35% women) from:
  - 12 Gabonese Government Agencies
  - 9 Republic of Congo Government Agencies
  - 2 International NGOs

- Held in French, with all materials translated from English into French

Tanzania

- Hybrid course, with participants gathered together in multiple locations

- 11 participants (55% women) from:
  - 4 National/regional govt
  - 4 Local/regional NGOs
  - 3 University

- Held in English

Lessons Learned

- While Lukab is useful for many modules, it is important to incorporate local examples into course where possible

- Having well-trained facilitators is vital, especially in online sessions

- Participants value interactive exercises, so incorporating these into online course is key
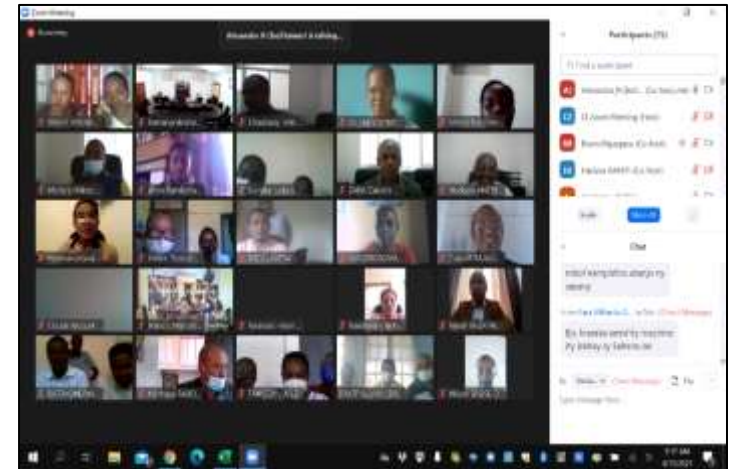
Potential Collaborations

For organizations or countries interested in receiving or delivering training, we can offer:
- Presentations & Slideshows (French & English)
- Participants manual (French & English)
- Slideshow voiceovers (English)
- Runsheet & instructions for course facilitators (French & English)

- ABCG staff can assist with:
  - Course delivery
  - Training the trainers
  - Tailoring course materials to local situations
  - Course moderation & organization

Interested? Come speak to us!

- Kendall Jones – krjones@wcs.org
- David Williams – dwilliams@awf.org
- Gerald Mwakipesile – mwakipesilegp@gmail.com
- Gautam Surya - gsurya@wcs.org

Resources – link here