



AFRICAN WILDLIFE FOUNDATION®

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

## Supporting African Policy Initiatives



**C**onservation efforts on the ground must be underpinned by policies and laws that support and reward good practices. AWF is engaging various African governments to strengthen conservation at every level – local, national and international. This work takes the form of influencing policies, recommending legislation, and facilitating land-use practices that help everyone – from small communities to entire nations – manage their lands successfully and sustainably.

### AWF Policy Initiatives at Work

#### ■ Influencing Land Policy

Building park infrastructure advances conservation in the short-term. If you influence government policy, however, conservation can be ensured for generations to come. Whenever possible, AWF helps encourage policies that will, in fact, ensure conservation well into the future.

In Kenya, AWF created the Kenya Land Conservation Trust – a legal entity that uses existing land laws regarding leases, easements and management agreements to empower communities living outside of protected areas to conserve and profit from their wildlife. This Trust was a huge step forward in helping to ensure that more land is protected to benefit people and wildlife for years to come.

Moreover, AWF's pioneering work in building the Trust, also helped develop important relationships and trust that led the Ministry of Lands and Housing to invite AWF to be a key player in the government's ongoing effort to form a land policy for the entire nation.





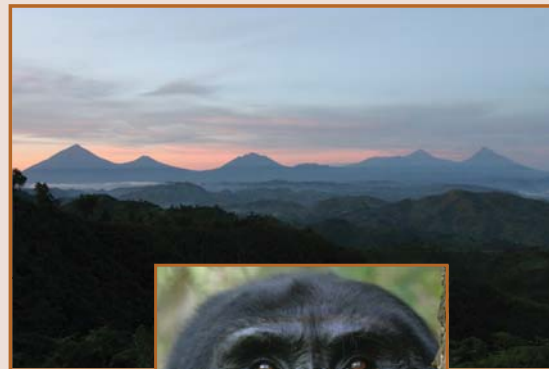
AFRICAN WILDLIFE FOUNDATION®

### ■ Fostering Cross-Boundary Conservation Strategies

Five of AWF's eight Heartlands cut across international boundaries. This means that transboundary natural resource management is crucial if the integrity of these landscapes is to be maintained. AWF works with partners ranging from governments to local communities to regional bodies to harmonize the policy and legal framework in order to ensure effective transboundary natural resource management.

In the Virunga Heartland, for example, lush forests cover parts of the Democratic Republic of Congo, Rwanda and Uganda. To protect them, and the mountain gorillas that depend on this forest habitat, AWF works through the International Gorilla Conservation Program (IGCP) to develop regional collaboration, improve transboundary policy, and increase respect for effective natural resource management.

In the Kazungula and Zambezi Heartlands, AWF has piloted important fisheries work along the Zambezi River – the lifeline of these landscapes. Because the river runs through Namibia, Mozambique, Zambia and Zimbabwe, AWF is working with the governments of all four nations with a view to developing a regional framework to improve fisheries monitoring and management.



### ■ Developing Public-Private Commitments

AWF is playing a key role in rebuilding Mozambique's shattered conservation capacity and infrastructure. But, before a single training could be held or a single brick laid, the relationship had to begin at the policy-level. AWF and the government of Mozambique's Ministry of Tourism negotiated and signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU).

Putting this historic MOU in place enabled AWF to move forward with conservation efforts. In the Zambezi Heartland, AWF is beginning to influence the laws on community land management. In the Limpopo Heartland, with funding from the World Bank and the Global Environment Facility (GEF), AWF is working with the government of Mozambique to rehabilitate Banhine National Park and engage communities and the private sector in park management. In addition, AWF is busy establishing a 53,000 hectare (30,965 acre) community nature preserve just south of Limpopo National Park.

#### Headquarters

Britak Centre  
Mara Ragati Road  
P.O. Box 48177, 00100  
NAIROBI, KENYA  
Tel: +254 20 2710367  
Fax: +254 20 2710372  
africanwildlife@awfke.org

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

#### Washington DC, Office

1400 Sixteenth Street, NW  
Suite 120  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20036,  
U.S.A.  
Tel: +1 202 939 3333  
Toll free: +1 888 494 5354  
africanwildlife@awf.org

Photo Credits: Carolo Kleberg, Craig R. Sholley,  
Art Wolfe and Paul Thompson