Annual Report





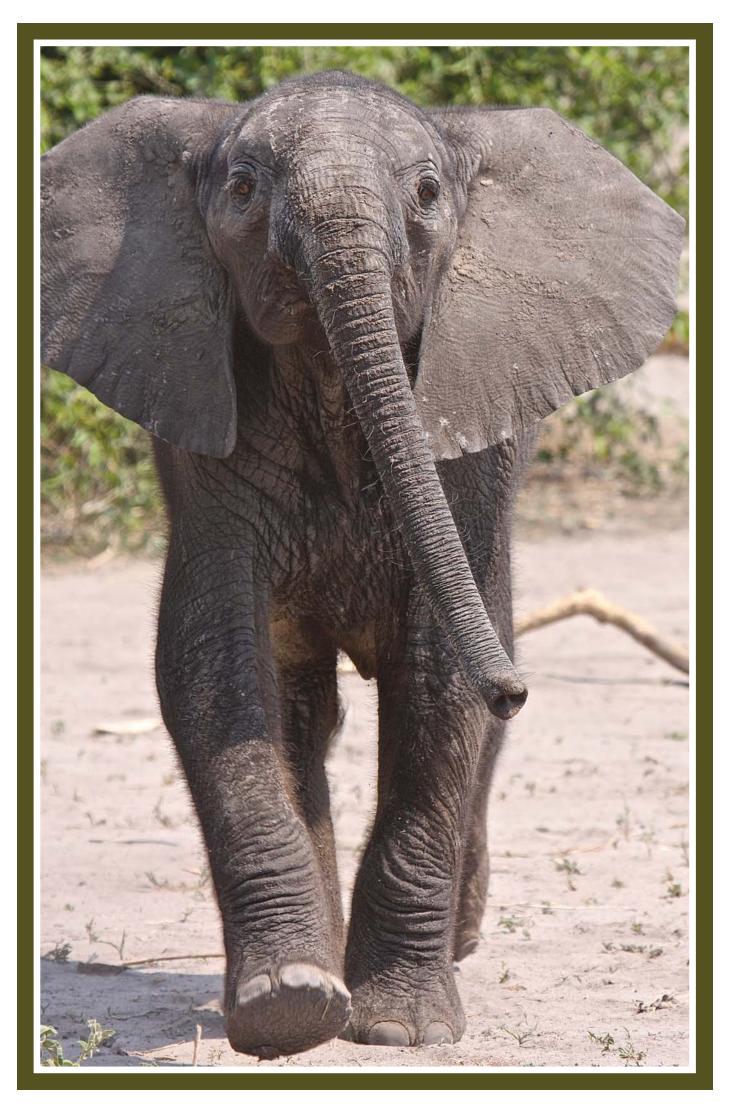












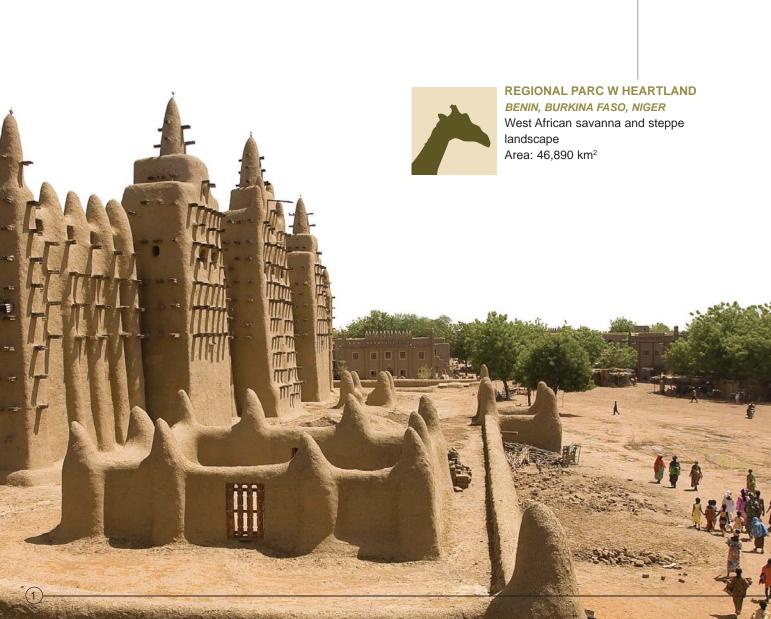


AWF IN WEST AFRICA

East and southern Africa are highly acclaimed wildlife tourism destinations; however, West Africa also contains very significant, albeit less known, conservation landscapes. These key areas protect globally important populations of familiar African species, as well as rare subspecies endemic to the region. These large conservation areas are also important to the future of the people of West Africa as reserves of environmental resources and mainstays of economic growth.

Ten years after unveiling its Heartland Program, AWF is expanding our work in Africa by designating our first Heartland in West Africa. The Regional Parc W Heartland is a trinational conservation area centered at the point where Benin, Burkina Faso, and Niger meet. The area is named for the distinctive "W" shape formed by the Niger River as it crosses back on itself several times before finally heading south towards the Gulf of Guinea. The Regional Parc W constitutes the largest tract of protected savannah in West Africa and supports a vast array of wildlife, including the region's only remaining giraffe population and its largest elephant population.

Learn more about AWF's newest Heartland at www.awf.org/parcw



THE AFRICAN HEARTLANDS

Africa is a vast and dynamic continent with increasing human populations, rapidly growing cities, and expanding areas of agriculture. At the same time, Africa is home to magnificent areas of wilderness and great conservation landscapes hosting some of the largest populations of wildlife on earth.

African Wildlife Foundation (AWF) is working with the governments and people of Africa to identify, plan, and protect these great conservation landscapes so that they will endure. These are the African Heartlands. Combining national parks, local villages, and private lands into cohesive conservation landscapes, often crossing national boundaries, the African Heartlands will provide environmental and economic benefits to Africa and the world for many generations to come.



SAMBURU HEARTLAND KENYA The heart of Kenya Area: 26,134 km²

CONGO HEARTLAND



VIRUNGA HEARTLAND

DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC OF

THE CONGO, RWANDA, UGANDA

Mountain gorillas and their
forested habitat at risk

Area: 7,655 km²

www.awf.org/heartlands



DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC OF THE CONGODense equatorial forests
neighboring Africa's greatest river
Area: 70,872 km²



KILIMANJARO HEARTLAND KENYA, TANZANIAElephants and Africa's highest peak
Area: 24,663 km²



MAASAI STEPPE HEARTLAND TANZANIA Wildlife among baobab trees and vast grasslands Area: 22,233 km²



ZAMBEZI HEARTLAND

MOZAMBIQUE, ZAMBIA, ZIMBABWE

The mighty river of southern Africa

Area: 47,721 km²



KAZUNGULA HEARTLAND BOTSWANA, NAMIBIA, ZAMBIA, ZIMBABWE Wilderness area surrounding Victoria Falls Area: 86,476 km²



LIMPOPO HEARTLAND

SOUTH AFRICA, MOZAMBIQUE,

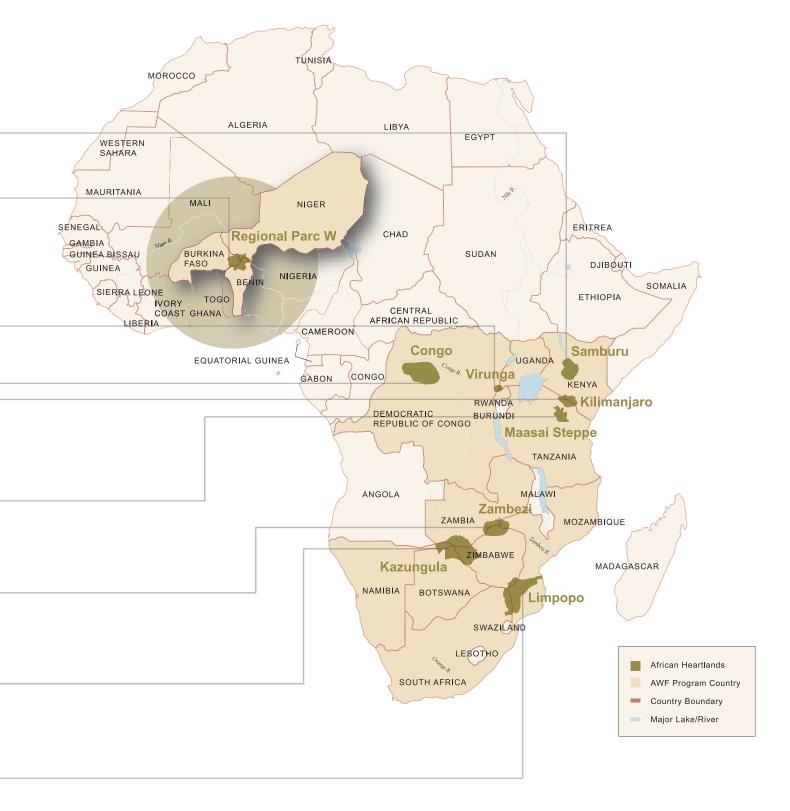
ZIMBABWE

Vast transboundary landscape

Vast transboundary landscape centered on the Limpopo River Area: 95.624 km²

AFRICA

The continent of Africa contains many of the most spectacular wild areas and wildlife populations in the world. Africa is home to the world's largest wildlife migration, four of the world's five great ape species, herds of elephants numbering in the thousands, magnificent prides of lions, and many solitary large cats. No other continent offers humankind such rich, plentiful, and varied representatives of the magnificent creatures with whom we share the planet.





Land and Habitat

AWF's first priority in any landscape is to secure land and reverse the single greatest threat to wildlife—loss and fragmentation of habitat.



Species Conservation

The West African giraffe, Zambia's white rhinos, and Africa's iconic lions are a few of the many species that benefited from AWF interventions in 2009.



Conservation Enterprise

A new world-class lodge in Uganda, unique cultural venue in Rwanda, and cutting-edge livelihood program in Kenya and Tanzania are all tying economic benefits to ecological sustainability.



Education and Capacity Building

AWF's founding tenet—to build the capacity of the people of Africa to steward the continent's natural assets—endures through our scholarship and capacity-building programs.



Conservation Policy

AWF continued its role as convener, advisor, and partner, influencing government policies in its program countries and beyond.



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2009 PROGRESS AT A GLANCE

AWF's Performance and Impact Assessment (PIMA) framework quantifies AWF's progress against our four main program pillars: land protection, species conservation, conservation enterprise, and leadership capacity.

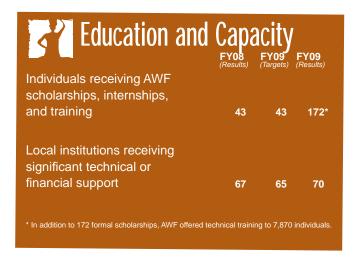
Year over year, AWF has matched or exceeded 70 percent of its PIMA metrics.

Learn more about AWF's progress assessment at www.awf.org/pima

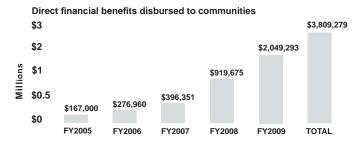
Land and Habitat						
	FY08 (Results)	FY09 (Targets)	FY09 (Results)			
National parks & reserves strengthened	13	14	21			
Community land/public areas conserved with AWF support	23	21	31			
Private lands secured by acquisition or easement	4	4	2			
Wildlife corridors/special sites conserved with AWF support	9	11	12			

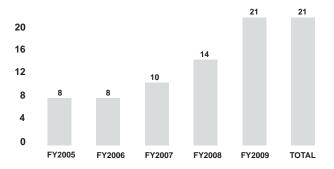
Species Conservation					
	FY08 (Results)	FY09 (Targets)	FY09 (Results)		
AWF species research and					
conservation projects operating					
Partner species conservation projects supported by AWF					

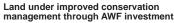


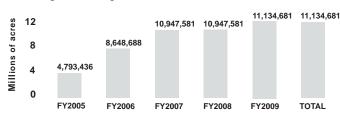












Land and Habitat AWF's Heartland approach to conservation focuses on identifying Africa's great wild spaces, piecing together parks, private lands, and community lands, which can be secured as a home for wildlife. Historically, AWF worked to establish national parks and wildlife reserves, and to help local people establish community conservancies. AWF is now supporting the management of parks and exploring new private land conservation approaches, including limited land acquisition and new types of conservation leases, to protect critical wildlife habitat.



GROUNDBREAKING

AWF understands that the whole of a landscape is always greater than the sum of its parts. Through connectivity of land and habitat, Africa's still thriving wildlife populations have the space they need to freely access food and water and cross paths with other healthy species populations. Without that ability, Africa's large mammals and the other unique wildlife species with which they share the land will steadily diminish and slowly die off.

In pursuit of the overarching goal of halting or reversing land fragmentation, AWF has identified nine Heartlands and continues to scope others that represent microcosms of the most biologically diverse places on the African continent. To protect and build land and habitat connectivity in these Heartlands, AWF has crafted a variety of innovative tools that can be applied to individual landscapes and employed simultaneously, creating an integrated strategy that 'puts the pieces of the land puzzle together' while improving and rationalizing land use.

In 2009, via its Land Program and with support from The Nature Conservancy and other partners, AWF realized major gains in land secured for conservation. This was achieved by working collaboratively with government agencies, landowners, local communities and the private sector, using innovative approaches to land conservation rarely if ever used before in Africa. Innovations included establishing land trusts; the direct purchase of important conservation lands; land use planning; creating legal and economic mechanisms such as conservation easements, leases, and management agreements; establishing community conservancies and protected areas; and engaging in policy dialogues to ensure that appropriate policies for land

AWF's specialized suite of land conservation tools has been developed over decades and reflects field-based wisdom from across the African Heartlands.



OUARRY OUANDARY When a large construction company began detonating explosives and excavating a that put

When a large construction company began detonating explosives and excavating a rock quarry in a newly formed conservancy outside Amboseli National Park, AWF Kilimanjaro Heartland Director Fiesta Warinwa was alarmed.

Created through a cutting-edge leasing arrangement between AWF and 50 Maasai families, the conservancy sits in a corridor frequented by wildlife moving from the Amboseli region, through the Chyulu Hills, and on to Tsavo National Park. The explosives forced wildlife into settled areas and damaged critical habitat.

AWF acted swiftly, joining with other conservationists, tourism investors, and community members to publicly oppose

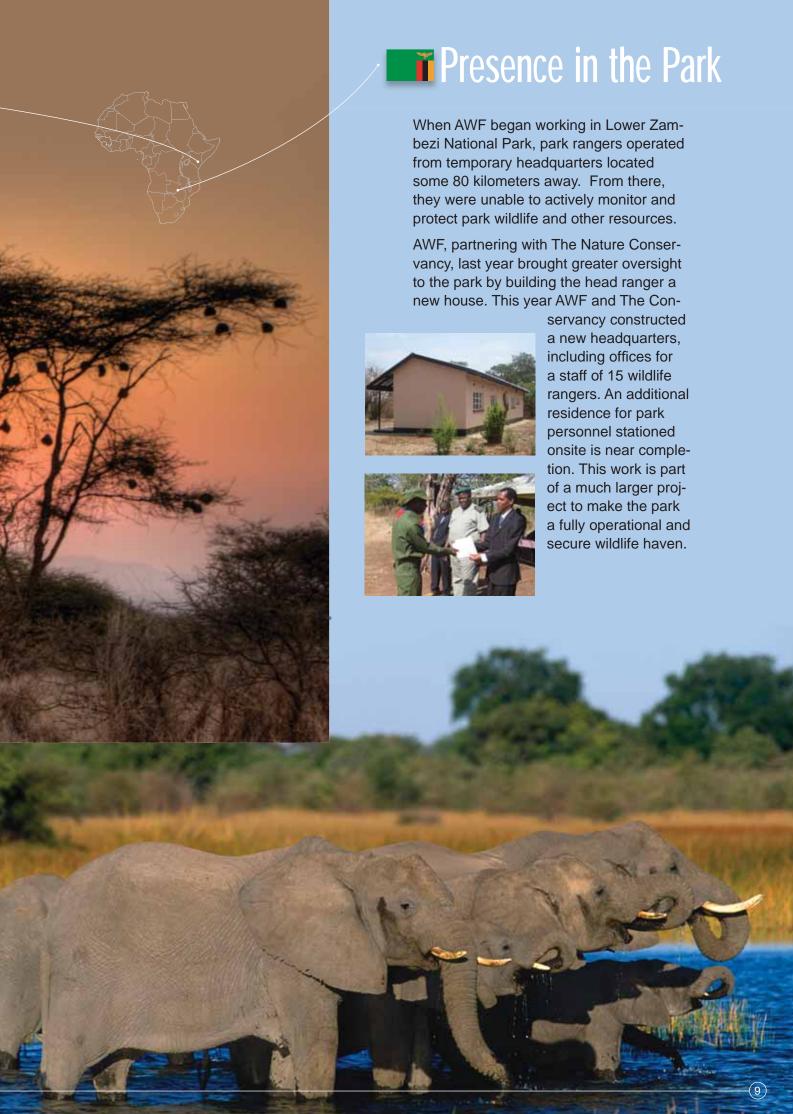
the project, obtaining a court injunction that put a stop to the detonation. The coalition also succeeded in raising international awareness about this key corridor, a historical elephant highway that helps uphold the integrity of the entire Amboseli ecosystem.



The continued blasting of a quarry would have resulted in permanent damage to a wildlife corridor in southern Kenya and harmed the livelihoods of communities who committed to participate in wildlife-based enterprises. AWF headed up the coalition that put a stop to the illegal excavation.



Learn more about the coalition's activity at www.awf.org/quarry



The Bonobos of Lomako

Found only on the left bank of the Congo River in the Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC), the endangered bonobo is threatened by illegal activities like bushmeat hunting, deforestation, and habitat loss.

AWF—with support from the U.S. Agency for International Development through its Central African Regional Program for the Environment (CARPE)—is working to change that, and in the process is changing the course of the region's economic future.

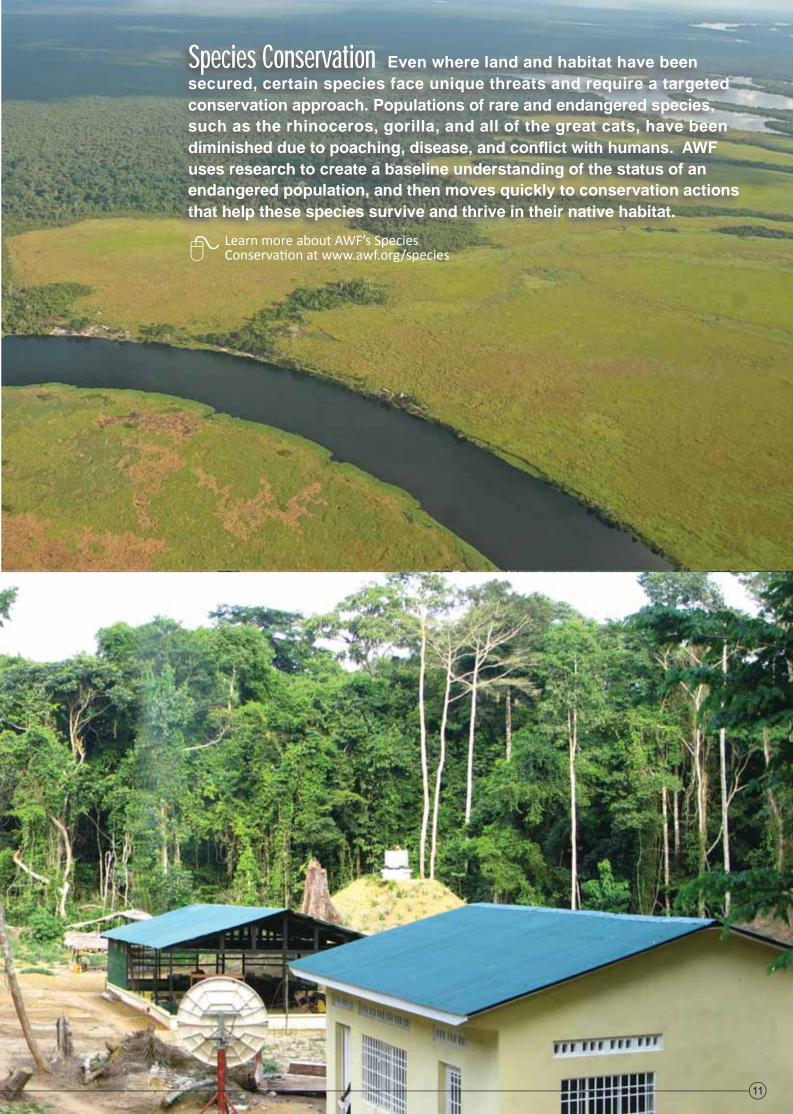
At the newly opened Lomako Conservation

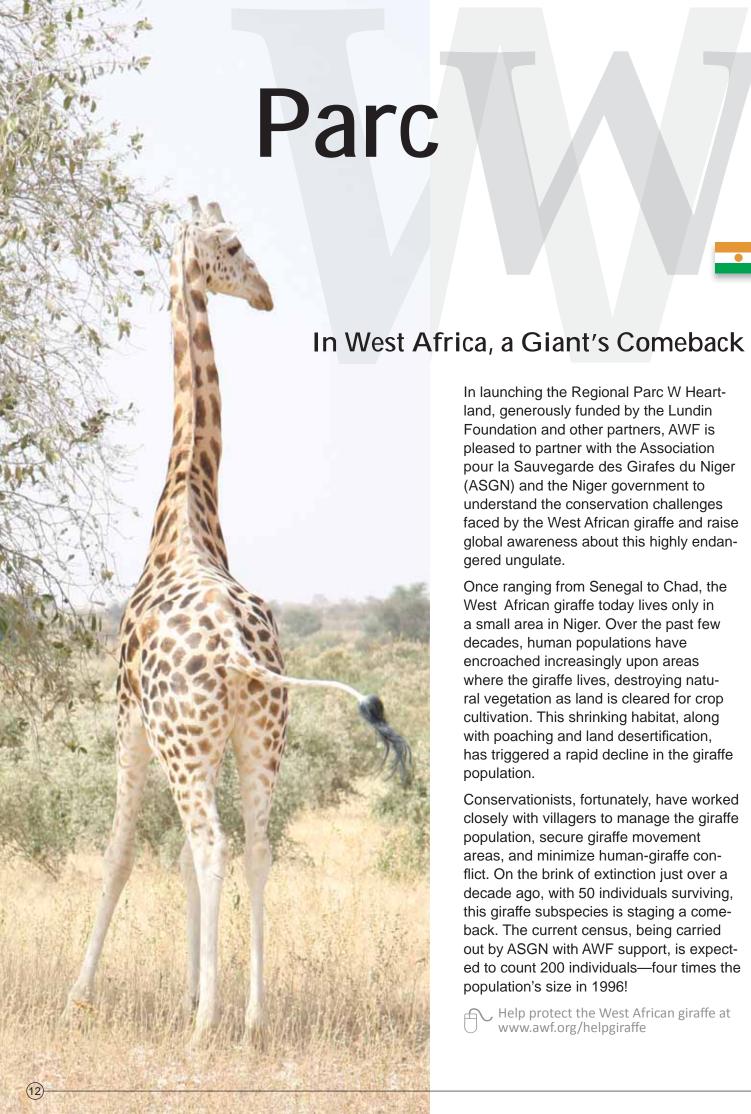
Science Center, AWF experts are habituating bonobos, studying the great ape's behaviors and habits, and working to bring world-renowned scientists to the Center, located in a protected reserve AWF helped create two years ago. The next step is to work with the communities of Lomako to plan low-volume, high-value tourism enterprises that give the pristine forests and the wildlife that inhabit them enduring value.



Watch a video on the Lomako Conservation Science Center at www.awf.org/lomako











Operation White Rhino

AWF, the Zambia Wildlife Authority, and other partners last year brought four new white rhinos—three females and a male—to Mosi Oa Tunya Park, marking a strong first step toward repopulating Zambia's dwindling rhino population after all but one of the park's other rhinos were shot and killed by poachers. The four rhinos have all settled into their new home. And thanks to the park's AWF-supported rhino protection team, there has not been a single poaching attack or rhino casualty since the arrival of the new rhinos.



Learn more about the rhinoceros at www.awf.org/rhinos

End of an Icon?

Long victims of habitat loss, illegal hunting, and a declining prey base, Africa's lions are facing another deepening threat: the wrath of humans. Livestock owners angered by lions stalking their cattle are lacing carcasses and other bait with deadly chemicals or killing lions with other weapons. Unless this violent cycle ends, Africa's most iconic great cat could disappear forever.

AWF is working across a number of African countries to ensure that this icon continues to exist. Under a specially funded program, in East and southern Africa, AWF works with local villagers to install special fencing that reinforces the thorn-bush enclosures in which livestock are held, keeping lions out and livestock safe. AWF is also studying lion behavior, educating communities about the habits of these great cats, and developing warning systems that alert people when lions are near.

Check out AWF's large carnivore research project at www.awf.org/lions



Conservation Enterprise AWF believes that Africa's wildlife and wild lands can only be truly secure when conservation operations have a sound financial basis, and when economic incentives exist for local people to help conserve natural systems. Over the past several years, AWF has worked with private sector partners to create cutting-edge examples of conservation tourism products that include equity holdings and other incentives for local people to conserve wildlife and its habitat. AWF is currently expanding our emphasis on agriculture, livestock, and fisheries as small businesses that support human needs while reducing reliance on the exploitation of wildlife resources.

Learn more about AWF's range of Conservation Enterprises at www.awf.org/enterprise





AWF since its founding has worked side by side with pastoralist communities, in the process gaining extraordinary knowledge about the lands where these communities live and the wildlife sharing their 'backyards'. In a project that will bring new livelihood benefits to these valued partners, AWF launched the Livestock for Livelihoods Program in two of its Heartlands, which serves livestock owners who meet conservation goals such as grazing livestock away from rather than through elephant corridors and adhering to other sustainable practices.

Maasai Steppe Heartland. The Livestock for Livelihoods
Program is unfolding on Manyara Ranch in Tanzania as part
of AWF's large-landscape program to protect the wildlife
corridor that connects Lake Manyara and Tarangire National
Parks. Working with the ranch's management, AWF is helping local communities to realize better returns from livestock

ck for Livelihoods

raised in sustainable ways. Besides improving grazing, water management, breeding, and extension services, AWF with support from USAID and other partners is building an abattoir that will be available to local herders who use land sustainably and will provide such individuals with a direct link to buyers.

The program is expected to significantly boost local prices per head of cattle in an area with rich wildlife resources but few income-earning opportunities.

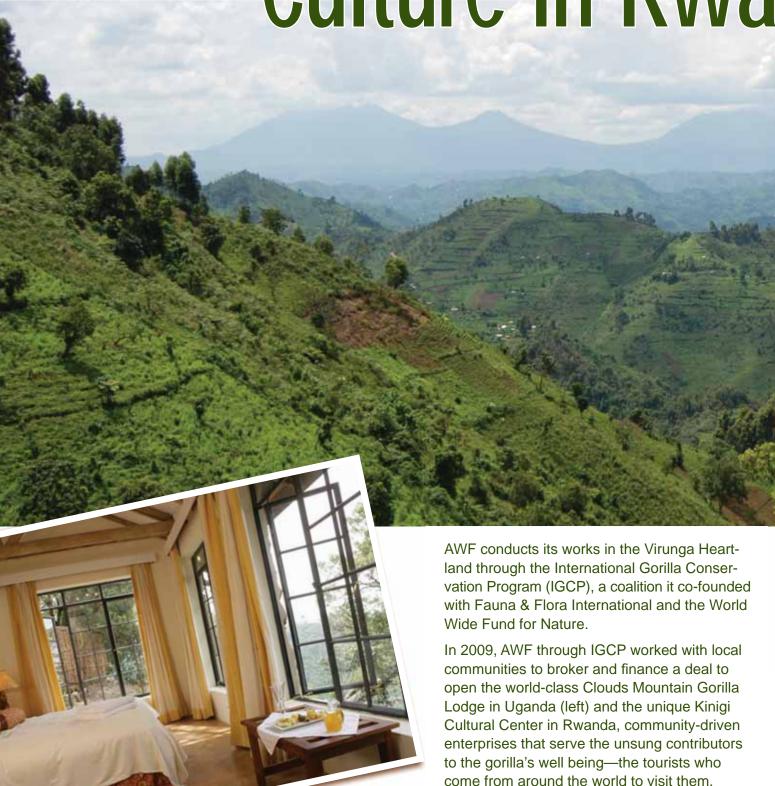
Samburu Heartland. With support from The Royal Netherlands Embassy, Kenya, AWF has also launched a Livestock for Livelihoods program in Kenya, introducing a revolving livestock fund in partnership with local pastoralists and The OI Pejeta Conservancy. The program is structured to guarantee market access for herders on the condition that they comply with good rearing and grazing practices that protect the land.

Just six months after the project's start, 350 head of cattle had been purchased through the fund, earning pastoralists \$167,000.

Read about the impact of AWF's Livestock for Livelihoods Program at www.awf.org/livestock



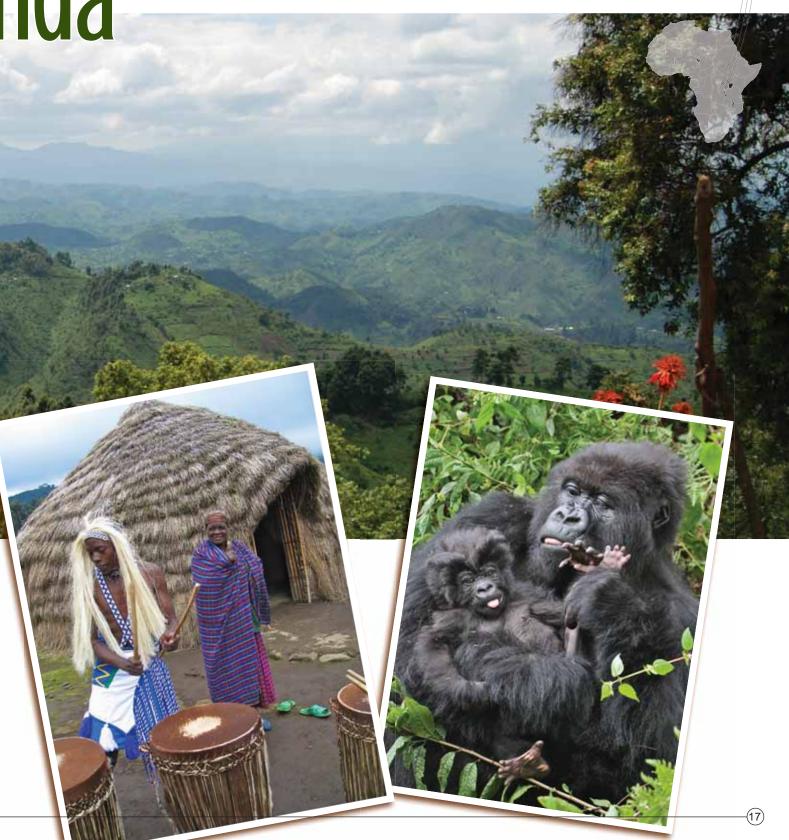




nda, nda

Only about 700 mountain gorillas are found in two blocks of rainforest shared by Democratic Republic of the Congo, Rwanda, and Uganda. While perilously small, the mountain gorilla population has persevered thanks to the work of many dedicated conservationists and community partners.





In Support of Scholarship

AWF's 2008/09 Charlotte Conservation Fellows all make their home in southern Sudan, an area whose teeming wildlife populations are reputed to rival the Serengeti's, despite decades of civil war. Through its newest Fellows, AWF is helping this still-recovering region build the capacity it needs to protect its rich natural heritage.

Introduced in 1996 in memory of longtime conservationist Charlotte Kidder Ramsey, the Charlotte Conservation Fellowship program supports African nationals pursuing a master's degree or doctoral research in conservation-related fields.

Meet AWF's 2008/09 Charlotte Fellows...



Baya Philip Brown Ngere

"Southern Sudan is blessed with a great variety of wildlife, but we lack the capacity and skills for proper conservation management, and our wildlife has suffered."



Lona Naturit Darius Gore

"The good news is that with sufficient funding, skilled personnel, and proper management practices, wildlife in southern Sudan can rebound quickly from the challenges of the past 20 years."



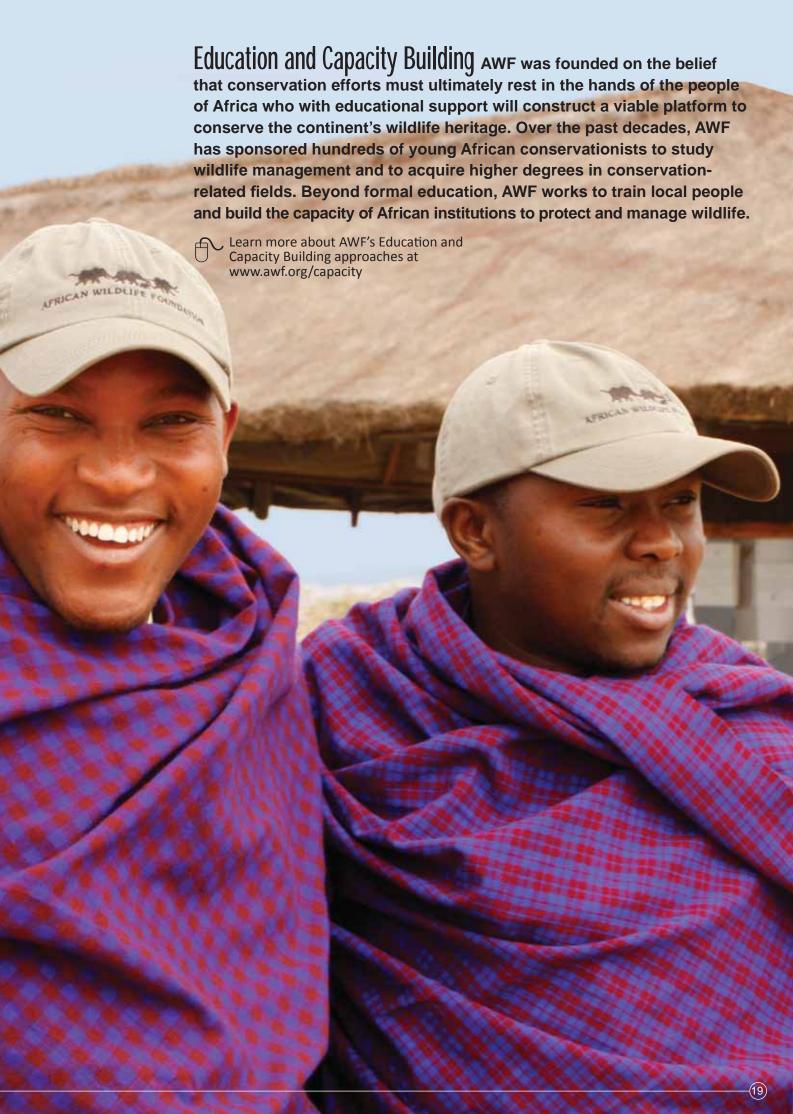
Paul Lado Demetry Jubek

"Numerous development projects are being done in southern Sudan without Environmental Impact Assessments, putting pressure on biological diversity. If we don't do something now, we will never see some species there again."





Under an emerging program with the Ministry of Environment in Namibia, AWF granted its first scholarship to Ndina Tate Imasiku, who is pursuing a Master's in Biodiversity Management and Research at the University of Namibia.





AWF founded the Hifadhi Network to give the elephants of the Kilimanjaro region the kind of protectors they need. Recruited from and stationed in the communities where the elephants have historically made their way, the scouts have all grown up knowing the habits of elephants and all the destructive ways pachyderms and humans can cross paths.

Now numbering 30 scouts from 12 Maasai communities, the Hifadhi Network in 2009 continued to conduct regular patrols to ward off poachers, record data on elephant movements, prevent human-elephant conflict, and alert wildlife authorities to illegal activities. National wildlife authorities have estimated that patrol activities by the Hifadhi scouts have reduced elephant poaching by as much as 60 percent in selected areas.

La

Learn about the importance of anti-poaching efforts at www.awf.org/hifadhi



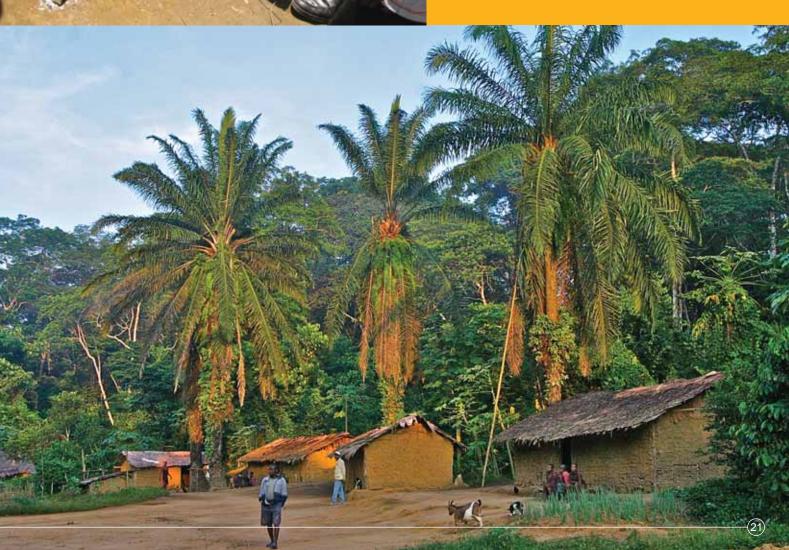
Fishing for Life

Along the Congo River and its main tributaries, fishing is a primary source of food and protein; but because the region lacks modern processing equipment, storage facilities, and transportation options, a large percentage of fish hauls spoil before they can be eaten or sold.

To promote fishing as a nourishing and sustainable food alternative, AWF, with the WorldFish Center and with funding from the French Development Agency, is teaching communities along the river best fishing practices, supplying them with modern cutting equipment, and creating linkages that allow individual fisheries to achieve greater scale. In this way, AWF is giving communities an alternative to activities such as bushmeat hunting and slash-and-burn agriculture that deplete forests of both wildlife and timber.

A

Visit AWF's Congo Heartland at www.awf.org/congo



Conservation Policy AWF and its partners across the Heartlands can be successful only if relevant policies, laws, regulations, and financing mechanisms are supportive of conservation and related achievements. AWF works with individual African governments, park agencies, regional bodies, and international funding agencies to help develop and promote policies that create a robust environment for conservation and sustainable models of economic development. AWF has articulated a specific agenda, which is revisited each year, of the most essential policy positions that we urge governments to adopt to ensure that wildlife survives while contributing to a prosperous future for Africa.



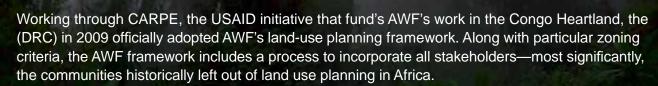
Zambia Steps Up Its Game

Who better to facilitate a meeting between Zambia, which is about to restructure its wildlife authority, and Kenya, home to AWF headquarters and a country that has already restructured its wildlife agency, achieving striking results? AWF facilitated the visit of a Zambian delegation to Kenya, led by the Minister for Environ-

ment, Tourism, and Mining, Catherine Namugala. The Zambian delegation met with senior officials from the Kenya Wildlife Service to discuss best practices in wildlife conservation. This bilateral exchange is strengthening best practices and conservation strategies in both countries.







Following in the DRC's footsteps, other countries of the Congo Basin are now likely to adopt the AWF planning framework, a development that would extend the use of the AWF model across a region that is home to the second largest tropical rainforest on the planet.

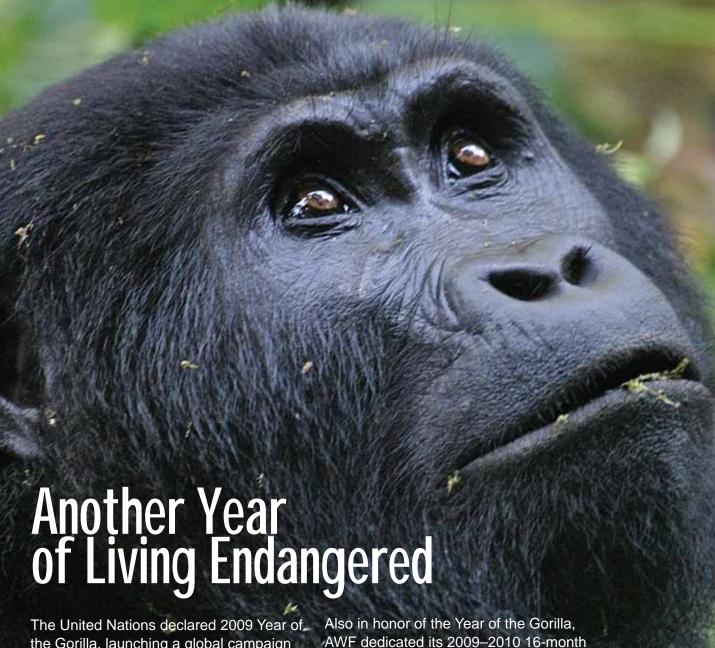




The African Union, an intergovernmental body of 52 African states formed to give the independent nations of Africa a single voice, invited AWF this past March to lead an extraordinary event that brought together African ambassadors, public representatives, and other members of the policy community to discuss "Conservation, Governance, and Economic Growth in Africa: The Way Forward." In a panel moderated by AWF CEO Patrick Bergin, presenters highlighted conservation challenges and successes in their respective countries, discussed conservation's role in poverty reduction, and emphasized the importance of economic drivers that give people incentive to conserve wildlife and other natural resources in ways that benefit people.







the Gorilla, launching a global campaign to raise awareness about the plight of the world's gorilla species. AWF joined the celebration, raising funds for and awareness about the mountain gorilla, a highly endangered great ape found in the Democratic Republic of the Congo, Rwanda, and Uganda.

member calendar to this highly endangered great ape. Along with never-before seen photographs of mountain gorillas, the calendar featured fun facts about mountain gorillas and conservation efforts of the past three decades. The calendar was issued through AWF's Member Program, which serves 65,000 enthusiastic and dedicated supporters.

African Wildlife Foundation's Year of the Gorilla

AWF also offered members:

- African Wildlife News, a photo-filled eight-page quarterly newsletter describing project outcomes in the African Heartlands
- Monthly enewsletter highlighting updates from the Heartlands
- Online information such as blogs, social networking opportunities, and our content-rich website
- Join AWF on facebook at www.facebook.com/africanwildlifefoundation

Gichohi in Milking the Rhino

A chronicle of increasing competition for Milking the Rhino is the first major docufrom the perspective of people who have ervation in Africa from a command-andcontrol to a community-driven model. The Fellow and top South African conservation ing in theaters in Africa, Europe, and the PBS in the U.S. this past spring.



www.awf.org/milkingtherhino

A View of the Bonobo

AWF in April hosted a free public lecture at the National Zoo in Washington, D.C., featuring Congo Heartland Director and Belgian primatologist Jef Dupain. During a month-long visit to the U.S., Jef gave a lively talk about the unique behavioral characteristics of bonobos, a rare great ape found only in the DRC, and AWF's efforts

to conserve these critically endangered primates. He also unveiled information about AWF's new bonobo research camp, located deep in the forests of the DRC.



Take a look at Jef's presentation at www.awf.org/bonobopresentation

Trip of a Lifetime

AWF held a special membership safari sweepstakes in May, selecting from thousands of entrants winner Allan Jordan of Fort Bragg, California. A self-proclaimed 'regular retired guy,' Allan won an allexpense-paid spot on AWF's July Best of Tanzania Safari, joining a dozen other members on the trip of a lifetime. The safari included visits to AWF's elephant research camp in the West Kilimanjaro region, Tarangire National Park, and AWF's Manyara Conservation Ranch in

the Maasai Steppe Heartland. Travelers then proceeded to the Ngorongoro Crater and onwards to the spectacular Serengeti National Park.

Read about the safari in AWF's Summer 2009 African Wildlife News at www.awf.org/newsletters



AWF has an active and dedicated Board of Trustees that ensures AWF fulfills its mission on behalf of the many supporters and partners who make our work possible.

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Board of Trustees in attendance during the 2009 annual Board meeting in Nairobi, Kenya.

oard

What a Difference Five Years Makes

AWF in 2009 successfully concluded its *Campaign to Save Africa's Heartlands*, launched five years ago to bring conservation efforts to scale in Africa. Joined by individuals, foundations, corporations, international aid organizations, and public agencies, AWF through the Campaign raised more than \$100 million, effectively doubling its investment across the Heartlands.

These Campaign resources have translated into millions of acres of open lands secured for wildlife; hundreds of thousands

of dollars disbursed to communities running their own conservation enterprises; scores of species being protected directly and hundreds of others indirectly; and scholarships and other support flowing to students across Africa.

On behalf of the Board of Trustees and the entire AWF community, thank you for your generous contributions and steadfast commitment to the *Campaign to Save Africa's Heartlands*.



with Dennis Keller, AWF Board Chair

AWF this year wrapped up its five-year comprehensive *Campaign to Save Africa's Heartlands*. What does that signify to you as Board Chair?

This is an accomplishment everyone in the AWF community should be proud of. AWF members, trustees and major donors, staff and partners, and government leaders came together to mobilize over \$100 million in resources for conservation in Africa. This effectively doubled AWF's investment in Africa compared with the period just before the Campaign's start. That is a major step forward in our capacity and ability to ensure that Africa's unique wildlife will endure for centuries to come.

What are some of the impacts on the ground resulting from the Campaign?

There are many successes across the Heartlands, all of which I am taken with, so here I'll name a few standouts—the construction of the Lomako Conservation Science Center in the remote forests of Central Africa, the opening of Clouds Mountain Gorilla Lodge in Uganda, and

AWF's continuing lion conservation work, the list goes on... Of course, the launch of AWF's Regional Parc W Heartland would not have been possible without the Campaign.

What was the deciding factor for you in supporting AWF's move into West Africa?

The benefits to the people of the region. Through the Regional Parc W Heartland program, the people of West Africa will have greater capacity to enjoy the beauty of wildlife as well as improve their own livelihoods through its presence.

Will AWF launch additional Heartlands in the coming years?

AWF experts have identified many landscapes that need conservation support and could benefit from our program. I am hopeful that over time AWF will continue to reach out to more and more such areas, working with local partners and communities to ensure that Africa's wildlife will have the resources it needs and that people can enjoy it equally. AWF deeply appreciates the support we receive. The following individuals and groups contributed \$1,000 or more to AWF in fiscal year 2009. We are grateful for every gift, each of which is an investment in Africa's future.

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\$100,000 and above

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\$50,000 to \$99,999

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\$25,000 to \$49,999

Anonymous (1)

Ms. Sharon K. Brown

Mr. and Mrs. Don R. Dixon

Baobab Society

The Baobab Society honors those individuals who support African Wildlife Foundation with annual gifts of \$1,000 to \$9,999. The baobab tree, a source of moisture, food, and shelter to the inhabitants of Africa's arid plains, is an apt symbol for those individuals who sustain AWF's conservation efforts.

"I discovered AWF while visiting Kenya in 1989. Their presence in Kenya was undeniable!! It is a very formidable organization that is doing the kind of charitable work (species preservation) that I wanted to support."

—Bev Spector, Heartland Partner



Become a Baobab Society member at www.awf.org/baobab

The Samuel E. & Hilda S. Duff Trust

Ms. Lisa S. Firestone

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Natural Resources Council

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The Overbrook Foundation

The West Foundation

Wiancko Family Donor Advised Fund of the Community Foundation of Jackson Hole

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\$10,000 to \$24,999

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"The visit to the Sekute Community Development Trust Office provided me with a prime example of AWF at work—meeting the regional officials; the 18 newly graduated game scouts and the children who were benefiting from the program of "conservation easements for education", and the planning of the future wildlife corridors. This day provided clear examples of the transformational work done by AWF's staff in conjunction with the local people."

—Fernanda Kellogg, President, The Tiffany & Co. Foundation



 Learn more about foundation and corporate partnerships at www.awf.org/partnerships

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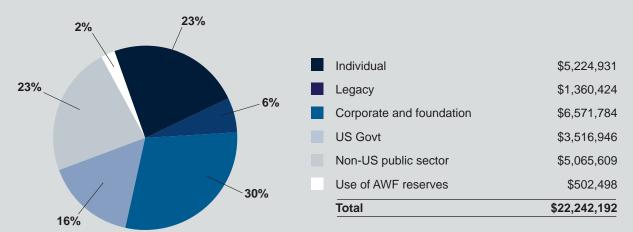




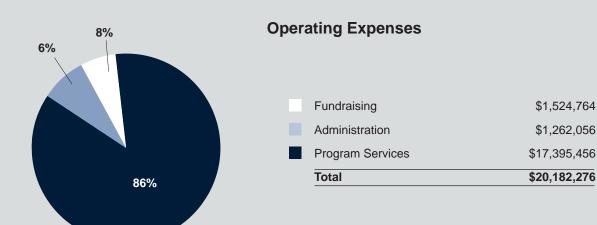




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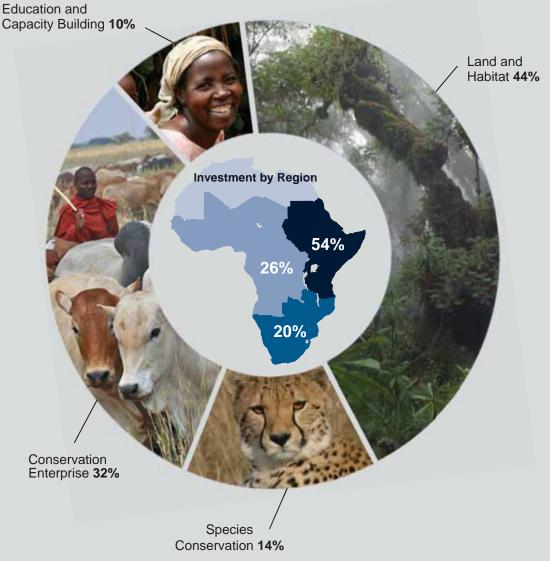


Note: All data is for the fiscal year ended June 30, 2009.

Conservation Program Growth



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