



# 2017 ANNUAL REPORT



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*Our mission is to ensure wildlife and  
wild lands thrive in modern Africa.*

# Letter from the CEO: JOINING AN INSPIRATIONAL TEAM



Dear AWF friends,

I am very pleased to have this opportunity to introduce myself as well as the FY2017 African Wildlife Foundation (AWF) Annual Report.

As a veterinarian and zoologist, I've spent most of my life working with animals, especially in conservation, and much of this time has been in Africa. I've helped establish several conservation programs, including a network of wildlife veterinarians, ranger training projects, anti-poaching efforts and anti-trafficking initiatives. My background also includes public affairs, law, military, medical development and working with the UN in Africa. My academic training was mainly at Edinburgh University and in London, but I also spent some time at Cornell as a Fulbright scholar.

It speaks to the breadth and depth of AWF's programming that I've had to draw on almost every aspect of my Africa background and experience in just my first few weeks as CEO!

You shall get a sense of AWF's many programs across vast tracks of Africa within these pages. For example, we hit the ground running early in 2018, at the time of my joining the organization, with a landmark event in Rwanda—the first expansion of Volcanoes National Park in 30 years. The gift of land AWF made to the Rwandan government is critical for the continued growth of the mountain gorilla population there. Immediately afterwards, I visited two major projects in the Democratic Republic of the Congo where, with EU and USAID support, we are poised to make an even greater contribution to preserving a huge swathe of the world's remaining rainforest.

Another important development in the year to date is China's implementation of an ivory trade ban—significant not only for its impact on the trade but also because of the example it sets for other countries, especially in Asia. AWF was very much involved in the public awareness campaign which helped bring this about whilst the efforts of our President, Kaddu Sebunya, at ministerial and ambassadorial levels, as well as with Beijing Zoo, have also had a major effect.

Whilst we are eager to celebrate success, we remain aware that the challenges that bear upon wildlife and wild lands in Africa have never been greater.

AWF is uniquely suited to take a leading part in finding solutions that will benefit wildlife as well as the people of Africa. From our work with the African Union and national governments as technical advisors, to our efforts to shape public opinion and raise



Photo by Billy Dodson.

conservation consciousness, to our work with governments on stemming wildlife trafficking and our vitally important direct support for endangered species in programs across sub-Saharan Africa, AWF has proven itself as an organization that gets things done. I pledge to you that we shall keep striving to be as effective as possible in meeting the ever-increasing challenges from poaching, habitat loss, population growth among so many other things.

After meeting AWF staff in our offices in Nairobi, the US and the UK, as well as in the field, it's clear to me that there is no shortage of remarkable people working for AWF. They have a strong sense of common purpose and conviction—and I find that I am gaining both inspiration and energy from working with them. In addition, having recently visited many of our trustees, donors and friends in the US, I would also say we have some remarkable supporters as well!

I hope you will find inspiration in the pages that follow and also that you know how much we, the AWF team, value and appreciate the critical support you provide to AWF and to the future of Africa's wildlife.

With best wishes,



Dr. Tom Ogilvie-Graham  
Chief Executive Officer

*"We have had three years of consistent decline in elephant poaching."*

**PHILIP MURUTHI**  
VICE PRESIDENT FOR SPECIES PROTECTION

## *Protecting elephants & rhinos from organized poaching*

In the first decade of the 21st century, a crisis emerged in Africa: organized poaching. Where previously poachers were subsistence or small-scale operators, and often acted opportunistically, now, organized groups engaged in ruthless killing sprees. In some cases, they had gear such as military-grade weapons, helicopters and night-vision goggles. In one of the worst events on record, armed poachers on horseback slaughtered as many as 650 elephants over three months in Cameroon's Bouba N'djida National Park.

AWF responded to the poaching crisis by directing resources to the protection of priority wildlife populations across Africa, to ensure funds went where most needed. By partnering with authorities, NGOs and the private sector already on the ground, we saved precious months of organizational set-up time.

Photo by Frank AF Petersens,  
Ol Pejeta Conservancy.



Tanzania's 2017 Scouts Graduation.

Poaching in Africa today involves militias, crime networks, and even terrorist groups motivated by demand for ivory and rhino horn in Asian countries predominantly. AWF's three-pronged strategy—"Stop the Killing," "Stop the Trafficking" and "Stop the Demand"—fights poaching from every angle. Direct species protection work includes training and equipping rangers, community scouts and eco-guardians to monitor and protect elephant and rhino populations, deploying dog-and-handler units to track down poachers, helping governments manage protected areas and conducting wildlife censuses.

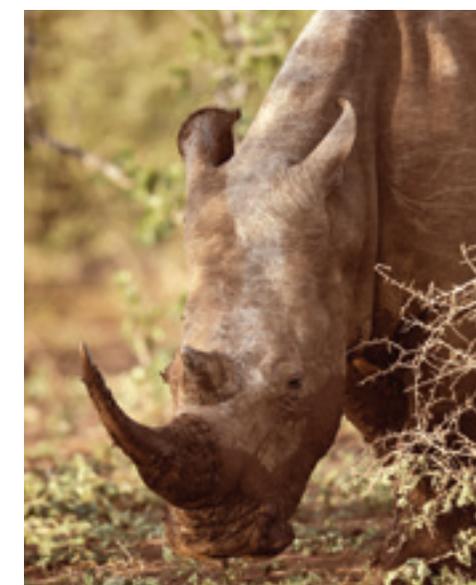
Results have been heartening. Among the 11 rhino populations AWF supports, all are stable or increasing; among 14 elephant populations, 11 are stable or increasing. In Kenya's 50,000-kilometer (31,068-mile) Tsavo-Mkomazi ecosystem, the elephant population grew by 14 percent between 2014 and 2017.

"We have had three years of consistent decline in elephant poaching, even though there are regional differences," says Philip Muruthi, AWF's vice president for species protection. "And elephant populations are increasing in the southern landscapes where we work."

As for rhinos overall, although there is good news in some areas where poaching dropped in 2017, there were sharp poaching increases in other areas. In all, South Africa, which holds about 3/4 of the African rhino population, had 1,028 rhino poached in 2017.

Poaching remains a critical threat to Africa's wildlife, but on-the-ground efforts including AWF species protection programs are invaluable in the fight to stop the killing. AWF's proven efforts and holistic approach to conservation are more critical than ever before.

**AWF FIGHTS  
TODAY'S  
ORGANIZED  
POACHING  
AT ITS ROOTS**



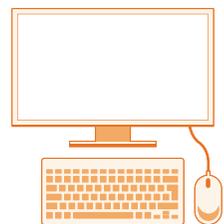
Top Left: Photo by Alison Langevad (alisonlangevad.com.au).

Bottom Right: White rhino in South Africa's Kruger National Park. Over 1,000 rhinos were poached in South Africa in 2017. Photo by Alison Langevad (alisonlangevad.com.au).

Bottom Left: Through species protection grants, AWF supports critical wildlife populations. In Kenya's Tsavo region, elephant populations have increased almost 15% in the last 3 years. Photo by Billy Dodson.



Almost 30,000 elephants are poached every year for their ivory tusks. Photo by Billy Dodson.



AWF'S #WILDLIFETRUMPSTROPHIES CAMPAIGN SHOWED THE STRENGTH OF OUR ONLINE COMMUNITY, WITH **40,000** SUPPORTERS TAKING ACTION

## There's good news for elephants: THE TREND IN IVORY IS TOWARD BANS

### ELEPHANTS SCORED SEVERAL SIGNIFICANT WINS IN 2017 & EARLY 2018

In January 2018, China implemented a ban on its domestic ivory trade, one year after pledging to do so. Since its original announcement, there's been an 80 percent decline in seizures of ivory entering the country.



Likewise, raw ivory prices dropped by almost two-thirds between 2014 and 2017, according to a report issued by Save the Elephants. The drop is due to a combination of factors including China's commitments to ending ivory trade and efforts to raise awareness about poaching.

Hong Kong followed China's lead in January when lawmakers voted to ban all ivory sales by 2021. AWF applauds the spirit of the move, but the waiting period is too long and opens the possibility of illicit trade. Given the rate at which elephants are dying, AWF encourages Hong Kong to implement an immediate ban and for other countries with open ivory markets, including Vietnam and Thailand, to follow China's example.



In July 2017, Japanese internet retailer Rakuten, the world's largest online ivory seller, announced it would phase out ivory. Just prior, over 36,500 AWF supporters had written to Rakuten's president urging the halt of ivory sales.

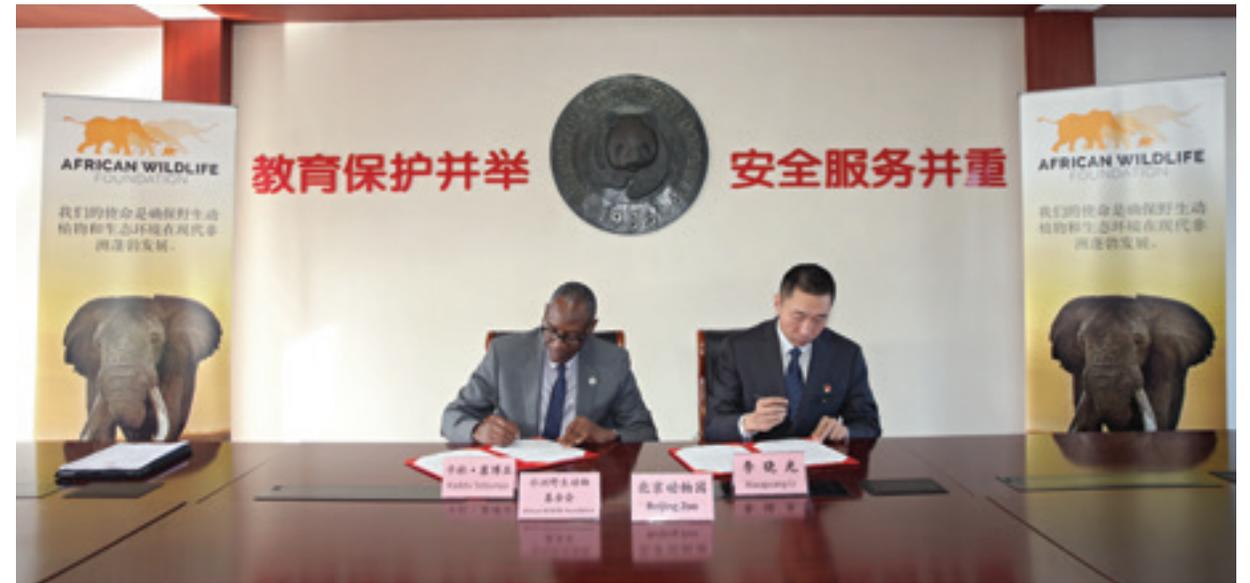
In August, AWF was proud to sponsor the New York State Ivory Crush, during which nearly 2 tons of ivory were destroyed. Tragically, the ivory (seized through coordinated law enforcement) represented more than 100 elephants killed. AWF participates in ivory crushes to emphasize zero tolerance for ivory trade.



When the Trump Administration last fall lifted the U.S. import ban on elephant and lion trophies from Zimbabwe and Zambia, AWF took the lead in pushing for a reversal of the decision, quickly launching the #WildlifeTrumpsTrophies advocacy campaign. Our campaign reached millions of people, and more than 270,000 expressed support while more than 40,000 individuals took action and sent messages to the White House.



CHINA  
VIETNAM



## IN CHINA & VIETNAM, WE'RE SHINING A LIGHT ON THE BRUTAL REALITY OF THE IVORY & RHINO HORN TRADE

Ending consumer interest in ivory, rhino horn and other wildlife products is a vital part of AWF's strategy to protect species. In 2017, a talking rhino ad was a centerpiece of our awareness efforts. The public service ad (PSA) marked World Rhino Day and discussed the brutal reality of poaching—from a rhino's perspective. Chinese celebrities voiced different versions of the hard-hitting video, which in the first week received over 4 million views and thousands of shares.

Other PSAs featured renowned Chinese collector Ma Weidu pointing out that antique collectibles should be about culture, not the destruction of wildlife. These were displayed on television, in online media outlets and Chinese airports.

Since 2012, AWF has collaborated with the organization WildAid on these public awareness efforts in addition to the well-recognized "Say No" campaign targeting major ivory and rhino-horn consuming nations in Asia—namely China, Hong Kong, Vietnam and Thailand.

In Vietnam, AWF and WildAid teamed up with local organization CHANGE to raise awareness of the plight of African rhinos. Rhino populations have plummeted 95 percent in the last 40 years, primarily from poaching. According to our recent survey, only 9.4 percent of residents in Ho Chi Minh City and Hanoi now think that rhino horn can cure cancer, an improvement from the 34.5 percent that believed that fallacy in 2014.

**THANKS TO AWARENESS EFFORTS, UNDER 10% OF PEOPLE SURVEYED IN VIETNAM NOW BELIEVE RHINO HORN CURES CANCER**

Most notably, between 2014 and 2016 there was a 258 percent increase in the understanding that rhino horn is composed of same substance found in hair and fingernails (which has no medicinal value). Seventy-

two percent of the same survey respondents stated a stronger intent not to buy rhino horn.

"Ultimately, we would like to see a ban on rhino horn trade similar to what China has proclaimed and is implementing for elephant ivory," says Philip Muruthi, AWF's vice president for species protection. "That will be the rebirth of Africa's rhino."

## Beijing Zoo joins AWF in conservation partnership

In January the Beijing Zoo joined AWF in a partnership to increase awareness and thus reduce illegal trade in wildlife products throughout China. More than 8 million people annually visit the Beijing Zoo. This massive audience represents a tremendous opportunity to raise consciousness about the challenges facing Africa's wildlife and the role China can play in securing a positive future for wildlife. Asian consumers' demand for wildlife products such as ivory and rhino horn helps fuel poaching; raising awareness is critical to reducing demand.

"This partnership gives us an opportunity to bolster our work in China, and an ability to push for greater Chinese involvement in Africa's conservation agenda, in which China is a key partner," said AWF president Kaddu Sebunya.



Top Left: AWF and WildAid released a PSA starring an animated talking rhinoceros to drive home the horrors of rhino poaching from a rhino's perspective. The ads were voiced by popular Chinese and Vietnamese celebrities.

Top Right & Bottom: AWF President Kaddu Sebunya and Beijing Zoo Director Li Xiaoguang sign an agreement to increase awareness of Africa's wildlife and wild lands.



MULTI-AREA



## STRENGTHENING LEGAL SYSTEMS IN THE FIGHT AGAINST POACHING

In 2017 and early 2018, AWF’s canine units made over 100 busts, uncovering raw and worked ivory, pangolin scales and skins, lion bones, sable antelope horns, rhino horns, hippo teeth, and more. In August, our dogs alerted their handlers to a huge stash—50 pounds of rhino horn in a smuggler’s bag at the Entebbe International Airport. The Vietnamese smuggler was arrested, prosecuted and eventually fined and deported from Uganda.

With Africa losing about 8 percent of its elephants and large numbers of other species to poaching every year, uncovering stashes of ivory and horn, skin and scales is only half the battle.

Arrests mean little if illegal activities don’t result in punishments—we must also look to the courts. As wildlife poaching and trafficking continue to seriously threaten the future of African wildlife, prosecutors must be prepared to push for significant punishments to shut down poaching operations.

“We support the relevant law enforcement agencies to deter wildlife crimes and to arrest offenders. We also educate and sensitize key agencies and communities for long-term impacts on species—the goal is viable, functional populations in their natural habitats,” said Philip Muruthi, AWF’s vice president for species



Top Left: A Uganda Wildlife Authority ranger interacts with trusted companion, a skilled sniffer dog.

Top Right: AWF Vice President for Species Protection Philip Muruthi addresses a judicial training workshop.

Bottom Right: Judicial training workshop attendees.

protection. “AWF’s multidisciplinary team of scientists and legal professionals is having an impact on wildlife crime.”

In 2015, AWF began hosting sensitization and training workshops to address gaps in the policy, judicial and prosecution systems that may hamper wildlife law enforcement and prosecution in African countries. These gaps include lack of awareness about the socioeconomic impacts of wildlife crimes, failure of different sectors—investigative, prosecutorial and judicial—to coordinate efforts, and in some cases a failure to prosecute criminals under all applicable laws. To date, more than 825 law enforcement, prosecution and judicial personnel have participated in the workshops.

Wildlife judicial and prosecutorial trainings go a long way toward improving regional cooperation, as stakeholders get a rare opportunity to compare notes about their respective wildlife laws and enforcement capacities and strategies. In March 2017, AWF and partners held a workshop for participants from Botswana, Mozambique, Namibia, South Africa and Swaziland to enhance transboundary collaboration, legal frameworks and communication networks to curb illegal wildlife crime. In 2016, we hosted representatives from Burundi, the Democratic Republic of the Congo, Ethiopia, Kenya, Tanzania and Uganda for the same purpose—to enhance regional collaboration amongst wildlife crime prosecutors in east and central Africa.

The sensitization efforts are paying off. For example, as of May 2017, the conviction rate for wildlife crimes in Kenya rose to 91 percent, from 44 percent in 2013. The success is attributed to the trainings and closer collaboration amongst state and non-state actors working seamlessly to ensure that the judicial process, from investigation to prosecution to the adjudication of wildlife cases, is successful.

*"This entire project is pretty simple. It's dog technology, and it's been around for a long time. Man's best friend. We've evolved together over the centuries, and we're now working together to help save the future of wildlife on this continent."*

**WILL POWELL**  
DIRECTOR, CANINES FOR CONSERVATION

## *In the poaching fight, putting dogs to work at what they do best: sniffing*

Canines for Conservation, the sniffer dog program AWF launched in 2014, continues to see extraordinary success.

The program's talented dogs—shepherds and Springer spaniels mostly—undergo nearly two-and-a-half months of training to become expert at detecting and signaling contraband such as rhino horn, ivory and pangolin scales. They can sniff out everything from ivory jewelry to full tusks to rhino horn dust. When they do detect contraband, the dogs signal within seconds to alert their expert handlers.

Each dog is paired with a dedicated handler, as the team's success depends not just on refining sniffing skills, but on the relationship that is built between wo/man and dog. Will Powell, director of the Canines program, says, "The dogs and their handlers must be totally in love with each other. The first week of their training is simply about creating the bond that cements the partnership for the training to come, involving play and just hanging out. Once this bond is established, we can start work."





## A woman & her dog, fighting international wildlife crime

“Being a dog handler and using that skill to fight poaching is a big achievement for me,” said dog handler Tebogo Mangombe at a Canines for Conservation graduation ceremony in Botswana in December.

Mangombe and 14 other leading members of Botswana’s Department of Wildlife and National Parks graduated alongside their detection dogs following 10 weeks of rigorous training led by AWF’s Canines for Conservation director Will Powell.

“I was previously in the anti-poaching unit,” Mangombe said. “Now this canine unit is my life. I cannot imagine myself doing anything else.”

“We are going back home with the goal of ending this organized crime.”



AWF’s latest Canines for Conservation class graduated 10 dogs and 15 handlers from Botswana in December, 2017.

And indeed, the dogs have gotten to work. Since the program launched, the teams have intercepted almost 200 stashes of ivory, rhino horn, pangolin scales or other illicit wildlife products.

- In Kenya, our sniffer dogs deployed at the Jomo Kenyatta International Airport in Nairobi and the port in Mombasa uncovered more than 60 stashes; smugglers are now reluctant even to try sneaking ivory or rhino horn in and out of Kenya.
- In Tanzania, the canine teams have been so successful, with more than 25 busts, that ivory trade has almost completely stopped in the previously active southern region.
- In Uganda’s Entebbe International Airport, our dedicated canine units made 99 finds since beginning work in November 2016, leading to 93 arrests and 32 convictions.
- Finally, in Botswana in December, our new class of dog-and-handler units graduated from training school. They’ll be deployed to strategic airports, roads and border crossings.

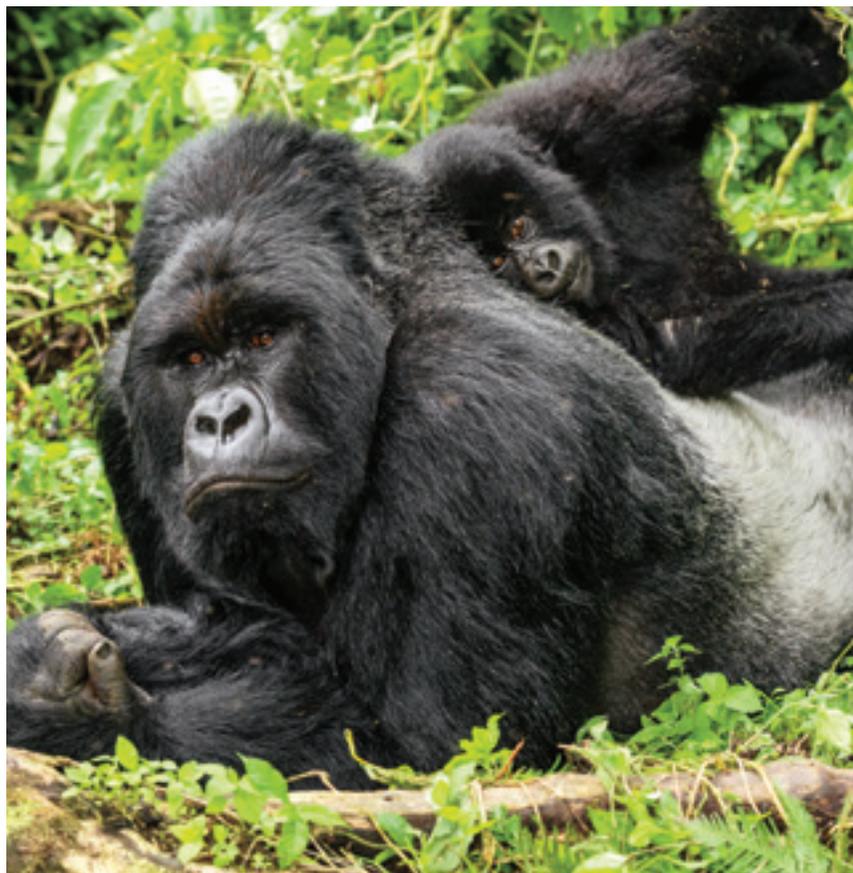
As we consider strategic expansion of the wildlife detection dog program across Africa, we also are deepening it in the focal countries to ensure optimal effectiveness.

“This entire project is pretty simple,” says Powell. “It’s dog technology, and it’s been around for a long time. Man’s best friend. We’ve evolved together over the centuries, and we’re now working together to help save the future of wildlife on this continent.”

**STOP THE KILLING.**  
**STOP THE TRAFFICKING.**  
**STOP THE DEMAND.**



MULTI-AREA



## STRIVING TOWARD A SECURE FUTURE FOR GREAT APES IN AFRICA

The story of mountain gorillas in recent history is one of violence and turmoil, but also hope and fragile recovery. Through poaching, civil war and genocide, large-scale habitat loss, disease, and hunting for the pet trade, the mountain gorilla hung on. Then, with the help of conservationists and enlightened governments, the gorillas did better than that. Where they numbered perhaps 600 at their lowest point in the 1980s, today they're tipping past 1,000. "Kwita Izina"—an annual celebration in which Rwanda's newest baby gorillas are named—last year named 19 new babies and the year before that, 22.

AWF played no small part in this hopeful story. Our work with gorillas began approximately 50 years ago when we helped fund Dian Fossey's now-famous study of gorillas in the Virunga mountains. "One of the basic steps in saving a threatened species is to learn more about it,"

Fossey wrote in *National Geographic*, "its diet, its mating and reproductive processes, its range patterns, its social behavior." Her years of study, before her life ended so brutally, would shed light on all these aspects of mountain gorilla life.

AWF was among the first to recognize the need for an integrated approach to mountain gorilla conservation, one that blended anti-poaching measures with community outreach and, most critically, tourism, to make living gorillas a vital, sustainable income source. This vision gave rise to the Mountain Gorilla Project, which helped habituate the gorillas (naturally shy) to humans as a step toward eco-tourism, introduced anti-poaching measures and started local conservation awareness-building and sensitization. In 1991, the Rwanda-based project expanded to include Uganda and the Democratic Republic of the Congo and was renamed the International Gorilla Conservation Programme. Providing

training, technical advice and supplies, the program boosted park authority capacity to protect the forest and gorillas, in part through patrols and monitoring of the gorilla troops. Remarkably, very few gorillas were killed during the worst violence in the region, the Rwandan genocide in 1994.

Most recently, AWF has focused on eco-tourism development. By building private-community partnerships that in turn develop community-owned travel lodges, AWF helps create an unbeatable incentive to conserve mountain gorilla populations: income. Since Rwanda's Sabyinyo Silverback Lodge opened in 2007, for example, it has generated USD 2.9 million for the community, which has resulted in livelihood improvement and strong area support for gorilla conservation.

AWF recently secured more badly needed space for the Virunga gorillas, donating 28 hectares to the government of Rwanda, which has shown itself to be an exemplary conservation leader in Africa and is using the land to expand Volcanoes National Park. (See page 20.)

Top Left: A juvenile mountain gorilla plays on his father's back in the forests of Rwanda. Photo by Dee Ann Pederson.

Top Center: Photo by Greg S. Garrett (gsgarrett.com).

Top Right: The Lomako Conservation Science Center supports bonobos through wildlife surveys, training of Congolese researchers and developing wildlife conservation plans. Photo by Billy Dodson.

## Chimpanzees & bonobos

AWF seeks to conserve populations of all nine subspecies of African great apes and their habitat. In addition to mountain gorillas, these subspecies include the Cross River, Western lowland and Eastern lowland gorillas; the Western, Nigeria-Cameroon, Central and Eastern chimpanzee; and bonobos.

Since 2013 we've supported anti-poaching and ecological monitoring in Cameroon's Dja Faunal Reserve, home to lowland gorillas and western chimpanzees. In 2017, we used camera traps and drones to significantly improve tracking of poachers in four hotspots.

AWF also helped establish two community reserves for critical bonobo populations. The Lomako-Yokokala Faunal Reserve and Iyondji Community Bonobo Reserve lead to jobs and help communities leverage tourism income while increasing our knowledge of the fascinating, critically endangered bonobo. AWF worked with local stakeholders to develop the Iyondji reserve specifically at the request of communities, who saw the economic benefits the Lomako people accrued after the faunal reserve opened there.

In the Democratic Republic of the Congo, AWF's Congo Shipping Project uses a tug-barge called the M.B. Moise to connect extremely remote villages to new markets. In conjunction with agricultural training programs and support for new farmer associations, the project has helped increase incomes by 250 percent. It also has reduced reliance on unsustainable practices such as bushmeat hunting and slash-and-burn agriculture.

*"Communities can thrive as a result of conservation."*

**H.E. BENJAMIN W. MKAPA**

FORMER PRESIDENT OF  
TANZANIA & AWF TRUSTEE

## *Giving mountain gorillas room to roam*

With mountain gorilla numbers increasing, it's easy to lose sight of the fact they are still the world's most endangered ape. About 1,000 remain today, living in only two places—the Bwindi Impenetrable Forest in Uganda and the Virunga massif, which extends into Rwanda, Uganda and the Democratic Republic of the Congo.

But this vulnerable sub-species got a measure of added protection early in 2018 when AWF donated land to expand the perimeter of Rwanda's Volcanoes National Park in the Virungas.

The 28-hectare (69-acre) addition to Volcanoes, Africa's oldest national park, helps reduce pressure on the gorillas especially as they travel in the narrowest section of the park. The gorillas often cross the park boundaries, and it's here, around farms with their tasty crops, that the apes can encounter conflict with humans. As

mountain gorilla numbers increase, pressure on habitat also increases. If mountain gorilla populations are to survive and thrive, Volcanoes National Park must be strategically protected.

AWF bought the land with support from the Annenberg Foundation, specifically to donate it to the Rwandan government as the first park expansion in over 30 years.

Volcanoes National Park and other parks—and the mountain gorillas within them—are a significant economic engine for Rwanda. The country generated USD 404 million from tourism in 2016. Ten percent of the revenue from Rwanda parks goes to local communities, which is unprecedented in Africa and a credit to the Rwandan government. Between 2005 and 2015, communities around Volcanoes National Park received over USD 1 million, which supports school development, scholarships, infrastructure, employment and other services.

Said AWF President Kaddu Sebunya during the land handover ceremony: “Rwanda has provided a template for sustainable development for a continent that is dependent on conservation of natural resources.”

Sebunya used the ceremony as an opportunity to encourage other African governments to follow Rwanda’s lead in conservation commitment. “When we met in Kigali in November 2016 at the African Investment Forum, a day like today was a distant dream. Back then, we discussed partnerships and ecosystem protection. We looked at Rwanda and its model for sustainable development and concluded that it was way ahead of its peers on the continent. While I had no doubt that the Rwandan Government had found a winning conservation formula, I expected other countries would bridge the gap with Kigali quickly.

“I am not sure how close other African countries have come, but I am excited by the great strides Rwanda is taking to develop its natural heritage sustainably and guarantee long-term socio-economic stability for its people.”



Former Tanzanian president and AWF Trustee H.E. Benjamin W. Mkapa also attended the ceremony and commended Rwandan president Paul Kagame’s foresight. “What President Kagame has done demonstrates that a country can support a robust economy and good development of infrastructure, while simultaneously protecting the environment,” Mkapa said.

“He has shown that communities can thrive as a result of conservation.”

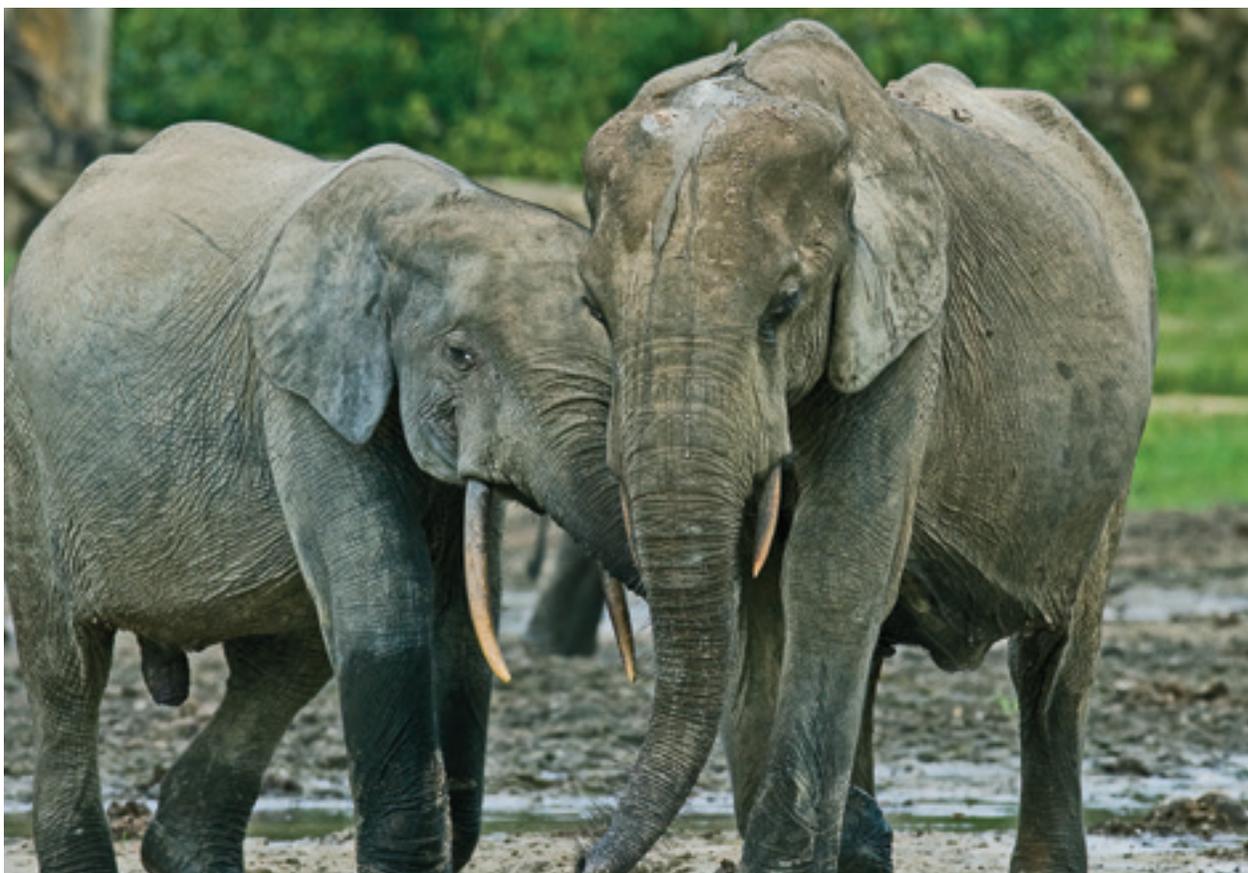
Top Left: AWF President Kaddu Sebunya with Clare Akamanzi, CEO of the Rwanda Development Board, during the park expansion ceremony in Kinigi, Musanze District, Rwanda on January 10th, 2018.

Top Right: AWF President Kaddu Sebunya, former Tanzanian President and AWF Trustee H.E. Benjamin W. Mkapa and Rwandan Minister for Trade & Industry Vincent Munyeshyaka arrive at the land handover venue in Kinigi, Musanze District, Rwanda.

Photos by Thomas Mukoza.



DRC



## SECURING A REMOTE LANDSCAPE FOR CHIMPANZEES & FOREST ELEPHANTS

The Bili-Uele Protected Area Complex in the remote north of the Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC) is home to as many as 65,000 eastern chimpanzees—the largest population in Africa—as well as one of the DRC’s last populations of the vulnerable forest elephant.

Conservation challenges, which include bushmeat hunting, encroachment by local pastoralists and intermittent presence of rebel fighters, as well as poaching for ivory, are exacerbated by the government’s lack of resources to protect this remote outpost of biodiversity. Since 2015, when AWF began working in Bili-Uele with the Congolese parks authority (known as the Institut Congolais pour la Conservation de la Nature, or ICCN), we’ve seen the importance of a presence on the ground as a first step in protecting and conserving wildlife.

AWF identified a 10,000-km<sup>2</sup> section within Bili-Uele with the highest potential for wildlife protection and a low forecast for habitat destruction. Then AWF and ICCN established an operations base at Bili in the southwestern

corner of this priority area, now known as the Bili Mbomu Forest Complex.

To date, the project has recruited rangers and trained them in ecological monitoring, counter-poaching tactics and anti-poaching technology. These front-line defenders have destroyed scores of hunting camps in the area. The project also organized a Wildlife Crime Investigation Unit and Quick Reaction Force equipped with drones to monitor activity in the vast and hard-to-travel landscape.

Most recently AWF secured a EUR 3 million grant from the European Union (EU) to secure a sustainable future for the Bili-Uele, its populations and its biodiversity. The grant is part of the EU’s Forest Ecosystems in Central Africa program, which is an effort to link conservation efforts and poverty reduction in the remote forests of seven countries including the DRC. Much of the funding will go towards supporting ICCN in planning and management capacity, including facilitating communities’ participation in managing the land they rely on for their livelihoods.

Top Left: Bushmeat hunting is one of the biggest threats to chimpanzees’ survival; AWF works with communities in Bili-Uele to develop alternative sustainable agricultural practices. Photo by Paul Runze (pcrimages.com).

Top Right: The 60,000-square-kilometer Bili-Uele conservation area harbors high levels of biodiversity, including the last remaining continuous population of the eastern chimpanzee.

Bottom: Forest elephants are found in West and Central Africa. AWF is funding research to create comprehensive data on the forest elephant. Photo by Gudkov Andrey.



KENYA



## Kenyan wildlife aerial count: ELEPHANTS ON THE RISE

The results from an aerial survey of elephants in Kenya's Tsavo-Mkomazi Ecosystem (TME) are in, and data shows elephant populations in the TME region (southeast Kenya and northeast Tanzania) increased by 14.7 percent between 2014 and 2017.

The survey, co-funded by AWF, took place over 10 days in early 2017. A total of 12,866 elephants were counted, representing an annual increase of 4.9 percent over each of the last three years. The census also found buffalo populations increased by 26 percent and giraffes by 61 percent.

Unfortunately, the census also recorded 1,167 elephant carcasses—a reminder that elephants are under constant threat from illegal poaching, habitat loss and human-wildlife conflict. There was also evidence of increased human activities such as charcoal burning and grazing livestock within the area (approximately 50,000 square kilometers).

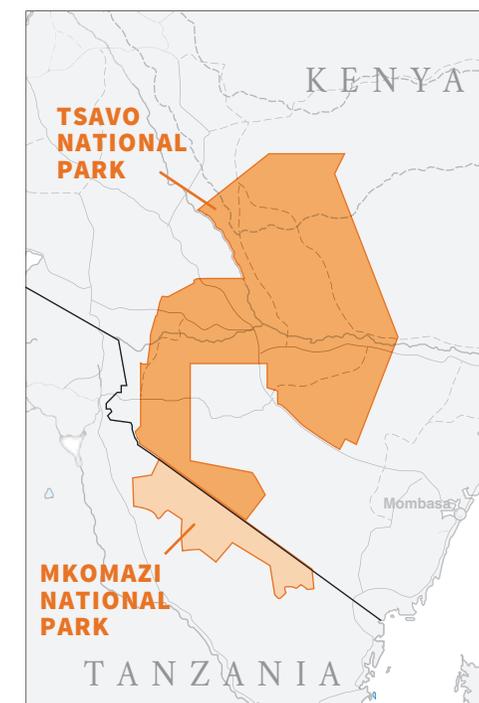
The wildlife surveys started in 2002, and the Kenya Wildlife Service and Tanzania Wildlife

Research Institute have conducted them every three years since. AWF staff members participated in the count, gathering data and analyzing the results. AWF also provided funding for equipment and 10 aircraft, which were equipped with GPS units and cameras.

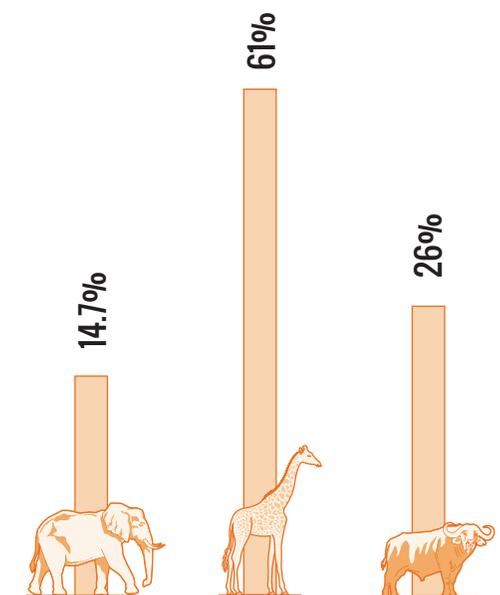
Additionally, with a new grant from the U.S. Agency for International Development, AWF is working in the communal areas between Tsavo East and West to ensure community conservancies are viable and to support and strengthen community engagement in conservation and wildlife conservation. (Community conservancies are autonomous bodies that manage their land with a commitment to biodiversity while supporting area livelihoods.)

*Top Left: Researchers use CyberTracker GPS units to gather population data.*

*Top Right: An aerial survey of elephants in the Tsavo-Mkomazi Ecosystem found elephant populations increased 4.9% annually.*



Increase from 2014–2017





CAMEROON

## Looking ahead: AWF IN CAMEROON

Cameroon mirrors Africa's diversity from an ecological standpoint. Like its mother continent, Cameroon boasts a coastline, mountains, savanna, desert and tropical rainforests hosting roughly 90 percent of all ecosystem types found in Africa.

The Cameroonian government needs support to conserve its natural biodiversity treasures. Cameroon's parks are vast, and the wildlife authority is under-resourced. Threats to wildlife are considerable: In the north, armed pastoralists enter protected areas at will and kill wildlife for meat. In the south, there's logging and infrastructure development and, again, bushmeat hunting.

Fortunately, AWF already has a foothold in Cameroon. We've been providing technical and financial support to wildlife authorities in Campo Ma'an National Park, which is in the southwest corner of the country, bordering Equatorial Guinea; and we have an AWF technical advisor based in Dja Faunal Reserve (DFR), which is in southeast Cameroon.

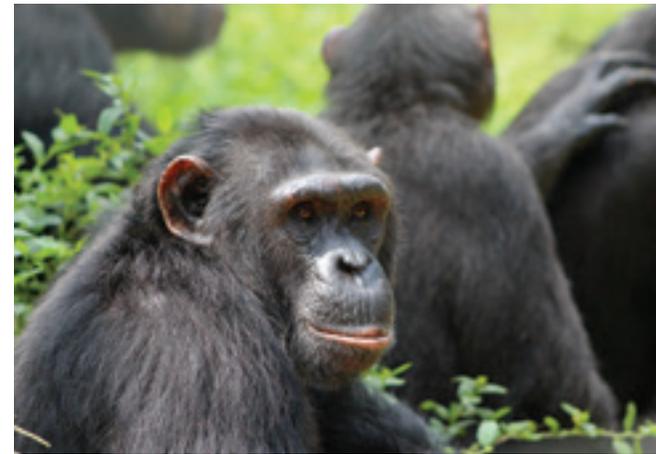
Dja is a vital home to endangered chimpanzees and western lowland gorillas and is a World Heritage Site. Working with the Conservation



Service of the DFR, which manages the protected area on behalf of the Ministry of Forest and Fauna, AWF strengthened anti-poaching activities by training rangers and providing ecological monitoring equipment and gear. Our GIS team helps map priority areas with high potential for poaching (using data from patrols and from GIS platforms). This data allowed the conservation service to most efficiently apply its resources.

We also established ranger bases at four priority sites in the reserve, and strategically placed camera traps and acoustic sensors to improve monitoring of performance of the anti-poaching efforts. These enhancements also allow us to adapt our strategic approach as needed.

The enhancements are working, and poaching arrests have increased. In 2016, one of the men arrested was a well-known yet elusive criminal at the head of a local bushmeat trade network. During hundreds of patrols in 2017, rangers destroyed scores of active hunting camps, seizing



wildlife contraband, guns, ammunition and motorbikes. They also removed more than 250 traps and snares.

AWF also helped establish vigilance committees in local communities. These groups report suspicious activity and play a significant role in locating bush meat and illegal weapons.

*Top Left: AWF provides technical support to Campo Ma'an National Park in Cameroon, protecting critical wildlife populations. Photo by Christian Seffrin (Mt. Cameroon National Park).*

*Middle Top & Bottom: Dja Faunal Reserve is vital habitat to endangered chimpanzees. Photos by Sean Brogan.*

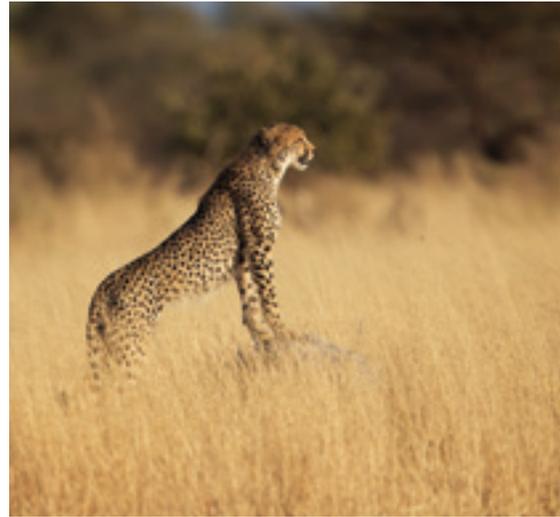
*Top Right: AWF's conservation work in Faro National Park will protect Cameroon's largest hippo population. Photo by Billy Dodson.*



## Natural next step

Faro National Park in the north, home to Cameroon's largest population of hippos, serves as a natural next step for AWF engagement in the country. After a survey of Faro in 2016, AWF realized that conservation work in the park was practically nonexistent. The road conditions exacerbate the situation: Of the 500-km route into the park, only the first 30 km from the main entrance are currently passable.

With support from the European Union, AWF's work in Faro, to begin in 2018, will initially focus on working with the government to develop general management and business plans for the park, upgrade the part of the main road and develop ranger capacity. Later will come the critical work of conservation engagement with surrounding communities as well as alternative livelihood development.



Top Left: A lone African wild dog spots the camera on Senuko Ranch, Save Conservancy, Zimbabwe. Once widespread, these painted dogs are now endangered, with a population of less than 6,600 left in the wild.

Top Right: Photo by Larry Traxler.

Middle Right: Photo by Roger Turski (deltarain.com).



ZIMBABWE

## SUPPORTING FRONT-LINE WILDLIFE DEFENDERS IN ZIMBABWE

Ivory poaching has hit Zimbabwe hard in the last decade. Estimates show the southern Africa country has lost 10,000 elephants from two of its critical populations since the most recent aerial survey in 2007. And it is a hotspot for rhino poaching as well. Through our species and land protection programs, AWF works to increase the capacity of the men and women on the front lines of Zimbabwe’s poaching crisis.

Some of this work occurs in the Lower Zambezi Valley, an AWF priority landscape that encompasses wildlife habitat in Zimbabwe, Zambia and Mozambique. We helped establish a base camp in Zimbabwe’s Mana Pools National Park, a 2,196-square-kilometer World Heritage Site with the country’s most significant concentration of hippos and crocodiles as well as crucial elephant populations, lion, cheetah and painted dogs. With modern accommodations, an operations room, stores and a canteen, the new camp houses a 40-ranger rapid reaction anti-poaching unit and is the nerve center for coordination of anti-poaching operations. It also is a center for training of rangers based throughout the valley. To date, we’ve conducted leadership training, as well as training in night patrols and use of ecological monitoring devices and software.

In southeastern Zimbabwe at the Save Valley Conservancy, AWF provides funding to a rhino anti-poaching unit.

We also have a presence in Hwange National Park, which is famous for its large populations of elephants and large carnivores, including one of the most elusive predators on the continent: the endangered African wild dog (also known as “painted dogs” for their colorful, patchy coats). The dogs cover a lot of ground while hunting and often fall victim to poachers’ snares or cyanide-laced water traps.

To help protect wild dogs throughout this vast landscape, AWF partners with Painted Dog Conservation (PDC), which has a long history of working to conserve African wild dogs. With our support, PDC has expanded its anti-poaching unit while building up its community outreach campaign, “Zero Tolerance to Wildlife Crime.” PDC also operates a busy rehabilitation center for injured dogs.

# Letter from the President: A TIME FOR INNOVATION



Dear AWF friends,

Conservation news out of Africa often is bleak, but there are great stories worth celebrating.

Creative actions by Rwanda, the DRC and Uganda have helped mountain gorillas become the only non-human primates now growing in numbers. Once besieged by poachers, elephant populations have stabilized in East Africa, and reports from South Africa show a decline in rhino poaching.

China, once the world's largest market for illegal ivory, has banned the trade. Hong Kong is taking important steps towards eliminating ivory trade too, while major online retailers like Rakuten have shut down the sale of wildlife products on their platforms. Across the continent, governments are taking proactive measures to secure wildlife and wild lands.

However, these steps in the right direction shouldn't blind us to the stark reality that we are running out of time to protect Africa's natural capital.

Owing to climate change, 17 countries in Africa are struggling to come to terms with the impact of two consecutive years of drought, which have left more than 38 million people vulnerable. This drought—the worst in two generations in the Horn and parts of southern Africa—has killed thousands of endangered animals.

How much longer will it be possible to secure protected lands and wildlife habitats from the pressure of communities that are running out of water and pasture? How will we secure the stabilizing populations of elephants and rhinos in countries emerging from poaching crises?

My travels across Africa and interactions with decision-makers have convinced me that our work is not only still needed, but that we are also being called upon to do more and offer new ideas.

We are increasingly going beyond our traditional conservation work to forge non-conventional partnerships that respond more robustly to Africa's unique challenges and needs.



*Top Left: Rwanda's Minister for Trade and Industry Vincent Munyeshyaka and AWF President Kaddu Sebunya during the land handover ceremony in Kinigi, Rwanda. Photo by Thomas Mukoza.*



*Top Right: AWF President Kaddu Sebunya and former EU Ambassador to Uganda Kristian Schmidt celebrate World Wildlife Day 2017.*



*Bottom Right: AWF President Kaddu Sebunya and Intergovernmental Authority on Development Executive Secretary Mahboub M. Maalim sign an MOU.*

The partnerships we are creating with donors, governments and pan-African institutions—in politics, governance, finance, agriculture and security—shall determine the new generation of policies that will lead to a thriving continent with wildlife and wild lands at its core.

These are truly trying times, but I believe they offer opportunities for reinvention and conservation innovation. And AWF—one of the oldest African conservation organizations and one that is widely respected by key decision-makers—has the depth of knowledge and experience to offer leadership on these emerging conservation challenges.

Kaddu Sebunya  
President



TANZANIA



## SUSTAINING FARMERS & WILDLIFE IN SOUTHERN TANZANIA

In southern Tanzania's Kilombero Valley, elephants and other species travel important corridors to find food and water. But, as human development encroaches upon protected areas, these essential migratory routes are becoming fragmented and converted to agricultural and other non-compatible uses. The potential for human-wildlife conflict increases when corridors are lost. The tension is most sharply felt by the fertile ecosystem's 100,000 small-scale farmers, many of them women, who grow rice and cocoa. Conflict erupts when wildlife destroys or eats crops.

To address this problem, AWF is working with 2,000 small-scale farmers from 13 villages surrounding Kilombero Nature Reserve. The program seeks to generate higher income for

farmers by improving cultivation techniques. It strategically links farmers with higher-paying agricultural markets in exchange for forest conservation and more efficient use of farm land. Thus, the partnership aims to simultaneously protect farmers' livelihoods and the area's biodiversity.

"On the one hand, we want to conserve and maintain essential migration routes for critically endangered and charismatic species such as elephants. At the same time, human-wildlife conflicts can be prevented by reducing the impacts on fields by wildlife and therefore the strain on farmers," says Kathleen Fitzgerald, AWF's vice president for programs in East and southern Africa.

Such symbiosis is a crucial tenet of the International Union for Conservation of Nature Sustainable Inclusion Strategy for Growth Corridors in Africa (or SUSTAIN) program, which AWF implements in southern Tanzania with support from the Netherlands Development Organisation.

AWF also facilitates communities' conservation land-use planning in Kilombero. In September, government officials and community representatives agreed to implement restoration plans for areas of ecological value, including key wildlife corridors.

Top Left: Southern Tanzania's Kilombero landscape.

Top & Bottom Right: A small-scale sugar cane farm in southern Tanzania's Kilombero landscape is supported by AWF.



UGANDA

## IMPROVING PARK MANAGEMENT, REDUCING HUMAN-WILDLIFE CONFLICT & CREATING SUSTAINABLE LIVELIHOODS IN UGANDA

When it comes to biodiversity, Uganda is among the world's most fortunate countries. It claims 10 percent of the world's bird species (more than 1,000) and more than 340 species of mammals, including the rare mountain gorilla. Of the 41 priority landscapes in Africa that AWF has identified for critical conservation work, four are in Uganda.

Over the past three decades, partnerships in Uganda between AWF, the U.S. Agency for International Development (USAID), the Ugandan Wildlife Authority (UWA) and National Forest Authority have been fruitful,

with results that include protection of the priority natural assets, world-class travel lodges and other tourism infrastructure.

The most recent USAID-funded partnership in Uganda, a five-year program designed to protect wildlife and wild lands while benefiting communities, achieved powerful impacts including improvements in protected area management, mitigation of human-wildlife conflict and development of alternative livelihoods, particularly chili farming and beekeeping.

### Cybertracker

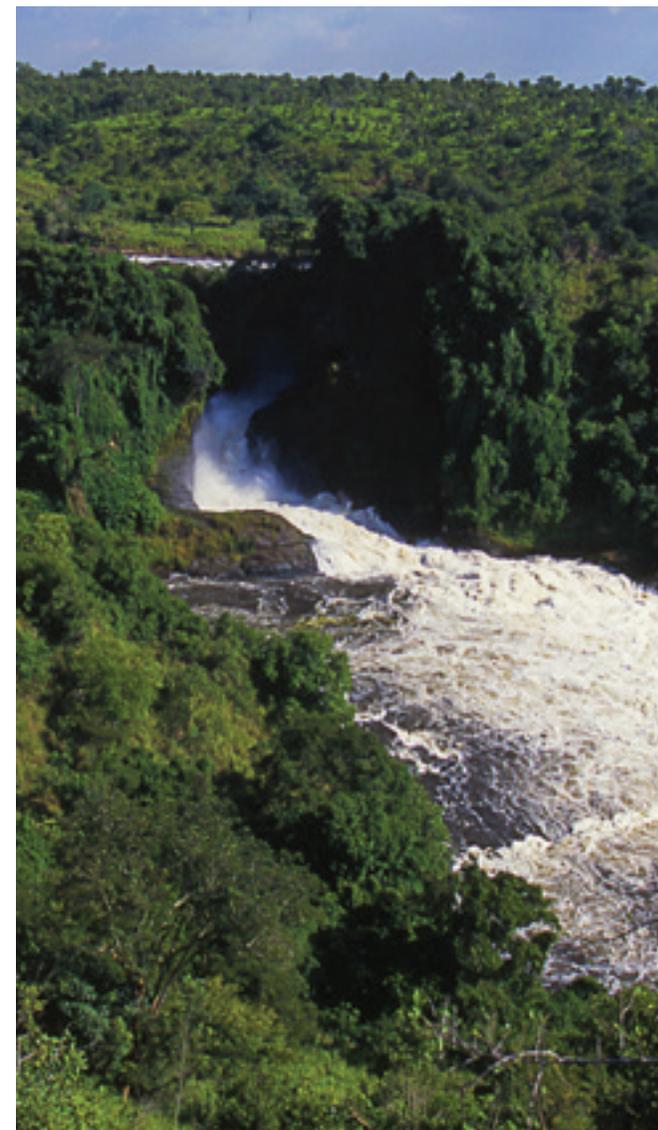


AWF trains park staff in CyberTracker, a hand-held device that allows users to record observations in the wild. Users can track the number of snares they remove, for example, or elephants in a herd on a given day. The data inform decisions about where to implement patrols, intelligence gathering, community awareness raising or other interventions.

### Chilies



To help Kidepo Valley and Murchison Falls farmers struggling to keep elephants out of their crops, AWF trained farmers to grow chilies. When compacted in blocks or mixed with rice husks or cow dung and burned, the chili's pungent smell repels most wildlife, including elephants. Chili has the same effect when mixed with oil and smeared on strings or rugs hung on garden edges. Chilies also repel elephants when planted in or around gardens. The best news is that the chili farmer's income has more than doubled because in addition to using the crop to prevent elephant raiding they have sold it to local markets.



COMMUNITIES SEE FIRSTHAND THAT BY PROTECTING THE FOREST (A SOURCE OF NECTAR), THEIR HARVESTS ARE MORE ABUNDANT

### Beekeeping



AWF worked with partners to train more than 800 people around Kalinzu and Budongo Central Forest Reserves in a sustainable microenterprise: beekeeping. We then supported almost 100 of these farmers in further development of apiary businesses, including supplying 800 hives and equipment including harvesting suits, smokers, scales and guidebooks. To ensure quality, the program—in partnership with the Jane Goodall Institute—supported the testing and certification of the

honey by Uganda National Bureau of Standards. The beekeepers are organized and registered as producer cooperatives with the appropriate government ministries, enabling them to access commercial markets. In addition to gaining improved incomes, communities see firsthand that by protecting the forest (a source of nectar), their harvests are more abundant.

Top Left: Murchison Falls.

Top Right: Uganda Wildlife Authority rangers learn how to use CyberTracker, a hand-held device that uses GPS to gather data.



**WRITTEN BY PERRIN BANKS**  
CLASSROOM AFRICA PROGRAM MANAGER

## *Educating Zambia's future conservation leaders*

People often ask why a conservation organization builds schools. For me, it's an easy answer. Education is one of the primary ways to develop consciousness about how our actions impact the environment—both locally and globally. It is one of the most important means of empowering youth, engaging communities, fostering concern for wildlife and promoting the sustainable use of natural resources.

So why not just develop conservation education curriculum?

Building schools demonstrates AWF's long-term commitment. We provide access to quality education in return for communities' agreements to conserve land and protect wildlife. While Classroom Africa is a relatively new program, the success of the model is already apparent in achievements at Zambia's Lupani Community School, where the community set aside 20,000 hectares of land strictly for conservation.

Seven years after we first opened the doors, the new school's first-ever first-grade class has reached seventh grade, and the students are moving on to secondary school—a considerable achievement for a rural community school.



I first visited the campus as a program design officer based out of AWF's Livingstone office in southern Zambia. The school was two years old, and just beginning to gain momentum. We had reconstructed it from a one-room schoolhouse to a campus complete with six classrooms and on-site teachers' housing. Enrollment was on the rise and, for the first time, students were graduating to the next level of schooling.

Over the past five years, our continued support and commitment have allowed Lupani to strive for an optimum balance of improved performance and higher conservation learning. Now, as the Classroom Africa program manager, I see how much impact we can make in rural communities in the landscapes where we work.

For the first time, I see how a community school can transform into a center of excellence—which is often not the case in rural areas. Students are participating in regional-level competitions—and winning. Our partner, Children in the Wilderness, awarded the school's environmental club "Best in Zambia." Students who were struggling are graduating at the top of their class.

Teachers, too, are excelling. Coster Mutale, a fourth-grade teacher and one of the school's "eco-mentors," will soon extend his environmental education training with a five-day workshop



## STUDENTS WHO WERE STRUGGLING ARE NOW GRADUATING AT THE TOP OF THEIR CLASS

in Johannesburg. This achievement is on top of previous distinctions awarded to the principal and first-grade teacher at Lupani.

Every visit to the school, I admire its success. A quality learning space, teacher training support, and opportunities to explore the local environment through outdoor lessons and field trips have propelled Lupani into a school that's comparable to urban schools.

I am inspired by how hard teachers and students continuously work. They have multiplied the value of AWF's support by remaining determined to not only instill and extend the importance of conservation but to help students and peers to excel and believe in themselves as Zambia's future leaders.



## Investing in a new school in remote Ethiopian highlands

The rugged Simien Mountains National Park in rural Ethiopia is a unique landscape, home to gelada monkeys, the endangered Ethiopian wolf and the rare Walia ibex. AWF has worked with the Ethiopian government and the area's Adisge community to strengthen conservation in the park, drastically reducing grazing and successfully enlisting community members to act as Ethiopian wolf ambassadors who monitor this unique predator's activity. The impacts were so significant that UNESCO last year removed Simiens from its list of World Heritage Sites in Danger—a tribute to Ethiopia's conservation commitment.

In exchange for Adisge's conservation investment, AWF's Classroom Africa program made an investment of its own, rebuilding the community's badly under-resourced school.

After about two years of construction work, a shiny new Adisge Primary School opened its doors in 2017. For the first time, it is set to include 7th and 8th graders. Previously, it lacked adequate facilities, and the closest full primary school was 12 kilometers away. Many students didn't complete their schooling due to the distance.

Absenteeism was also a persistent challenge, as many students worked on family farms or in markets selling crafts to tourists. But a new school helps reinforce the importance of education, boosting both enrollment and attendance.

Left: Students at Classroom Africa's Lupani Primary School on field trips and in the classroom.

Top Right: Thanks to the installation of solar panels on the school's roof, Adisge students are excited about their new, well-lit and spacious classrooms.



ETHIOPIA



The Adisge renovation includes additional classrooms, teacher housing, and a re-design to make the school eco-friendly and comfortable. Before, the rooms were dark, dingy and quite chilly. The new school is lighter and also warmer thanks to soil-filled bags built into the walls as insulation.

Thanks to a partnership with Northland Controls, the school has solar panels that provide electricity. This also benefits community members, who can charge cell phones at the school instead of at the nearest charging place miles away.

"It's hard to quantify right now, but the whole feeling around the school is dramatically different," says Brian McBrearity, who was the director of Classroom Africa and now is AWF's vice president for management systems. "The pride, the smiles, the engagement with the school is something to see. It's a tangible difference."



MULTI-AREA



## THE ECO-LODGES HELP PROTECT PRECIOUS LANDSCAPES FOR THE BENEFIT OF AFRICA'S PEOPLE AS WELL AS ITS WILDLIFE

### ECO-TOURISM BENEFITS AFRICA'S LANDSCAPES & PEOPLE

In Rwanda, land of a thousand hills, an elegant, airy travel lodge lies nestled against mountain gorilla habitat.

In Ethiopia's rugged and breathtaking Simien Mountains, a modern eco-lodge is just a trek away from gelada monkeys, those exotic creatures with bleeding-heart throats and fearsome canine teeth.

And at the foot of Mt. Kilimanjaro heartland sits a camp where you can rest on a private veranda, perhaps reliving your pre-dawn bushwalk with Maasai warriors.

These AWF-initiated eco-lodges—Sabyinyo Silverback Lodge in Rwanda, Limalimo Lodge

in Ethiopia and Satao Elerai Camp in Kenya—are diverse in location, area attractions and design but all help protect Africa's precious landscapes for the benefit of the continent's people as well as its wildlife.

AWF pioneered community ownership of travel lodges based on wildlife tourism in 2001. We facilitate partnerships between the communities and private-sector operators and often help pay for construction. The community provides the land, and the private partner offers expertise in developing award-winning tourist facilities.

The lodges attract guests to national parks, encourage longer stays and generate revenue for protected areas through increased gate

collections and park/guide fees. They also put income directly into communities. Since opening in 2007, for example, Sabyinyo has generated almost USD 3 million for the community association.

Now, new evidence shows that lodges based on wildlife tourism are indeed a strong conservation incentive for communities. An AWF study published in *Environmental Conservation* in 2017 used satellite imagery to analyze new-construction density (huts, livestock pens, etc.) and land modification for farming, housing or livestock in four group ranches where AWF had implemented community-based conservation programs. All of the community programs included eco-lodges except one. The researchers found that the programs with eco-lodges controlled development in the conservation and grazing zones significantly better than that without. One community program had expanded its conservation area more than seven-fold through agreements with neighboring communities.

Says AWF ecologist and Director of Conservation Geography David Williams: "Communities with tourism programs that deliver jobs and benefits are motivated to be better conservation stewards of their land."

Left: Limalimo Lodge in Ethiopia boasts breathtaking and expansive views of the Simien Mountains. Photos by Umiliki Investments.

Top Center: Sabyinyo Silverback Lodge in Rwanda has generated more than USD 3 million for the surrounding community since the lodge opened in 2007. Photo by Governor's Camp Collection.

Top Right: Satao Elerai Camp in Kenya is directly owned by the local Maasai community; revenue from tourism is reinvested into conservation. Photo by Teeku Patel.

# Letter from the Chair: A YEAR OF OPPORTUNITY



Dear AWF friends,

The year 2018 marks a time of new beginnings for the African Wildlife Foundation. We have a new CEO, Tom Ogilvie-Graham, a new board chair (that would be me!) and a myriad of exciting new projects. From increased numbers of sniffer dogs in multiple African ports to expansion of the mountain gorilla habitat in Rwanda, we are on the ground and running. And, we could do none of this without your continued support and interest.

All of our projects are carefully thought through and analyzed for their impact and sustainability. From Ethiopia to Cameroon to Zimbabwe, we are investing in holistic programming to keep wildlife and wild lands safe while being aware that this must take place in a modern and developing Africa.

In 2018 we conclude our five-year strategic plan, and so we have embarked on a new planning process to ensure the next five years are equally productive and innovative. In addition to developing a new five-year plan for AWF, I have three other goals. The first is to raise the profile of the African Wildlife Foundation so we become a household name.

The second is to grow our board to include more international trustees. Finally (and this is hugely important), we must become the central convening power on the continent for discussions about conservation and all that entails. In the course of preparing our new strategic plan, we will identify critical areas where we can impact wildlife and wild lands most significantly.

None of these plans can become a reality without the involvement of our partners—current and future—and the generosity of each and every one of you. Every gift that you give to AWF is so important. It allows you to make a positive difference; it allows us to make a positive difference together.

With heartfelt thanks,

Heather Sturt Haaga  
*Chair*

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HELP TO SECURE A BRIGHTER FUTURE FOR WILDLIFE AND PEOPLE  
IN AFRICA. THANK YOU FOR ALL YOU DO.**

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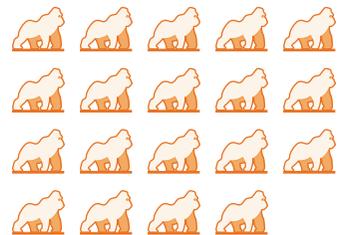
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 Alec Wilder



SPECIES

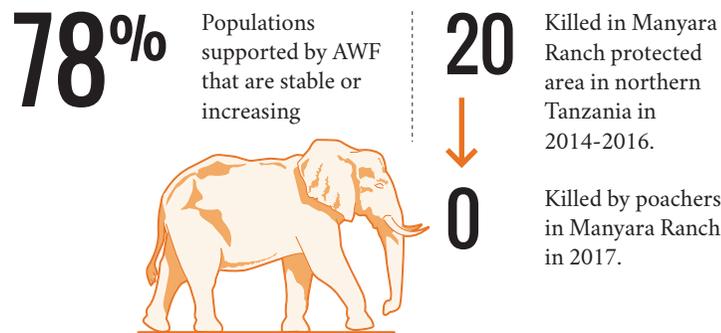
**56+** Years AWF has been leading conservation in Africa.

**MOUNTAIN GORILLAS**



**19** Babies named in Rwanda's "Kwita Izina" baby-gorilla naming ceremony in 2017.

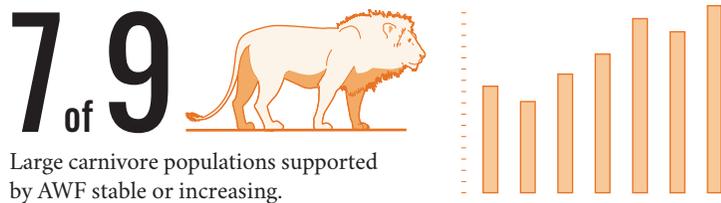
**ELEPHANTS**



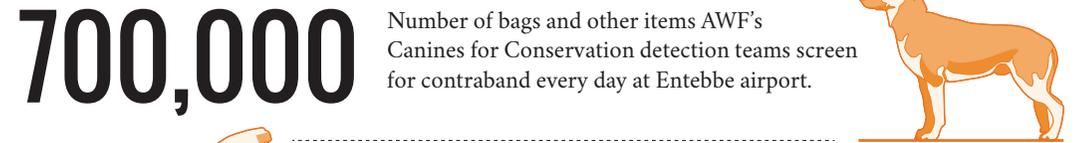
**RHINOS**



**LARGE CARVIVORES**



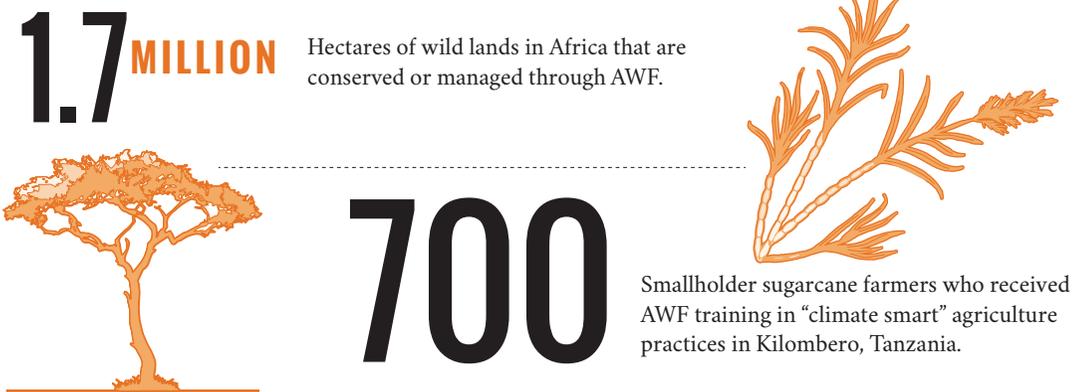
ANTI-TRAFFICKING



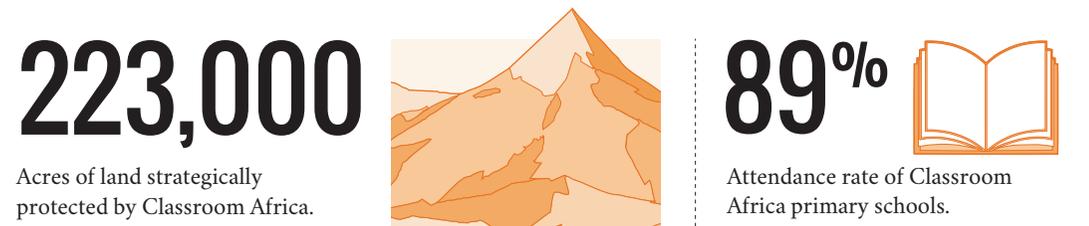
DEMAND REDUCTION



LAND & HABITAT



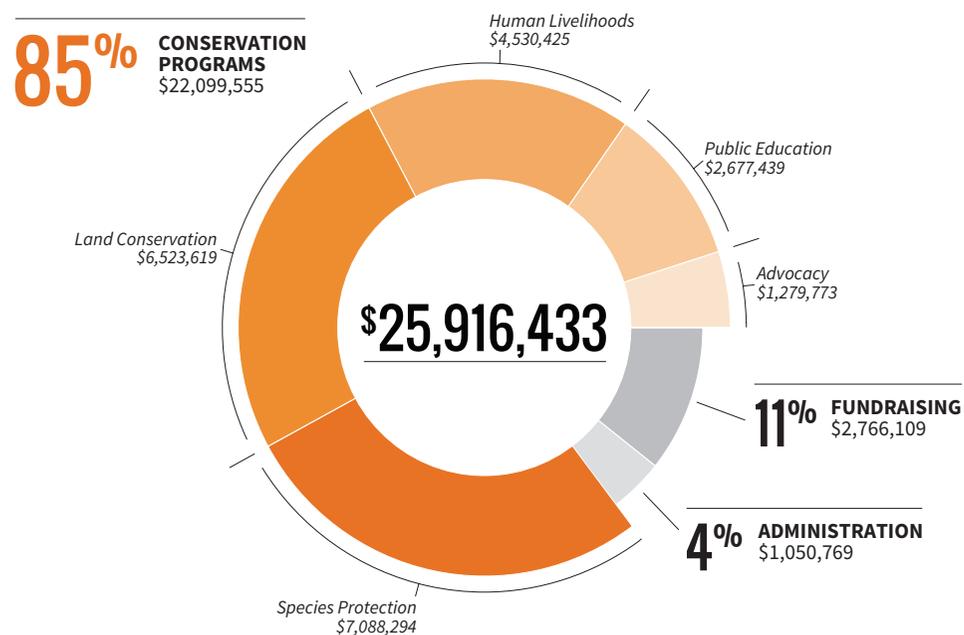
COMMUNITY



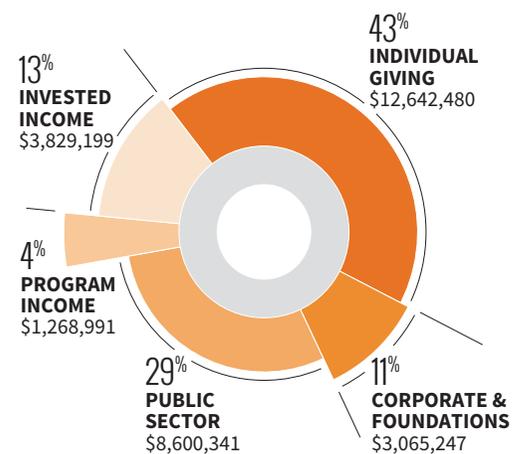
# FINANCIALS

Since AWF was founded nearly 60 years ago, we have been a responsible steward of your contributions in service to Africa's wildlife and wild lands. Over the past three years, our financial stability allowed us to use a total of USD 5 million from savings to address the urgent poaching crisis threatening Africa's iconic species.

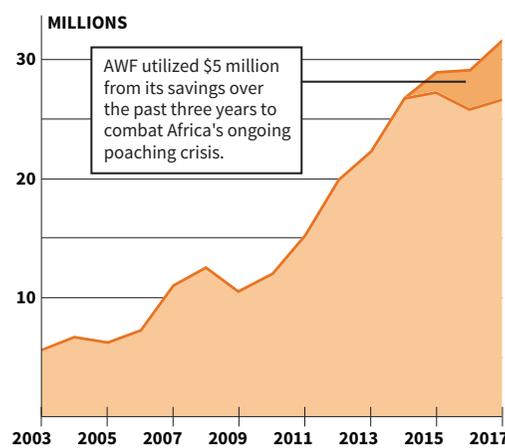
## Organizational Efficiency



## Revenue Breakout



## Invested Reserves



## Summary of Activities for the year ended June 30, 2017

	UNRESTRICTED	RESTRICTED	TOTAL
<b>OPERATING REVENUE</b>			
Gifts from individuals	8,976,708	3,665,772	12,642,480
Corporate & foundation support	1,028,797	2,036,450	3,065,247
Public sector grants	8,600,341	-	8,600,341
Program income	1,255,063	13,928	1,268,991
Investment income utilized	3,791,749	37,450	3,829,199
Restricted net assets utilized	5,897,728	(5,897,728)	-
<b>Total Operating Revenue</b>	<b>29,550,386</b>	<b>(144,128)</b>	<b>29,406,258</b>
<b>OPERATING EXPENSES</b>			
Conservation programs	18,142,341	-	18,142,341
Education & outreach	3,957,214	-	3,957,214
<i>Total program expenses</i>	<i>22,099,555</i>	<i>-</i>	<i>22,099,555</i>
Fundraising	2,766,109	-	2,766,109
Administration	1,050,769	-	1,050,769
<i>Total supporting services</i>	<i>3,816,878</i>	<i>-</i>	<i>3,816,878</i>
<b>Total Operating Expenses</b>	<b>25,916,433</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>25,916,433</b>
Non-operating activities			
Net investment income	1,468,173	420,858	1,889,031
Payouts to operations	(3,791,749)	(37,450)	(3,829,199)
<b>Total Non-Operating Activities</b>	<b>(2,323,576)</b>	<b>383,408</b>	<b>(1,940,168)</b>
<b>Change in Net Assets</b>	<b>1,310,377</b>	<b>239,280</b>	<b>1,549,657</b>

## Financial Position as of June 30

	2017	2016
Cash and equivalents	7,316,437	4,398,637
Investments	26,715,727	25,916,070
Gifts and grants receivable	6,006,440	8,235,846
Partner advances & accounts receivable	697,352	598,977
Impact loans receivable	5,584,477	5,957,648
Property & equipment, net of depreciation	3,494,856	3,523,323
Prepaid & other assets	859,988	1,163,012
<b>Total Assets</b>	<b>50,675,277</b>	<b>49,793,513</b>
Impact notes payable	6,250,000	6,250,000
Accounts payable & accrued expenses	1,670,707	2,291,555
Refundable grant advances	954,860	972,026
Other liabilities	244,634	274,513
<b>Total Liabilities</b>	<b>9,120,201</b>	<b>9,788,094</b>
Unrestricted net assets	29,248,994	27,938,617
Restricted net assets	12,306,082	12,066,802
<b>Total Net Assets</b>	<b>41,555,076</b>	<b>40,005,419</b>
<b>Total Liabilities &amp; Net Assets</b>	<b>50,675,277</b>	<b>49,793,513</b>



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*We hope you are proud of all we've accomplished for Africa's wildlife, landscapes and communities in the last year. Become a part of our success this year by making a special gift to AWF.*

*[www.awf.org/support-us](http://www.awf.org/support-us)*