History and Context

• ABCG created to collectively identify and address high priority conservation issues in Africa

• Began in 1999 as an informal exchange between several US-based conservation NGOs with field programs in Africa

• Formal voluntary coalition formed and a Program Manager hired in 2000, with initial support from MacArthur Foundation & member contributions

• Fully funded by USAID: ABCG Phase I, 2007-2014 focused on emerging threats including extractive industries/artisanal mines, intersections between faith and conservation, HIV impacts on conservation; and developing tools to address them e.g. LSLA, SMART
A Systematic Approach to Incorporate the Human Response into Climate Change Conservation Planning

Authors:

September, 2012

December 10, 2013

Building capacity for SMART law enforcement monitoring in Africa
Summary of Year 1 activities (FY2013)

WCS, IMAF, IGI and AMF

Report prepared by Emma J. Stolzen, WCS

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Current Phase

• ABCG II cooperative agreement, Oct 2015-Sept 2018
• 5 million over 3 years
• Emphasis on capacity development of African institutions
• Nairobi-based Program Officer
• WCS hosts the Secretariat, housing full-time ABCG staff
Mission

To advance understanding of critical biodiversity conservation challenges and their solutions in sub-Saharan Africa.

We produce practical knowledge and put it into practice.
Objectives

1. **Prioritize** biodiversity conservation in international development agendas

2. **Promote** best practices for conservation among practitioners

3. **Partner** with social and development institutions, including African institutions and civil society, to build capacity for biodiversity conservation
Approach

1. Identifying and prioritizing emerging and high-priority conservation issues affecting sub-Saharan Africa;

2. Fostering technical and information exchange through partnerships with African institutions and civil society, to design and test innovative approaches and build communities of practice, and;

3. Synthesizing collective lessons from field activities and sharing them with a broader multi-sector community in the United States and Africa for data-driven decision making and policy integration.
THEMATIC ACTIVITY AREAS
Thematic Activity Areas

1. Land and Resource Tenure Rights
2. Land Use Management
3. Managing Global Change Impacts on Biodiversity
4. Global Health Linkages to Biodiversity Conservation
5. Emerging Issues
TASK ACTIVITY 1: LAND AND RESOURCE TENURE RIGHTS (LRTR)
LRTR Task Activity Objectives

New Approaches that Protect Community Land Rights and Promote Biodiversity Conservation

WSC-WWF
- New protected areas - proposed Kabobo Wildlife Reserve (Tanganyika Province) - that respect community rights/interests

TNC-JGI
- Develop tools to implement Village Land-Use Plans (VLUPs) in Western Tanzania

AWF-WRI
- Develop tools to implement VLUPs in the Southern Agricultural Growth Corridor of Tanzania (SAGCOT)
LRTR Activities

**WCS–WWF Collaboration**
- Facilitate a participatory gazettement process between the government and local communities to establish Kabobo Natural Reserve (Tanganyika Province) and Ngandja Reserve (South Kivu Province), DRC
- Develop conservation action plan for Kabobo and surrounding landscape

**TNC–JGI Collaboration and AWF–WRI Collaboration**
- Conduct review of alternative available approaches/instruments that could promote the implementation of VLUPs
- Consultant report endorsed Group CCROs (Certificates of Customary Rights of Occupancy) which AWF, TNC, and JGI are implementing in field
- Consultant also made several other recommendations, including engaging in the ongoing National Land Policy reform process
TASK ACTIVITY 2:
LAND USE MANAGEMENT (LUM)
LUM Task Activity Objectives

• Aim: develop spatially-explicit scenario analysis & guidelines for application in Africa.

• Methodology: engage multi-sectoral stakeholders in a participatory, landscape-level planning process.

• Outputs: better understanding of drivers of landscape change, a range of future scenarios, and strategies for sustainable development and conservation of biodiversity.

• Study area: 4 landscapes in Democratic Republic of Congo, Madagascar, Republic of Congo, and Tanzania.
## LUM Activities

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Activity</th>
<th>Outputs</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Define objectives for each land use management type</td>
<td>Report</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Characterize the landscape</td>
<td>Database of conservation features, (including their status), and drivers of change.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Establish evaluation metrics (e.g., habitat loss, elephant population)</td>
<td>Analytical framework complete for assessing scenarios</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Develop scenarios and policy response options to identify priority areas for conservation of biodiversity</td>
<td>Decision support framework that is made freely available to government and partners</td>
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TASK ACTIVITY 3: GLOBAL CHANGE IMPACTS (GCI)
GCI Task Activity Objectives

Document human responses to climate change, and the impacts of these responses on biodiversity.

1. Identify impacts of human coping responses to climate change on biodiversity
2. Map exposure of human communities in target sites
3. Identify ecosystem-based strategies that reduce human vulnerability to climate change while benefitting nature
GCI Activities

• Conduct literature review on human responses to climate change
• Conduct field surveys across 21 different sites in Africa
• Develop a typology of human responses to climate change based on the results of the field survey and literature review
• Map observed extreme events/climatic shifts at target sites
• Use knowledge base on human responses and likely conservation impact to identify and prioritize adaptation strategies
TASK ACTIVITY 4: GLOBAL HEALTH LINKAGES TO BIODIVERSITY CONSERVATION

Population Health and Environment (PHE) Freshwater Conservation and Water, Sanitation and Hygiene (FW-WASH)
PHE Task Activity Objectives

Overall objective: Increase the effectiveness of biodiversity conservation by emphasizing synergies that integrate biodiversity with actions that contribute to improving global health.

- Analyze existing projects that integrate population with other health and environment sectors.
- Identify best practices based on the analysis for integrated PHE projects at the regional and national scales.
- Pilot test best practices on the ground and communicate/disseminate lessons learned.
Integrating Gender through Cameroon’s Women’s Groups
FW-WASH Task Activity Objectives

• Demonstrate model works – integrate biodiversity and health to improve ecosystem and human health
• Increase capacity Africa-based partners and practitioners
• Strengthen the evidence base
FW-WASH Activities

Map of South Africa highlighting the Succulent Karoo and Maputaland-Pondoland regions.

Forest in the Bugoma-Budongo Corridor map.
TASK ACTIVITY 5: EMERGING ISSUES
EMERGING ISSUES Task Activity Objectives

• Identify and develop strategies to respond to emerging issues that are likely to shape conservation priorities in the coming years, and influence the effectiveness of biodiversity conservation efforts in Africa

• One year small grants to ABCG members partnered with local civil society organizations, institutions or government

• Disburse $250,000 in awards
EMERGING ISSUES Activities

• Source target issues through member field staff and community poll
• Release 2 calls for concepts
• Award 4 projects of approximately $50,000 - $60,000
EMERGING ISSUES Awards

- Two awards per round:
  - TNC/WRI: *Piloting Mechanisms for Strengthening African Conservation Leadership and Organizational Capacity*
  - WCS/WWF: *A Scalable Approach to Engaging Chinese Overseas Enterprises to Mitigate Impacts of Wildlife Trafficking in Africa*
  - WCS/JGI: *Mapping Conservation Investment Priorities for Uganda*
  - CI/WCS: *Establishing a Community of Practice to Enhance Learning from Vital Signs Monitoring System and the Resilience Atlas in East Africa*
AFRICA ENGAGEMENT
Outreach Objectives

• RAISE AWARENESS of ABCG consortium, member activities, and high-priority conservation issues

• DEEPEN STAKEHOLDER ENGAGEMENT by convening multi-sector actors for sharing of experiences, lessons learned, best practices

• SUPPORT AFRICAN EXPERTISE and engagement of key African institutions in addressing the critical biodiversity conservation challenges facing the continent
Target Audiences

• Build community of practice in Nairobi and regionally
  • ABCG member organizations
  • Broader conservation and development communities
  • Local government
  • Funders
Initial Activities

• Events
  • Speaker series
  • Task activity presentations
  • Dialogues

• Cross promotion
  • Share stories/results/uploads via social media, web linkages, e-newsletter
Connect

ABCG website:  [www.abcg.org](http://www.abcg.org)
  • Join our listserv

Twitter:  @ABCGconserve

Facebook:  [www.facebook.com/ABCGconserve](http://www.facebook.com/ABCGconserve)

LinkedIn:  [www.linkedin.com/company/africa-biodiversity-collaborative-group](http://www.linkedin.com/company/africa-biodiversity-collaborative-group)
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Questions?