



Biodiversity Analysis and Technical Support
(BATS) for USAID/Africa

Annual Report

Africa Biodiversity Collaborative Group (ABCG)



Photo credit: Ephraim Mwangomo, Kilimanjaro, Tanzania

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BIODIVERSITY ANALYSIS AND TECHNICAL SUPPORT (BATS)
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ANNUAL REPORT FOR THE
AFRICA BIODIVERSITY COLLABORATIVE GROUP (ABCG)

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SUBMITTED BY WORLD WILDLIFE FUND ON BEHALF OF
ABCG MEMBER ORGANIZATIONS:



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ACRONYMS

ABCG	Africa Biodiversity Collaborative Group
AWF	African Wildlife Foundation
BATS.....	Biodiversity Analysis and Technical Support Program of USAID/AFR/SD
CI.....	Conservation International
DRC	Democratic Republic of Congo
IBAT.....	Integrated Biodiversity Assessment Tool
ICMM.....	International Council on Minerals and Mining
IUCN.....	International Union for the Conservation of Nature
JGI	Jane Goodall Institute
MENTOR	Mentoring for ENvironmental Training in Outreach and Resource conservation fellowship program
TNC	The Nature Conservancy
WCS	Wildlife Conservation Society
WRI	World Resources Institute
WWF	World Wildlife Fund
USAID.....	US Agency for International Development

INTRODUCTION

The Biodiversity Analysis and Technical Support (BATS) for USAID/Africa program helps to build capacity within the Bureau for Africa, its field missions, and partners to more effectively incorporate biodiversity conservation into programming decisions. Through timely assessments, targeted analyses, generation of technical materials, and other program development support activities, BATS helps missions and partners integrate biodiversity best practices into operational plans, and serves as a platform for strategic planning of USAID's biodiversity conservation agenda in Africa.

The BATS program is a multi-partner USAID Bureau for Africa effort that has included International Resources Group (IRG) under the Environmental Policy and Institutional Strengthening Indefinite Quantity Contract (EPIQ II), the USDA Forest Service International Programs under an interagency agreement, new partner Environmental Law Institute (ELI), the Capitalizing Knowledge, Connecting Communities (CK2C) project of new partner Development Alternatives, Incorporated (DAI) and the Africa Biodiversity Collaborative Group (ABCG)¹ under a cooperative agreement. While all groups had separate funding and work plans, the three entities met regularly with USAID to coordinate their activities. This report details the activities of the BATS program over the third year of the ABCG grant from October 2010 through September 2011.

Organized by the five primary BATS task areas (A, B,C, D, and E), this report provides an overview of BATS program activities through the third year of the ABCG grant and next steps planned over the next few years through the extension of BATS.

PROJECT OVERVIEW

Through BATS, ABCG received a two-year \$500,000 grant in 2008-2009 to provide technical support and share lessons learned to assist USAID/AFR/SD, Africa Missions and local and national organizations in Africa to increase their effectiveness to tackle major existing and emerging threats to Africa's biodiversity and contribute to sound development based on wise use of natural resources and maintenance of ecosystem services. ABCG proposed and was awarded a five-year, \$2,500,000 extension to the BATS agreement for the period 2009-2014. In 2011, ABCG was invited to submit a \$4,700,000 amendment to the BATS agreement, which was approved by USAID.

The BATS program develops practical documentation of USAID's biodiversity conservation experience and resulting best practices and policy considerations, describes extractive industries partnerships with conservation initiatives, provides technical assistance for biodiversity conservation programs in conflict and crisis states and highlights governance issues, conducts biodiversity and tropical forestry country-level assessments, and identifies and conducts analysis and outreach on emerging African conservation issues.

This project serves as a support facility that provides services to meet mission and partner needs in:

¹ *ABCG is a collaboration by the major US-based international conservation non-governmental organizations (NGOs) with field activities in Africa (including African Wildlife Foundation, Conservation International, the Jane Goodall Institute, The Nature Conservancy, Wildlife Conservation Society, World Resources Institute and World Wildlife Fund). ABCG has extensive experience in sharing lessons learned on high priority conservation issues affecting Africa. See: www.abcg.org*

- Reviewing USAID/Africa's conservation history, lessons learned, and way forward (Task A)
- Managing extractive industry alliances for environmental gain (Task B)
- Addressing biodiversity conservation in states vulnerable to crisis, in crisis, or recovering from crisis (Task C)
- Supporting country-level 118/119 biodiversity and tropical forestry assessments, including threats, analysis, and actions necessary for biodiversity conservation (Task D)
- Conducting analysis and outreach on future paths for biodiversity conservation in Africa to inform future strategies (Task E).

PROJECT ACCOMPLISHMENTS

ABCG's FY2011 activities built upon the efforts of BATS carried out by the USDA Forest Service International Programs (FS/IP) and IRG, as well as ABCG members and activities during the previous years of BATS.

- **Five large thematic meetings** including 1) [Protected Area Degazettement, Downlisting and Downsizing](#), 2) [Land Use Management Tools for Conservation in East Africa](#), 3) [Faith and Conservation in Africa](#), 4) [Understanding and Reducing the Impacts of HIV/AIDS on Conservation](#), Association of Tropical Biology and Conservation/Society for Conservation Biology-Africa Section Meetings, 5) [Climate Change Adaptation](#) Workshop
- **Sixteen brown bag talks** and other events on various aspects of conservation, from country-level strategies in Uganda and Equatorial Guinea to participation in a seminar series on food security and USAID's Feed the Future initiative. We continue to develop compelling discussions to engage ABCG members and partners in addressing emerging and high priority issues affecting biodiversity in Africa.
- **Analytical reports and maps on:**
 1. Impacts from artisanal and industrial mining on biodiversity conservation in Democratic Republic of Congo
 2. Impact assessment of section 1504 of the US Dodd-Frank Wall Street Reform and Consumer Protection Act on Mining Companies in the DRC
 3. Implementing Community Land Rights: Lessons from the Northern Rangelands Trust in Kenya
 4. Wildlife Conservation in Zimbabwe: A Review of Relevant Statutes and an Assessment of Protected Areas, Conservancies and Implications of the Indigenisation Policy (AWF)
 5. A Comparison of Private Land-Use Restrictions in East African Countries DRAFT (WRI)
 6. A Review of Climate Change Adaptation Initiatives within the Africa Biodiversity Collaborative Group Members
 7. Finding Optimal Trade-offs Between Food Security and Conservation in Africa: A Review of Tools and Presentation of Case Studies from Zambezi and Ituri Landscapes
- **Three training workshops on:**
 1. REDD+ in Central Africa
 2. Climate Change Adaptation
 3. Mainstreaming HIV/AIDS into NRM: AWF's AIDS Organizational Policy
- **Outreach to the broader conservation community, including:**

1. Fact Sheets on ABCG and Climate Change Adaptation and ABCG Food Security and Conservation in Africa Fact Sheet
2. ABCG listserv increased by 40% from 351 in October 2010 to 492 in September 2011
3. Move of ABCG listserv to more user-friendly system
4. Consolidating themes on ABCG website to simplify navigation,
5. Increase in ABCG listserv membership, with less frequent but more substantial postings,
6. Maintenance of ABCG Facebook page and Twitter feed

PROJECT GOAL

The goal of ABCG's BATS component is to support USAID AFR/SD, Africa Missions and African organization partners to increase their effectiveness to tackle major existing and emerging threats to Africa's biodiversity and contribute to sound development and security based on wise use of natural resources and maintenance of ecosystem services.

PROJECT OBJECTIVES

Undertake analysis, provide technical support, and conduct outreach in Biodiversity Analysis and Technical Support (BATS) over a five-year period by:

- Facilitating continued dialogue on the future of biodiversity in Africa
- Provide analysis, capacity building, and technical support on ways to reduce biodiversity impacts from extractive industries
- Analyzing biodiversity conservation and governance issues to prevent natural resource conflicts
- Forecasting future conservation needs and opportunities in Africa by identifying selected critical and/or emerging conservation issues and linkages in Africa as priorities for future USAID and donor support in order to better prepare the conservation sector and in some cases follow up directly or catalyze actions by others
- Equipping USAID missions and African partners with lessons learned
- Conducting continued outreach on BATS products.

Major themes for analysis and technical support proposed through the BATS extension include:

Task A: Facilitating Discussions on the Dar Vision on the "Future of Biodiversity in Africa"

Task B: Managing Extractive Industries to Protect Biodiversity

Task C: Analyzing Biodiversity Conservation and Governance to Prevent Conflict and Crisis

Task D: Supporting Country 118/ 119 Operational Plans Biodiversity and Tropical Forestry Assessments

Task E: Forecasting and Analyzing Conservation Needs and Building Capacity on Critical Issues

In 2011, ABCG submitted a successful proposal to amend the current BATS agreement. We are looking forward to expanding our work in the above areas, and adding several new tasks to our efforts. The new task list is available at the close of this report.

These themes were drawn out by the conservation NGOs as priorities for action. They have been highlighted through the Dar Vision process and series of BATS workshops that ABCG has organized in both the U.S. and Africa where African conservation experts, conservation NGOs and partners have discussed on “The Future of Biodiversity in Africa”. These themes build upon the first phase of BATS activities. The BATS extension continues to emphasize analysis, outreach, capacity building and communications efforts. Through BATS, ABCG helps USAID, Missions and African partners by conducting activities such as: 1) threat and footprint analyses, 2) legal, institutional, and policy analyses, 3) financial and socio-economic analyses; 4) training and capacity building; 5) operational research and technical support, and 6) outreach and networking.

PROJECT ACTIVITIES

Biodiversity Assessment and Path Forward (BATS Task A)

In the first phase of BATS, ABCG members contributed significantly to the process of learning lessons from 30 years of USAID/Africa’s biodiversity conservation initiatives, including consultative workshops with biodiversity experts in Washington, DC; Dar es Salaam, Tanzania; and Accra, Ghana. From these discussions, a report on the Future of Biodiversity in Africa process was written, and fact sheets on the Dar Vision (in English, French and Portuguese) were produced and distributed to all ABCG members, USAID, US Fish and Wildlife Service, US Forest Service-International Programs, the Woodrow Wilson Center, and IUCN regional offices in the US and throughout Africa.

The Dar Vision continues to be a critically important frame for ABCG’s collaborative work. The Dar Vision is referenced in every ABCG brown bag, meeting and workshop. In June 2011, ABCG had planned to hold a special symposium or side event at the Yaoundé+ meeting of Central African Heads of State in Kinshasa. However, as the event was postponed several times and ultimately rescheduled (date to be announced), we were unable to carry out this planned event. The Dar Vision was referenced during ABCG’s HIV/AIDS and conservation events at the joint meetings of the Society for Conservation Biology-Africa and the Association for Tropical Biology Conservation in Arusha, Tanzania in June 2011. In FY2012, we will continue to seek opportunities to raise the profile of the Dar Vision and its logical framework for success at events in Central Africa and other regions.

Brief summary of future work on Task A

The Dar Vision will be presented and discussed in international forums, including one major event in the region and one major event in Washington, DC. In the near future, ABCG members and partners can revisit the Dar Vision in the U.S. and in the region, including original participants, to confirm its ongoing relevance and assess progress.

ABCG will continue to provide support to additional retrospective analyses of USAID efforts in other countries and regions through Africa, providing resources, experts and public sharing of lessons learned.

Managing Extractive Industries to Protect Biodiversity (BATS TASK B)

ABCG members Conservation International (CI), Wildlife Conservation Society (WCS), World Resources Institute (WRI) and World Wildlife Fund (WWF) have worked together on several critical aspects of overlapping areas of mining interest and biodiversity concern in Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC). Our goal is to develop and implement a model for engaging companies and governments on biodiversity conservation and stewardship in Central Africa, beginning a comprehensive approach in the DRC. The project identifies critical biodiversity areas as well as mining company explorations and operations (including small scale and artisanal mining hotspots) that need to be prioritized for conservation engagement.

ABCG members completed the following research in 2011:

1. Artisanal and Small Scale Mining (ASM) in DRC Protected Areas and Critical Ecosystems (PACE)
2. Identification of areas of overlapping biodiversity importance and mineral wealth
3. Review of DRC national legislation on mining and biodiversity conservation
4. Assessment of the impact of Section 1504 (transparency provision) of the US Dodd-Frank Wall Street Reform and Consumer Protection Act on mining companies in the DRC
5. Case studies around Kahuzi-Biega National Park, Itombwe Nature Reserve and the Ituri landscape.

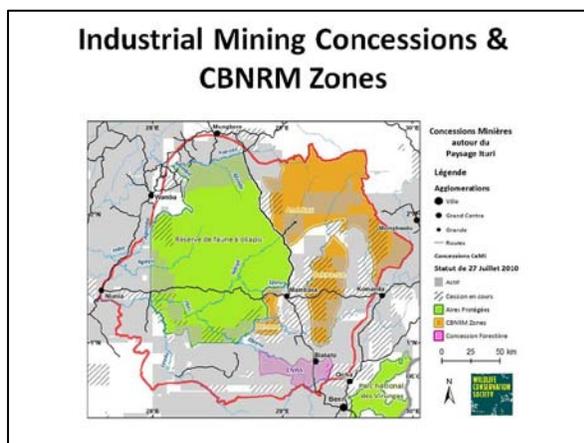


Figure 1: Industrial Mining Concessions & CBNRM Zones in DRC; presented at ABCG Brown Bag on Mining and Biodiversity in DRC

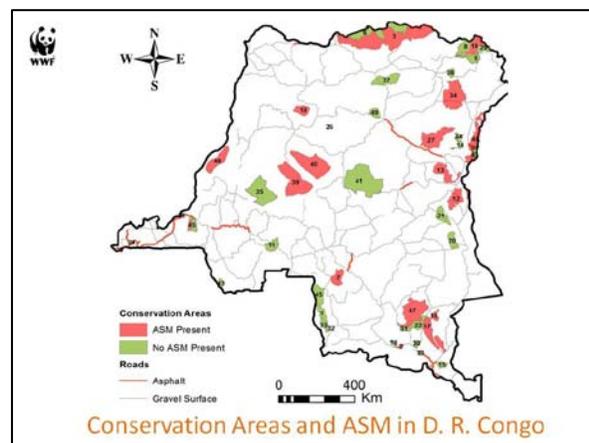


Figure 2: Conservation Areas and Artisanal Mining in DRC: presented at ABCG Brown Bag on Mining and Biodiversity in DRC

The ABCG Extractives group has produced a summary report on our findings from the above work. The report outlines the current situation in DRC, with particular reference to the threats to biodiversity from mining, the legal implications on a national and international level, possible solutions, as well as next steps to facilitate an approach to mining which accounts for its effects on biodiversity.

From October 11-12, 2011, we held a strategic planning workshop in Washington DC to develop an integrated approach for collaboratively addressing extractive industry and biodiversity issues in the Democratic Republic of Congo. The objectives of this meeting were to:

- Share perspectives and experiences among organizations, and between US and Congo-based staff
- Review, analyze, and finalize the products developed in FY2011
- Develop a strategy for engaging with the DRC government and mining companies

- Discuss institutional coordination to address mining and extractive industry challenges and their growing impacts on biodiversity conservation in Africa, and to develop an activity plan for the way forward
- Present the results of this first phase to the wider conservation community

Presentations included:

- [Africa, Conservation and Mining](#), by Frank Hawkins, CI
- [The ABC's of ABCG](#), by Natalie Bailey, ABCG
- [Mining & Biodiversity Overlaps in DRC](#), by Mahlette Betre, CI
- [Review of the National Legal Framework for Mining & Conservation in the DRC](#), by Christine Tam, WWF DRC
- [Artisanal and Small-Scale Mining in the Democratic Republic of Congo's Protected Areas and Critical Ecosystems](#), by Kirsten Hund, WWF DRC
- [U.S. Dodd-Frank Wall Street Reform and Consumer Protection Act \(2010\)](#), by Peter Veit and Anne-Gaelle Javelle, WRI
- [Mining in the Ituri Landscape: Challenges for Biodiversity Conservation](#), by Corneille Ewango, WCS



Figure 3: Robert Mwinyihali responds to a question at the ABCG Brown Bag on Mining and Biodiversity in DRC

A brown bag presentation and discussion on 12 October 2011 highlighted the preliminary results of these four ABCG member organizations' work addressing the issues of mining and biodiversity in the DRC. The presentation given at the brown bag is available here: [Mining and Biodiversity in DRC - Challenges & Opportunities](#). In addition, ABCG also has a [summary of the presentation and discussion themes](#).



Figure 4: Slides presented by WRI on the implications of the Wall Street Reform Act on mining in DRC at the ABCG Brown Bag on Mining and Biodiversity in DRC

Efforts in FY2012 will build upon work done in FY2011 by CI, WCS, WRI and WWF. Activities will include: updating and adding new layers to our mapping work, developing policy briefs on key issues, continuing due diligence on mining companies, conducting an analysis of lessons learned from the forest extractives sector and holding meetings in DRC on large scale and artisanal mining.



Figure 5: Cover of WWF's Mining and Environmental Law in DRC.

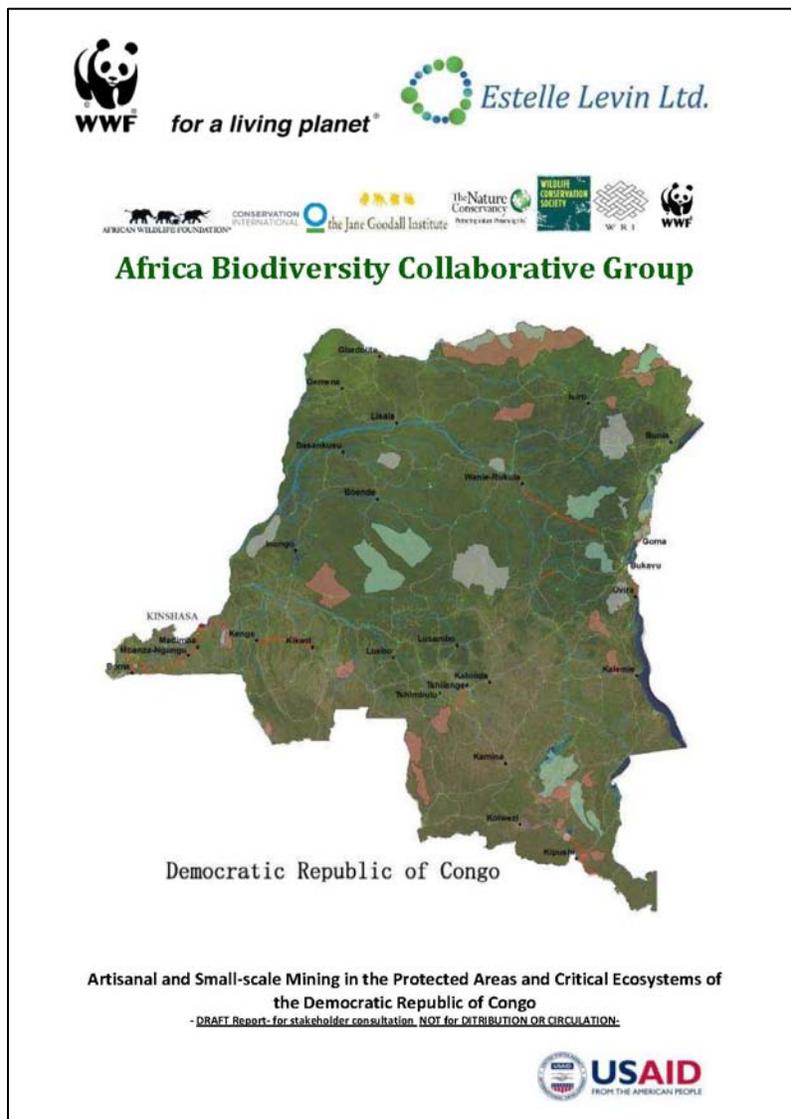


Figure 6: Cover of WWF's Report on Artisanal and Small-Scale Mining in the Protected Areas and Critical Ecosystems in the DRC.

Biodiversity Conservation in States Vulnerable To/Recovering From Crisis (BATS Task C)

In FY2011, ABCG members AWF, JGI, TNC expanded on their prior work on land tenure and use in states vulnerable to crisis. These efforts included:

- Review Zimbabwe's land tenure situation and policies and develop model for land management community partnerships, including strategic land targets.

AWF's new work for FY2011 was dedicated to partnership models for conservation and community engagement in Zimbabwe. AWF completed a work plan for assessing land tenure, status of conservation areas, and development of indigenization models in Zimbabwe. After identifying two pilot sites for review (one protected area and one private conservancy), AWF conducted an assessment of the communities around Hwange National Park (HNP) to determine perceptions about the National Park, status of CAMPFIRE and potential for indigenization in lodges in and around HNP. AWF conducted a comprehensive review of relevant policies in Zimbabwe. AWF conducted a site visit to 2 conservancies and a national park to assess implications of Zimbabwe resettlement program and new

land tenure laws. In addition, AWF met with private investors and developed a model for achieving Zimbabwe's Indigenisation target of 51%. These findings were compiled in a report that was sent to the Zimbabwe Parks and Wildlife Management Authority, which AWF will meet with in Harare in October 2011 to share findings and models for indigenization, trust development and protected area revenue assessment.

- Analysis of communal conservancies in Kenya in the light of the FY2010 BATS work and Kenya's new constitution and land policy.

In FY11, TNC partnered again with Professors Patricia Kameri-Mbote and Collins Odote to prepare a policy brief setting forth key principles that should be incorporated into the new community land legislation mandated by Kenya's Constitution. The professors conducted field visits with Northern Rangeland Trust (NRT) member conservancies in July 2011, followed by a one-day meeting with all NRT conservancy managers, at which the professors gave presentations on (i) the provisions of the new constitution relating to both land and devolution of government and (ii) ongoing wildlife policy and law reforms. In early 2012, the professors will return to the NRT Council of Elders meeting to present their findings and strategize with NRT about how best to influence government decision-makers in the hopes of obtaining the most favorable community land law possible.

- Assessment of participatory land use planning process in Tanzania and its success as a forest and chimpanzee conservation tool, including the use of geospatial technology and analysis.

JGI is conducting an assessment of the results of the village land use planning (VLUP) process in 13 villages closest to Gombe National Park. JGI consultant Liz Wily has extensive experience in land tenure issues in Tanzania and across Africa to conduct this assessment. Preliminary results suggest that VLUP provides a

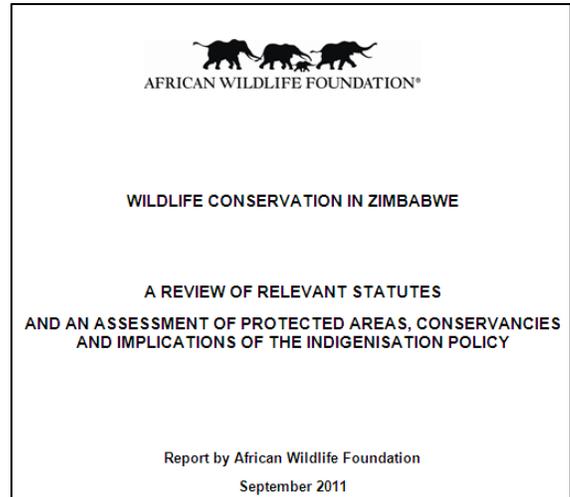


Figure 7: Cover of AWF's review of statutes regarding wildlife conservation in Zimbabwe

constructive framework within which ordinary rural citizens may become aware and protective of ultimately limited and fragile natural resources. There is no doubt that VLUP is an important instrument in natural resource conservation in the country, and is correctly located as a central construct through which JGI works with local communities.

- Examination of the law and practice of private land-use restrictions and assess their usefulness for achieving biodiversity conservation outcomes on non-PA, privately-held lands in Uganda and Tanzania. WRI shared the findings and recommendations from its 2010 research on private land-use restrictions in Kenya land tenure and rights at the Feb 2011 ABCG Meeting. New work in FY2011 included draft reports of findings/recommendations from WRI research on private land-use restrictions in Tanzania and in Uganda; draft report of findings/recommendations from WRI's comparative research on private land-use restrictions in Kenya, Tanzania and Uganda, as well as outreach and presentations at Foreign Service Institute of findings/recommendations from WRI comparative research on private land-use restrictions in Kenya, Tanzania and Uganda.
- **Outreach:** ABCG members implemented, facilitated and led a series of information dissemination and further data collection activities as follow up to activities started in FY10 including:
 1. The February 2011 ABCG meeting on "Land Use Management Tools for Conservation in Kenya and Tanzania" at TNC-USA and AWF-Nairobi
 2. Distribution of ABCG reports produced in FY2010 with appropriate government and NGO stakeholders, such as Kenya Wildlife Service, the Foreign Service Institute, communal conservancies and partner NGOs
 3. AWF held discussions with the Kenya Wildlife Service on a co-management agreement and an environmental easement for a property in Kenya, based on earlier research in South Africa; and further research on land claims in South Africa, and met with a community to explore and implement lessons learned in East Africa.

ABCG Meeting on Land Use Management Tools for Conservation in Kenya and Tanzania

An ABCG meeting on the results of recent work by ABCG on land tenure and land use in states vulnerable to crisis was hosted by The Nature Conservancy (Arlington, VA) and African Wildlife Foundation (Nairobi, Kenya) on 5 February 2011. The two locations were linked by video conference. Co-Moderators of the meeting were Helen Gichoi, PhD, President, African Wildlife Foundation (in Nairobi, Kenya) and Peter Veit, Institutions and Governance, World Resources Institute (in Washington, DC). The work presented in the meeting represents the first of several years' work by ABCG members [African Wildlife Foundation](#), [The Nature Conservancy](#) and [World Resources Institute](#) (with [the Jane Goodall Institute](#) joining them in FY2011) on the intersections of governance, rights and land management for conservation.



Figure 8: Peter Veit of WRI, Co-chair of the meeting, talks with Johnny Wilson (TNC) and Emmanuel Sulle (UMD)

[Click here to download the minutes of the meeting](#)

Presentations included:

[Government Restrictions on the Use of Private Land in Tanzania and Kenya](#) (click for presentation)

Peter Veit, Institutions and Governance, World Resources Institute

[Expanding Options for Habitat Conservation Outside Protected Areas: The Use of Environmental Easements, Leases, Payments for Ecosystem Services and Other Conservation Tools in Kenya](#) (click for presentation)

Kathleen Fitzgerald, Director, Land Conservation, African Wildlife Foundation

[The Impact of the Recent Constitution and Land Policy Reforms on Community Conservation Initiatives in Kenya](#)

(click for presentation)

Collins Odote, University of Nairobi, Nairobi

Support for Country 118/ 119 Operational Plans Biodiversity and Tropical Forestry Assessments (BATS Task D)

ABCG supports the 118/119 country-level assessments carried out by USGS Forest Service-International Programs by identifying relevant regional and national experts to assist with the assessments. ABCG meets regularly with USGS Forest Service-International Programs to identify key contacts needed for upcoming 118/119 missions. ABCG looks forward to continuing to link relevant contacts in target countries to enable this important work to move forward.

Forecasting and Analyzing Conservation Needs and Building Capacity on Critical Issues (BATS Task E)

ABCG plays a unique role in synthesizing past experiences and new information to identify emerging priorities and promising approaches for biodiversity conservation in Africa. ABCG works to provide this learning to African field partners, USAID, and the environment and development community in the United States, with a view to supporting policy makers and donors in making informed decisions concerning biodiversity in Africa. ABCG's outreach is facilitated through expanded use of the ABCG email listserv and improving the ABCG website (www.abcg.org) hosted on USAID-supported FRAME 2.0. ABCG also participated in and organized meetings, international conferences, and publications and journal articles. In FY2011, ABCG had a particular focus on adaptation to climate change, REDD readiness in Central Africa, food security, HIV/AIDS and conservation, and religion and conservation in Africa. Please see each section below for further information.

Climate Change Adaptation (BATS Task E.1.1)

The objectives of ABCG's work on climate change adaptation in FY2011 were to review the state of knowledge, approaches and tools currently in use or under development by ABCG members and their partners to implement adaptation activities in sub-Saharan Africa, with an emphasis on sharing lessons and tools, and promoting synergies; and to promote collaborative learning on critical elements for principles and guidance in adaptation monitoring, including drawing from various locations within and outside the continent. All seven ABCG members and relevant partners participated in this review, which was then assimilated by WCS.

From 18-20 July 2011, ABCG held a training and workshop entitled "Tools and Approaches for Addressing Climate Change Adaptation in Africa," hosted by World Wildlife Fund-US. This workshop brought together key climate change adaptation staff from each ABCG member organization, as well as representatives from partner organizations and donors. Presentations can be found on the ABCG website (see <http://frameweb.org/CommunityBrowser.aspx?id=7471&lang=en-US>).

The objectives of the workshop were:

- To provide training on climate change adaptation to field practitioners, conservation professionals and others that will be increasingly addressing adaptation issues in their work
- To share climate adaptation approaches, lessons from the field, and tools for addressing climate change adaptation by ABCG members and their partners, with a particular focus on adaptation in Africa
- To review current status of adaptation monitoring and explore the possibility of developing monitoring guidance and protocols

[Click here for the training and workshop summary](#), or see section E.4 of this report.

On the back of the workshop, a 124 page report entitled ***A Review of Climate Change Adaptation Initiatives within the Africa Biodiversity Collaborative Group Members*** was developed by ABCG climate adaptation taskforce (lead by WCS, but with strong support from WWF, CI and TNC). This report reviews current projects and programs on climate change adaptation in Africa being conducted by ABCG

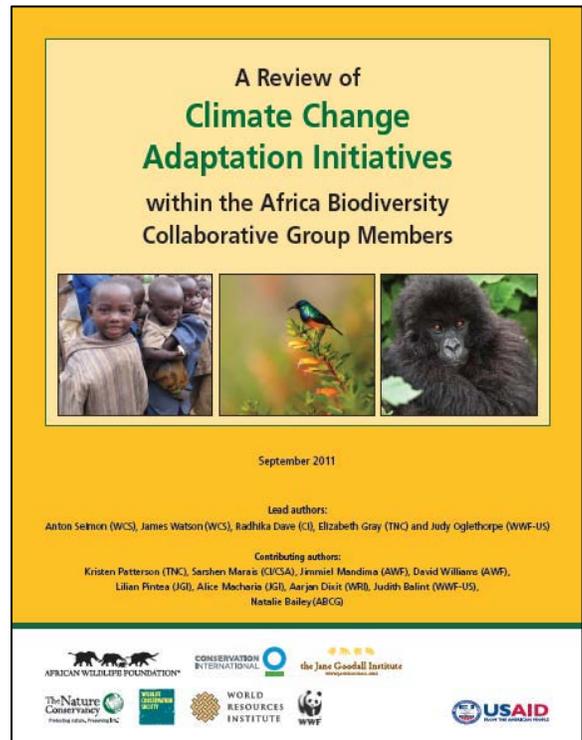


Figure 9: Cover of ABCG's Climate Change Adaptation Report



Figure 10: Capturing ideas at ABCG's Climate Change Adaptation Workshop, July 2011

members, and uses the findings to generate recommendations from lessons learned for both ABCG and wider audiences. All 7 partners reviewed and added to the report at various stages of its development.

On October 20th, ABCG held a launch event for the climate change adaptation report at USAID.



Figure 11: Happy Village exercise during the Adaptation 101 training portion of ABCG's Climate Change Adaptation Workshop

Climate Change Adaptation work in FY2012

In FY2012, ABCG will work to develop and apply a set of training tools on climate change adaptation and guidance on monitoring. Adaptation training tools will be applied through outreach/training activities aimed at raising the awareness around the implications of climate change for key stakeholders in Africa, including key bilateral, multilateral and government agencies that fund (or could fund) adaptation initiatives on the ground.

AFRICA BIODIVERSITY COLLABORATIVE GROUP and CLIMATE CHANGE ADAPTATION



The Africa Biodiversity Collaborative Group comprises seven international conservation NGOs who share the goal of working collaboratively, efficiently and effectively to further a sustainable future for the African continent. ABCG's mission is to tackle complex and changing conservation challenges by catalyzing and strengthening collaboration, and bringing the best resources from across a continuum of conservation organizations.

ABCG has prepared a report entitled *A Review of Climate Change Adaptation Initiatives within the Africa Biodiversity Collaborative Group Members evaluating its members' respective experiences in climate change adaptation in Africa.* Preliminary findings of this work were presented at a Washington, DC workshop in July 2011 that brought together key climate change adaptation staff from each ABCG member organization, as well as representatives from partner organizations and donors. The report offers a comparison of approaches and tools for adaptation utilized by ABCG member organizations -- the first such analysis of a set of adaptation projects for biodiversity conservation in Africa -- and provides a comprehensive set of lessons learned and recommendations for future work on climate change adaptation for both ABCG members and the wider conservation and donor community.

ABCG members & projects considered

African Wildlife Foundation (AWF) Mountain gorilla vulnerability assessment in Rwanda, Uganda and Democratic Republic of Congo.

Conservation International (CI) Vulnerability assessment and feasibility test of implementing recommended adaptation measures in Madagascar; and **CI/Conservation South Africa (CSA)** Climate Action Partnership in South Africa.

the Jane Goodall Institute (JGI) Gombe-Masito-Ugalla Project in Tanzania to develop long-term adaptation strategies for on the ground implementation in and around key protected areas.

The Nature Conservancy (TNC) Western Tanzania Project to develop Ecosystem-based Adaptation strategies for on the ground implementation across western Tanzania.

Wildlife Conservation Society (WCS) Albertine Rift Climate Assessment in Uganda, Rwanda, Burundi, Tanzania and DR-Congo; and Western Indian Ocean Coral Reef Program in coastal and island nations.

World Resource Institute (WRI) World Resources Report and ARIA Policy Assessment.

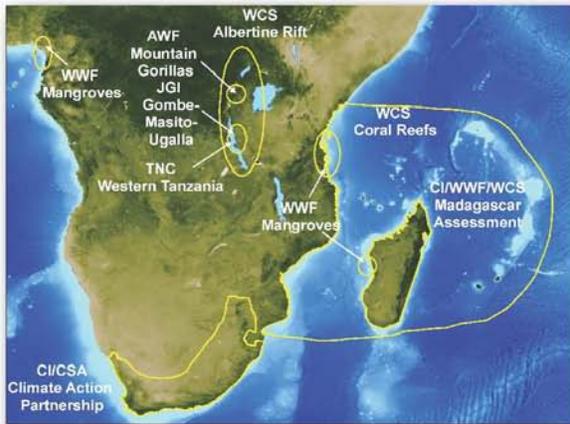
World Wildlife Fund-US (WWF-US) Mangrove Resilience to Climate Change project in Tanzania and Cameroon; and with the WWF-Network: Madagascar vulnerability assessments and testing of adaptation measures.



Climate change and Africa
The progress achieved over many decades of conservation efforts in Africa is increasingly threatened by climatic changes forced by increasing greenhouse gas concentrations and land surface changes. According to the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change, many parts of the African continent have high vulnerability to climate change-related stresses, and yet have a very low adaptive capacity. It is now widely recognized that climate change will exacerbate existing environmental degradation in Africa, threatening the rich diversity of plant and animal species as well as the livelihoods of large populations of subsistence farmers and fishers.

For more information
visit www.abcg.org





KEY RECOMMENDATIONS

Data, Analysis and Modeling

Support the financing and installation of research-grade weather stations in sites of primary concern for biodiversity conservation, in data-void regions and where monitoring is already ongoing with inadequate systems.

Share climatological data among national governments, conservation, development, climate monitoring and climate change communities to fill data voids.

Use scenario building exercises with scientists and stakeholders with relevant experience and local knowledge to consider how outcomes may vary and what actions would be appropriate for different combinations of factors driving environmental responses to climate change.

Critically assess model projections for plausibility, utility, and opportunities for improvement by persons with relevant knowledge of the species or ecosystems under consideration.

Convene workshops to share lessons learned on use of models and modeling results to help improve their application in climate change adaptation initiatives.

Project Design and Execution

Utilize an adaptation framework to help conceptualize project design, tailored as needed to explicitly include the role of people in project activities when conducting adaptation work in Africa.

Incorporate Ecosystem-based Adaptation (EbA) and Community-Based Adaptation (CBA) approaches into existing climate adaptation field projects where applicable, and conduct monitoring of such approaches to adaptively manage and refine them over time.

Hold forums for local decision makers, donors and ABCG members and their partners to identify strategies for designing actions that ensure effective implementation.

Project Monitoring and Evaluation

Develop guidance recommendations for conservation practitioners on how to integrate monitoring information into adaptive management.

Develop specific recommendations for policymakers and donors regarding support needed by partners to ensure that adaptation genuinely is a process of

learning from actions and developing improved but realistic data gathering and knowledge management.

Work collaboratively to ensure sustained funding for long-term monitoring beyond the duration of normal funding periods.

Working with Donors

Use the findings of this report to inform key funders with programs in Africa of priorities through outreach activities such as workshops.

Other Recommendations for Broader Interests

Incorporate comprehensive consideration of the implications of population growth and demand for resources into climate change adaptation work in Africa.

Increase research attention, funding and training around the issue of disease dynamics and epidemiology under climate change in Africa.

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Climate Mitigation - REDD workshops (BATS Task E.1.2)

Based on discussions with government and NGO partners in Central African countries on needs for capacity building on REDD mechanisms WCS organized in early 2011 a training workshop focused on approaches and experiences in addressing the main drivers of deforestation and forest degradation. The workshop targeted lower level staff from relevant Ministries, NGOs and the private sector expected to be involved in the future in designing and implementing REDD pilot projects and initiatives.

The training modules were developed by WCS in conjunction with TNC and the three participants for each country have been identified in close collaboration with the national REDD coordination bodies of Cameroon, Congo, Gabon and DRC, as well as NGOs and private sector operators in these countries. The one week training took place at the CEDAMM training center and the modules focused on:

1. The nature and the advancement of international REDD readiness preparation processes sharing the state of REDD in each country
2. Lessons learned from ongoing REDD projects and feasibility studies in Madagascar, Cameroon, and DRC
3. The potential REDD benefits and risks of Reduced Impact Logging (RIL) as a strategy to reduce emissions from forest degradation in logging operations
4. Lessons learned from previous attempts to reduce deforestation and forest degradation, particularly from ICDPs, using Direct Payments and using improved cook stoves.
5. Engaging all four country groups in a REDD Opportunity Scoping Exercise (ROSE) in order to identify high-potential REDD project opportunities in the participation countries and reflecting on its implication for participants' countries.

The training was a unique opportunity to bring different stakeholder groups from multiple countries in Central Africa together and to share lessons learned and more general aspects of REDD. Many participants cited this interchange as one of the most positive aspects of the training.

HIV/AIDS and Conservation (BATS Task E.2)

ABCG organized two workshops and a symposium on addressing the interconnections between HIV/AIDS and conservation at the [2nd Society for Conservation Biology \(SCB\) Africa Regional Meeting and the 48th global meeting for the Association for Tropical Biology and Conservation](#) was held June 12-16, 2011 in Arusha, Tanzania. Guyo Roba of IUCN, led a workshop on the lessons in IUCN's recent publication [Interactions between HIV/AIDS and the Environment](#). Dr. Steven Kiruswa of AWF led a workshop through AWF's experience in [Mainstreaming HIV/AIDS into NRM: AWF's AIDS Organizational Policy](#).

The Symposium on Understanding and Reducing the Impacts of HIV/AIDS on Conservation shared lessons learned on the connections between HIV/AIDS and conservation (impacts and



Figure 12: HIV/AIDS and Conservation Workshop participants at SCB/ATBC meetings in Tanzania

mitigation), distributed resources such as the ABCG HIV/AIDS manual, the IUCN report on HIV/AIDS interactions and equipped participants with information, examples and resources on how conservation organizations can take action to reduce the impacts of HIV/AIDS on conservation. Speakers representing many organizations and projects presented reports, projects and policies, including:



Figure 13: Daulos Mauambeta presents a financial cost assessment of the impacts of HIV/AIDS on conservation work

- [Interactions between HIV/AIDS and the Environment](#), by Susan Bolton, Judd Walson (both of University of Washington) and Ben Piper (Kenyan Medical Research Institute)
- [Natural Resource Use Among HIV/AIDS-impacted Communities in East and Southern Africa](#), Jane Dwasi, Organization for the Conservation of Natural Resources and the Combat of HIV/AIDS
- [HIV/AIDS Integration in Conservation Programs-the case of JGI TACARE project](#), Mary Mavanza, the Jane Goodall Institute-Tanzania
- [HIV & AIDS Financial Cost Assessment for Some Environmental Organizations in Malawi](#), Daulos Mauambeta, formerly of the Wildlife and Environment Society of Malawi
- [Integrating Population, Health, Equity, AIDS, and the Coastal Environment](#), Jeremiah Daffa, Tanzania Coastal Management Partnership
- [Africa Biodiversity Collaborative Group's HIV/AIDS & Environment Manual: A Resource for Practitioners](#), Natalie Bailey, Africa Biodiversity Collaborative Group

JGI's peer education program in Western Uganda, implemented within districts with chimpanzee populations, emphasizes the connections between health, especially HIV/AIDS, and conservation. The program is integrated with JGI's Roots & Shoots program and provides services that help girls stay in school beyond puberty. Peer educators are trained to share information on HIV/AIDS and health through a series of workshops. In FY 2011, 171 participants were trained in peer education; there were 57 female teachers and 114 students from 45 schools close to chimpanzee habitats. The peer educators have been able to train about 3,325 pupils, 200 teachers and at least 1,475 parents within and around their schools through a peer-to-peer approach. As a result of the peer education efforts, 156 girls have remained in school. In FY 2011, 60 schools were provided with essential equipment including exercise books, pencils, pens and sanitary towels to ensure that the girls stay in school.

Future Work on HIV/AIDS and Conservation

No new funds will be used for HIV/AIDS and Conservation in FY2012. However, \$20,000 in carryover funds from FY2011 will be used to hire a consultant, Daulos Mauambeta, to begin the process of developing training materials and a full work plan for FY2013.

BATS has supported the development of ABCG's HIV/AIDS and Environment Manual, a resource for conservation practitioners who wish to support their staff and surrounding communities in the face of the enormous challenges presented by the HIV/AIDS epidemic. The first several years of ABCG's BATS-funded work on this issue were classified as one of our "Emerging Issues." Given the increasing importance of equipping conservation practitioners and local communities with support, education and programs to address HIV/AIDS, as well as other threats to global public health, ABCG wishes to elevate these activities to a full task. ABCG members will work with their field offices to assure that they have sufficient resources to develop policies and programs for the workplace and in local communities to respond to local and regional threats posed by HIV/AIDS.

Food Security (BATS Task E.3)

The objective of this task is to develop an integrated set of foundation year activities that will begin to allow enhanced understanding of the conditions necessary for sustainable agriculture intensification to improve food security, and improved on-farm uptake of biodiversity-sensitive intensification practices. Towards this end, AWF, CI and WCS completed a work plan for assessing the conditions under which strengthening farming systems can contribute to achieving conservation goals. AWF and WCS conducted reciprocal field visits to document lessons learned about how to support improvements in farming systems that promote biodiversity and ecosystem conservation and held a workshop in Lusaka, Zambia, where participants completed an initial draft report on the lessons learned from respective ongoing field work and findings during the March field visits. CI reviewed the value of spatial planning and community engagement approaches in the context of 'lessons learned' from existing development experiences in Africa, with particular attention on better management of tradeoffs and synergies between food security and conservation.

In September 2011, ABCG members AWF, CI and WCS held a food security and conservation workshop to (1) incorporate CI findings on tools for promoting improved food security and conservation in Africa into the report on the case study findings, (2) complete a final draft of the overall report, and (3) present our initial findings via a public Brown Bag.

The brown bag, Integrating Food Security & Biodiversity Conservation: Tools and Approaches from the Ituri and Zambezi Landscapes, featured Jimmiel Mandima (AWF), Bemmy Granados (CI) and Michael Painter (WCS) sharing the results of their respective organization's work.

AWF's Jimmiel Mandima's presentation was **Support to conservation agriculture to leverage biodiversity conservation: experience from pilot work in the Zambezi landscape**, which highlighted AWF's experiences from the Zambezi landscape on working with farmers to rationalize agriculture intensification to secure biodiversity conservation. Findings show that scale of operation (spatial and number of farmers), coordination between players, inadequate appreciation of the link between agriculture and biodiversity conservation, and dependence on inputs compromise success of biodiversity conservation gains from agriculture. AWF worked with 500 farmers over two seasons and found a strong need for a holistic approach to link food security to biodiversity conservation.



Today's Discussion

CI: Review of Spatial Planning and Community Engagement Approaches

AWF: Linking FS and Biodiversity Conservation in the Zambezi Heartland

WCS: Participatory Land Use Planning and Food Security in the Ituri Forest Conservation Landscape, DRC

Plenary Discussion

Figure 14: Cover slide for ABCG Brown Bag on Food Security and Conservation, September 2011

Bemmy Granados of CI shared their **Assessment of Tools to Better Manage Food Security and Conservation Trade-offs and Synergies**, which gave an overview of CI's review of the value of spatial planning and community

engagement approaches in the context of 'lessons learned' from existing development experiences in Africa. This analysis places particular attention on the capacity of such approaches to facilitate better management of tradeoffs and synergies between food security and conservation. This work also serves as a foundation piece to guide next steps and tools for ABCG's food security work in the future.

WCS's Michael Painter presented **Participatory Land Use Planning and Food Security in the Ituri Forest Conservation Landscape, DRC**, which focused on WCS's experience with participatory land-use planning and food security in the Ituri-Epulu-Aru Conservation Landscape in DRC. Food security and conservation success are interconnected. A spatially explicit approach to defining and assessing land-use options can contribute to promoting synergy to assure the long-term resilience of productive systems and food security. Highlights of the Ituri-Epulu-Aru Landscape experience include the necessity of stabilizing farming areas and the importance of participatory land-use. Conclusions and generally applicable lessons offered by the Ituri experience are shared.

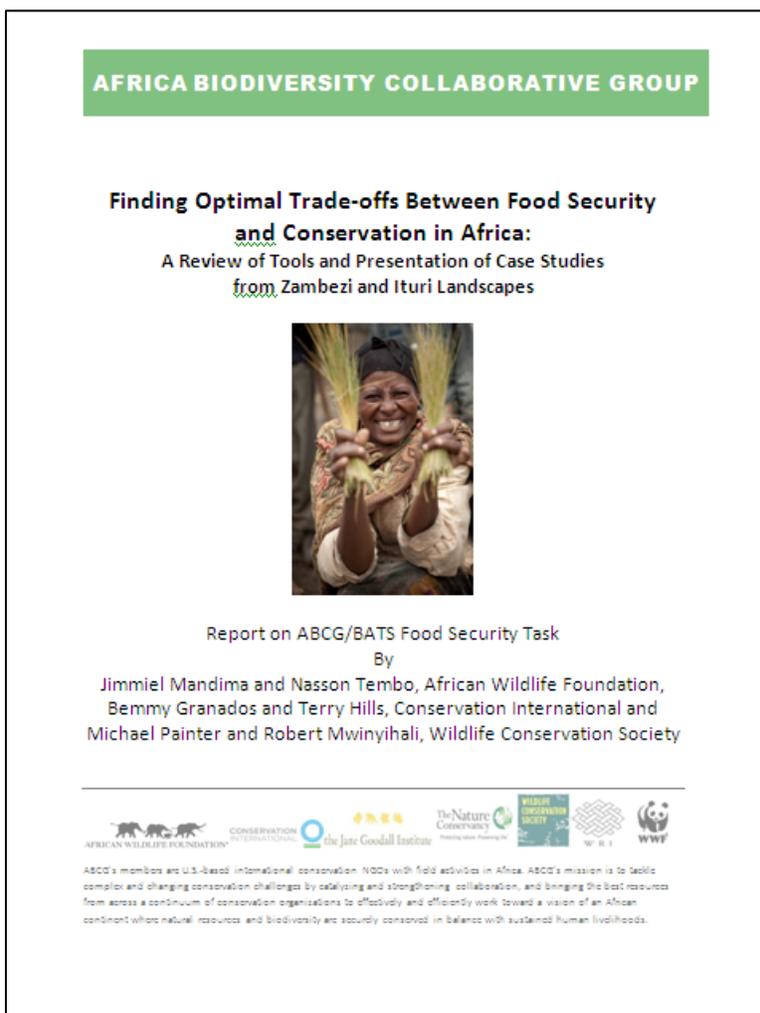


Figure 15: Cover page of ABCG report on food security and conservation

Africa Biodiversity Collaborative Group: Food Security & Conservation in Africa



The Africa Biodiversity Collaborative Group (ABCG) comprises seven US-based conservation organizations with field programs in Africa. ABCG's mission is to tackle complex and changing conservation challenges by catalyzing and strengthening collaboration, and bringing the best resources from across a continuum of conservation organizations to effectively and efficiently work toward this vision of Africa.

ABCG has prepared a report compiling the experiences and lessons learned on biodiversity conservation and food security from field work and the collective expertise of the African Wildlife Foundation (AWF), Conservation International (CI) and the Wildlife Conservation Society (WCS), three ABCG organizational members. The objective of the food security and conservation working group is to develop an integrated set of foundation-year activities that will begin to allow enhanced understanding of the conditions necessary for sustainable agriculture intensification to improve food security, and improved on-farm uptake of biodiversity-sensitive intensification practices.



Member contributions to report: Two case studies and a review of tools

Understanding trade-offs and synergies between food security and conservation in Africa is essential for sound planning and management decisions that affect the future of both poor rural people and wildlife.

for more information visit
www.abcg.org

Wildlife Conservation Society conducted a participatory land use planning process that defined zones for agriculture, hunting, and community use and followed up with input packages and technical support for the consolidation of stable farming systems within the agricultural zones.

African Wildlife Foundation worked with partners in the Zambezi Heartland to introduce conservation agriculture techniques and improved livestock breeds to increase yields, enable more productive family labor on areas already degraded, and work with farmers to adopt measures to reduce human wildlife conflict.

Conservation International connects the case studies with a complementary analysis of spatial planning and community engagement approaches in the context of 'lessons learned' from existing development experiences in Africa.





Framework

As established by the working group, principles that allow the trade-offs between conservation and food security objectives to be optimized include:

- Longer term food security is underpinned by good environmental management and biodiversity conservation.
- In meeting shorter term food security needs, ecosystem health is often unavoidably traded off—particularly in times of shock.
- Supporting the introduction of more resilient agricultural systems for smallholders can improve the quality of these tradeoffs.

Assessment of Tools

The report includes an assessment of various tools that can support decision-making where tradeoffs and synergies between conservation and food security can be better managed and can underpin participatory land use planning. The following categories of approaches were examined:

- Broad-scale Spatial Planning
- Localized Mapping
- Non-spatial Participatory

Lessons Learned

Keys to designing conservation agriculture efforts that lead to effective conservation and food security include:

- *Issues of size and scale* – It is important to operate at the level of areas that are significant in terms of maintaining ecosystem functions and the biodiversity we are attempting to conserve.
- *Location* – Closely related to size and scale issues, land use activities and their positions on the landscapes influence dynamics and pressures between smallholder farmers and natural ecosystems.
- *Participatory Planning and Implementation* – Participatory land use planning (PLUP) allows local people to engage in an explicit and transparent process of assessing their livelihood options and developing a shared vision for using land and natural resources.
- *Importance of Partnerships* – Working on farming systems as part of a conservation strategy necessarily involves many actors from local to national levels.

Next Steps for ABCG and Its Member Organizations

Beyond the actions to be taken by the organizations involved, this review identifies several areas where ABCG and its member organizations are exceptionally well-placed to have an important impact on how strengthening farming systems as part of a conservation strategy develops. These include:

- *Defining best practices* that ABCG members and their partners and donors apply and advocate in the course of their work;
- *Defining indicators* that document how farming systems are becoming more robust, the impacts that changes in farming practices have on ecosystems, wildlife and humans.
- *Linking with farmer-level innovation networks* to ensure that conservation agriculture approaches are 'on the menu' of options that farmers can consider.

Download the report at www.abcg.org



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Feed the Future Event Series

ABCG also participated in an event series linked with USAID's new Feed the Future initiative. The Feed the Future Guide recognizes that "[e]nvironmental degradation and climate change are critical cross-cutting issues that can affect the sustainability of investments in agricultural development and food security, impede long-term economic growth, and adversely affect livelihoods and well being." This event series, "**Integrating Climate Change and Natural Resource Management into Feed the Future**," articulates the challenges and opportunities that integration of these issues poses, and present successful program approaches and tools for working across the disciplines of climate change, NRM, and food security. The series examines the areas of soil, water, nutrition and climate change resilience to share relevant tools and lessons learned, recommends best practices, raises the profile of these critical linkages, and generates political will for continued progress in these areas.

ABCG worked with a coalition of other conservation and development projects and organizations to formulate and coordinate the event series. ABCG members that played particularly strong roles include WWF-US (for which Vanessa Dick plays a particularly strong role, as initiator and coordinator), AWF, CI and WCS. ABCG played a significant role in the event held March 30, 2011: [Agriculture Sector Council: A Series on Integrating Climate Change & NRM into Feed the Future Event #1](#). Event presenters included Julie Kunen, USAID Bureau of Policy, Programming, and Learning; Kevin Kamp, CARE USA; Michael Painter, Wildlife Conservation Society.

Emerging Issues (BATS Task E.4)

ABCG has successfully held five large thematic meetings and 15 brown bag talks on various aspects of conservation, from country-level strategies in Uganda and Equatorial Guinea to participation in a seminar series on food security and USAID's Feed the Future initiative. We continue to develop compelling discussions to engage ABCG members and partners in addressing emerging and high priority issues affecting biodiversity in Africa. Resources for each meeting and event are available online at www.abcg.org.

Thematic Meetings

ABCG thematic meetings in FY2011 included:

[Protected Area Degazettement, Downlisting and Downsizing, 11 Nov 2010](#)

Protected areas (PAs) are critical elements of global, national and local conservation strategies and provide critical protection for ecosystems, wildlife and plant biodiversity. The creation of a new PA is often a major event, with media coverage and official statements by policy makers, conservation professionals and community groups. However, far less attention has been paid to the degazettement, downlisting and downsizing of PAs. This meeting presented new findings by researchers working on this issue in Africa and provided an opportunity for insightful discussion on important questions and next steps.

Objectives

- To learn about Protected Area Degazettement, Downlisting and Downsizing (PADDD)
- To discuss the causes, impacts and questions about PADDD in Africa

- To consider recent or proposed PADDD cases in Africa, such as the Serengeti Road

[Minutes of the meeting](#)

Welcome and Introductions

Mike Mascia, Social Scientist, Conservation Science Program, World Wildlife Fund-US

[Protected Area Downgrading, Downsizing and Degazettement in Africa: local pressures, global demands, and everything in-between](#)

Sharon Pailler, Social Scientist, Conservation Science Program, World Wildlife Fund-US

[Degazettement and Denotification of Protected Wildlife Areas in Kenya and Tanzania](#)

Jane Dwasi, Faculty of Law, University of Nairobi

Infrastructure development in protected areas in Africa: examining the impact of a proposed commercial road in the Serengeti (presentation not available for download)

Michelle Gadd, US Fish & Wildlife Service, International Programs

[Land Use Management Tools for Conservation in East Africa](#), 25 Feb 2011

An ABCG meeting on the results of recent work by ABCG on land tenure and land use in states vulnerable to crisis was hosted by The Nature Conservancy (Arlington, VA) and African Wildlife Foundation (Nairobi, Kenya) on 5 February 2011. The two locations were linked by video conference. Co-Moderators of the meeting were Helen Gicho, PhD, President, African Wildlife Foundation (in Nairobi, Kenya) and Peter Veit, Institutions and Governance, World Resources Institute (in Washington, DC). The work presented in the meeting represents the first of several years' work by ABCG members [African Wildlife Foundation](#), [The Nature Conservancy](#) and [World Resources Institute](#) (with [the Jane Goodall Institute](#) joining them in FY2011) on the intersections of governance, rights and land management for conservation.



Figure 16: Peter Veit (WRI), meeting co-chair talks with Johnny Wilson (TNC) and UMD Graduate Student Emmanuel Sulle at the ABCG Land Use Management Tools meeting

[Click here to download the minutes of the meeting](#)

Presentations included:

[Government Restrictions on the Use of Private Land in Tanzania and Kenya](#) (click for presentation)

Peter Veit, Institutions and Governance, World Resources Institute

[Expanding Options for Habitat Conservation Outside Protected Areas: The Use of Environmental Easements, Leases, Payments for Ecosystem Services and Other Conservation Tools in Kenya](#) (click for presentation)

Kathleen Fitzgerald, Director, Land Conservation, African Wildlife Foundation

[The Impact of the Recent Constitution and Land Policy Reforms on Community Conservation Initiatives in Kenya](#)

(click for presentation)

Collins Odote, University of Nairobi, Nairobi

[Faith and Conservation in Africa](#), 1 June 2011

Religious faith plays an enormous role in the lives of people around the world, helping to provide an understanding of the world around us and lighting a moral path to follow in times of uncertainty, need or joy. The intersections of faith and conservation are an important element of the Dar Vision on the Future of Biodiversity in Africa, in which experts from throughout Africa came together to articulate multidimensional approaches to biodiversity conservation in Africa.

Recently, the Biodiversity Analysis and Technical Support program of USAID's Africa Bureau commissioned a report on religion and conservation in Africa. This work, *From Practice to Policy to Practice: Connecting Faith and Conservation in Africa*, was written by Amy Gambrill of IRG, which explores some of the current practices of connecting faith and conservation, provides information on some of the faith groups doing conservation work, and presents several case studies on faith-based conservation.

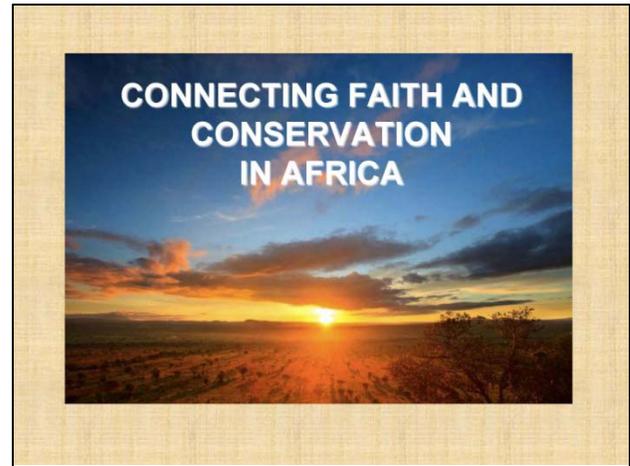


Figure 17: Cover of Amy Gambrill's presentation at ABCG's Faith & Conservation in Africa meeting

On 1 June 2011, ABCG held a meeting on Faith and Conservation in Africa at the International Resources Group (IRG) in Washington, DC. The meeting was chaired by Tom Dillon, Senior Vice President, Field Programs, World Wildlife Fund, US. The meeting's objectives were:

- To explore the opportunities available for collaboration between faith communities and conservation groups
- To understand the funding mechanisms that can support such collaboration
- To learn about how conservation groups have developed relationships with faith communities and how they have implemented projects together

Presentations included:

[Welcome, background and introductions](#), Tom Dillon, Senior Vice President, Field Programs, World Wildlife Fund, US – Meeting Chair

[From Practice to Policy to Practice: Connecting Faith and Conservation in Africa](#), Amy Gambrill, IRG Consultant

Working with African Faith Leaders to Develop Eco-Action Plans, Martin Palmer, Executive Director, Alliance for Religion and Conservation

*[This presentation can be heard on IRG's recording \(29:19 - 51:08\)](#).

[USAID's Office of Faith-Based and Community Initiatives: Facilitating Partnerships](#), Zeenat Rahman, Deputy Director, USAID Center for Faith Based and Community Initiatives

[Conservation, Education and the Koran](#), Alice Macharia, Director for East Africa Programs, Jane Goodall Institute

Discussants included:

Heather E. Eves, Virginia Tech, JHU/SAIS and Mt. Olivet United Methodist Church

Tony Mokombo, former WWF and current Pastor

Lisa Gaylord, Wildlife Conservation Society

[Click here to read the minutes from the event.](#)

[Click here for IRG's full recording of the meeting](#)

[Understanding and Reducing the Impacts of HIV/AIDS on Conservation](#), 16 May 2011, Association of Tropical Biology and Conservation/Society for Conservation Biology-Africa Section Meetings

The HIV/AIDS pandemic has a tragic impact on all sectors of society in sub-Saharan Africa and also affects the environment: there are very close linkages between HIV/AIDS, rural livelihoods, human capacity and conservation.

The [2nd Society for Conservation Biology \(SCB\) Africa Regional Meeting and the 48th global meeting for the Association for Tropical Biology and Conservation](#) was held June 12-16, 2011 in Arusha, Tanzania.

ABCG and partners held two workshops and a symposium on addressing the interconnections between HIV/AIDS and conservation.



Figure 18: Gambia Girls, Photo by Amy Zets

Workshops on HIV/AIDS and Conservation

The first workshop, led by Guyo Roba of IUCN, shared the lessons in IUCN's recent publication [Interactions between HIV/AIDS and the Environment](#) and facilitated a discussion among participants as to how to grow the network of conservation and health practitioners working on these issues and how to bring key lessons into policy dialogue at multiple levels.

In the second workshop, Dr. Steven Kiruswa of the African Wildlife Foundation led participants through AWF's experience in [Mainstreaming HIV/AIDS into NRM: AWF's AIDS Organizational Policy](#). Through this workshop, participants explored the components of an effective HIV/AIDS workplace policy, essential strategies for educating staff about resources available to them; and helpful linkages to providers of health care tools and family planning materials.

Symposium on Understanding and Reducing the Impacts of HIV/AIDS on Conservation

This symposium shared lessons learned on the connections between HIV/AIDS and conservation (impacts and mitigation), distributed resources such as the ABCG HIV/AIDS manual, the IUCN report on HIV/AIDS interactions and equipped participants with information, examples and resources on how conservation organizations can take action to reduce the impacts of HIV/AIDS on conservation.

Speakers representing many organizations and projects presented reports, projects and policies, including:

- [Interactions between HIV/AIDS and the Environment](#), by Susan Bolton, Judd Walson (both of University of Washington) and Ben Piper (Kenyan Medical Research Institute)
- [Natural Resource Use Among HIV/AIDS-impacted Communities in East and Southern Africa](#), Jane Dwasi, Organization for the Conservation of Natural Resources and the Combat of HIV/AIDS
- [HIV/AIDS Integration in Conservation Programs-the case of JGI TACARE project](#), Mary Mavanza, the Jane Goodall Institute-Tanzania
- [HIV & AIDS Financial Cost Assessment for Some Environmental Organizations in Malawi](#), Daulos Mauambeta, formerly of the Wildlife and Environment Society of Malawi
- [Integrating Population, Health, Equity, AIDS, and the Coastal Environment](#), Jeremiah Daffa, Tanzania Coastal Management Partnership
- [Africa Biodiversity Collaborative Group's HIV/AIDS & Environment Manual: A Resource for Practitioners](#), Natalie Bailey, Africa Biodiversity Collaborative Group



Figure 19: Mary Mavanza shares JGI TACARE's experience with interactions between HIV/AIDS and the environment in Tanzania

Climate Change Adaptation Workshop, 18-20 July 2011

There are harsh climate realities for the conservation of biological diversity in Africa: the climate has changed, is changing and will continue to change. From 18-20 July 2011, ABCG held a training and workshop entitled "Tools and Approaches for Addressing Climate Change Adaptation in Africa," hosted by World Wildlife Fund-US. This workshop was generously supported by a grant to ABCG from the [U.S. Agency for International Development's Biodiversity Analysis and Technical Support](#) (BATS) program of the Africa Bureau. The objectives of the workshop were:

- To provide training on climate change adaptation to field practitioners, conservation professionals and others that will be increasingly addressing adaptation issues in their work
- To share climate adaptation approaches, lessons from the field, and tools for addressing climate change adaptation by ABCG members and their partners, with a particular focus on adaptation in Africa
- To review current status of adaptation monitoring and explore the possibility of developing monitoring guidance and protocols

[Click here for the training and workshop summary.](#)

18 July [Training on Climate Change Adaptation](#)

Marcia Marsh, WWF's Chief Operating Officer, and Judy Oglethorpe, Managing Director for WWF's Climate Adaptation programs, opened the workshop and welcomed all the participants.

Shaun Martin and Eliot Levine of WWF and Terry Hills of Conservation International, led the participants in a day of training that included the following sessions:

- What everyone needs to know about climate change for adaptation in 15 minutes
- [Key Concepts in Climate Change Adaptation](#)
- Adaptation Options
- Happy Village: Exploring adaptation options (group exercise)
- Integrated Adaptation Solutions for People and Ecosystems
- Disaster Risk Reduction (DRR) and Links to Adaptation
- Vulnerability Assessments
- Wrap up and adjournment

19 July Workshop Day 1: *Sharing climate adaptation approaches, lessons and tools with a particular focus on climate adaptation in conservation work in Africa*

9:00 Welcome, objectives, overview of agenda and introductions

Natalie Bailey, ABCG

Tim Resch, USAID Africa Bureau

Chair: Judy Oglethorpe, WWF-US ([Introduction](#))

Session 1: Setting the scene – provide a brief review of Africa’s vulnerability to climate change, and status of ABCG partners’ adaptation work in Africa

[Overview of projected climate change impacts on biodiversity and communities in sub-Saharan Africa](#)

Jeff Price, WWF-US

[Overview of ABCG Member Approaches to Adaptation in Africa](#)

Anton Seimon, WCS

Session 2: Vulnerability assessment and planning - review lessons from a range of approaches

[Assessing vulnerability and species range shifts in Madagascar](#)

Michele Andrianarisata, CI

[Learning from vulnerability assessment of a mangrove ecosystem in Tanzania](#)

Jason Rubens, WWF Tanzania

[Changes in adaptation strategy development at the landscape scale: AWF’s progress and challenges in pilot sites](#)

David Williams, AWF

[Case study: Integrating Adaptation into conservation planning - An example from Western Tanzania](#)

Elizabeth Gray and Kristin France, The Nature Conservancy

Sood Ndimuligo, The Jane Goodall Institute

Magnus Mosha, Frankfurt Zoological Society

Session 3: Multiple level adaptation approaches - learn lessons about the value of working at several different scales

Chair: James Watson, WCS

[Climate Change Adaptation in the Albertine Rift](#)

Anton Seimon, WCS

[Adaptation in Namaqualand: Restoring resilience through restoration and innovation](#)

Ronald Newman, CI

[Madagascar/West Indian Ocean Program Office Adaptation Work in Madagascar](#)

Harisoa Rakotondrazafy, WWF Madagascar

Session 4: Discussion groups: Discuss [key questions from the ABCG White Paper](#) outlined in Anton Seimon's talk

Session 5: Tools Fair: [Learn about tools for climate change adaptation work](#)

Participants explored various tools shared by ABCG members and partners, including TNC's Climate Wizard, WWF's ClimaScope and Wallace Initiative, WCS's dynamic models used in Albertine Rift, WWF's mangrove vulnerability assessment approach, and more.

20 July Workshop Day 2: Sharing climate adaptation approaches, lessons and tools with a particular focus on climate adaptation in conservation work in Africa

[Welcome and review of Day 1](#)

Chair: Radhika Dave, CI

Session 6: Mainstreaming adaptation: Discuss the importance of capacity building, partnerships, policy and scaling up approaches for successful adaptation

[Capacity Building Lessons from East Africa](#)

Jyoti Kulkarni, START - SysTEM for Analysis, Research and Training

[The Climate Action Partnership- learning from a South African collaboration](#)

Sarshen Marais, Conservation South Africa

[USAID strategy for supporting policy and partnerships in Africa](#)

Jennifer Frankel-Reed, USAID

[SCAPES Partnership – global learning in climate adaptation](#)

Jimmie Mandima, AWF

[Ecosystems and Livelihoods Adaptation Network – Lessons from a multi-partner initiative](#)

Judy Oglethorpe, WWF-US

[Rural Futures – a continent-wide approach for African development and adaptation](#)

[The Great Green Wall: The Largest Adaptation Project in Africa?](#)

Gabriella Richardson-Temm and Sarah Davidson, WWF Macroeconomic Program Office

Session 7: Monitoring for Climate Adaptation

Chair Elizabeth Gray, TNC

[Overview of monitoring for adaptation, challenges and opportunities around monitoring for adaptation and summary of ABCG survey results](#)

Radhika Dave, CI

[Overview of scales of monitoring and type of monitoring \(climate variables, impacts, adaptation effectiveness\); current developments in adaptation monitoring](#)

Meg Spearman, on behalf of WRI

[Monitoring climate variables to assess trends in climate change](#)

Anton Seimon, WCS

[What do we know about monitoring for climate change impacts on species, ecosystems, ecosystem services, people and agricultural services?](#)

Jorge Ahmuda and Jan Dempewolf, TEAM

[Monitoring the effectiveness of adaptation interventions](#)

Terry Hills, CI

Session 8: Group discussions and summary reporting

Groups will discuss different topics:

1. Capacity building, policy, partnerships and scaling up adaptation
2. Monitoring
3. Tools

Report back to plenary

Session 9: Final plenary: synthesis, lessons, the way forward, and next steps

Chair: James Watson

Discussion groups from yesterday reconvene to finalize feedback on the ABCG white paper

Groups report back

Next steps and close of workshop

[Click here for the list of meeting participants.](#)

Please see [“Tools and Resources”](#) for presentations and key documents.

The full report was launched on 20 October 2011. Please visit

<http://frameweb.org/CommunityBrowser.aspx?id=7471&lang=en-US> for further information.

Brown Bags

- [Protection through Partnerships: Mountain gorilla conservation](#), featuring Eugene Rutagarama, Director, International Gorilla Conservation Program (co-hosted with USFWS), 16 Nov 2010
- [Equatorial Guinea: An Emerging Frontier of Conservation and Development](#), featuring Heidi Ruffler, Country Director, Conservation International-Equatorial Guinea (co-hosted with CI), 14 January 2011
- [Conservation in the Central African Republic: Threats and Successes](#), with Jean-Bernard Yarissem, Country Program Officer, WWF-CAR (co-hosted with WWF-US) , 22 Feb 2011
- [Agriculture Sector Council: A Series on Integrating Climate Change & NRM into Feed the Future Event #1](#), featuring Michael Painter of WCS, 30 March 2011
- [Experiences from Coastal Madagascar: The Importance of Integrated PHE Programming in Achieving Conservation Results](#), featuring Kame Westerman & Matthew Erdmann, Blue Ventures, 31 March
- [Feed the Future Seminar Series](#), 7 April 2011
- [Feed the Future online discussion](#), 3-4 May 2011
- [Wildlife Conservation and Economic Growth in Uganda](#), with Alastair McNeilage, Uganda Country Director, Wildlife Conservation Society, 4 May 2011

- [Status and Conservation of the Lion Population in the Maasai Steppe, Northern Tanzania](#), with Dr. Bernard Kissui, Research Scientist, African Wildlife Foundation (co-hosted with AWF), 6 May 2011
- [Wildlife Management Areas in Tanzania](#), featuring Gilbert Kajuna, USAID/TZ, 17 May 2011
- [South Africa and Costa Rica Working Together to Address South Africa's Water Crisis](#), featuring Sarah Frazee, Country Director, Conservation South Africa (co-hosted with CI), 26 May 2011
- [FRAMEwebinar: Food Security and Wild Food](#), 29 June 2011
- [The Man Who Stopped the Desert](#), Film and Discussion, co-hosted with WRI, 17 August 2011
- [Food Security & Conservation in DRC and Zambia](#), co-hosted with CI, 22 September 2011
- [The International Small Group & Tree-Planting Program \(TIST\): Planting Trees and Improving Agriculture for Better Lives](#), featuring Vanessa Henneke, TIST, 22 September 2011
- [A 21st Century Approach to African Wildlife Conservation: Helping Africa's People Engage in the Conservation Arena](#), featuring Dr. Laly Lichtenfeld, African People & Wildlife Fund, 29 Sept 2011

Communications and Technology

We have increased the membership of the ABCG listserv by 40% from 351 in October 2010 to 492 in September 2011. ABCG hired consultant Melinda Householder to identify ways to improve ABCG digital communications, including www.abcg.org website maintenance, listserv communications and social media such as Facebook and Twitter. In the course of Melinda's work, we moved the ABCG listserv to Constant Contact, which allows easier maintenance of our contacts list, a more user-friendly graphical interface as well as text-only messages for those with limited internet access and integration with social media. In addition, we have developed and maintained an enhanced presence on Facebook (www.facebook.com/ABCGconserve) with 124 "likes" and Twitter (@ABCGconserve), with 92 followers as of 30 September 2011

ABCG consultant Amy Zets has played a critical role in FY2011 in maintaining the ABCG website with new pages, documents and resources. She has also written excellent summaries of key ABCG events that have been shared through our new listserv/newsletter.

ABCG has also assisted BATS partner IRG in preparing for a survey and focus group on Information and Communications Technologies (ICT) to take place in the near future.

Upcoming work on BATS Emerging Issues

In FY2012, ABCG will take on several new tasks with additional support from USAID's BATS program. Major themes for analysis and technical support proposed through the BATS extension (2012-2014) include:

Task A: Facilitating Discussions on the Dar Vision on the "Future of Biodiversity in Africa"

Task B: Managing Extractive Industries to Protect Biodiversity

B.1 Mining in DRC

B.2 High Conservation Value Forest Assessment

Task C: Analyzing Biodiversity Conservation and Governance to Prevent Conflict and Crisis

Task D: Supporting Country 118/ 119 Operational Plans Biodiversity and Tropical Forestry Assessments

Task E: Integrating Approaches to Food Security and Biodiversity

Task F: Addressing Global Climate Change in Through Adaptation and Actions in Woodlands, Grasslands and Other Ecosystems

- F.1 Adaptation
- F.2 REDD
- F.3 Woodlands & Tradeoffs
- F.4 Clean Energy & Charcoal
- F.5 Grasslands & Carbon

Task G: Bridging the Gap Between Global Health and Biodiversity

- G.1 HIV/AIDS
- G.2 WASH

Task H: Forecasting and Analyzing Conservation Needs and Building Capacity on Critical Issues

- H.1 Large-Scale Land Acquisition
- H.2 SMART Law Enforcement
- H.3 Western Indian Ocean
- H.4 Faith & Conservation
- H.5 Other Emerging Issues

In FY2012, ABCG will

- Promote dialogue on emerging issues, with a view to directing the focus of the ABCG constituents and the conservation and development community at large towards proactive responses to an evolving conservation landscape.
- Organize at least 4 ABCG thematic meetings in Washington DC, on themes identified as high priority by ABCG members
- Organize and host numerous brown bags with experts on a variety of emerging and high-priority conservation issues
- Organize at least one high-profile international event to highlight ABCG's findings on emerging and high-priority issues
- Further linkages between conservation practitioners in Washington DC and on the ground in Africa through increasing use of technology and new communications tools
- Publish and disseminate reports based upon products of other BATS tasks
- Continue to undertake outreach through the ABCG list serv and website on key biodiversity issues in Africa
- Communicate current events through the list serv
- Respond to requests for information and contacts, making connections between people working in similar and complementary fields, and promoting collaboration for ABCG members, USAID and others

2011 BATS Annual Report Appendix List:

1. Report on Impacts from Mining on Biodiversity Conservation in the Democratic Republic of Congo (all)
2. Revue Juridique de la Legislation du Secteur Minier et Environnementale (WWF)
3. Artisanal and Small-scale Mining in the Protected Areas and Critical Ecosystems of the Democratic Republic of Congo (WWF)
4. Impact Assessment of Section 1504 of the US Dodd-Frank Wall Street Reform and Consumer Protection Act on Mining Companies in the DRC (WRI)
5. Implementing Community Land Rights: Lessons from NRT in Kenya (TNC)
6. Wildlife Conservation in Zimbabwe: A Review of Relevant Statutes and an Assessment of Protected Areas, Conservancies and Implications of the Indigenisation Policy (AWF)
7. A Comparison of Private Land-Use Restrictions in East African Countries DRAFT (WRI)
8. A Review of Climate Change Adaptation Initiatives within the Africa Biodiversity Collaborative Group Members
9. ABCG and Climate Change Adaptation Fact Sheet
10. Finding Optimal Trade-offs Between Food Security and Conservation in Africa: A Review of Tools and Presentation of Case Studies from Zambezi and Ituri Landscapes
11. ABCG Food Security and Conservation in Africa Fact Sheet



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