

The African Parks Approach: Co-Management



The AP approach involves a partnership with Government and local communities to establish park specific governance and management mechanisms to ensure ecological, social and financial sustainability. This requires:

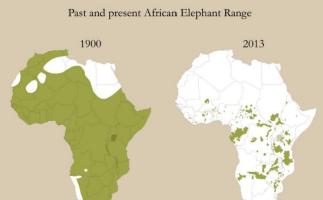
- A long-term management agreement with government and Local communities
- Implementing strong business, conservation, and governance practices
- Establishing long-term revenue and funding solutions.



Reasons for getting involved: Conservation in crisis

- Organised multi-national crime high value commodities (rhino, elephant)
- Illegal commercial scale extraction bush meat, fisheries, timber
- Habitat loss
- Poor management of protected areas is a key contributing factor:
 - Lack of political will seen as disposable or as competing with economic development
 - Lack of governance
 - Lack of resources
 - Lack of expertise







Zambia as conservation pioneer

- Conventional Model
- Ministry: Policy maker
- Department: conservation regulator
- In 2004, GRZ, AP and BRE pioneered a new approach implementing a 20 year partnership agreement



African Parks: Governance Structures





African Parks is made up of interdependent entities:

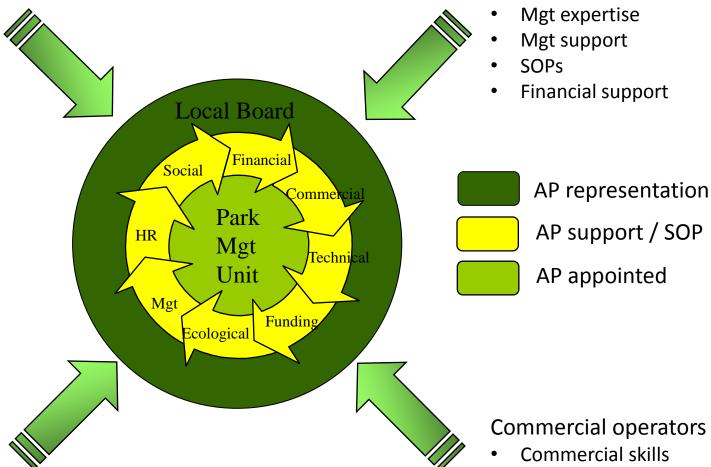
- African Parks Network (APN)
 - strategic decision making & management entity (not-for profit company)
- Stichting African Parks Foundation (SAPF)
 - Fundraising vehicle Europe
- African Parks USA (AP-US), New York
 - Fundraising vehicle US
- Endowment fund-
 - Covers HQ operations
- Parks are all separate entities, with own boards
- Organization size: field staff: 900; Head office: 16



The African Parks Approach: set up and principles

Government / Authority Legislation Policy

- Delegation of LE
- Political support
- Regulation



Communities

- Co-management
- Land-use practices

Investment capital

African Parks



An Overview of Activities

- > Park administration and management
- > Infrastructure development
- > Community engagement
- Research and Monitoring
- > Law Enforcement
- > Tourism and Business Development

African Parks: approach to communities



- Building "constituencies for conservation"
- Emphasis on conservation-led economies
- Employment creation and multiplier effect
- Focus on
 - Community participation in management
 - Interventions that combat threats
 - Resource utilisation
 - Environmental education
 - Facilitation of "value-added" activities
- Direct link between interventions and park

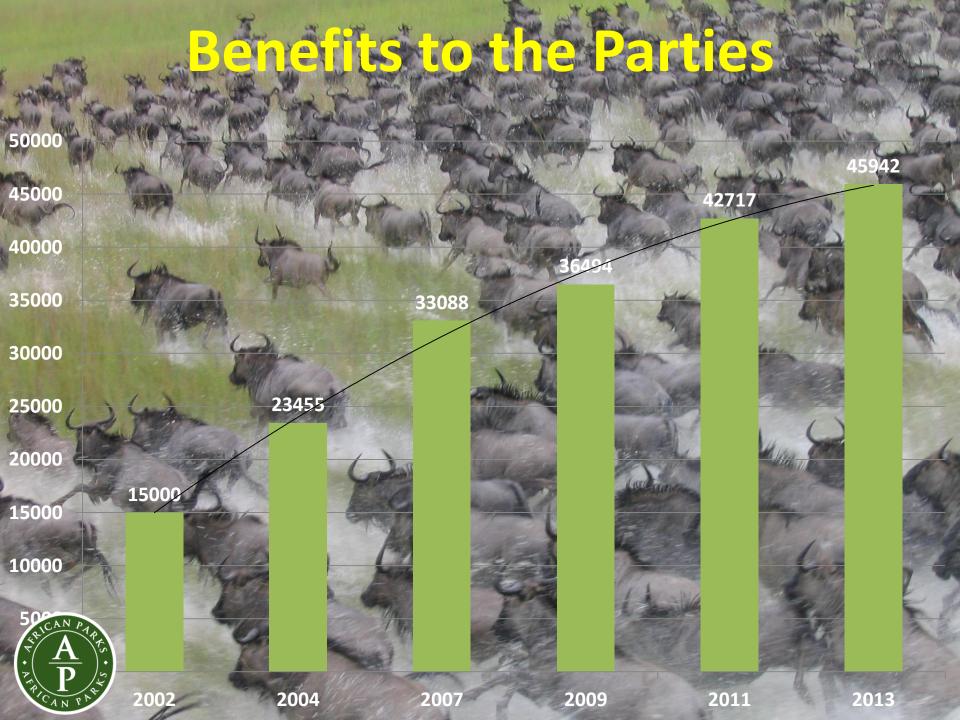


How is sustainability achieved

- > Develop a diverse range of quality tourism products and services capable of attracting and meeting the needs of international, regional and local visitors;
- Maximise net revenue streams from tourism through prudent investment, efficient operations and matching rates with the value proposition of each product and service;
- > Support and promote community tourism around the park;
- > Effective marketing programme;
- ➤ Build the relationship with the existing concessionaire and explore new opportunities for partnerships to promote tourism potential in LNP;
- > Influence policy at a national level and gain political suppport
- > Explore and implement alternative revenue generating activities to diversify income

EFFECTIVENESS AND LESSONS LEARNT

- Managed to review agreements
- The Challenge borders on adequate funding to balance between financing operations and community benefits
- Park Management working well: qualified staff with a financed budget
- Lesson learned: Need total mandate to manage the park, accountable to government and community
- Do Differently: work with gvt and other stakeholders to support community livelihoods



THANK YOU