

GLOBAL WILDLIFE PROGRAM



PROJECT: Managing the Human-Wildlife Interface to Sustain the Flow of Agro-Ecosystem Services and Prevent Illegal Wildlife Trafficking and in the Kgalagadi and Ghanzi Drylands



Image by Cheetah Conservation Botswana or Department of Wildlife

OVERVIEW

Project Sites: Kalahari Savannah – Central Kalahari Game Reserve (CKGR) and the Kalahari Transfrontier Park (KTP); Kgalagadi/Ghanzi drylands in western and south-western Botswana; Orange-Senqu Transboundary River Basin; Ngamiland

Species Focus: Lions, cheetahs, wild dogs

Total Project Cost: US\$ 6 million

Executing Partner: Ministries of: (i) Environment, Natural Resources Conservation and Tourism; (ii) Agriculture; Kgalagadi/Ghanzi Councils

GEF Implementing Agency: UNDP

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CONTEXT

Botswana is home to the second largest population of lions and cheetahs in Africa. Located in Botswana's Kalahari Savannah, the CKGR and the KTP are two of Botswana's strategic protected areas that contain significant populations of lions and cheetahs. Like many African countries, Botswana has experienced loss of wildlife due to poaching. In addition, competition for land use and natural resources has resulted in negative consequences for conservation and the livelihoods of rural communities. Botswana is committed to tackling poaching and mitigating human-wildlife conflict and over the last few years, it has taken great strides to conserve wildlife. It established a National Anti-poaching Committee (2012), launched a draft National Anti-poaching Strategy (2013), created a National Anti-Poaching Task Team, and participated in the the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora (CITES) Rhinoceros Enforcement Task Force. Also, Botswana is a signatory to the Elephant Protection Initiative (EPI).

PROJECT COMPONENTS

The GWP Botswana project aims to promote an integrated landscape approach to managing Kgalagadi and Ghanzi drylands for ecosystem resilience, improved livelihoods and reduced conflicts between wildlife conservation and livestock production. The project's main components are:

- Coordinating capacity for combating wildlife crime/trafficking and enforcement of wildlife policies and regulations at district, national and international levels;
- Incentives and systems for community benefits and participation in combating wildlife crimes
- Integrated landscape planning in conservation areas and sustainable land management (SLM) practices in communal lands
- Gender Mainstreaming

PROJECT FOCUS

- Recognition and management of conservation areas for protecting wildlife migratory corridors
- Community rangeland management and pastoral production practices
- Strengthening of institutional and community capacity for implementing landscape planning and integrated sustainable management
- Establishment of value chains and ecotourism businesses
- Development and implementation of National strategy for combatting wildlife crime (capacity building, inter-agency collaboration, and local level participation)

