

Country Profile: Kenya



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OVERVIEW

Project Title: Combating Poaching and the Illegal Wildlife Trade in Kenya through an Integrated Approach

Project Sites: Maasai Mara and Tsavo Ecosystems

Species Focus: Elephants and rhinos

Total Project Cost: \$3.8 million

Executing Partner: Ministry of Environment, Water, and Natural Resources, Kenya Wildlife Service (KWS)

GEF Implementing Agency: UNDP

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CONTEXT

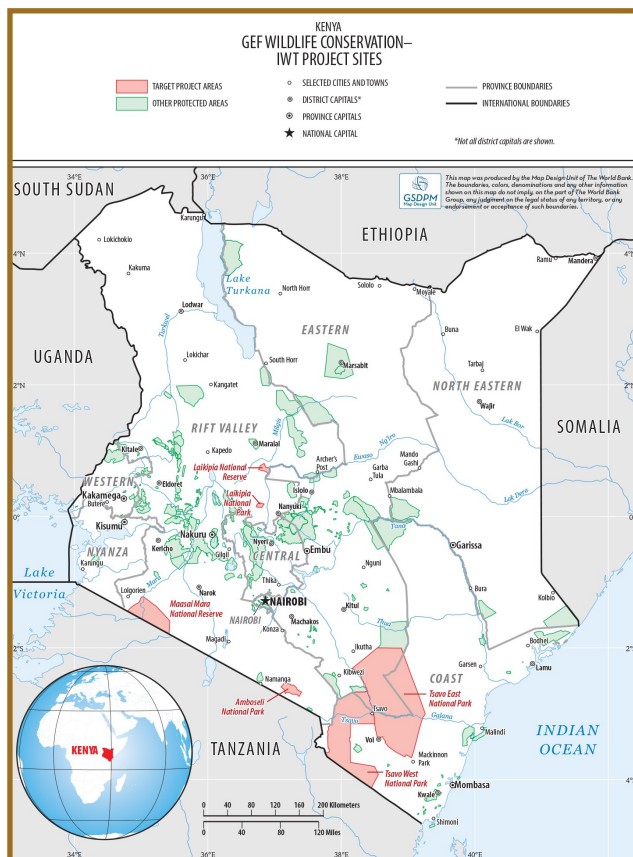
Kenya's biodiversity is amongst the richest and most diversified in Africa. It harbors a wide variety of wildlife in its 50 national parks and diversified private, state, and trust lands. Wildlife is key to Kenya's tourism sector, which accounts for over 12% of the national GDP. Kenya has lost more than half of its wildlife resources over the last three decades. Competing resource utilization, escalating human-wildlife conflicts, and systematic poaching of elephants and rhino and the subsequent trafficking of wildlife products continues to be the major threats to Kenya's wildlife. These threats have serious implications for the country's development and tourism-based economy, including the Maasai Mara, Amboseli and Tsavo Ecosystems.

Kenya is committed to conserve its wildlife, and is implementing wide-ranging anti-poaching operations and supporting community-led conservancies. Kenya's government has also implemented a number of policies to help manage land and wildlife, including the National Ivory Action Plan (NIAP). The country is a participating state in CITES Rhinoceros Enforcement Task Force and associated strategies and actions. Kenya is a priority beneficiary of the CITES National Legislation Project.

PROJECT COMPONENTS

The GWP Kenya project aims to combat poaching and illegal wildlife trafficking in Kenya through an integrated approach. The project components are:

1. Strengthening the capacity for effective biodiversity and illegal wildlife trade governance in Kenya
2. Reducing poaching and illegal trade of threatened species
3. Establishing at least two new Community Conservancies in the Tsavo and Maasai Mara ecosystems that promote sustainable land management and livelihoods



See the World Bank website for more information: [Global Wildlife Program](#)