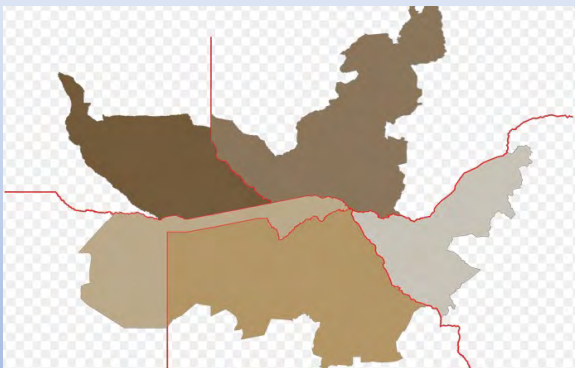




**"KAZA and Connectivity; Why Wildlife Corridors Matter, Challenges in Securing Them"**

**KAZA and Connectivity**

KAZA TFCA: *notarized 18 August 2011: The largest terrestrial multi-state conservation area in the world.*

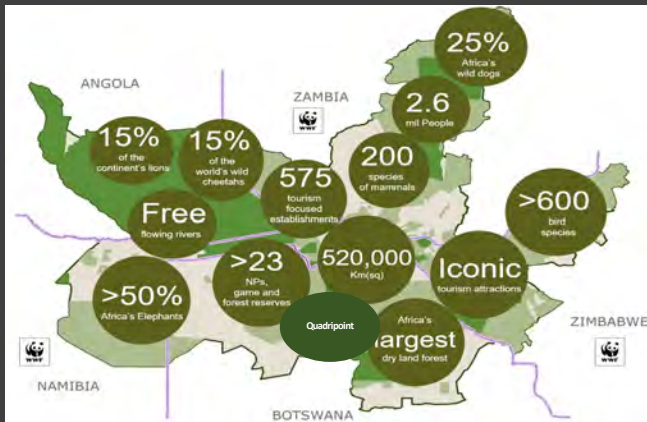


Partner country	Area in km2	% land of KAZA
Angola	90,621.67	17
Botswana	153,663.00	30
Namibia	71,516.00	14
Zambia	132,631.00	25
Zimbabwe	71,480.00	14
<b>Total</b>	<b>519,911.67</b>	<b>100</b>



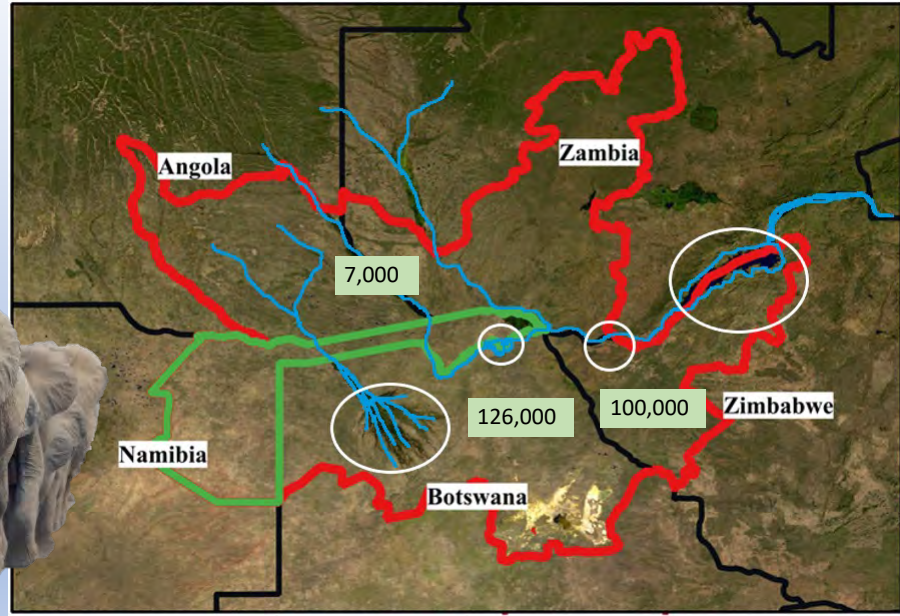
**KAZA TFCA**

1. Creates *sustainable, climate-resilient livelihoods* for people living at the settlement-wildlife interface – *WDAs and peri-corridor landscape*
2. The *largest terrestrial Transfrontier conservation area* on the planet
3. Secure the integrity of the KAZA landscape through *the free movement of wildlife*



**KAZA and Connectivity: Unique, Iconic**

**CRITICAL  
FRESHWATER  
SOURCE AND  
DISTRIBUTION**



**Why do Wildlife Corridors Matter?**



## What are Wildlife Corridors?

Wildlife corridors are (historic) stretches of vegetation joining fragmented yet **ecologically similar habitats** allowing the migration of wild animals and equally important providing **food, water and cover** for the animals in transit.

## Why do Wildlife Corridors Matter?

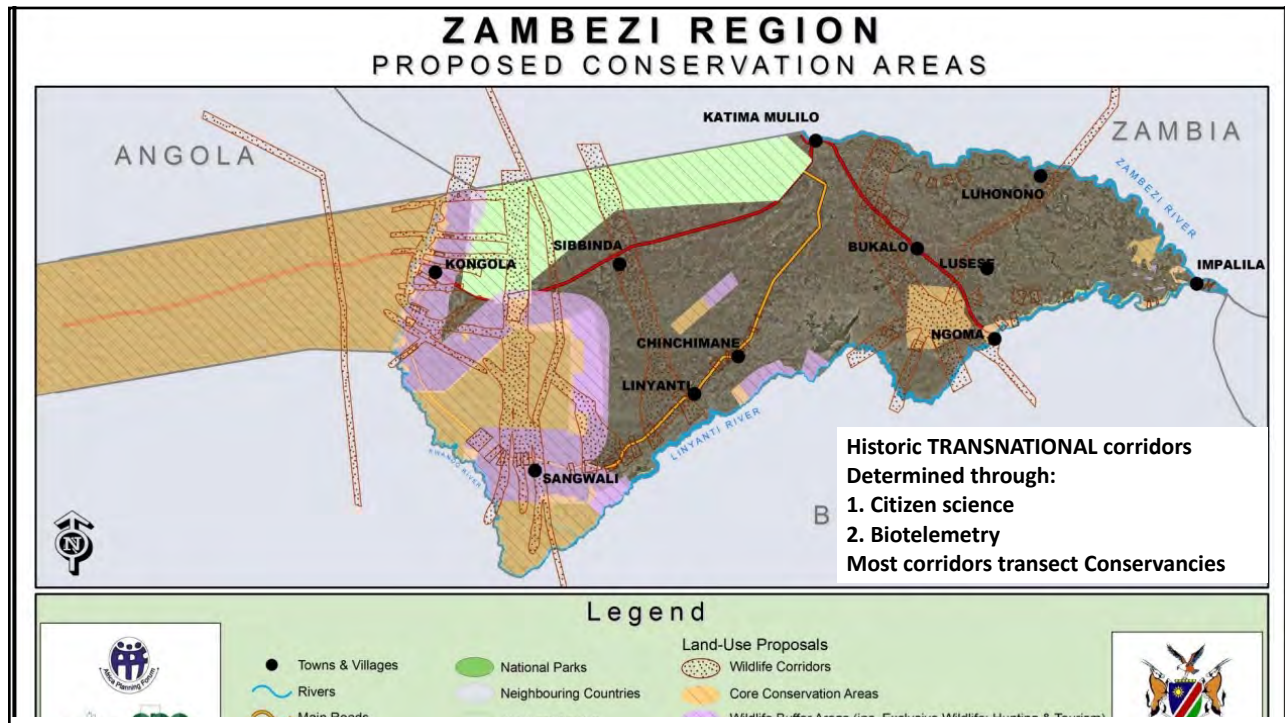
### Wildlife corridors

Key conservation tool - Free wild animal movement between habitat patches. Counteracting landscape fragmentation.

- a. Facilitate **human-wildlife coexistence**;
  - i. provide wildlife safe access to required resources (**counter droughts**) – megaherbivores, smaller herbivores, carnivores, scavengers, birds
  - ii. **reduce interactions** between people and wild animals.
  - iii. Reduce pressure on local habitats – animal deaths?
- d. **Shared resource**: In KAZA TFCA Improve the wildlife-based economy of the 2.67million inhabitants residing on the 520 000km of KAZA TFCA. Sharing of ‘mobile resources’ within KAZA (animals and water). **126,000 elephants in Botswana**
- e. Allows rangeland restoration
- f. Increases **wild animal population distant subpopulation, genetic vibrancy**
- g. Natural **aesthetics**/Edenic like no other place on earth.
- h. **Keeping KAZA TFCA intact and functional**



# The Challenges of Securing Wildlife Corridors in Zambezi Region

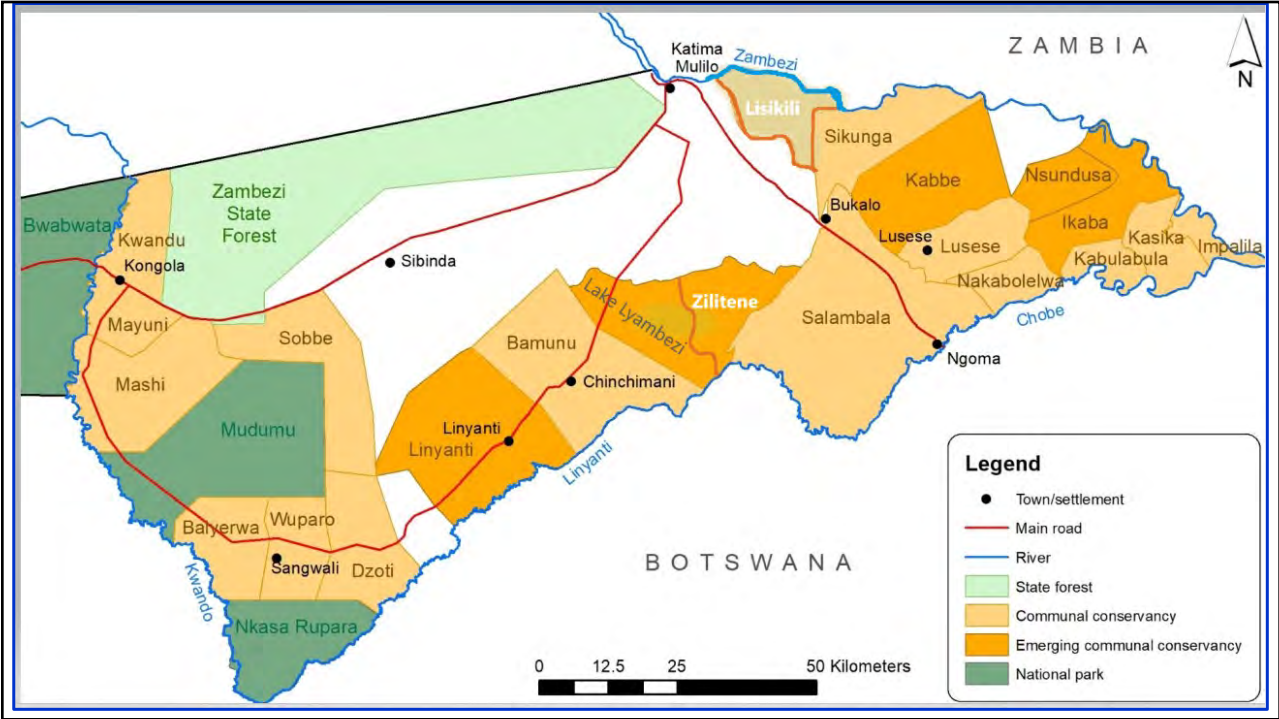
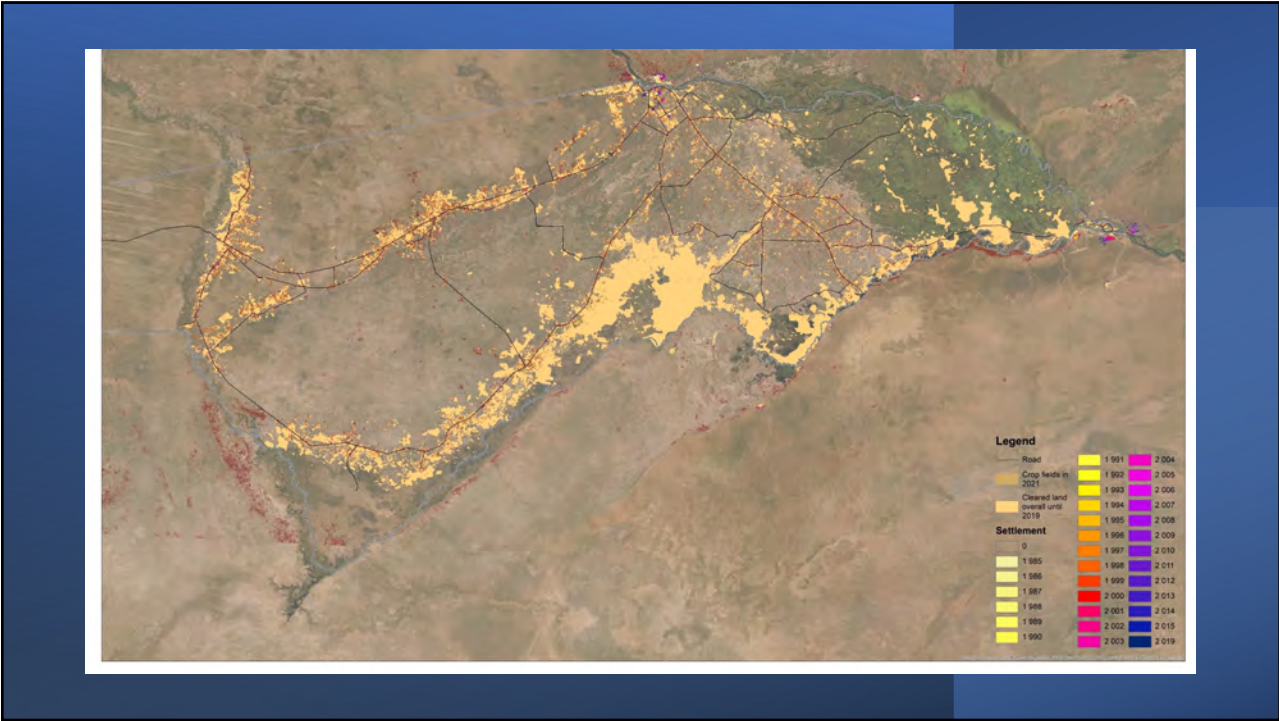




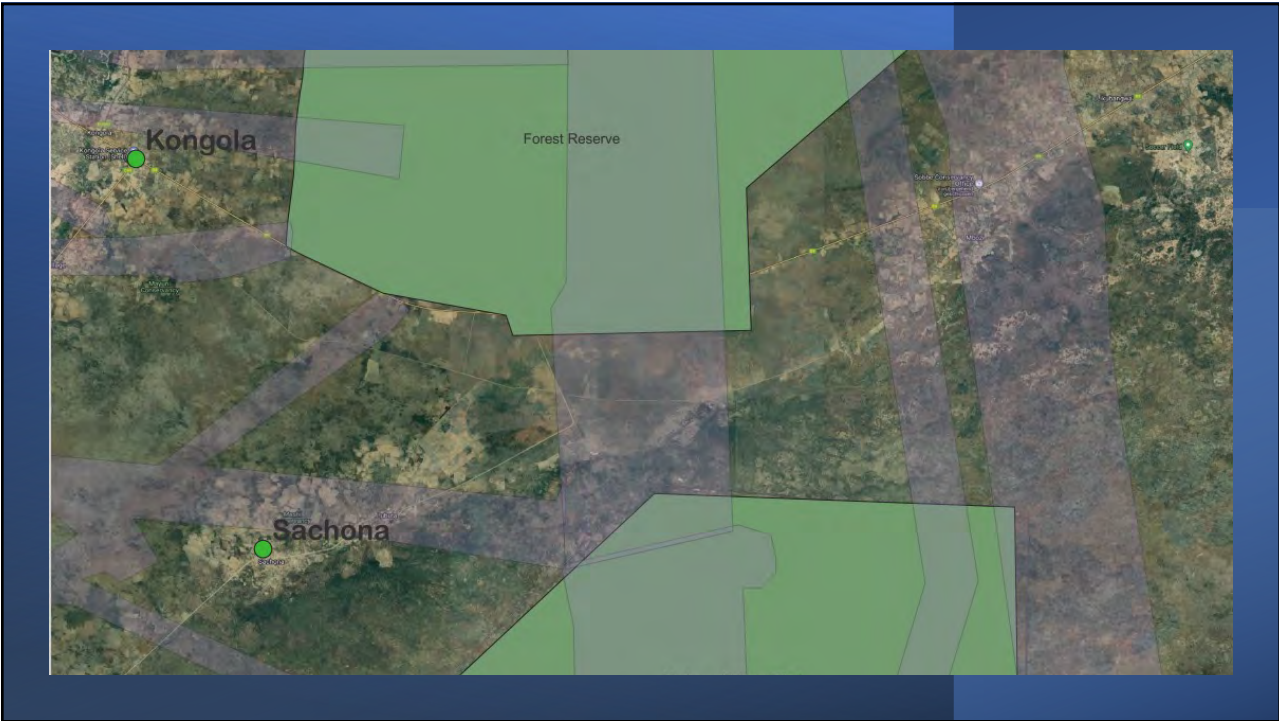
## Anthropogenic barriers

### Anthropogenic barriers

- **Riparian** settlements
- Road linear / **ribbon** settlements
- The people in KAZA TFCA live on **one-third** of the land. (**148,520 km<sup>2</sup>** is used for **agropastoral activities**)
- **SPACE** is not the challenge but the **Spatial distribution and Land use**: (not population density of 5.12pp/km<sup>2</sup>) that is.....
  - Fragmenting wildlife habitats.
  - Preventing migration of wild animals from one haven to another.



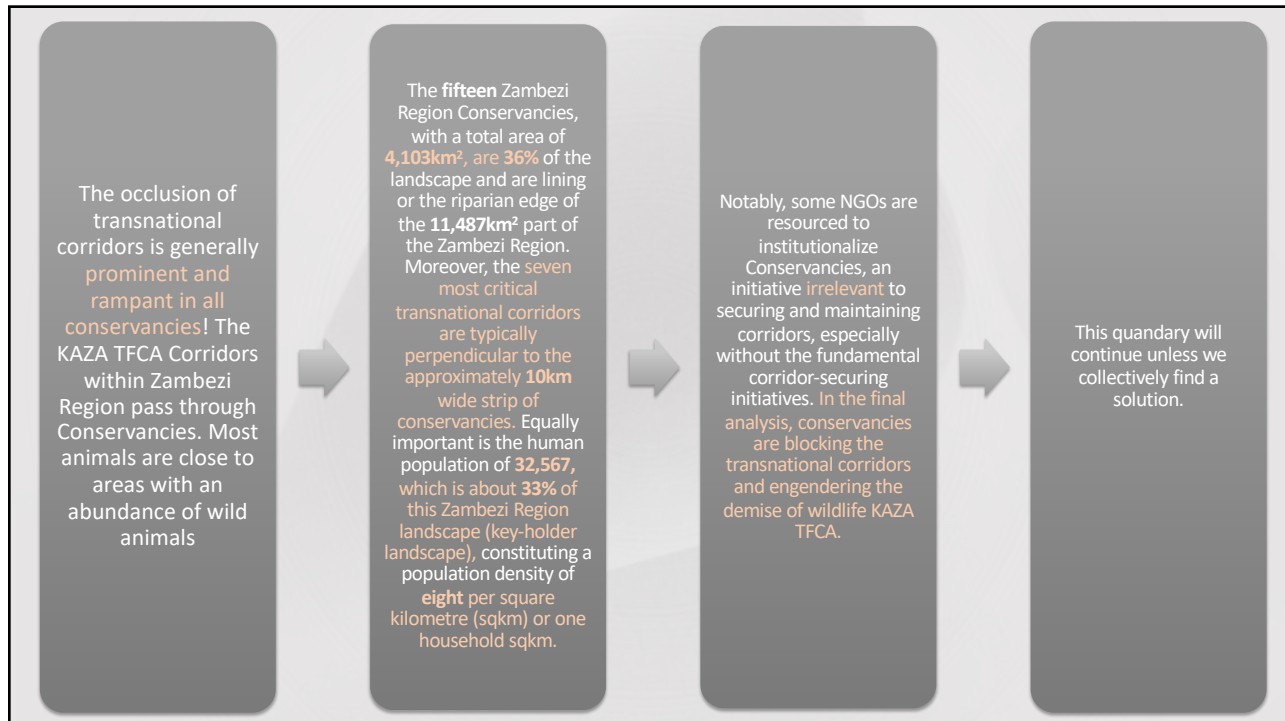






## **Traditional Authority**

- Headwomen and men continue allocating land in corridors for settlement and cropping.
- Haphazard settlements - landscape fragmentation.



**Veterinary Fence; Bwabwata National Park**

**Barriers**

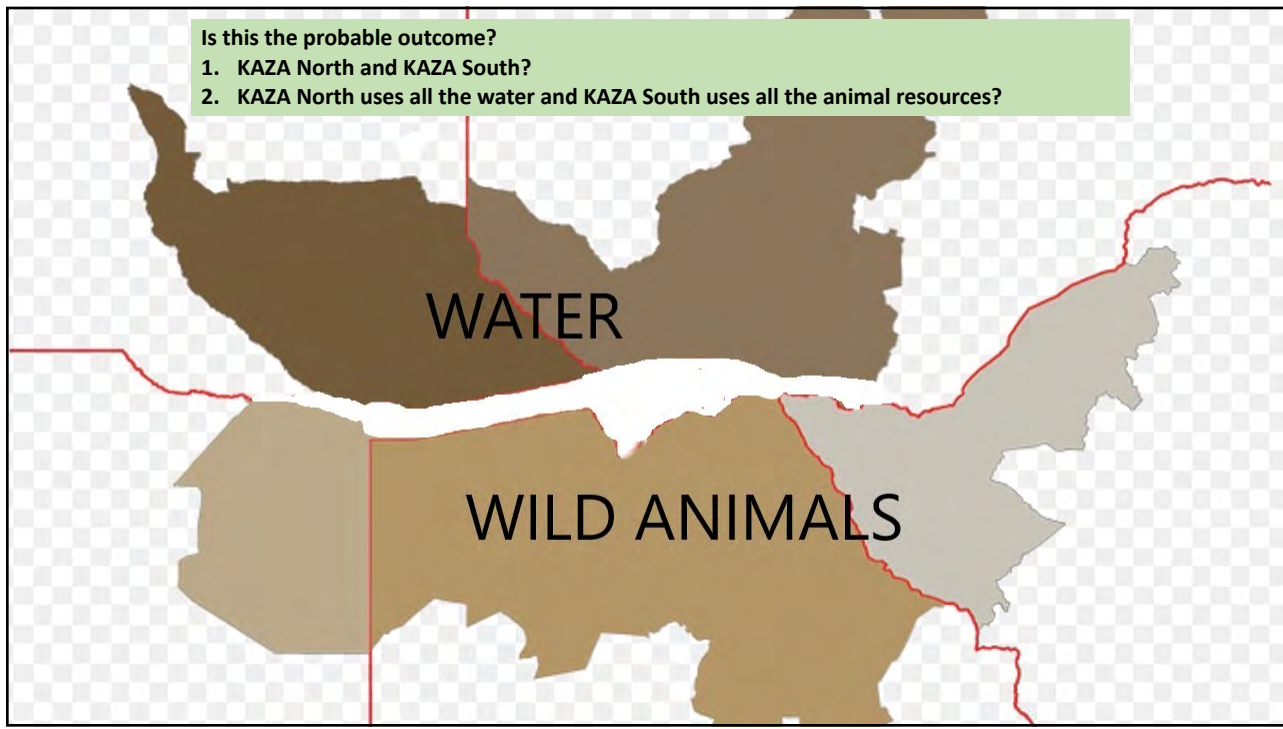
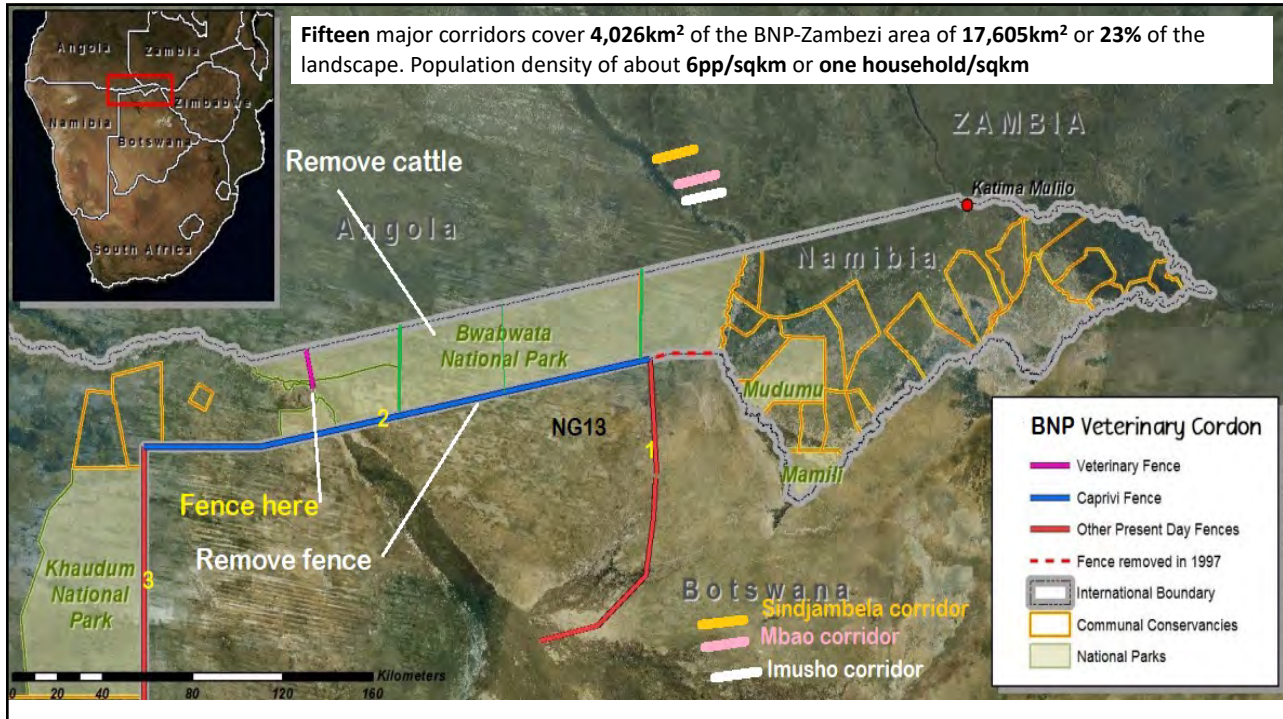
17605 sqkm

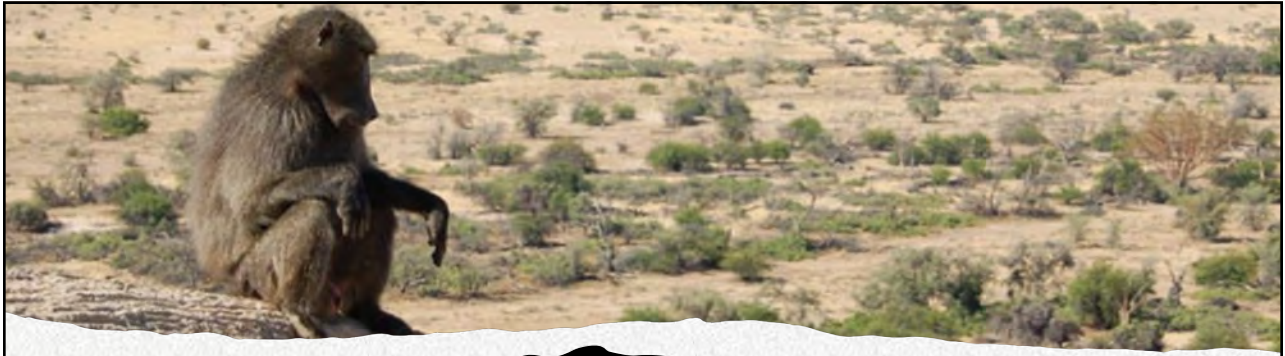
- 170kms
- Cattle in Bwabwata National Park - **2,064 worth about N\$17.8 million (nine elephants) owned by 52 people**

**The Challenges of Securing Wildlife Corridors in Zambezi Region**

2,065 cattle owned by 52 people – Preventing the removal of 170 km of BNP cordon fence or at least 125km to allow free movement of 126,000 elephants across BNP to Angola and Zambia or vice versa (for the Okavango, Quito, Kwando rivers to continue flowing).

**BNP cordon fence: Virtual barrier for female and young elephants**





## Critical Question



Is the securing of Wildlife Corridors in Zambezi Region possible?

Possible to convert Conversations into Conversation?



## Recommendations



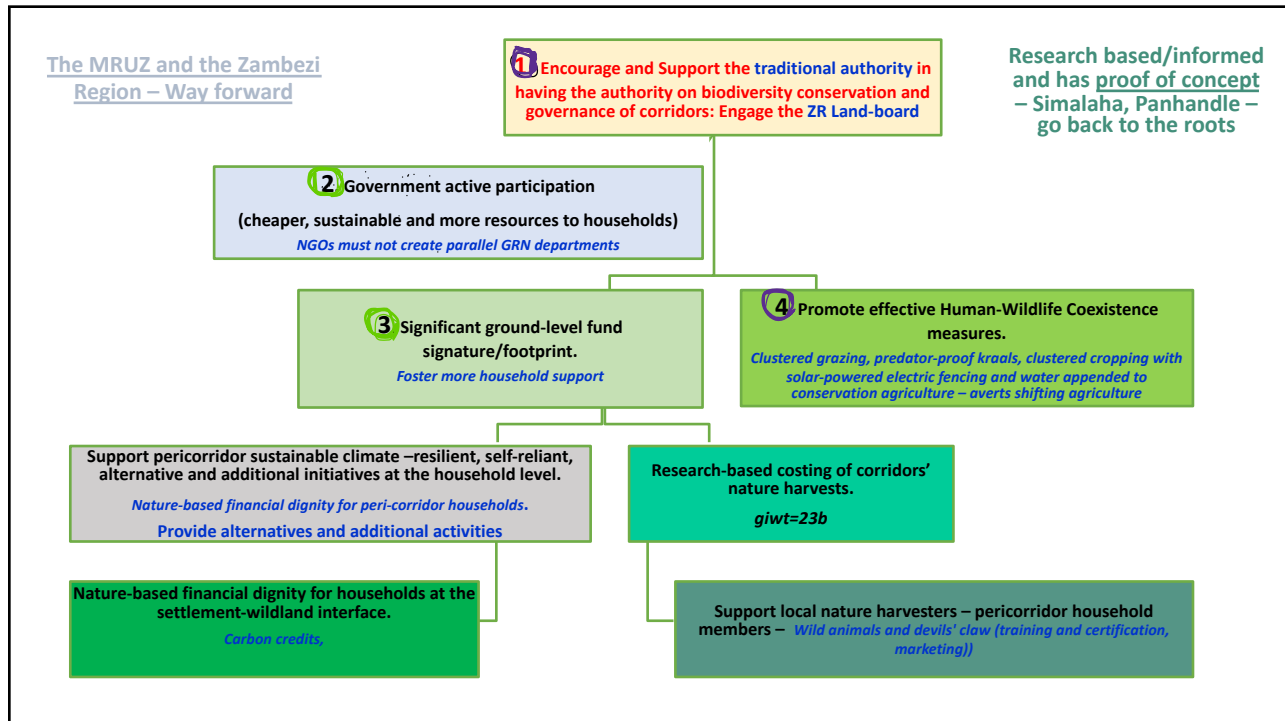
## The MRUZ and the Zambezi Region – Possible Way forward

The overarching concept is the increment of **progress in making human livelihoods better.**



**“Get rid of the  
problem,  
not the  
elephant.”**

*– (Richard Diggle 6, August 2022, Zambezi Region)-*



## The MRUZ and the Zambezi Region – Way forward

**Fifteen** major corridors cover **4,026km<sup>2</sup>** of the BNP-Zambezi area, 17,605km<sup>2</sup> or **23%** of the landscape. Notably, people should not necessarily be moved; instead, there are incentives to stimulate corridor custodianship. If there is translocation, it will be voluntary, where households (esp. fields) move to the corridors periphery.

An average of **41km per corridor**, with about one homestead per square kilometre, implies incentivising **82 households** per corridor or **1,230 households on the Namibian landscape of KAZA TFCA**. If 15 farmers benefit from cluster farming, the **primary resource envelope for 75 clusters is N\$32.8 million** or N\$2.187million per corridor for the clustered farming incentive. **(16 elephants)**





## Bwabwata Cordon Fence – Possible Way forward

### **Mediation**

### The MRUZ and the Zambezi Region

Create a liaison team or mediation between MEFT DVS and TA to remove cattle from BNP and repair the Buffalo Fence.

Engage respected local elders

Develop and show a credible strategic plan for the flow of tangible nature-based benefits to ALL households in the MRUZ.

Craft and show a comprehensive HCo Ex plan for ALL the MRUZ households

Engage the Botswana relevant authorities using Namibians and Batswanas as mediators.

## Questions often asked

- Adequate meaningful benefits? Per capita?
- Carrying capacity of the landscapes?
- Community sensitisation – zoonotic diseases
- Adequate HWC mitigation?
- Landmines – Angola?
- Railway, gas pipelines new barriers?

Finally,

*Let us convert **conversations to conservation** through livelihood development for those who bear the cost of living with wild animals.*

Obrigado !