



Challenges, Opportunities and Prospects for Community Conservation in KAZA

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KAZA – A large landscape approach to integrated conservation and development

- TFCA: a large ecological region that straddles the boundaries of two or more countries
- Encompasses one or more protected areas as well as multiple resource use areas (SADC 1999)
- Managed collaboratively for conservation &/or development purposes
- Economies of scale should generate more efficient protection and better use of scarce resources for biodiversity conservation and ecosystem functioning
- Transboundary conservation can lead to, and provide a wide range of political, social and economic benefits



Challenges to integrated land management at scale

- Zambezi Region (formerly Caprivi) is pivotal to the promise of KAZA
- Inter-sectoral policy constraints limit the potential of spatially integrated management of land units at different scales
- Inappropriate land use options, e.g. small scale farms, irrigation schemes threaten sustainable opportunities large scale interventions provide
- Geographic-based disease control measures at the wildlife-livestock interface limit greater wildlife connectivity across boundaries within and between countries
- Also limits the opportunity for communal livestock producers to access meat markets more efficiently and effectively, using for example, CBT approaches



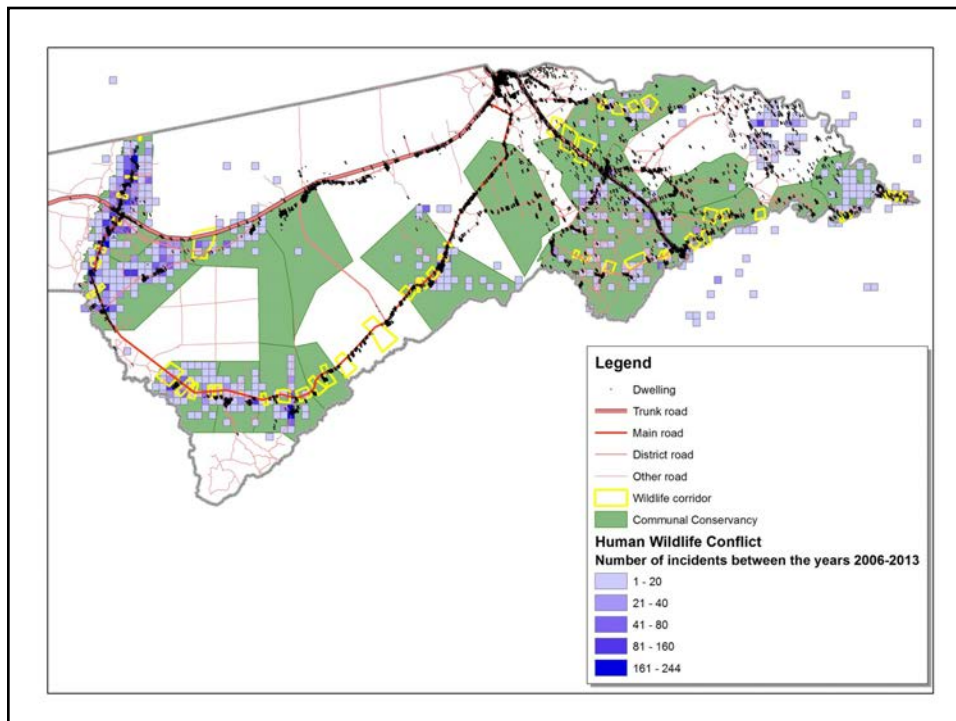
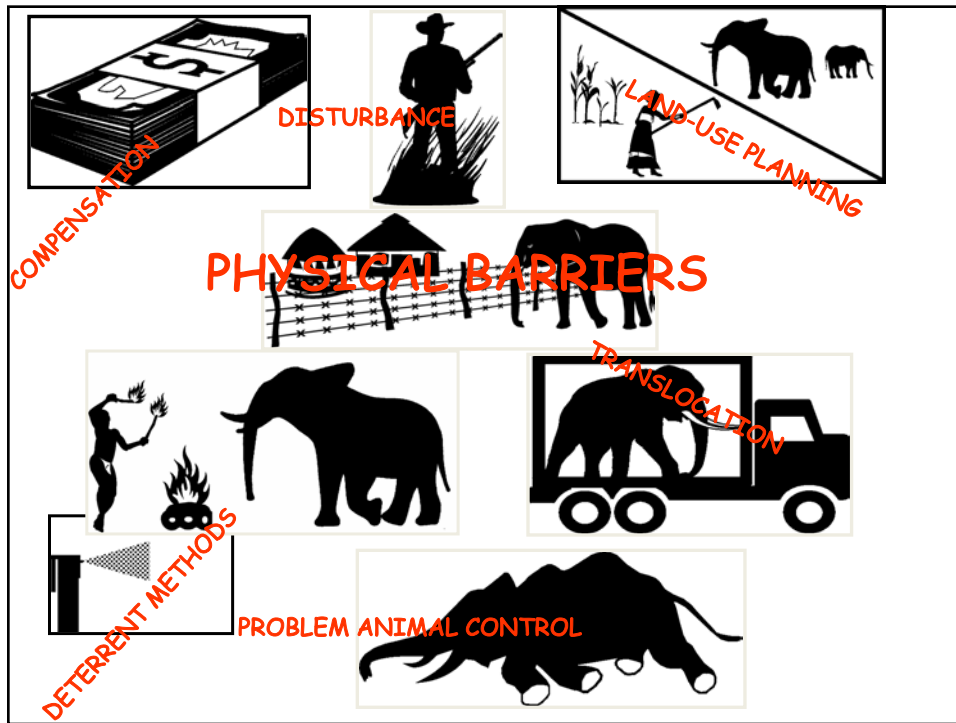
Land Use Planning

- Land Use Plans abound on many shelves gathering dust and never implemented
- A plan is nothing, planning and re-planning is everything
- Mostly centralised and top-down
- Rarely participatory and community-based
- Exceptions include CRUAs (Community Resource Assessments) in Mozambique and Zimbabwe
- Legally required Conservancy Zonation Plans for Namibian Conservancies and a Zambezi Intergrated Regional Land Use Plan
- Northern Botswana, LUCIS (Land Use Conflict Identification Strategy),
- All driven in a highly participatory manner



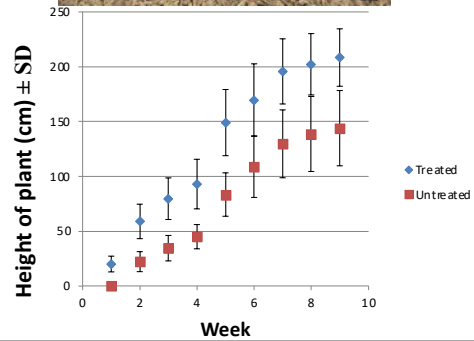
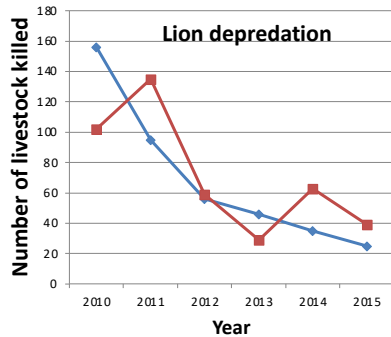
Human-wildlife conflict (HWC)

- Any human-wildlife interaction which results in negative effects:
 - On human social, economic or cultural life,
 - On wildlife conservation
 - On the environment
- There are numerous approaches to mitigate HWC, with no single solution, nor will HWC ever be eliminated
- **But for long term coexistence, the benefits of living with wildlife must outweigh its costs**



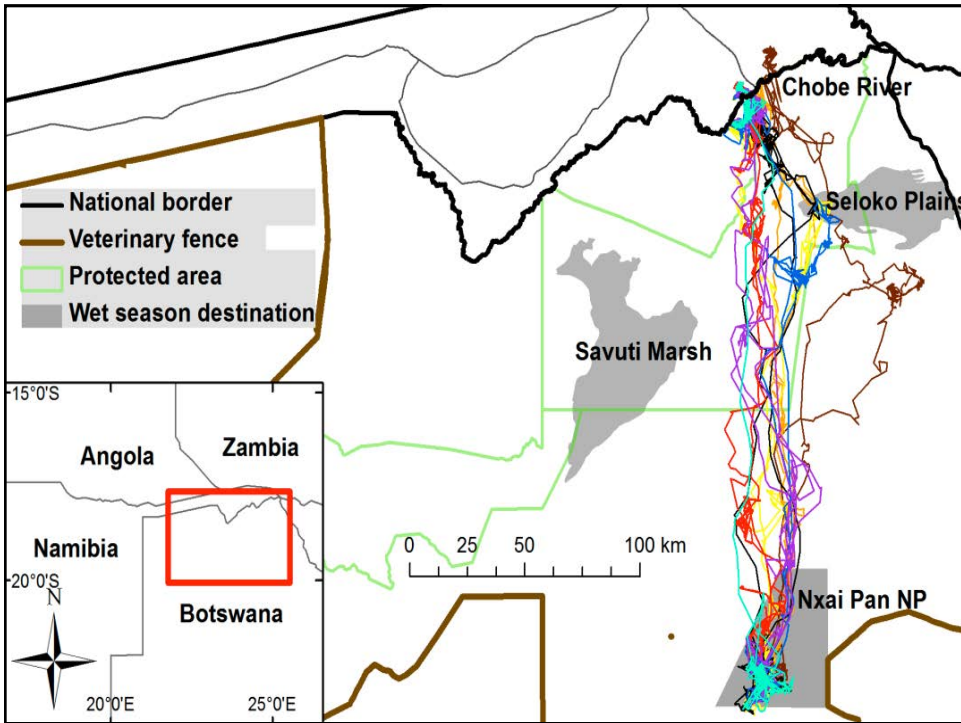
Mitigating Conflict & Improving Tolerance

Source: Andy Loveridge WildCru

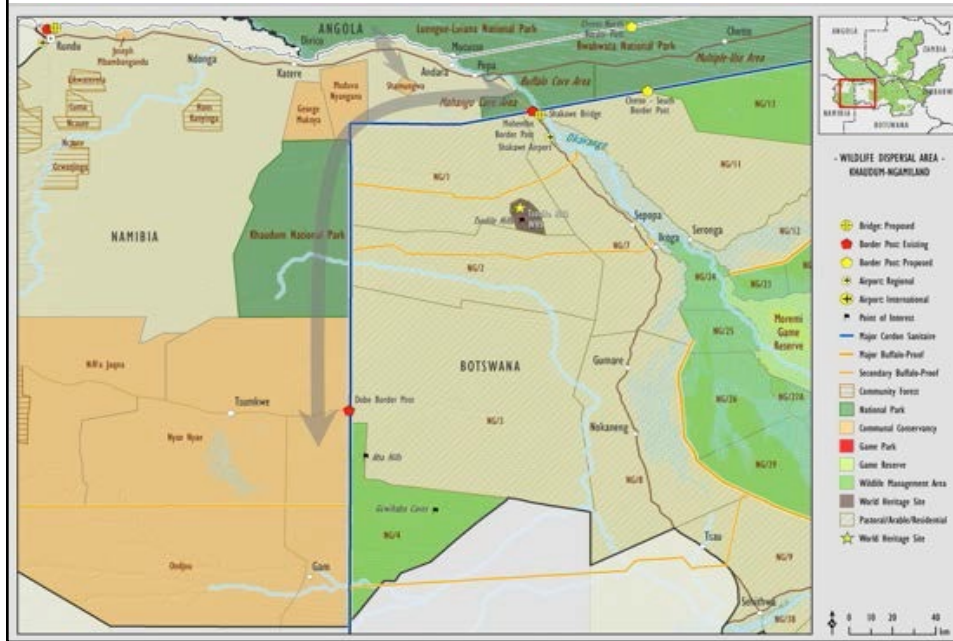


Breaking Barriers and Creating Connectivity:

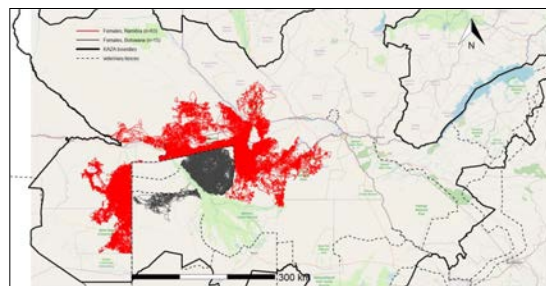
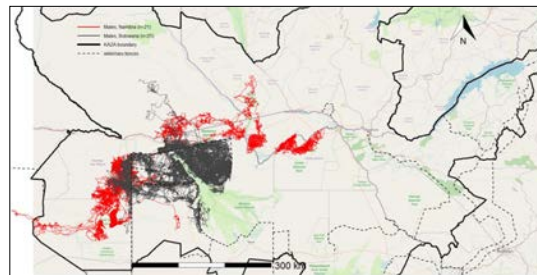
- Many large mammals function at spatial scales greater than a national park
- Typically, protected areas are 1,000-10,000 km² or smaller
100-1,000 km²
- Species requiring connectivity across large landscapes include elephant, buffalo, zebra, wild dog and other carnivores
- Connecting wildlife populations bring both opportunities and challenges



Khaidum-Ngamiland WDA



Effects of border fences on male movements (top) and female movements (bottom) in Namibia (red) and Botswana (black)



Community Based Natural Resource Management (CBNRM)

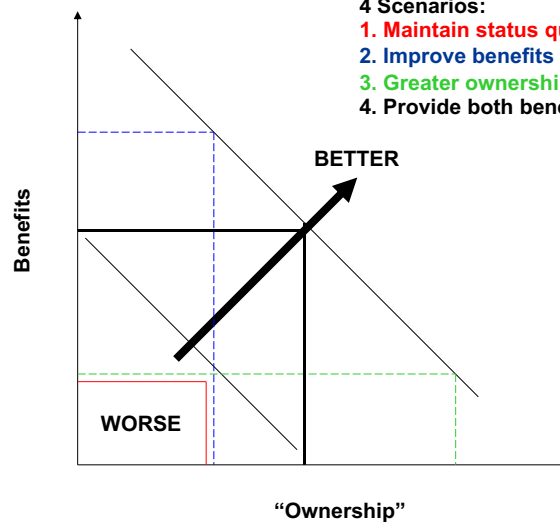
- Devolved management responsibility, accountability and beneficiation
- Collaborative co-management principles and practice
- Further development and integration within and between countries still needed
- **Move beyond “de-centralisation” to “devolution”**



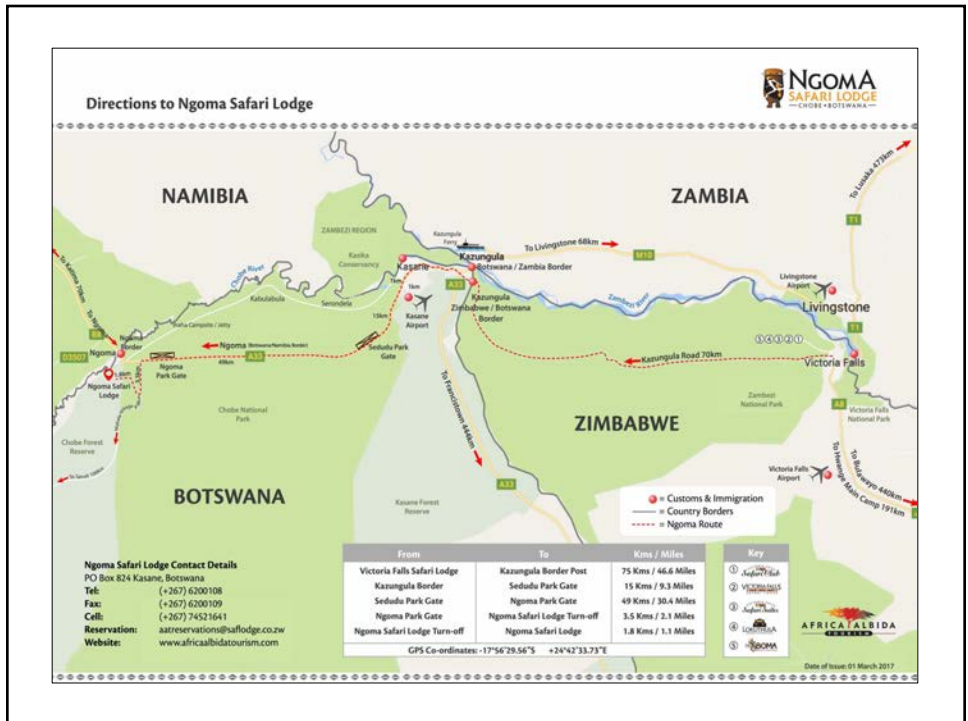
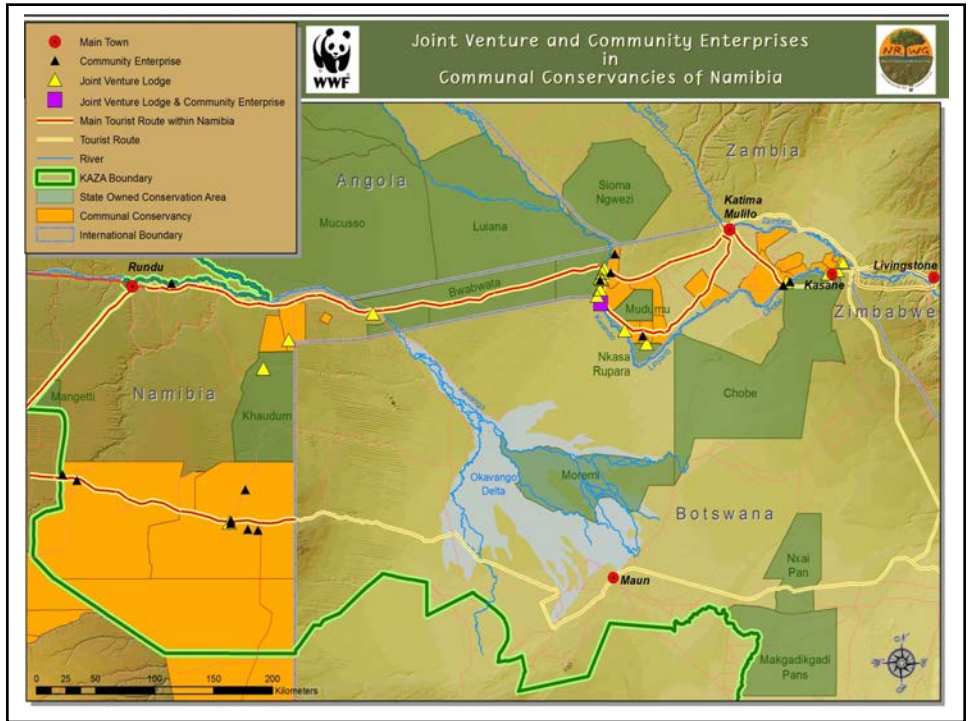
Institutional change

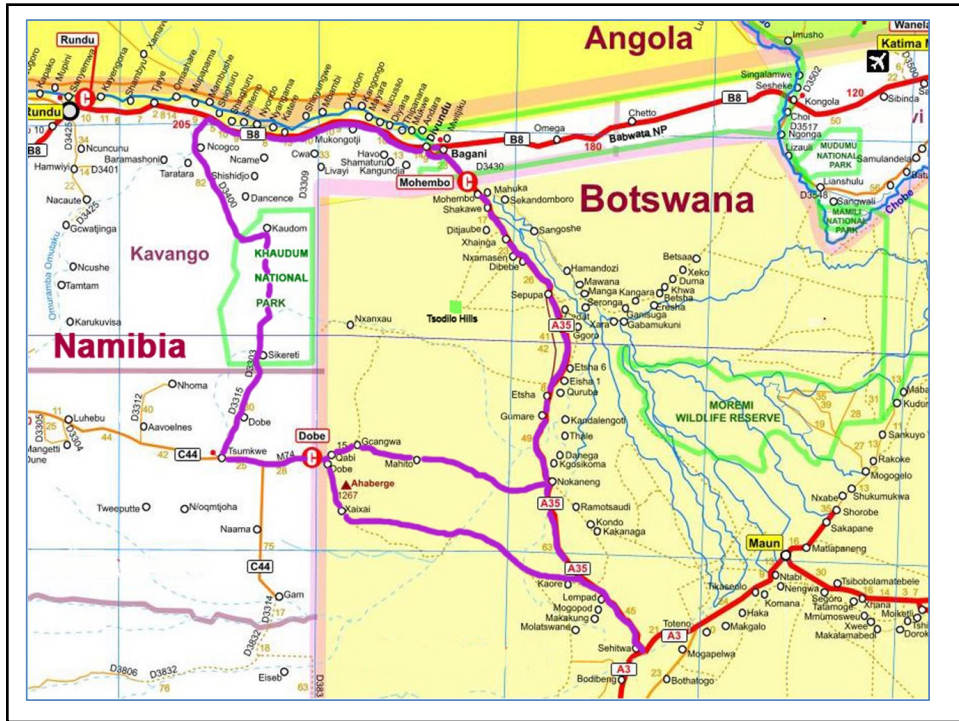
4 Scenarios:

1. **Maintain status quo**
2. **Improve benefits but poor ownership**
3. **Greater ownership but benefits remain low**
4. **Provide both benefits & ownership**



Empowerment = Knowledge, Skills, Self-esteem, Pride, Responsibility, Confidence, Motivation





Wildlife Credits: Wildlife Sightings

(with acknowledgement to Richard Diggle & Greg Stuart-Hill)



Principles behind Wildlife Credits

(again, with acknowledgement to Richard Diggle & Greg Stuart-Hill)

- Tap into the “existence value” of iconic & problematic species
- Direct payment from payer (Tour Operator &/or Tourist) to the wildlife custodians (Community)
- Payment related to community performance
- Keep the performance criteria simple
- Gearing of financing, local, national and international payments

Transboundary Game Counts: Imusho, Zambia

- Game counts have been undertaken in Kwando (Namibia), Imusho (Zambia) and Jamba (Angola) since 2018
- Marks the first ever set of community-based transboundary game counts undertaken in the KAZA TFCA
- Designing and planning the Imusho game count



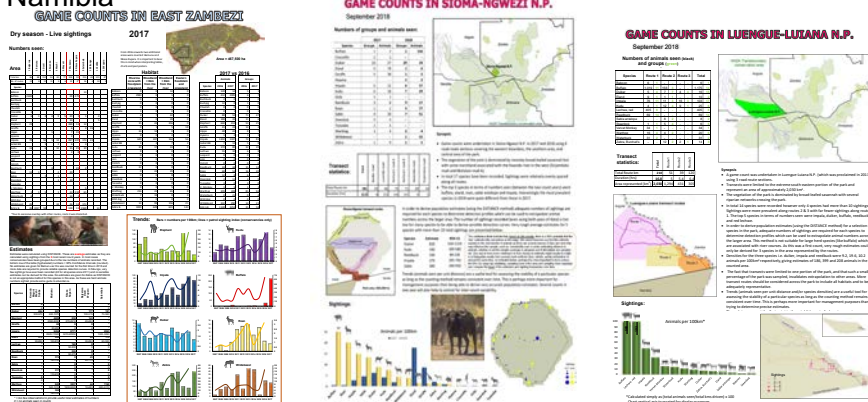
The Jamba Game Count: Luengue-Luiana NP Angola

- Important need for cross boundary population estimates for a range of wildlife species
- Community game counts use vehicles, a road strip count and the DISTANCE method for determining population estimates
- Participation conveys sense of ownership and part of wildlife management



Community counts have now been completed 2017-2021 in Namibia, Zambia & Angola

Results are presented graphically on highly visual posters for each country and its respective community and can be compared with long term game counts in East Zambezi, Namibia



Opportunity, Challenge & Prospect

- Policy and practice, whether **good** or **bad** across the KAZA landscape will be driven largely by **trans-boundary based natural resource management involving local communities**
- The need to respond proactively is both **important** and **urgent**
- Our capacity (experience, skills and knowledge) and capability (human capital and financial resources) **remain insufficient** to meet the need