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This factsheet was produced by the Sustainable Wildlife Management (SWM) Programme as part of the Community Conservancy Project in the Kavango–Zambezi (KAZA) Transfrontier Conservation Area.

Target species



Elephant



Hippopotamus



Buffalo



Bush pig



Antelope



Primates



Lion



Hyena



Leopard

Description

Land-use planning organizes land resources strategically to minimize overlaps between wildlife and incompatible human activities, effectively reducing potential conflicts.

How it works

Land-use planning uses landscape zoning to designate specific areas for human activities (e.g. agriculture, livestock, housing and water resources) while preserving habitats for wildlife conservation.

How it is administered

- Study and understand wildlife needs (water, pastures) and movement patterns.
- Conduct participatory assessments with communities to evaluate resource use and explore locally acceptable options.
- Avoid placing attractive crops or livestock kraals near forests or conservation areas and village borders.
- Establish clear, mutually agreed boundaries and rules for land use, ensuring regular maintenance and clearing around villages.
- Incorporate wildlife corridors to facilitate safe wildlife movement.

Usage

No restricted use: requires involvement and consent/support of the entire community.

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What it achieves

- Reduces human–wildlife contact, thereby minimizing conflicts.
- Encourages collective community action, fostering collaboration and shared benefits.
- Mitigates the negative impacts of habitat fragmentation.

Concerns

- Requires full community consent, which can be challenging to achieve, especially in politicized contexts.
- Demands long-term planning and detailed knowledge of local conditions across all seasons to account for wildlife migration and resource availability.

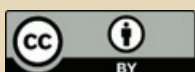


The SWM Programme is a major international initiative that aims to improve the conservation and sustainable use of wildlife in forest, savannah and wetland ecosystems. It is being funded by the European Union with co-funding from the French Facility for Global Environment (FFEM) and the French Development Agency (AFD). Projects are being piloted and tested with governments and communities in 15 participating countries. The initiative is coordinated by a dynamic consortium of four partners, namely the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO), the Center for International Forestry Research and World Agroforestry (CIFOR-ICRAF), the French Agricultural Research Centre for International Development (CIRAD) and the Wildlife Conservation Society (WCS).



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