Implementing and scaling an integrated Population, Health and Environment model in Uganda and DRC

Africa in Transition, The Wilson Centre, 16th April 2019

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Habitat loss and poaching
Disease Transmission
Conservation Through Public Health

We keep gorillas healthy and their habitats secure
Wildlife Conservation

Alternative Livelihoods

Community Health
OKWERINDA

PREVENTION AND CONTROL OF DISEASE TRANSMISSION BETWEEN HUMANS AND GORILLAS

KUTATURIZA ENDWARA ENGAGI NARI ZO KU TUTURIZA
Train Village Health and Conservation Team (VHCT) community volunteers
Village Health and Conservation Teams administer family planning injections
Figure 4: New adopters of any family planning method in the intervention area preceded non-intervention areas based on recall data from a household survey (research conducted by Oxford University and funded by the Darwin Initiative)
Sustain Village Health and Conservation Teams with group livelihood projects
Gorilla Conservation Coffee – Social enterprise of CTPH
Impact

Increase in mountain gorilla population from 780 to 1000 since 2003

• **Gorillas are now protected** in community land
• Three fold increase in homes with hand washing facilities
• Reduced human related disease outbreaks in the gorillas (scabies)
• Reduced gorilla exposure to human and livestock diseases (giardia)
• **Increase from 22% to 67% women on family planning**, above increase from 30% to 45% current national average in rural areas
Expanding the approach to other gorilla habitats and biodiversity hot spots
Issues at Scale Up Locations

Budongo Forest Reserve
- Inadequate family planning supplies
- Very few VHTs
- No tourism revenue from National Forestry Authority
- Poaching
- Consumption of primates and other species
- Epilepsy (high levels)
- Zoonotic diseases
- Timber cutting

Mt. Elgon, Uganda
- Bad roads
- Poor community and National Park relations
- Cattle grazing in the park
- Encroachment (building or growing crops in the park)
- Landslides
- Zoonotic disease transmission (wildlife–human)

Virungas, DRC
- Insecurity
- Contraceptives not free
Scaling to Mount Elgon and Budongo Forest
CTPH Uganda Poverty and Conservation Learning Group (UPCLG) policy brief with IIED

• **To Donors:** Integrating healthcare in management of wildlife and natural resources contributes to conservation and sustainable development

• **To Uganda Wildlife Authority:** Engaging community health workers in conservation outreach, is an effective way of achieving conservation and sustainable development outcomes

• **To Ministry of Health:** Enrolling all government supported Village Health Teams as Village Health and Conservation Teams enables efficient delivery of social services with additional benefits for the environment.

• **To NGOs:** The VHCT model is sustainable through regular engagement of the community volunteers, and well managed group income generating projects and Village Saving and Loan Associations

• **PHE directly contributes to ten SDGs:** 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 8, 10, 15, 17
Thank You very much – The Wilson Center

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