



**Agreement on the  
Conservation of Gorillas  
and their Habitats of the  
Convention on  
Migratory Species**

Distribution: General

UNEP/GA/MOP3/Inf.2.4

17 June 2019

Original: English

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THIRD MEETING OF THE PARTIES  
Entebbe, Uganda, 18-21 June 2019

**NATIONAL REPORT BY THE GOVERNMENT OF UGANDA ON THE  
IMPLEMENTATION OF ACTION PLANS**

**Report for the Implementation of the Gorilla Agreement's Action Plans**

**Convention on Migratory Species**

**Gorilla Agreement National Report**

**for**

**Mountain Gorilla (*Gorilla beringei beringei*)**

**REPUBLIC OF UGANDA**

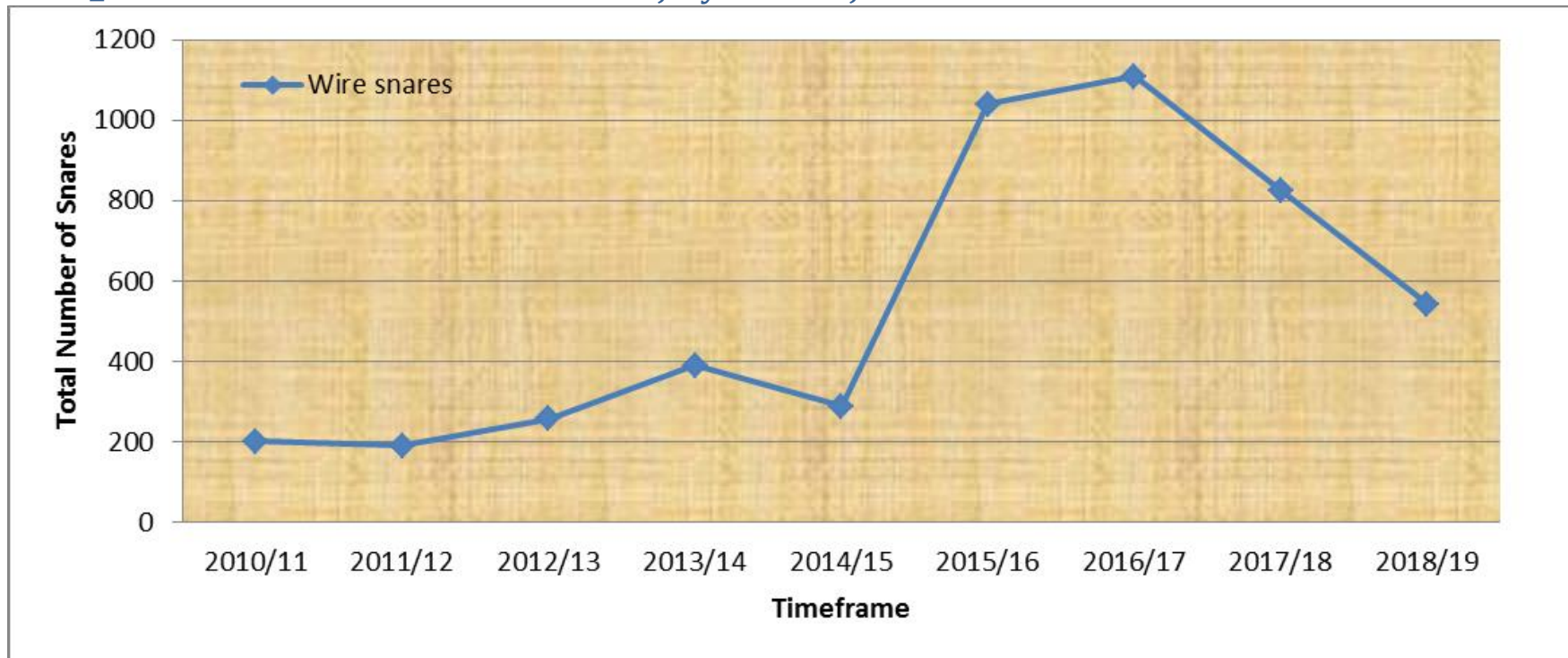
**I. Policy and Legislation**

<b>Action point identified in Action Plan :</b>	<b>Strengthen the provisions of the law and improve enforcement</b>
<b>Area/Site of action:</b>	Bwindi Mgahinga Conservation Area
<b>Date of action:</b>	<b>2011 – 2018</b>
<b>Action undertaken:</b>	Conducted various intensive patrols; Created Desks for Intelligence, Investigations, and Prosecution; Adopted use of Stealth Camera, and Surveillance Drone Technology.
<b>Results:</b>	Intensified surveillance coverage of PA, Increased Arrests and confiscations. <i>See Law Enforcement Results Table below</i>
<b>Publications, reports, maps etc.:</b>	Analyses of Quarterly and Annual patrol coverage extents; illegal activities' trends analyses.
<b>Difficulties encountered:</b>	Radio communication setbacks (very week radio communication system); too inadequate accommodation for law enforcement staff at all outposts; lack of transport facilities henceforth poor mobility for law enforcement staff; inadequate field gear at the disposal of patrol teams; lack of adequate fire arms for some rangers.
<b>Further action required:</b>	Need for overhauling of entire radio communication system; procurement of adequate field gear and improvement of transport facilities.
<b>Contacts/Implementing organization:</b>	<b>Ministry of Tourism, Wildlife and Antiquities (MTWA) and Uganda Wildlife Authority (UWA)</b>

***BINP: Table of Law Enforcement Results***

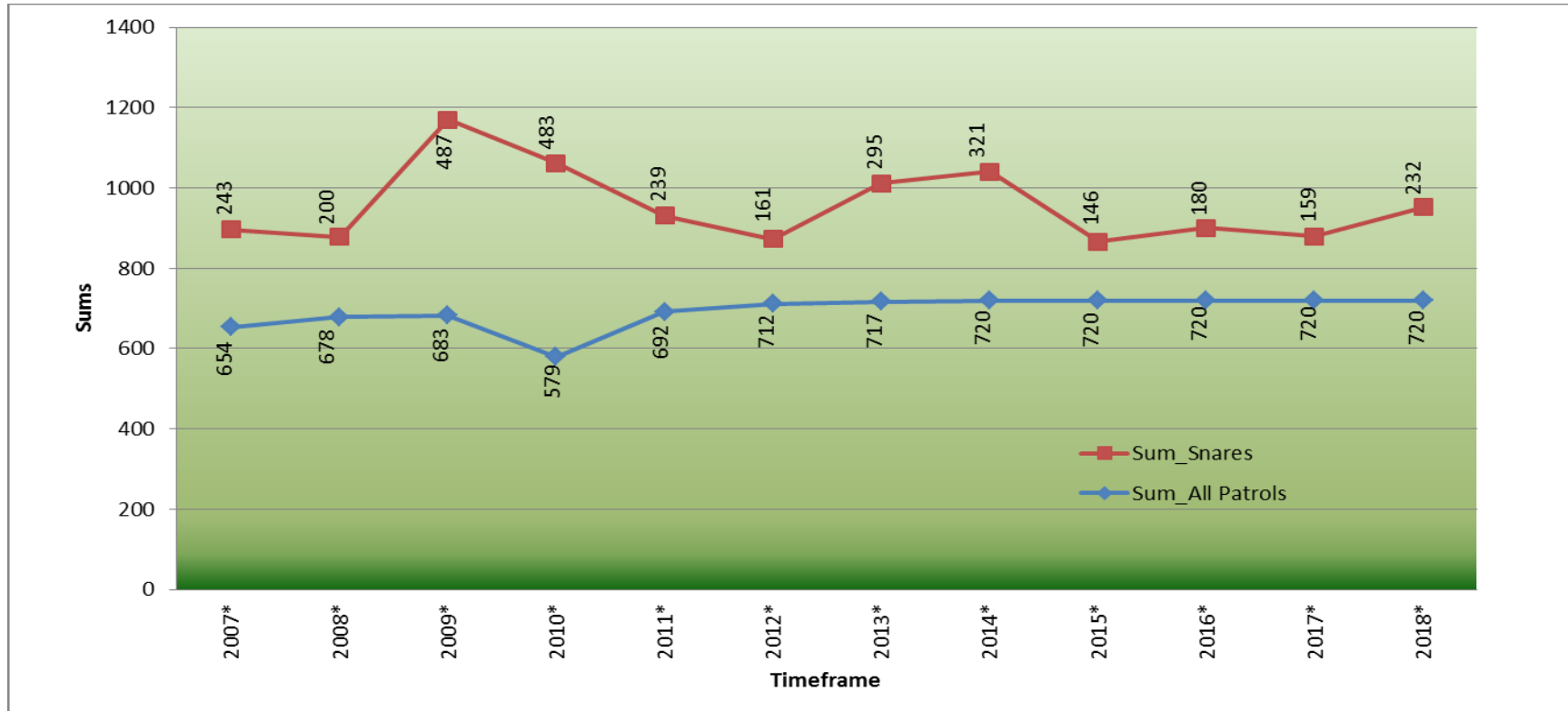
<b>Results</b>	<b>2010/11</b>	<b>2011/12</b>	<b>2012/13</b>	<b>2013/14</b>	<b>2014/15</b>	<b>2015/16</b>	<b>2016/17</b>	<b>2017/18</b>	<b>2018/19</b>
No of patrols conducted	312	501	714	1,129	917	988	967	865	990
No of suspects arrested	11	10	09	26	28	26	24	27	30
No of suspects Prosecuted	00	00	00	18	16	11	14	12	11
No of convictions secured	00	00	00	00	07	08	09	07	07
Wire snares	201	190	257	389	289	1.039	1,109	826	542
Spears	30	29	22	27	30	28	32	13	11
Pangas	06	02	03	05		07	07	04	02
Dogs	01	02	-	28	08	09	09	07	02
Axes	04	-	03	-	-	01	-	02	-
Phones	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	04	02
Hand saws	-	02	01	-	01	-	02	04	02
Goats	07	-	03	05	-	-	-	04	-
Ivory	-	-	-	-	-	-	02	-	-
Metallic traps	-	-	-	05		01	44	-	05
<u>Duikers killed</u>	<u>00</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>00</u>	<u>12</u>	<u>10</u>	<u>09</u>	<u>11</u>	<u>2</u>	<u>01</u>

### BINP\_Trend of wire snare confiscations July 2011 – June 2019

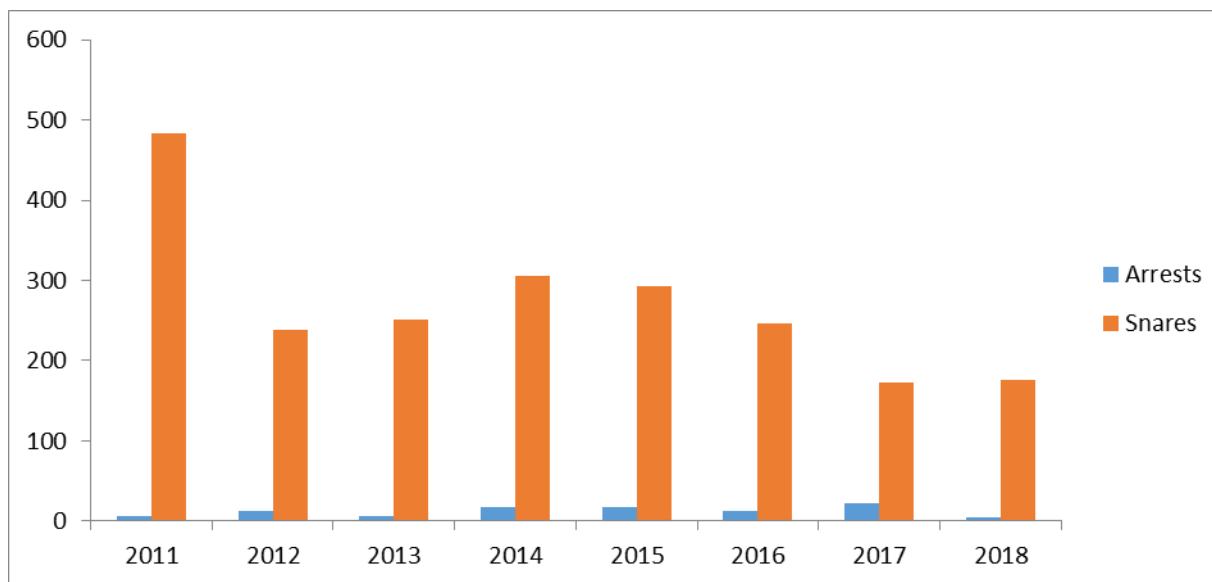


**#NB:** the sudden rise of snares from 2014/15 to 2016/17 was as a result of the reformed poacher groups around the park who surrendered officiated by the state Minister. As part of the process of surrendering, the ex-poachers were involved in a snare removal exercise with our ranger force and community rangers. Since every ex-poacher knew where he had laid his snares they picked them.

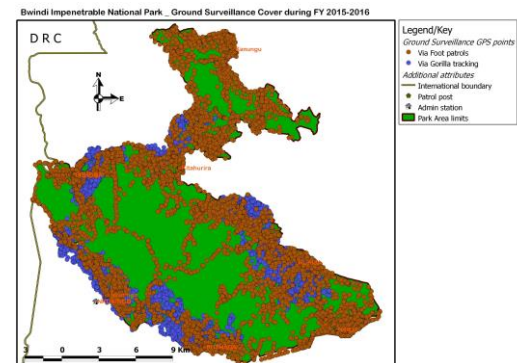
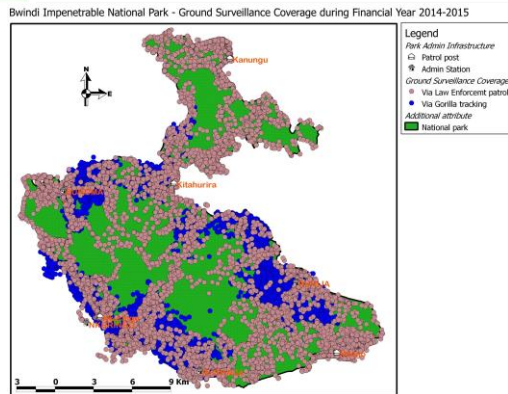
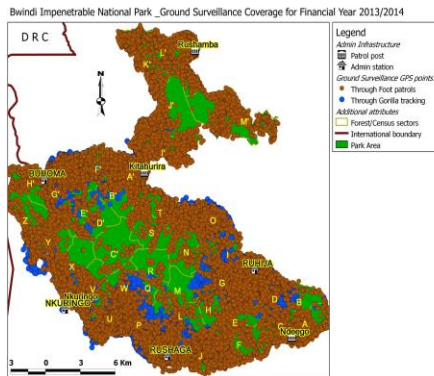
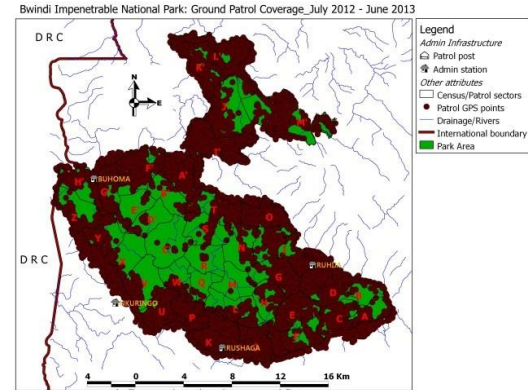
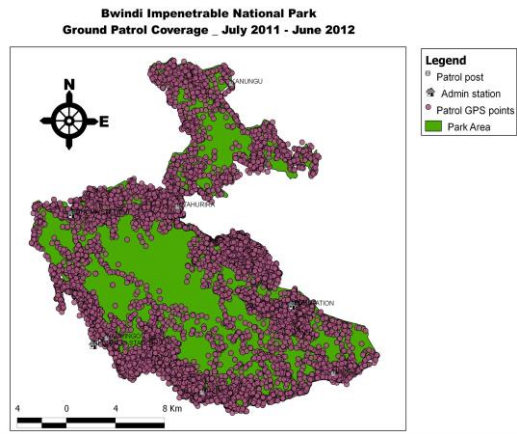
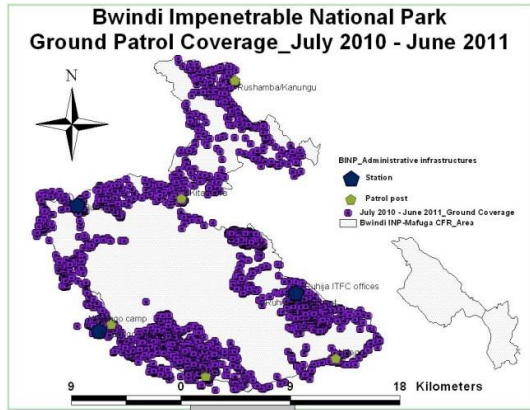
**MGNP\_Patrols and Snare removal 2011 – 2019**



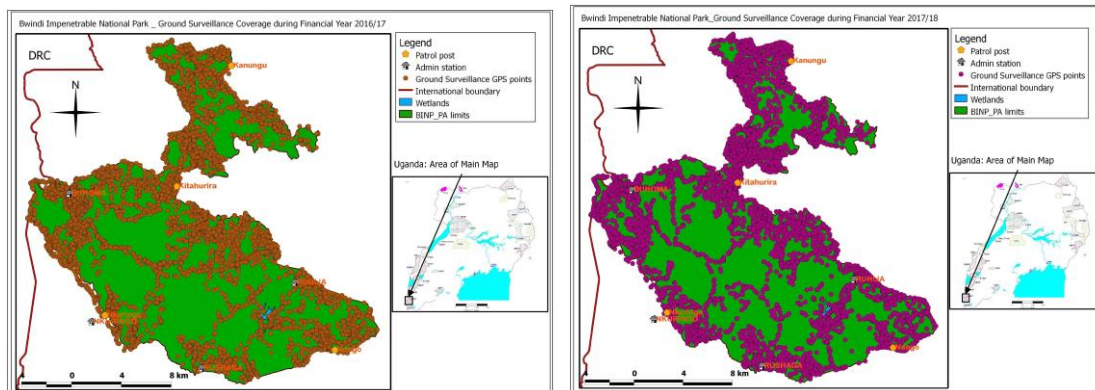
*Snare removals and arrests registered in MGNP 2011- 2018*



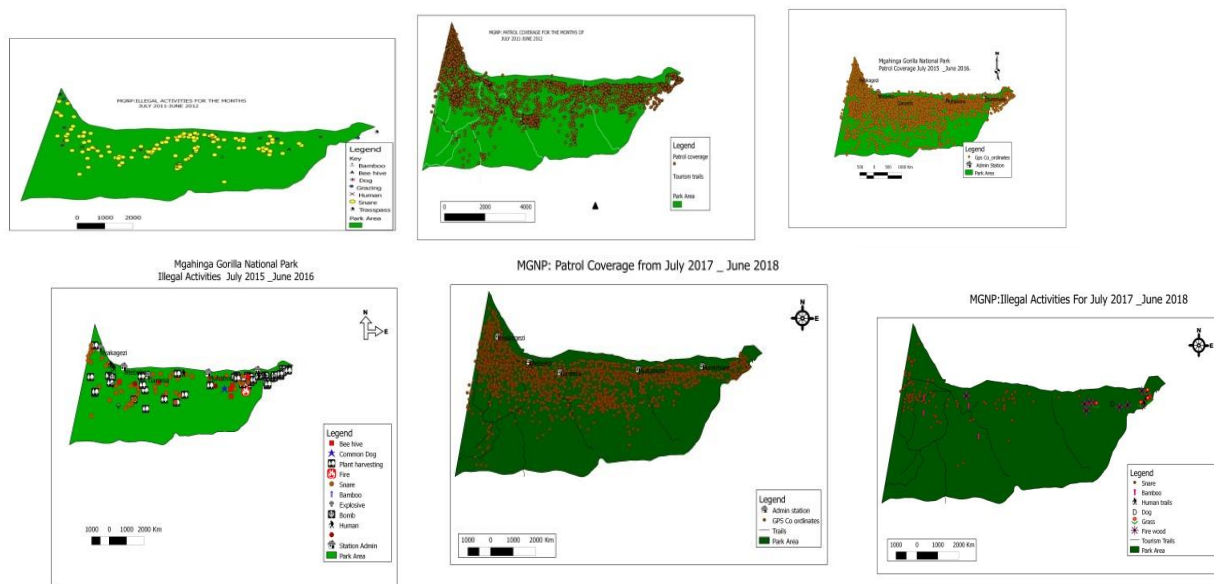
**BINP \_ Progressive Annual PA Surveillance (Patrol) Coverage Maps (2011 - 2018)**





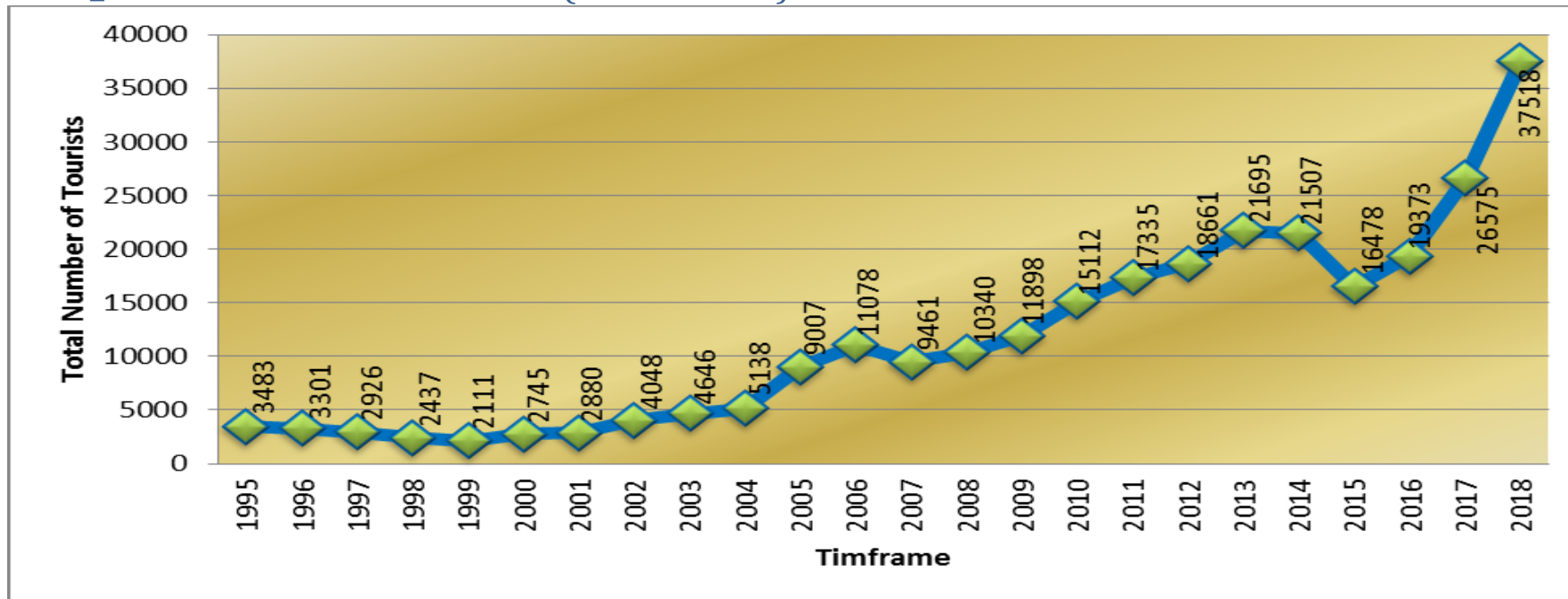


**MGNP\_ Progressive Patrol coverage and illegal activity maps 2011 - 2018**



<b>Action point identified in Action Plan :</b>	<b>Adequately regulate tourism to ensure its sustainability and minimize disturbance and threats to the gorillas</b>
<b>Area/Site of action:</b>	Bwindi Mgahinga Conservation Area
<b>Date of action:</b>	<b>November 2011 – December 2018</b>
<b>Action undertaken:</b>	Kept rate of gorilla habituation at minimum possible level - <45% of estimated population; Maintained minimum number of visitations to gorillas; undertook daily briefings to all tourists with emphasis on health regulations; strictly upgraded, disseminated and implemented gorilla rules.
<b>Results:</b>	Enhanced tourist and staff adherence to gorilla rules; no incidences of zoonotic disease outbreaks.
<b>Publications, reports, maps etc.:</b>	<i>See trend of visitor statistics in figure below</i>
<b>Difficulties encountered:</b>	Lack of expert onsite medical assessment of tourists may allow for undetected ill health-tracking (currently rely on tourists' goodwill in declaring sickness; difficulty maintaining standard contact distance between tourists and gorillas due to terrain, excitement, sudden gorilla movements toward visitors.
<b>Further action required:</b>	Inclusion of expert medical assessments for tourists and staff prior to gorilla visitations; respective continuous review and enhancement of gorilla rules and their implementation; refresher trainings for implementing staff.
<b>Contacts/Implementing organization:</b>	<b>MTWA, UWA</b>

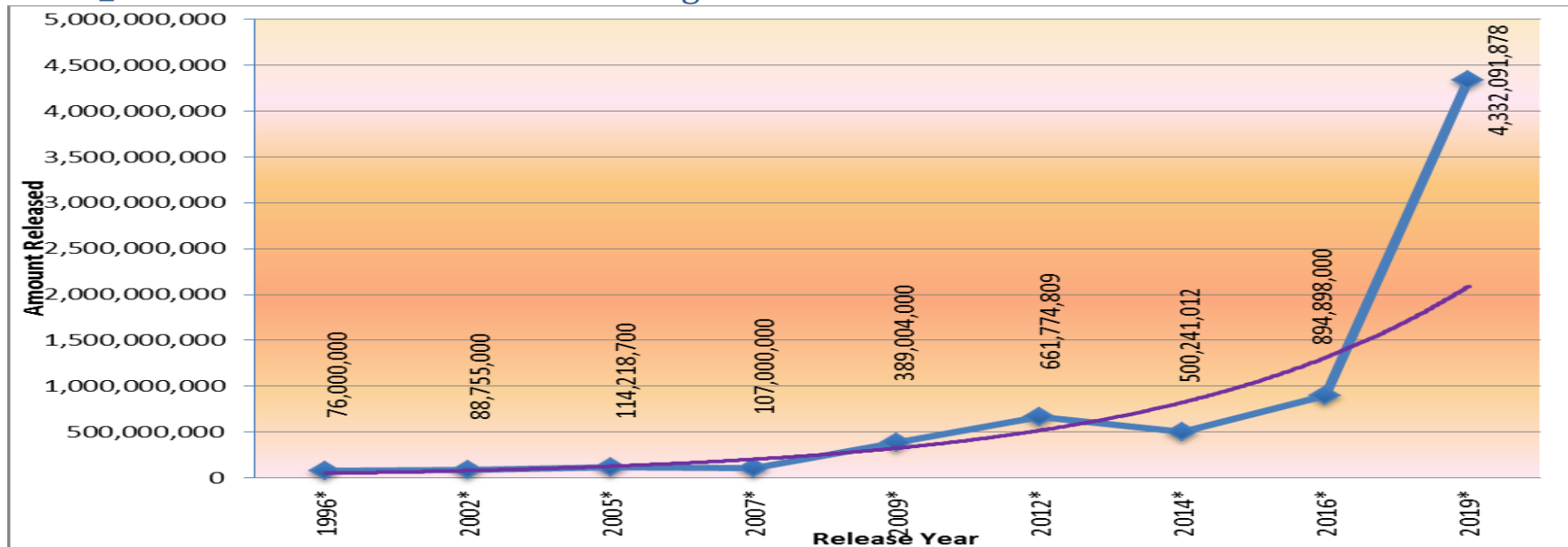
### BINP\_Trend of Annual Visitations (1995 - 2018)



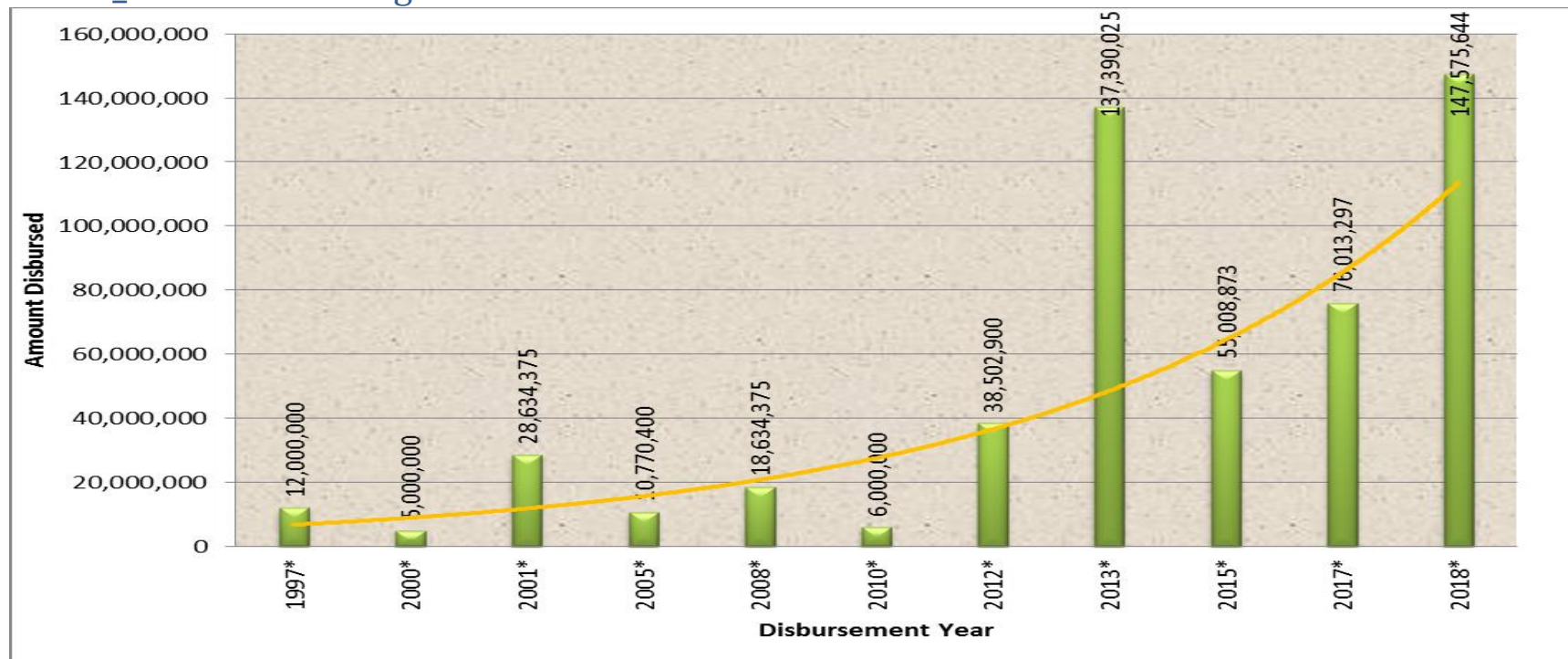
<b>Action point identified in Action Plan :</b>	<b>Ensure that moneys (revenue) generated from gorilla Tourism are (is) invested in local communities and gorilla conservation.</b>
<b>Area/Site of action:</b>	Bwindi Impenetrable National Park
<b>Date of action:</b>	<b>November 2011 – December 2018</b>
<b>Action undertaken:</b>	Enhanced Revenue Collection & Sharing controls; Revised the Gorilla Levy Fund upward from \$5 to \$10 per permit (July 2014); Review of Revenue Sharing policy underway to enhance accountability.
<b>Results:</b>	Increased amount of Tourism Revenue disbursement and support to local communities around the gorilla habitat.

<b>Publications, reports, maps etc.:</b>	<i>See Trend of Tourism Revenue Sharing Funds disbursement in figure below</i>
<b>Difficulties encountered:</b>	<u>Weak policy</u> framework which promotes revenue collection but poor accountability for Expenditure by Local governments; <u>Corruption</u> among some local government officials seriously impairs effectiveness of the program; <u>Inadequacy of tangible impact</u> of Revenue Sharing & Gorilla Levy funding within the local communities; <u>Inadequacy</u> of material and financial <u>logistics</u> for effective community outreach.
<b>Further action required:</b>	Enhance public accountability, realign Revenue Sharing & Gorilla Levy Funding to more conservation related projects/conditional granting of the funds; Institute appropriate Monitoring and Evaluation of the Tourism Revenue Sharing Program; Procure adequate logistics for effective community outreach and awareness creation.
<b>Contacts/Implementing organization:</b>	<b>MTWA, UWA, BMCT, ITFC</b>

### BINP \_ Trend of Tourism Revenue Sharing Funds Disbursement to local communities



### MGNP\_ Revenue sharing trends 1997- 2018







<b>Action point identified in Action Plan :</b>	<b>Policies to ensure the sustainable use of all natural resources should be developed to minimize damage to gorilla habitat</b>
<b>Area/Site of action:</b>	Bwindi Mgahinga Conservation Area
<b>Date of action:</b>	<b>2011 – 2018</b>
<b>Action undertaken:</b>	Uganda Wildlife Policy, 2014 and relevant laws and regulations guide resource access. Resource Access programs strictly regulated by agreements and guidelines to guard against potential overharvesting

<b>Results:</b>	<b>142,791,000</b> Uganda shillings worth of forest resources sustainably harvested. <i>See Resource Use/Access Records 2011-2018 table below</i>
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Resource Use/Access Records 2011-2018											
Plant Species Name	Unit of Measure	Calendar Years' harvest amounts								Species Amount harvest.	Value (Ug. Shs.)
		2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018		
<i>Smilax sp.</i>	Bundle	150	149	142	48	329	525	170	102	1615	48,450,000
<i>Dracaena sp.</i>	Bundle	10	9	6	0	11	0	1	5	42	1,260,000
<i>Piper guineense</i>	Handful	0	4	6	0	0	17	0	11	38	760,000
<i>Mononhotaxis litorcolis</i>	Bundle	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
<i>Cyphostemma Bambuseti</i>	Bundle	9	3	0	4	0	11	0	5	32	320,000
<i>Ocotea usambarensis</i>	Handful	0	8	17	0	0	0	0	0	25	175,000
<i>Rytigynia kigeziensis</i>	Handful	0	8	0	1	0	0	0	0	9	45,000
<i>Honey</i>	Kg	219	132	117	132	515	196	2888	4585	8784	87,840,000
<i>Prunus africana</i>	Handful	0	3	5	0	0	6	35	0	59	590,000
<i>Scriota scandem</i>	Handful	0	0	4	0	0	0	0	0	4	80,000
<i>Loesenerilla apocynoids</i>	Handful	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	1	30,000
<i>Dombeya sp.</i>	Vines	0	0	0	12	0	152	246	53	463	3,241,000
<b>TOTALS</b>											<b>142,791,000</b>

<b>Publications, reports, maps etc.:</b>	
<b>Difficulties encountered:</b>	Shifting of gorilla home ranges to formerly gazetted resource access areas has been leading to abrupt discontinuity of access to such areas by local community members henceforth a conflict of interests.
<b>Further action required:</b>	
<b>Contacts/Implementing organization:</b>	MTWA, UWA



<b>Action point identified in Action Plan :</b>	<b>Develop standards to minimize opportunities for disease transmission from humans to gorillas (including health education, hygiene, waste disposal, guidelines for gorilla researchers &amp; staff; etc.)</b>
<b>Area/Site of action:</b>	Bwindi Mgahinga Conservation Area
<b>Date of action:</b>	<b>November 2011 – December 2018</b>
<b>Action undertaken:</b>	Maintained strict gorilla visitation rules (max. visitation 08 tourists, 1 hour maximum contact distance, anti-littering, etc.); implementation of waste management, sanitation and hygiene standards.
<b>Results:</b>	<b>Not a single confirmed incidence of zoonotic disease outbreak registered.</b>
<b>Publications, reports, maps etc.:</b>	<i>Refer to Gorilla Rules snapshot below</i>
<b>Difficulties encountered:</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li> Rugged terrain sometimes impairs the possibility of maintaining standard contact distance between tourists and gorillas through the viewing timeframe especially when gorillas advance so fast toward the viewers.</li> <li> Inadequate resources for routine staff immunization against key zoonotic diseases.</li> </ul>
<b>Further action required:</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li> Need for procurement of a sustainable and effective staff immunization facility</li> <li> Routine refresher trainings for staff on effective implementation of gorilla rules.</li> </ul>
<b>Contacts/Implementing organization:</b>	UWA
<b>Action point identified in Action Plan :</b>	<b>Complementary Policy and legislation in range states be developed and Transboundary agreements made and implemented</b>
<b>Area/Site of action:</b>	Bwindi Mgahinga Conservation Area
<b>Date of action:</b>	<b>2011 – 2018</b>
<b>Action undertaken:</b>	Legalization of the Greater Virunga Transboundary Collaboration (GVTC) through a treaty signed by the Heads of State of the Democratic Republic of Congo, the Republic of Rwanda and the Republic of Uganda

<b>Results:</b>	Signing of the Treaty the Greater Virunga Transboundary Collaboration on Wildlife Conservation and Tourism Development, by the 3 Partner States Start point of collaboration & partnership between GVTC and Clemson University (USA) aimed at GVTC reinforcing so that it may become an information center of excellence for decision-makers, managers, researchers and other stakeholders for conservation in the Greater Virunga Landscape;
<b>Publications, reports, maps etc.:</b>	Ten-year Transboundary Strategic Plan
<b>Difficulties encountered:</b>	Sustainable funding of a permanent GVTC secretariat
<b>Further action required:</b>	Resource mobilization to sustainably fund activities and programs of GVTC
<b>Contacts/Implementing organization:</b>	GVTC Secretariat
<b>Action point identified in Action Plan :</b>	<b>All range states be encouraged to participate in inter-governmental agreements such as CBD, and with FAO.</b>
<b>Area/Site of action:</b>	Bwindi Mgahinga Conservation Area
<b>Date of action:</b>	<b>November 2011 – December 2018</b>
<b>Action undertaken:</b>	Uganda is an active contracting party to CMS, CBD, CITES etc
<b>Results:</b>	International cooperation intensified to support global partnerships for conservation
<b>Publications, reports, maps etc.:</b>	National Reports to MEAs; State of Environment Reports.
<b>Difficulties encountered:</b>	Uncoordinated range states participation in MEAs
<b>Further action required:</b>	<b>Better coordination of range states positions in MEAs</b>
<b>Contacts/Implementing organization:</b>	<b>MTWA, MWE and MAAIF</b>
<b>Action point identified in Action Plan :</b>	<b>Continue to develop and apply trans-boundary agreements concerning mountain gorilla protection/preservation</b>
<b>Area/Site of action:</b>	Bwindi Mgahinga Conservation Area
<b>Date of action:</b>	November 2011 – December 2018
<b>Action undertaken:</b>	Undertake transboundary activities such as gorilla censuses, coordinated patrols and joint planning

<b>Results:</b>	Coordinated patrols, joint censuses and planning have been undertaken over the period under review. Two censuses have been done for each population over this period. A process of boundary conflict resolutions have been implemented for instance the Sarambwe boundary affirmation exercise which is in progress now as we talk.
<b>Publications, reports, maps etc.:</b>	
<b>Difficulties encountered:</b>	Limited level of understanding of the treaty among local governments
<b>Further action required:</b>	Further sensitization
<b>Contacts/Implementing organization:</b>	MTWA AND UWA

**II. [Species and habitat protection] / [Conservation management]**

<b>Action point identified in Action Plan :</b>	<b>Ensure that there is no further encroachment of agriculture into the national parks</b>
<b>Area/Site of action:</b>	Bwindi Mgahinga Conservation Area
<b>Date of action:</b>	<b>2011 - 2018</b>
<b>Action undertaken:</b>	Bwindi and Mgahinga have management plans running from 2014 – 2024 that outlines all the 6 programs of resource conservation and management, research and monitoring, community conservation, tourism, park operations and administration and regional collaboration that are all geared towards stopping any illegal activities in the protected area. Currently there is no agricultural encroachment. The boundaries are clear and jointly managed with the local communities as such they know the boundary. The stone wall along the boundary of MGNP also strengthened with <i>Erythrina species</i> , coupled with the 179 pillars running from DRC border to the Rwanda border undoubtedly are clear and leaves no obvious chance for agricultural encroachment.
<b>Results:</b>	Boundary of the parks are clear and no encroachments registered.
<b>Publications, reports, maps etc.:</b>	
<b>Difficulties encountered:</b>	Earlier ignorance of the exact boundary
<b>Further action required:</b>	Implement the boundary management MoUs to the dot.

<b>Contacts/Implementing organization:</b>	UWA
<b>Action point identified in Action Plan :</b>	<b>Rebuild and mitigate damage caused in gorilla habitat as a result of conflict and war</b>
<b>Area/Site of action:</b>	Bwindi Mgahinga Conservation Area
<b>Date of action:</b>	<b>2011 - 2018</b>
<b>Action undertaken:</b>	N/A
<b>Results:</b>	N/A
<b>Publications, reports, maps etc.:</b>	
<b>Difficulties encountered:</b>	N/A
<b>Further action required:</b>	
<b>Contacts/Implementing organization:</b>	
<b>Action point identified in Action Plan :</b>	<b>Review the species legislation in the country to ensure adequate protection is provided</b>
<b>Area/Site of action:</b>	Bwindi Mgahinga Conservation Area
<b>Date of action:</b>	
<b>Action undertaken:</b>	Uganda Wildlife Bill, 2017 was passed by Parliament and now awaits Presidents assent.
<b>Results:</b>	Punitive punishments have been passed including life imprisonment for some wildlife offences.
<b>Publications, reports, maps etc.:</b>	
<b>Difficulties encountered:</b>	<b>Very weak punishments in the previous law made it easy to break wildlife law and go free with it.</b>
<b>Further action required:</b>	Need for awareness creation to the judiciary and the public of the new act when assented to.
<b>Contacts/Implementing organization:</b>	MTWA
<b>Action point identified in Action Plan :</b>	<b>Employ sufficient staff to ensure adequate protection from poaching and hunting, to regulate tourism and manage gorilla habitat</b>

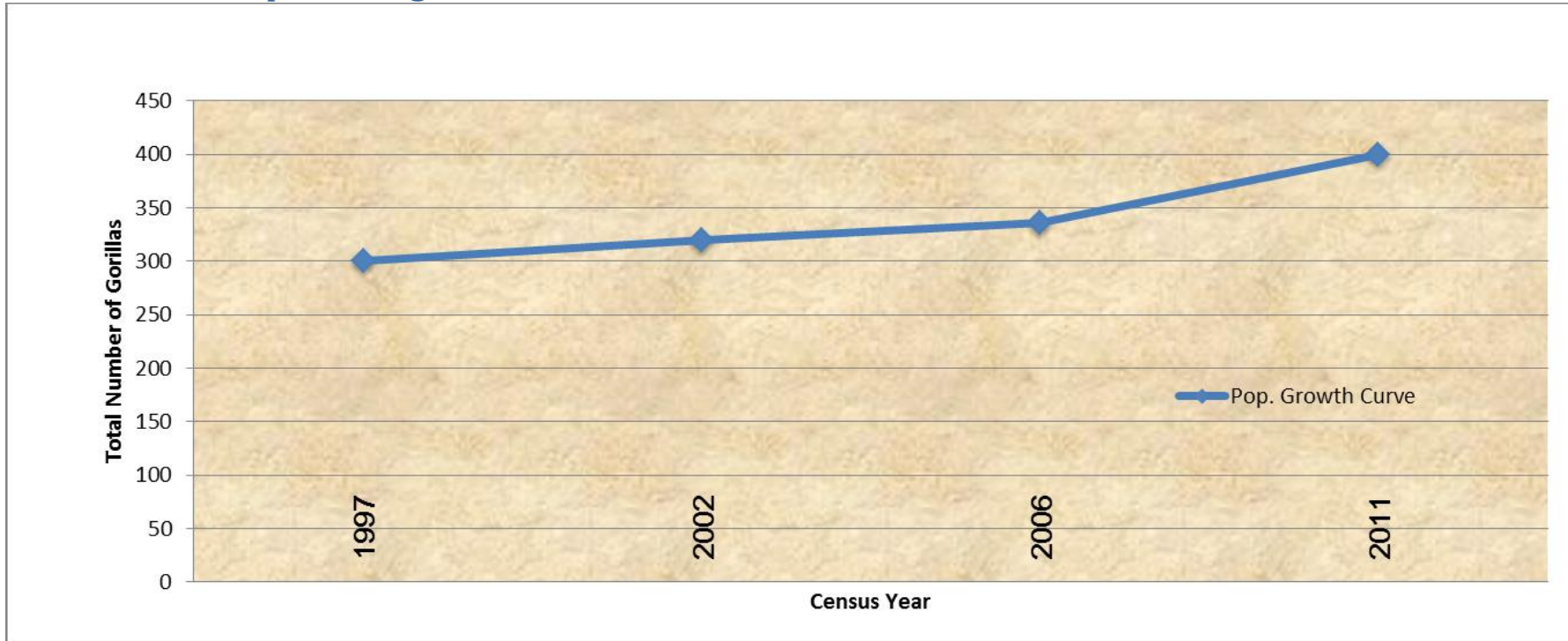
<b>Area/Site of action:</b>	Bwindi Mgahinga Conservation Area
<b>Date of action:</b>	<b>September 2018</b>
<b>Action undertaken:</b>	Additional 70 staff were recruited trained and deployed in Bwindi Mgahinga increasing the number of staff to 312 up from 249. This staff levels is further strengthened by the military and tourism police depending on the need. 3 senior staff have been sent to undertake Master's degree courses to improve their capacity. One has completed while the two are on theses writing level. In addition 4 were sent for diploma in wildlife while 3 completed postgraduate diploma in Mweka.
<b>Results:</b>	This increased staffing has significantly improved patrol coverage, tourism operations and the general security of the park and its property. The capacity of the staff has greatly improved.
<b>Publications, reports, maps etc.:</b>	
<b>Difficulties encountered:</b>	The level of training is variable and seriously needs to be streamlined and improved
<b>Further action required:</b>	Training and capacity building for all the staff is essential.
<b>Contacts/Implementing organization:</b>	UWA
<b>Action point identified in Action Plan :</b>	<b>Develop a Gorilla Action Survival plan</b>
<b>Area/Site of action:</b>	Bwindi Mgahinga Conservation Area
<b>Date of action:</b>	
<b>Action undertaken:</b>	<b>Not done</b>
<b>Results:</b>	<b>N/A</b>
<b>Publications, reports, maps etc.:</b>	
<b>Difficulties encountered:</b>	<b>This needs to be done regionally not each state's party.</b>
<b>Further action required:</b>	
<b>Contacts/Implementing organization:</b>	<b>IGCP, GVTC, UWA</b>

### III. Monitoring and related Research

<b>Action point identified in Action Plan :</b>	<b>Clarify Mountain gorilla taxonomy to ensure effective and appropriate conservation management of the species and subspecies</b>
<b>Area/Site of action:</b>	Bwindi Mgahinga Conservation Area
<b>Date of action:</b>	
<b>Action undertaken:</b>	N/A
<b>Results:</b>	N/A
<b>Publications, reports, maps etc.:</b>	
<b>Difficulties encountered:</b>	
<b>Further action required:</b>	
<b>Contacts/Implementing organization:</b>	
<b>Action point identified in Action Plan :</b>	<b>Assess the impact of selective logging, resource harvesting and agricultural encroachment in gorilla habitat</b>
<b>Area/Site of action:</b>	Bwindi Mgahinga Conservation Area
<b>Date of action:</b>	
<b>Action undertaken:</b>	N/A
<b>Results:</b>	N/A
<b>Publications, reports, maps etc.:</b>	
<b>Difficulties encountered:</b>	
<b>Further action required:</b>	
<b>Contacts/Implementing organization:</b>	
<b>Action point identified in Action Plan :</b>	<b>Ensure continued monitoring of the population numbers and status</b>
<b>Area/Site of action:</b>	Bwindi Mgahinga Conservation Area
<b>Date of action:</b>	<b>November 2011 – December 2018</b>

<b>Action undertaken:</b>	Conducted two censuses: 2011 (est. pop. ~400); and 2018 (field data collection accomplished, DNA analysis in progress).
<b>Results:</b>	Steady population growth trend - conservation status of mountain gorilla improved from Critically endangered to endangered in 2018 with est. overall population 1004 after Virunga census 2015/16.
<b>Publications, reports, maps etc.:</b>	Mountain gorilla population grew at a rate of 3.8% between 2006 and 2011. <i>See population growth trend for Bwindi sub-population in figure below</i>
<b>Difficulties encountered:</b>	Inaccurate monitoring of population growth trends of the unmonitored (unhabituated) sub-population due to complicated data collection.
<b>Further action required:</b>	Probe more into possible advancements in more precise and accurate scientific data collection on unmonitored gorilla sub-populations.
<b>Contacts/Implementing organization:</b>	<b>GVTC, UWA</b>

### BINP\_ Gorilla Population growth trend 1997 - 2011






<b>Action point identified in Action Plan :</b>	<b>Assess the impacts of tourism, including the risk of parasite and disease transfer from humans to gorillas</b>
<b>Area/Site of action:</b>	Bwindi Mgahinga Conservation Area
<b>Date of action:</b>	<b>November 2011 – December 2018</b>



<b>Action undertaken:</b>	Approved five research studies on various aspects of impact of tourism on mountain gorillas: (i) Investigating human risk behaviors for gastro-intestinal pathogen at human-animal-environment interface (ongoing); (ii) Ecology of emerging Arboviruses (ongoing); (iii) Surveillance of zoonotic enteric pathogens in cattle and mountain gorillas at the livestock-mountain gorilla interface (ongoing); (iv) Prevalence of Entamoeba, Microsporidium and Cryptosporidium species in habituated mountain gorillas and risk associated factors of transmission to humans around BINP; and (v) Assessing the current impact of mountain gorilla ecotourism in BINP.
<b>Results:</b>	<u>All studies still in progress.</u>
<b>Publications, reports, maps etc.:</b>	
<b>Difficulties encountered:</b>	
<b>Further action required:</b>	Continued further scientific studies with more accurate measurements of impact of ecotourism on gorilla health.
<b>Contacts/Implementing organization:</b>	UWA

#### IV. Public Awareness and Training

<b>Action point identified in Action Plan :</b>	<b>Develop Community Conservation Projects and Sustainable use projects in the management of gorilla habitat and gorilla tourism</b>
<b>Area/Site of action:</b>	Bwindi Mgahinga Conservation Area
<b>Date of action:</b>	<b>2011 –2018</b>
<b>Action undertaken:</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li> Community Conservation &amp; Awareness creation campaigns (community meetings, school visits).</li> <li> Conducted annual researcher’s symposia to enhance information dissemination among conservation stakeholders.</li> <li> <u>Conducted annual conservation stakeholders’ forums to share conservation progress, challenges and forge way forward.</u></li> </ul>
<b>Results:</b>	Increased public awareness of conservation values and challenges. See table below
<b>Publications, reports, maps etc.:</b>	
<b>Difficulties encountered:</b>	Logistical implications especially public education and address materials too scanty.
<b>Further action required:</b>	

<b>Contacts/Implementing organization:</b>	
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**BINP \_ Public Awareness and Training Records**

YEAR	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	Total No. Student beneficiaries
<b>Schools visited and Students hosted</b>									
<i>No of schools hosted</i>	02	04	01	02	03	16	06	03	35
<i>No. of students</i>	86	212	48	168	148	940	292	113	2,007
<i>No. schools visited</i>	69	84	100	57	84	276	75	60	805
<i>No. of students</i>	5323	3983	3330	2239	3983	2092	1269	2348	25,467
<b>Community Conservation Awareness Meetings</b>									
No. of meetings	2908	218	423	361	218	510	289	175	5,102
No. of people	5583	5032	5375	6012	4567	5432	4012	3907	39,920

<b>Action point identified in Action Plan :</b>	<b>Encourage developed countries and aid agencies to support conservation initiatives for the Mountain Gorilla</b>
<b>Area/Site of action:</b>	Bwindi Impenetrable National Park
<b>Date of action:</b>	<b>November 2011 – December 2018</b>
<b>Action undertaken:</b>	
<b>Results:</b>	
<b>Publications, reports, maps etc.:</b>	
<b>Difficulties encountered:</b>	
<b>Further action required:</b>	
<b>Contacts/Implementing organization:</b>	

**V. Community Development**

<b>Action point identified in Action Plan :</b>	<b>Cause the mountain gorilla conservation to propel economic development of the country by reducing poverty near the sanctuaries and reserves</b>
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<b>Area/Site of action:</b>	Bwindi Mgahinga Conservation Area
<b>Date of action:</b>	<b>2011 - 2019</b>
<b>Action undertaken:</b>	<p>A number of activities have been undertaken to cause poverty reduction in communities around the park over the time period mentioned above.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Develop and manage a sustainable gorilla tourism</li> <li>• Creation of a buffer zone where 400 acres of tea has been planted, see aerial picture below:</li> <li>• Establishment of a scholarship scheme out of the tea</li> <li>• Creation of job for the community members through tourism where they carry bags for tourists while tracking</li> <li>• Creation of jobs for local communities in protecting the forest as guards, guides who form the ranger force and in the hotels and lodges of the private sector</li> <li>• Creation of NCCDF – PPP arrangement with Uganda safari lodge</li> <li>• Formation of community enterprises; BMCDA</li> </ul>

<p><b>Results:</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Bwindi generates more than half of the annual budget for UWA.</li> <li>• NCCDF earns UGX 4,000,000/= monthly out of the tea planted in the buffer zone from Kigezi Highland Tea Company that has been tagged to scholarships for their children going to tertiary institutions</li> <li>• NCCDF- PPP arrangement with Uganda Safari lodge earns them US\$ 40 per bed night and employs 46 community members who have been trained by the hotel management.</li> <li>• <u>A total of 417 local community members earn approximately UGX 1,000,000,000/= from carrying tourist bags while tracking in one year.</u></li> <li>• BMCDA earns approximately UGX 2,000,000,000/= annually from their visitor facilities ; the community rest camp and the Haven Lodge which they operate themselves thus creating jobs for themselves</li> <li>• 70% of the guards and guides in Bwindi Mgahinga Conservation Area are from the surrounding districts of the 312 employed. In addition the lodges and visitor facilities employ from the local community save for the top echelon who due to expertise are from other parts of the country or even Kenya.</li> <li>• In nutshell, all these enterprises have been used to generate revenue thus reducing poverty and the proceeds are used by them to build schools, health centre IIIs, gravity water schemes among others</li> </ul>
<p><b>Publications, reports, maps etc.:</b></p>	<p><i>Refer to Visitor statistics trends above</i></p>
<p><b>Difficulties encountered:</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• In the process of formulating the PPP arrangements with communities before seeing tangible results some members took UWA and IGCP to court thus wasting useful time as it was a new phenomenon in this remote part of the country.</li> <li>• The slow pace of communities adapting to new enterprises</li> </ul>
<p><b>Further action required:</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Continuous guidance to the community associations is essential as at times they also have challenges in their management capabilities</li> <li>• These successful enterprises should be replicated to the other surrounding communities to benefit such as Mpungu area among others</li> </ul>
<p><b>Contacts/Implementing organization:</b></p>	<p><b>UWA, IGCP, BMCT</b></p>

**The 400 acre tea project for communities in Nkuringo**



<b>Action point identified in Action Plan :</b>	<b>Establish a micro-credit to promote interventions that are ecofriendly to conservation such as energy saving stoves, agroforestry, modern bee keeping and promoting craftsmen</b>
<b>Area/Site of action:</b>	Bwindi Impenetrable National Park
<b>Date of action:</b>	<b>2011 - 2018</b>
<b>Action undertaken:</b>	<b>Promote modern bee keeping and crafts making</b>

<b>Results:</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• A total of 7,017 bee hives have been placed inside the resource access areas of the park thus producing averagely 2500kg of honey annually thus generating UGX25,000,000/= as it also acts as a barrier to elephants crop-raiding.</li> <li>• Several crafts kiosks have been established at every gorilla tracking sector by the community and quality improvements are being done with support from BMCT. This earns the community money as they sell to the lodges</li> </ul>
<b>Publications, reports, maps etc.:</b>	
<b>Difficulties encountered:</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Use of herbicides and insecticides tend to kill bees as such colonization is not immediate bringing anxiety.</li> <li>• The micro-credit facilities are limited.</li> <li>• The quality of the crafts still poor.</li> </ul>
<b>Further action required:</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Serious sensitization about use of herbicides and insecticides application is necessary</li> <li>• NGOs to strengthen the micro-credit financing scheme and expand them.</li> <li>• Further training in craft making is essential to improve the quality</li> </ul>
<b>Contacts/Implementing organization:</b>	
<b>Action point identified in Action Plan :</b>	<b>Undertake a National Park Environmental Economic Survey</b>
<b>Area/Site of action:</b>	Bwindi Impenetrable National Park
<b>Date of action:</b>	
<b>Action undertaken:</b>	<b>Not done</b>
<b>Results:</b>	<b>N/A</b>
<b>Publications, reports, maps etc.:</b>	
<b>Difficulties encountered:</b>	
<b>Further action required:</b>	
<b>Contacts/Implementing organization:</b>	

<b>Action point identified in Action Plan :</b>	<b>Encourage riparian communities to take part in park/reserves management</b>
<b>Area/Site of action:</b>	Bwindi Impenetrable National Park
<b>Date of action:</b>	<b>2011 - 2018</b>
<b>Action undertaken:</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The collaborative resource management in the resource access program</li> <li>• Joint Park boundary management with communities</li> <li>• Maintenance of fire lines by the local communities</li> <li>• Human wildlife conflict management with communities (HuGo)</li> </ul>
<b>Results:</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• With joint decision making approaches of the collaborative resource access program, community participation and engagement is critical. This has brought in ownership of the forest resources. They consider it as their own as they also get benefits from here.</li> <li>• The boundary management with the communities where they plant the seedlings and we provide the seedlings coupled with ownership of the mature boundary trees has added a dynamism of a rare ownership. The communities know exactly where the boundary is as they maintain it and own the trees as stipulated in the 22 MoUs.</li> <li>• Fires are readily put off when it occurs as they maintain the fire lines and they control each other from careless fires</li> <li>• The Communities have organized themselves into a volunteer wildlife scouts referred to as the Human Gorilla Conflict resolutions (HuGo) groups into 9 groups totaling to 109 people to help control stray animals. They make</li> <li>• Decisions; collect data for the management of wildlife when they get out of the forest.</li> </ul>
<b>Publications, reports, maps etc.:</b>	
<b>Difficulties encountered:</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• At times the communities do not strictly follow some of the MoUs clauses</li> <li>• Home range changes of wildlife.</li> <li>• Control of the groups</li> <li>• Other resources demands by community are not tenable</li> </ul>
<b>Further action required:</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Constant review and enforcement is required</li> </ul>

<b>Contacts/Implementing organization:</b>	UWA, ITFC, IGCP
<b>Action point identified in Action Plan :</b>	<b>Progressively develop a Gorillas vision tourism, respecting their health and tranquility</b>
<b>Area/Site of action:</b>	Bwindi Mgahinga Conservation Area
<b>Date of action:</b>	
<b>Action undertaken:</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Establish the gorilla health rules</li> <li>• Awareness creation to the tourists and community on the health rules</li> <li>• Monitoring gorilla health on daily basis</li> </ul>
<b>Results:</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The habituated gorilla groups are monitored on daily basis and at times treatment done for human induced life threatening health problems like wire snares. The gorilla identification project has made the monitoring process a reality as each individual is identified and monitored on individual basis thus ensuring a healthy population</li> </ul>
<b>Publications, reports, maps etc.:</b>	
<b>Difficulties encountered:</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The frequent immigration of gorilla individuals</li> </ul>
<b>Further action required:</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Constant monitoring must be done</li> </ul>
<b>Contacts/Implementing organization:</b>	UWA, MPI and MGVP
<b>Action point identified in Action Plan :</b>	<b>Put in place a health protection system and a quick response warning system to encounter epidemics and more especially the Ebola kind</b>
<b>Area/Site of action:</b>	Bwindi Impenetrable National Park
<b>Date of action:</b>	
<b>Action undertaken:</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Daily monitoring of the habituated individuals by trackers and the regular surveillance by the gorilla doctors</li> </ul>
<b>Results:</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Reports indicate a healthy population</li> </ul>
<b>Publications, reports, maps etc.:</b>	



<b>Difficulties encountered:</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Monitoring by trackers is quite rudimentary as they are not professionally trained health workers</li> </ul>
<b>Further action required:</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Need to train trackers on basic diagnostics</li> </ul>
<b>Contacts/Implementing organization:</b>	UWA, MGVP, CTPH

<b>Action point identified in Action Plan :</b>	<b>Create a health insurance fund for human populations in and around Bwindi Impenetrable National Park</b>
<b>Area/Site of action:</b>	Bwindi Mgahinga Conservation Area
<b>Date of action:</b>	
<b>Action undertaken:</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Bwindi Community Hospital has a health insurance system for the communities of Kayonza and Mpungu subcounties, and Kanungu district a large.</li> <li>• All staff working in close proximity to the gorillas have a health insurance established by UWA</li> </ul>
<b>Results:</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• This enhances human health and treatment.</li> </ul>
<b>Publications, reports, maps etc.:</b>	
<b>Difficulties encountered:</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Health facilities that implement insurance around Bwindi are still limited</li> </ul>
<b>Further action required:</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• More health facilities implementing insurance systems need to be increased to cover all the target population around the park</li> </ul>
<b>Contacts/Implementing organization:</b>	
<b>Action point identified in Action Plan :</b>	<b>Analyze and promote cultural customs and traditions helping the gorilla's preservation</b>
<b>Area/Site of action:</b>	Bwindi Mgahinga Conservation Area
<b>Date of action:</b>	<b>May 2019</b>
<b>Action undertaken:</b>	Cultural traditions identified under the Batwa forest experience in the Batwa trail.

<b>Results:</b>	The Batwa now guide tourists on these trails both in Mgahinga Gorilla National Park and Bwindi to reveal their rich culture in environmental protection including gorilla protection. Amazingly around Mgahinga, The Batwa have bought 7.5 acres of land out of the Batwa trail experience thus empowering them to own land from this product they conduct themselves. Their culture will not fade as it is in the process been kept. Traditional dancing is being promoted at every tourist tracking points thus combining culture with gorilla tracking, making a memorable/unforgettable experience to both guests and the dancers as they enjoy entertaining people with their traditional dances.
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<b>Publications, reports, maps etc.:</b>	Reports
<b>Difficulties encountered:</b>	Training the Batwa took time
<b>Further action required:</b>	Further training of the Batwa and promoting the Batwa cultural trail to generate more money for the Batwa too.
<b>Contacts/Implementing organization:</b>	Mbarara University, UWA, NCC, IGCP
<b>Action point identified in Action Plan :</b>	<b>Translate the legal wordings for the preservation of gorillas into local languages</b>
<b>Area/Site of action:</b>	Bwindi Impenetrable National Park
<b>Date of action:</b>	
<b>Action undertaken:</b>	<b>Not done</b>
<b>Results:</b>	<b>N/A</b>
<b>Publications, reports, maps etc.:</b>	
<b>Difficulties encountered:</b>	<b>Limited resources</b>
<b>Further action required:</b>	
<b>Contacts/Implementing organization:</b>	<b>UWA</b>

**VI. Long-term Financing**

<b>Action point identified in Action Plan :</b>	<b>Put in place the long term financing system to support local NGOs involved in preservation of gorillas and their habitat.</b>
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<b>Area/Site of action:</b>	Bwindi Mgahinga Conservation Area
<b>Date of action:</b>	<b>2011 - 2018</b>
<b>Action undertaken:</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Implement sustainable tourism program and best practice in the park</li> <li>• The Bwindi Mgahinga Trust Fund establishment since 1994</li> </ul>
<b>Results:</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Currently revenues from Bwindi forms at least half of UWA's annual budget</li> <li>• BMCT supports park operations with 20% of its annual budget, 20% research and 60% community.</li> <li>• Fund raising by other international NGOs like IGCP, GVTC</li> </ul>
<b>Publications, reports, maps etc.:</b>	
<b>Difficulties encountered:</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Credit crunch</li> <li>• Strict follow up of gorilla rules</li> </ul>
<b>Further action required:</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Stabilization of the Trust fund</li> <li>• Best practice of the gorilla tourism application as by IUCN</li> </ul>
<b>Contacts/Implementing organization:</b>	UWA, BMCT, IGCP, GVTC