



The Greater Virunga Transboundary Collaboration (GVTC)

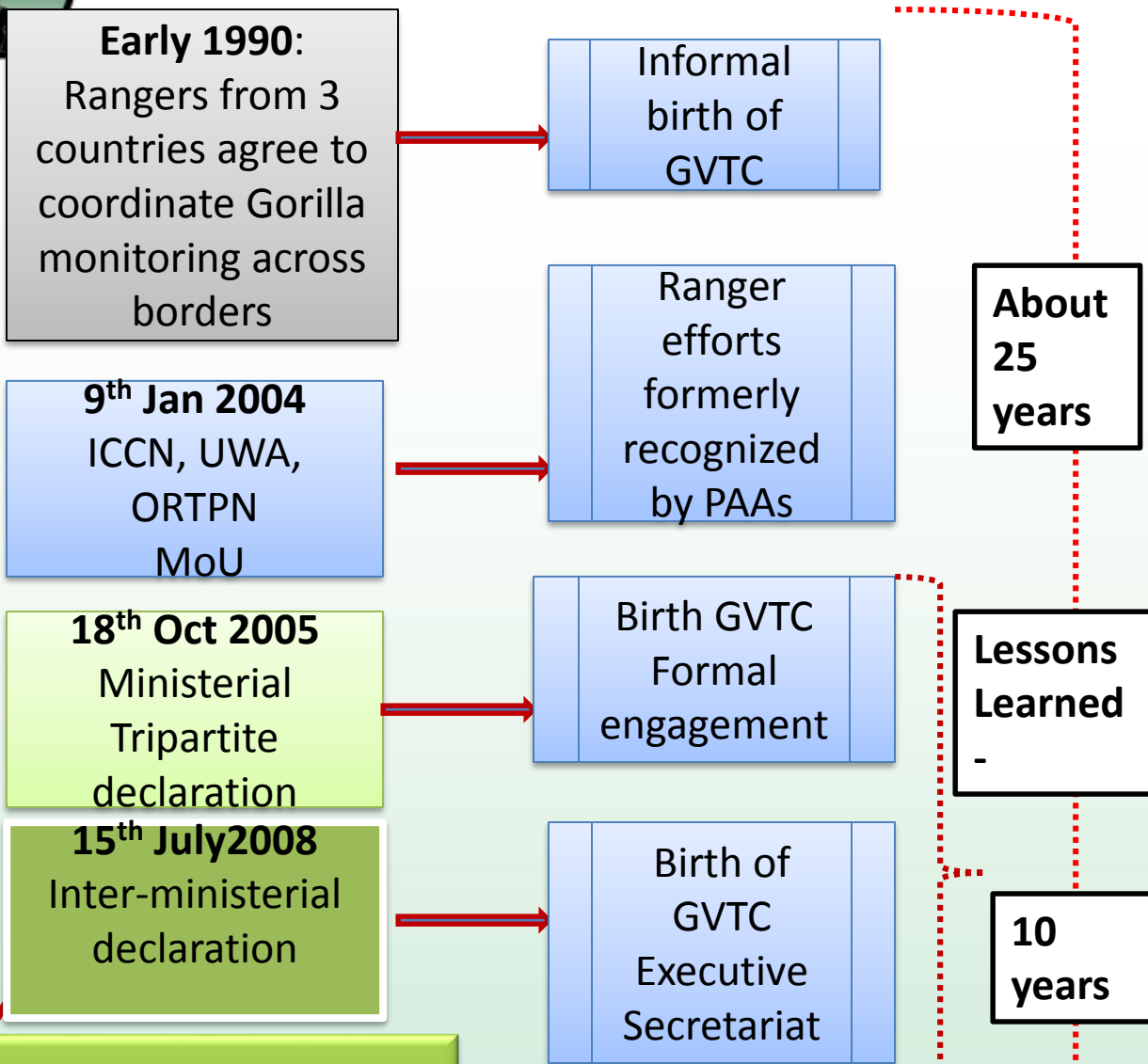




- A treaty between DR Congo, Rwanda and Uganda
- Conservation of GVL as a single landscape
- Four pillars of collaboration
 - Landscape management
 - Law enforcement
 - Tourism development
 - Community Conservation



GVTC: How it came about



- GVTV Process was :**
- a demand driven
 - Bottom up
 - Participatory and involving
 - Rooted on best practices and lessons learned

- Dec 2014 Headquarter
- Oct.2015 Treaty



GVTC. Governance

Article 8: The organs of the collaboration framework

Policy level

The Summit

Council of Ministers

Executive level

The Board

Implementation level

GVTC Executive Secretariat / GVTC-ES

Technical advisory level

Land Management

Tourism Development

Community Conservation

Law Enforcement

Regional Forums on Transboundary Collaboration

Dialogue meetings falls here

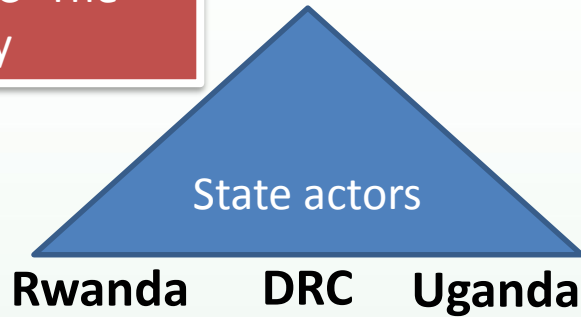


Summary of How GVTC- Functions

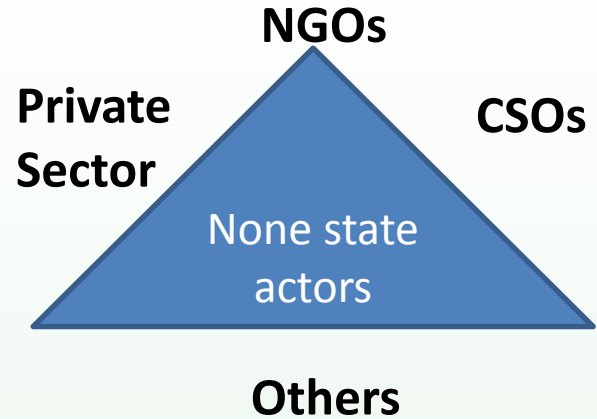
GVTC well being Philosophy

Improved conservation of the GVL natural resources and Inclusive Growth

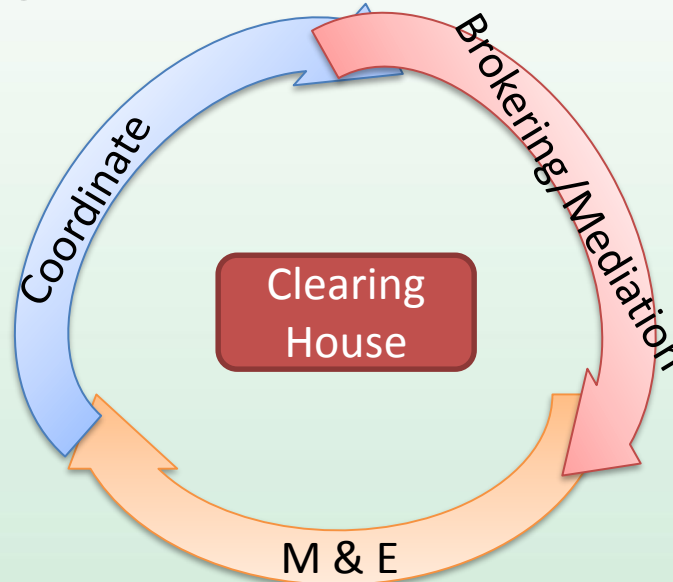
GVTC- The body



GVTC Executive Secretariat



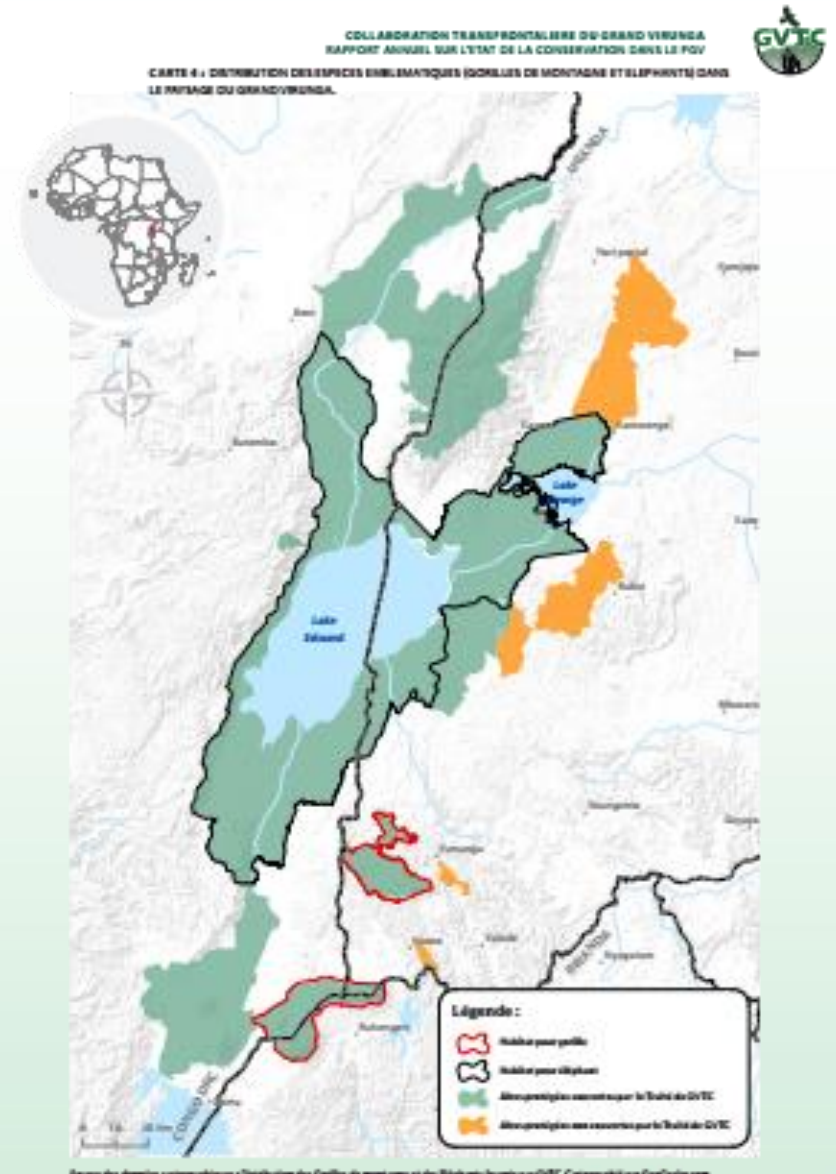
GVTC Circulation system - Mandate





GVTC and GVL

- Transboundary collaboration framework:
 - wildlife conservation
 - tourism development
- Treaty (DRC, Rwanda, Uganda), 2015
- 8 Protected Areas, 12000 km²
 - Virunga, Volcanoes, Bwindi, Mgahinga, Queen Elizabeth, Rwenzori, Semuliki, Sarambwe
- Diverse habitats, wildlife, people.
- Landscape management approach





GVTC Legal Mandate at a Glance

Guiding Principles for GVTC

- Respect for sovereignty and territorial integrity of partner states
- Equal status and treatment of partner states
- Poverty reduction and sustainable livelihood improvement
- Sustainable Development
- Community Participation

Considering State obligations

- Each Country has the mandate over its own resources as a Sovereign state

On the other hand, if the actions of each country has transboundary effects on conservation

- Fall under GVTC mandate
- GVTC required to make policies, programmes and plans to ensure Principles 1 to 4 realized

Objectives

1. To promote and coordinate conservation of biodiversity and other socio-cultural values within the Greater Virunga wildlife protected area network;
2. To develop strategies for Transboundary management of biodiversity
3. To promote and ensure coordinated planning, monitoring and evaluation of implementation of transboundary conservation and development projects;
4. To promote and coordinate tourism development in GVL
5. To secure sustainable funding for Conservation of GVL
6. To enhance and harmonise the generation and sharing of knowledge, experience and best practices for evidence based decision making
7. To Promote and support safety and security of wildlife resources and tourists within GVL
8. Engage in any other activity for attainment of treaty objectives





why? : GVL Value Chain

Value

GVL Richness:

- Variety of Landscapes /Scenic Views
- Variety of ecosystems
- Richness in Biodiversity
- Under ground resource richness
- Fertile Soils
- Water Tower

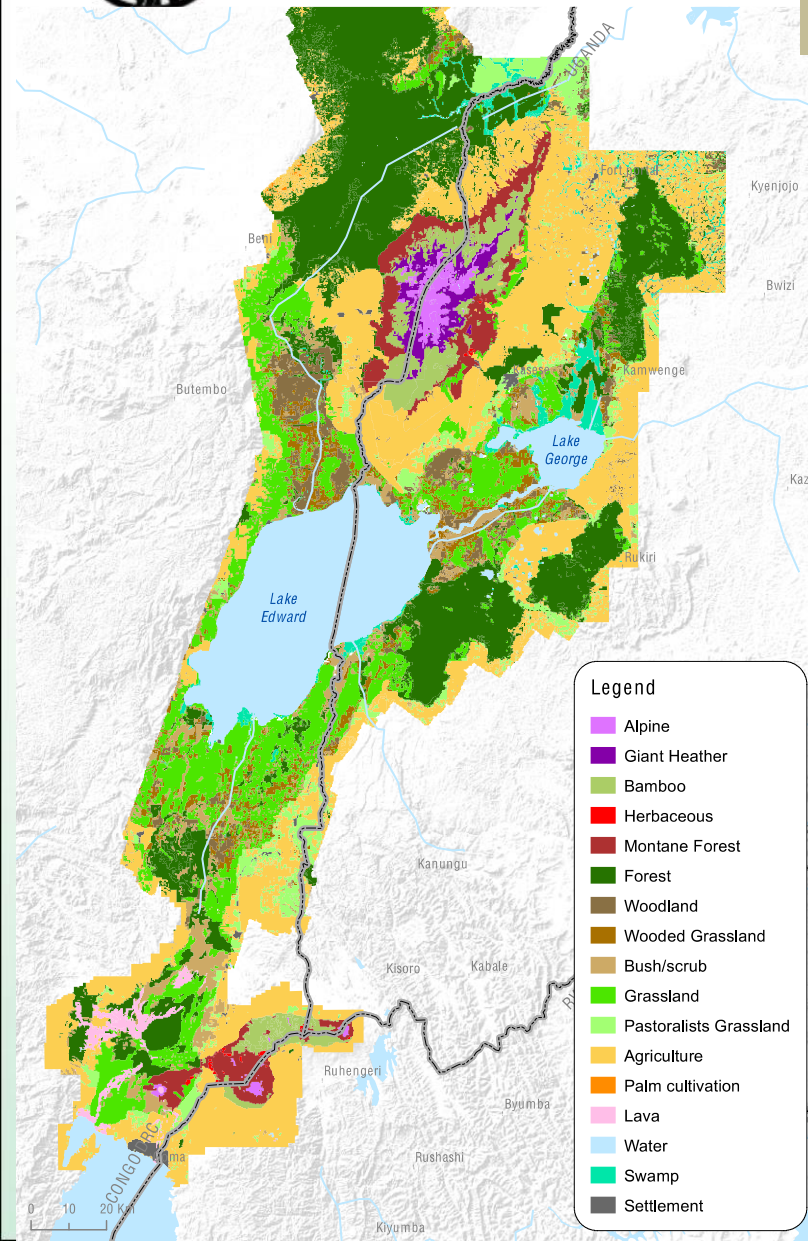
Chain

GVL Opportunities:

- Tourism
- Agriculture
- Energy
- Ecosystem services for livelihood

Actors

- Improved Livelihoods
- Reduced Poverty
- Peace and security
- Strong National/regional Economies





Why?: GVL Threatened



Value

- Poaching
- Trafficking
- Encroachment
- Deforestation
- Extractive Industries
- Climate Change
- Vicious/re-occurring conflicts and insecurity

Chain

- Species Decline
- Habitat degradation

Actors

- Lost Livelihoods (Poverty)
- Insecurity
- Weak National/regional Economies

Tableau 1 : Gorille de montagne/Virunga

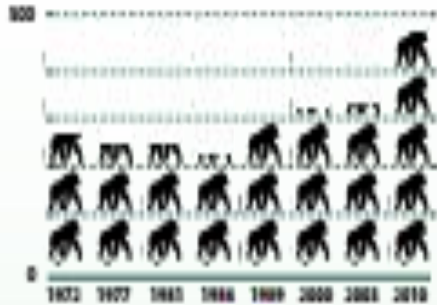


Tableau 2 : Gorille de montagne/Itindi



 Les Deux Gorilles de montagne



Collaboration

- Confidence Building among state parties, non- state actors and Local Communities – Leading towards Cooperation on Joint Natural Resources Management
- Bringing the state parties on the same table to discuss and dialogue on contagious issues across all sectors with Transboundary Natural resources management as the common ground
- Developing participatory natural resource management tools to increase buy in , ownership and participation



Achievements



Brokering & mediation

- Coordinated patrols between the three countries
- INES, OVG, ITFC – leading to W4V
- DRC/Uganda on Sarambwe border is at climax with JTC on board
- Lake Edward management conflict between (Agriculture, Water and Environment – Uganda and ICCN in Goma, Ishasha and Mbarara
- Musanze Tripartite meeting between DRC, Uganda and Rwanda for security, development and conservation with a signed communiqué of cooperation
- Bilateral dialogue meeting between in Kisoro and Buleera for security, illegal trafficking
- Bilateral between Uganda, Rwanda and DRC over the M23 incursions where GVTC handled the mediations thus stopping open conflict
- Gorilla Census activities in 2007, 2010, 2011, 2018
- Transboundary water project – water from Bugeshi (Rwanda) to Kibumba (DRC)
- Transboundary HWC with a conference in Rubavu in March 2019 – action plan
- Themed Bi-annual regional meetings between Uganda, Rwanda, DRC



Centre of Conservation information, Monitoring & Evaluation

- A Centre of Excellence has been established to share information (good practices, reports, research) across the GVL
- Open Access network (on-line forum for communication and networking)
- The status of the GVL communicated regularly through the Annual Conservation Report



The current

- The government contributions delayed due to the re-allocation processes as the requests happened out of the budgeting period
- Contributions expected between now and July 1 from all the three governments
- GVTC restructured to put most emphasis on the technical side
- Work plan restructures to emphasize transboundary collaboration



The future plans

- Fast Track treaty ratification
- Strengthening the GVTC as the main platform for transboundary efforts
- Develop and implement GVL tourism master plan including the promotion of GVL as a single tourism destination
- Facilitation for the implantation of the Zero Poaching strategy across the GVL
- Develop and implement GVL human wildlife conflict strategy
- Facilitate uniform area based rules for tourism management, revenue sharing and facilitate Livelihood programmes for communities around the GVL
- Fundraising capacity building for transboundary work



Sarambwe/Ishasha border marking



