



AFRICAN ELEPHANT FUND

The African Elephant Fund (AEF) is a funding mechanism for implementing the African Elephant Action Plan (AEAP) to ensure a secure future for the African elephant populations and their habitat. The AEAP was adopted in March 2010 at the 15th meeting of the Conference of Parties to the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species (CITES Cop15). The fund implement projects across thirty-eight African elephant range States.

Objectives:

- To reduce the illegal killing of elephants and illegal trade of elephant products
- To maintain elephant habitats and restore connectivity

Contribution towards the Sustainable Development Goals

- SDG 15.1 The AEF has increased elephant population and reduced poaching incidences thus halting biodiversity loss.
- Target 15.3 The AEF has restored and maintained elephant's habitat across range States and thus protecting, restoring and promoting sustainable use ecosystem and combating desertification.
- SDG 1.1 The AEF has improved protection of elephants and reduced human-elephant conflict thus promoting sustainable agriculture and food security.
- SDG 17.16 The AEF has increased awareness in elephant conservation among policy makers and local communities and thus strengthening the means of implementation and revitalize the global partnership and promoting peaceful and inclusive societies for sustainable development.

Contribution towards Aichi Biodiversity Targets

- Target 12. The AEF is preventing African elephant extinction by increasing protection levels within parks, upgrading and improving tracking and monitoring movements of elephants and training law enforcement officers, judiciary and policymakers on wildlife laws and policies to combat poaching
- Target 5,10 and 5.11. The AEF is mainstreaming biodiversity across government and society by enhancing cooperation with various sectors at a national level to implement the African Elephant Action Plan.
- Target 13. The AEF is promoting agricultural biodiversity by training local communities on alternative households such as bee keeping to reduce human-elephant conflict.
- Target 1 and 2. The AEF is creating awareness of biodiversity values among local communities through training and capacity building to educate

Project results

- Conducted first aerial census survey of elephants in north-west Namibia in over 20 years
- Aerial census in Amboseli in Kenya and West Kilimanjaro in Tanzania undertaken
- Review of wildlife laws and strict enforcement of prosecuting poachers and traffickers in Ethiopia completed
- Erection of a 12km solar-powered fence in Malawi to mitigate human-elephant conflict
- Making Gabon self-sufficient in traceability analysis of ivory
- Completed training of over 300 enforcement personnel in Ethiopia and Ghana in the conduct of anti-poaching missions and the identification, collecting and handling of wildlife products
- Adoption of the African Elephant Action Plan by CMS member states through resolution CMS COP 12.19.
- Adoption of resolutions 1/3 on illegal trade in wildlife and 2/14 on illegal trade in wildlife and wildlife products by the United Nations Environment Assembly at its first and second sessions, respectively



Links to websites for further information:

www.africanelephantfund.org; https://cites.org/eng/prog/mike/cites-elephants/african_elephant_action_plan; <https://www.cms.int/en/document/endorsement-african-elephant-action-plan>

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