



# Agreement on the Conservation of Gorillas and their Habitats



*Interim Secretariat provided by the Convention on Migratory Species*

## **RWANDA REPORT ON THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE AGREEMENT'S ACTION PLANS**

**Convention on Migratory Species**  
**Gorilla Agreement National Report**  
**for**  
**Rwanda Mountain Gorilla (*Gorilla beringei beringei*)**  
  
**2023**

## I. Law enforcement

- Enforcement activities in general including arrests, confiscations, prosecutions and surveillance efforts
- Training and Capacity building on law enforcement
- Education and Awareness raising on law enforcement
- Other aspects related to law enforcement

<b>Action point identified in Action Plan :</b>	Enforce existing legislation.
<b>Area/Site of action:</b>	Country level
<b>Date of action:</b>	2021
<b>Action undertaken:</b>	Approval of the National law on Biological Diversity
<b>Results:</b>	Approved
<b>Publications, reports, maps etc.:</b>	Gazetted
<b>Difficulties encountered:</b>	Drafting challenges and long process
<b>Further action required:</b>	Education and Awareness raising of the new law
<b>Contacts/Implementing organization:</b>	Ministry of Environment, Rwanda development Board, Rwanda Environmental Management Authority

Each table refers to one action point implemented.

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

- Management plans, action plans, work plans
- Management of populations, protected areas
- Liaison with the timber industry
- Training and capacity building of staff such as eco-guards, park wardens etc.
- Other aspects related to [species and habitat protection] / [Conservation management]

<b>Action point identified in Action Plan :</b>	Develop Volcanoes NP plan of operations.
<b>Area/Site of action:</b>	Volcanoes National Park
<b>Date of action:</b>	2022
<b>Action undertaken:</b>	Volcanoes national Park management plan reviewed
<b>Results:</b>	Positive increase of the gorilla numbers
<b>Publications, reports, maps etc.:</b>	<a href="https://www.africanews.com/2021/12/23/rwanda-s-mountain-gorilla-population-is-growing//">https://www.africanews.com/2021/12/23/rwanda-s-mountain-gorilla-population-is-growing//</a>
<b>Difficulties encountered:</b>	Habitat size challenges and increasing gorilla group interactions
<b>Further action required:</b>	Expansion of mountain gorilla habitat
<b>Contacts/Implementing organization:</b>	Rwanda Development Board

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### III. Monitoring and related research

- Gorilla population monitoring
- Genetic monitoring, taxonomy
- Habitat monitoring
- Threat monitoring
- Monitoring with focus on other aspects
- Training on monitoring techniques and capacity building
- Other aspects related to monitoring
- Studies on the ecology of gorillas and habitats

<b>Action point identified in Action Plan :</b>	Employ sufficient staff to ensure adequate protection from poaching and hunting, to regulate tourism and to manage gorilla habitat.
<b>Area/Site of action:</b>	Volcanoes National Park
<b>Date of action:</b>	2022
<b>Action undertaken:</b>	Recruitment of Rangers and guides
<b>Results:</b>	70 rangers and 12 guides was recruited
<b>Publications, reports, maps etc.:</b>	Park level
<b>Difficulties encountered:</b>	None
<b>Further action required:</b>	Capacity building with needed skills and trainings
<b>Contacts/Implementing organization:</b>	Rwanda Development Board

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#### IV. Human and gorilla health

- Human health (incl. education, programmes, funds)
- Gorilla health (incl. health monitoring)
- Training on monitoring techniques
- Research on Ebola or other diseases relevant to gorillas
- Other aspects related to gorilla health

<b>Action point identified in Action Plan :</b>	Put a health protection system in place, and a quick response warning system to counter epidemics, and more especially the Ebola kind.
<b>Area/Site of action:</b>	Volcanoes National Park
<b>Date of action:</b>	2020 -2021
<b>Action undertaken:</b>	Developed both Ebola and COVID-19 emergency contingency plans for Mountain Gorillas
<b>Results:</b>	Implement both plans and no single case was reported in the population of Mountain Gorillas
<b>Publications, reports, maps etc.:</b>	Internal
<b>Difficulties encountered:</b>	Resource availability was a key issue
<b>Further action required:</b>	Review and updated the contingency health plans
<b>Contacts/Implementing organization:</b>	Rwanda Development Board

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## V. National Policy and legislation

<b>Action point identified in Action Plan:</b>	Encourage Rwanda to participate in intergovernmental agreements such as the CBD, and with FAO.
<b>Area/Site of action:</b>	Country level
<b>Date of action:</b>	2022
<b>Action undertaken:</b>	Rwanda participated in a number of conferences of the parties including CITES CoP19 in Panama, CBD and CoP27 UN conference on Climate in Egypt
<b>Results:</b>	Sharing experience
<b>Publications, reports, maps etc.:</b>	
<b>Difficulties encountered:</b>	
<b>Further action required:</b>	Continues participation
<b>Contacts/Implementing organization:</b>	MoE, REMA, RDB and other ministries

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**VI. Trans-boundary activities**

- General activities
- Trans-boundary policy

<b>Action point identified in Action Plan :</b>	Improve transboundary collaboration.
<b>Area/Site of action:</b>	Volcanoes National Park
<b>Date of action:</b>	2019-2020
<b>Action undertaken:</b>	Conducted joint trans-boundary monitoring patrols
<b>Results:</b>	Increased level of collaboration
<b>Publications, reports, maps etc.:</b>	
<b>Difficulties encountered:</b>	Some areas still have insecurity and operating within those areas is a challenge
<b>Further action required:</b>	Continue implementing the signed treaty and coordinated by GVTC
<b>Contacts/Implementing organization:</b>	RDB, GVTC

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