THE VALUE OF WILDLIFE TOURISM
PERSPECTIVES FROM SUB-SAHARAN AFRICA

Philippe Chardonnet and Sébastien Le Bel

Tourism in the world (UNWTO, 2010)

- 5% of the world’s GDP
- 6-7% of the jobs worldwide
- 30% world’s export of commercial services
- 3-4% growth in international tourist arrivals
- Growing share of emerging & developing countries [32% (1990) to 47% (2009)]
Tourism in Africa (UNWTO, 2010)

- 4% of international arrivals
- much concentrated in the far North & South
- with a high % of beach tourism and...
- ... a low % of nature-based tourism

Major assets: human & natural resources

- nearly 1/3 of the world terrestrial biodiversity
- ~22% of the world terrestrial surface
- ~15 % of the world population

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Sub-Saharan Africa: international tourist arrivals
Annual average number x1000 between 2007-2009 (UNWTO, 2010)
Wildlife-based tourism (Reynolds & Braithwaite, 2001)

- Nature-based tourism with wildlife component
- Visit to locations with good wildlife presence
- Visit to artificial attractions based on wildlife
- Habitat specific tours
- Animal watching
- Thrill-offering tours
- Hunting/fishing tours
- Ecotourism

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Protected Areas (PA’s)

- backbone of the wildlife-based tourism
- wide range of PA’s within the IUCN categories

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Tanzania:
945,000 km²

- **National Parks**
  57,840 km² (7%)
- **Hunting Areas**
  295,660 km² (33%)

Protected Areas: a network made of diverse categories
Protected Area

Agriculture & Livestock

© Philippe Chardonnet
Tourism value: income generation

Protected Area
Tourism value: income generation

Ecosystem services values:

- Global services, e.g.:
  - Adaptation to climate change (carbon sink…)
  - Preservation of genetic richness (biodiversity…)

Protected Area

Agriculture & Livestock

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Tourism value: income generation

Ecosystem services values:

- Global services, e.g.:
  - Adaptation to climate change (carbon sink…)
  - Preservation of genetic richness (biodiversity…)

- Local services, e.g.:
  - Watershed management
  - Regulation of local climate
  - Support to livelihood
  - Contribution to food security
Benefits from PA’s to local communities:

* e.g. Gathering wild plants, fishing, hunting, etc. often more important than tourism (IUCN, 2010)

...however there is some resentment:

* e.g. insufficient share in benefits from tourism, access denied/restricted to land/resources
Status of Protected Areas

2 specific cases, mainly in Southern Africa:

1. Private wildlife ranches
   (e.g. South Africa, etc.)
2. Communal conservancies
   (e.g. Namibia, etc.)

Base line:
- land tenure
- wildlife user rights
- ownership rights
In >90% of the countries: mainly in National Parks owned & managed by the State

Tourism: need of external funding

[in West & Central Africa, NP’s seldom attract more than 6,000 visitors a year (IUCN, 2010)]

Ecosystem services values > tourism value
Status of Protected Areas and hunting tourism

- In > 90% of 23 countries with hunting tourism:
  in Hunting Areas = earmarked Protected Areas owned by the State & managed by private sector
- Tourism value: privately financed by the tourist activity
- Ecosystem services: provided by extensive surfaces of gazetted areas

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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Values of wildlife</th>
<th>Wildlife as…</th>
<th>(Rosa &amp; Joubert, 2009)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Symbolic values</td>
<td>Traditional tribal values (<em>e.g.</em> totem)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Traditional subsistence values</td>
<td>Source of food &amp; materials for making key artifacts</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Hostile values</td>
<td>Danger to humans &amp; source of predation on crops and livestock</td>
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<tr>
<td>Economic enterprising values</td>
<td>Commodities to be killed &amp; sold for profit and enterprise</td>
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<tr>
<td>Farming values</td>
<td>Forms of wild livestock to be managed, farmed &amp; harvested</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Pragmatic conservation values</td>
<td>A scarce &amp; valuable resource which disappears if not sustainably managed (killing accepted)</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Idealistic conservation values</td>
<td>A natural heritage to be protected by all means; not a resource (killing not accepted)</td>
<td></td>
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<td>Values of wildlife (Rosa &amp; Joubert, 2009)</td>
<td>Traditional users (rural Africans)</td>
<td>Private entrepreneurs</td>
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<td>Values of wildlife</td>
<td>Consumptive approach</td>
<td>Non-consumptive approach</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Hunting tourism</td>
<td>Bushmeat</td>
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### Threats!

Some of the main threats to wildlife

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<th>Indirect</th>
<th>Direct</th>
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<td>Habitat conversion</td>
<td>Poaching</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Habitat degradation</td>
<td>Diseases</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Agriculture encroachment</td>
<td>Bushmeat harvesting</td>
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<tr>
<td>Pastoral encroachment</td>
<td>Livestock/wildlife interaction</td>
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Wildlife declined by 32-48% over the last 30 years inside and outside PA’s (a case-study in East Africa)
Harvesting of wildlife:

- Traditional subsistence & commercial hunting
- Large commercial poaching
Central Africa
March 2007

© Jean-Jacques Roulet
Impact of the bushmeat production

- Sustainability: recruitment rate / resilience
- Marketing: human demography, urbanization
- Reliance on wildlife: few alternative livelihoods
- Crop raiders: megarodents ≠ large mammals
Agriculture development

Returns from agriculture greatly exceed returns from wildlife

Superficie (1000 ha)

Afrique Centrale  Afrique de l'Ouest
Livestock development (FAOSTAT)

- Pasture (million ha)
- Index km² pasture per 100 FAO LU
- Livestock (million FAO LU)

© David Edderai
Land-use conflicts in Central Africa

Protected Areas

- Réserve faune
- ZCV, Attribuée
- Secteur de chasse, Attribué
- Secteur de chasse, Prospection
- Secteur de chasse, Non exploité

Central African Republic

Democratic Republic of Congo

Sudan
Land-use conflicts in Central Africa

Pastoralism

Central African Republic

Sudan

Democratic Republic of Congo
Land-use conflicts in Central Africa

Elephant poaching

Central African Republic

Sudan

Democratic Republic of Congo
A growing threat: conflicts between Human & wildlife
Promising prospects...
Wildlife tourism & Protected Areas can help but cannot cope with all the issues at stake, particularly in developing countries…

…poverty alleviation, health care, food security, education, etc.
Large progress margin for improving...

1. ...management of all ecosystem services
... also for improving:

2. governance
3. land-use planning
4. benefit sharing
To be successful, wildlife tourism must be beneficial to the economy, to the environment & to local communities.
Merci pour votre attention
...et merci à l’OIE!

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