

# WORLD HERITAGE ANIMALS IN DANGER

## How to Solve the Bushmeat Problem in Kahuzi-Biega

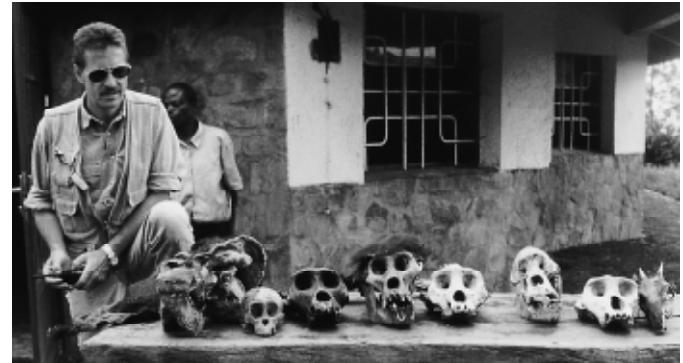
### The Problem

The Kahuzi-Biega National Park (KBNP) in the Democratic Republic of Congo is a World Heritage Site in Danger. Since Rwandan refugees started to arrive in the Kivu region (i.e. since the current cycle of wars in the Great Lakes Region started in 1994), the KBNP has experienced heavy pressure on its natural resources – timber, minerals and animals alike. This is due to a combination of several factors. Among them are the permanent presence of tens of thousands of armed persons in the park, the exploitation of the minerals coltan and cassiterite, the allocation of 3,500 ha of concessions inside the park, the demand for bamboo, wood and charcoal and the looting of animal nurseries of the farmers living close to the park.

Trapping has intensified as a result of the need for food by the population living in the vicinity of the park. Moreover, purely profit motives have led to the massacre of elephants for their ivory and meat, especially on the part of people from urban areas. The poor financial situation of the park guards has led some of them to become involved in hunting and trapping.

The situation is serious. In the high-altitude sector of the park, the number of elephants was reduced from about 350 to 2. A survey by WCS in 2000 estimated that the number of gorillas had decreased from 258 to 130. Research conducted by the ISDR (Rural Development Institute) has documented large scale poaching in the vicinity of Bukavu. 95% of the park still is not under control of the ICCN (Institut Congolais pour la Conservation de la Nature).

Actions aiming at the reduction of poaching should start as soon as possible. Otherwise the chance of survival for gorillas in some parts of the park will be very low, as their



**Carlos Schuler (GTZ) with skulls from the park**

Photo: Michel Hasson

population is declining dramatically and their habitat is undergoing severe fragmentation.

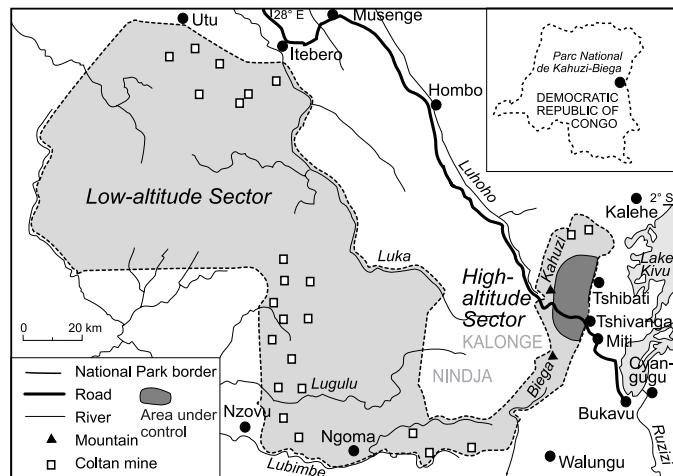
### The Present Situation

#### Report of a Visit to Kahuzi-Biega during the First Week of May 2001

I was unable to reach the interior of the park. The security situation has, in fact, deteriorated badly since the end of April 2001. Because it is currently impossible to guarantee visitors' safety in the park, the Park Director, Kasereka Bishikwabo, has been forced to refuse entry to the park to any visitors not belonging to the ICCN. In spite of the bad security situation, ICCN continues to patrol the park. One can only praise the courage and the commitment of trackers, guards, guides and the Director. Thanks to their efforts not a single gorilla has been killed in the high-altitude sector of the park in the last month.

However, the situation in the low-altitude sector of the park gives rise to increasing concern. It is quite possible that there soon will not be anything left to save. Over 10,000 miners have settled within this sector and wild animals are becoming increasingly rare. Nothing has been done to save the 8,000 gorillas and 3,600 elephants that lived there. One can only bemoan the inertia of the big international nature conservation organisations and compare them with the activities of the small ICCN team in Bukavu. Supported by the GTZ and small NGOs, this team safeguards the survival of the park against all odds. Although far removed from mega-projects and beautiful theories, and faced by the current war situation in the Kivu region, the high-altitude sector of the park continues to survive – thanks to the work of a few determined people. This is very reassuring to see.

Jean-François Segers (*Nouvelles Approches*)

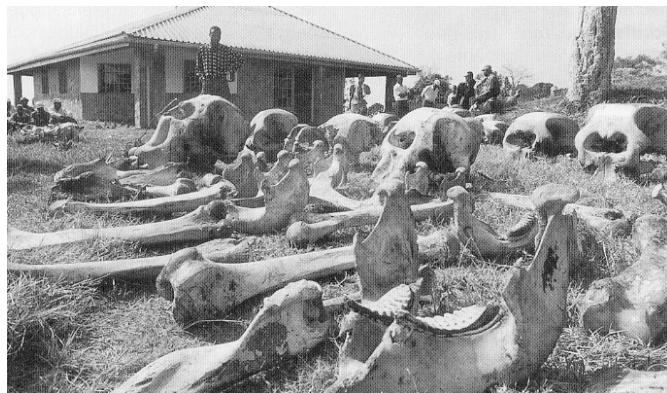


## The Question

Local people are hunting and consuming bushmeat in the Kahuzi-Biega Park because their situation makes it necessary. Therefore, they should be given the opportunity to present alternatives and solutions. The idea led to this inquiry. We sent mails and letters with the following request to persons who know the park and the local population very well:

***How is it possible to prevent further hunting of endangered animals in the Kahuzi-Biega Park?***

Recommendations should come from persons who know the area and the situation of the local people. You are one of those persons and I would be very grateful if you could send me your opinion. As this problem can only be solved in cooperation with the people living near the park, I am especially interested in the recommendations of local people. Of course, anybody is welcome to give their opinion.



**Skulls and bones of elephants killed in the high-altitude sector**

*Photo: Carlos Schuler*

## Recommendations

The basic recommendation to solve the bushmeat problem in the Kahuzi-Biega National Park concerns the highest political level:

**End the war in the Great Lakes region.** The population will not be able to start a normal life again without peace, and the park can not be protected as long as militia are living there. The end of the war is a prerequisite to a successful implementation of further steps (and for tourism). These include:

**Support the local people** and help them develop alternatives to bushmeat consumption.

- It is especially important to support small local projects and initiatives. As the living conditions of the population are so poor, they still depend on bushmeat, but they would replace it, if alternatives were available.
- Their living conditions urgently need to be improved. They do not need superficial developmental support but



**Gold miners in the Kahuzi-Biega National Park**

*Photo: Johannes Refisch*

substantial investment aimed at improving their welfare and education.

- Special attention should be directed to the Pygmies – their situation should be improved as they are the main hunters.

**Support the ICCN staff.** Some of the urgent measures:

- Pay the guards adequately;
- Provide equipment and additional material to protect the park effectively.

**Public awareness** for the park in general should be promoted.

**A special problem are the miners** who exploit mineral resources in the park. This destructive activity only can be controlled if the government authorities develop regulations and if these regulations are enforced.

To solve the bushmeat problem in Kahuzi-Biega, many more steps have to be taken, as the following **individual contributions** clearly show. Everybody's opinion is included in detail and recommendations for each level are provided – from UN to local NGO.

There is hope for the animals of Kahuzi-Biega, but action has to be taken immediately.



**Bitorwa – a confiscated orphan**

*Photo: Carlos Schuler*

## Individual Contributions

**Recommendations that A. Kanyunyi Basabose and Juichi Yamagiwa prepared for the 18th Congress of the International Primatological Society in Adelaide, Australia, in January 2001**

- Facilitate peaceful negotiations among all political forces engaged in the Democratic Republic of Congo (UN level);
- Support the park to improve its facilities and equipment for patrol and to improve infrastructure around the park (ODA and UNESCO level);
- Establish an eco-museum in the vicinity of the park to promote education of local people and to function as an information center for tourism (ODA and international NGO level);
- Encourage the compensation for Batwa (Pygmy) people who have been evicted from the park and resident people who accepted them in their village (park authority and local governments level);
- Establish regulations to prevent the bushmeat trade and to destroy the poacher and trader network (park authority and local governments level);
- Educate soldiers to respect the World Heritage and to learn how to approach wildlife (park authority and armed forces level);
- Increase engagement of local people for the park management and tourism (park authority level);

- Make a plan for the optimal distribution of profit from tourism among local communities (park authority and local NGO level);
- Promote activities to accept and organize eco-tourism in this area (international and local NGO level);
- Establish the methods for monitoring wildlife in the park (park authority, international and local NGO level).

### **Augu Kanyunyi Basabose (Researcher at the CRSN in Lwiro)**

A workshop on *Means of discouraging the hunting of endangered animal species for human consumption in the KBNP* was organized by the Polepole Foundation (POPOF), a local conservation NGO. It was held on March 23<sup>rd</sup> 2001, from 9 am to 4 pm. Participants represented different stakeholder groups within the rural population living close to the KBNP. Among them were former poachers, park employees, consumers and sellers of bushmeat, tribal chiefs, researchers, students, artists, etc. Workshop participants considered the four main root causes of hunting rare animals for human consumption. These four issues were as follows:

- Insecurity due to the war;
- Poverty of the human population;
- Ignorance (the majority of the population has had no education);
- Problems particular to Pygmies.

### **Causes of poaching, consequences, solutions proposed by workshop participants and agencies that could implement them**

Causes	Consequences	Solutions	Responsible for implementation
<b>Insecurity</b>			
Political unrest, erosion of government power		Terminate the war	UN and OAU
Presence of armed bands in the park and increase in poaching		Repatriate the refugees into their original countries	UN (HCR)
Significant increase in war armaments in the villages adjacent to the park (insecurity in the villages and increase of poaching in the park)		Put an end to the rebellion and support national and international reconciliation	UN, Lusaka Agreement, governments
The disarmament of park guards means that poachers operating freely in the interior of the park go unpunished.		Re-arm the guards of KBNP in order to improve the security situation in the park	Government, KBNP
Tourism has come to a standstill.		Re-establish and support tourism	KBNP
<b>Poverty</b>			
Poor socio-economic conditions of the population in the vicinity of KBNP due to unemployment and insufficient arable land, which results in a low crop and livestock production		Create employment opportunities for the population; allocate land for cultivation and/or seeds; channel 40% of income generated by tourism back to the population living near the park	KBNP, government, NGO

## **World Heritage Animals in Danger**

### **How to Solve the Bushmeat Problem in Kahuzi-Biega**

<b>Causes</b>	<b>Consequences</b>	<b>Solutions</b>	<b>Responsible</b>
<b>Poverty</b>			
Hunger (malnutrition) results in people hunting endangered species in the park for meat.	Initiate and finance small community projects to achieve food security, such as projects in agriculture, animal husbandry and fish cultivation, or the setting up of credit systems for the promotion of profitable activities	KBNP, government, NGO	
Incability of parents to look after their children and educate them without the possibility of them becoming poachers themselves. This situation perpetuates poverty and compromises the future of the next generation.	Take care of certain social problems of the population around the park (such as education, primary health care, etc.)	KBNP, government, NGO	
Corruption of unpaid government authorities who do not provide an example to local people in regard to the laws relating to conservation	Training, logistical and financial support of guards and OPJ who work for the park	KBNP, government, NGO	
<b>Ignorance</b>			
The majority of the population (and the poachers in particular) are illiterate. Poachers don't have the knowledge to distinguish between endangered animals and animals that are not at risk. Therefore they contribute to the further decline of endangered animals in the park. In addition, a lack of education means that people simply don't understand environmental education messages distributed by park authorities.	Establishment of literacy centres for adults; establishment of environmental education centres accessible to all people living close to the park	KBNP, government, NGO	
Lack of local initiatives for the protection of endangered animals in the KBNP	Encourage, support local initiatives, especially concerning environmental education and wildlife conservation	KBNP, government, NGO	
<b>The Pygmies</b>			
Marginalisation of the Pygmy tribes driven out of the park without compensation. This leaves them discontented and they therefore oppose any conservation measure initiated by the park.	Involve the Pygmies increasingly in the various activities conducted by the park	KBNP	
The Pygmies give many reasons for their continued poaching. Among them are the misery in which they live and their culture: they regard themselves as forest people.	Support mini-projects in agriculture and husbandry from which the Pygmies would benefit	KBNP, NGO	
	Support economically viable activities for Pygmy women (such as handicraft projects) not alien to their culture	KBNP, NGO	
	Take care of the Pygmy children's education	KBNP, NGO	
	Assist the Pygmies with primary health care	KBNP, NGO	
	Promote Pygmy culture	Pygmies, KBNP, NGO	

Participants: Augu Kanyuni Basabose (researcher and workshop moderator), John Kahewa (DG POPOF), Chifundera Kusamba (researcher), Kaleme Kiswele (researcher), Kizungu Byamana (researcher), Lungumbu Bweni (researcher), Zirimwabagabo Moustapha (POPOF Coordinator), Lungumbu Mukandilwa (student), Corneille (Chef de Centre de Miti), Balolebwami (representative of the Chef de groupement de Miti), Kizungu Janvier (former poacher), Citoyen Drole (former poacher), Mirenge (Pygmy), Kabwana (Pygmy), Bourguignon (KNP guard), Kabehe (traditional dancer), Mangaza (woman, Pygmy). We would like to express our thanks to all participants for their contributions made during the workshop.

### **Kasereka Bishikwabo (Chief Conservator of the Kahuzi-Biega National Park)**

*What can be done to eliminate these causes and remove endangered animals from the human food supply?* This question was submitted to 70 persons working for the park, made up from 5 groups as follows: staff: 5; patrol personnel based at Tshivanga Station: 9; patrol personnel based at Mugaba Patrol Post: 7; guides and trackers: 19; former poachers who became park guards: 30.

**Kahuzi-Biega National Park Staff.** It is important to note that although the population in the vicinity of the park, has already lived for a long time in poverty, it has been further impoverished by the continuous warfare which persists in the Congo. This poverty mostly is the base of the poaching of animals in the park. To remedy the situation we would like to make the following recommendations:

- Alleviate this famine aggravated by the wars by urgently providing food assistance to the population in the hinterland of the park;
- Assist the population by providing agricultural seeds and tools and promote the raising of cattle, goats, fish, pigs, etc.;
- Create employment near the park such as restoring maintenance activities for the trails that cross the park and the agricultural roads around and inside the park;
- Create technical schools in the vicinity of the park (carpentry, mechanical, agricultural, veterinary);
- Increase the efficiency of park surveillance by providing vehicles and communication equipment and improving the standard of living of surveillance personnel.

To reach the population living close to the park it will be necessary to use local NGO channels which collaborate with the park.

**Tshivanga Based Patrols.** For the protection of the animals they recommend the following:

- Pay the people working for the park adequately;
- Grant a food (family) ration to them;
- Increase the number of surveillance personnel;
- Equip the surveillance patrols adequately.

If you follow these recommendations you will see the park animals seriously protected.

### **Mugaba Patrol Post Patrols.**

- Pay the guards a good premium;
- Equip the guards with good field equipment and weapons;

- Increase the number of surveillance personnel;
- Settle the population by providing employment, roads, schools, dispensaries, and potable water.

**Park Guides and Trackers.** Animals including elephants, gorillas, antelopes, forest hogs, wart hogs, baboons and guenons which are threatened by people living close to the park and search for food there. Since the war started in 1996, the guards have been disarmed and chased away from their patrol posts, stations, and substations. As a result, the control of the park has been lost. Then, armed groups forcefully overtook 90% of the park, where they hunt all edible animals. In addition, some of the local people received arms illicitly, which led to a further deterioration of the situation in the park. There will be no protection for the park without a frank collaboration with this population. The motivation of the guards is also essential, of course. Recommendations:

- End the war in the Democratic Republic of Congo;
- Enhance the message for protection of the park to the people living close to the park;
- Create socio-economic activities in the interest of these people;
- Reinforce the training of the guards;
- Provide surveillance equipment for the protection of the park;
- Provide modern field equipment to the park;
- Bring the standard of living of the guards up to today's standards.

**Former poachers who became park guards.** The animals in the park are killed because of the poverty of the population (famine, lack of clothing and money). To protect these animals, we propose to motivate the surveillance personnel by increasing their income. Once their income is augmented the park will be better protected because they will have no reason to enter the park for hunting.



**Former poachers who became park guards**

*Photo: Carlos Schuler*

These results suggest that further training and better equipment as well as higher motivation of guards will enhance the chances to substitute wild animals in human food supply. Moreover, it is necessary that armed groups leave the park. Some humanitarian assistance for the guards in the form of family rations would enable them to supplement their income. As they settled there as a consequence of the war, it is obvious that, first of all, the

war should be stopped. Finally, efforts should be invested into the social and economic development in the hinterland of the park.

We have the feeling that support for development around the park must be intensified through participating management structures that collaborate with the park. Since the park presently does not have any resources, we need someone who can grant funds to support participative management activities in favour of the local population. The park, as a matter of fact, recently adopted a new strategy for management of natural resources involving the local population.

The KBNP-GTZ project distributed 537 rabbits, 30 pigs, 15 goats, etc. to 200 families. The idea is to provide the villages with substitutes for natural resources which the people search for in the park. It is a case of substituting bushmeat with domestic animal meat. It is interesting to note these micro-projects that the villagers who benefit from them make it a duty not to damage the park and to report those among them who exploit it. One result of this approach is that the villagers themselves discourage poaching. Thus, it has two effects: The living conditions of the population improve and the park is better protected.

The manner in which this activity was implemented is revolutionary compared to the other development activities in the region. A sort of village parliament called Participative Management Structure (SGP) is created after an election at the secondary level. At the primary level, each locality elects its representatives. At the secondary level, the representatives select a small number of less than 20 who will represent them. This structure is a parliament in the sense that its members do not carry out any activities. Instead, they establish a village development plan for the conservation of the park. They seek associations or organisations in their locality which will implement the development plan. The lenders or donors will act through these executive associations under the control of the SGP.

Once tourism resumes, the park's contributions to local development will increase; and it will be these SGPs that will decide on the distribution of funds. Moreover, this development must not be just talk: Actions must also be taken. For example, if breeding is to be encouraged, breeders must not only be trained but must receive a sufficient number of animals so that their profit will be sufficient to enable them to live decently.

Furthermore, a strategy for Pygmies must be applied. Humanitarian assistance, especially food, is very urgent for the Pygmies because they are the main hunters who enter the park to satisfy their needs for food. The landless Pygmies are in need of land to enable them to live like other people in the region. At least 400 ha of land should be bought for the 400 Pygmy families living close to the park according to a census. Possession of land determines the standard of living in the region. The end of the war will permit the implementation of management conditions which will favour the prosperity and sound protection of what is left of the park.

**Omari O. Ilambu (Researcher, Yale University, USA)**

While other populations of gorillas have benefitted from more attention from the arena of conservation, the eastern lowland gorilla has been overlooked. The few people involved in its protection and management have not yet come up with a cohesive and synergic program to guarantee the survival of the species.

My concern is that we end up taking an action only when we are at the verge of extinction of the species. When you have a thorough look at its distribution, you will realize that all its main known distribution areas are either under military occupation or under mining activities. In either way, weapons, hungry humans and traders condemn gorillas to death for food supply or as a commodity.

There is a high concern about young people as more and more have been recruited and received basic training in the use of light weapons but they are not well-paid. That group of the population might constitute potential threats to wildlife, with primates among the first victims. Gorillas have never been threatened at this pace in the past, even during the intense war of the 1960s, following the troubled period after independence. Although people have hunted gorillas in the past, very few hunters could venture into the forest to search for gorillas. With the increasing circulation of weapons, collapse of the economy, lack of the possibility of farming (no stability in the area), local people have been forced to rely increasingly on natural resources. As a commodity, bushmeat exploitation has also increased with that collapsing situation. It is not only as use for food but also as a valuable commodity in satisfying any socio-economic needs. Trends in poaching of wildlife in the region clearly show a kind of succession in killing large mammals. After almost driving the elephant to the verge of extinction in the highland sector of the park, poachers have shifted their interest to gorillas. Accessibility to weapons and ammunitions moving in the region has made it easy for poachers to increase the killing of gorillas.

An array of solutions can be applied. I would recommend the following:

- Stop the inflow of guns in the area. Information and campaigns should be focused on the areas where weapons come from;
- Raise an international effort to create an educative program that reaches young people in different armed groups who do not earn without a substantial salary and only possess training in the art of killing. That social group should turn into more useful and socio-economically productive activities in their home country.
- Change of behavior of national park staff. Play more a technical role to improve the understanding of dangers of the abuse of biodiversity and the impact on human life and the environment;
- Oppose different mining activities in the lowland sector of the park. This pressure could also lead to reopening of some sites recently abandoned in the highland sector of the park. This would destroy the shrinking gorilla habitat and increase poaching.

## **Ephrem Balole-Bwami (Professor, ISDR – Institut Supérieur de Développement Rural – Bukavu)**

This report will address the five following points:

- The current state of poaching in the KBNP;
- The impact of the war;
- The women's role in poaching;
- Other resources taken from the forest;
- Recommendations.

### **The Current State of Poaching in the KBNP**

**In the high-altitude sector of the park.** The WCS survey has documented abundant traces of human activity near Tshivanga Guard Post, towards Lemera (Kalehe), Bunyakiri and Kalonge. Local people enter the park in order to hunt for mammals (antelopes, gazelles, marsh cane rats, etc.) with wire snares. Many people participate in this activity secretly and usually escape the attention of the guards.

The main reason for hunting is for home consumption. There are no formal channels to distribute bushmeat, although small-scale trade does exist. However, the scale and frequency of this small-scale trade are not worrying. Women don't play a role in this system.

**In the low-altitude sector of the park.** Here, poaching has always been intense due to the local traditions of bushmeat consumption. The local population hunts mammals (elephants, antelopes, apes and other primates). Hunting methods include the setting of traps, traditional means of hunting, and hunting with firearms (both hunting weapons and armaments left over from the war). A network for meat distribution is in place with women playing an active role. This network reaches Bukavu, although there is no official market for bushmeat in Bukavu.

### **The Impact of War**

**In the high-altitude sector of the park.** The war has upset the former reliance of people on domestic meat. Young domestic animals have been appropriated by successive waves of armed bandits (Mai-Mai and Interahamwe), the rebel army and the Rwandan army, in addition to others who could not be identified. Cows have almost disappeared from the vicinity of the KBNP (Kalonge, Nindja, Bitale, Kalehe, Walungu, Kabare, etc.)

The presence of armies and the demand for ivory (mainly in Kigali, Bukavu, Goma and other towns on the shores of the Great Lakes) have created a new form of poaching which particularly targets elephants (350 have been killed already). The network includes military personnel (Rwandan and Congolese) and the village poachers. Heads of the networks are inhabitants of Bukavu, Goma and Kigali. Likewise, there is a demand for baby gorillas, chimpanzees and other primates. This trade, in which the military is implicated, has given rise to the poaching of apes, which were formerly not targeted.

War has contributed to the increase in poaching in several other ways. First and foremost, it has led to

increased poverty of the farmers living near the park. The following additional effects need to be mentioned:

- More than 3,500 ha of concessions in the interior of the KBNP have been obtained by Bukavu dignitaries. They have created permanent camps for the exploitation of wood, charcoal, timber and bamboo, and for cultivation. All the people living in these camps obtain their food from poaching.
- Increased exploitation of minerals (coltan, cassiterite, gold, etc.). These activities have also attracted considerable numbers of people into the park. As they obtain some income from the sale of minerals, these people can afford to buy illegal bushmeat if their demand for meat is not met by domestic animals. The situation is worrying at Lemera, Bunyakiri, Kalonge and Ninja.
- Finally, the war has driven armed bands back into the forest. They live exclusively on bushmeat.

**In the low-altitude sector of the park.** The coltan mined at the lower altitudes is sought after for its high tantalum content. Many young people have travelled to the quarries to find work. This has increased the demand for meat in a region that was already hardly self-sufficient. There are bushmeat markets both at the mineral quarries and in the villages. However, as the security situation is still uncertain, research has not yet been possible in this area.

### **The Women's Role in Poaching**

While there are no women poachers, women are involved in the transport of bushmeat, its distribution and marketing. The bushmeat network can be summarized as follows:

Women act as intermediaries between poachers and consumers. They may be engaged in this activity on their own accounts (in the case of tradeswomen) or on behalf of their husbands (in the case of poachers' wives). In general, the tradeswomen are independent women willing and able to risk going into the forest and to the quarries. They use all available means in order to guarantee a regular supply of bushmeat (including witchcraft). They provide the poachers with basic products (ammunition, salt, batteries, etc.). The poachers may stay in the forest for a long time (i.e. for one

Activity	Venue	Persons concerned
Killing of the animals, processing the meat, smoking the meat	Deep in the forest (park)	Poacher
Transport of the bushmeat to a selling point	Inside the forest	Poacher
Transport of the bushmeat to where it is sold to the final consumer	Quarry or village	Poacher, women
Supplying urban and other networks	Villages	Other customers, men and women

or two months). It is difficult to obtain precise information on the quantity and price of bushmeat exchanged along this network. In the high-altitude sector of the park, women are not involved in poaching. Even so, if elephants are killed, the women are quick to obtain the meat for their own consumption. However, this happens only sporadically.



#### **Production of charcoal in the park**

*Photo: Mbake Sivha*

#### **Other Resources Taken from the Forest**

Pressure is exerted not only on the animal resources, but also on mineral and timber resources. The high-altitude sector of the park supplies bamboo for an important bamboo market in Bukavu. This market involves over 600 people and has an annual turnover of more than US\$ 800,000. Collecting and selling bamboo generates a monthly income of US\$ 40–50 per participant. Every day 9–12 tons of bamboo are sold, resulting in 1.5–2 ha of bamboo forest cut down per day. Women are not involved in this market, it is conducted entirely by men.

Likewise, there is an important market for wood and charcoal. This market employs over 1,200 people who deforest approximately 12 ha of forest in the northeastern part of the park every week. In the southeastern part of the park, this activity takes place in the concession areas. The exploitation of wood and charcoal generates a monthly income of US\$ 15 (wood) to US\$ 32 (charcoal). Women are actively involved. The annual turnover is estimated to be over US\$ 600,000.

The exploitation of the wood resources of the KBNP injects approximately US\$ 1.5 million into the area every year. As incomes in other sectors are extremely low (a primary teacher earns less than US\$ 5 per month), the income generated by poaching must be a great incentive for this activity. Poaching in the KBNP provides a means for people to reduce their poverty, if only to a small degree.

#### **Recommendations**

In order to fight against poaching, the ICCN and the Management Board of the KBNP are taking a number of measures:

- Suppression of poaching activities through deployment of police in that part of the park which is under their control;

- The promotion of farming pigs, rabbits and goats at two pilot sites, Miti and Mudaka;
- International and local lobbying, while advertising to the population inside the park the presence of whites;
- Collaboration with MONUC.

However, current measures are not sufficient. What is required is co-ordinated action on different levels, but the prerequisite for this is the end of the war and the return to a state of law and justice. In particular, the following measures should be adopted:

- All armed bands should leave the KBNP.
- The exploitation of minerals should be regulated: Only licensed people or companies should be given a permission to exploit minerals and the license should include environmental impact restrictions. The granting of licenses should be regulated. Zones where minerals can be exploited must be delineated, etc.
- The living standards of the human population have to be improved. This could be achieved with the support of agriculture and husbandry, arts and crafts, development of labour-intensive employment opportunities, etc.
- Gorilla tourism must be revived, as this activity can generate a lot of income and therefore have a positive impact on the living standards of the human population.
- Reduction of the poverty of women by targeting activities for the promotion of loans with guaranteed security (Grameen Bank).

Compiled with information from: Chantal Shalukoma (researcher ICCN-GTZ, KBNP), Aimé-Jules Murhula (Chief of administration DAP ICCN-GTZ, KBNP), Dieudonné Boji (researcher ICCN-GTZ, KBNP), Kasereka Bishikwabo (KBNP Director), Nguvu Munembe (ISDR student, from Itebero), Mashingilwa Tabu (formerly ISDR, from Walikale), Sakisanga Sakitundu (formerly ISDR, coltan collector at Walikale), Mawazo Mukoko (ISDR student, from Itebero), Wakusomba Museme (tradeswoman from Shabunda), Immaculée Wababili (IRC executive Bukavu, from Shabunda), Ngabo Roch (economist, coltan trader in Kalonge), Nkubiri Vumilia (teacher in Ufamando, Kalehe).

This paper can be downloaded from the internet in PDF format (size: 1 MB).

English: <http://www.berggorilla.de/kahuzie.pdf>

French: <http://www.berggorilla.de/kahuzif.pdf>

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#### **Berggorilla & Regenwald Direkthilfe**

Dr. Angela Meder  
Augustenstr. 122  
70197 Stuttgart  
Germany  
[angela.meder@t-online.de](mailto:angela.meder@t-online.de)

Contact address:  
c/o Rolf Brunner  
Lerchenstr. 5  
45473 Muelheim  
Germany