



UGANDA WILDLIFE AUTHORITY

Uganda Wildlife Authority Celebrates 33rd NRM Anniversary



THE REPUBLIC OF UGANDA



HE. Yoweri Kaguta Museveni
The President of the Republic of Uganda



Prof. Ephraim Kamuntu
Minister of Tourism, Wildlife
and Antiquities



Hon. Godfrey Kiwanda Suubi
Minister of State - Tourism, Wildlife
and Antiquities



Ms. Doreen Katusiime
Permanent Secretary
Minister of Tourism, Wildlife
and Antiquities



Mr. Samuel Mwandha
Executive Director
Uganda Wildlife Authority

The board of Trustees, Management and Staff of Uganda Wildlife Authority congratulate the President of Uganda His Excellency Yoweri Kaguta Museveni, Cabinet, Parliament of Uganda, and all the people of Uganda on this 33rd NRM Anniversary.

The theme for this year's celebrations **"A Moment of Glory that set a New Chapter for Unity, Peace and Prosperity in Uganda,"** comes in handy and Uganda Wildlife Authority is delighted to celebrate the numerous conservation milestones registered under the NRM government since UWA's establishment in 1996.

Our Mission: To be a leading self-sustaining conservation agency with healthy ecosystems that transforms Uganda into the best Eco tourism destination in the world.

To foster unity and peaceful co-existence of conservation of biodiversity in the country, UWA closely works with various stakeholders including communities. We appreciate in a special way the front line community efforts to partner with us to reduce human wildlife conflicts. Some

projects undertaken by UWA to alleviate wildlife conflict with communities include the construction of trenches, planting Mauritius hedge fences, use of bee hives, planting of red pepper, erection of stone walls and scare shooting particularly for elephants among others.

We have recently embarked on electric fencing on the boundaries of some of our national parks to augment other interventions and reduce the human wildlife conflicts. In addition, UWA shares 20% of the gate collections with parishes to go towards livelihood improvement projects among others. UWA also continues to sensitize the community members about the behaviour of the wildlife and how they should respond and protect themselves.

As we commemorate the 33rd NRM Day, we are proud to say that UWA operations have grown from strength to strength in and around all protected areas. This has been possible because of the peace that was ushered in 1986 that enabled us undertake our mandate without fear or favour. This has resulted in increased wildlife populations and

visitors to our parks and wildlife reserves. Elephants that were just about 2,000 in 1986 are now over 6,000, mountain gorillas have increased from just over 400 in the world to over 1000, with Uganda contributing more than 50% of that number. Uganda kob are now over 70,000, a number never experienced before to mention but a few.

A lot of progress has been registered in wildlife health monitoring and law enforcement to fight illegal wildlife trade and poaching. Some of the key milestones include construction of bio-safety laboratories in Queen Elizabeth and Murchison Falls National parks. The labs will be helpful in wildlife and livestock disease diagnosis and in the prosecution of illegal traders of wildlife products because of their ability to identify differences in DNA of wild meat from the domestic animals. Such efforts are supplemented with the fully functional sniffer dog program, intelligence and investigation units. In addition, we have adopted modern technology to support conservation by fitting selected flagship wildlife species especially elephants, lions and giraffes with radio or satellite collars.

This helps in the monitoring of animal movement, reduction of human wildlife conflicts and promotion of experiential tourism.

To diversify wildlife species in Protected Areas around the UWA managed estates, numerous translocations have been carried out across various national parks. Recently 92 impalas were translocated from Lake Mburo National Park to Pian-Upe Wildlife Reserve while 14 Rothschild giraffes from Murchison Falls National Park to Kidepo Valley National Park. We are also carrying out restoration of degraded areas undertaking invasive species management in Queen Elizabeth, Kidepo Valley and Lake Mburo National Parks as well as Katonga Wildlife Reserve.

UWA will constantly strive to collaborate with our stakeholders to advance the protection of our nation's wildlife resources. We thank all Ugandans for joining in the effort to conserve, protect and cherish our nation's wildlife treasures.

Conserving for Generations

Conserving for generations.

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