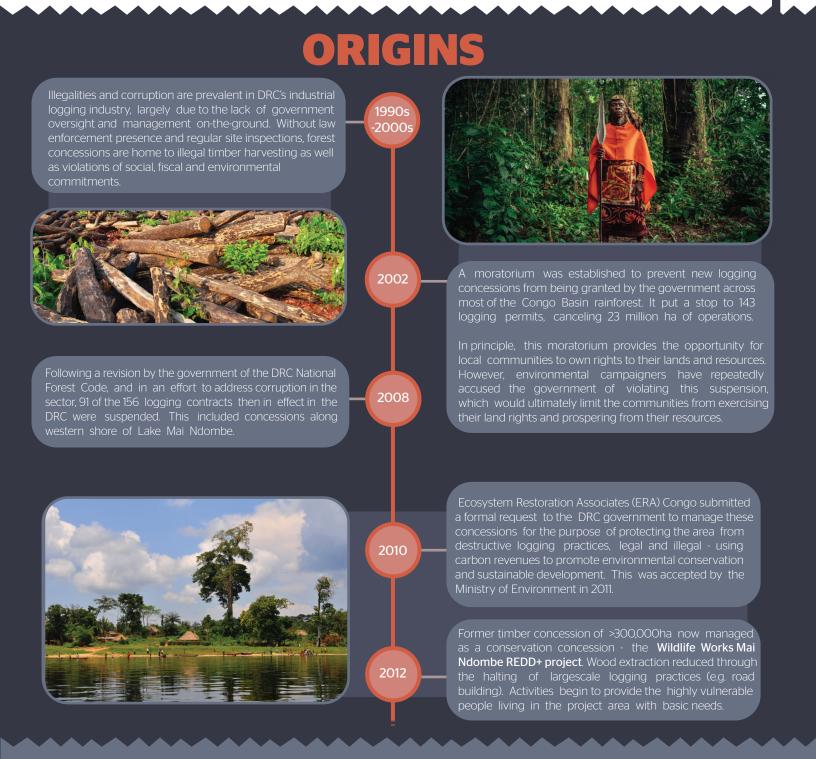
WILDLIFE WORKS

MAI NDOMBE REDD+ PROJECT PROJECT SUMMARY

One of the world's most important forests in the fight against climate change, the Congo Basin Rainforest is also one of the least-developed places on Earth. The Wildlife Works Mai Ndombe REDD+ Project protects 300,000 hectares of critical bonobo and forest elephant habitat within the world's second-largest intact rainforest and some of the most important wetlands on the planet, the Congo Basin.

This project reduces the principal drivers of forest and biodiversity loss and is charting a new pathway for community prosperity through comprehensive investments into the surrounding local communities, which are among the most under-served in the world. Such investments include building and renovating schools, providing healthcare services (such as access to immunizations), supporting food security and nutrition (such as through agricultural diversification), and providing capacity building activities that empower local communities.



THREATS

Prior to the project, logging companies had severely damaged the environment in the region and had largely ignored the rights and health of the wildlife and community. Logging drove already threatened wildlife populations further down and brought little to no economic benefit to the local people. In the western part of the DRC, along the west side of Lake Mai Ndombe, almost 250,000 hectares of rainforest, highly valued by logging companies, had been zoned for commercial timber extraction.

At the same time, the people living in the project area had little access to basic social services, and remain highly vulnerable.



INTERVENTION MODEL



Since the project launch in 2011, logging has halted and with the aid of reforestation programs, the deforested areas have had a chance to regenerate, bringing back biodiversity and the ability for wildlife to thrive.

Wildlife Works robust benefit-sharing program ensures over 75% of project operating costs are invested in programs of work benefiting the community key among them is building schools and health clinics.

Wildlife Works has numerous programs in place in villages throughout the project zone to reduce the drivers of deforestation and improve livelihoods and well-being including: providing training on sustainable agriculture & fishing practices, helping build and stock fish ponds, planting high yield cassava and other cash crops in demonstration farms, and hiring and training villagers as full-time employees so they have sustainable livelihoods.