





## A very warm welcome

From Space for Giants Founder and CEO Dr Max Graham

A very warm welcome to this, our Impact Report for 2022. First - a heartfelt thank you from the Space for Giants herd. We are hugely grateful to you for sharing our passion for protecting natural ecosystems in Africa and the giants that inhabit them. Thanks to your support we can be bold in pursuing our goal of building long-term, nature-based, sustainable solutions to some of the planet's most urgent environmental issues.

Space for Giants works across nine African countries, and one of the greatest achievements of the last 12 months has been scaling our proven human-wildlife conflict mitigation program. In Kenya, we have used electric fences to help prevent conflict between farmers and elephants for a decade. This year, our team designed a completely mobile fence that can be deployed to address subsistence farmers' needs in Gabon. These movable fences are quick to deploy, easy to maintain, and are over 90 percent effective. They are improving farmers' yields and saving lives across Gabon, and Space for Giants' fence deployment teams are on track to install 500 by 2024.

In 2022, Space for Giants signed a historic agreement, securing an exceptionally important wildlife landscape, Suyian Conservancy. This is a critical migration corridor for elephants and it connects with neighboring Loisaba Conservancy, which Space for Giants secured in partnership with The Nature Conservancy in 2014. Suyian, for which Space for Giants acts as Trust Protector, helps ensure connectivity within a vast 9,856,000-acre landscape. To illustrate the conservation value of the conservancy, leading global ecotourism company &Beyond announced they

would build a high-end lodge in Suyian, creating many more jobs and deepening its economic and social value for both the local community and government.

The past year has seen major gains in the development of Space for Giants' carbon-offset program. The rationale is that the restoration and optimal management of African parks and reserves results not only in spectacular increases in the diversity and abundance of wildlife, but can also prevent carbon emissions from increasing and can remove carbon emissions from improved vegetation cover and associated sequestration. To this end, Space for Giants has built a pipeline of carbon projects within a large degraded natural area.

An example is Pian Upe, Uganda's largest game reserve. This spectacular 494,000-acre wilderness was once home to some of the largest populations of elephants in the region, but today is a landscape sadly degraded by overgrazing, destructive fires, and years of under-investment.

Space for Giants signed a co-management agreement with the government to restore this incredible ecosystem. Our field assessments suggest that this process could generate enough carbon credits to cover the restoration and ongoing management costs, including supporting the livelihoods of neighboring communities. Although it is likely to take time for this benefit to be delivered as we wait for Africa governments such as Uganda's to finalize their carbon trading frameworks, such an outcome would will signal the onset of a hugely exciting new phase of conservation finance, one that could see Africa's parks and reserves thrive in the face of unprecedented pressure.

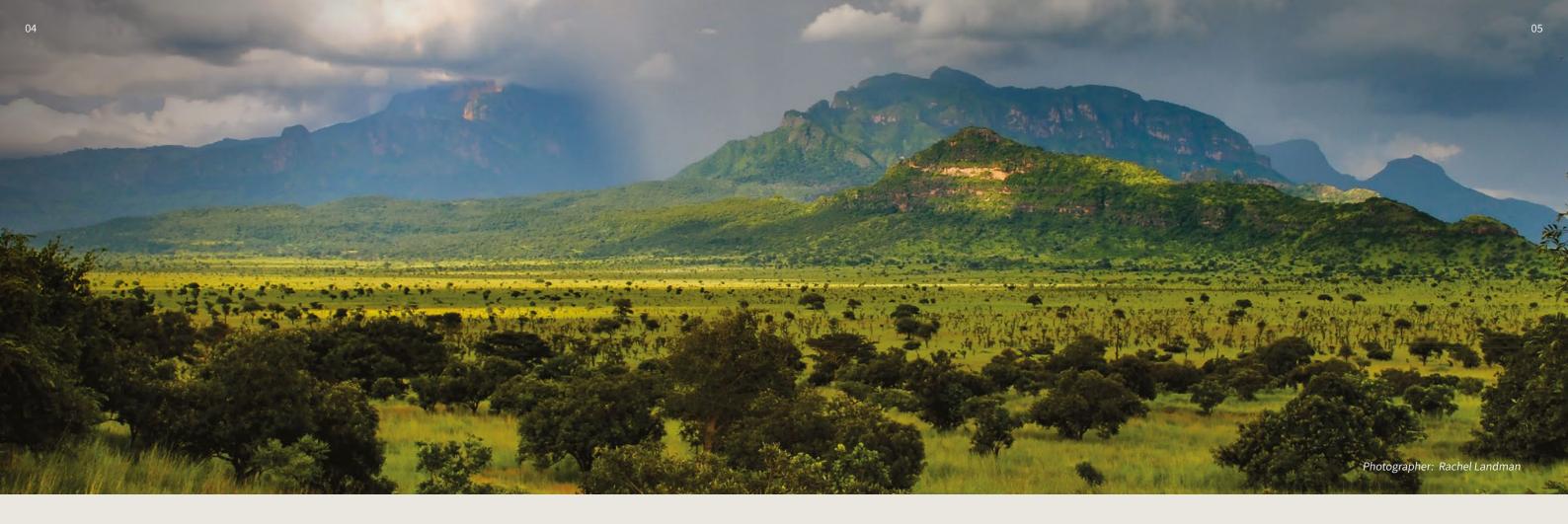
The success of protecting Africa's wildlife and diverse landscapes depends on the commitment of so many people around the world.

We simply could not do this without you.

Thank you.

Dr. Max Graham







### A new era of hope

Welcome from Justus Karuhanga, Country Director - Uganda

I am honored to welcome you to Space for Giants' 2022 Impact Report. The past 12 months have seen fantastic strides in protecting some of Africa's remaining natural landscapes, not least in Uganda, my home.

Space for Giants and the Uganda Wildlife Authority continue to work tirelessly to combat human-elephant conflict, with over 62 miles of electric fences built around Queen Elizabeth National Park and Murchison Falls National Park to protect both wildlife and farmers' livelihoods.

The impact of these fences has been transformational. Before fencing came to Queen Elizabeth National Park, 95% of farmers living along the boundary experienced crop raiding by elephants regularly. Today crop raiding has reduced by over 87%. The presence of electric fences has not only enhanced security but also enhanced the peace of mind of the local communities. In a recent survey, 77% of communities surrounding the fence reported having very positive attitudes towards elephant conservation, which can be attributed largely to the construction of the electric fences. With crop invasion by elephants no longer a concern, people can focus on farming, raising their families, and improving their well-being.

However, living alongside elephants is one of many challenges in Uganda. So to better understand conflict hotspots, Space for Giants has equipped the Uganda Wildlife Authority with over 160 smartphones, 15 laptops, and conservation technology software to collect, analyze, and map these areas. Understanding the challenges is the first step in finding lasting solutions to deal with them.

Space for Giants is also successfully improving wildlife crime prosecutions by training Ugandan investigators,

prosecutors, and judicial officers. In the past year, over 140 people from across the country received training using the second edition of the Uganda Wildlife Crime Rapid Reference Guide.

In April, Space for Giants co-hosted the National Prosecutor's Symposium with the Office of the Director of Public Prosecutions, which over 350 prosecutors attended. It also supported the Uganda Wildlife Authority in improving its crime scene evidence management processes by developing new operating procedures. Consequently, the past year saw the highest conviction rate of wildlife crime at 99%.

The Uganda Wildlife Authority and Space for Giants signed a historic co-management agreement for the Pian Upe, the country's largest game reserve. This show of commitment is not only about securing a stunning ecosystem in perpetuity; it is about enhancing its value for local communities.

The investment to restore and protect landscapes changes the welfare of communities. It ushers in a sense of renewed hope, encouraging people to feel a personal empowerment to protect their natural world, which is fundamental for the future of conservation.

I have worked in tourism for many years and know how critical it is to create opportunities for the global community to come and experience African nature firsthand through conservation-enabling tourism. Space for Giants' Conservation Investment Committee continues to assist the Ugandan government in facilitating private eco-tourism partnerships to ensure this happens.

Four leading ecotourism operators are now in the advanced stages of securing new concessions in Uganda's national parks. In comparison, a further three concession agreements were recently signed by two other operators, with construction shortly to commence.

When someone visits Uganda, I hope their experiences in and with nature, become treasured memories that propel them to take positive environmental actions forever. That collective ability to solve the planet's most pressing environmental issues is reason to give us all hope.

**Justus Karahanga** 

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## Where We Work



08

# Key — Highlights

Taking stock of the year's achievements

Space for Giants facilitated the transition of the 44,000 acre Suyian Ranch acres of private property converted to a permanently protected wildlife reserve, Suyian Conservancy Trust.

Space for Giants hosted the inaugural National Prosecution
Symposium in Kampala,
Uganda, where over 350
prosecutors were trained in the legislative changes arising from 2019's new wildlife law.

In South Sudan
we held a consultative
forum to create the country's
first prosecution guidelines
for wild crime to enable
associated cases to be
convicted.

In Mozambique our agreement with the National Administration of Conservation Areas was renewed to provide technical assistance and further develop sustainable wildlife economy solutions.



Work was completed on Rwanda's inaugural wildlife crime survey, acting as a launchpad for creating sustainable solutions to conservation issues. Space for Giants is also supporting the development of the first national conservation department.

We signed the pioneering co-management agreement with the Ugandans Wildlife Authority and nine district governments for Pian Upe Wildlife Reserve, the country's largest wildlife reserve.

In Zimbabwe, over 30 prosecutors and investigators were trained on crimemanagement procedures.

We successfully re-collared five elephants in Angola, providing invaluable data to understand whether our interventions impact the ecosystem's overall health.

At COP27 in Sharm el Sheikh, Egypt, Space for Giants hosted special events, including a talk by the former president of Kenya, Hon. Uhuru Kenyatta, demanding a new green economy to transform Africa.

The annual Giants Club Dinner was held at London's Syon House, where some of the world's top business leaders and philanthropists discussed creative and practical solutions to environmental problems.

# The Year in Numbers

9

countries where Space for Giants operates

64

core Space for Giants staff, spanning the African continent

20

pre-feasibility studies in the countries where our operations are active have been conducted

95

mobile fences built to deter crop-raiding elephants in Gabon

44,000

acres of private property converted to a permanently protected wildlife reserve, Suyian Conservancy

350

prosecutors, trained at Uganda's National Prosecution Symposium

57%

of Ugandan farmers said that land values increased as a result of fences

2

pre-feasibility studies for potential carbon projects carried out in Mozambique's Marromeu National Reserve and the Environmental Protection Area of the Primeiras and Segundas Islands



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## In Focus: Securing Suyian

Suyian Conservancy is a spectacular unfenced habitat in the heart of north Kenya's Laikipia Plateau. It is a critical wildlife movement corridor for thousands of animals, consisting of 44,000 acres of well-managed grassland, savannah, striking rock kopjes and acacia woodland, along with more than ten miles of Ewaso Narok River frontage.

In 2022, through the generosity of Suyian's former owners, the Powys family, and a transformational

gift by American philanthropist Louis Bacon, Space for Giants was able to support the transition of ownership of Suyian Ranch to the Suyian Conservancy Trust. The Trust is a Kenyan not-for-profit organization whose purpose is to manage and protect the Suyian Conservancy for the benefit of Kenyans and the world.

Suyian Conservancy is part of the wider Laikipia-Ewaso ecosystem, which holds the highest diversity of large mammal species in East Africa, outside of the Masai Mara. It ensures wilderness connectivity within a vast 9,856,000 acre landscape, allowing elephants and other wildlife to move freely with the shifting rains.

Holistically managed for decades by the Powys family as a working cattle ranch with conservation at its core, today Suyian is home to over 100 mammal species, including Grevy's zebra, reticulated giraffe, gerenuk, lion, cheetah, and African wild dog. It also supports a significant elephant population, over 325 bird species and approximately 700 plant species.

Space for Giants now acts as the Suyian Conservancy Trust protector, with the mission of achieving best-inclass adaptive management underpinned by applied conservation research and monitoring. This will result in the optimum levels of diversity and abundance of wildlife, carbon sequestration, free-range livestock husbandry, and value creation for local communities and, indeed, Africa.

We are scaling our impact in the neighborhood by empowering local citizens, expanding employment opportunities, and supporting health and educational services. Suyian also acts as a hub for collaboration and cooperation among conservancies in Laikipia, while achieving continental and global impact by promoting Space for Giants' pioneering conservation initiatives.

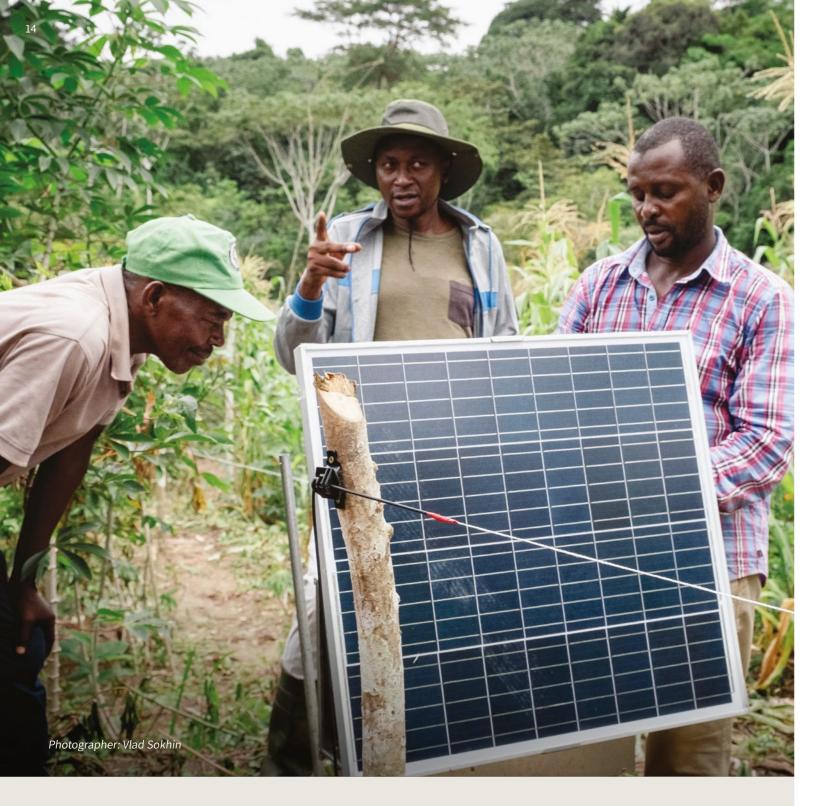
Following our achievements in securing Suyian in 2022, we took a major step forward in achieving its conservation objectives and long-term financial viability

through the establishment of an exclusive partnership with luxury conservation company &Beyond to develop and operate high-end tourism facilities on the Conservancy. Not only will &Beyond be Suyian's exclusive tourism partner, but they will also be a major partner in future work.

Suyian is an ideal destination not only for exclusive safari experiences but also for less common activities such as walking, camel safaris, and horseback riding. Guests staying at the planned &Beyond Suyian Lodge, which is expected to open in 2025, will also have the chance to take part in botany walks and tours of the area's rich cultural history, including evidence of cave paintings and artifacts from as far back as the Stone Age.

For more information, visit Suyian.org and AndBeyond.com





# Transforming lives in Gabon

How a pioneering electric fence design is reducing human-elephant conflict and making tangible impacts every day. With nearly 90 percent of the country covered in rainforests, Gabon is one of the world's most important habitats in the fight against climate change.

The forests are also home to an estimated 95,000 critically endangered forest elephants, making this Central West African country the last stronghold for the survival of this species.

However, living alongside elephants is not easy for the thousands of subsistence farmers scattered across the country. They apply shifting agricultural practices to carve out an existence on small plots of cleared forest, on average less than two and a half acres.

When forest elephants raid farmers' crops, the impact is not just heartbreaking but potentially livelihoodending. The risk of such severe economic implications means that, at times, there are retaliatory actions against elephants. Human-elephant conflict is complex and emotive, and finding lasting solutions is tough.

In 2016, Gabon launched an ambitious electric fencebuilding program with technical support provided by Space for Giants to address this national problem.

With over a decade of experience building such fences in other African countries, Space for Giants was well-placed to develop a solution that would fit the Gabonese context.

After years of trial and error, in March 2022, Space for Giants pioneered a mobile electric fencing design, a tailored solution for Gabon. Simple in design, affordable to scale, and completely moveable in nature, Space for Giants and its partners have so far installed more than 90 mobile electric fences across Gabon.

The design has proven to be over 90 percent effective thus far in repelling elephants' attempted crop-raids and in turn, helping over 2,603 people to coexist with forest elephants.

By the end of 2023, more than 500 fences are planned to be deployed, and Space for Giants has deployed three mobile fence deployment teams that are solely responsible for rolling out more fences. From here on, the aim is to scale up to an additional 500 - 1,000 fences every year.

The hugely positive impact of this work and benefits to the people, wildlife, and economy are hard to quantify. One Gabonese farmer who received a fence told us, "We're happy with our fence because it's held up since we got it. The elephant has attempted to come four times now. And each time it's been deterred. That's why the whole village is happy. It has given us the courage to continue farming."

Alongside the mobile fences, in 2022, Space for Giants helped Gabon's Ministry of Water and Forests launch an App called CHF-Gabon that is used to register human-elephant conflict complaints. This App creates a centralized database for the ministry that is used to help determine compensation for victim farmers. It is also used to identify candidates for mobile fence solutions.

The government of the Gabonese Republic and Space for Giants are committed to protecting subsistence farmers while ensuring the survival of forest elephants and the landscapes on which they depend.



### Wildlife Crime Review

Improving the wildlife crime legal capacity and tackling corruption are key tenets of Space for Giants' work. Katto Wambua, our Wildlife Justice and Rule of Law Director, reviews progress in Kenya, Uganda, South Sudan, Zambia and Zimbabwe.

#### **Law and Policy Development**

Space for Giants has been actively engaged in law and policy development in various African countries. In South Sudan, we collaborated with national prosecutors, officers from the Law Reform Commission, investigators, and wildlife officers to review the National Prosecution Policy and Mutual Legal Assistance Law, resulting in a draft RRG. A legal review of wildlife offenses legislation was also conducted in November 2022 and is currently under consideration by the Ministry of Justice. In Rwanda, a review of wildlife offenses was completed in April 2022, leading to recommendations, including enacting a protected area management law. Zimbabwe's Parks and Wildlife Act and Environmental Management Act were also reviewed with Space for Giants' participation. Moreover, a regional guide to East Africa Association of Prosecutors Mutual Legal Assistance is in development, awaiting validation, which will serve as a vital resource for investigators, prosecutors, and judicial officers.



#### **Court Monitoring**

**KENYA** 

191%

increase in conviction rates.

28+

elephant, rhino, and sandalwood cases were brought to trial in 15 courts across North Central Kenya through in-person court monitoring.

Space for Giants' new and improved data collection developments detect errors in court files. We use these as training content to enhance the quality and efficiency of data collection.

UGANDA

1,071 wildlife cases documented.

199%

increase in conviction rate at the Specialized Wildlife Court.

**SOUTH SUDAN** 

Inaugural surveys were conducted in Central, Eastern Equatoria, and Western Equatoria.

43

wildlife crimes in which data was collected to create a baseline survey report.

This was done to help understand how wildlife and environmental crime cases are currently being handled.

#### **Capacity Building**

**KENYA** 

5

Interagency Rapid Response Guide (RRG) training workshops were conducted. 301

professionals completed our Rapid Response training.

Empowering prosecutors, investigators, judicial officers, rangers, and stakeholders from Kenya's environmental and judicial state agencies is vital to ending wildlife crimes.

**UGANDA** 

4

RRG training workshops for Uganda's state environmental, wildlife, and judicial agencies.



85 trainees.

350

prosecutors attended The National Prosecution Symposium in April 2022.

Training included legislative and practical changes from 2019's new wildlife law, use of the RRG, how to make appropriate decisions to charge, and asset recovery processes.

#### RWANDA -

**Rwanda's first Rapid Response Guide was produced** thanks to partnerships with the Rwanda Development Board (RDB), the National Public Prosecution Authority,

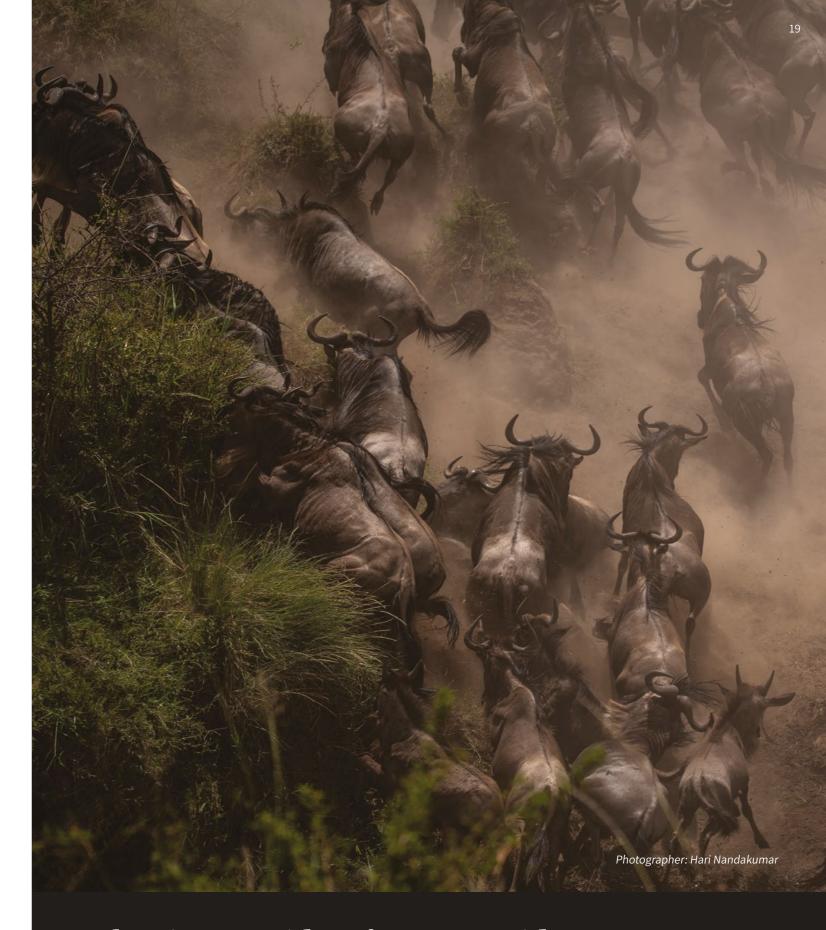
Board (RDB), the National Public Prosecution Authority, the Financial Intelligence Centre, and the Rwanda Environment Management Authority.

— ZAMBIA —

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rangers, police officers, and other first responders to wildlife crimes in the Kafue National Park were trained in partnership with Game Rangers International.

The focus on 'on the scene' crime management and evidence collection helps strengthen court cases and improve conviction rates.



### What is a Rapid Reference Guide?

The Rapid Reference Guide (RRG) contains brief descriptions of all laws and regulations. It is designed to help investigators, case managers and prosecutors build an evidential case against those accused of wildlife crimes. The RRG is also an important reference for the broader law enforcement community conservation stakeholders working together to combat nature crimes and bring criminals to justice.



# Your support makes all the difference

Together we can secure a brighter future for wildlife and people

We welcome the opportunity to discuss how you can support throughout the year.

info@spaceforgiantsusa.org www.spaceforgiants.org

- Make a donation online via credit card, check, or cryptocurrency. You can direct your gift to the program area you are most interested in or provide unrestricted support for us to use where most needed.
- **Become a member of the Herd through a regular gift.** The predictability of funding allows us to plan with more intention and achieve greater efficiencies.
- nonate via bank transfer, stock or Individual Retirement Account (IRA). Contact info@spaceforgiantsusa.org.
- \*\* Name Space for Giants in your will or estate plan and leave a perpetual legacy across Africa's biodiverse landscapes.
- **Become a Giants Club member** with a leadership gift. The Giants Club forges real political, financial, and technical muscle to drive our mission forward. Members collaborate on campaigns that demonstrate their commitment to the United Nations' sustainable development goals (SDG) goals and convenes with an annual dinner and a summit to bring together heads of state, corporate leaders, and conservation philanthropists.
- **Become a corporate partner.** Contribute a portion of retail sales or work with us to develop a multi-year partnership to engage your employees, customers, and stakeholders.
- **Create or join a donor circle** to support one of our projects or thematic areas. Donor circle members pool their support for a project and then follow the journey of that program through regular updates, briefing calls, and even visits.

### Our Funders

We are deeply grateful to everyone who shares our passion for protecting African landscapes and all the life that depends on them. The support of our donors allows us to continually innovate, adapt to changing realities, and be bold in pursuing our goals.

We recognize the following strategic funders who provided significant backing for our work in 2022. Thank you.

#### Assala

**Aspen Business Center Foundation** 

**Benenson Charitable Foundation** 

**Terence Bobb** 

Pramoda SA - Hallfield Holdings

**Chantecaille Family Foundation** 

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**Gagan Gupta** 

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**Todd and Emma Goergen** 

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UK DEFRA Illegal Wildlife Trade Fund

**UN Development Program** 

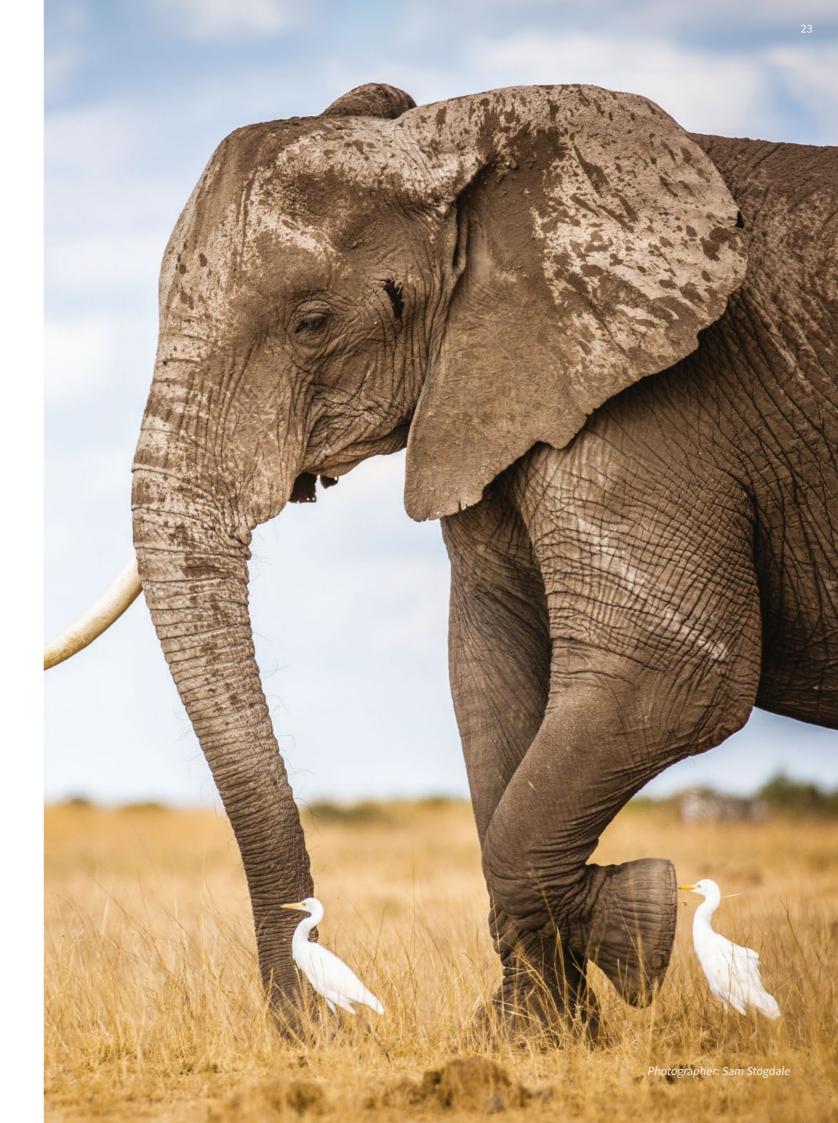
UN Environment Program's African Elephant Fund

**USAID VukaNow** 

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Bureau of International Narcotics and Law
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