

# Greater Virunga Transboundary Collaboration: Treaties for Mountain Gorillas

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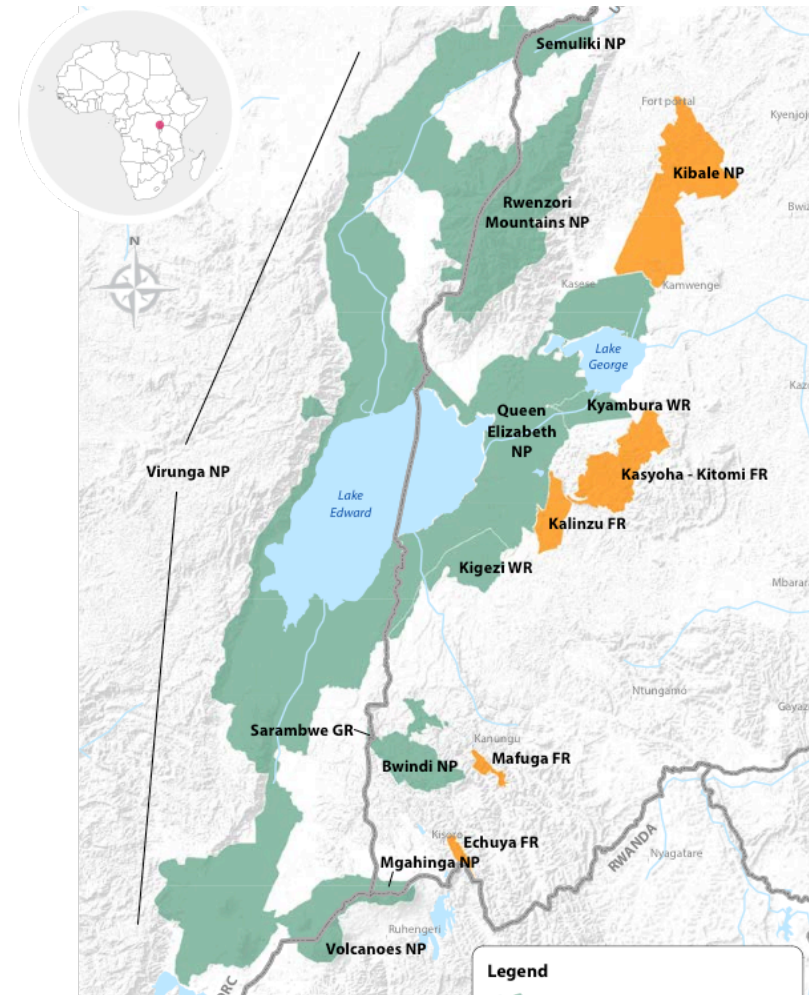
1 September 2020 – SADC TFCA Webinar



Photo: UWA



# The Greater Virunga Landscape

One Landscape  
One Future





*Nomos = normative universe*

*Nomosphering = reciprocal  
constitution of cultural-material  
environs and 'the legal' (laws and  
legal processes)*

*Nomoscaping = active process of  
nomosphering in a land/sea-scape*

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- 1959: Mountain gorilla research begins
- 1979: Mountain Gorilla Project
- 1989: 1st Afromontane Forest Conference
- 1991: Int'l Gorilla Conservation Programme established
- 2004: Trilateral MoU on "The Collaborative Conservation of the Central Albertine Rift Transfrontier Protected Area Network"
- 2005: Tripartite Ministerial Declaration of Goma on the Transboundary Natural Resources Management of the Transfrontier Protected Area Network of the Greater Virunga Landscape
- 2006: MoU on Revenue Sharing → First 10-Year Transboundary Strategic Plan
- 2008: Transboundary Core Secretariat established to begin implementation of 10-Year Plan; Mountain Gorilla Massacre → Ministerial Declaration of Rubavu
- 2009: Interministerial Board Meeting on the institutionalization of the GVTC
- 2013: Headquarters Agreement between the Government of the Republic of Rwanda and the Greater Virunga Transboundary Collaboration "GVTC"
- 2014: Memorandum of between International Conference on the Great Lakes Region (ICGLR) and the Economic Community of Great Lakes Countries (CEPGL) and Great Virunga Transboundary Collaboration (GVTC)
- 2015: Signing of Greater Virunga Transboundary Collaboration Treaty on Wildlife Conservation and Tourism Development

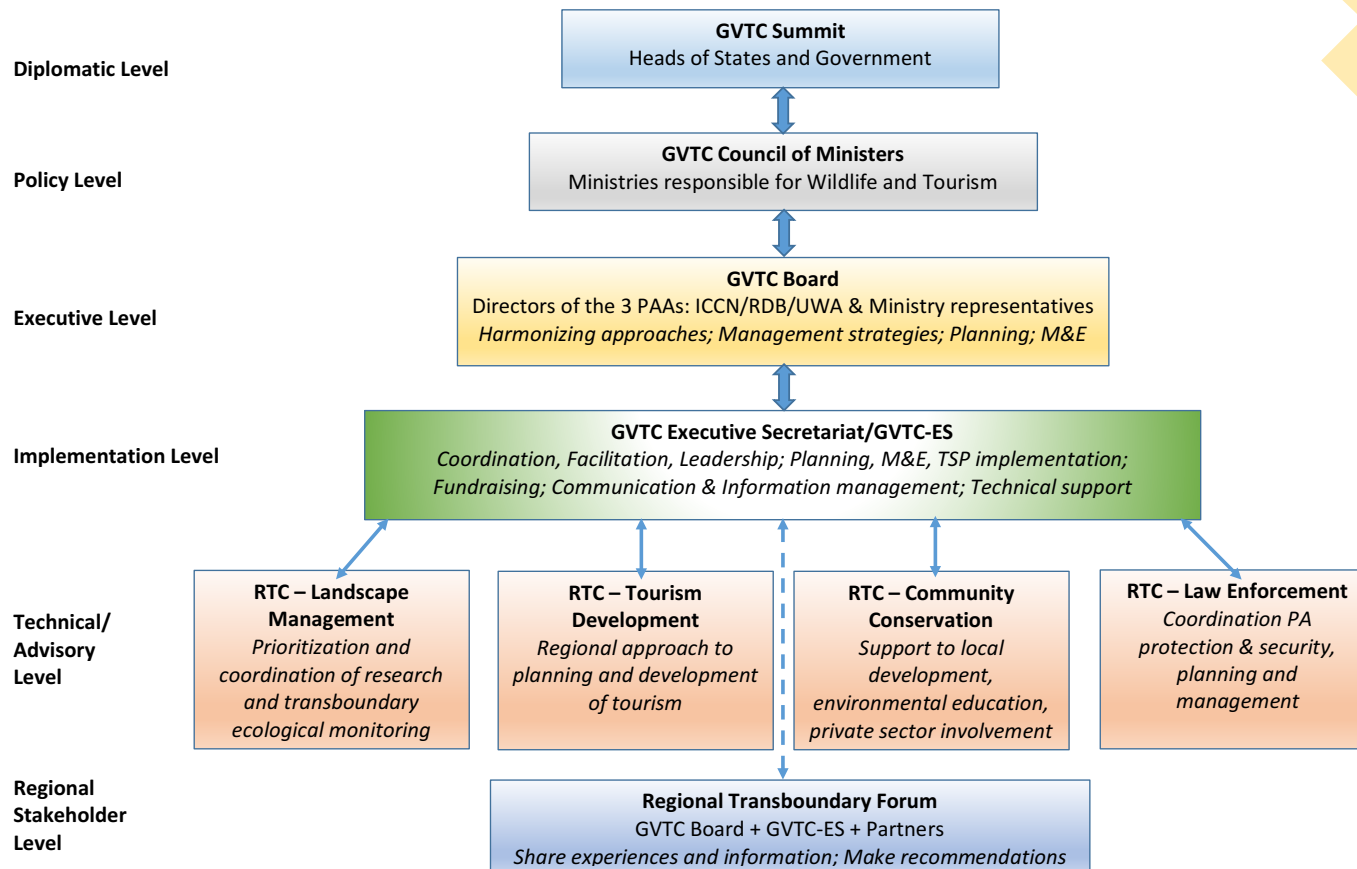




# GVTC Treaty

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- Obj.1: To promote and coordinate conservation of biodiversity and other socio-cultural values within the Greater Virunga wildlife protected area network;
- Obj. 2: To develop strategies for Transboundary management of biodiversity
- Obj.3: To promote and ensure coordinated planning, monitoring and evaluation of implementation of transboundary conservation and development projects;
- Obj.4: To promote and coordinate tourism development in GVL
- Obj. 5: To secure sustainable funding for Conservation of GVL
- Obj.6: To enhance and harmonise the generation and sharing of knowledge, experience and best practices for evidence based decision making



Adapted from GVTC Transboundary Strategic Plan 2013-2018, based on 2015 GVTC Treaty.

# Living Law



- Transboundary institutions
- Transboundary projects and activities
- Traditional/local mechanisms






# Pros/Cons

- TB Institutional Resilience
  - Bottom-up approach to institutional buy-in
  - Diverse partnerships
- Alternative Approaches
  - Conventional PA management
  - Traditional security response
  - Development strategies
  - Education/awareness







# Thank You!

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