

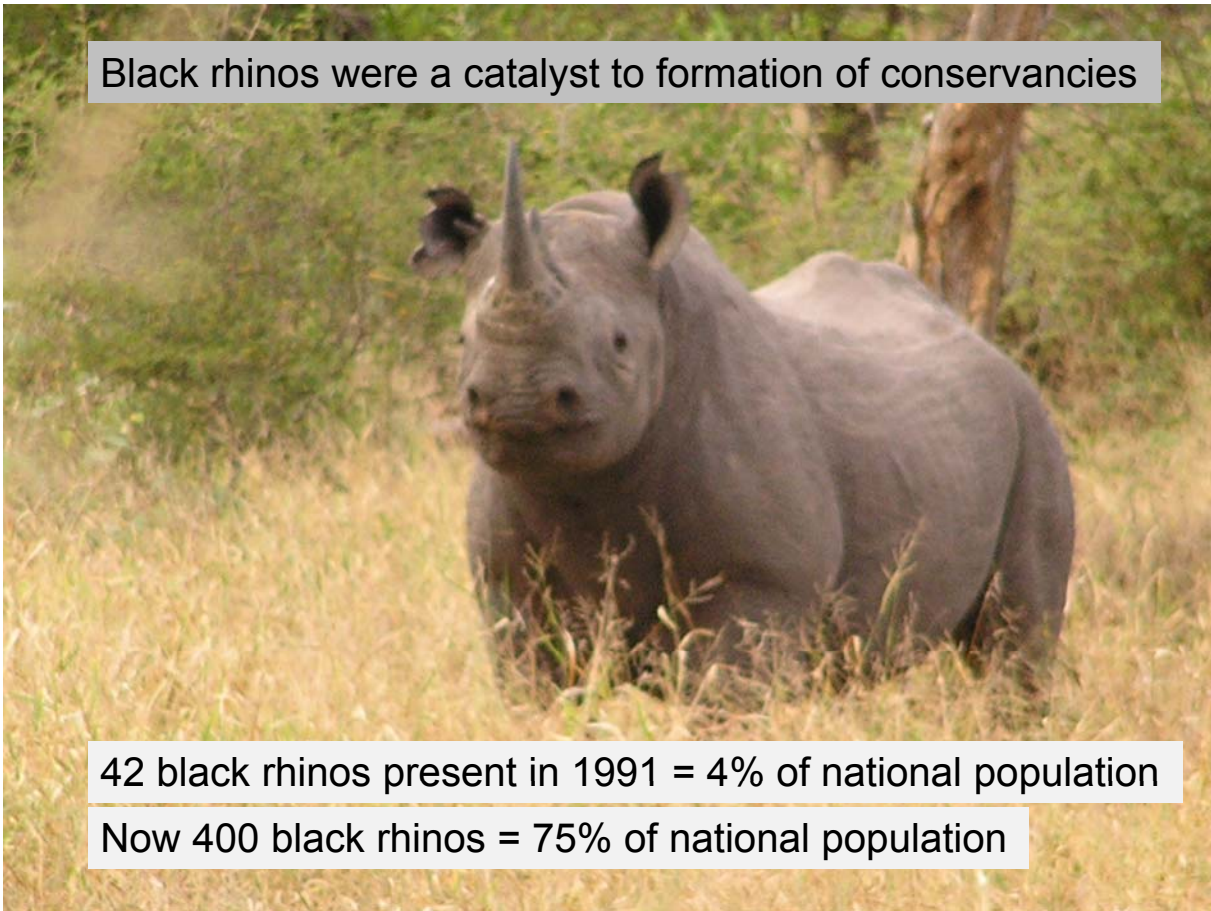
The Zimbabwe Lowveld: Challenges and Opportunities



Raoul du Toit
WWF/IRF
Lowveld Rhino Project



Black rhinos were a catalyst to formation of conservancies



42 black rhinos present in 1991 = 4% of national population

Now 400 black rhinos = 75% of national population

Enclaves for buffalo permitted within double-fences

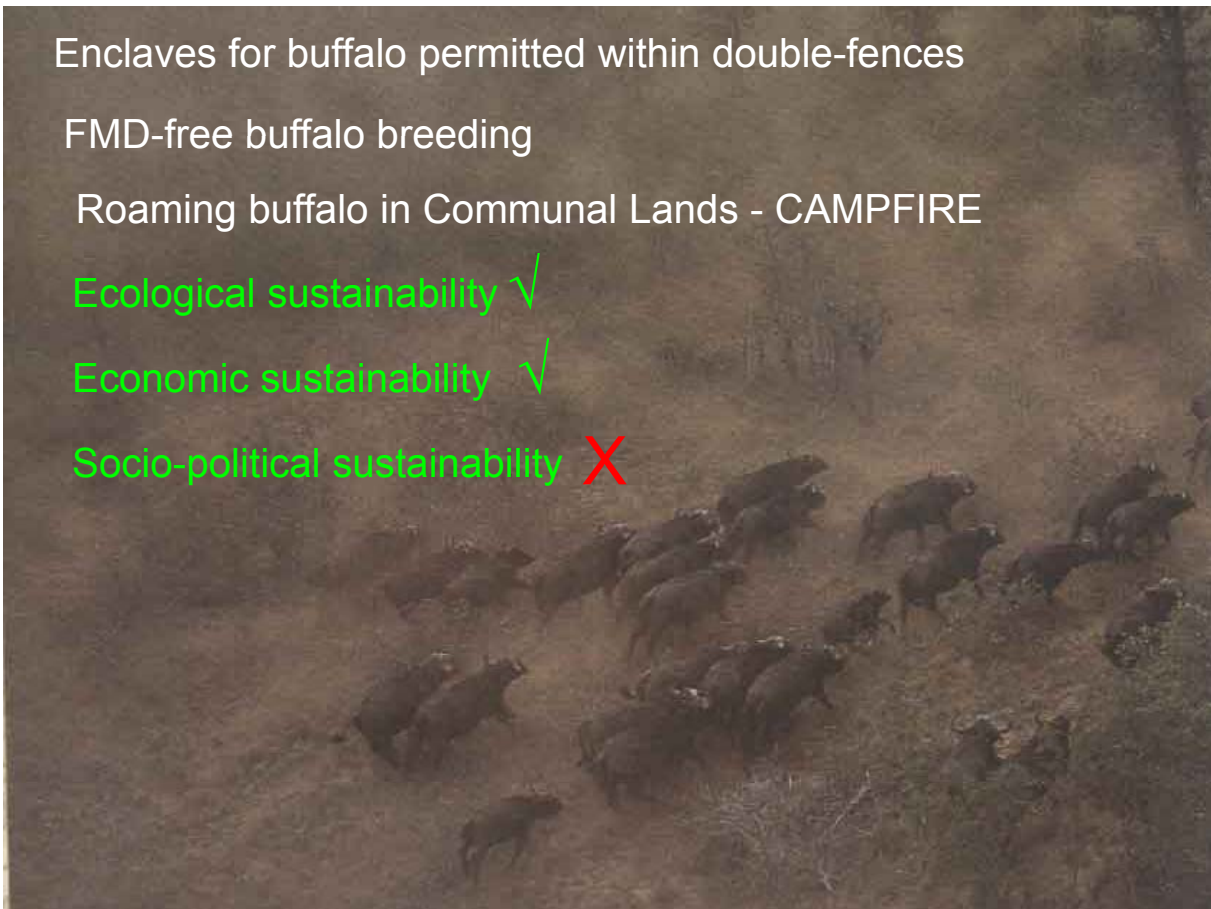
FMD-free buffalo breeding

Roaming buffalo in Communal Lands - CAMPFIRE

Ecological sustainability ✓

Economic sustainability ✓

Socio-political sustainability ✗



CURRENT PROBLEMS:

POACHING

HABITAT LOSS

LOSS OF SPATIAL CONNECTIVITY

WILDLIFE-LIVESTOCK DISEASE



REDUCED INVESTMENT

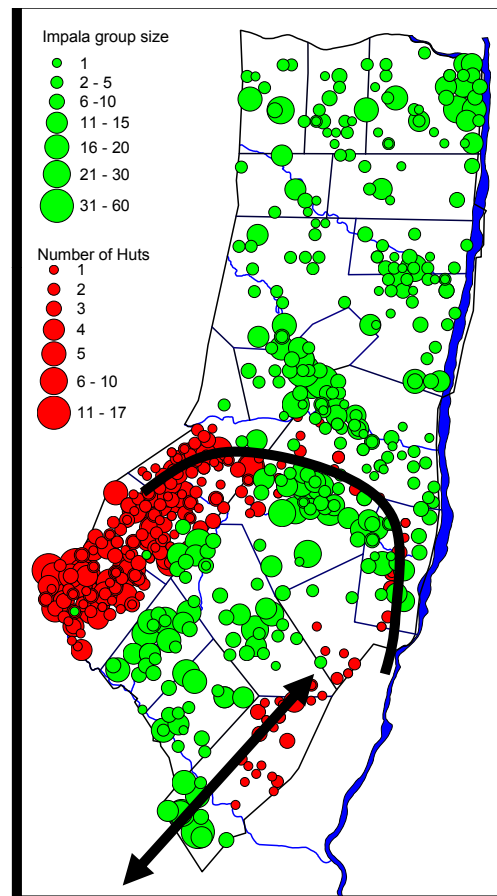
HUMAN-WILDLIFE CONFLICT

Save Valley Conservancy

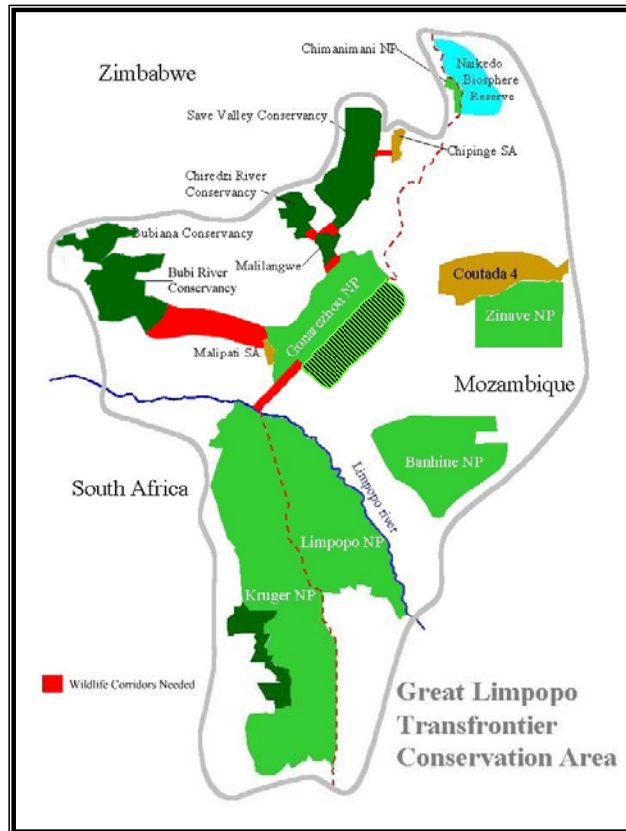
**- effects of human
settlement on wildlife**

Settlement and habitat
destruction are closing
important wildlife
linkages, especially
for the TFCA

Green - Impala groups
Red - Huts



GREAT LIMPOPO TRANSFRONTIER CONSERVATION AREA



INITIAL PROPOSAL FOR A LOWVELD WILDLIFE FORUM

RATIONALE:

Need for coordination amongst stakeholders in Lowveld wildlife industry, for:

- engagement with TFCA

- implementation of mutually supportive land reform plans

- for both these, development of viable PPCPs

- maintaining spatial scale and enhancing economic scale of wildlife-based land-use (FMD zonation, etc.)

- managing wildlife (restocking, destocking, disease control)

- locally based monitoring of key wildlife resources

- lobbying and influencing relevant policies and funding

- enhancing awareness and understanding (esp. communities)



A PRECEDENT: Kenya

Laikipia Wildlife Forum Ltd

brings together all the different interest groups in the district who are involved in wildlife, including ranchers, pastoralists from the group ranches, representatives from the small farming communities, the government, the Kenya Wildlife Service and NGO's.

Registered as non-profit company



KENYA
WILDLIFE
SERVICE



DISCUSSIONS BETWEEN STAKEHOLDERS ON PROPOSED LOWVELD WILDLIFE ASSOCIATION 2006-2007

Main participants: Rural District Councils and
Conservancies, some NGOs, some Government officials

Agreement in principle to form an Association

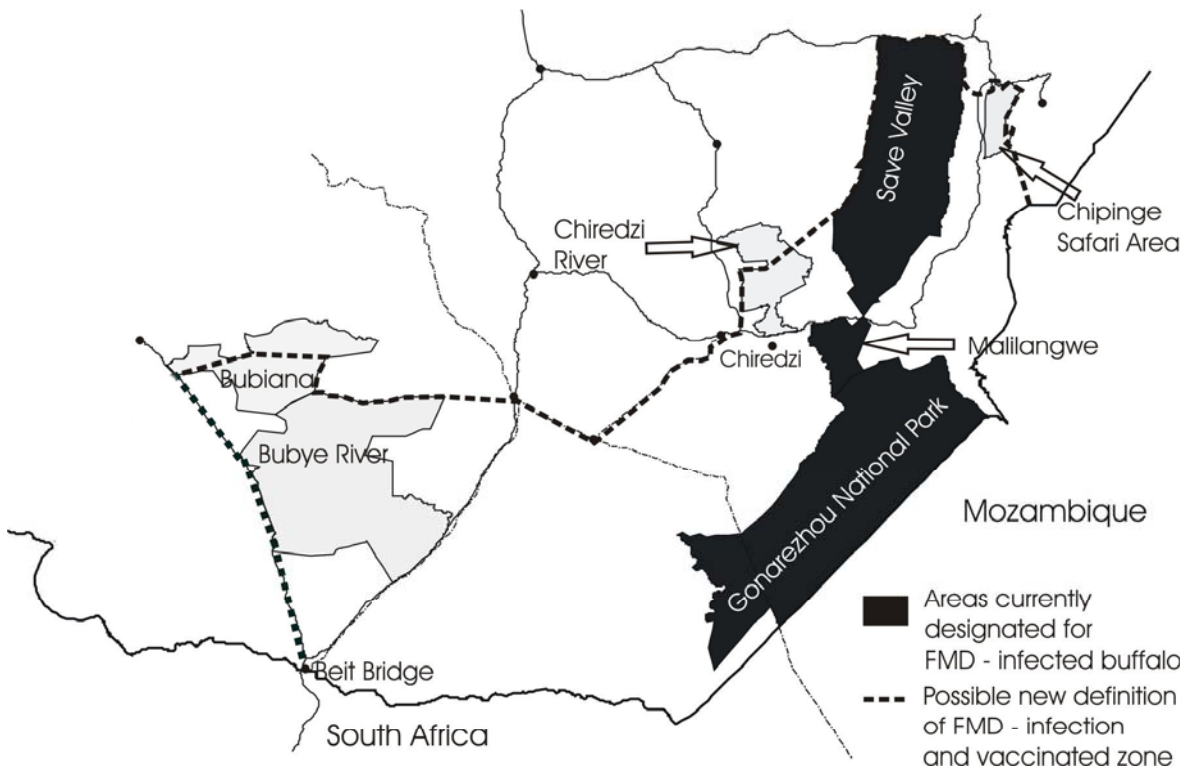
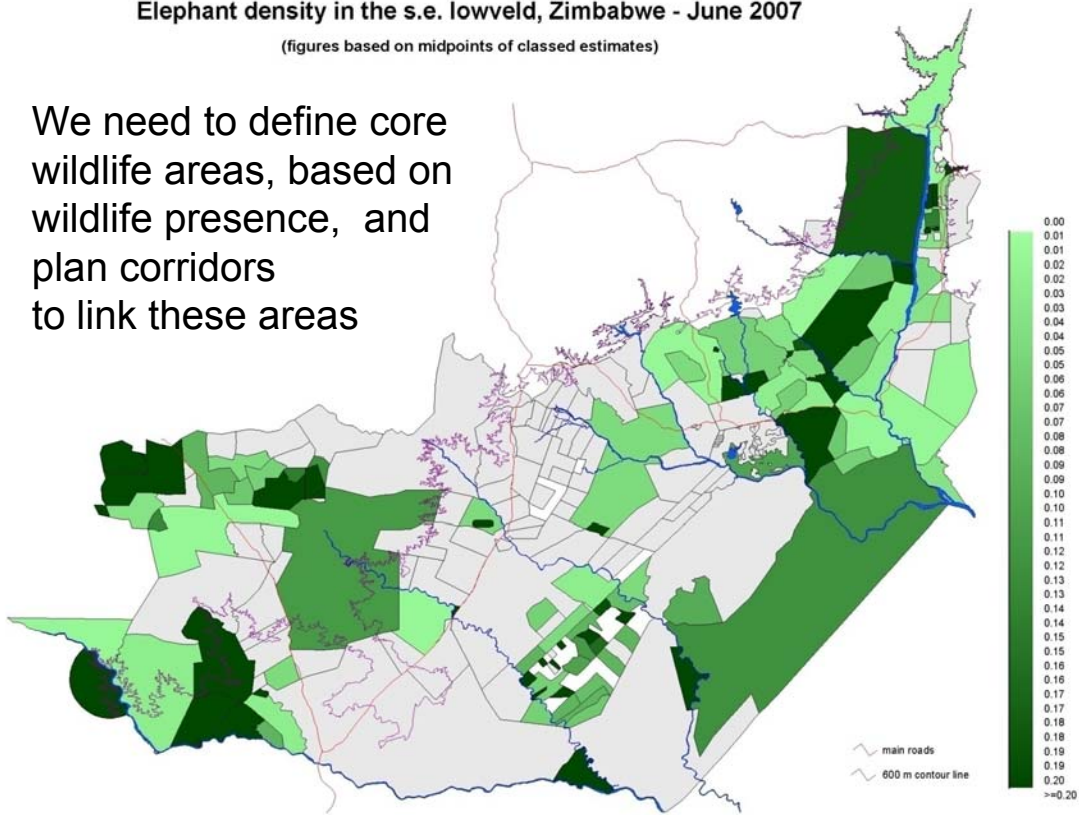
Initial priority issues:

1. Constitution, classes of membership, voting rights
2. Spatial analysis of remaining biodiversity and land-use patterns
3. Foot-and-Mouth Disease issues – zonation
Scenario analysis

Elephant density in the s.e. lowveld, Zimbabwe - June 2007

(figures based on midpoints of classed estimates)

We need to define core wildlife areas, based on wildlife presence, and plan corridors to link these areas



REVIEW OF IMPLICATIONS OF EXPANDED FMD ZONE

STAKEHOLDER GROUP	Positive impacts	Negative impacts	
Communal livestock producer	Easier cattle trade, within larger zone	Mtetengwe CL cattle trade to west restricted	
	Tourism economy boosted	Perception of restricted cattle economy	
	More logical spatial planning will encourage development support/funding including for irrigation	Human-wildlife conflict increased	Greater Bovine TB risk

STAKEHOLDER GROUP	Positive impacts	Negative impacts	
Wildlife producer	Doubling in hunt values	FMD-free buffalo no longer a viable option	
	More hunting days	Human-wildlife conflict increased	
	More organized slaughtering/ marketing in Lowveld, with potential for "commodity trade" export. Greater beef catchment + greater venison catchment in Lowveld	Enhanced tourism marketing	Greater Bovine TB risk
		Assists demarcation of wildlife zones and corridors for wildlife-based land reform	

OVERALL APPROACH FOR WILDLIFE-BASED LAND REFORM

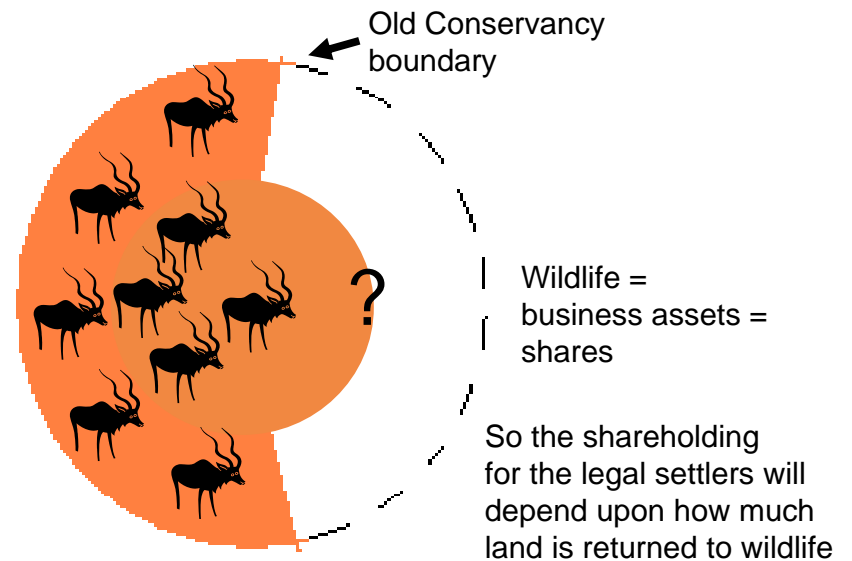


1. Define the cake

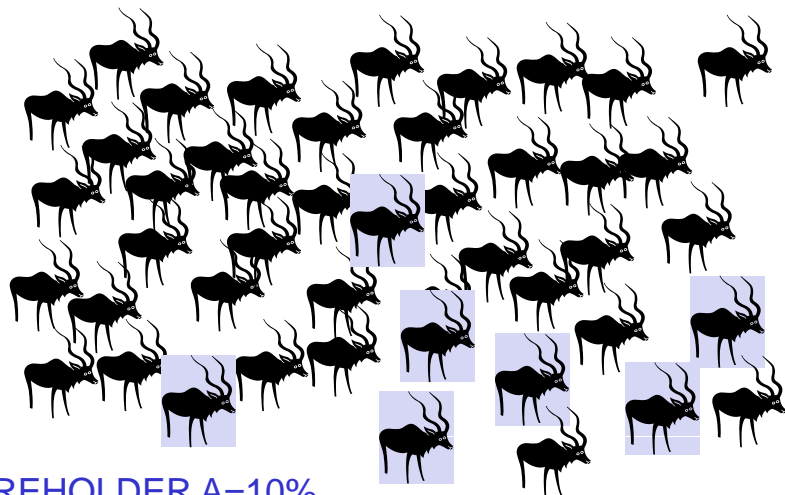
The cake is the wildlife resource base



2. Split the cake in a businesslike way



All wildlife use rights (hunting, live sales, cropping) to be held by a conservancy company which allocates these rights to shareholders proportional to their shareholdings



SHAREHOLDER A=10%

Wildlife use rights (quotas) are issued proportional to shareholdings	10%		20%		10%	
	SHARE HOLDER A		SHARE HOLDER B		TRUST	
		\$		\$		\$
TROPHY HUNT	2	\$\$	4	\$\$\$\$	2	\$\$
LIVE SALES	3	\$	6	\$\$	3	\$
CROPPING	10	\$	20	\$\$	10	\$
MGT. FEES		-\$		-\$		-\$

Each shareholder can either **use** the annual wildlife rights **OR** get paid for those rights

APPROPRIATE INSTITUTIONS ARE CRUCIAL including:

- COMMERCIAL CONSERVANCIES
- COMMUNAL CONSERVANCIES
- COMMUNITY TRUSTS, CO-OPERATIVES
- PRIVATE-COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIPS
- PUBLIC-PRIVATE-COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIPS

We must learn from Namibian experience on how to define participating communities – if there are too many people they will not have a strong enough economic linkage to the wildlife production system and benefits will be too diluted

DIVERSIFIED LIVELIHOOD OPTIONS are crucial since wildlife production alone cannot support rural livelihoods.

RECENT DEVELOPMENTS

Emerging options for wildlife-based land reform with emphasis on PARTNERSHIP arrangements through equitable shareholding allocations

Private-Community Partnerships involving diversified livelihoods:

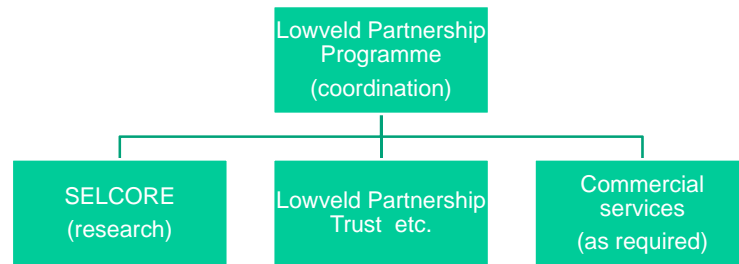
Chiredzi District - Sangwe CL/Save Valley/Malilangwe (EU-funding)

Mwenezi District – Mwenezi Development Association/ Buby River Conservancy

Further EU funding options and other development aid

UPGRADING OF LOWVELD WILDLIFE ASSOCIATION INTO **LOWVELD PARTNERSHIP PROGRAMME**

Interface between commercial wildlife sector,
irrigation sector, and communities



We need:

Better coordination between stakeholders
Holistic land-use planning/zonation
Durable options for land reform
More effective control measures for FMD
Locally developed agenda for
development aid

