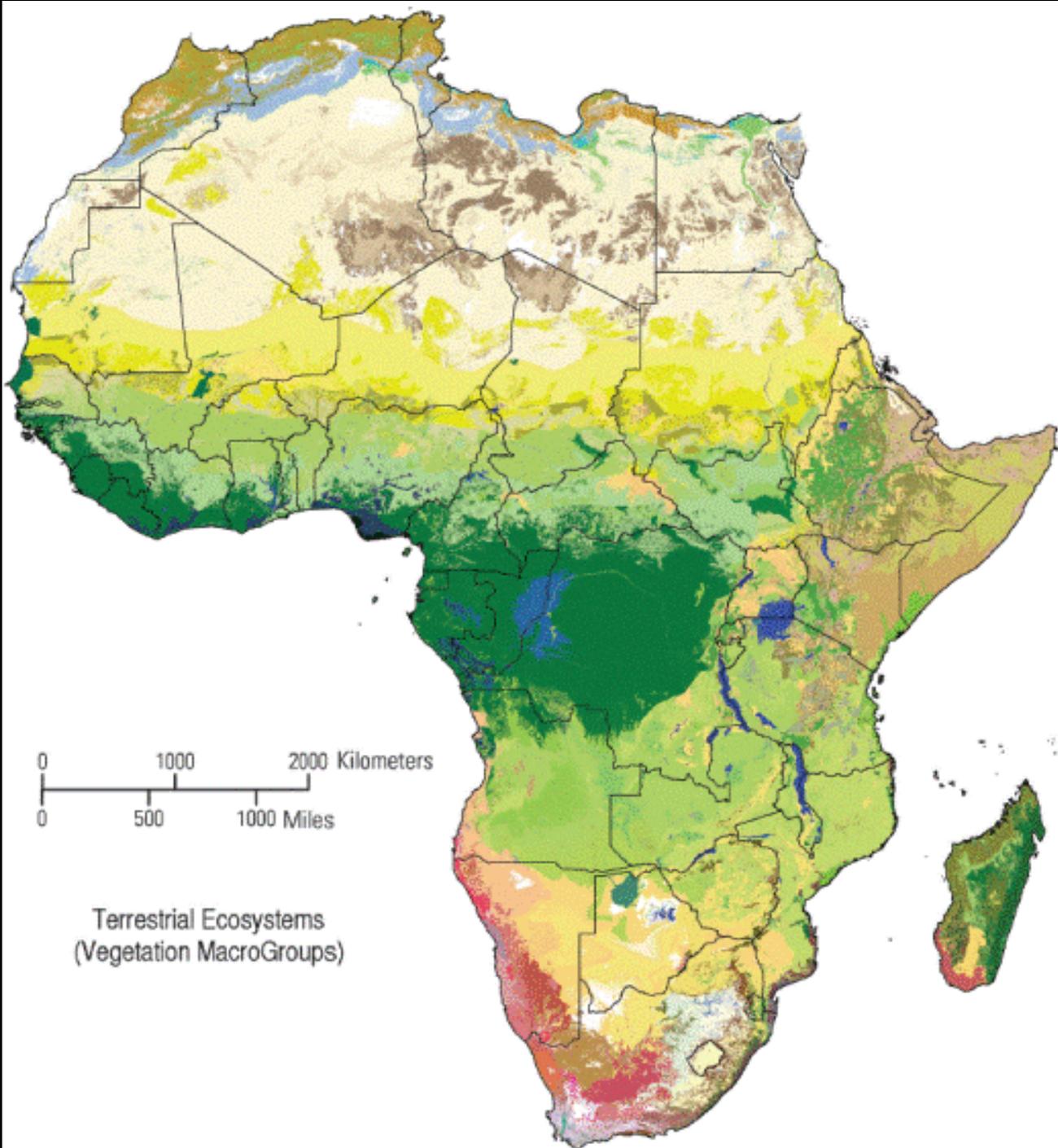


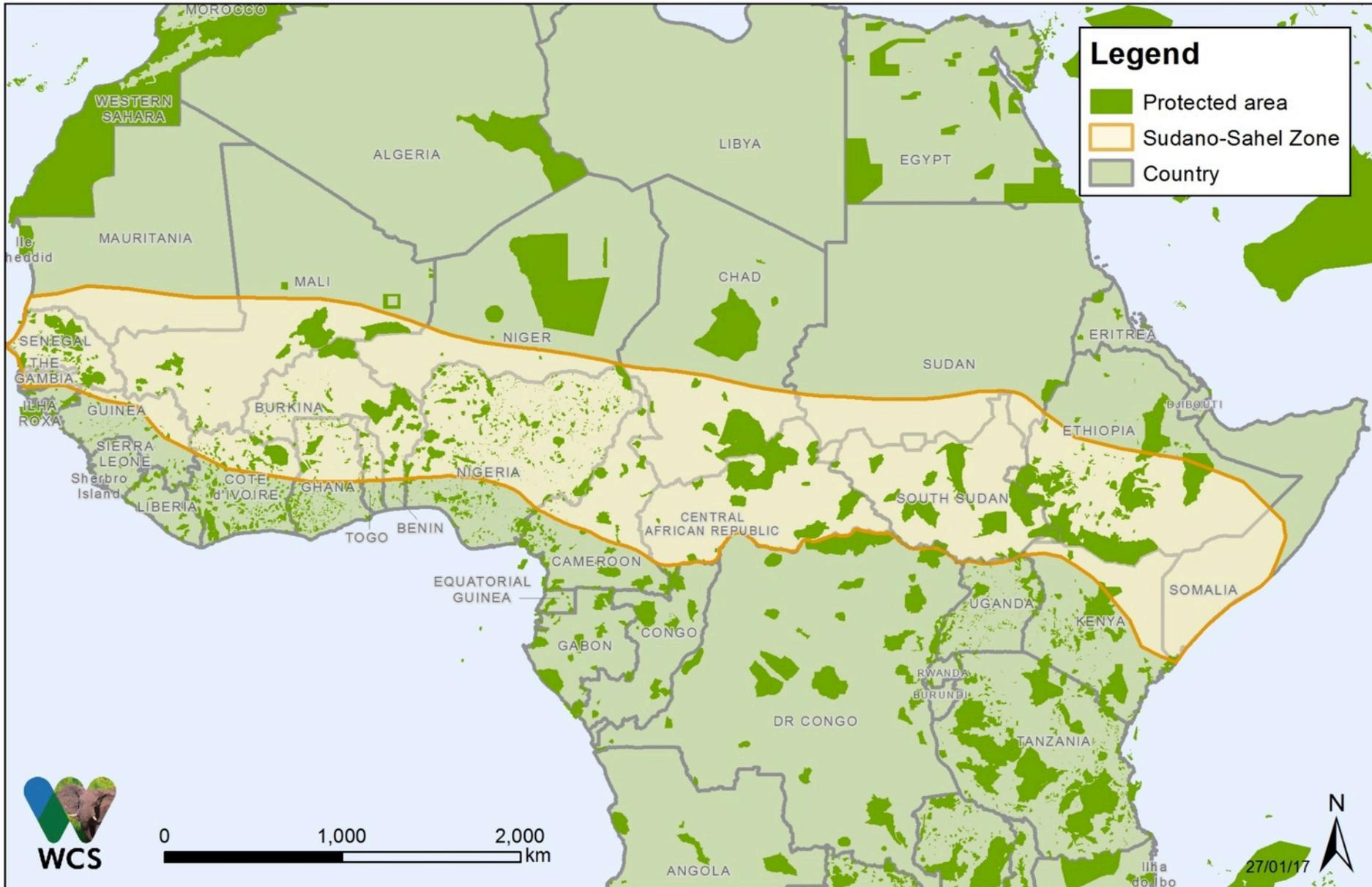
# Working to Secure Wildlife and Communities and Stabilize the Transboundary Region of South Sudan-DRC-CAR-Chad



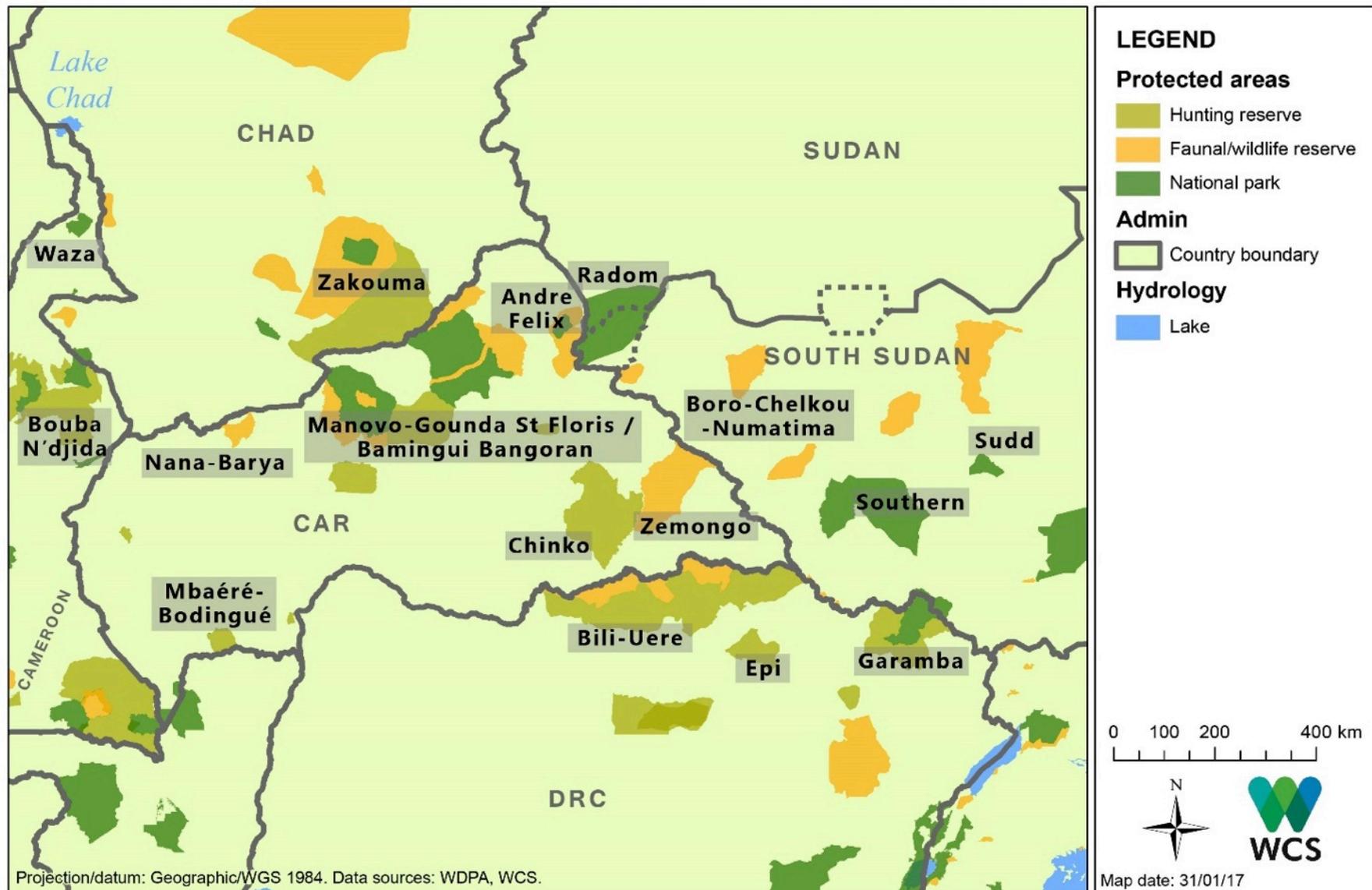
February 2017  
Paul Elkan, WCS



# SUDANO-SAHEL CONSERVATION ZONE



# SUDANO-SAHEL REGION PROTECTED AREA NETWORK



# Biodiversity Conservation

**Habitats:** Sahelian Acacia savanna, West and East Sudanian savannas and woodlands, Northern forest -savanna mosaics, wetlands. The region encompasses some of the last remaining great wilderness areas of Africa.

**Wildlife:** Key wildlife species conservation targets include critical elephant populations, endangered northern Giraffe\* (Peralta, Kordofan, and Nubian subspecies), Giant eland, common eland, roan, bongo, chimpanzee, lion, wild dog, cheetah, the second largest antelope migration in world, shoebill, crowned crane, ostrich, vulture species, etc. Critical remaining elephant and giraffe populations, once abundant across the region, are currently under great threat and in urgent need of effective protection measures\*\*

\*Julian Fennessy, Tobias Bidon, Friederike Reuss, Vikas Kumar, Paul Elkan, Maria A. Nilsson, Melita Vamberger, Uwe Fritz., Axel Janke (2016). **Multi-locus Analyses Reveal Four Giraffe Species Instead of One.** Current Biology. [Volume 26, Issue 18](#), p2543–2549, 26 September 2016

\*\*Chase M.J., Schlossberg S., Griffin C.R., Bouché P.J.C., Djene S.W., Elkan P.W., Ferreira S., Grossman F., Kohi E.M., Landen K., Omondi P., Peltier A., Selier S.A.J. & Sutcliffe R. (2016) **Continent-wide survey reveals massive decline in African savannah elephants.** PeerJ 4, e2354.

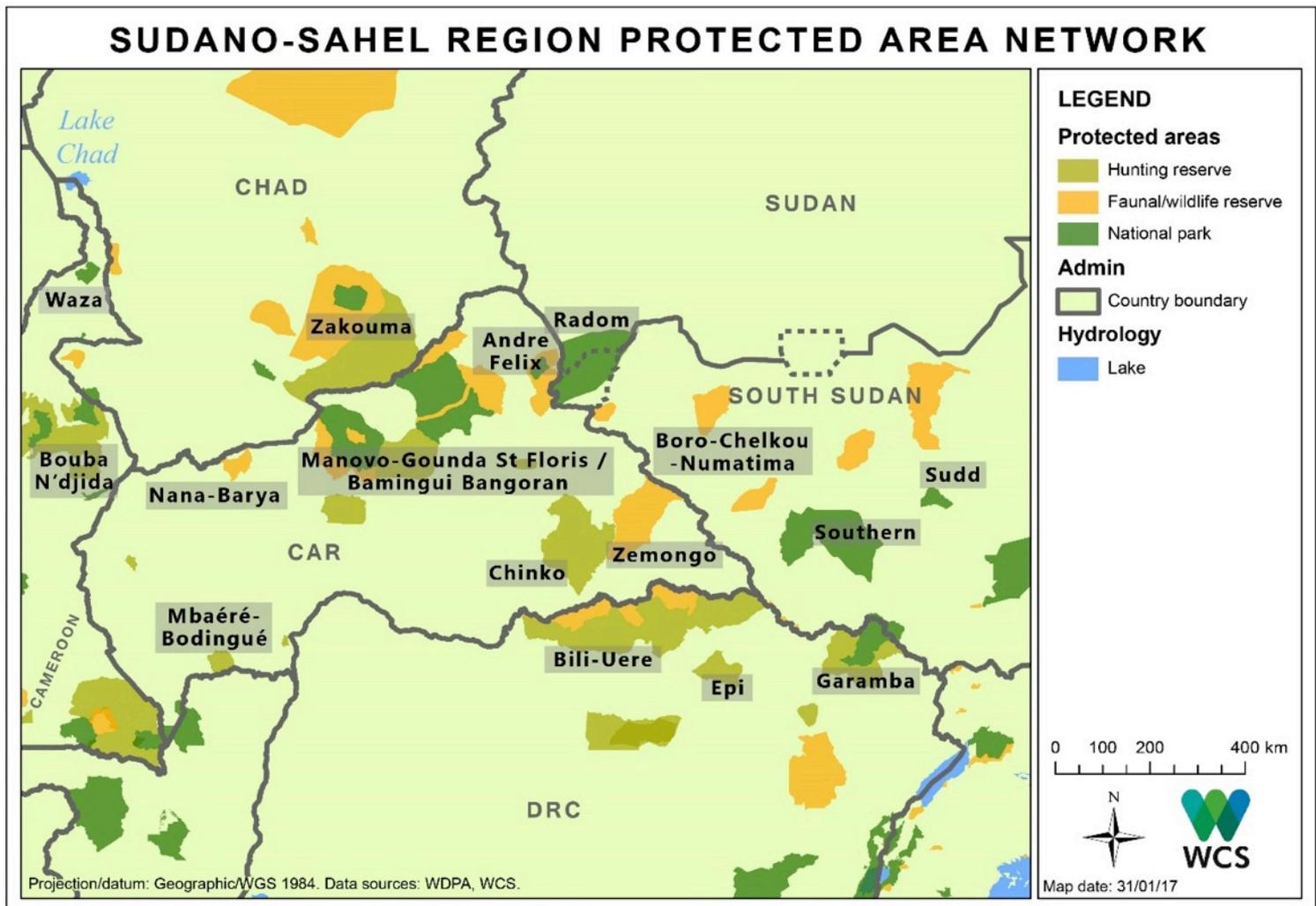




# Livelihoods



# Protected Areas Network



# Threats to Biodiversity and Local Communities

- Ivory poaching and trafficking involving insurgents, LRA, other armed groups, armies, civilians, armed horsemen from northern Sudan and Chad
- Commercial bushmeat hunting
- Insecurity from wars, terrorism, and insurgencies
- Poorly managed oil extraction, illegal gold mining, illegal logging
- Pastoralist conflict with protected areas and other land users
- Exacerbated resource conflicts due to climate change
- Weak law enforcement in multiple sectors
- Corruption
- .....





*A Uganda national arrested and illegal timber confiscated In Southern National Park*

# Armed Conflicts



# Armed Security Factors

LRA, SPLA/SPLA-IO, Anti-Balaka, Ex-Seleka

Local insurgencies and militias (Arrow boys, Peule militias)

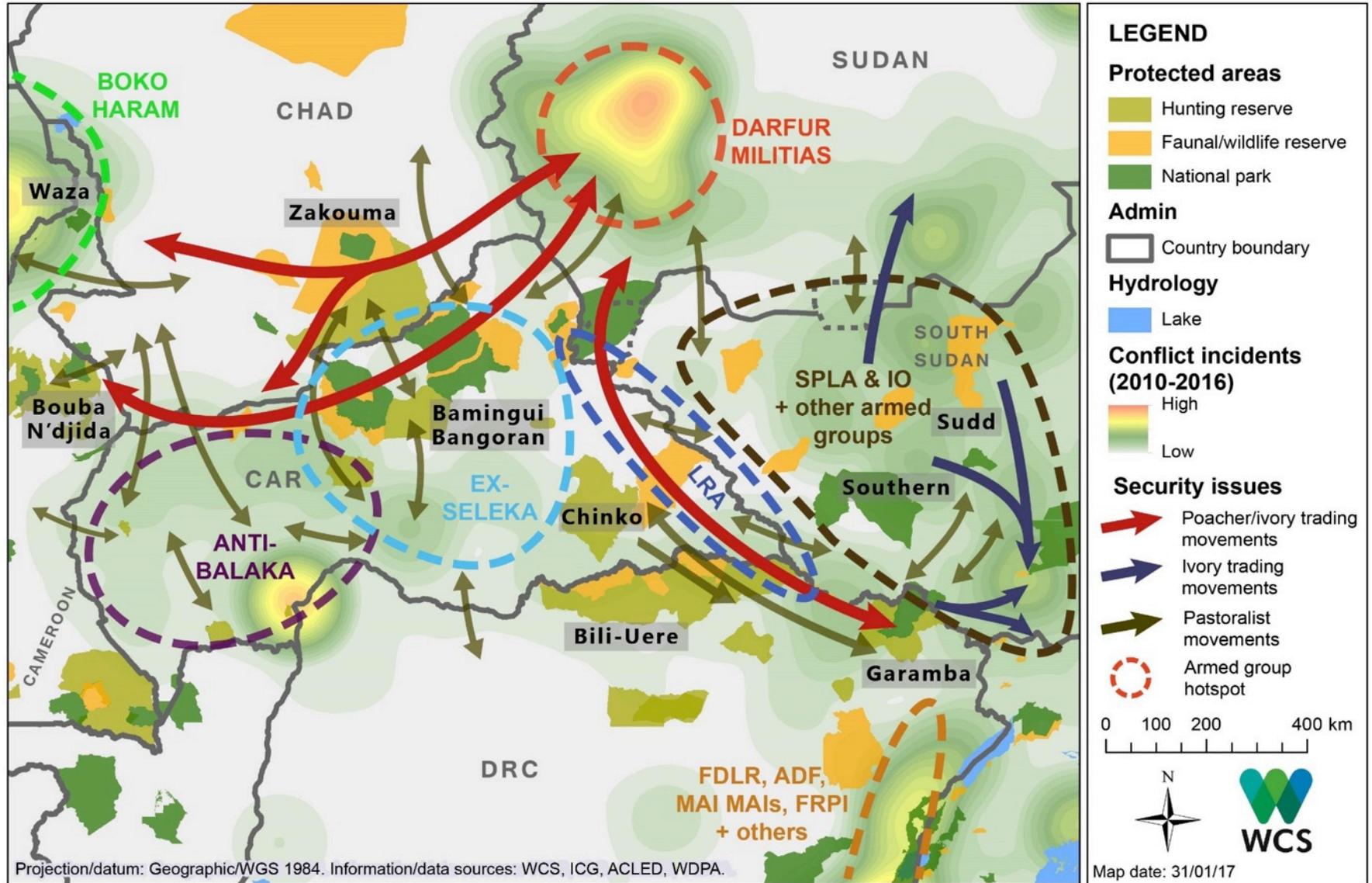
Heavily armed mobile poachers (Sudan Chad)

Bokoharam (Chad/Cam/Nigeria)

Well armed nomadic pastoralists and local pastoralists

Others... in broader Sudano-Sahel region (Al Shabaab, ISIS, Al Qaeda, ...)

# SUDANO-SAHEL REGION CONSERVATION SECURITY DYNAMICS



# SITUATION Analysis

## LAND-USE

- Agricultural expansion
- Pastoralist incursions (local and nomadic)
- Charcoal production
- Mining expansion (gold, diamonds, etc)
- Timber logging (hardwoods)

## POACHING

- Elephants and other large mammals
- Local and foreign armed group involvement
- Inside and across borders

## GOVERNANCE

- Unstable states
- Political conflicts
- Economic crisis
- Corruption

## ARMED CONFLICT

- Ongoing civil war, local insurgencies
- General human insecurity
- IDPs and refugees
- LRA /Arrow Boys
- Tribal violence
- Cattle raiding
- Food insecurity
- Conflict over land and water
- Armed groups involved in trafficking and atrocities

## TRAFFICKING

- Ivory, pangolin, bushmeat, etc
- Chimpanzee
- Timber
- Charcoal
- Gold
- Diamonds
- Transboundary (DRC-SSD, CAR-SSD, SSD-UGA)
- Armed group involvement

# Conservation, Humanitarian, Security Actors in Zone

EU (DEVCO, EEAS) US (USFWS, USAID, State), KfW, GEF (UNDP), private foundations/individuals, NGOs

AFRICOM/EU and other security organs

UN missions in CAR, DRC, SSudan, Chad

International Conservation NGOs working with Govts to support Park Management include:

African Parks Network- Chinko CAR, Garamba DRC, Zakouma Chad

WCS- Lantoto & Southern, South Sudan, Badingilo-Boma, Sena-Oura-Bouba-Njidda Chad/Cameroon

EcoFaune+ - Bamingui-Bangoran CAR

AWF- Billeure, DRC

Invisible Children- community security network

CRS- development and community security

EAGLE network- anti-trafficking and judicial follow up

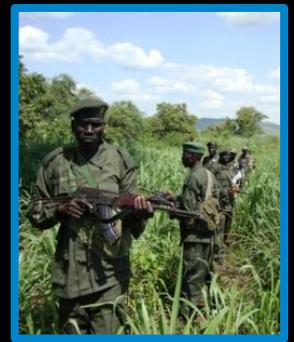
\*Oct 2016 DEVCO/EEAS hosted an initial partners meeting

## Key Conservation Approaches in the Region include:

- Interagency Conservation-Security Partnerships (interagency with militaries, AFRICOM, State Department, French military, Government wildlife services)
- Community based Conservation-Security Partnerships
- Robust Protected Area management partnerships as cornerstones for stabilization, security (people and wildlife), and conservation
- Pastoralism rangeland management partnerships with communities
- Full package elephant and other key wildlife species security programs (anti-poaching, aerial surveillance, sheparding of collared elephant groups, joint wildlife/military interventions (as appropriate))
- Surveys and monitoring to inform interventions and adaptive interventions
- Intel-led anti-trafficking programs
- Support to enforcement-judiciary, political...
- Ecotourism development
- Climate change adaptation and mitigation strategies
- Integrated land-use planning
- Conflict mitigation through conservation and natural resource management
- Transboundary PA management
- Etc...

## SECURITY

- Rule of law established in remote areas
- Drivers and causes of conflicts mitigated
- Contribute to peace and reconciliation



**Building  
stability  
& resilience**



## COMMUNITY

- Diversified economic opportunities established in remote areas
- Good governance and effective institutional networks



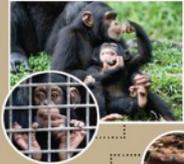
## CONSERVATION

- Land investments and concessions optimized & land conflicts minimized
- Key wildlife and habitat resources protected
- Wildlife trafficking halted

# Awareness raising and constituency building local, national, international



**WILDLIFE IS A NATIONAL HERITAGE**   
**PROTECT IT!**

Chimpanzee poaching, capturing and trafficking 

Elephant poaching 

Ivory trafficking 

Wildlife poaching and bushmeat trafficking  

All these activities are **ILLEGAL**  
Under the laws of the Republic of South Sudan



# PA network management for conservation and stabilization (network of centers of Governance)

Infrastructure

Road networks

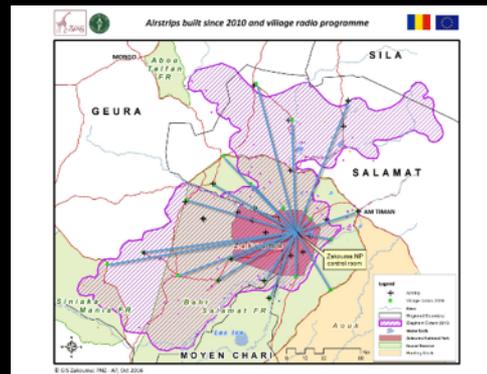
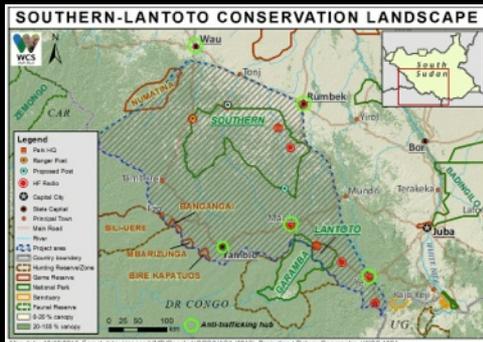
Airstrips

Boreholes

Communication networks (radios Parks, and community partners)

Employment local communities

Operational management









Building institutional networks in conflict-prone regions (NRT model principles)

- Monitoring and responding to human and conservation threats
- Supporting traditional governance structures and interagency law enforcement collaborations

Activities of partnerships include:

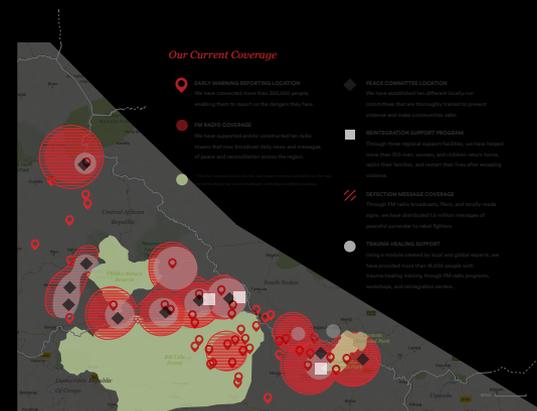
- Mapping and understanding insecurity and conflict threats and drivers
- Patrolling conflict zones by joint wildlife, police, military (as appropriate) and local community members (detect, deter, and address cattle raiders, poachers, insurgency groups)
- Zoning of buffer areas between conflicting ethnic groups
- Information networks for human and wildlife protection
- Strategic placement of social service infrastructure to alleviate dry season competition for resources
- Strategic placement of Park infrastructure and law enforcement efforts for security of local communities & wildlife
- \*Engagement with Armed Forces on Adoption of Wildlife Protection Measures
- \*Supporting sustainable natural resource management activities (lulu, gum acacia, fisheries)
- \*Monitoring Security and Human Rights in Remote Areas





# Coordination of community development and conflict mitigation efforts

- Invisible Children radio network
- CRS working on community security plans in CAR
- Internationally supported conflict mitigation programs and conservation and park management



# Inter-Agency Security Cooperations

- Information gathering networks (with communities and informants)
- Sharing of security information and anti-trafficking information between conservation organizations/wildlife service and national militaries and Africom security organs
- Potential for field operations coordination
- Community security networks linked with Park management linked with security organs
- Networks of well secured Parks as centers of surveillance and governance- security for wildlife and local communities linked with broader security initiatives
- Stabilization mandate development for interventions
- Some training taken places military- wildlife
- ....



## Common Issues Across Region

- Cattle herders moving further south, staying longer and heavily armed.
- Rebel and insurgent groups involved in all forms of trafficking and atrocities.
- Insecurity for local communities > huge social and economic implications
- Protected areas, conservation, humanitarian actors are de facto providers of security and governance
- Communities and conservation actors have a common enemy
- Alliance of actors on ground creates micro-hubs of governance.
- Building trust through a holistic approach requires long term presence on ground long term strategy and funding
- Excellent opportunities for coordination and collaboration between diverse funding agencies and funding programs (security, conservation, development)

# Key Priorities Going Forward

- Build and enhance cooperation amongst conservation, security, and development, in South Sudan, DRC, CAR, Chad border region.
- Reinforcement and full resourcing for existing programmes and new programme development in key areas strategic for stabilization and conservation.
- Design and manage mechanisms for enhancing effective and secure cooperation between security organs and conservation operators.
- Engage and improve UN security organ cooperations (currently not very strong) with protected areas conservation- security program.
- Building on approaches being developed, review strategic opportunities, partner interests, roles, and identify coordination mechanisms needed for expansion and development of Sudano-Sahel region initiative for conservation-security-development.

# SUDANO-SAHEL CONSERVATION ZONE

