

# Presentation of the NaturAfrica programme

# NaturAfrica Programme

- ▶ Africa faces a triple challenge in terms of biodiversity:
  - ▶ to prevent a further biodiversity loss
  - ▶ to mitigate and to adapt to the effects of climate change
  - ▶ to responsibly provide the resources needed for a growing population
- ▶ The NaturAfrica programme aims at contributing to the identification of solutions to these challenges:
  - ▶ it concerns over 6 “sub-regional windows” across the sub-Saharan continent
  - ▶ it focuses on a selected number of priority landscapes based on their **conservation and development** - characterized by high biodiversity, and whose functional ecosystems ensure the livelihood of the communities living there
  - ▶ priority landscapes generally include areas with status aimed at protecting natural ecosystems and wildlife (national parks, reserves, wildlife management areas, community and/or private nature reserves, etc.) linked by areas for multiple uses, which offer strong potential for development of the green economy while ensuring ecological connectivity

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- ▶ 4 of these “sub-regional windows” concern one or more ICGLR member states:
  - ▶ The forest ecosystems of the Congo Basin (Burundi, Congo, Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC), Central African Republic (CAR), Uganda, South Sudan, Rwanda, Cameroon and Gabon)
  - ▶ The savannahs and slopes of the East African Rift (South Sudan, Kenya, Uganda, Tanzania and Ethiopia)
  - ▶ The transhumance landscapes of Central Africa (CAR, Cameroon, Chad and Nigeria)
  - ▶ The transboundary conservation areas in Southern Africa (Zambia, Angola, Botswana, Namibia, Malawi, Mozambique, South Africa)

# Strategic Framework

- ▶ The NaturAfrica programme is part of the Global Gateway Africa investment package, as it is identified as a flagship under the **green investment section**. NaturAfrica also contributes to the implementation of the EU Biodiversity Strategy for 2030.
- ▶ This initiative falls under the regional SSA MIP for 2021-2027, under priority 3 “Green Transition” and specific objective 4 “**Improve biodiversity conservation, sustainable use and governance**”.
- ▶ This project supports SDG 15 (Life on Land) in the main, but also supports SDGs 2 (Zero Hunger), 5 (Gender Equality and women’s empowerment), 6 (Clean Water), 12 (Sustainable production and consumption) and 13 (Climate Action).
- ▶ NaturAfrica indeed contributes to the implementation of the Gender Action Plan III, in particular by increasing the participation of women and girls in decision-making processes on environment and climate change issues and their participation in the green economy.

# The Greater Nyungwe - Kibira project

## General Objective

- ▶ The Overall Objective (Impact) of this project is to reduce biodiversity loss while improving the sustainable quality of life of local communities living in Key Landscapes for Conservation and Development (KLCD-Nyungwe-Kibira) in the region.

## Specific Objective

- ▶ At landscape level, improve conservation, management and use of biodiversity and ecosystems' goods and services in the Nyungwe-Kibira Landscape for the benefit of nature and local communities and in particular women, youth and vulnerable populations (indigenous peoples and local communities - IPLC).
- ▶ At regional level, improve cross-border and cross-regional governance for conservation and management of the Nyungwe-Kibira transboundary Landscape.

# The Greater Nyungwe - Kibira project

## Expected Results

- ▶ 1.1 **Strengthened capacity** for inclusive conservation management, planning and implementation in KLCDs
- ▶ 1.2 **Enhanced access to sustainable green economy livelihoods opportunities** for all community members in KLCDs
- ▶ 1.3 **Strengthened capacity** for land-use governance and natural resource management in KLCDs
- ▶ 2.1 **Enhanced access to information** on conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity and ecosystems for awareness building, advocacy and participatory decision making
- ▶ 2.2 **Increased capacity of natural resource managers** for the management of protected areas and natural ecosystems in the region
- ▶ 2.3 **Enhanced coordination on policy harmonisation** at the regional and landscape levels

# The Greater Nyungwe - Kibira project

## Location

- ▶ Greater Nyungwe - Kibira (Rwanda and Burundi) national parks and respective buffer zones

## Expected beneficiaries

- ▶ Population living in the buffer zone: Kibira: 1 million inhabitants; Nyungwe: 600.000 inhabitants

## Institutional partners

- ▶ In Rwanda: District authorities, Ministry of Environment (MoE), RDB & REMA
- ▶ In Burundi: OPBE and the Ministry of Environment

## Implementing partner

- ▶ Enabel

## Budget

- ▶ 3.000.000 EUR

# Alignment on national policies/ strategies

- ▶ NaturAfrica is in line with Rwanda's 2016 Biodiversity policy and Vision 2050, as well as the Burundian PND and the country priorities (Vision 2040 and 2060).
- ▶ It is geographically and objectively aligned with Rwanda's **Volcanoes Community Resilience Project (VCRP)** which covers the Rift Albertine region (160 square kilometres across Uganda, Rwanda and the Democratic Republic of Congo) and the several projects concerning the Kibira National Park, included the **EU Dukungire Ibidukikije programme**.
- ▶ The NaturAfrica Key Landscape Conservation Area (KLCA) of Greater Nyungwe - Kibira (Rwanda -Burundi) is **embedded in the Rift Albertine transboundary network** and thus there is an "ecological continuum" that would justify consolidating an **integrated regional support** involving VCRP and other national parks/ protected areas.



Thanks for your attention !