

Baka people need to meet in order to hunt legally are very strict and unrealistic, so often they are considered poachers, when they aren't."

WWF commented that "On the ground, advancing the status and rights of tribal communities while also protecting the resources vital to them and the global community is extraordinarily difficult ... WWF agrees that models such as Community Based Natural Resource Management over many years have ensured that many parks have people. WWF is open to a collaborative approach and is standing by commitments to assist a Cameroon National Human Rights and Freedom Commission investigation of alleged human rights abuses by Ecoguards and military. WWF is reviewing field experience and activities in support of the Baka and forest protection in Cameroon."

Deutsch also echoed WWF's call for a collaborative approach, saying that a deeper partnership between the human rights community and the conservation community is needed to address complex conservation challenges. He reacted to Survival International statement that WCS funds similar anti-poaching squads in the Republic of Congo. "The conservation community has to be committed to partnering with indigenous people, because that's the only way that we're both going to find a future for wildlife, but also do it in such a way that human rights are respected and traditional societies are respected," Deutsch said.

Nik Sekhran, of the UNDP Sustainable Development Cluster, said, "For many communities and for indigenous people around the world, sustainable use of wildlife and sustainable use of flora for medicines for food ... is really critical to their survival."

The financial benefits of wildlife tourism are often cited as an important reason to support wildlife conservation in developing countries. However, tourism income does not always trickle down to the poorest communities in developing countries and particularly with hunter-gatherer people since they are less able to deal with the scramble for resources.

Kidnapped In Mozambique: In The Clutches Of Rhino Poachers

Bartholomäus Grill, Spiegel Online

Bartholomäus Grill, Africa-Correspondent for the German news magazine *Der Spiegel* and Swedish photographer Toby Selander traveled to Mozambique to report about the region's destructive and illegal trade in rhinoceros horns. The two journalists were taken captive by poachers, and found themselves staring death in the face. Their haunting story is a MUST READ for African Indaba subscribers.

Just a short time ago, I was taken hostage in a small Mozambique village. Now I'm speeding through the bush in a pick-up truck driven by the boss of a criminal gang, his underlings hooting and hollering in the back. They are going to "finish" me, they had told me earlier, and I am convinced that they will stop at the next clearing and beat me to death like a dog. For the first time in my almost 30 years as a correspondent in Africa, I am afraid for my life.

I had arrived in Mozambique with Swedish photographer Toby Selander a few days earlier to report on rhinoceros poaching and the illegal rhinoceros-horn trade. We were hoping to follow the supply chain from the slaughter of the rhinos in South Africa through middlemen in Mozambique to the horns' ultimate buyers in Vietnam ...

Read the full story at [Spiegel Online International](#)

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