



# Reducing Poverty in Communities Sharing a Habitat with Great Apes

Community outreach using integrated conservation and public health messaging and services

## CTPH's Integrated Programs

- Human Public Health
- Wildlife Health Monitoring
- Information, Education, Communication & Technology

Public health is one of the greatest indicators of poverty. CTPH's goals are centered around an innovative integrated conservation and development approach focusing on improving public health to support wildlife conservation

## Current Poverty Reduction Activities

- Community Public Health including Family Planning
- Information Communication Technology Training
- Livestock Health and Husbandry
- Advocacy including Uganda Population, Health and Environment Working Group

## Local Community Volunteers

- 84 Community Conservation Health Volunteers
- 51 in Bwindi (29 Human health - CCHWS, 22 Animal health - CCAHWS)
- 33 in North Virunga, DRC (Mount Tshiabirimu)

## Sustainability

- Half of the volunteers in Bwindi and all in Virunga are part of the Village Health Teams (VHTs) affiliated to Ministry of Health
- Community volunteers have formed Community Based Organisations (CBOs)



CTPH Community Conservation Health volunteers training at Kayonza Government Health Centre III



CTPH Community Volunteers livestock project helping to sustain their work in the community



CTPH Community Volunteer giving contraceptive injection



CTPH computer training in the local community

## IMPACT

- More couples able to plan and manage their families - 6 fold increase in new family planning users within 3 years
- Measured Improvement of community health and hygiene to protect a sustainable source of income from gorilla ecotourism - significant increase in handwashing facilities and anal cleansing material, as well as clean water storage containers
- Over 200 people graduated with a certificate in basic computer applications from Makerere University – Internet led to over 10 scholarships and doubling of crafts sales online
- Replication of family planning model by Bwindi Community Hospital in other communities with no human/gorilla conflict
- Empowerment of women - training community volunteers, adopting family planning and computer training of youth and other community members where over 40% are women

## Acknowledgments

Uganda Wildlife Authority, Uganda Communication Commission, World Bank, Uganda Telecom, Makerere University, Congolese Wildlife Authority (ICCN), Ministries of Health and Agriculture, Uganda and DRC local governments, USAID, USFWS, Gorilla Organization, Bwindi Community Hospital, Family Health International, Population Reference Bureau, BALANCED, John Snow International, MacArthur Foundation, Development Cooperation Ireland, Microsoft, African Wildlife Foundation, International Gorilla Conservation Programme, Ashoka, Wildlife Conservation Society, Camp Dresser McKee International, Whitley Fund for Nature/WWF-UK, Institute of Tropical Forest Conservation, Wildlife Conservation Network, Wildlife Direct, San Diego Zoo, American Jewish World Service, Coca Cola, Wyse Technology, Mbarara University, International Union of Conservation and Nature, Gorilla Journal/BRD, Gorilla Haven, Mountain Gorilla Veterinary Project, Cornell University, Colgate University, Skal International, British High Commission, Barclays, North Carolina Zoological Park