

## MOBILIZING FUNDING

Africa's 162 Keystone Protected Areas are vital for biodiversity and local economies. Managing them well costs \$1.2B per year. This represents more than \$10B mobilized by 2035.

## NEXT STEPS

- 1. Mobilizing the G7 Nature Partnership** to finance conservation areas through public-private partnerships at scale.
- 2. Partnering with African governments, communities, and NGOs** to deploy new and support existing public-private partnerships in Keystone Protected Areas.
- 3. Coordinating funding** across Keystone Protected Areas using objective field assessment results to inform funding decisions.

## GET INVOLVED

Join us to amplify the impact of public funding to safeguard these landscapes.



EMAIL [dhopman@rwfoundation.org](mailto:dhopman@rwfoundation.org)

[AFRICAKEYSTONES.ORG](https://africakeystones.org)

## AFRICAN LEADERSHIP AT THE CORE

In September 2025, the Keystone Partnership was launched by five African heads of state and the African Union, alongside the Rob Walton Foundation and key NGO partners.

**“South Africa welcomes support from our friends in the United States.”**

H.E. Matamela Cyril,  
President of South Africa

**“We are fully committed to this Partnership.”**

H.E. João Manuel Gonçalves Lourenço,  
President of Angola

**“We are together in this effort.”**

H.E. Daniel Chapo, President of Mozambique

**“We are here to pledge our support and solidarity and stand at the forefront of this effort.”**

H.E. Duma Gideon Boko,  
President of Botswana

**“The Partnership is an essential framework to deliver on 30x30 commitments... We are proud to join this partnership.”**

H.E. Ndemupelila Netumbo Nandi-Ndaitwah,  
President of Namibia

**“This Partnership proves that Africa doesn't just participate in solving global challenges — we lead the solutions.”**

H.E. Moses Vilakati,  
African Union Commissioner



Africa  
**Keystone**  
Protected Area  
Partnership

### PARTNER COLLABORATORS

#### COUNTRY CHAMPIONS:

AFRICAN UNION AND 20 COUNTRIES



#### FOUNDING PARTNERS



Rob Walton  
Foundation

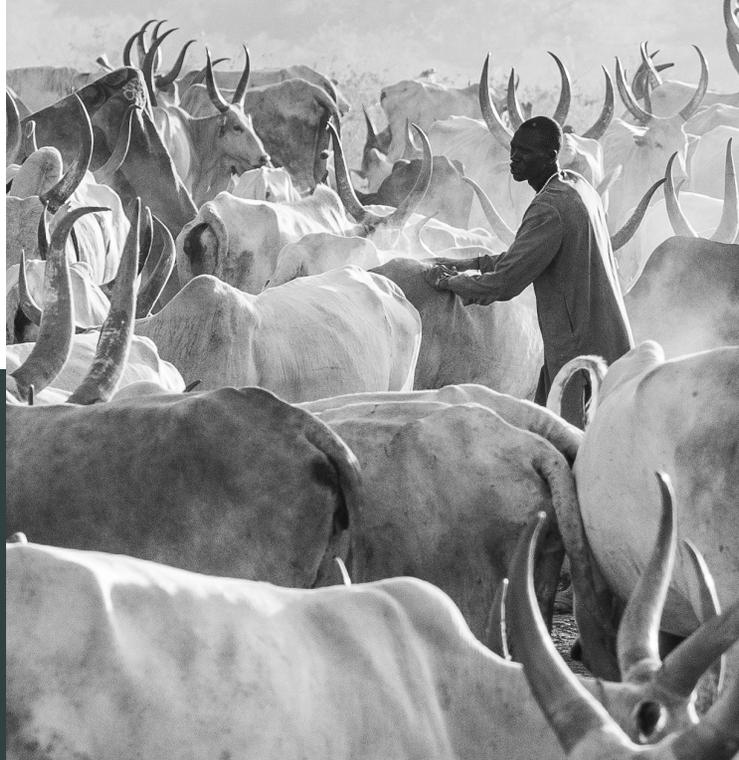
SAFEGUARDING 162 ESSENTIAL  
LANDSCAPES BY 2035 FOR THE BENEFIT  
OF WILDLIFE AND COMMUNITIES

## A BOLD NEW COLLABORATION

where African governments, communities, NGOs, and funders work together to safeguard critical ecosystems and landscapes for Africa's future.

**162** Keystone Protected Areas are the foundation of landscape-scale conservation in Africa.

Safeguarding them supports community-managed areas, agriculture, towns, and achievement of 30x30.



## PUBLIC-PRIVATE PARTNERSHIPS

make conservation at scale possible. The Keystone Partnership invests in protected areas managed via public-private partnerships.

**20+** African governments and

**10+** NGOs working to engage

**100's** of communities to permanently safeguard Africa's irreplaceable landscapes.

## WHY IT MATTERS

**1 in 5** Africans depends on Keystone Protected Areas for water

**70 million** people live in and near Keystones

**71%** of threatened species in Africa call them home

**5.8 billion** tonnes of carbon are stored in Keystone Protected Areas

## 3 PILLARS DRIVE THE PARTNERSHIP

### 1. LEADERSHIP

by African governments and communities.

### 2. MANAGEMENT EFFECTIVENESS

among NGOs and other protected area operators.

### 3. FUNDING

that is long-term, predictable, and accountable.

## COLLABORATIVE MANAGEMENT PARTNERSHIPS

where governments invite communities or NGOs to co-manage protected areas with them under formal agreements, are just one tool **and have shown great success in Africa:**

Up to **55%** less deforestation

Up to **14.6X** more funding

Predictable long-term funding

The Keystone Partnership was elevated as a priority in the African Union's official biodiversity position and formally embedded in the AU Gaborone Declaration on Biodiversity.