POST CONFLICT SITUATION

NEEDED ACTION

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What does post-conflict mean?

A political transition that is clearer in the capital than in the World Heritage Sites particularly the eastern sites.
So, what does post-conflict not mean?

• Security in the protected areas.
• Control of resource exploitation in protected areas. (gold, diamonds, cassiterite…)
• Control of poaching in protected areas.
• Protection from land grabs in protected areas.
Coltan MINE in World Heritage Site
Elephant poaching increasing
**So, what does post-conflict not mean?**

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But the WORLD HERITAGE SITES OF DRC made progress during conflict

- The Congolese Conservation Institute – ICCN is Recognized
- ICCN is United
- Conservation NGOs have a Common platform with ICCN
RECOGNIZED AND UNITED
NGOs and ICCN UNITED
UNITY must be ACTIVE to exist

CoCoSi

CoCoCoCongo
THE NEED FOR UNITY IS CRITICAL
The World Heritage Sites were Militia Strongholds
Even now where progress seemed to have been made ICCN must remain attentive -- WHSs are still viewed as free resources for militia
Unmarked graves of militia
CHALLENGE NOW IS NOT TO LOSE THE PROGRESS MADE

• The institutional gains – CoCoSi and CoCoCongo must be recognized and used by all conservation partners -- budgeted

• The partners must be many and work together to assure the voice of conservation within the government and to assure that the remaining challenges are addressed
The needs remain enormous

Training of guards for surveillance, training in information gathering
Community conservation initiatives expanded
Management Plans developed

And site monitoring expanded and coordinated
Current needs can not be met simply by bringing in more NGOs

- Poorly controlled militias
- Anarchy
AS DRC BUILDS PEACE

THE WORLD HERITAGE SITES MUST BE PART OF THE PEACE AND THEY MUST BE PEACEFUL
NOW MUST BE A TIME OF BUILDING
Calling into COCOCONGO a larger collaborative group

- Bilateral and Multilateral partners
- Representatives from other ministries
This means expanding the conservation agenda beyond the World Heritage Sites

- Other protected areas
- Re-writing of pertinent laws
- Having a voice in policies and strategies that affect conservation