

USA-Germany Partnership on Wilderness



Goals:

- Create a trustful and permanent dialogue forum to foster regular exchange between the USA and Germany on wilderness and associated issues
- To foster collaboration on joint research and wilderness governance
- To elaborate, enhance and publish wilderness concepts and research
- To enable exchange visits, expert workshops and joint study tours to wilderness areas in the USA and Germany



USA-Germany Partnership on Wilderness



Partner Organizations:



Federal Ministry
for the Environment, Nature Conservation,
Nuclear Safety and Consumer Protection



ALDO LEOPOLD
WILDERNESS RESEARCH INSTITUTE



WILDNIS
IN DEUTSCHLAND

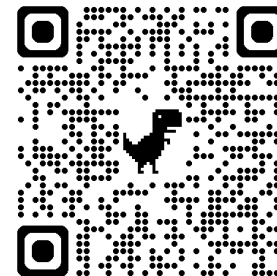
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Progress Thus Far:

- Webinar #1: Wilderness History and Challenges
- Webinar #2: Wildfire in Wilderness Areas
- Webinar #3: Wildlife
- Webinar #4: Wilderness Recreation
- Webinar #5: Expanding Wilderness Through Rewilding
- Webinar #6: Wild Rangelands: Rewilding with Bison
- Webinar #7: What is Wilderness Worth?

<https://wildnisindeutschland.de/us-g-partnership/>



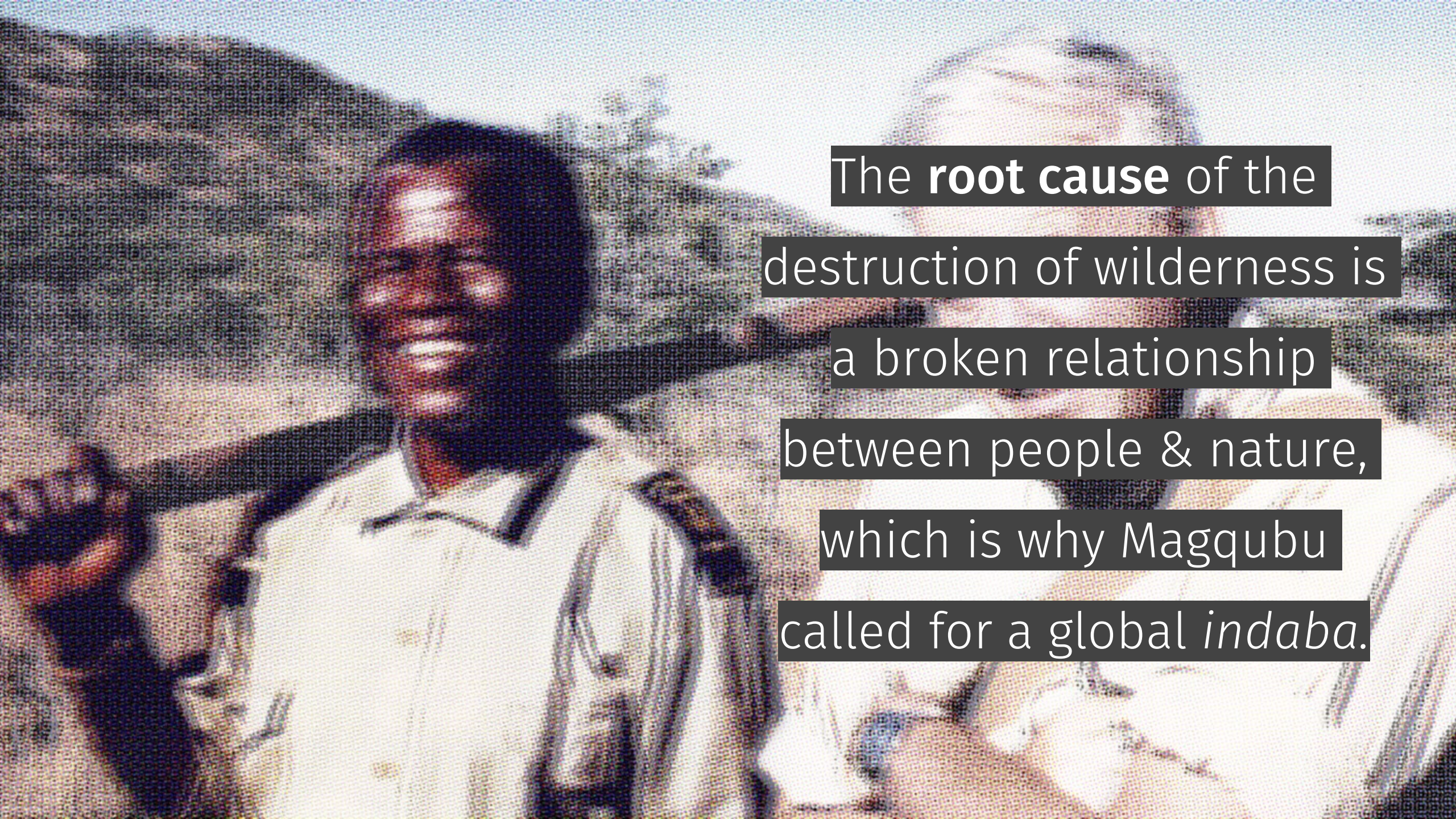
Global Wilderness – Overview of Protection Systems and Practical Challenges

What can EU and Germany learn from this?



Stewarding a Global Wilderness Movement

www.wild.org



The **root cause** of the
destruction of wilderness is
a broken relationship
between people & nature,
which is why Magqubu
called for a global *indaba*.



Borne out of South Africa in 1976 as the vision of Dr Ian Player and Magqubu Ntombela, the World Wilderness Congress is the longest-running, public environmental forum to build awareness and support for wilderness and to strengthen wilderness governance, from grassroots decision-making to national policy.





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Protection Systems



IUCN Category 1b



Pre-Publication Version
Final design is in process & will be
posted in Fall 2016

Wilderness Protected Areas: Management guidelines for IUCN Category 1b protected areas

Prepared by the IUCN Wilderness Specialist Group

Sarah A. Casson, Vance G. Martin, Alan Watson, Angie Stringer,
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Best Practice Protected Area Guidelines Series No. 25



The term “wilderness” is used in a variety of ways.

- *biological descriptor*
- *type of protected-area classification*
- *used to describe an essential dimension of human culture*

“Usually large unmodified or slightly modified areas, retaining their natural character and influence, without permanent or significant human habitation, protected and managed to preserve their natural condition.”



Wilderness Protection Takes Many Forms

Class I Statutory (Legal) Protection

Examples: United States,
Finland, South Africa

Class II Administrative / zoning approaches

Wilderness managed within
broader protected-area
systems

Examples: Italy; and
New Zealand

Class III Recognition through Conservation programs

Wilderness values protected
through standards, Indigenous/
community governance

Examples: Namibia

Lessons from the Global Wilderness Community

Wilderness is not one model. Around the world, different places teach different lessons about protection, stewardship, governance, and relationship.



Mexico

Private lands, NGOs, government, and transboundary cooperation

Wilderness protection can emerge through partnerships across ownership, sectors, and borders.



Brazil / Amazon

Wilderness values beyond the word "wilderness"

Some of the world's most important wilderness values are protected through Indigenous territories, community stewardship, and landscape-scale conservation, even when the word 'wilderness' is not the primary frame.



Europe (e.g. Germany)

Secondary wilderness, rewilding, and natural processes returning

Europe helps show how wilderness can return in human-shaped landscapes through restoration, non-intervention, and long-term protection of natural processes.



Antarctica

Global governance, science, climate, and restraint

Wilderness can also be a global responsibility — requiring cooperation, science, and restraint in places beyond national ownership.



WILDERNESS

SPECIALIST GROUP

Join the IUCN WCPA Wilderness Specialist Group

A global community of practice for wilderness conservation and stewardship. Connect with practitioners, researchers, managers, Indigenous and community leaders.

Share lessons, tools, and case studies Contribute to IUCN guidance, policy, and global wilderness dialogue

Support stronger protection and stewardship of wild nature



Thank you! Questions?

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