



# SIDE BY SIDE

## HELP US REDUCE HUMAN-ELEPHANT CONFLICT IN BOTSWANA!

*Desert & Delta Safaris is working side by side supporting Elephants Without Borders community coexistence projects, that aim to alleviate negative human-elephant interactions and enable coexistence. This conservation initiative is aimed to offer support to the people living within wildlife tourism areas.*

### WHY SHOULD YOU CARE?

In Africa, there are places that people and elephants live “side by side.” Perhaps to observers, that may seem astounding, but the reality is that this interface can also be problematic, or even detrimental, for both elephants and people where “conflict” occurs between them.

With almost 130,000 individuals, Botswana is home to the world’s largest elephant population, of which 70% of elephants occur outside National Parks. Here, these animals compete with a growing human population for food, land and scarce water resources. When the interests of people and wildlife are at odds, usually nobody wins.

The Chobe district, located in the far north-eastern corner of the country, is home to an estimated 32,712 elephants. These elephants live alongside a growing human population. As a result, the Chobe district is one of the biggest conflict “hotspot” areas in Botswana. The regional Department of Wildlife and National Parks office report that elephants cause the greatest proportion (48%) of “problem animal control” incidences of crop and garden raiding.

But, as a tourism hub, this district is unique in that it experiences not only agricultural conflict in the rural farmlands, but also urban conflict, in the form of vehicle accidents, property damage, etc. in the large town centres.

However, elephants are not solely to blame. Other contributing factors to the negative side of the human-wildlife interface is due to poor land use planning, the expansion of both urban and rural communities and an increase of people moving from non-wildlife areas into the district. There is a strong need to increase community involvement, to implement and produce effective human-elephant mitigation practices, particularly in the Chobe district. Working with local communities living on the front-lines of conflict, where threats are greatest for both people and elephants, solutions should be sustainable and simple. Practical solutions are critical to the survival of these incredible animals and for the protection of people’s property and successful harvests for farmers. The long-term survival of elephants will ultimately depend on improved coexistence between elephants and people.



*Empowering Botswana Through Tourism*



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# WHERE IS YOUR SUPPORT GOING?

This initiative is fundraising for the human-elephant coexistence project run by the Botswana based wildlife non-government organisation, Elephants Without Borders (EWB). EWB is a non-profit, tax-exempt, registered organisation in the Republic of Botswana. Registered in the Deeds Office of Botswana, as the Somarela Trust under number MA 18/2004. Under number 91451 of the Business Names Act, the Trust operates as EWB.

EWB has been collaborating with the Chobe enclave farming community, for the last 10 years in developing successful mitigation practices that can produce conflict-free crop fields while enabling coexistence.



## OUR SOLUTION IS “ELESENSES” MAKES SENSE!

Traditional mitigation techniques have limited success and others, such as chilli peppers or beehives, might prove to be effective, but are labour, time, and cost intensive, yet others are fixed and expensive, such as large electric fences.

EWB's 'EleSenses' Toolkit is a **low-cost, user-friendly, mobile solar-powered** (green technology), sustainable, mitigation system aimed to protect human lives and property. The tools have been tried and tested with substantial success.

The tool-kit aims to deter elephants by targeting their five senses: touch, smell, sight, hearing and taste. The tool-kit contains:

### 1. SOLAR-POWERED SINGLE-STRAND ELECTRIC ROPE LINES [TOUCH]

Emits enough voltage to actively deter elephants and other potential crop raiders. Unlike wire fencing, the poli-wire rope has the advantage that it cannot be re-purposed by poachers to make animal snares.



### 2. SOLAR-POWERED MOTION-SENSOR ALARMS [HEARING]

Our motion-sensor alarm system can be triggered to sound an alarm and flash lights when an elephant approaches a field. The system also includes a remote control to allow farmers to remotely trigger the alarm and lights to repel elephants.

### 3. SOLAR-POWER STROBE LIGHT BARRIER [SIGHT]

A multi-coloured solar strobe light system referred to as the “disco effect”, appears as a barrier to potential crop raiding elephants, which discourages them from entering a field. The “pattern” of the lights can be rotated on a daily, weekly or monthly basis, depending on the number of elephants passing the area, which reduces the chances of the elephant’s habituating to the mitigation.



### 4. ORGANIC NATURAL OIL REPELLENT [SMELL & TASTE]

Elephants have a keen sense of smell. We have developed a special organic potion, which emits an unpleasant and offensive odour. The potion is sprayed on the outer rows of the crops as a “smelly” buffer, to assist in disguising the smell of maturing crops. The smell and taste of the potion are distasteful and can discourage elephants from entering a person’s property. This potion is also being applied to Africa’s iconic Baobab trees, which have been damaged by elephants in some areas.

# JOIN IN AND SHOW HOW MUCH YOU CARE...

Any contribution or support helps. It is important that you know where your contribution is going in the prevention and minimisation of human-elephant conflict.



USD\$0- \$5

- 1 litre of organic natural oil repellent. OR
- Catering for an educational workshop on human-elephant coexistence for farmers and their families.

USD\$20>

- 1 solar powered strobe light.

USD\$20- \$50>

- An 8 metre range battery operated sensor alarm system. OR
- Supports a 1 day education workshop on coexistence strategies for a community.

USD\$100- \$200>

- A solar-powered strobe light barrier (20m long). OR
- A solar powered- electric rope fencing kit. OR
- A early warning mounted solar powered alarm system.

USD\$500>

- ELESENSES TOOLKIT – 5 litres of organic natural oil repellent, 15 solar power strobe lights, 1 solar powered electric rope setup and a 8m range battery operated sensor alarm system).



## WE ARE ASKING YOU TO JOIN US AT OUR SIDE IN HELPING ELEPHANTS LIVE SIDE BY SIDE WITH LOCAL COMMUNITIES CONFLICT FREE!

By joining the Desert & Delta Safaris CARES Movement we will be donating \$10 of every \$100 accommodation spent with us. However, if you would like to make a donation of share more with your friends you can support this initiative, by clicking [HERE](#).



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