

A Gorongosa Media & HHMI Tangled Bank Studios Production



Film Website: www.ourgorongosa.org

Gorongosa Park Website: www.gorongosa.org

Facebook: @gorongosa

Instagram: @gorongosapark

Twitter: @gorongosapark

Tag: #OurGorongosa

Contacts:

Anna Irwin, Director of Communications, HHMI Tangled Bank Studios

irwina@hhmi.org

James Byrne, Media Director, Greg Carr Foundation

Jbyrne28@me.com

Logline

Dominique Gonçalves, a young African elephant ecologist shares the inspiring story of how Gorongosa National Park in Mozambique is becoming a new model for wildlife conservation and community development in Africa.

Short Synopsis

Gorongosa National Park in Mozambique has become one of Africa's most celebrated wildlife restoration stories. After a decade of renewed protection, Gorongosa's large mammal population has increased 10-fold to over 100,000 animals. But bringing wildlife back is only part of the challenge. The Park must find a way to co-exist with the 200,000 people living in surrounding communities.

For local people, any national park could be considered a cost – they can't live, farm, or hunt there. So, Gorongosa needs to provide sufficient benefits to convince local people to help safeguard the park for Nature. But the challenge is complicated when elephants leave the park and steal crops from nearby farms. Is conflict inevitable? Is co-existence possible, especially as the human population grows and the demand for land and resources increases?

Dominique Gonçalves, a young African elephant ecologist shares the inspiring story of how Gorongosa is becoming a new model for wildlife conservation and community development in Africa. By bringing large-scale, long-term health care, agriculture support, and girls' education to surrounding communities, Gorongosa is redefining the identity and purpose of this beautiful park.

Long Synopsis

Gorongosa National Park in Mozambique has become one of Africa's most celebrated wildlife restoration stories. After a decade of renewed protection, Gorongosa's large mammal population has increased 10-fold to over 100,000 animals. But bringing wildlife back is only part of the challenge. The Park must find a way to co-exist with the 200,000 people living in surrounding communities.

For local people, any national park could be considered a cost – they can't live, farm, or hunt there. So, Gorongosa needs to provide sufficient benefits to convince local people to help safeguard the park for Nature. But the challenge is complicated when elephants leave the park and steal crops from nearby farms. Is conflict inevitable? Is co-existence possible, especially as the human population grows and the demand for land and resources increases?

Through the lens of Gorongosa, we explore of the most important and urgent questions of our time: what will it take to sustain Africa's human population *and* save its remaining wild places?

Dominique Gonçalves, a young African elephant ecologist shares the inspiring story of how Gorongosa is becoming a new model for wildlife conservation and community development in Africa. By bringing large-scale, long-term health care, agriculture support, and girls' education to surrounding communities, Gorongosa is redefining the identity and purpose of this beautiful Park.

This inspirational film will reimagine the idea of a national park in Africa and put local people, especially women and girls, front and center in the fight to save their natural heritage and safeguard their future. This is a story of hope: hope that Africa's wildlife can coexist and survive alongside its human neighbors. In fact, it will show that both depend on each other to survive and thrive.

Producer Statement

People need hope to get motivated to act. But hopeful conservation stories are hard to find these days. Gorongosa is a rare exception. Although it faces many of the same challenges as other protected areas in Africa, it's a model for potential solutions.

Despite what you might think after watching all those beautiful nature documentaries, lots of people live in and around Africa's wild places. They need space and resources. They and their children need good health care and nutritious food to survive and thrive, and they need education in order to fulfill their potential. They share remote, rural landscapes with the iconic animals that we associate with "Wild Africa". The big question is: can the needs of both be satisfied?

The long-term trends are not encouraging. Between 1970 and 2005, national parks in Africa saw an average decline of 59% in the populations of dozens of large mammals. And many of these parks are "paper parks", just lines on a map, or so underfunded that they are slowly but inexorably disappearing through habitat loss. When you add projected human population growth to this equation, the picture becomes even bleaker.

Can we hope to make it to the end of this century and have a safe and secure human population and still have healthy, functioning wild lands in Africa filled with biodiversity? The Gorongosa story asks us to consider what needs to be done to create a sustainable future in Africa.

- What if development teams and conservation teams joined forces and achieved a "double bottom line" – give people a better life and save Africa's precious natural heritage?
- What if local communities received sufficient benefits from a protected area and began to perceive it as a place that is truly theirs, that provides

real and tangible benefits to them, that is integral to their lives and futures?

- What if we were able to reframe the problem of human-wildlife conflict into the shared goal of coexistence?
- And what if we acted on the knowledge that educating girls and employing more women was the key to both lifting people out of poverty and saving Africa's wild lands for generations to come?

That would provide hope. And hope inspires action. We need urgent action because time is against us all. So, we decided the film would be for the people that make big decisions about policy and funding in conservation and development, especially in Africa – Governments, NGOs, and Donors. By focusing on this “impact audience”, our goal is to encourage these decision-makers to replicate aspects of the Gorongosa model in other protected areas.

Even though we made this film for an impact audience, we believe a general audience will also enjoy hearing this story and be inspired to act. The challenge of finding sustainable solutions to satisfy our basic human needs unites us all, wherever we live.

Apart from these urgent impact goals, we hope the film helps change the face of conservation in Africa. For far too long, we have not heard enough from local stakeholders, from local people who love and want to protect their natural heritage. With this goal in mind, we had three key words that served as our guide making this film: authenticity, intimacy, and voice. We wanted the film to feel as ‘unmediated’ as possible. We strived to create a direct emotional connection between these characters and the audience. This is *their* story told in *their* voice.

FILM TEAM

DOMINIQUE GONÇALVES - NARRATOR

Dominique is a Mozambican conservation biologist born in Beira, Mozambique. After completing her high school she went to study Ecology and Conservation of Terrestrial Biology at Eduardo Mondlane University in Maputo. She graduated in 2014 and worked with the Eduardo Mondlane University and the Stockholm Resilience Centre on a project: SPACES (Sustainable Poverty Alleviation from Coastal Ecosystem Services) in Northern Mozambique. The work and experience with communities in Northern Mozambique helped develop her interests in social ecological systems and inspired her to earn her MSC in Conservation Biology at Durrell Institute of Conservation and Ecology (DICE) at University of Kent.

Dominique is now focused on elephant conservation in Gorongosa National Park. She currently serves as Manager of the Elephant Ecology Project where

she investigates elephant movement and range expansion in relation to habitat use and Human-Elephant Conflict (HEC). Working with communities, law enforcement and sustainable development colleagues, Dominique hopes to build coexistence between communities and wildlife throughout the 'buffer-zone' surrounding the Park. In addition to this, Dominique works closely with the Park's Girls' Club programs; she is a passionate advocate for girls education to prevent early marriage and help them have a life full of opportunities.

SEAN B. CARROLL – EXECUTIVE PRODUCER

An internationally recognized scientist, award-winning author, and educator, Sean B. Carroll leads HHMI's Department of Science Education and oversees the largest portfolio of privately supported science education programs in the United States. He was the architect of HHMI's science filmmaking initiative and has served as executive producer on several feature productions and numerous short films.

A frequent public speaker and prominent science communicator in print, on radio, and in film, Carroll is the author of several books including "Remarkable Creatures," which was a finalist for the 2009 National Book Award (non-fiction); "The Making of the Fittest;" "Endless Forms Most Beautiful;" "The Serengeti Rules;" and "Brave Genius." His first two books were the basis for, and Carroll was the scientific consulting producer of, a two-hour NOVA special in December 2009 on the occasion of the 150th anniversary of Darwin's "On the Origin of Species." Carroll also authored a regular feature, "Remarkable Creatures," for the New York Times' Science Times. Carroll received the 2016 Lewis Thomas Prize for Writing about Science.

Carroll is a pioneer in the field of evolutionary developmental biology of "evo-devo," the study of the genes that control animal body patterns and play major roles in the evolution of animal diversity. In recognition of his scientific contributions, Carroll has received the Benjamin Franklin Medal in Life Science, been elected to the National Academy of Science and the American Philosophical Society, and been named a Fellow of both the American Academy of Arts and Science and the American Association for the Advancement of Science.

JARED LIPWORTH – EXECUTIVE PRODUCER DIRECTOR, OUTREACH & IMPACT, HHMI TANGLED BANK STUDIOS

Jared Lipworth develops and executes high-profile impact initiatives for HHMI Tangled Bank Studios projects and builds strategic outreach collaborations with like-minded impact partners. Lipworth is an Emmy award-winning executive producer, writer and producer who has overseen the development and production of hundreds of hours of factual science, history and natural history programs, and has extensive experience running national cross-platform outreach campaigns.

Prior to HHMI Tangled Bank Studios, Lipworth was vice president of specials at National Geographic Studios, where he developed and ran the production of films for The National Geographic Channel, WILD, PBS, NOVA and international broadcasters. Standouts include *Jane*, the award-winning feature documentary about Jane Goodall directed by Brett Morgen, the Emmy-nominated films NOVA: *Dawn of Humanity*, and *Explorer: Warlords of Ivory*. Before moving to DC, Lipworth was director of science programs at WNET, where he ran the science unit and oversaw science, technology and history series including *Secrets of the Dead*, *Innovation*; the AAAS Kavli Science Journalism Award-winning *The Human Spark with Alan Alda*; and the Emmy-winning *The Mysterious Human Heart*.

Lipworth has also served on the steering committees and advisory boards for numerous industry conferences, including the World Congress of Science and Factual Producers, the Jackson Hole Wildlife Film Festival, the Chicago Museum of Science and Industry Advisory Council and the Chinese International Conference of Science & History Producers.

JAMES BYRNE – EXECUTIVE PRODUCER / PRODUCER / WRITER

In 2000, after a series of serendipitous twists, I joined National Geographic Television. I worked there for 12 years, eventually getting the chance to direct, produce and write TV programs about wildlife and conservation. I was lucky to go to many amazing places. Most notably, in 2008, I led the first film crew allowed to enter the newly founded country of South Sudan and, in conjunction with the WCS, we filmed the migration of the white-eared kob (a medium-sized antelope) for the first time in decades.

At the end of that long trip to South Sudan, I was desperate to return home to see my wife, Grainne, and two kids, Daniel and Iona. But Nat Geo asked me to make “a quick trip” down to Mozambique to check out a place called Gorongosa. I almost didn’t go but I’m so glad I did because, for the next 4 days, I fell head over heels in love with this special place and this inspiring project. That initial scouting trip resulted in a television program called “Africa’s Lost Eden”, filmed during the early days of Gorongosa’s restoration. After the film was finished, I couldn’t get Gorongosa out of my head and I wanted to make more films there.

So, in 2012, I traded one dream job for another and joined the Gorongosa Project as Media Director. For the past 7 years, myself and a small team have made numerous films about Gorongosa’s conservation, science, and human development work, such as the 6-hour PBS / National Geographic series “Gorongosa: Rebirth of Paradise” (released in 2015) and “On the Front Line: The Rangers of Gorongosa”, a feature-length documentary film about Gorongosa’s rangers that is currently playing in film festivals worldwide and will be released

soon. It's a true privilege to get to tell this extraordinary story and work with such selfless, dedicated, and passionate people.

GRÁINNE KEEGAN – PRODUCER

Gráinne Keegan began working in film production in NYC in advertising and music videos, and worked as a coordinator and project manager with Clockwise Productions and HBO Downtown. She left NYC to work with National Geographic Television in Washington DC, where she worked as a producer and writer on several series, including "True Origins ", "Taboo", "Bug Attack" and the National Geographic flagship series "Explorer" - After a stint with Smithsonian Television, she returned to National Geographic Large Format to work on the event planning and film production of "Deepsea Challenge" that followed director James Cameron's historic dive into the Marianas Trench.

CARLA REBAI – PRODUCER

After graduating from the Academy of Film and Television in Rosario, Argentina, where Carla Rebai was born and raised, Carla moved to Europe and chose to settle among the beautiful canals of Amsterdam. Since 2010, Carla works in producing factual documentaries in short and long formats for clients and networks such as PBS, National Geographic and HHMI/Tangled Bank Studios. Carla splits her time between field production and then taking the material to weave a story in the edit suite, taking visual elements and voices for creating a compelling narrative out of them. Her passion for storytelling comes from the strong belief that sharing ideas and stories are going to bring people together. Her most recent work includes science and wildlife conservation documentaries, including TV series “Gorongosa: Rebirth of Paradise” (PBS and National Geographic), “Mind of a Giant” (Vulcan Productions), “HHMI- Scientists at Work shorts”: Moth Mimicry: Using Ultrasound to Avoid Bats, Virus Hunter: Monitoring Nipah Virus in Bat Populations and feature doc “On the Front Line: The Rangers of Gorongosa” as Producer/Director for Greg Carr Foundation / Gorongosa Project.

BRETT KUXHAUSEN – CINEMATOGRAPHER

Hailing from the heartland of the United States, Brett grew up with an infatuation of the natural world and storytelling. This encouraged him to study at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln and receive a BS degree in biological sciences, and later a MFA in Science and Natural History Filmmaking at Montana State University. It was here that he found his passion and aptitude as a visual storyteller. Now, Brett has independently shot and produced a variety of content for institutions like National Geographic WILD, The National Science Foundation, The Confederated Salish and Kootenai Tribes of the Flathead Reservation, and The Woods Hole Oceanographic Institution/ Ocean Media Institute. Since 2016, Brett has been living and working Mozambique's

Gorongosa National Park, where he has been cinematographer and field producer for two feature documentaries: *On the Front Line: The Rangers of Gorongosa National Park* and *Our Gorongosa*. When he isn't in Gorongosa, Brett travels extensively in his campervan and enjoys balancing his time as a biophile and bibliophile.

“My vision while shooting *Our Gorongosa* was focused mostly on two things: authenticity and sense of place. Many moments in the film required me going to larger public events in communities or an individuals' home, and trying to capture a scene authentically unfolding as best as I could. I didn't want to influence events too much (except for occasionally asking, “can you do that again?”), but people tend to stare and be curious when they aren't used to seeing a guy running around with a camera. I wanted people to act naturally, so I tried to spend as much time as possible with subjects getting them comfortable while at the same time being very open to whatever presented itself for shooting. Sometimes that worked out in my favor, and sometimes it didn't. I had the rare luxury of time that most productions don't. But, it was really important to me for film as objectively as I could. Also in the front of my mind was capturing the sense of place of where the various human development programs work around the park. Gorongosa is massive, with thousands living in extremely rural places, so communicating the challenge of working and living there was crucial. Drones are one of the best tools for that and I used them frequently, but I also wanted to show it from the ground in more artful and poetic ways. I tried to focus on smaller moments, and often it lead to me to stakeout a location that I fell in love with, waiting for action to happen. The more I was around the communities, the more I became like wallpaper, which allowed me to get some meaningful shots.”

JENNIE VASQUEZ – EDITOR

Jennie was born in Caracas, Venezuela. During her Bachelor's degree in Mass Communication, she developed her interest in photography and cinema. She started a career in advertising as an Assistant Director, but it wasn't till a few years later that she discovered her great passion: editing. After completing her studies in the Digital Media Education Center (Portland, OR), she moved to Italy, where she started to work as a freelance in Rome and Milan. For the following 10 years she edited video clips, movie trailers, advertising, short films and TV spots. She developed projects for Italian film distribution companies, National Geographic and Discovery Channel. Her interest in storytelling inspired her to get involved into feature films and documentaries. In 2012 she edited the film *Carta Bianca*, which won a distribution award in the Rome Independent Film Festival. In 2015 she completed her collaboration in the editing of Gorongosa Park, the documentary series for PBS and National Geographic Channel. From 2010 Jennie is based in Amsterdam, where she continues developing documentary projects for the international market.

TIAGO CORREIA-PAULO - COMPOSER

Tiago Correia-Paulo is a late seventies baby who hails from Maputo, Mozambique. He 'wasted' a bunch of time studying Development Economics and Human Resource Management in South Africa to later discover that he actually wanted to become a musician, or something like that. Based in Johannesburg, he started a couple of bands so he could record albums, go on tour, and do all the things your conventional musician does.

Later, bored with the one-dimensional aspect of being in bands, he started working by himself on film scores and other musical experimentations. Not long after, and almost instinctively, he ends up bridging other inclinations like design, illustration and editing, and dives head first into the world of film making. He's currently an integral part of a few musical ventures, has his own electronic solo endeavor, built a studio where he works with and produces other artists, and spends a fair amount of time working on film scores and soundscapes for a wide array of projects.

ABOUT GORONGOSA MEDIA

Gorongosa Media is an in-house production unit of the Carr Foundation that supports the communication and storytelling needs of the Gorongosa Project in Mozambique. We produce media for general-audience TV programs, digital videos, educational films, grassroots behavior-change and environmental education films, live events, partner communications, etc. Through the power of media, we hope to educate and inspire, persuade and engage, and help save this world treasure for generations to come. Our approach is tailored to diverse audiences in several languages in multiple locations - international, in-country, and in communities around the park.

ABOUT HHMI TBS

HHMI Tangled Bank Studios is a production company established and funded by the Howard Hughes Medical Institute as an extension of its longstanding science education mission. The Institute is the largest private, nonprofit supporter of science education in the United States. Dedicated to the creation of original science documentaries for broadcast, theatrical and digital distribution, HHMI Tangled Bank Studios award-winning films address important contemporary issues and capture compelling stories of discovery across all branches of scientific inquiry. Recent films include *The Farthest – Voyager in Space*, Emmy Award-nominated *Spillover – Zika, Ebola & Beyond*, and GSCA Award-winning *Amazon Adventure*.

CREDITS

Narrated by
DOMINIQUE GONÇALVES

FEATURING (IN ORDER OF APPEARANCE):

THE STUDENTS AND STAFF OF SAMORA MACHEL PRIMARY SCHOOL AND
GIRLS' CLUB, (MUSSINHÃ COMMUNITY)

DOMINIQUE GONÇALVES

BERTA BARROS

MIRELA CALISTO AND HER BABY BOY, LAMPIÃO JORDÃO

JAELINA JULIASSE

ZELINHA ZECA

EDSON CARNEIRO

FRANCISCO SAMAJÓ

ANITA FELIZ

MARCELINO DENJA

MARIA FAZENDA

PAOLA BRANCO VAN ZYL

ANTONIA ALBANO

ISABEL PANDIE

JULIA JOSE CARLOS JOAO

GLORIA ANITA SINGARRILE

CANDIDA GERALDO

EXECUTIVE PRODUCERS FOR HHMI TANGLED BANK STUDIOS

SEAN B. CARROLL

JARED LIPWORTH

EXECUTIVE PRODUCER FOR GORONGOSA MEDIA

JAMES BYRNE

PRODUCERS

JAMES BYRNE

GRÁINNE KEEGAN

CARLA REBAI

CINEMATOGRAPHER & FIELD PRODUCER

BRETT J. KUXHAUSEN

EDITOR

JENNIE VÁZQUEZ ALARCÓN

MUSIC COMPOSER

TIAGO CORREIA-PAULO

WRITERS

JAMES BYRNE

GRÁINNE KEEGAN

JARED LIPWORTH

CARLA REBAI

ADDITIONAL FILMING

AUGUSTO BILA

JAMES BYRNE

MACANE COSTA JORNAL

JOANA JOSE

ANDY LAWLESS

ISABEL PANDIE

CARLA REBAI

ASSISTANT CAMERA

AUGUSTO BILA

ASSISTANT EDITOR

STEPHANIE SIBBALD

ADDITIONAL EDIT ASSISTANCE

PHILIPPE PRUIJT

IMAGE POST PRODUCTION

FILMMORE

REMCO MASTWIJK

COLORIST

WOUTER SUYDERHOUD

TITLE DESIGN

WOUTER BETTING

CONFORM EDITOR

GIDEON SCHAAPS

DI SUPERVISOR

IVO NOORLANDER

DI PRODUCER

FLEUR STIKKELORUM

RE-RECORDING MIXER

ANDREW WILSON – AMPS CAS

SUPERVISING SOUND EDITOR

NICHOLAS ALLAN - AMPS

DIALOGUE EDITOR
PAUL CLARK

FOLEY MIXER
PHIL JENKINS

FOLEY ARTIST
BEN JONES

NARRATION RECORDING
FIFTY FIFTY POST

AUDIO POST PRODUCER
SHIV MEEDA

DUBBING MIXER
GAVIN ALLINGHAM

TRANSLATIONS
JANADO NAZARE
ANIMA
VASCO GALANTE

DUBBING
ANIMA
LÉXICO

ESPERANÇA NAIENE - FEMALE VOICE
ELLIOT ALEX - MALE VOICE

DUBBING DIRECTOR
PEDRO DA SILVA PINTO

DUBBING COORDINATOR
ANA QUEIROZ

SUBTITLES
STEPHANIE SIBBALD

SUBTITLES PROOFREADER
STAN CAREY

STOCK FOOTAGE
GORONGOSA MEDIA

LEGAL SERVICES
REAVIS PAGE JUMP LLP.

FOR HHMI TANGLED BANK STUDIOS

MANAGING DIRECTOR
ANNE TARRANT

DIRECTOR OF OPERATIONS
LORI BEANE

DIRECTOR OF COMMUNICATIONS
ANNA IRWIN

POST PRODUCTION SUPERVISOR
INDY MITRA

SPECIAL THANKS TO
THE STAFF OF GORONGOSA NATIONAL PARK
THE STAFF OF THE GORONGOSA PROJECT
GREG CARR
THE COMMUNITIES AND PEOPLE OF GORONGOSA
SUSANNA JOLLY and ANDREW TOBIASON
WILMA DAVIS,
PHILOMENA BYRNE
DANIEL AND IONA BYRNE
BONNIE BENJAMIN-PHARISS
MEGAN BROOKS CAROLLA
RYAN KIRKHAM
VASCO GALANTE
JOSÉ LUIZ GONÇALVES
MARIA EMILIA CORREIA
HÉLDER CORREIA
MARC STALMANS
JOYCE POOLE
MARC SORIANO CASERO

GORONGOSA NATIONAL PARK & THE GORONGOSA PROJECT
SINCERELY THANK THE FOLLOWING PARTNERS FOR THEIR GENEROUS
SUPPORT:

REPUBLIC OF MOZAMBIQUE
MINISTÉRIO DA TERRA, AMBIENTE E DESENVOLVIMENTO RURAL
MINISTÉRIO DA CULTURA E TURISMO
ADMINISTRAÇÃO NACIONAL DAS ÁREAS DE CONSERVAÇÃO

USAID
GEF
UNDP
IRISH AID
NORAD
OAK FOUNDATION
ZOO BOISE
RIZWAN ROUNDATION
GORONGOSA BUSINESS CLUB

FOR MORE INFORMATION ABOUT GORONGOSA NATIONAL PARK
AND THE GORONGOSA PROJECT, PLEASE VISIT

WWW.GORONGOSA.ORG

A Gorongosa Media and HHMI Tangled Bank Studios Production

ALL RIGHTS RESERVED

COPYRIGHT, GORONGOSA MEDIA, 2019

PHOTOS



Dominique Gonçalves, Manager of the Elephant Ecology project in Gorongosa National Park, Mozambique, shows some members of a "Girls' Club" images of the elephants that she is studying.



Zelinha Zeca is a volunteer with "Model Moms", a maternal health initiative at Gorongosa National Park. The Model Moms program teaches better nutrition to mothers to combat child malnutrition.



Elephants crossing the Pungue River after a night of “crop-raiding” in local farms.



Maria Fazenda inspecting a beehive fence. Scientists hope that bees may help stop elephants from entering locals farms at night to raid people's crops. Human wildlife conflict is a difficult problem to solve, but Gorongosa is committed to trying conflict mitigation strategies to achieve co-existence.



Isabel Pandie at school. Isabel was orphaned young and identified by local leaders as a child who should be given additional educational support at Girls Club, an after-school program run by Gorongosa National Park to help keep girls in school.



Isabel Pandie and Anora Manuel with Dominique Gonçalves at a "Girls' Club", an after-school program run by Gorongosa National Park to help keep girls in school.



Dominique Gonçalves, Manager of the Elephant Ecology Project in Gorongosa National Park, Mozambique.



Dominique Gonçalves at the edge of the floodplain in Gorongosa National Park.



Antonia Albano Vasco, one of the first wave of female rangers in Gorongosa National Park. She is part of the team that is protecting wildlife in the Park. Most of the Rangers in the Park are from the local community.



Anora Manuel, a member of a Gorongosa Park “Girls’ Club”, displays her artwork. She thinks she would like to be a ranger when she grows up, and protect animals.