

African Elephant (*Loxondonta africana*)

Table 1: Summary of regional and global Red List assessments for the African Elephant.

Region (and list of countries included in the assessment)	Status	Comments
Central Africa (Cameroon, Central African Republic, Chad, Congo, Democratic Republic of Congo and Equatorial Guinea)	DD	Data for Central Africa, both for the 1970s and the present, are incomplete and unreliable. Consequently, it was felt that an assessment based on such data at the regional level would be misleading, and a listing of Data Deficient has been assigned for this region. Nevertheless, data for this region are included in the continental assessment.
Eastern Africa (Eritrea, Ethiopia, Kenya, Rwanda, Somalia, Tanzania and Uganda)	VU	Eastern Africa was the region with the largest number of elephants in the 1970s, but also the one that experienced the worst poaching episodes in that and the following decade. While there are signs of recovery in some of the most important elephant populations, the growth of human populations in the interim has been considerable. If these human growth trends continue, it is unlikely that elephant numbers will reach the peaks of the 1970s.
Southern Africa (Angola, Botswana, Malawi, Mozambique, South Africa, Zambia, Zimbabwe)	LC	In the late 1970s, Southern Africa's elephant populations were recovering from historical lows in the early 20 th century. That recovery has continued, and elephant numbers in this region are now considerably higher than they were in the late 1970s, and indeed higher than in any other African region.
West Africa (Benin, Burkina Faso, Côte d'Ivoire, Ghana, Guinea, Guinea Bissau, Mali, Niger, Nigeria, Senegal, Sierra Leone, Togo)	NT	Elephant numbers were already comparatively low in West Africa in the 1970s, and are not believed to have declined considerably in the period up to the present. This region has the highest human population pressures and the highest levels of habitat fragmentation. Yet, as elephant range in West Africa extends over 175 000 km ² , it does not qualify for listing under the habitat reduction and fragmentation Criterion (B).
Continental (all of the above countries)	NT	The considerable increases in elephant numbers in Southern Africa since the 1970s have driven the overall listing to the NT Category. However, the regional variation in Red List category in this assessment is a good reflection of the variation that exists in the status of African elephants across their range.

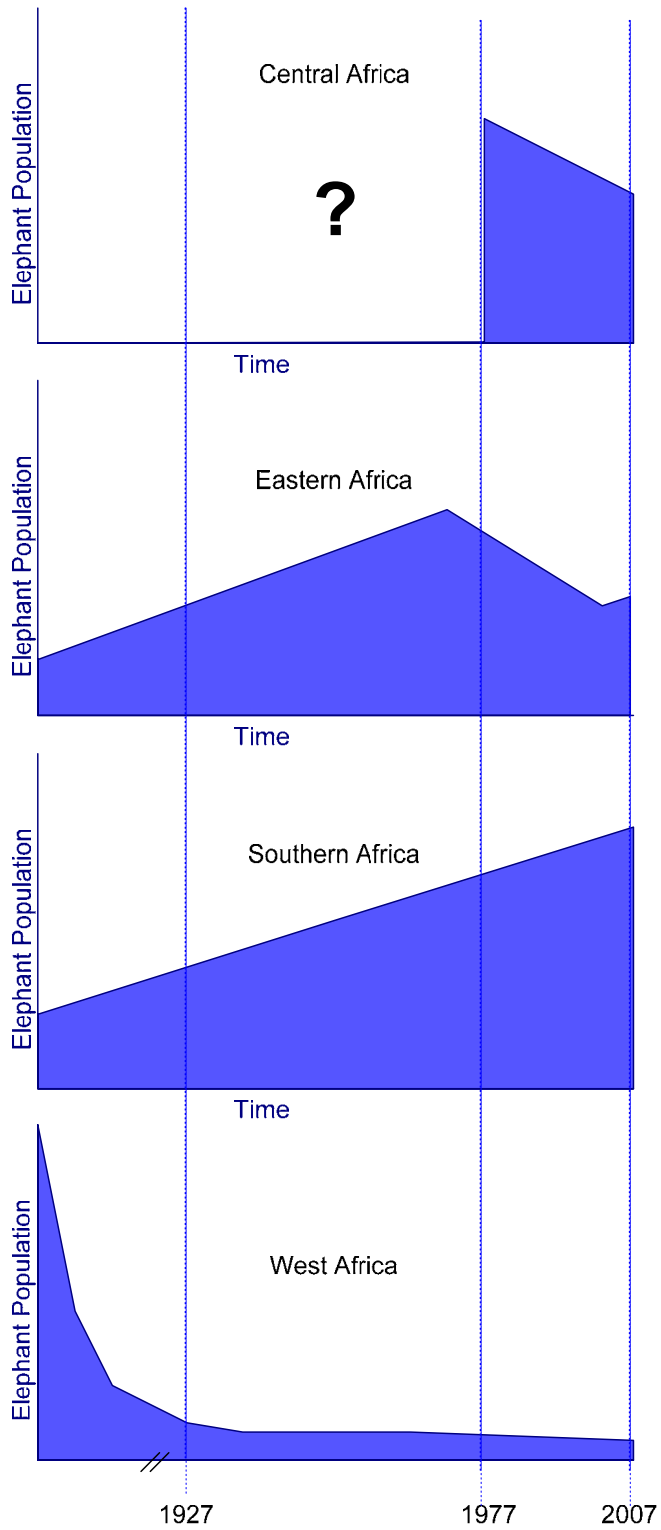


Figure 1. Speculated sub-regional trends in elephant populations in the 20th century (not to scale).

Elephant Range in Africa

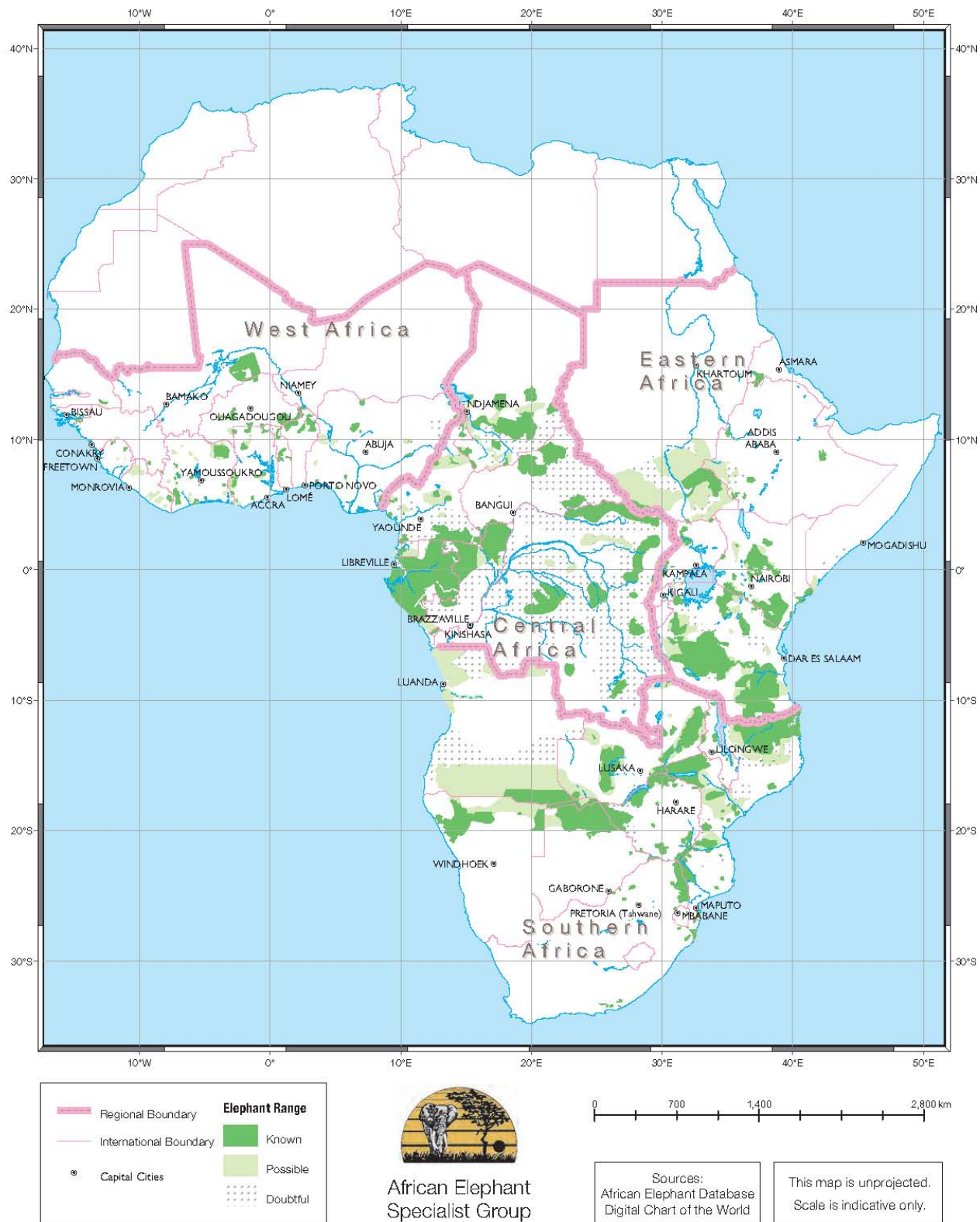


Figure 2: Range of the African Elephant.