

Bat Conservation Africa

Bat Conservation Africa (BCA) was formed in 2013 with support from Bat Conservational International and other partners to provide a platform to promote collaboration and coordination on numerous transboundary issues about Africa's diverse but threatened bat species, including but not limited to research, capacity building, and public education and outreach for the benefit of bat conservation. BCA is open to biologists, naturalists, conservationists, bat interest groups, students, or anyone interested in studying or conserving Africa's bats.



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Our goal

To facilitate research on, and conservation actions for, bats in Africa, through providing a network open to all bat conservation workers in the continent.

About Africa

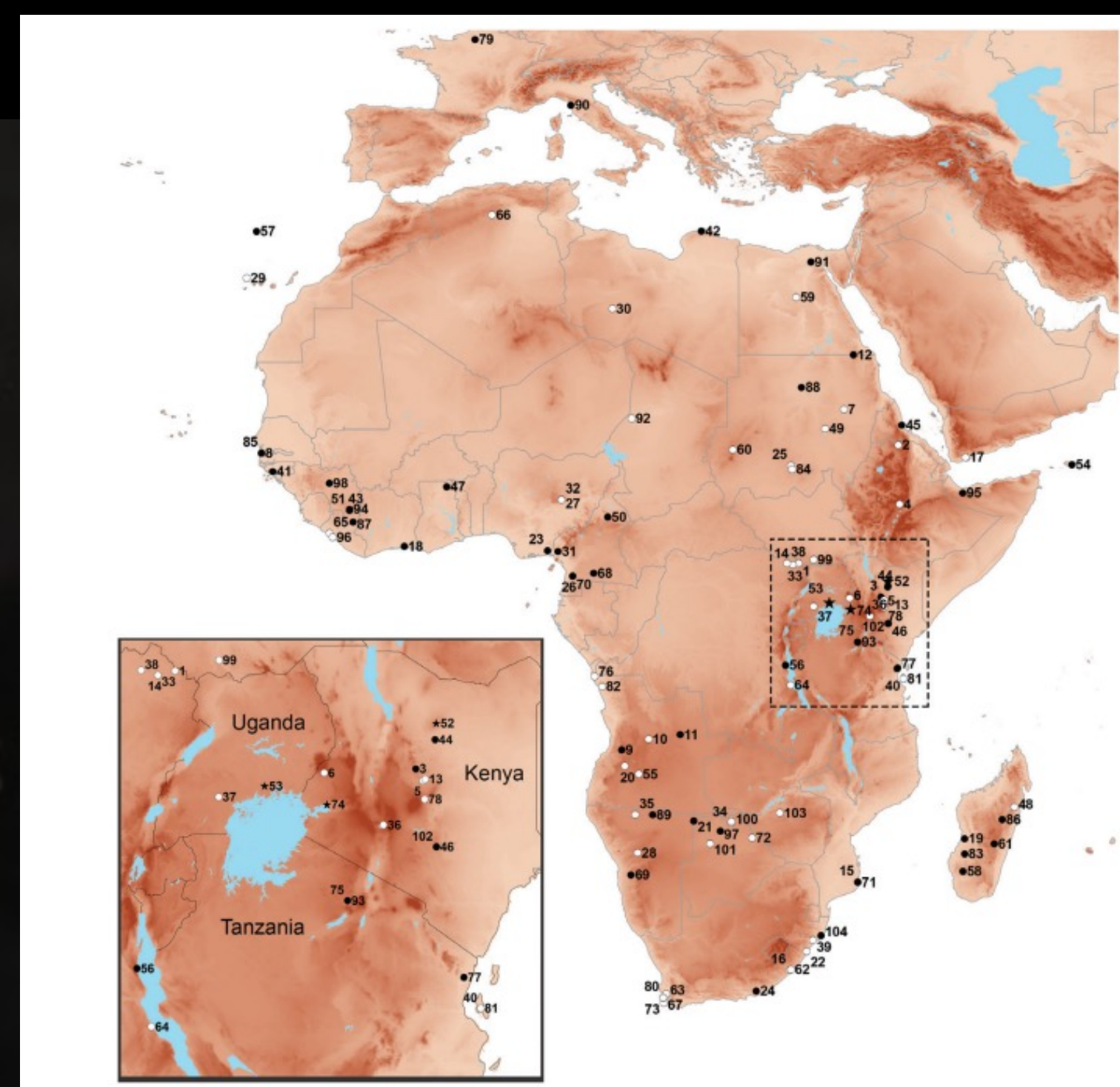
Africa is home to over 20% of the world's bat species. This rich diversity of nearly 300 species is often passed off for charismatic "megafauna" and thus receive relatively limited research interest and often ignored in habitat management plans. African bats face increasing threats from habitat destruction, persecution, and hunting for bushmeat. Individuals interested in African bats have previously worked in isolation with limited resources. To meet these challenges, Bat Conservation Africa (BCA) was launched. BCA is a network of individuals dedicated to the conservation of African bats. Serving as an information sharing platform, the network facilitates collaboration among members, develops and raises funds for bat projects at regional and continental levels, engages in public advocacy, and advises policy for the conservation of African bats.

Priorities for Conservation and Research

- Taxonomy and Systematics to describe African bats



Pipistrelle-like bats



Localities of taxa of African and Malagasy Vespertilionini and Pipistrellini



Triaenops afer

What is our impact?

- Capacity building through training and workshops



Course connecting African & Latin American students



Training students on field techniques, Durban, S. Africa



- Acoustic Monitoring of Bats



Recording echolocation calls using microphone arrays

- Conservation of Straw-Colored fruit of Bats



Setting up a harp trap during field course training, Kenya



State of African bats characterized by

- Limited Knowledge of species and their distribution
- Poor knowledge of their ecology
- Low numbers of expertise and funding
- Some species are classed on the IUCN Red List



- Cave- and Forest-dependent Bat Conservation



- Community Outreach Programs



BCA is committed to training a critical mass of the next generation of bat conservation scientists

Acknowledgements

