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## Seventy Elephants Find a New Home in Malawi

Seventy elephants found a new home in Majete Wildlife Reserve in Southern Malawi thanks to USAID support. African Parks (Majete) Ltd (APM) manages Majete Wildlife Reserve in a public-private partnership through an agreement signed between the Stichting African Parks Foundation (SAPF) and the Malawi government. SAPF's vision is to restore, develop and manage remote and vulnerable African protected areas in order to demonstrate biodiversity conservation and sustainable natural resource utilization. Furthermore, the Foundation's goal is also to ensure that these reserves are leveraged by a range of community based economic enterprises, thereby promoting self sustainable development within surrounding communities.



*Male bull elephant just prior to capture. (Photo: Curt Reintsma, USAID/Malawi)*

Since African Parks' arrival in March 2003, restocking has taken place in phases, and will continue with the aim of restoring populations of the original species that were present in Majete Wildlife Reserve. To date these animals include: black rhino, buffalo, waterbuck, bushbuck, eland, hartebeest, zebra, bush pig, impala, nyala, and sable. The agreement between SAPF and the Malawi government makes provision for the restocking of the Majete Wildlife Reserve with populations of exterminated species, acquired from other protected areas in Malawi and neighboring countries.

A team of specialists from North West Wildlife Veterinary Services worked closely with APM to ensure safety and efficiency in the health and translocation of the elephants. The relocation was supported by a USAID Global Development Alliance. Such projects mobilize the ideas, efforts and resources of governments, businesses and civil society by forging public-private alliances to stimulate economic growth, develop businesses and workforces, address health and environmental issues, and expand access to education and technology. The translocation of the 70 elephants to Majete Wildlife Reserve is one of many activities under the project. The Global Development Alliance has successfully built 400 worldwide alliances and continues to pull together all its resources to make the greatest impact for a greater good.

The Stichting African Parks Foundation is a charitable organization registered in the Netherlands and the United States ([www.africanparks-conservation.com](http://www.africanparks-conservation.com)) with the primary objective of ensuring the long-term integrity of some of Africa's national parks. In doing so, it is African Parks' belief that once these areas are properly restored and managed, they will have the ability to contribute to the formal economic development of a region for the benefit of its people.



*An elephant family is released at Majete Wildlife Reserve. (Photo: Jeanette Batiste, African Parks Majete)*

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