Our local community have cultural practices and taboos related to wildlife, including gorillas. We leveraged these cultural values to help establish guidelines and norms that support gorilla conservation. For example, traditional beliefs may discourage harming or disturbing gorillas. We also developed alternative livelihoods for local communities to reduce dependence on activities that harm the gorillas or their habitat, this involves promoting sustainable agriculture, eco-tourism, and other income-generating activities that align with conservation goals.

Our education programs that incorporate traditional knowledge raise awareness about the importance of gorilla conservation within local communities and this helps to build a collective understanding of the ecological significance of these animals and their habitat. We do collaborate with local communities in research initiatives and we encourage the exchange of knowledge of indigenous perspectives and observations to complement scientific research, leading to a more comprehensive understanding of gorilla behaviour, ecology, and the challenges they face ad to ensures that the traditional rights and needs are taken into account thus fostering a more inclusive and sustainable approach to gorilla protection.

We do also strengthen the capacity of local communities in terms of education, healthcare, and governance to create a more stable foundation for conservation efforts by empowering communities to better be equipped to actively participate in and benefit from conservation initiatives.