



### **Did you know?**

More than 800 million people around the world currently use mobile phones and that figure is growing daily!

In Australia alone, it is estimated that there were 9 million new mobile phones sold in the last 12 months.

Australians typically upgrade their phones every 18-24 months! This exerts enormous pressure on the mining of resources such as coltan needed to manufacture new phones.

80% of the world's coltan reserves are located within the Democratic Republic of Congo.

As the forest is denuded for mining, the protection once offered by the habitat in it's pristine state is now no longer able to shelter gorillas and a range of other species from the bush meat crisis.



In Kahuzi Biega National Park, more than fifty percent of the mountain gorilla population has been lost, leaving the species on the brink of extinction.

You can make a difference simply by donating your old mobile phone!

### **See Also**



- [United Nations](http://www.un.int/drcongo/war/coltan.htm)  
<http://www.un.int/drcongo/war/coltan.htm>
- [Pulitzercenter](http://www.pulitzercenter.org/openitem.cfm?id=177)  
<http://www.pulitzercenter.org/openitem.cfm?id=177>
- [Friends of the Congo](http://www.friendsofthecongo.org/new/coltan.php)  
<http://www.friendsofthecongo.org/new/coltan.php>
- [Jane Goodall Institute](http://www.janegoodall.org/africa-programs/programs/CCCDRC.asp)  
<http://www.janegoodall.org/africa-programs/programs/CCCDRC.asp>