Over 450 bird species occur here, including many rare species such as the Pel’s fish owl, crested guinea fowl, rosy-throated longclaw, rock pratincole, African skimmer, pygmy goose, black coucal, coppery-tailed coucal, olive woodpecker, Schalow’s turaco, emerald cuckoo, river warbler and the half-collared kingfisher.

Named after Impalila Island which means the 'far away place'

Tourism provides a variety of economic opportunities. Joint-venture enterprises, such as the Impalila Island Lodge, generate significant income, employment, training and other benefits.

Since the establishment of conservancies, wildlife numbers have steadily increased in communal areas. In Impalila, the wildlife population includes: elephant, buffalo, crocodile, hippopotamus, lechwe, common impala, sitatunga, waterbuck, bushbuck, warthog, zebra.

A conservancy is:

- a legally constituted management body, run by the community for the development of conservancies and the sustainable use of wildlife and natural resources
- managed by a group elected to serve the interests of all its members
- a place where wildlife conservation and tourism are traditional farming activities
- a place where wildlife populations increase as they are managed for productive gain
- a place where the value of the natural resources increases, enhancing the value of the land
- a forum through which services and developments can be channelled and integrated
- a place where multiple uses to minimise conflict and maximise the interests of all stakeholders

Conservancy activities include game counts and patrols, monitoring using the Event Book, mitigating human wildlife conflict and facilitating development.

Conservancy income is obtained from:

- sale of fishing license
- trophy hunting concession agreement
- guiding services (sport angling, birding, boat trips, village visits)
- the Impalila Conservancy Self-Insurance Scheme (HACCSIS)

Conservancy income is spent on:

- covering conservancy running costs
- improving conservancy infrastructure
- distributing game meat to households
- creating employment and paying staff salaries
- supporting the Bukalo Khuta, in recognition of its stabilising and leadership role
- covering conservancy running costs

The conservancy creates a variety of community and individual benefits, including:

- creating employment and paying staff salaries
- supplying the local people in recognition of the stabilising and leadership role
- distributing game meat to households
- supporting the Bukalo Khuta
- improving conservancy infrastructure
- covering conservancy running costs

Benefits from natural resources

Conservancy income is obtained from:

- Impalila Island Lodge (conservation agreement with islands in Africa)
- trophy hunting concession agreement
- guiding services (sport angling, birding, boat trips, village visits)
- sale of fishing licences

Conservancy income is spent on:

- creating employment and paying staff salaries
- supplying the local people in recognition of the stabilising and leadership role
- distributing game meat to households
- supporting the Bukalo Khuta
- improving conservancy infrastructure
- covering conservancy running costs

The conservancy creates a variety of other benefits, including financial support for a variety of festivals and events.