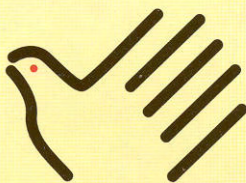


SADC REGIONAL PROGRAMME FOR RHINO CONSERVATION

MEETING OF SADC RHINO RANGE STATES

PROCEEDINGS

IDLE WINDS LODGE, SOUTH AFRICA: 14 – 15 MARCH, 2005



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SPECIES SURVIVAL COMMISSION
AFRICAN RHINO SPECIALIST GROUP

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A INTRODUCTION

Appointed representatives of the rhino management authorities of each of the SADC Rhino Range States convened at Idle Winds Lodge, South Africa (14 – 15 March 2005) together with representatives of the members of the SADC Rhino Consortium (SADC FANR, DGCS [Italian Ministry of Foreign Affairs], IUCN ROSA, WWF SARPO, CESVI and the IUCN/SSC AfRSG). This was the fifth meeting of the SADC Rhino Range States since the inception of the SADC Regional Programme for Rhino Conservation in September 1999. Participants to the meeting are listed in Annex 1 to these proceedings.

Opening remarks (SADC Secretariat, DGCS, CESVI)

Opening remarks were undertaken by representatives of SADC, DGCS, CESVI and consortium member organizations. This was followed by subsequent self presentation of present delegates from SADC ranges states with required apologies where appropriate.

Overview of objectives of the meeting (R. duToit)

The meeting was informed the Rhino Conservation programme was at its final state of the funding from the Italian Ministry of Foreign Affairs and therefore with a strong need to review performance, looking into problems and opportunity and decide how to best move from here. There was a need to refine the understanding of current status of rhino in the region and what significant developments have occurred.

In this regard the primary objectives of the meeting were:

- To review progress and achievements of the current programmes;
- To discuss steps for continuation of the programme

The review process is meant to look into key aspects of the activities as well as the overall programme.

The meeting also intended to provide with a quick update from the Rhino and Elephant Security Group. Priorities actions are to be planned to ensure effective closure of the current phase of the programme. The meeting was informed that a regional rhino translocation plan had been prepared and Zambia, Zimbabwe and SA would be the critical on this aspect. Of importance would be to look into the logistical and technical aspects associated to it. There was a need to look into the longer term strategy of the SADC rhino programme given that continuity to the current phase is highly required

- **Self-introductions by participants, apologies**
- **Approval of the agenda**

Review of previous Range States meeting (minutes) and matters arising

The meeting took place back to back with IUCN specialist group meeting Participants list was revised to reflect full presences and no major amendments were made to the minutes that were subsequently adopted. Namibian delegate proposed and Brooks seconded.

No action list for the minutes were included in the minutes however, a number of comments were on documents in a form of matters arising.

With respect to Malawi handing over the Chair to Botswana question was raised on whether Botswana had appointed a new chair. Response that Information was communicated to Botswana but the chair was noted yet appointed. Meeting requested Botswana to expedite the appointment of chair so the group could be functional.

B BRIEF PRESENTATIONS BY RANGE STATES

ANGOLA COUNTRY - NKOSI LUTA KINGENGO

The meeting was informed that two years after the Makokola meeting the country was busy undertaking surveys in three provinces; Namibe, Cunene and Kando Kubango. A picture was sent to local communities involved in the process to avoid confusions between hippo and rhino. Information provided indicated that rhinos do not exist in Angola at this point in time. Further information is being awaited from Kuando Kubango. The meeting was informed that in March Dr Brett visited Angola and worked with local counterparts on a draft rhino policy for Angola. Final comments from coordination are being waited for so that a final submission can be made to cabinet. The meeting was also informed that at present a national biodiversity strategy is being developed and Rhino is key to this exercise. At this point eventually a proposal can be made to re-introduce rhino in Angola, Etosha being the most secure area in the country.

Some of the questions/comments raised after the presentation included:

M. Brooks – if the draft policy is coming in Angola what is the future of rhino conservation in? It is a springboard for rhino conservation?

Dr Emslie – We need to know what management model is envisaged? Does it have to do with private sector engagement or only government responsibility?

Response – a meeting was held to bring on board private sector into the conservation agenda. We need to take cognizance that private sector in the country is still weak but efforts are being made to attract private sector.

MALAWI COUNTRY REPORT – ROY BHIMA

The meeting was informed that the country had just 9 animals after the population was extinct in 1988. The founder animals came from South Africa in 1998 and 2000. They have been several births with only two deaths. Two bulls fighting. Female died and nobody knows why. The animals are located in rhino sanctuary which is 3/4 fenced. Frankfurt Zoological Society provided assistance in the security of the parks. Other donors are also assisting in the development of management plans. The country has 10 years contract with FZS but they have decided to pool out. Major constraint is on funding. The country have a nice scout protection team and MGT team is located very far way, which is what is causing problems in data collection and management. Some supporters are becoming like the owners of the rhinos. Some donors do not like the areas of the sanctuary and there are some disagreements in the mgt approach creating divisions among partners.

The meeting was informed that opportunities exist with different donors. SaN Parks, Wildlife of Malawi have been of great assistance. Majedje??? is being management by African Parks (a company from South Africa).

Major threats can be viewed as associated to external funding limitation; poaching is difficult to control. Frequent climate variability is also affecting the vegetation. This programme has assisted in the past but currently it is no longer there.

Some of the comments/questions made to the Malawi presentation included:

Dr du Toit – rhino to be subject to another stage of the dialogue?

We should come up with another rhino mgt plan. After the 2004 RRG Workshop we haven't met to look into the way forward.

Dr Emslie – sustainability is in a longer term. There is a need for some retention in revenue to re-invest in conservation. Is there any option of re-looking into this revenue retention issue?

Response from the presenter - there are many different views on this and you are correct that this was one of the reasons Frankfurt pulled out.

Dr Brooks – The issue also has to do with the viability of the population. Having them in a sanctuary it undermines such viability. How to handle this?

Response from the presenter – the park is fenced. $\frac{3}{4}$ is fenced and views are being discussed to pool down the fence of the sanctuary. This is dividing the park into sections. How best can we manage the rhinos in the park without a sanctuary?

Dr Knight – we need not to lose sight of the reason behind the sanctuary. We need to look at it in a phased approach, supporting to other species.

It was noted that 300sqm in the lower Shire valley. In 1980-90, elephant population disappeared. It became just a wilderness area. African Parks came in and started re-introducing animals, fencing the area, introducing roads and mobilizing local communities. They have introduced new species and two translocations have occurred.

Dr Emslie – recommended best re-introduction practice to be near 20 founders as criteria. If you take down the fence animals will have a wider range area. Once numbers have built up you can then trans-locate.

SWAZILAND REPORT SUBMITTED BY GEORGE MBATHA

1. Priorities for Rhino Conservation in Swaziland

Our priorities have barely changed from the previous submission in 2003.

Introductory Boma at Hlane The costs have escalated, bringing the total to E 230 000 from the previous total of E 200 000, but it is still urgently needed for translocated rhinos.

Ground Support for Rangers We have yet to acquire the two motorcycles to increase security at Hlane. Again the costs have escalated and the cost is now about E 66 000.

Expansion of Range – Hlane Expansion always remains a priority. A study is being undertaken to justify / motivate His Majesty to agree to the inclusion of Ndvukuyamangedla and Grand Canyon areas into Hlane on the basis of expanded range for black and white rhino. This expansion would enable Hlane to support enough animals to make this an AfRSG continentally key population with ECC of +100 black rhino (Adcock 2002), and to bring to reality the recommendations of the Adcock study of 2002. This would be a first step towards possible participation in the KZN Wildlife / WWF rhino range expansion programme. Such a possibility would give teeth to any motivations directed at the Head of State.

Hlane fencing (To include Ndvukuyamangedla if possible). Quote +/- E79 000 per kilometre. Motivation similar to 1 and additionally it would expand important vulture nesting range south of Nzotho, currently not being used due to disturbance by humans. Their adjoining section of Hlane supports the highest density of tree nesting vultures in the world.

Fencing lines excluding Ndvukuyamangedla is 22km; and including is 42km. The Simunye section remaining is 4km.

Control of Invasive Alien Vegetation over Rhino Habitat Cromalina and Lantana Camera encroachment is serious particularly over black rhino habitat, but is also affecting the habitat of white rhino. It is also threatening to impact negatively on these two species. Fire appears to be the best control agent, but there is not always sufficient combustible material to support a good fire, particularly where plant density has shaded out the grass factor. Areas cleared are relatively quickly reclaimed by indigenous grasses, but the clearing is a slow process.

Cremolina and Lantana are seriously affecting both Hlane and Mkhaya, and are in desperate need of control.

2. The Swaziland Game Act

The strength of the Game Act has been clearly shown in the control of poaching which reached disastrous levels during the late 80's and early 90's.

The salient points of this legislation are:

Game Rangers have been given the necessary powers under the Act to perform with confidence and without fear, enabling them to deal with highly developed mafia-style crime. This has boosted morale and has resulted in very effective law enforcement.

A game ranger appointed by the Head of State, or any person acting under the instruction of such game ranger may:

- ❖ bear arms and may, in life threatening circumstances, shoot to kill
- ❖ search any person or premises without a warrant
- ❖ arrest without a warrant
- ❖ seize any property or item connected with an offence without a warrant
- ❖ stop and search any vehicle, train or aeroplane without a warrant
- ❖ and in doing any of these things in the execution of his/her official duty he/she shall not be liable to prosecution

Because the powers of game rangers are so extensive and because of their power to co-opt additional manpower by instruction, the number of substantive rangers has been kept to a minimum. In Swaziland, there are only 8 substantively gazetted rangers all of whom are highly disciplined and responsible people who have stood the test of time and who are aware that abuse of power would threaten the survival of the Game Act. Furthermore, there is in practice a zero tolerance for abuse of power, so extreme caution and discipline is exercised in the selection of additional co-opted manpower.

In response to Court failure to respond to the need to protect wildlife and to help curb poaching, discretion has been removed from the courts in substantial measure.

Section 8 of the Game Act, which covers schedules I & II (specially protected and Royal game respectively) was included in the Non-Bailable Offences Act, along with murder, rape, armed robbery, hard drugs, weapons of war, and money laundering. This Non-bailable Act was unexpectedly abolished in its previous form, but the serious crimes it covered have conditional bail terms attached to them. His Majesty has now directed that Section 8 be included in the list of serious crimes. This indicates how serious Swaziland is in her commitment to conserving her

wildlife heritage, and with this kind of support, we are confident we can sustain our effective and high profile rhino security.

All birds are listed under Schedule II (Royal Game) making the killing of any bird without a permit a non-bailable offence.

- ❖ Mandatory minimum penalties have been introduced
- ❖ Offenders against species listed in Schedule I face a minimum jail term of 5 years imprisonment without the option of a fine. Second offenders – a mandatory 15 years without the option of a fine
- ❖ Offenders against species listed in Schedule II face a minimum mandatory 2 years imprisonment or E 2000 fine, provided the **fine imposed shall not be less** than the value of the animals poached, eg. The scheduled value of a sable antelope is currently E 20 000 (The schedules of valuation need updating because game prices have escalated since 1991 when values were set)
- ❖ Offenders against species listed in Schedule II face a minimum sentence of 6 months jail or E 600, provided the **fine shall not be less** than the value of animals poached. For example, 6 impala snared, currently valued at E 250 each, would equate to E 1500, so the fine imposed may **not be less than this**.

In all cases, the concept of replacement of animals poached has been introduced into the Act. Failing replacement or compensation for the animals' value, an additional mandatory 2 years is added to the 5 year term for Schedule I game and additional 1 year is mandatorily added to the 2 year and 6 months minimum jail terms prescribed for Schedules II and III species respectively.

Replacement / compensation for animals taken, in terms of the Act, shall be awarded to the **owner** of such animals or if the owner cannot be identified, the replacement / compensation shall be awarded to the **State** by order of the court. No sentence may be suspended or remitted by the court.

And to ensure compliance with the Act, a clause is included which stipulates that any person, including a judicial official who frustrates, obstructs or defeats the ends of justice or who **attempts** to do so, shall go to jail for a period of not less than 1 year without the option of a fine. (Here we see the unique development of the judiciary itself being legislated against. It must be remembered that this legislation came about in response to Court failure to handle cases against wild animals responsibly).

Any legislation is as good only as its application. And it is easy for prosecution to deliberately spoil a case with pretended incompetence. It is also not difficult for a magistrate to deliberately misinterpret evidence. It therefore can be a thin line that separates a blunder from a deliberate act so we need the police, the prosecution and the judiciary to respect the spirit and the purpose of the Act. Nevertheless, the Game Act has worked extremely well for us, and has produced the intended results.

The Game Act continues to work, though there has been a drastic decline in the ability of Justice generally to handle cases.

Swaziland's legislation and the Game Act is currently under scrutiny by various experts in order to make it CITES compliant.

3. Births, Deaths and Sales

White rhino In both Hlane and Mkhaya, the white rhino has bred well. There were limited fatalities from both natural and unnatural causes. One unnatural death was caused by ingestion of wire and the natural causes were from bull fighting, drought and old age.

Black rhino This population has hit the ecological carrying capacity in their present range, and this is causing fighting amongst the bulls, leading to two mortalities. One female died of old age. The birth rate has slowed down, but it is hoped that due to exporting two males to SAN Parks, more space has been created, encouraging the birth rate to pick up again. In pursuance of the study done by Keryn Adcock, two farms have been bought to be incorporated into Mkhaya to add further range.

4. Law Enforcement

Following up on the report at the previous meeting in 2003, the Lavumisa rhino horn trafficking case that resulted in the arrest of a past magistrate from South Africa being arrested for the trafficking of rhino horn. The accused were convicted and sentenced to 5 and 7 years in jail respectively and without the option of a fine.

In February of this year, Simon Millidge and Megan Diamond of TRAFFIC paid a visit to Hlane and Mkhaya to examine our stockpiles, in accordance with CITES requirements. We are still awaiting their report.

5. Threats

The conspiratorial attempt to wrest the Game Act out of the Kings Office by people of influence, who would have it softened, continues. Cudgels have been taken up by an NGO Yonge Nawe, whose director has purged herself with outrageously untrue and unsubstantiated, slanderous allegations against the King's Office, Big Game Parks and the Private Sector in an attempt to discredit, and to get the Game Act and CITES returned to the Swaziland National Trust Commission, where her husband would control them in his capacity as Director of SNTC Parks. (SNTC's powers of authority are confined to the boundaries of their own parks and are not country wide).

Swaziland's wildlife depends on the stability of the laws, as does the economy and the tourist trade. Therefore Big Game Parks stands resolute in its position to support the Game Act and CITES being retained in the King's Office, where its functionality flourishes, and to resist all pressures to move it to the Ministry of Tourism.

6. The Downlisting of the Swaziland Rhino

Swaziland's proposal to CITES for downlisting her white rhino population from Appendix I to Appendix II at the Conference of Parties in Bangkok in November 2004 was successful. For the proposal to be successful, it was necessary to be supported by a non-detrimental finding. Swaziland therefore commissioned a rhino specialist, Keryn Adcock, to assess whether or not a downlisting of Swaziland's rhino would be detrimental to its rhino population. The result of this assessment was that the downlisting would not be detrimental to the rhino population. Extensive additional expert advice also supported this non-detriment finding.

The issue was put to the vote at the CoP and 87 parties voted in favour of the proposal while 15 voted against, and there were 29 abstentions. We were overwhelmingly supported. Kenya and India were the two countries that most vocally opposed the proposal and several NGO's also spoke against it. The two salient reasons were that Swazi legislation was non-compliant with CITES and that a population of 61 white rhinos was too small to be viable. The first of these reasons ignored the fact that Swazi legislation protecting rhinos was amongst the harshest in the world with the record showing that not a single rhino had been lost to poaching for a full 12 years, and the second reason ignored the fact that the entire white rhino population of the world, (some

13 000), came back from less than 30 animals. Some researchers place the number as low as 12 animals.

The downlisting result greatly enhances Big Game Parks' policy of sustainable utilization of natural resources and to our ability to manage our rhino population optimally – though the trophy hunting option is unlikely to be taken up for a very long time to come.

BOTSWANA COUNTRY REPORT – MERCY MASEDI

Introduction

Botswana like many other countries experienced the extinction of both black and white rhinos in the 19th century. Rhinos currently found in Botswana are remnants of rhinos introduced into the country from South Africa between 1960 and 1980, and recently in the last decade. We really need to appreciate regional cooperation through the SADC Rhino Regional programme through which we managed to reintroduce quite a good number of rhinos through exchange programmes. We have a total of seventy eight rhinos with Chief's Island holding the largest population in the wild.

Population Distribution

The rhino population distribution is as follows:

COUNTRY DEN	SPECIES	SSP	PARK	TYPE	NUM	SIZE(km²)	RCPE	PROB	SG	TOTAL
BOTS 0.007	WHITE	CSS	MOREMI GR	S	1	>4000	29+2	2		29
BOTS 0.001	BLACK	Dbm	MOREMI GR	S	1	>4000	4			4
BOTS 0.674	WHITE	Css	SANCTUARY	C	1	43	29		29	
BOTS 0.333	WHITE	Css	MOKOLODI	P	1	30	10			10
BOTS 0.171	WHITE	Css	THOLO	p	1	35	6			6

Conservation plan

Our Rhino Management Strategy has been printed and published and is now working. The document is a vision towards rhino conservation and is expected to be a guide in the long-term rehabilitation of the rhino populations in Botswana.

Rhino poaching

No poaching has been reported in Botswana from June 2004 to date but we have a case on illegal possession of two rhino horns smuggled into the country by Zimbabwean nationals, the rhinos are believed to have been killed in Zimbabwe. The case is awaiting trial.

Rhino conservation activities

A study of Khama Rhino Sanctuary to hold black rhinos has been done. However a few technical issues have to be resolved before any further animals could be relocated there.

Constraints

All the rhino transmitters in Mombo are not working, this gives officers a hard time with monitoring and security. They have to rely on ear marking under a difficult and dense terrain. As of now about seven animals have moved vast distances from chief's Island and need to be located and translocated back to Mombo. The operation calls for resources such as the helicopter which at the moment the Department's does not have a pilot. Hence we have to look up to the BDF who

have their own schedules of activities to help to capture the animals. The plan is to do that before Winter.

Conservation measures in place to protect the few black and white rhino population we have:

As noted earlier, Chief’s Island holds the largest rhino population, These animals are monitored daily by our Anti-poaching personnel and fortunately we have the support of the Botswana Defence Force who compliment manpower. The site coordinator has worked hard with training these officers on monitoring procedures.

Committees

Two rhino committees are still in place, the Botswana Rhino management Committee and the Botswana Rhino Security. The Botswana Rhino Management Committee meets annually and when need arises twice to discuss general issues pertaining to rhinos in Botswana. The security group meets quarterly and their contributions have made a great positive impact on the security of rhinos. Through this committee, sister organisations especially the Botswana Defence Force has been able to provide a wing of support with manpower.

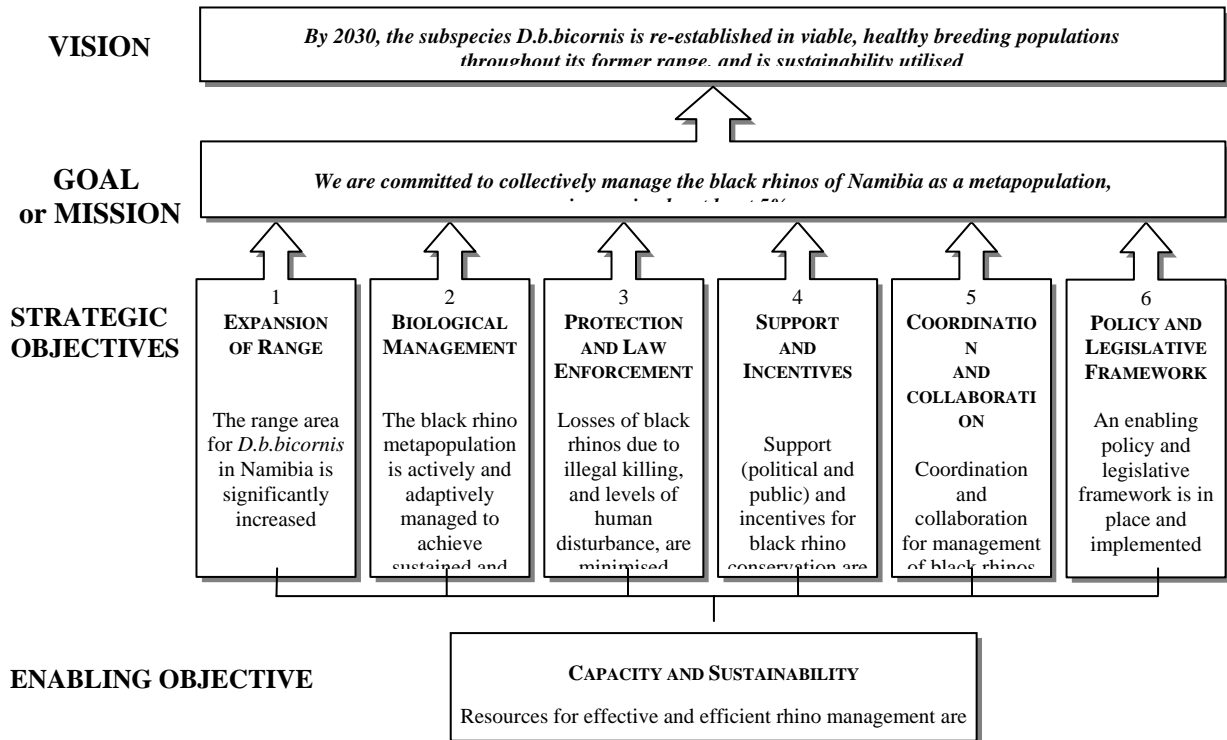
Conclusion

We appreciate the role of private concessionaires which helps with monitoring and facilitates transport during translocations. We hope this spirit will reign for good and through that in no time we will have a healthy population.

NAMIBIA COUNTRY REPORT – PIERRE DU PREEZ

1. Conservation plan.

Namibia has developed a Black Rhinoceros Conservation Strategy that concentrates on maximizing population growth rates through biological management, and expanding the range. The logical framework for the strategy is summarized in diagrammatic form below, showing the main strategic objectives and their contribution to the overall goal of Namibia’s black rhino conservation programme.



2. Committees

2.1. Rhino Technical Advisory Group

Official Title: Rhino Technical Advisory Group (RTAG)
Chair: Rhino Coordinator, DSS, MET
Term: The ToR shall be reviewed annually whereupon the RTAG may be reconstituted if required.

Objective

The rhino technical advisory group will exist to provide input into the management of rhinos in Namibia. It is tasked with overseeing the implementation of the national management plan, and providing technical support to the Policy and Management Meeting of the Minister of Environment and Tourism through the Director and Deputy Director DSS).

The RTAG is responsible for:

- Compiling and submitting reports and on:
 - a. Annual management and work plans
 - b. Population performance and status reports for each population
 - c. Farm inspections
 - d. Monitoring programs
 - e. Ear notching/other marking programs
 - f. Training
 - g. Any other technical matter related to the conservation and management of rhinos
- Ensuring the effective coordination of all stakeholders in rhino conservation
- Securing the necessary funding for rhino management

3. Rhino population estimates for 31 December 2004

3.1. White Rhino

CONFIDENTIAL INFORMATION PRESENTED

A national survey for white rhino on private land was conducted in 2004 on all privately owned populations. Indications are there that the ENP population could be under estimated however it is very difficult to determine because of the low density. A further 15 animals were translocated to in ENP in 2004.

Black Rhino Custodian Programme

CONFIDENTIAL INFORMATION PRESENTED

3.1. Black rhino on state land

CONFIDENTIAL INFORMATION PRESENTED

5. Translocations 1st January 2002 – 31st October 2004

CONFIDENTIAL INFORMATION PRESENTED

6. Rhino poached

CONFIDENTIAL INFORMATION PRESENTED

7. Rhino conservation activities under SADC

- a. Capacity building

- Training needs assessment – SADC Rhino Programme, Rob Blok.
 - Scene of the crime training – SADC Rhino Programme, Rod Potter.
 - Instructors course Pilansberg – AfRSG/SADC Rhino Programme.
 - In service training of rhino monitors ENP – MET, R. Loutit (SADC Consultant)
- b. Rhino programme support
- Mobile boma – SADC Rhino Programme
 - National Rhino Data Base – SADC Rhino Programme
- c. Initiatives
- Biological management of the Kunene populations – translocation of founder groups within the former range.
 - Expanding custodian programme to communal conservancies – Uukwaluudhi and possibly 2006 - Naye-Naye
 - Biological management of the ENP population to maximize growth, identifying sub populations in ENP – Capture 2002/3/4/5.
 - Adapting the full moon monitoring in ENP to concentrate on indicator water holes for the collection of demographic data.
 - Assessment of the feasibility to translocate a founder black rhino breeding group to Namib Naukluft Park (Naukluft section).
 - Trophy hunting of black rhino males (CITES Cop 13)

TANZANIA COUNTRY REPORT – BONAVENTURA MIDALA

1.0 Introduction

Rhino conservation and management in Tanzania has continued to receive top priority in various sites where rhinos still exist. We have two subspecies of black rhino populations in the country. The subspecies *Diceros bicornis michaeli* is confined to the northern part of the country mainly in the Serengeti National Park and Ngorongoro Conservation area. The other subspecies *Diceros bicornis minor* is found in the southern part of Tanzania with Selous Game Reserve being the current main stronghold. This report highlights on the progress made in protection and conservation of rhino populations during the period from March 2003 to March 2005.

2.0 Rhino Status

The rhino populations in Tanzania occur in scattered discrete localities that include the Serengeti National Park, Ngorongoro Conservation Area, Selous Game Reserve and Mkomazi Rhino Sanctuary in Mkomazi Game Reserve.

- **Serengeti National Park:** Two known black rhino populations exist in the park. They are found in the southern and northern parts of the park. The number of rhinos has steadily increased from 3 animals in 1994 to 22 animals (2004), with 14 rhinos in the southern zone and 8 rhinos in the northern zone respectively.
- **Ngorongoro Conservation Area:** The number of rhinos in the Ngorongoro Conservation Area has slightly increased from 17 animals in 1994 to 19 animals, in 2004.
- **Selous Game Reserve:** Efforts to protect, secure and monitor the few remaining rhinos in the Selous have been consistently intensified and improved resulting to steady

increase of the rhino population. The number of rhinos has significantly increased from 26 rhinos in 1991 to 44 rhinos in 2004.

- **Mkomazi Rhino Sanctuary:** The sanctuary has seven (7) surviving rhinos out of the eight that were re-introduced from South Africa. The sanctuary lost one male (Sub-adult) that died of a nervous system malfunctioning. The females in Mkomazi Rhino sanctuary have not bred on reason that the three bulls in the sanctuary are subordinate to alpha female. Plans are underway to translocate bulls between Mkomazi and Ngorongoro.

Table 1. Rhino population numbers and distribution

CONFIDENTIAL INFORMATION PRESENTED

3.0 Rhino Monitoring and Protection

Tanzania has continued to improve surveillance and monitoring techniques in order to ensure adequate security in rhino zones. Among the techniques used include the following:

- **Patrol schemes:** Routine and emergency patrols are carried out in and outside Protected Areas. The evident success of patrol schemes in the reporting period is that no rhino carcass or any signs of rhino poaching have been found.
- **Night surveillance and observation:** is undertaken by observing and photographing the animals. For example this technique has proved to be precise in providing data of individual animals.
- **Footprint tracing:** This technique allows for immediate recognition of an individual by comparing the fresh spoor with known copies of other animals and a crucial quick decision can be taken to determine whether it is a 'new' rhino (undocumented) or it is a known one (already recorded). Although this technique has been applied in the Selous, it has a set back of being applicable in only favorable substrate conditions, which are not common in the rhino zones.
- **Aerial surveillance:** Regular aerial surveillance flights are undertaken to indicate preferred rhino habitat by vegetation types, eco-zones and water availability during dry season. This technique also function as aerial detection of poaching activities and carcasses of big game such as rhino and elephants. Aerial reconnaissance flights have significantly increased the range and effectiveness of the successful location of poachers' camps and relaying the exact coordinate to the ground team for effective arrest and poacher camp location.

4.0 Rhino Management Plan

Tanzania is committed to put in place mechanisms that will ensure the lasting recovery of the black rhino. Tanzania has a draft rhino management plan outlining the steps that need to be taken to continue protect, conserve and maintain the present steady increase of the black rhino. The draft management plan is in the process of being finalized to become operational.

5.0 Training and Rhino monitoring techniques

Training and capacity building is an ongoing activity and every opportunity is taken to further expand knowledge of rhino monitoring teams. During the reporting period four rhino survey specialist from Zimbabwe, sponsored by SADC Regional Programme for Rhino Conservation assisted our monitoring team in rhino monitoring techniques and additional training. Rhino

monitoring techniques training course on Rhino Crime Scene Procedures is schedule to take place in early May 2005.

6.0 Threats to Rhino populations

The main threats facing the small populations of black rhino include the following: -

- **Poaching:** Despite of the existing security system in the rhino zones yet the rhinos that move out of the intensive protected area are considered unsafe and therefore prone to poaching.
- **Inbreeding:** This is particular to Moru Kopjes and Ngorongoro Crater meta populations, where there are dominant bulls which for a long period have had an opportunity to breed with most of the females including their own daughters resulting into a threat of severe inbreeding potential within these small populations.
- **Competition for home range:** Fully-grown bulls compete for home range resulting into severe fighting and dominant bulls displacing other bulls to unsafe areas.
- **Diseases:** Tick borne disease has resulted into increased calf mortality in the Ngorongoro Crater.

7.0 Way Forward

Tanzania intends to implement various strategies in order to improve her performance in the securing and protection of the rhinos. Emphasis will be on:

- Maintain high level of security in rhino zones by strengthening, equipping and training field patrol units.
- Translocate the dominant breeding bull out of the Ngorongoro crater to Mkomazi Rhino sanctuary in order to boost breeding.
- Review and operationalize the Management Plan for the black rhino.
- Establish and maintain information exchange with neighboring countries
- Maintain and effectively manage rhino protection database.

8.0 Conclusion:

Conservation of black rhino in Tanzania is an expensive undertaking and requires financial and material commitment. Consequently, the increasing rhino population in Tanzania is encouraging hence calls for support from all stakeholders.

E. STRATEGIC REVIEW OF THE SADC RHINO PROGRAMME

The session was meant to provide an opportunity to range states representatives to produce a strategic assessment of the general outcome of the programme. Participants were requested to participate in a SWOT analysis session. The session was facilitated by G. Daconto, CESVI.

Participants were provided with a handout which included the programme logframe, the outline of programme's outputs and activities, a review of the activities to date and conditionalities pertaining to the selection of tasks. Participants were requested to provide inputs in terms of STRENGTHS, WEAKENESS, OPPORTUNITIES and THREATS, as analysed with regard to the programme outputs. The seven programme outputs were clustered as follows:

Output 1:	Institutional Development
Output 4 & 5:	Training, Capacity-Building, Community Awareness
Output 2 & 6:	Technical Tools + Know-How
Output 3 & 7:	Projects and leverage of additional donor support

The table below consolidates the outcome of the inputs provided by the participants through submission of written cards and subsequent open discussion, which assisted in reviewing and confirming the perceptions shared among range states representatives.

A factual record of the submissions and discussions is also included in the annex.

	STRENGTHS	WEAKNESSES	OPPORTUNITIES	THREATS
Output 1: Institutional Development	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▶ States have been encouraged to establish own coordination structures and strategies at national level, through the establishment of National Focal Points, National Rhino Committee, National Action Plan / Strategy. ▶ The participation of “minor” rhino range states in the regional conservation agenda has achieved a higher profile than before, and has been supported through the establishment of the SADC RRG. ▶ Effective regional coordination of conservation interventions has been supported through regional level activities and structures (e.g., holding of regular SADC Range States Conference, SADC RRG/RMG) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▶ Only three countries have developed national strategies, and the policy development/ endorsement process has not been completed in some states. ▶ There is a high turn-over among NFPs ▶ Regional coordination has suffered from poor communication and the turn over of the programme coordinator ▶ Programme’ effectiveness has been constrained by the limited time-frame, lack of adequate endorsement of workplans by NFPs. ▶ Lack of an equity based approach to fund allocation. ▶ Effectiveness and sustainability of established national and regional (i.e. RRG) institutions questioned. ▶ National institutions suffer from limited 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▶ Creation of synergies with other regional initiatives and leveraging of additional funding. ▶ Continued support to regional and national institutions to consolidate achievements and towards more inclusive and equitable actions (e.g., through phase 2). ▶ Raise policy-level awareness and support to rhino conservation initiatives. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▶ Effectiveness of NFPs constrained by national factors (turn over, institutional capacities, policy awareness and support, perceived interference in national appointments). ▶ Lack of financial sustainability after donor support is withdrawn (e.g., RRG and general regional coordination).

	STRENGTHS	WEAKNESSES	OPPORTUNITIES	THREATS
	<p>events, specific regional initiatives and tasks, exchange programmes, coordination and networking).</p> <p>► Project implementation has been participatory</p>	<p>capacity (human resources, policies).</p>		

	STRENGTHS	WEAKNESSES	OPPORTUNITIES	THREATS
Output 4 & 5: Training, Capacity-Building, Community Awareness	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▶ Improved intellectual capital in the region, through the delivery of tangible products (tools, manuals, training courses, etc.) ▶ The above, in turn, has raised the profile of and policy level support to rhino conservation. ▶ Tangible improvement in small but stable cadre of experts available in the region. ▶ Adoption of common tools and approaches strengthened (e.g., rhino crime). ▶ Improved community awareness of rhino conservation. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▶ Involvement of communities still too limited in scope. ▶ Involvement of RRG countries still too limited in scope. ▶ Low tech methods and field level implementation /dissemination of tools not adequately considered. ▶ Cadre of experts still limited, needs expansion. ▶ Economic benefits of rhinos can't be easily separated from consideration of other species / land use. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▶ Provide additional support to community level /participatory interventions. ▶ Leverage further expansion of cadre of experts, building on programme achievements ▶ Support innovative models of community involvement over long timeframes and through tangible shareholding options (e.g., as in Save Conservancy) ▶ Link to poverty alleviation strategies. ▶ Do not limit focus of community participation to economic benefits, but include also broader issues (e.g., national pride, higher awareness, change in attitudes / public opinion). ▶ 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▶ Expectations of community benefits may be unrealistic and thus undermine future community support. ▶ Community involvement always require long timeframes. ▶ Lack of continued funding support may unravel certain achievements. ▶ Diminishing policy level attention by range states, donors, region.

	STRENGTHS	WEAKNESSES	OPPORTUNITIES	THREATS
Output 2 & 6: Technical Tools + Know-How	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▶ The programme has developed and made available several tangible and practical tools (e.g., databases, security, etc.) that enhance technical capacities in the region. ▶ Improved tools, technical capacities and information in turn can raise the policy profile of rhino conservation. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▶ A number of tools have not reached adequate field level adoption. ▶ Certain tools developed may be inappropriate for implementation in average field conditions (too high tech). ▶ Skewed geographical coverage of tools (e.g., little adoption in RRG countries). ▶ Continued lack of a SADC regional reporting system (still limited to RMG) and regional database ▶ Certain tasks have no been completed (e.g., database for Namibia). 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▶ Continued support (e.g. through a phase 2) and training can build on achievements and tools developed to promote better dissemination, field level adoption and involvement of RRG countries. ▶ Initiate annual status reporting which will focus on capacity of states to manage rhino populations and enhance identification of gaps. ▶ Identify and develop practical workable tools 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▶ Persisting capacity constraints and loss of skills in range states. ▶ Lack of regional reporting mechanism / database ▶ Lack of continued financial support to training and tool development. ▶ Poor absorption capacity in range states..

	STRENGTHS	WEAKNESSES	OPPORTUNITIES	THREATS
Output 3 & 7: Projects and leverage of additional donor support	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▶ Stronger and better coordinated regional efforts, delivering practical and important interventions, such as establishing basis for metapopulation management and important reintroduction in former range states (RRG countries). ▶ Delivery of specific valuable projects, such as the biological management of Kunene rhinos. ▶ Effective leverage of co-funding resources with other donors. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▶ Skewed geographical selection of projects (although this is a by-product of the chosen programme strategy) ▶ Implementation constrained by limited timeframe, delays. ▶ Reintroduction of small founder population because of funding constraints ▶ Limited co-funding leverage and involvement of communities 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▶ Use example of effective benefit from donor funding to leverage additional donor support. ▶ Seek further support building on the approach used by the programme to identify priorities through transparent processes (open conditionalities) and country participation. ▶ Clear indication of effort to be done for rhino conservation at national and regional levels, including on security. ▶ Build on capacity already developed in range states and on successful reintroduction initiatives. ▶ RRG needs more support but must also increase self-reliance. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▶ Metapopulation management may not be financially sustainable and can be donor dependent. ▶ Diminishing political support in range states. ▶ Growing reliance from donor support even by RMG countries. ▶ Donor funding availability affected by donor conditionalities and required management standards (poor accountability may undermine donor support).

F. WHAT NEXT? CONCEPTS FOR PHASE 2 OF SADC RPRC

By R. du Toit

SADC REGIONAL PROGRAMME FOR RHINO CONSERVATION

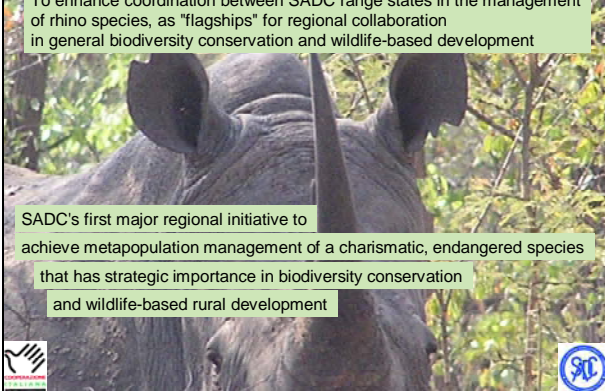

MOTIVATION FOR SADC RPRC PHASE II




PHASE 1 GOAL

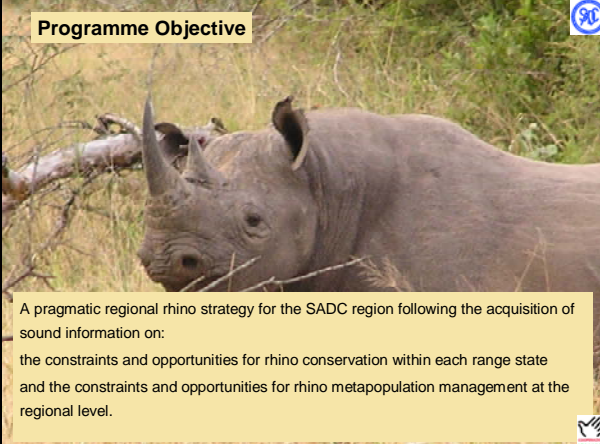

To enhance coordination between SADC range states in the management of rhino species, as "flagships" for regional collaboration in general biodiversity conservation and wildlife-based development

SADC's first major regional initiative to achieve metapopulation management of a charismatic, endangered species that has strategic importance in biodiversity conservation and wildlife-based rural development

Programme Objective

A pragmatic regional rhino strategy for the SADC region following the acquisition of sound information on:
 the constraints and opportunities for rhino conservation within each range state
 and the constraints and opportunities for rhino metapopulation management at the regional level.

Institutional roles

CESVI is the contractor: interfaces with Italian Government, undertakes overall programme management

SADC Secretariat - links the NGO consortium with the SADC intergovernmental structure

IUCN-ROSA - programme administration

WWF-SARPO - technical contributions

AfrSG - technical contributions




Main themes to date

Strategic planning and coordination


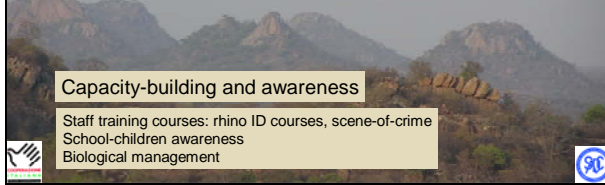
- National strategies
- Formation of RRG, assimilation of RMG
- Resuscitation of RESG
- Advice on initiation of specific projects
- Regional metapopulation strategy

Tools for rhino management, monitoring and protection

Software: WILDb database, intelligence, population estimation
 techniques: census techniques, radiotelemetry, biochemical, GPS patrol data

Capacity-building and awareness

- Staff training courses: rhino ID courses, scene-of-crime
- School-children awareness
- Biological management

PHASE 2

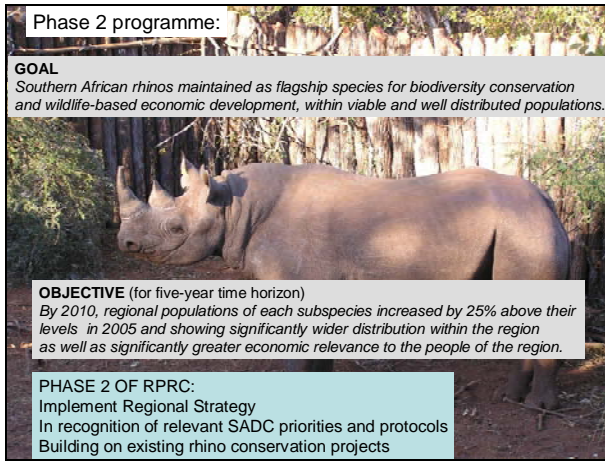


Move on from laying the foundation (networking, strategizing, providing tools) to building a durable structure (implementation of regional strategy)

MEET THE CHALLENGE: DEMONSTRATE RELEVANCE TO SADC DEVELOPMENT NEEDS AND OPPORTUNITIES

Phase 2 programme:

GOAL
 Southern African rhinos maintained as flagship species for biodiversity conservation and wildlife-based economic development, within viable and well distributed populations.



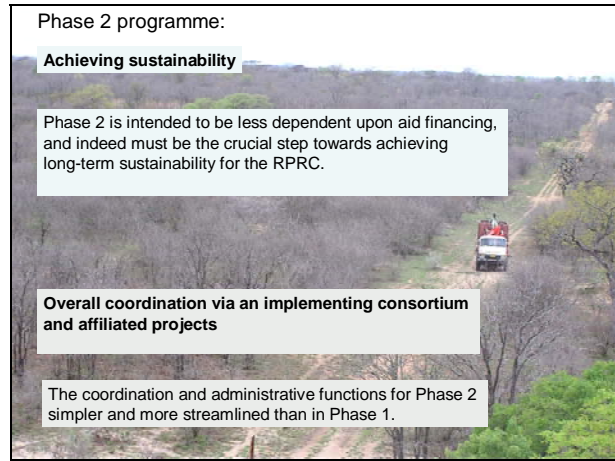
OBJECTIVE (for five-year time horizon)
 By 2010, regional populations of each subspecies increased by 25% above their levels in 2005 and showing significantly wider distribution within the region as well as significantly greater economic relevance to the people of the region.

PHASE 2 OF RPRC:
 Implement Regional Strategy
 In recognition of relevant SADC priorities and protocols
 Building on existing rhino conservation projects

Phase 2 programme:

Achieving sustainability

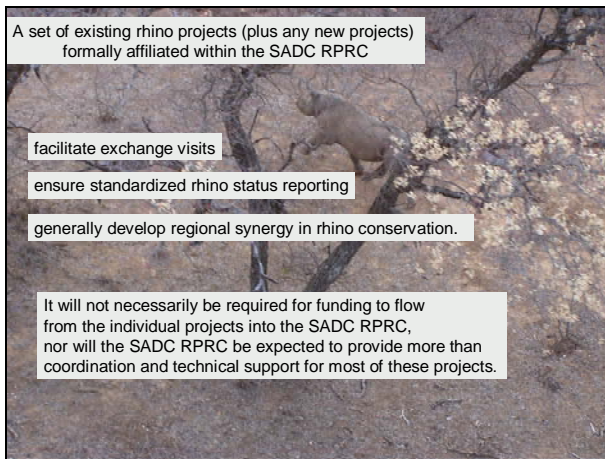
Phase 2 is intended to be less dependent upon aid financing, and indeed must be the crucial step towards achieving long-term sustainability for the RPRC.



Overall coordination via an implementing consortium and affiliated projects

The coordination and administrative functions for Phase 2 simpler and more streamlined than in Phase 1.

A set of existing rhino projects (plus any new projects) formally affiliated within the SADC RPRC



- facilitate exchange visits
- ensure standardized rhino status reporting
- generally develop regional synergy in rhino conservation.

It will not necessarily be required for funding to flow from the individual projects into the SADC RPRC, nor will the SADC RPRC be expected to provide more than coordination and technical support for most of these projects.

Amongst projects, develop "centres of excellence" that relate to the intended outputs of the SADC Regional Strategy for Rhino Conservation (2005-2010).



"Tools" that were developed within Phase 1 should become field-based within relevant "centres of excellence"

- South Africa – Range expansion project in Kwazulu-Natal;
- Namibia – Rhino monitoring and CBNRM programme in Kunene Region;
- Zimbabwe – Rhino conservancies project;
- Tanzania – Selous Rhino Trust rhino monitoring project;
- Botswana – Chief's Island rhino re-introduction project;
- Zambia – North Luangwa rhino re-introduction project;
- Malawi – Liwonde rhino sanctuary project;
- Swaziland – Big Game Parks rhino projects;
- Mozambique – Limpopo National Park rhino re-introduction project.



Provision of core service functions for regional rhino conservation

- Veterinary support
- Rhino monitoring support

Implementation of sub-regional rhino metapopulation programmes

Set of focal projects

Where there are:

Particular challenges and opportunities for wildlife-based economic development in which rhinos are flagship species

Cross-sectoral synergy (integration of varied stakeholders) as well as regional synergy (e.g. TFCAs)

There are no impediments to the use of these sites for exchange visits, etc.

SOUTH AFRICA: Ezemvelo KZN-Wildlife black rhino range expansion project

NAMIBIA: community-based rhino conservation projects within communal conservancies of the Kunene Region. Linked, within metapopulation management plan for *Diceros bicornis bicornis*, with other sub-populations on private land and stateland.

ZIMBABWE: south-east Lowveld rhino project . Great Limpopo TFCA. Biosphere reserve extending from the Great Limpopo TFCA to the Shashe-Limpopo TFCA.

For each sub-regional rhino metapopulation programmes, five-year strategy to follow same structure as the overall regional strategy , tailored to the local circumstances.

Output: Mechanisms maintained and enhanced for sub-regional collaboration in rhino conservation.
Great Limpopo TFCA, Shashe-Limpopo TFCA and potential Kunene TFCA.

Output: Innovative approaches to rhino conservation identified and encouraged within the region.
Relevance to wildlife-based land reform in Zimbabwe and Namibia.

Output: Biological management of rhinos facilitated at a sub-regional level.

Output: Capacity for rhino conservation retained and enhanced.

Output: Awareness of rhino conservation increased within the sub-region

Feedback on future directions

Presented future directions were recognized as very critical and important for the conservation agenda in Southern Africa by all range state members, consortium members as well as by the representative of SADC.

Closure of meeting

ANNEX 1 – List of participants

SURNAME	NAME	ORGANISATION	POSITION	COUNTRY
BHIMA	ROY	DNPW	DEPUTY DIRECTOR (RESEARCH)	MALAWI
BROOKS	MARTIN	IUCN/SSC AFRICAN RHINO SPECIALIST GROUP (AfRSG)	CHAIRMAN	SOUTH AFRICA
CHONGUICA	EBENIZARIO	IUCN-ROSA	SADC RPRC PROGRAMME COORDINATOR	ZIMBABWE
DACONTO	GIUSEPPE	CESVI	ADVISOR	ZIMBABWE
DU PREEZ	PIERRE	MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND TOURISM	RHINO COORDINATOR	NAMIBIA
DU TOIT	RAOUL	WWF-SARPO	TECHNICAL COORDINATOR - SADC RPRC	ZIMBABWE
EMSLIE	RICHARD	IUCN/SSC AFRICAN RHINO SPECIALIST GROUP (AfRSG)	AfRSG SCIENTIFIC OFFICER	SOUTH AFRICA
GUILLET	ALFREDO	MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS		ITALY
HACHILEKA	EXCELLENT	IUCN	COORDINATOR - PROTECTED AREAS	ZAMBIA
KABETA	HAPENGA M.	ZAMBIA WILDLIFE AUTHORITY	DIRECTOR GENERAL	ZAMBIA
KINGENGO	NKOSI LUTA	INSTITUTE OF FORESTRY DEVELOPMENT - IDF MINADER	CHIEF OF WILDLIFE DEPARTMENT	ANGOLA
KNIGHT	MIKE	SOUTH AFRICAN NATIONAL PARKS	HEAD: PARK PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT	SOUTH AFRICA
MADOPE	AFONSO	NATIONAL DIRECTORATE OF CONSERVATION AREAS	NATIONAL DIRECTOR	MOZAMBIQUE
MASEDI-MUNYADZWE	MERCY	DEPT. OF WILDLIFE AND NATIONAL PARKS	WILDLIFE OFFICER II	BOTSWANA
MBATHA	GEORGE	KINGDOM OF SWAZILAND'S BIG GAME PARKS - KING'S OFFICE	CHIEF GAME RANGER	SWAZILAND
MIDALA	BONAVENTURA	WILDLIFE DIVISION	NATIONAL RHINO COORDINATOR	TANZANIA
MUBAIWA	LLOYD	SADC	SENIOR	BOTSWANA

		SECRETARIAT FANR DIRECTORATE	FORESTRY EXPERT	
MUNGWASHU	LOVEMORE	WWF-SARPO	OPERATIONS COORDINATOR	ZIMBABWE
PANGETI	GEORGE	PARKS AND WILDLIFE AUTHORITY	ACTING CHAIRMAN	ZIMBABWE
STUTCHBURY	RALPH	EYES AND EARS P/L	DIRECTOR	ZIMBABWE
VAN DER WESTHUIZEN	HUGO	FRANKFURT ZOOLOGICAL SOCIETY	TECHNICAL ADVISOR	ZAMBIA

ANNEX -2.RECORD OF SWOT ANALYSIS SESSION

OUTPUT 1 : INSTITUTIONAL DEVELOPMENT

STRENGTHS

- ▶ Focal points appointed for all range states
- ▶ Operational national committees
- ▶ National strategies/plans
- ▶ RRG formation
- ▶ Range states meetings
- ▶ Existence of adequate institutions as IDF into the Ministry of Agriculture
- ▶ More attention and support to minor range states than before including setting up RRG
- ▶ [Catalysing national plan development](#)
- ▶ [Support for ARGs and RMG](#)
- ▶ [Many useful advisory missions](#)
- ▶ Participatory approach in project implementation
- ▶ Rhino strategy development
- ▶ Involvement of most SADC countries
- ▶ Coordination/networking between states
- ▶ Focussed on delivery
- ▶ Existence of adequate ? ...the Ministry of Agric
- ▶ Major drive in establishing/energizing institutions at national and regional levels
- ▶ States have been able to establish their own strategies and committees to conserve rhino pops. This has improved coordination towards rhino issues.
- ▶ Inclusion of....?
- ▶ Programmes funding encouraged
- ▶ Crucial activities taken place that otherwise would not have been possible
- ▶ Inclusion of RESG in the prog
- ▶ Regional emphasis

WEAKNESSES

- ▶ Poor communications on regional basis
- ▶ Only 3 countries developed national rhino strategies
- ▶ Frequent changes in focal points
- ▶ Loss of coordinator
- ▶ Time frame too short
- ▶ Drafts developed some countries have not signed off
- ▶ Lack of specific skilled personnel
- ▶ Lack of policy for conservation of rhino
- ▶ Level of effectiveness or functionality of such institutions to be evaluated
- ▶ Lack of period review and approval of workplans by focal points
- ▶ Unequal funding
- ▶ RRG operational effectiveness
- ▶ The effectiveness of funding/support has not been equal. Some states have not yet made it towards commendable move to improve their position
- ▶ [Only half of RRG countries attended last meeting, RRG members must be more active](#)

OPPORTUNITIES

- ▶ Creating synergies with other regional initiatives
- ▶ The success achieved can attract new funding in addition to Italian support

- ▶ The programme should continue into phase 2
- ▶ Continuation of programme into phase 2, offers opportunities for equitable resource allocation and stabilisation of focal points
- ▶ [RRG includes RMG chair, operational budget provision](#)
- ▶ Increase efforts in rhino conservation and recovery
- ▶ [RRG chair and country reps can be more active](#)
- ▶ Further support RRG and RMG
- ▶ [Focal point turn over – sensitise governments on the importance of continuity using full time programme coordinator](#)

- ▶ Available expertise in the region
- ▶ Through the programme states have been able to exchange information on the statistics of animals for exchange programmes
- ▶ Better coordination between range states and SADC Programme Manager
- ▶ Appointment of coordinator
- ▶ Equal assistance to the range states in improving and developing national strategies and projects
- ▶ Overall political buy in to the initiative at regional and national level

THREATS

- ▶ Focal point turn over: govs may resent interference in selection and retention of focal points
- ▶ Turn over of focal points: if possible more focal points in each range state
- ▶ Adequate seniority of focal points – senior officials to be focal point (director level ?)
- ▶ Financial constraints in rhino conservation
- ▶ Donor dependency syndrome in some country
- ▶ Continuation of programme
- ▶ End of Italian of funding for phase 1 threaten sustainability especially RRG
- ▶ Sudden termination of project support could end all rhino conservation strategies in SADC
- ▶ Lack of communication and coordination between range states and project management
- ▶ Some member country may not participate
- ▶ SAD C restructuring could lead to coordination problems
- ▶ Phase 2 may not prioritise institutional support funding for RRG / self sufficiency of RRG unlikely
- ▶ Political interventions in technical conservation decisions

OUTPUT 4 & 5 TRAINING, CAPACITY-BUILDING, COMMUNITY AWARENESS

STRENGTHS

- ▶ Profile of rhinos increased at regional level
- ▶ Production of manuals increases publicity of prog and buy-in by stakeholders
- ▶ Some good products developed
- ▶ Training has developed uniform knowledge on rhino monitoring within the region and most likely improve the coordination of states on issues pertaining to crime
- ▶ Intellectual capital in the region has improved for rhino conservation
- ▶ Existence of a small but stable pool of regional expertise on rhino thru specialist group
- ▶ Focussed training provided, specialised tech tools developed
- ▶ Many useful training programmes, development of useful courses, techniques and software, valuable community workshop in Namibia
- ▶ Training facilitation at regional level
- ▶ Enhanced community awareness
- ▶ Training opportunities and awareness activities carried in some range states, useful for further steps
- ▶ Rhino surveillance teams trained
- ▶ Training of field staff
- ▶ Information to communities about rhino programme
- ▶ Enhanced awareness and involvement on rhino issues by communities

WEAKNESSES

- ▶ Minimal support to RRG
- ▶ Training and awareness programmes did not cover all range states
- ▶ Inadequate awareness of local communities to conserve rhino in some RRG
- ▶ Benefits: communities largely ignored
- ▶ Lack of replication of community awareness programmes
- ▶ Not much support given to community awareness programmes and RRG
- ▶ Financial constraints
- ▶ Limited expansion of critical mass of rhino experts
- ▶ WILDb needs to be revised in line with w/s recommendations
- ▶ Implementation of training conducted in the field
- ▶ Better dissemination of products
- ▶ Turnover in trained staff
- ▶ Low tech methods not adequately recorded in manuals

OPPORTUNITIES

- ▶ Further funding to address community benefits
- ▶ Regional focus on poverty reduction offers opportunity for community issues

- ▶ Existence of adequate expertise at regional level
- ▶ Optimize use of existing regional experts and build a critical mass
- ▶ Continuation of programme
- ▶ States have been able to build their own capacity – training of trainers done
- ▶ **Focus on community awareness and logistics in phase 2**
- ▶ More investment into community awareness shall lead to more sustainable rhino conservation programme
- ▶ Rhino custodianship for local communities (empowerment)
- ▶ Initiate funding for rhino conservation awareness programme
- ▶ To look at benefits to community over a LONG period
- ▶ Build on model community outreach programmes
- ▶ Numerous wildlife colleges in the region
- ▶ **Course have been stand alone to date, could jointly package training and tools to help build regional expertise**
- ▶ **Provide more support to RRG states in drafting proposals and basic approaches**
- ▶ Expansion of training and awareness to all range states
- ▶ **Continue training and dissemination of products produced**
- ▶ Room to develop low tech methods

THREATS

- ▶ Benefits to local communities in certain cases not realistic
- ▶ Limited progress in countries with limited training
- ▶ Insufficient funds to cover each country ? needs
- ▶ Termination of funding would be a disadvantage to RRG
- ▶ The end of the support risks reversing the gains made in human capital development
- ▶ No motivation of the range states
- ▶ Dependency syndrome
- ▶ **Lack of funding in future**
- ▶ Failure to demonstrate benefits to communities may undermine future involvement
- ▶ Unrealistic expectations
- ▶ Lack of benefit for communities in the short term
- ▶ Lack of buy in from communities in rhino management issues
- ▶ Poaching due to lack of community awareness/involvement
- ▶ Lack of motivation form range states
- ▶ **Greater support exp external expertise for RRG states may limit development of self sufficiency**
- ▶ Diminishing interest in NRM in SADC and donor levels

COMMENTS

Need to define range of potential benefits inc national pride

Must concentrate equally on SUPPORT OF communities (attitude/awareness) rather than trying always to show tangible economic benefits.

Can't easily separate rhinos from other species in wildlife development/land-use/economics

Give direct community stakeholding in rhinos (Save Valley endowment model)

OUTPUT 2 + 6 TECH TOOLS + KNOWLEDGE

STRENGTHS

- ▶ Databases have improved record keeping and those keeping good records have influenced decision making in range states
- ▶ Development of new technologies and the availability to range states
- ▶ Rhino management and tools developed and available for the region
- ▶ Increased institutional capacity
- ▶ Existence of database on rhinos at regional level
- ▶ Motivation to improve information in the range states
- ▶ Provide courses on law enforcement and report on national level
- ▶ **Strong support provided for area evaluation and introduction pop estimation**
- ▶ Practical tools like scout tracking devices
- ▶ Regional comparison of population performance
- ▶ Economic analysis demonstrates importance of rhino conservation to justify programme for continuation
- ▶ Technical aspects of rhino conservation have helped to move it high on international agenda such as CITES
- ▶ **Support for RMG status reporting very valuable**
- ▶ Improved security
- ▶ **Biological management workshop**

WEAKNESSES

- ▶ Programme too skewed
- ▶ Expertise mainly covered to RMG. Perhaps RRG focal points to be exposed to some activities i.e. new technologies and methods
- ▶ Specific tools have been developed in specific countries but not applied at regional level.
- ▶ Need greater effectiveness of utilization of such tools access
- ▶ Financial constraints for the implementation of field studies in range states
- ▶ National database Nam and regional database not developed
- ▶ No regional database for rhino conservation especially confidential information. i.e. no SADC reporting system
- ▶ Annual status reporting (as done by RMG) not initiated.
- ▶ Range states don't adequately report on how they have built on SADC RPRC inputs
- ▶ Some technologies not realistic and not implement able
- ▶ Selection of inappropriate technologies
- ▶ WILDb still needs to be modified to be used in many areas
- ▶ Incomplete tasks
- ▶ Different degree to which software packages used across the region
- ▶ Inadequate use of the tools by range states (inappropriate technology)
- ▶ Economic analysis of rhino management largely ignored
- ▶ No isolated study on economic contribution of rhino to GDP
- ▶ Greater effort required to market tech achievements at local and national levels

OPPORTUNITIES

- ▶ Dbase developed can be spread to all range states
- ▶ Existence of technological tools
- ▶ Reduced capacity for law enforcement
- ▶ Put in place effective database system among RRG
- ▶ On site training for database users
- ▶ Possibility of Phase 2 creates opportunity to address outstanding work/application of some technologies
- ▶ Extension of project funding would address the replication of programme activities regionally
- ▶ Finish tasks in phase 2
- ▶ Identify and develop practical workable tools
- ▶ Initiate annual status reporting will focus on capacity of states to manage rhino pos and enhance identification of gaps

THREATS

- ▶ Poor capacity to apply tools
- ▶ Loss of key staff, wasted capacity building
- ▶ Costs
- ▶ Lack of adequate financial support for research
- ▶ Failure to extend prog support will lead to impact on rhino conservation
- ▶ Poor data management
- ▶ Regional database not completed

Comments:

Facilitator: need more dissemination and on site training of tools. Ensure that tools are practical (including low tech tools). Inadequate reporting. Need reporting structures. Staff turnover problems and limited capacity to absorb tools. Lack of continuity in support for tools.

OUTPUT 3 + 7 PROJECTS

STRENGTH

- ▶ Increased interagency cooperation in the region
- ▶ Support in the biological mgt of rhinos in Kunene Region
- ▶ Re-introduce rhinos in former important range
- ▶ Prog has facilitated cross border translocations especially to RRG countries
- ▶ Facilitation of regional cooperation in establishing rhino populations
- ▶ Rhino status known in the region to address further efforts in
- ▶ Field projects implemented in most range states, increased regionality of the programme
- ▶ Many valuable field projects undertaken with application of expertise at regional level

- ▶ [Some proposals submitted to other donors](#)
- ▶ Co-funding of projects creates synergies with other donors
- ▶ Distribute costs and risks of managing rhinos
- ▶ Increased cooperation
- ▶ Rhino surveys for recovery programmes enhanced
- ▶ RRG states have been targeted
- ▶ Reintroduced rhinos in formal important ranges
- ▶ Reintroduction been successful and assessment for further reintroduction
- ▶ [Strong support provided for translocation and rhino counts](#)
- ▶ Rhino surveys for recovery programmes enhanced
- ▶ [Programme has facilitated cross border translocations especially for RRG countries](#)

WEAKNESSES

- ▶ Timeline of prog too weak
- ▶ Timeframe of project too short
- ▶ Programme management weaknesses. Implementation not on time.
- ▶ Funding limited
- ▶ Skewed geographical selection of projects
- ▶ [Angola + Mozambique still to reintroduce rhinos](#)
- ▶ Conservation projects in 8 out of 14 member states
- ▶ Few proposals from RRG. Lack of leadership by RRG.
- ▶ Poor reporting by RRG states
- ▶ Regional rhino status does not reflect all range states situation. Much more effort in certain countries.
- ▶ Not able to deliver sufficient founders on first time introduction
- ▶ Fail to cooperate with communities and also get funds
- ▶ [Marketing of proposals for support from other donors not as effective as could be](#)
- ▶ Relatively little funding has been raised from other sources

OPPORTUNITIES

- ▶ Successful donor funding – pull effect on other parties
- ▶ Translocations of rhinos. Metapopulation.
- ▶ Strengthen capacity of RRG to be an effective group.
- ▶ Clear indication of effort to be done for rhino conservation at national and regional levels including security
- ▶ Range states have been able to increase their potential to manage rhino pops thru the projects
- ▶ More rhinos humping
- ▶ Funding criteria made open and circulated to range states
- ▶ Rhinos conserve biodiversity
- ▶ Distribute cost and risk of managing rhinos
- ▶ Resume funding and get support from donors
- ▶ To build on fantastic reintroduction initiatives
- ▶ Success implementation of donor funding shall have pull effect on other parties
- ▶ Publicize successes to leverage funding from other sources
- ▶ [Coordinator could assume role of advising states on donors to approach for funding](#)
- ▶ Availability of other donors

THREATS

- ▶ Weakness – abuse donor support and fail to get funding
- ▶ Lack of political will at national level
- ▶ Metapopulation exercise too costly
- ▶ Availability of other donors to finance rhino project
- ▶ Failure to find other donors will lose momentum
- ▶ No funding proposals – weak commitment of range states to rhino conservation
- ▶ Still need more funding especially for introductions in RRG
- ▶ Continued reliance on donors and RMG by RRG countries
- ▶ Growing reliance on donor support by RMG countries
- ▶ Failure to sue other donors could jeopardise project implementation
- ▶ Loss of momentum if phase 2 not implemented immediately
- ▶ Abuse donor money and fail to get support
- ▶ Conditionality of donors to fund some projects in RRG countries

