

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

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SADC REGIONAL PROGRAMME FOR RHINO CONSERVATION

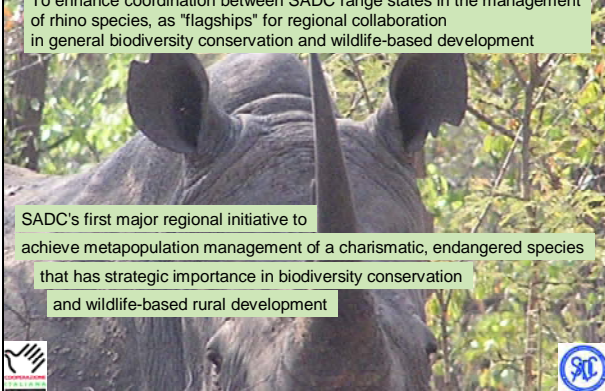

MOTIVATION FOR SADC RPRC PHASE II




PHASE 1 GOAL

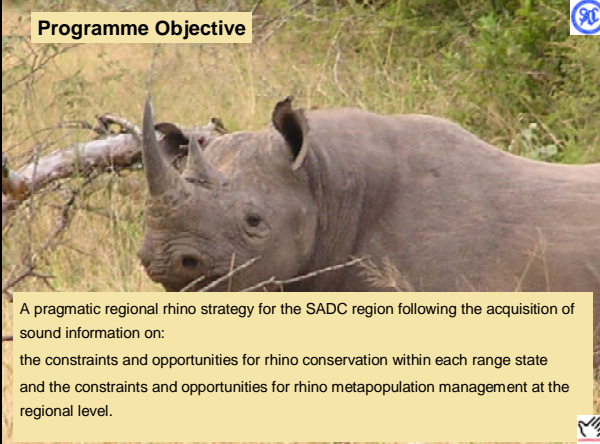

To enhance coordination between SADC range states in the management of rhino species, as "flagships" for regional collaboration in general biodiversity conservation and wildlife-based development

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


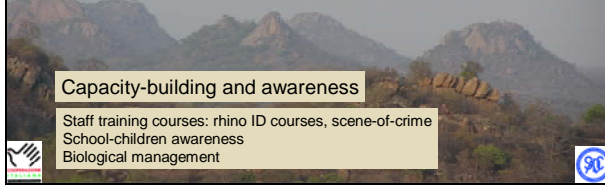
- National strategies
- Formation of RRG, assimilation of RMG
- Resuscitation of RESG
- Advice on initiation of specific projects
- Regional metapopulation strategy

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

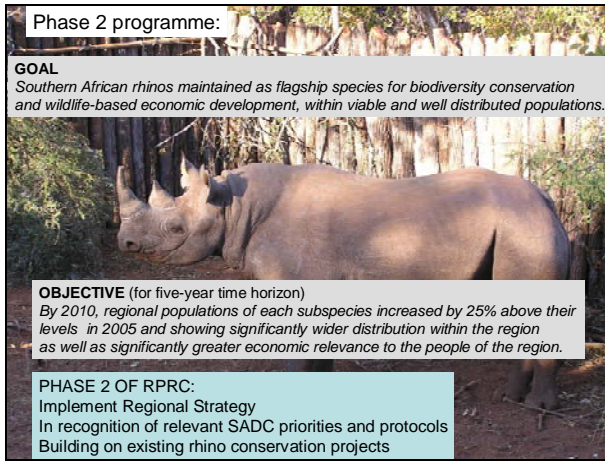


Move on from laying the foundation (networking, strategizing, providing tools) to building a durable structure (implementation of regional strategy)

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.



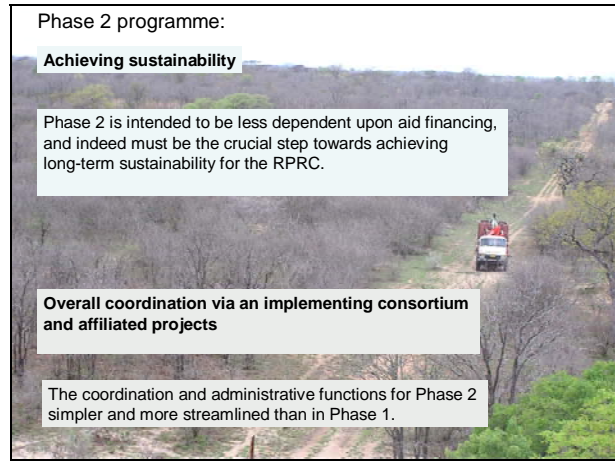
OBJECTIVE (for five-year time horizon)
 By 2010, regional populations of each subspecies increased by 25% above their levels in 2005 and showing significantly wider distribution within the region as well as significantly greater economic relevance to the people of the region.

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

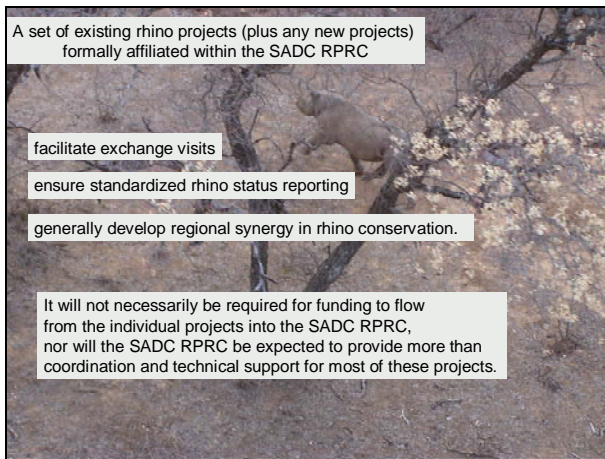
Phase 2 is intended to be less dependent upon aid financing, and indeed must be the crucial step towards achieving long-term sustainability for the RPRC.



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