

## **2.7 Mozambique (*Felismina Longamane Langa*)**

### **Background**

Rhino conservation legislation is currently the Game Law of 1999, under which regulations were approved in 2002. Rhinos in Protected Areas belong to state. Others may own rhinos if they are controlled on their own land.

### **Rhino status**

Reports were received of the presence of rhinos in Niassa GR.

### **Planned SADC RPRC support for activities in 2003-2004**

- (a) Feasibility study for the reintroduction of rhinos to Mozambique (draft DNFFB/CESVI proposal)
- (b) Rhino Conservation Strategy for Mozambique
- (c) Training courses in rhino monitoring, management and security

## **2.8 Tanzania (*Mathew Maige*)**

### **Introduction**

Black Rhino active conservation is not that old in Tanzania. The early attempts of managing rhinos started slightly before rhino poaching outcry during late 1970's and early 1980's. Soon before the countrywide operation against poaching of wildlife, decrease of sensitive species including rhinos made the Government to request for a general survey country-wide. This was the time when it was realised that rhinos were on verge of extinction in the country. Attempts to rehabilitate local populations then started, spearheaded by FZS. Ngorongoro Crater became the centre for the FZS activities. The Selous was far from consideration because the survey revealed that most rhinos in the Selous were poached and what remained could not be substantiated. At later date, around 1989, sporadic sighting of *D.b.minor* in the Selous was heard for the first time.

### **Status of Rhino Population Recovery**

A few years down the line, an enthusiastic rhino admirer who was running a photographic safari camp started the Kidai Rhino Project. Since then, the Selous Rhino Project took shape. Together with that, another follow up was done in the Lukuliro area of the vast Selous Game Reserve.

Today, the two areas have become fairly active towards rhino patrols to protect whatever was in the thick bushes. It started without knowing if there were a few individuals in the areas but recently has confirmed a number (still not known) exists at both Kidai and Lukuliro. Sporadic sightings of rhinos have been recorded totalling 16 individuals. We can conclude with confidence that there are more rhinos in the Selous and the 2 populations known so far are reproducing. Tanzania and well wishers need to put in more efforts to protect and continue to investigate of their numbers and distribution.

### **Summary on the SADC Rhino Programme Support**

Inputs provided:

- (i) Advice in the field on rhino survey methodology
- (ii) Advice in the field on steps to ensure ongoing, cost-effective monitoring and protection of rhinos within the survey area, based on relevant experience from Zimbabwe.

We have taken actions on some but we still need support to take actions on the remaining items. I am trying to convince Selous Game Reserve authority to understand the reason for identifying a team of rangers to work on rhino protection only, but it is evident that there are too few rangers for assigning a few to rhino project alone. A proposal to be submitted includes:

- Improved rhino monitoring for Selous Game Reserve Sub-population (February, 2003)
- Law enforcement and ranger training in Selous Game Reserve (Feb. 2003)