

SADC REGIONAL PROGRAMME FOR RHINO CONSERVATION

MEETING OF THE SADC RHINO RECOVERY GROUP (SADC RRG)

MANGOCHI, MALAWI
24-25 MARCH, 2002

PROCEEDINGS



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A PREAMBLE

At a meeting of representatives of the SADC Rhino Range States, which convened at Kwa Maritane Lodge, Pilanesberg NP, South Africa in March 2001, the range states focal points agreed to form two Regional Institutional Structures under SADC for rhino conservation in the constituent range states. The existing Rhino Management Group (RMG) would come under the SADC umbrella and continue to focus on the needs of states with existing viable rhino populations and well-developed conservation programmes (South Africa, Namibia, Zimbabwe & Swaziland). Range states that are at the stage of reintroduction or re-establishment of small populations of black or white rhinos (Angola, Botswana, Malawi, Mozambique, Tanzania and Zambia) would form a SADC Rhino Recovery Group (RRG). The RRG would also benefit from the participation of individual representatives from the IUCN/SSC AfRSG, RMG and the SADC Regional Programme for Rhino Conservation (RPRC), which would assist with necessary technical input and capacity building towards the establishment of new rhino populations, management security and monitoring.

The inaugural meeting of the SADC RRG was convened on 24-25th May, 2002, at Club Makokola, Mangochi, on the southern shore of Lake Malawi. Each of the SADC RRG range states was represented by its designated focal point, and the director or senior member of staff of the country's Rhino Management Authority (RMA) where attendance was possible. The meeting was also attended by representatives of SADC Rhino Consortium, including the former SADC WSTCU Malawi (Chair), IUCN ROSA (SADC Rhino Programme Coordinator), WWF SARPO, CESVI and IUCN/SSC African Rhino Specialist Group (Chair, also the chair of the SADC RMG).

The main objectives of the meeting were threefold:

- to establish and agree on the aims, objectives, structure and function of the SADC RRG, to be defined within a Terms of Reference.
- to agree on the *modus operandi* and office bearers of the SADC RRG
- to develop a framework for future activities of the SADC RRG, and a plan for sustainable funding for these activities, in addition to that supplied by the currently-funded SADC RPRC.

The Terms of Reference and *modus operandi* for the SADC RRG agreed at the meeting are found in section 4 of these proceedings. Participants at the meeting and their contact details are listed in Annex A, and the agenda agreed and followed at the meeting is provided in Annex B.

B PROCEEDINGS

1 INTRODUCTION AND RATIONALE

1.1 Welcome (Leonard Sefu – former SADC WSTCU/Malawi & Giuseppe Daconto – CESVI)

All participants to the meeting were welcomed by The Chair, Mr Sefu, who was representing both the former SADC WSTCU and the Malawi DNPW (as Director). We welcomed the representatives of the six SADC range states where rhinos has been severely depleted or gone extinct, and had now come together to form the SADC RRG. He underlined the role of rhinos as flagship species for conservation in southern Africa, and the special efforts that were needed by range states as custodians to conserve the species for the common good, and their responsibility to pass on the species safely to future generations.

Mr Daconto thanked Mr Sefu for organising the workshop along with Dr Brett and Priscilla Mutikani of IUCN ROSA, and Jonas Chafota of WWF SARPO, and thanked all for taking time to attend the meeting. Following the decisions made at the Pilanesberg SADC rhino range states meeting, the expectations from the donors and consortium members were that the Programme would attempt to strengthen rhino conservation throughout the SADC region though a collaborative effort which would address the needs of individual range states. SADC was embarking on a working group that could use available resources from the Programme and other donors as necessary to apply technical expertise leveraged from the region. He looked forward with strong interest to the two days of intensive discussions.

1.2 Overview of SADC Regional Rhino Programme (Rob Brett – Programme Coordinator)

Dr Brett summarised the objectives and progress made by the SADC Regional Programme for Rhino Conservation (RPRC) to date in supporting the rhino conservation efforts in the SADC region, with particular emphasis on the sharing of expertise and resources between SADC range states. Reminding participants of the main outputs of the SADC RPRC contributing to the main goal and objective of the programme in its strategic framework (Annex C), he then listed and described the main tasks and activities that had been undertaken since the inception of the programme (Annex D), under the headings of its primary output themes:

- Institutional Arrangements
- Reporting Systems and Surveys
- Rhino Conservation Projects
- Community Participation
- Provision of Expertise from the SADC Region: evaluations & assessments
- Tools & Technologies for Rhino Conservation

1.3 Rationale for the SADC RRG & Meeting Objectives (Rob Brett – Programme Coordinator)

Dr Brett outlined the rationale for the formation and inception of activities of the SADC RRG, based on the decisions made at the March 2001 SADC rhino range states meeting:

- The SADC RRG would be an Advisory Group for Regional Rhino Conservation under SADC, complementing SADC Rhino Management Group
- The SADC RRG would focus on needs of SADC Rhino Range States involved in the planning or process of re-establishing rhino populations, with reference to the following:
 - Black and White Rhinos
 - Development of National Strategies and Plans
 - Surveys and Status of Rhinos
 - Rhino Reintroduction and Recovery Projects
 - Development of Rhino IPZs/Sanctuaries

At the March 2001 range states meeting, a caucus of proposed SADC RRG member states had endorsed the interim leadership at SADC WSTCU in Malawi, since this would be better placed to co-ordinate with

Programme coordinator. The SADC WSTCU would convene the first meeting of the SADC RRG, where terms of reference would be agreed, and a new chair would be elected, Malawi then standing down.

The objectives of this inaugural meeting of the SADC RRG were as follows:

- To analyse and define the individual and common Needs of RRG member states in their rhino recovery efforts. This would be achieved by:
 - (a) reviewing and recognising the key components of rhino recovery/reintroduction programmes
 - (b) identifying gaps in rhino conservation programme development of member range states
 - (c) defining the common factors for development of regional strategies for re-establishment of rhino populations in range states
- To develop and agree the Terms of Reference for the SADC RRG, including
 - Aim or Objective
 - Strategies
- To agree on membership and office bearers of SADC RRG, and its *modus operandi*
- To develop a framework for future activities of the SADC RRG, and a plan for sustainable funding for these activities, in addition to that supplied by the currently-funded SADC RPRC

1.4 Opening Address (Mrs Martha Nasho, Deputy Minister for Tourism, Parks & Wildlife, Malawi)

The Hon Minister made the opening address for the meeting, beginning by highlighting the fact that Malawi values wildlife conservation. In recognition of this the government had set up the Ministry of Tourism and Wildlife to conserve wildlife and promote tourism. Wildlife conservation and tourism were partners, with wildlife an important foundation for tourism, maintaining the value of the wildlife in turn, and enriching society. The black rhino is a draw card and mystic animal according to folklore, and deserves protection and management. The white rhino was never recorded in Malawi. Over the years the black rhino declined: in 1984 it was still found in Kasungu and Mwabvi, but by 1990 it was extinct. The nation felt the impact of this loss. The first pair of black rhinos reintroduced to Malawi came from Kruger NP and were placed in the special sanctuary developed in Liwonde NP. Negotiations yielded two further pairs in 1998 and 2000. Although there have been setbacks the reintroduction has been successful, with two births recorded.

The Hon Minister regarded the setting up of the Rhino Recovery Group, and this meeting, as timely for the region and for Malawi, in order to benefit from available expertise and try and multiply small rhino populations. On behalf of the Malawi government, she acknowledged the support of the SADC Rhino Programme, and appealed for the programme to assist in future where possible, perhaps through a 'rhino loan scheme' with the SADC RMG countries, in order to fast track the increase in rhino populations.

The Hon Minister said that the programme would not have been successful without the funding from of Government of Italy, whom it urged to continue to cooperate with SADC countries, as well as multi- and bilateral partners. She concluded by welcoming participants to the 'Warm Heart of Africa', and inviting them to enjoy the Chambo and wildlife of Malawi, and to learn a word or two of Chichewa. With that she formally declared the inaugural meeting of the SADC RRG open.

2 PRESENTATIONS

(a) Presentations by Consortium Members

2.1 Structures supporting rhino conservation and levels of rhino coordination (Martin Brooks)

It is important for rhino conservation to have **coordinating structures and networks**, in order achieve the following:

- Set species survival goals and strategies
- Develop national rhino action plans
- Refine rhino management techniques
- Share information and expertise
- Build capacity
- Develop priority programmes
- Ensure effective implementation

There are broadly three **levels of coordination**

1. Continental: IUCN/SSC AfRSG
2. Regional: SADC RMG, SADC RRG (SADC Rhino Programme), RESG
3. National: Nation Coordination Committees (implementation), in the SADC region currently in operation in Namibia, Zimbabwe, South Africa, Tanzania, and Zambia (?)

IUCN SSC African Rhino Specialist Group (AfRSG)

Objective: "to promote the long-term conservation of Africa's rhino and where necessary, their recovery to viable levels"

Membership: Range State Representatives and Rhino Experts

Main Activities:

- Continental Objectives and strategy
- Assist with national rhino plans
- Determine rhino status and trends
- Identify conservation priorities
- Develop techniques
- Provide information, advice and cooperation

SADC Rhino Regional Programme for Rhino Conservation (SADC RPRC)

Consortium: SADC WSTCU, SARPO, AfRSG, ROSA, CESVI

Conditionalities:

- Only activities involving sharing expertise or exchanging rhinos between SADC range states
- Limited to rhino subspecies occurring in more than one SADC state

Main activities:

- Support develop coordinating structures
- Facilitate the development of national rhino action plans
- Develop rhino management techniques and guidelines
- Support surveys, ecological evaluations and reintroduction feasibility studies
- Provide training
- Promote rhino conservation awareness and community involvement

SADC Rhino Management Group (RMG) of Southern Africa

Formed in 1989, for black rhino conservation only

Membership:

- State Conservation Agencies: South Africa, Namibia, Swaziland, Zimbabwe
- Private Rhino Owners
- Rhino Experts
- RESG of SA

Main activities:

- Ensure conservation objectives and programmes in place
- Develop and promote appropriate techniques

- Debate key/controversial issues
- Evaluate performance of populations
- Manage South Africa's black rhino plan

Rhino and Elephant Security Group (RESG) of southern Africa

Goals:

- To develop guidelines, strategies and databases for the effective and efficient protection of African rhino and elephant populations
- To assist agencies, communities and private landowners to minimise poaching and the illegal trade in products

Membership:

- Government representatives and NGOs within SADC range states

Activities:

- Detailed in current Terms of Reference (endorsed at meetings in 2001 (South Africa) and 2002 (Zimbabwe))

National Committees

These are operational in several countries (e.g. Namibia) and are an essential component in a successful national rhino conservation programme, along with a conservation strategy and action plan and its endorsement and implementation. Implementation of plans depend on commitment from the government rhino management authority.

The key points were: (a), to maintain linkages between coordinating structures, and (b), to ensure commonality and consistency of representation from range states at regional and continental rhino conservation bodies or groups.

2.2 SADC RMG: background, achievements and common benefits (Martin Brooks)

Aim

“to provide coordination, research and management advice to assist the conservation agencies and private landowners in achieving the various national metapopulation goals for black rhino”

Membership

- State Conservation Agencies
- Private Land Owners
- Rhino Owners
- RESG

Activities

- Ensure conservation objectives and programmes in place
- Develop and promote appropriate techniques
- Debate key/controversial issues
- Evaluate performance of populations

RMG main focal areas/achievements

- Subspecies recognition
- Historical ranges of subspecies
- Private ownership/custodianship
- Use of surplus male black rhino
- Game scout training
- Population monitoring
- Management to maximise rate of increase
- Property suitability and Ecological Carrying Capacity (ECC)
- Introductions
- Evaluating population performance

RMG Annual Status Reports

- Population sizes and methodology for population estimation
- Population history table (all individuals known)
- Sex/age structure – not all individuals
- Breeding records of known females
- Home range sizes
- Introductions
- Translocations
- Mortalities – post mortems
- Poaching levels – all species
- Neighbours programmes
- Research

Annual Status Reports were submitted annually for each population, and a consolidated report was produced every 2-3 years. Status reports contained updated information on progress towards national goals and the performance of individual populations, and also provided advice to members on improved rhino management.

Discussion

(Southern White Rhinos) Asked about the reasons for the successful conservation of white rhinos in South Africa, Dr Brooks stressed the historical differences, and the relative wealth of South Africa and resources for rhino conservation, which provided a better environment for improvement. All ingredients had to be in place for conservation programmes to be effective. He highlighted the need for motivated staff, an uncorrupted judiciary and well-informed magistrates.

(SADC Rhino Groups: RMG and RRG) Several members asked about the future relationship between the RRG and RMG, the need for exchange of information between groups, and how this would be achieved. Dr Brooks said that AfRSG could assist with this, but linkages needed to be built as well. Messrs Theophilus, Kingengo and Sefu suggested the holding of RMG and RRG meetings side-by-side, with a joint third day. Bilateral contacts (e.g. between Angola and Namibia on transfrontier conservation) were still possible at any time.

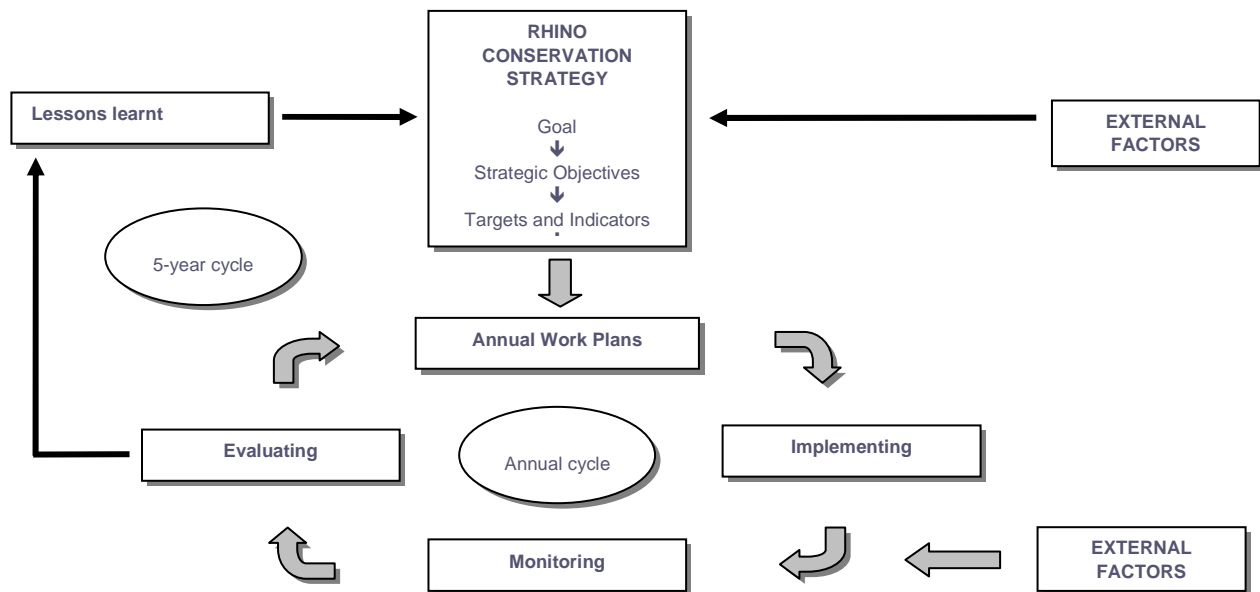
(RMG funding and structure) Mr Jiah asked how the funding of RMG was organised. Dr Brooks said that the RMG countries generally had sufficient funding to send representatives in the past and no funding was needed. Meetings were hosted by member countries. However this was becoming more difficult, and there was now need to get funding from elsewhere. Dr Kampamba asked about the structure and terms of reference for the RMG, and Dr Brooks said that the ToR could be circulated, and that an active Chair or coordinator for the group had to be elected by the members.

2.3 National Strategy Development: Common Issues and Lessons Learnt (Rob Brett)

The important ingredients in the development of a national rhino conservation strategy were summarised, based on the history of development of rhino strategies in several range states, including two RRG countries (Tanzania and Botswana). The remaining four RRG countries (Malawi, Zambia, Angola, Mozambique) have still to develop their own rhino conservation strategies, and it is hoped and expected that the planning process in their countries can be informed by the experience of other range states.

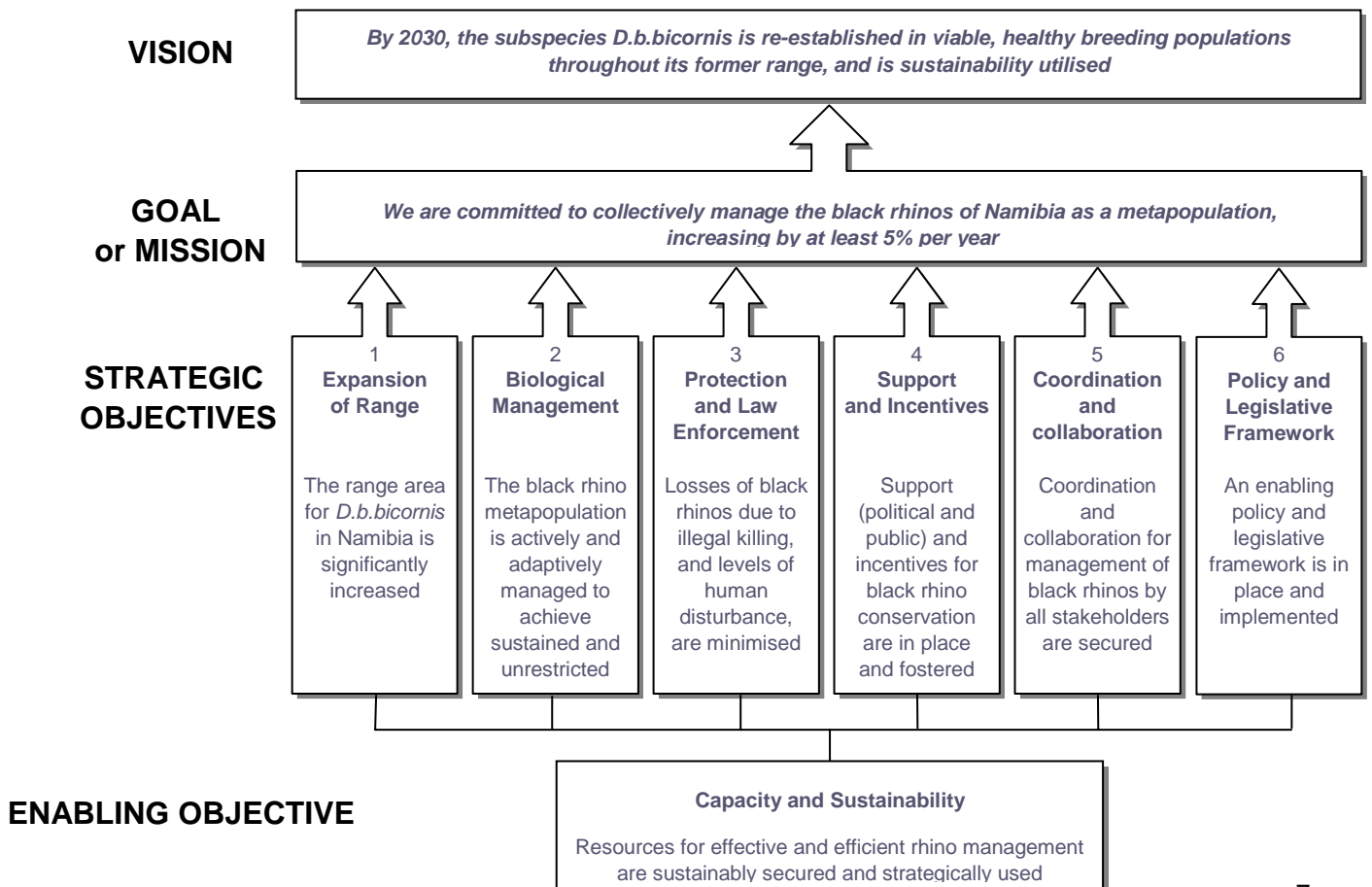
(a) Planning Cycle

A typical planning cycle for a national rhino conservation programme was described (illustrated below), comprising the use of a rhino conservation Strategy to guide the development of annual work plans, and their implementation and monitoring. Evaluation of the work programme feeds back to the revision of the Strategy (e.g. on a 5-year basis), where the goals and objectives are re-evaluated in the light of progress achieved.



(b) Strategic Framework

The Logical Framework approach has been used by several range states as a tool to structure their rhino conservation strategies where results-based planning works through successive levels, and a number of key strategic objectives are defined, which contribute to attainment of the overall goal of the Strategy. Activities and actions that will result in achievement of the strategic objectives can then be developed within periodic action plans. Logical frameworks (similar to the framework developed in a recent strategic planning exercise for rhino conservation in **Namibia, below**) were an integral part of the rhino strategies developed in the last five years in Tanzania, Zimbabwe, Kenya, Namibia, South Africa (white rhinos) and Botswana. Namibia’s rhino strategy was complemented by two other plans specific to rhino security and conservation of rhinos by private custodians.



(c) Goals

Rhino strategies developed by range states in the last decade typically include one or both of the following targets:

- a total population or metapopulation of 2,000 rhinos
- a population growth rate of at least 5% per annum

(d) Strategic Objectives

Many of the Strategic Objectives defined in the rhino strategies of range states in the last five years are shared, with the most common being:

- (i) Co-ordination Mechanisms
- (ii) Protection of all populations
- (iii) Biological Management to achieve growth
- (iv) Monitoring & Evaluation
- (v) Sustainability & Support
- (vi) Ensuring Implementation

The strategic objectives used in the rhino strategies developed for African rhinos since 1997 are shown in the table below:

Strategic Objective	Botswana Both	Kenya Black	Namibia Black	RSA Black	RSA White	Tanzania Black	Zimbabwe Both
Year	2000	2001	2002	1997	2000	1998	1997
Coordination	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Protection & Law Enforcement	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Biological Management	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Monitoring & Status Reporting	✓	✓		✓			✓
Sustainability & Funding Support	✓	✓	✓			✓	✓
Implementation & monitoring of plan							✓
Community Involvement			✓		✓	✓	
Capacity Building		✓				✓	
Policy & Legislation			✓				
Sustainable Use					✓		
Animal Welfare					✓		
Genetic Management				✓			
Expansion of Range & New Populations			✓	✓			
Captive Breeding				✓			
Endorsement	Not yet	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Not yet	Yes

(e) National Planning & Coordination

Successful planning, coordination and implementation of a nation rhino programme depends on the operation of each of the following:

- (i) Government appointment and operation of a Rhino Management Authority
- (ii) Development and high level endorsement of a Rhino Conservation Strategy
- (iii) Formation and regular convening of Coordination Structures: Committees
- (iv) Appointment and function of a Rhino Coordinator or Focal Point
- (v) Action Planning and Implementation of plans

(f) Endorsement and Implementation

Finally, progress within a national rhino conservation programme depends not only on endorsement of a strategy, but its actual implementation through approved action plans. Well-developed strategies and

plans are of no use if they are not implemented, and action is dependent on the commitment and resources of national rhino management authorities.

Discussion

(Implementation of strategies and plans) Mr Theophilus said that stressed that implementation of a plan was dependent on commitment. Mr Sefu encouraged ministers to endorse management plans, and to ensure that there was commitment to government spending on rhino conservation through their treasury. Mr Chafota said that endorsement should be linked to mobilisation of resources, and Dr Kampamba highlighted the need for adequate budgeting.

Mr du Toit added that coordination and commitment were crucial; Zimbabwe had a nice tidy strategy that was not being used, there being no coordination meetings for the last 18 months. He recommended periodic audits by RRG to check on the implementation of member countries' strategies.

Mr Chafota suggested that the ToR for the RRG be adapted from the ToR of the RMG to suit the stage of programme development of RRG countries and a flexible approach. Dr Brooks emphasised that the RMG has no executive powers, and does not lobby or impose pressure on a member country to do A, B or C. Members activities as a catalyst from within the group. Mr Nzima added that an important stimulus for action within the RRG would be the peer pressure from within the group.

(Strategy development) Mr Kingengo asked RRG to help Angola with prioritising strategies for rhinos and elephants and the need for ground surveys.

2.4 Reintroduction Guidelines: Overview (Raoul du Toit)

This presentation addressed the strategic requirements for reintroduction of rhinos. In order to achieve a viable breeding effort, biological, genetic and demographic factors need to be considered, as well as management and security, coordination mechanisms and the potential for population expansion. Additional factors to address are:

- External factors, and threats (e.g. civil war, poaching community)
- Sustainability and adequacy of funding
- Appropriate policy framework
- Legal provisions
- Funding: e.g. incentives for private sector involvement
- Man-power - capacity, equipment, motivation of training

Broad principles for rhino reintroductions

(a) Genetic management for rhinos

- There should be at least 20 founders, unrelated to others, and should be (or become) effective breeders. The number of effective breeders may not necessarily be the same as the total number brought in.
- Areas should have large carrying capacity (over 100 rhinos), or be linked as a metapopulation to other populations - including active management and movement of rhinos between populations - to get over small carrying capacity problems. Such management entails significant financial costs, deployment of scarce expertise and specialized equipment. It is impossible to prevent any risks to rhinos during their intensive management.
- Introduce 1-2 effective breeders every generation (8-15 years)
- Maintain rapid population growth

Issues:

(i) Gene Pool and Sampling, and Inbreeding

Genetic drift is the consequence of random sampling of genes into the next generation. This must be compensated for by introduction of unrelated animals. Rapid population growth increases rate of sampling, and makes it less likely that some genetic material will be lost from the gene pool through the deaths of non-breeding or slowly-breeding rhinos. Ideally, founder groups should be drawn from several

sources. Fortunately, the regional rhino population has not been caught in a "genetic bottleneck". In other words, the period of population crash has been relatively short and considerable genetic diversity is still retained in the surviving gene pools.

(ii) Subspecies

D.b.minor and *D.b.bicornis* have to be kept separate. Thus parts of South Africa, Angola, and western Botswana, should reintroduce *bicornis*.

(b) Demographic guidelines

- 5% is the benchmark for population growth, but it is also necessary to look at inter-calving intervals, age at first calving, etc, as performance indicators, particularly in small populations with variable annual calving output and possible lag effects.
- Introduce a good number of rhinos to a good area of habitat (e.g. 8% growth at Malilangwe was achieved straight from the start)
- Don't manage reactively, or wait until bad indicators are evident - be proactive. Plan for adequate areas of suitable habitat.

(c) Carrying capacity evaluations

- Choose an initial 'ball-park' rhino density (e.g. 1/5 km² or 1/10 km² or 1/15 km²) and use monitoring and adaptive management thereafter. Very detailed carrying capacity estimates may not be needed, and new adaptive approaches to management might be necessary.
- Approximate ECCs of 1/10 km² or 1/15 km² are appropriate in *Acacia*, *Combretum* or Mopane habitats
- Social Carrying Capacity - Do not introduce too many bulls (e.g. not more than 1 bull per 25 km²).
- Ideally, ensure there is room for expansion (e.g. 200 km² just for founder population, but then at least 50% more (300 km²)).
- Water distribution - Uniform distribution of water points might minimise social problems, but a big area with limited number of water points in a concentration within the park would provide a natural focus for the rhino population and could prevent excessive dispersal, so non-uniform distribution of water points is not necessarily a bad thing.
- Disease - Not a big issue, and manageable: Trypanosomiasis/Tsetse can be problem, but there are veterinary/husbandry solutions. Anthrax is manageable (e.g. NLNP has hippos). Babesia/Theileria is the main tick-born disease, which may be handled by reducing tick densities.
- Zoo-bred rhinos - Issues to consider: dietary problems with iron-overloading and suppression of immune system, and then subclinical infection and carrying of pathogens (e.g. fungal pneumonia from zoos to wild populations). There are reasons to be concerned, and there is need to screen and do a full risk assessment before zoo animals are moved into wild populations.

(d) Management and Protection

Manpower levels need to be based on effective manpower, with staff equipped, trained and coordinated. Minimum criteria for effective scout numbers and density are needed. These will vary from place to place, depending on poaching risk (e.g. modern firearms or traditional methods). Challenge and geographical factors (e.g. remoteness) need to be considered.

- Staff densities - initial benchmark with an IPZ approach is at least 1 scout per 20 km² for the protected area as a whole.
- Informer systems should be set up in advance, so that there are already eyes and ears out before rhinos are introduced, and hints of interest in killing rhinos are detected.
- Monitoring of animals - it is unrealistic to expect every one of the game scouts to be fully trained and capable of identifying individual animals. Select a couple of scouts with in-depth training in rhino monitoring, including bush craft, tracking, and wildlife skills, and then maintain monitoring effort, using these dedicated monitors.
- Fencing - a crucial factor. For a big area fencing may be neither desirable nor necessary. Rhinos tend to form social groups in an area. A certain amount of fencing may be needed for a phased approach to reintroduction. There are significant costs and risks attached to fencing constituent areas.

(e) Coordination Framework

- Linkages with NGOs are very important, particularly with limited Government resources. Pet projects of NGOs should be avoided, since they can create management obligations for range states. A national view to restocking is needed, that is not donor-driven.
- Long-term commitment from donors should be ensured - Malawi and Zambia are currently getting this from FZS.
- Botswana has a highly promising participation of the private sector, with the state agency retaining control, and equipment and resources provided by private sector. Long-term concessions provide the return for the concessionaire. A clear vision is needed for mutual advantages for the government and private sector.
- A clear strategic approach is needed, including policy framework and legal basis - coordination and communication, action planning and decision-making, and attention to monitoring of performance, and ownership issues.
- In a review of major requirements of rhino reintroduction by RRG countries, a step-wise approach should be adopted.

Discussion

(Provision of reintroduction guidelines) Dr Kampamba asked when the guidelines would be available. For Zambia, Mr du Toit endorsed the approach of the evaluation of North Luangwa NP, where a checklist and framework were followed. Detail could be filled in through interaction with RRG countries. The guidelines could not cover the full range of situations. The experience with the NLNP reintroduction could be used towards planning the next area.

(Funding of founders) Mr Chafota raised the issue of funding, specifically the high cost of buying 20 founders. He added that the RRG programme must touch on funding issues for reintroduction projects. Mr du Toit said that government commitments could be topped up from outside. Funding to acquire or manage rhinos once brought in could be developed through other options (e.g. Botswana swapping rhinos for other game).

(Sex ratio and new blood) Mr Tjibae asked about the recommended sex ratio for 20 founders, and the need for new blood. Mr du Toit said that a 1:1 sex ratio maximised sampling, but more rapid breeding could result from a sex ratio skewed towards females. It was important not to compromise source populations though skewing the sex ratio of animals provided (e.g. example of surplus males). Dr Brooks added that more females than males were usually found in very small populations only. Mr du Toit said that no matter how big the population, it was prudent to introduce 1-2 unrelated animals every generation. The problem was how to achieve it, particularly because of possible fighting mortalities. This emphasised the need for low-density situations, for introducing new animals successfully as well as maintaining habitat.

(Zoo animals) Mr Maige cautioned members over the acceptance of rhinos from zoos, adding that ages of zoo animals were also a problem, with mostly subadults used to zoo diets being available. Dr Brooks echoed this point, and highlighted the need for guidelines to include situations of moving animals from one habitat type to another, and the periods needed for 'weaning' animals onto new habitats.

(Introductions) Mr du Toit advised that introducing single young males was not a good idea, although routine horn removal or tipping could reduce mortality or serious injury. Dr Brooks recommended that all founder animals should be moved in together to reduce risk. He added that genetic management should not be an immediate concern of the RRG.

(b) Presentations by Rhino Focal Points of SADC RRG Range States

Each of the focal points appointed by each of the SADC rhino range state provided a summary presentation on the status of rhino conservation in their countries. Each representative had been requested to use SWOT headings (Strengths, Weaknesses, Opportunities & Threats) for their presentation summaries and also to provide feedback on in-country activities under the SADC RPRC. Presentations were followed by some questions and discussion.

2.5 Angola (Nkosi Luta Kingengo)

Summary

The last meeting attended by the focal point for Angola was the stakeholders' meeting for the SADC rhino programme in South Africa in March 2000. Since that time two activities were planned:

- (a) field activities
- (b) collection of data from all of Angola, including the use of questionnaires.

Field activities had not been possible due to financial constraints and instability prevailing in the country. However, from questionnaire replies received, there were positive indications of the possible presence of rhino from four provinces:

- Kwanza North and South
- Namibie province
- Kunene province
- Kuando-Kubango province

In addition a report of one white rhino had been received during a field survey in Kissama NP in December 2001.

Discussion

(Surveys) Mr du Toit remarked that hopefully Angola was coming out of war phase. Since the rhino situation was probably similar to that of the giant sable, maybe it would be best to combine coordination of surveys with other species. He asked if there were plans for a national survey of wildlife. Mr Kingengo replied that there were plans for surveys of elephant, rhino and giant sable.

(Strategy) Mr Kingengo said that there was no rhino conservation strategy in place, and the development of this would be preceded by the wildlife survey. Wildlife conservation activities in Angola fell under the IDF, which included departments for wildlife and inland fisheries. There was a National Directorate for Protected Areas, and it was necessary to consolidate activities for the wildlife department.

(Legislation) Mr Kingengo said that wildlife legislation comprised the *Regulamento de Caça* of 11 December 1957, and this had been revised through a more recent revised executive decree and agreement between ministers of finance and agriculture (No 36/99 of 27 January 1999). Summary details of this revision were provided to the SADC RPRC coordinator.

2.6 Botswana (Moremi Tjibae)

Introduction

Botswana, like other SADC rhino range state, is in the process of rebuilding her rhino population, which was in the past decimated by poaching to the extent that it was on the brink of extinction. To achieve this recovery, rhino sanctuaries or reserves have been established, and these areas accommodate the majority of rhinos in Botswana. These areas afford maximum security or protection to rhino, whose movements are monitored on daily basis. Recently two white rhinos have been spotted in the wild in Moremi Game Reserve. These are the only rhinos in Botswana who are not monitored on daily basis. Their chances of contribution to the population growth are minimal as they live an isolated life. Attempts will be made in future to relocate them to an area where their chance of contributing to the country's rhino population recovery will be higher.

Beside the above two rhinos, the Department of Wildlife and National Parks has re-introduced white rhinos into Moremi Game Reserve in collaboration with a private concessionaire. To date we have successfully reintroduced five rhinos, of which three were bought by the concessionaire from one of the private nature reserves, and the other two were a contribution from the Department of Wildlife and National Parks. The rhinos have adapted well to their new environment. Preparations are currently at an advanced stage to receive 32 white rhinos from South Africa as part of an agreement to exchange Roan antelopes for White rhinos from South African National Parks. They will also be released in Moremi Game Reserve. We hope they will form a viable breeding nucleus in the area.

Our current rhino population stands at 38 white rhinos. These rhinos are distributed as follows:

Moremi Game Reserve	7
Mokolodi Nature Reserve	7
Tholo Ranch	3
Khama Rhino Sanctuary	21
Total	38

With the arrival of the thirty-two (32) rhinos from South Africa, Botswana will have a total of 69 white rhinos.

Black rhinos are extinct in Botswana. Botswana currently still has an outstanding offer of a pair of black rhinos from Namibia. Once a decision has been made to relocate them to Botswana, they will be sent to one of the sanctuaries where there is maximum protection. An assessment has been made in part of Moremi Game Reserve through the SADC Rhino Programme. The area has been found to be suitable for black rhinos. Due to the past conservation failures that lead to the extinction of rhinos in Botswana, efforts are being made to rebuild and protect the white rhino species first. Once these prove to be successful, attempts will be made to reintroduce black rhinos. Before reintroductions are made, our present conservation measures will be evaluated for its success and failure, and shortcomings rectified.

Policy

With the assistance of the SADC Rhino programme, Botswana has a new Rhino Conservation and Management Strategy, which has still to be adopted by the Department. The strategy is for both white and black rhinos. Even though it is not yet formally adopted, it is already being implemented. Our rhino coordination committee has met several times to plan for relocation, security, reintroduction and other issues concerning rhino. The committee only meets when there is an issue to attend to. Beside the Rhino management strategy each nature reserve or sanctuary has its own management plan to guide its daily activities. Most of the rhino conservation programmes are implemented by the Department of Wildlife and National Parks and the communities. About 80% of our rhinos are in community-managed areas.

We have sought assistance in the past from SADC rhino programme to train staff on monitoring procedures. So far two members of Department of Wildlife and National Parks staff and one member from Khama Rhino sanctuary have been trained. They have in turn trained members of their organisations. Assessment of both Khama Rhino Sanctuary and Moremi Game Reserve suitability for establishment of both white and black rhino was also done through the assistance of SADC Rhino programme. A report was made and the rhino reintroduction programme has been initiated at Mombo. Five rhinos have been relocated to the area and more are still to be sent to the area. Recently we received the SADC *WILDb* database from the programme. The database will go a long way to assist us in our rhino management. Our rhino programme also utilises a pool of knowledge available locally which we either tap during regional meetings or source from individuals whenever there is need.

Weaknesses

Botswana's current rhino programme is going on smoothly. Since 1992 we have not lost a single rhino through poaching, except through natural mortality. Our rhino populations are growing quite well. Rhinos are breeding in sanctuaries and we hope our white rhinos will have recovered in five years to come. Our rhino programme is confined to small areas, mainly sanctuaries or nature reserves. This has proved to be a successful conservation programme. Unfortunately the same cannot be said with rhinos in the

unconfined habitat in Moremi Game Reserve, which is a huge area. This may create problems during breeding. It may not be easy for males and females to meet. We are still to prove our rhino conservation ability with the Chiefs Island reintroduction programme.

Opportunities

Most rhino range states have in the past failed to conserve or provide security for their rhinos, leading to their extermination or extinction. The emergence of nature reserves or sanctuaries has contributed in the recovery of rhino populations in some countries, especially Botswana. Eighty percent (80%) of rhinos in Botswana are in private reserves. Recently there has been partnership between our Department and a private concessionaire that is also proving to be viable. The success of such ventures is due to their efficient management. Private nature reserves or sanctuaries are managed on a business basis aiming for profit. The involvement of the public in rhino conservation should be encouraged where possible to accelerate the rate of rhino recovery in countries with low rhino populations.

Since Botswana entered into an exchange programme of rhinos for roan antelope with South Africa, we have had some inquiries for similar exchanges with private farmers from our neighbours. This indicates that there is potential for the sourcing of rhinos that can be used for reintroductions that can be exploited for rhino recovery programme. Expertise or funding for such reintroduction or recovery programme is available through SADC Rhino programme, the African Rhino Specialist Group, and Rhino and Elephant Security Group. Through these organisations, experts and funding can be sourced. A private concessionaire in Botswana was assisted by members of African Rhino Specialist group to source funds from US Fish & Wildlife Service. The money used to purchase three rhinos from the Mokolodi Nature Reserve.

No response had yet been received from Namibia to a letter sent by the Botswana PS enquiring about provision of black rhinos offered by Namibia in 1990.

Threats

Rhinos in Botswana face minimum threats from external factors, except the two which are occasionally seen in Moremi GR. The rest are in nature reserves or sanctuaries where they are protected on 24 hour basis. Quite a number of resources both manpower and equipment has been deployed on rhino conservation programme. Those rhinos that have been released in the wild have been fitted with radio transmitters to enable easy monitoring. They are tracked and monitored daily. Both air and ground surveillance is used to discourage potential poachers. The concept of community-based natural resource management has assisted quite a lot in management of wildlife in Botswana. Through the programme communities have established sanctuaries like Khama Rhino Sanctuary. Potential poachers are always reported to the authorities once discovered before they do any damage.

SADC Rhino Programme Activities

The programme has been of great assistance to Botswana. The sponsorship the programme offers has enabled Botswana to send delegates to meetings which has equipped such officers with knowledge on matters relating to rhinos in general. We currently have a rhino management strategy though not formally adopted. It is currently spearheading rhino conservation activities in the country. Officers have been trained through SADC sponsorship. The assessment of the suitability of Mombo for the reintroduction of rhino has also benefited us. Rhinos have been introduced and security measures put in place as indicated in the report. This has proved to be successful. Recently we have received a rhino database from SADC rhino programme. The database will assist us on our rhino conservation programme.

The following are proposed as future needs from SADC rhino programme:

- Microchips and readers to mark some of our rhinos that are not marked.
- Sponsorship for study tour so as to learn from other rhino range states.
- Facilitation in acquiring of black rhino.

Conclusion

Rhino conservation in Botswana is a priority. Plans are at advanced stage to bring rhinos back into the wild. All the available resources at our disposal have been deployed to protect them. We hope it will be a matter of five to six years before Moremi Game Reserve will have quite a good number of white rhinos. It

is our intention to have both white and black rhinos released freely in their natural habitat where they occurred in the past.

Discussion

Mr Maige asked when Botswana could move to RMG. Mr du Toit said that Botswana had a shown commendable effort, but did not want to move them out of the RRG too quickly. Mr Theophilus said that the DWNP had received many approaches from private sector for introduction of rhinos, but did not want to get too excited about these. Botswana wanted to continue with government-to-government deals on rhino for now. Mr Daconto asked that the experience from Botswana be fed towards reintroduction planning and implementation in other RRG countries.

2.7 Malawi (Roy Bhima)

Introduction

Malawi has one population of black rhinoceros, *Diceros bicornis minor* that is located in fenced sanctuaries in Liwonde National Park. Three pairs of male and female were introduced from South Africa in 1993, 1998 and 2000. The first pair produced two male calves in 1997 and 1999. The second pair produced a calf in early 2000. Another calf was born in October 2001. Two deaths have since occurred. In 2000 the first male adult died and a pregnant female from the third pair died. The rhino population is currently seven. Prior to the introductions in Liwonde National Park, the species had been declared extinct in 1990. In the 1980s the species was confined to Kasungu National Park and Mwabvi Game Reserve only. Kasungu National Park had between 10 and 20 individuals in 1984 (Jachmann, 1984) while Mwabvi had 6-7 individuals. In 1990, these animals were not seen anymore.

Strengths

The introduction of the rhino in Liwonde National Park is intended to build a strong population in the country. As a critically endangered species worldwide and in the country, the rhino was declared a protected species soon after it was introduced in the country. This meant that the species would be accorded appropriate management priority. This ensures adequate protection to the species. The population is kept in a fenced sanctuary and protected by a team of six scouts. The park has one Warden, a Research Officer and five scouts' camps. These will ensure that the rhino are given the right attention in all areas of management.

There has been the Malawi Frankfurt Zoological Society (FZS) Project in the park that has conducted scouts training programmes. These have assisted with the patrolling of the park to ensure that poaching is controlled. The Department of National Parks and Wildlife has recently signed a new ten-year contract with FZS to assist it with various areas of management. The project will improve some infrastructure of the park that will be beneficial to the management of the rhino. It will soon be constructing a 50 km electric fence along the eastern boundary between June and September 2002. This will assist with the control of illegal entrance into the park. The intention of the project is to fence the entire park. Roads of the park will also be developed to improve accessibility to various areas of the park. The project will also enhance community-based management to improve relationships with neighbouring communities. The presence of the project in the park will definitely be of great importance.

Ecological work in the park has been carried since the park was established. The vegetation was first mapped in the 1970s and has been monitoring the vegetation inside and outside the rhino sanctuary all along. We worked together on the first pair of rhino that came in 1993 and published a paper titled "Observations on two introduced black rhinos in Liwonde National Park" in 1996. Efforts to monitor the vegetation and the rhino are still going on.

Weaknesses

The major weakness affecting development of rhino conservation is funding. Although the DNPW has provided a rhino scout team to protect the rhino, it has not provided any extra funding to the Liwonde National Park recurrent budget for the Park Warden and the Research Officer to undertake other routine work such as inspections, monitoring movements and controlling fires. The Warden and the Research Officer are located 30 km away from the rhino sanctuary and often, they have not been able to visit the

sanctuary because of lack of funding. Because of the same problem, the focal point has not been able to visit the sanctuary as well.

The Department has relied a lot on the support it has received from the "J&B Circle of Friends". This is a group of businessmen who have voluntarily supported the rhino project. Although the J&B Circle of Friends has supported the project all along, their support is not guaranteed to continue forever. Secondly, some of the activities that this group undertakes for the rhino are not reported to the Park Warden.

The rhino population is currently very small. Its recovery rate is very low and would be affected by inbreeding. Translocation costs have been paid by others such as the South African Parks Board and the J&B Circle of Friends. The DNPW will not afford to pay any translocations and will continue to rely on others. This is a major weakness.

Opportunities

The South African National Parks Board and the Malawi Department of National Parks and Wildlife have had a very good relationship that has led to the transfer of some rhino from South Africa to Malawi. The South Africans provided the rhino and did the capturing and transfers. It is hoped that this relationship will continue to exist.

The J&B fraternity, which includes the "Care for the Rare" (UK) Programme and the "Circle of Friends", have contributed to the funding. The "Care for the Rare" Programme funded some of the transportation from South Africa while the "Circle of Friends" have funded transportation from Chileka Airport in Blantyre to Liwonde National Park and have supported the rhino on a daily basis in the park. The role that the FZS Management Project will play has been pointed out under "strengths" above.

The Wildlife and Environmental Society of Malawi (WESM) has provided some expertise to the management of the rhino in Liwonde. Dr. Cornell Dudley, who is a member of the Society, has done some ecological monitoring in the park and the sanctuary in particular. Dr. Dudley has continued to render his time to undertake some ecological surveys in the park, although travelling from Blantyre to the park has become expensive.

Threats

The heavy reliance of the Liwonde Rhino Project on external funding as has been shown above is an issue of concern. This cannot be relied upon completely as the donors may provide their funding on an ad hoc basis and the DNPW may not have a say on how the funding would be used. It is important that the DNPW must have its own rhino funds that it may use as it so wishes.

Poaching is a threat. Many wire snares intended to kill animals have been recovered from the park. None have been collected from the rhino sanctuary yet. It is important to maintain strict anti-poaching activities both in the rhino sanctuaries and in the park at large. Any laxity may lead to the poaching of a number of rhino individuals before the law enforcement team realises. Poachers have also set the park on fire. Fires have gone into the sanctuary causing a threat to the lives of the rhino. These illegal fires can be controlled by firebreaks and early burning programmes.

As the rhino numbers increase, the rhino sanctuary may become too small resulting into stress. There would be need to increase the size of the sanctuary. Dudley (2002) suggests a carrying capacity of 8-10 adults for sanctuary 1 and 2 and 4-6 adults for sanctuary 3. There is pressure to limit the building of additional sanctuaries as this may hinder east-west movements of elephants in the park. The present rhino number for the whole sanctuary is 7. With new translocations and reproductions, the sanctuary will soon reach its capacity. It is therefore important to start thinking seriously about how the rhino will be treated as the population grows.

SADC rhino programme activities

The SADC rhino project has supported work on the rhinos in Liwonde. Support has been given to undertake some ecological work. A report titled "Ecological evaluation for Liwonde National Park, Malawi with respect to the development and management of a viable population of black rhino (*Diceros bicornis minor*)" (Dudley, 2002) was recently based on funding from SADC rhino project. The DNPW got some

funding from the SADC rhino programme through a proposal that I wrote but the funding did not reach us as it was mixed up in the banks. The purpose of the proposal was to develop a management plan for the rhino. We hope that this problem can be resolved and that we can get our funding.

References

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Jachmann, H. (1984) Status of the Mwabvi rhino (*Diceros bicornis*). *Nyala* 10(2): 77-90.

Discussion

Mr Tjibae observed that the rhino sanctuary at Liwonde was very small, and asked if expansion was a problem. Mr Jiah said that the sanctuary comprised fenced areas within the park. Mr Sefu added that there had originally been three fenced areas, each with a pair. The fence had been subsequently collapsed between 'sanctuaries' 1 and 2, followed by the loss of one animal from fighting. The final pair was still located in sanctuary 3. Mr Sefu acknowledged that the creation of the sanctuaries had severely affected the movements of elephant in the park, and there were plans to move with the new agreement to upgrade the park fence towards removing the internal sanctuary fences.

2.8 Mozambique (Felismina Longamane Langa)

Introduction

Mozambique, as a developing country, recognises the importance of Natural Renewable Resources in general, and Wildlife in particular, by its contribution for economic development of the country. Due to its economic, scientific, ritual, as well as medicinal value, wildlife contributes directly or indirectly to improving the living conditions of communities. This fact has contributed to a high level of illegal hunting leading to extinction of several species, including the black and white rhino.

Strengths

Policies and Law

The Mozambican Government, through the Policy on Forest and Wildlife (DNFFB, 1996), acknowledges the importance of Mozambique's natural resources with objectives being "*the protection, conservation, development and the rational use of forest and fauna resources for economic, social and ecological benefits of the present and future generations of Mozambicans*". The new law of Forest and Wildlife was approved by parliament on 7 July 1999, but for its effective application it needs a regulation that is now under the Ministerial Council for approval. The law allows any singular person or collective to reintroduce wildlife and the Government gives special incentives for this, to be defined (article 29).

Strategic plans

Even without a national plan for rhino recovery, the recently created Limpopo National Plan has a 3-year programme for wildlife reintroduction to take place from 2002 up to 2004. Within this plan it is expected to reintroduce in the last year 30 White rhino. We also have a private initiative for rhino breeding (including other species) in Gaza Province. This project is still waiting for approval.

Opportunities

KNP would be ready to support DNAC through its own expertise in the establishment of joint management plans within the working group and to assist through capacity building and training of field staff. The 30 rhinos to be reintroduced will be offered by Kruger National Park. For this operation the Limpopo National Park has secured funds from donors.

Threats

In case of reintroduction of rhino, the main threat is the weakness of law enforcement.

SADC Rhino Programme Activities

The place for rhino reintroduction is not determined yet. So, from the programme we would like to ask the urgency of the feasibility study. During reintroduction, we would like to ask for assistance and supervision.

Discussion

(Feasibility study) Mr Daconto said that the feasibility study requested from the SADC RPRC was in the pipeline, to assist Mozambican authorities with reintroduction. He had been in touch with the park planning process for Limpopo NP. This was contained within a broad proposal, initially developed before the park was formed. The proposal will have to be updated, and take in account master planning, which can also include opportunities from the SADC rhino programme.

(Funding) Mr Daconto asked where funds had been secured for reintroduction. Ms Langa said that these were from Dutch donors. Mr Sefu asked about the KfW funding to the Greater Limpopo Park, and if this included money for reintroductions. Ms Langa said that this was for other species, but not for rhinos. Mr Jiah suggested coordination and harmonisation of activities with donors. Ms Langa said that they did not have studies or expertise at the moment, requesting the SADC RPRC to provide this. With the understanding that management planning is focussing on general reintroductions, not just for rhinos, Mr Daconto said that it was essential for the SADC RPRC to be kept informed on other sources of funding secured from Holland, and the progress of master plan, all necessary to ensure coordination. Mr du Toit said that the 'big train' or 'engine' in Mozambique for developing a rhino reintroduction project is the TFCA. White rhinos could be hitched on now, and black rhinos later.

2.9 Tanzania (Mathew Maige)

Introduction

Tanzania is one of the SADC region member countries where both *D. b. minor* and *D. b. michaeli* exist. The Southern part of the country and mostly *Brachystegia* woodland in this and the Central part of the country is potential range for *D. b. minor*. In this presentation however, I will only focus on the conservation status of *D. b. minor* since *D. b. michaeli* is not target of the SADC Rhino Programme.

Status of present initiatives

The straggling black rhino populations in both central parts of the southern highlands of Tanzania are difficult to consolidate. They are rarely seen and are very wary to approach even when sighted. Despite this problem, restocking through translocations is far from the present thinking, but recovery of remnant animals is very much encouraged. A practical achievement is documented for some *D. b. michaeli* in the north. Efforts by both Tanzania's Wildlife division and donors have all concentrated on rehabilitating the Selous Game Reserve's known rhino populations. There are four discrete rhino populations inside the 55,000 km² Game Reserve. Current efforts are concentrated at understanding the dynamics of rhino populations present at two localities – Kidai and Lukuliro.

Strengths

There have been efforts to enable rhino recovery in the Selous since first rhinos reappeared in the 1990's. A policy and Management plan for rhinoceros conservation in Tanzania was developed with assistance of AWF Project called Planning for Wildlife Assessment and Management (PAWM) in Dar es Salaam. This plan ended in 1993 and was revised recently with support from WWF – Tanzania office and more recently by the Wildlife Division. The office of the National Rhino Coordinator was then developed. The plan for rhino conservation provides for rhino recovery through translocations where this is deemed necessary, but also encourages in-situ conservation.

In the Selous, an ongoing rhino conservation project under EU/GTZ/Selous Rhino Trust continues, all as partners to the Wildlife Division. Some of the achievements so far obtained by the initiative include identification of two areas that are frequently believed to be used by approximately 16 rhinos. The estimate is a product of search efforts by the Selous Rhino Project where one expert is employed by Selous Rhino trust and his counterpart is with us here today (Mr Mwang'ombe).

Another area where search for rhinos is conducted in the Selous is Lukuliro, which is assisted by the Tanzania Wildlife Protection Fund/WWF – Tanzania office. In this area, it has been established that there

are 7 animals. Rangers have sighted them. With the two localities being established as rhino areas, the Wildlife Division knows the duty to protect these isolated populations is at hand, unlike it used to be when all these were reported as speculations.

In recognition of work so far done on rhinos in the Selous, the Wildlife Division has deliberately set aside key areas surrounding the Kidai area (one key habitat for Selous rhinos) specific for photographic safaris and no longer for hunting purposes as it used to be. Certainly this is a positive move towards provision of an enabling environment for rhinos to settle down undisturbed by gunshots.

Weaknesses

Though some recommendations propose reintroduction of rhinos to some parts of the Selous, there is general fear that such a move will direct poachers to the Selous Game Reserve. Due to the vastness of the Selous (about 55,000 km²) controlling the situation effectively by the Selous authorities will pose a heavy cost, which the government cannot shoulder. However, at the present financial ability, Tanzania is comfortable with the recovery of remnant populations of black rhino, which seems to be increasing year after year.

Opportunities

So far, the only opportunity we see is the continuation of the Selous Rhino Trust to support population recovery in the Selous. Main areas for support would be training of rangers and provision of monitoring gear where populations are established. There is certainly a strong public/private sectors partnership shown in the implementation of the Selous Rhino Project. We are happy we have an MoU for 10 years since the year 2000 with the Selous Rhino Trust. We are also lucky that we have a re-known Veterinarian, Dr. Morkel, working in the country for the time being.

Threats

These are not man made for the time being. Protection efforts in all rhino protected areas are good. However, diseases and calf predation in some rhino sites are worrying us most of the time. If threats hitting our immediate neighbours in the north come to us, we will have all reasons to worry.

SADC rhino programme activities

Tanzania benefited from this programme when a team of experts from Zimbabwe who were facilitated by the programme made field excursions in the Selous towards the end of 2001. This support to Tanzania came to re-enforce further search efforts to all the two sites. Thanks to the team from Zimbabwe lead by Raoul du Toit and Norman English. The Wildlife Division basically accepts the report they produced and more work will be planned for implementation as recommended. For example, an extension of funding from EU through GTZ has been requested partly to meet some of the training requirements including employing trackers from other parts of Tanzania to work albeit temporarily in the Selous. We see this as an area where more assistance (financial and technical) from the SADC Rhino Programme can be directed to address our long-term handicap on Selous scattered rhino populations.

Discussion

(*Selous*) Dr Brooks asked about the populations of 16 and 7 in the Selous, and whether Tanzania would seek to re-establish or reinforce these with rhinos from outside. Mr Maige said that they were happy with present efforts, trying to consolidate more of what remains in Selous. There was scepticism on moving animals in from outside. With current levels of manpower and the size of reserve, it was difficult to mobilise to cover additional areas.

(*Serengeti*) Dr Brooks asked about the growth of the Moru population from 3 to 9 and the need to avoid inbreeding. Mr Maige said that there was opportunity for looking at metapopulation initiatives, and they now had an expert in place. They could change the composition of populations as required, including unfenced animals, and explore the possibility of removing one or more males.

2.10 Zambia (George Kampamba)

Introduction

The commitment of the Government of the Republic of Zambia to co-operate in the management of biodiversity constituents such as rhino is enshrined in international instruments such as Technical Cooperation Agreements. The Zambia Wildlife Authority acknowledges the fact that the North Luangwa National Park had Zambia's highest rhino population prior to 1970. It is against this background that the Government of the Republic of Zambia through the Zambia Wildlife Authority decided, in 1992 and 2000 regarding rhino management, to implement the reintroduction of the white and black rhino respectively for biodiversity conservation.

Feasibility Black Rhino Re introduction in North Luangwa National Park

The intention by the Zambia Wildlife Authority is to establish a founder population of black rhino in the North Luangwa National Park. In this regard the Frankfurt Zoological Society in a long standing relationship with the Zambia Wildlife Authority is currently working under a ten year agreement with Zambia to manage the wildlife resources in the North Luangwa National Park and to support the reintroduction of black rhino to the Park.

Zambia recognizes, as a positive factor, the SADC Regional Programme for Rhino Conservation's support to the scientific study for putative rhino range suitability within North Luangwa National Park and for accepting to coordinate the reintroduction programme in Zambia with the various stakeholders and our key supporters.

The study also established the suitability of black rhino putative range in South Luangwa National Park as an opportunity. The Zambia Wildlife Authority needs a total of 20 black rhino in order to establish a viable founder population in North Luangwa National Park in the next three years. Out of the 20 black rhino five animals have been negotiated in principle with the South African National Parks.

Following the above, Zambia has undertaken the following:

- The Park Ranger in charge of the rhino programme and his deputy have been employed
- Twenty eight Wildlife Police Officers have been committed by the Zambia Wildlife Authority to the rhino programme
- Material for the sanctuary were purchased and construction will soon start
- Uniform, field equipment and other materials for the rhino programme have been purchased
- Arrangements are underway to send the Wildlife Police Officers for training in South Africa

Management of White Rhino in Mosi-oa-tunya National Park

The SADC Regional Programme for Rhino Conservation also supported the study of the white rhino population in Mosi-oa-tunya National Park. Concerns were raised by Zambia over the failure by the animals to reproduce since 1995, thus the need for an investigation. The study revealed that there was need for introduction of new individuals to the small existing population. Since that study, the Zambia Wildlife Authority has not secured new animals for translocation to Mosi-oa-tunya National Park.

We however, believe that there is window of opportunity through support from the Rhino Recovery Group, the IUCN/SADC Programme for Rhino Conservation and other key supporters that Zambia Wildlife Authority will develop programmes to introduce new animals to Mosi-oa-tunya National Park in order to build and strengthen the capacity in white rhino management.

The World Bank is presently supporting the rehabilitation of the existing electric fence, extending the electric fence and supporting a public awareness campaign for Mosi-oa-tunya and Kafue National Parks. Reviews of the General Management Plans for Kafue and Mosi-oa-tunya National Parks and studies of Critical Species and Habitats in the two target National Parks will be commissioned next month, June 2002. These activities will contribute to raising the management profile of the Mosi-oa-tunya National Park for rhino management and biodiversity conservation.

Policy for Rhino Management in Zambia

Against the background that Zambia had the largest historic rhino range in Africa and that the North Luangwa National Park had one of the largest rhino populations in Africa prior to 1970, the objective of

the Zambia Wildlife Authority and SADC Regional Programme for Rhino Conservation was to re-establish a black rhino population in its former range. The plan is to develop the national founder population in North Luangwa and through appropriate policy provide for private sector participation in rhino conservation. The Zambia Wildlife Authority is subsequently determined to develop a specific rhino management policy in Zambia, a management strategy and actions. With the support from US Fish and Wildlife, Zambia Wildlife Authority will finalise the rhino policy during the year 2002.

Collaboration

I wish to also inform this inaugural meeting that the Zambian Delegation headed by the Director General of the Zambia Wildlife Authority visited South Africa and met with the South African National Parks' Executives in Pretoria and Kruger National Park. It was agreed, during the visit, to co-operate on the re introduction of rhinoceros to Zambia and other aspects of national park management and development. There was an agreement in principle that the South African National Parks will provide the initial black rhinos to Zambia Wildlife Authority. A Draft Agreement for collaboration and cooperation on rhino management between the South African National Parks and Zambia Wildlife Authority has been developed. Further plans to contact the Kwa Zulu Natal Wildlife for more rhino for feasibility of reintroduction are also being made by the Zambia Wildlife Authority.

Way forward

On the basis of the political support and cooperation from other stakeholders Zambia Wildlife Authority embarked on consolidating preparations and plans to receive the rhino including the capacity necessary to safeguard the black rhino in North Luangwa National Park Zambia Wildlife Authority will continue to work closely with its partner Frankfurt Zoological Society in terms of management and monitoring of the rhino. Zambia Wildlife Authority will pursue the spirit of collaboration and exchange information on the management and monitoring of the Rhino with South African National Parks based on an Agreement. The Zambia Wildlife Authority is proposing to jointly develop with South African National Parks a memorandum of understanding on national park management for long-term cooperation. The Zambia Wildlife Authority will avail the North Luangwa National Park Rhino Reintroduction Project for international inspection

Conclusion

The Zambian Government and the Zambia Wildlife Authority are convinced that with the co-operation among the Rhino Recovery Group Members and with support from the Rhino Management Group and the SADC Regional Programme for Rhino Conservation, Zambia will once more develop as a country in which a well-protected and viable black rhinoceros population contributes to enhance economic, spiritual and social well being of the public and the country as a whole and the Zambian wildlife estate for the present and posterity. In this regard we are inviting a verification mission to the North Luangwa National Park on a regular basis to assess the facilities, security arrangements and preparations by Zambia Wildlife Authority to receive the initial breeding population of five black rhino for the North Luangwa National Park. Zambia Wildlife Authority will continue to explore new projects and opportunities through collaboration for building more capacity within the institution for biodiversity conservation.

Discussion

(Rhino Security in NLNP) Mr Chafota asked about the initiatives with World Bank and FZS, and ZAWA's response to the studies funded by SADC rhino programme. He highlighted the need to address the factors which caused decline of rhinos in the past, and the need to work with communities to ensure integrity of sanctuary fencing. Dr Kampamba said that FZS had been in area for 13 or 14 years. Security assessments would be made before going ahead, including removal of factors which caused extinction Training and retraining of staff was in place. On fencing and communities, there was a public awareness campaign, to inform the nation about developments. Specifically around NLNP, in human settlements, the core area and buffer system in the GMAs, they was information about the reintroduction programme.

Mr Sinkamba, the area warden for NLNP, said that there was improving community participation, with useful development in the last month. Local chiefs came into park where they have constructed community camps, and park funds had been recycled to communities. On operations, NLNP was well managed, probably the best in Zambia. Poaching incidence was very low, and the park had adequate

resources with support from FZS. There was a control room on 24 hrs watch with 10 patrols in place, and aircraft available for monitoring and anti-poaching.

(Mosi-oa-Tunya NP) Dr Kampamba said that the management profile of the park had been improved through need to include rhinos. Mr Theophilus asked about the security at Mosi-oa-Tunya. Dr Kampamba said that they had only lost one animals after dehorning, and a second after immobilisation.

(Sustainability) Mr Tjibae asked what would happen if the present donor leaves. Dr Kampamba said that the GoZ had decided to transform the authority. Through order No 12 of 1998, all revenue can be retained by ZAWA. This is not yet up and running, and there were teething problems specifically due to lack of revenue available from hunting. There had been reduced staffing in ZAWA, but improved conditions of service. ZAWA still needed some donor support. He added that there had been agreement with SANP specifically on provision of black rhinos. Joint programmes were planned to further develop capacity in ZAWA. The ZAWA/SANP agreement was in draft form at this stage, to be followed by a government-to-government MoU.

3 INDIVIDUAL AND COMMON NEEDS OF SADC RRG COUNTRIES

In plenary, each RRG country provided inputs on their individual needs or programme deficiencies to a common Table or Matrix, in order to:

- Identify gaps in members programme development
- Allow members to recognise the conditions, key components and building blocks for rhino reintroduction/recovery (coordination, strategic planning, use of reintroduction criteria, project evaluations and development, funding, etc)
- List common regional needs, key attributes or functions, which could be used in drafting Terms of Reference for the SADC RRG (Section 4).
- Compile a list of potential projects for funding from the SADC RPRC in 2003-2004.

3.1 Needs of SADC RRG countries

The primary table covered individual and common needs of RRG members, and was compiled with column entries from each country into rows for each of several key components of a national rhino programme and reintroduction/re-establishment activities. The row entries were defined, discussed and agreed in plenary, and are listed as follows:

(a) Policy and Strategy Coordination

- (i) Legal Provisions
- (ii) National Strategy
- (iii) National Coordination Group

(b) New Populations

- (i) Rhino Status Surveys
- (ii) Identification of Priority Areas for Reintroduction
- (iii) Introduction Plan
- (iv) Sourcing of Rhinos

(c) Existing Populations under Management Control

- (i) Planning for individual populations
- (ii) Monitoring
- (iii) Security
- (iv) Biological Management

(d) Training and Capacity Building

- (i) Security and Law Enforcement
- (ii) Scene of Crime investigation
- (iii) Rhino Monitoring
- (iv) Biological Management
- (v) Judicial sensitisation and prosecutor training
- (vi) Focal point training
- (vii) Rhino programme staff development

The resulting table is found in Annex E, with cell entries shaded where the individual member country identified a need or deficiency, with explanatory text added. Some of the RRG were able to prioritise and rank needed items and give potential sources of funding, and these are included in the table.

3.2 SWOT analysis

A second table was compiled on the basis of the presentations given by member states, specifically to provide an analysis of the general and specific Strengths, Weaknesses, Opportunities and Threats to each country's rhino conservation efforts, and also to summarise the support already provided by the SADC RPRC. The SWOT table was compiled by Dr Roy Bhima (Malawi), and is found in Annex F.

3.3 Potential RRG projects for SADC RPRC support

Through the process of entry of information into the above tables (Annex E and F), and further discussion during plenary, each country was able to provide a list of concepts or titles of potential project proposals developed for potential funding by the SADC RPRC. These are listed in Annex G, with a schedule for submission of project proposals for review and approval by the SADC Rhino Consortium.

4 TERMS OF REFERENCE OF THE SADC RRG

Through discussion in plenary, and drafting and editing using projected text, the following draft Terms of Reference for the Group were agreed:

4.1 Aim or Objective of the SADC RRG

“to coordinate and facilitate the application of regional resources in establishing reintroduced rhino populations and managing remnant rhino populations, and ensuring their future viability”

4.2 Strategies of the SADC RRG

1. Facilitate and assist with the development of national policies, strategies and plans
2. Identify key issues and priority needs, including sourcing of rhinos for reintroduction and regional metapopulation management
3. Facilitate building of capacity in RRG management agencies, including targeted training and staff development, and development of appropriate tools and techniques
4. Assist RRG countries with undertaking assessments of potential areas for reintroduction and prioritise these areas
5. Disseminate information on best practice between RRG members, by use of workshops, publications, exchange/study visits, and staff assignments
6. Follow up on confirmed presence of remnant rhinos and promote surveys of remnant populations
7. Circulate guidelines on the reintroduction of rhinos and consolidation of remnant populations
8. Network and share expertise with regional and continental rhino conservation bodies (SADC RMG, AfRSG, SADC Rhino Programme and donor community, including linkage with RESG on security needs)
9. Monitor and evaluate progress towards achievement of national rhino conservation goals, and the effectiveness of rhino recovery projects that are implemented in RRG countries
10. Assist RRG countries in the development and funding of project proposals, based on identification of common needs, and facilitate the funding of rhino recovery projects in RRG countries

4.3 Membership of the SADC RRG

Membership criteria for the RRG were debated and agreed by members of the RRG only (range state focal points), with Malawi/former SADC WSTCU acting as interim Chair. The SADC Rhino Programme Coordinator acted as rapporteur for the decisions recorded.

The following decisions were made:

Selection of Members

Number of seats: 10 (maximum)

Composition:

- 6 members (1 focal point from each RRG country, with an alternate nominated by each country in case the focal point is unable to attend)
- 4 co-opted members (AfRSG: 1, RESG: 1, SADC RMG: 1, SADC RPRC: 1)

One RRG Country will be nominated as Chair, who will decide on the Chairperson (focal point or alternate).

One nominated Vice-Chair will be the focal point from a different RRG country

Country Members:

Angola: Focal Point – Nkosi Luta Kingengo; Alternate to be advised

Mozambique: Focal Point – Felismina Longamane Langa; Alternate to be confirmed (Gilberto Vincente)

Botswana: Focal Point – Moremi Tjibae; Alternate to be advised

Zambia: Focal Point – Dr George Kampamba; Alternate - Wilbroad Chansa

Malawi: Focal Point – Dr Roy Bhima; Alternate - Jevas Thamala

Tanzania: Focal Point – Mathew Maige; Alternate to be advised

4.4 Modus Operandi of the SADC RRG

Modus Operandi for the RRG were debated and agreed by members of the RRG only (range state focal points), with Malawi/former SADC WSTCU acting as interim Chair. The SADC Rhino Programme Coordinator acted as rapporteur for the discussions and decisions recorded. The following decisions were made:

Office Bearers

Chair

Vice-Chair

Length of Service

Chair : 3 years

Vice-Chair: 3 years

Focal Points: service for duration of appointment by range state

Election of Office Bearers

Nominations received:

1. Angola proposal: Tanzania Chair, Malawi Vice-Chair

2. Zambia proposal: Malawi Chair, Tanzania Vice-Chair (seconded by Mozambique)

3. Tanzania proposal: Malawi Chair, Botswana Vice-Chair

Decision: Chair: Malawi Vice-Chair: Tanzania

Secretariat

Proposals:

1. Angola: to be based in Malawi

2. Tanzania: to be based in Zambia

3. Zambia, Botswana: to be based at Site of Chair

Decision: Secretariat to be based in Site of Chair

Frequency of Meetings

Proposals:

Botswana: 1 annual meeting of RRG; Seconded by Mozambique and Angola.

Venue rotated between six RRG countries, Additional workshops to be convened as and when required

Geographical Scope

The six RRG countries only; other countries could be included at a later date (e.g. DRC, when peace breaks out)

Rhinoceros Species

D.b.minor

D.b.bicornis

C.s.simum

Other species (e.g. *C.s.cottoni*) could be included in future

4.5 Funding of the SADC RRG

Funding requirements:

Meetings:

It was proposed to use SADC RPRC funding for attendance of meetings by members, during the lifetime of SADC RPRC. After programme completion, attendance costs would be financed by member countries, supplemented by donor funding of proposals for funding meeting attendance from other sources. Proposals for convening an individual RRG meeting may be fundable depending on objectives of individual meeting. After end of SADC programme, it will be necessary to build in mechanisms for internal funding by RRG countries for meeting attendance. Like the RMG, self-funding and self-sufficiency should be the objective (except for private land owners and consultant members). A strong catalytic role by the Chair of RRG will be needed in first year

Activities:

Many activities will be funded through priority projects from SADC RPRC for RRG countries. It was suggested that funding for individual countries could depend or be conditional on their commitment and prior performance on rhino recovery efforts

Core/Secretariat costs:

These can be born by Malawi for first three years

5 OTHER BUSINESS

5.1 Any Other Business

(Country Reviews update) Dr Brett (prompted by the Angolan representative) asked Range State Focal Points to review and make amendments to the Summary Table found within the Detailed Country Review Report (pages 18-24), and forward them to the Programme Coordinator

(Reintroduction guidelines) Mr Sinkamba requested that the RRG Reintroduction Guidelines (developed by Raoul du Toit) be made available and circulated to RRG range states as soon as possible

(National Rhino Programmes: staff development) Dr Brett stressed the need for RRG rhino management authorities to value staff with rhino-specific skills, and the need to formally recognise and retain these staff in terms of improved conditions and opportunities for career development. Mr Sefu said that with downsizing in many wildlife authorities career development for staff was problematic; however, it was important to provide sufficient incentives to retain field staff with rhino expertise in government service.










Mr Daconto emphasised the need for a long-term perspective in capacity building and building up a cadre of rhino conservation staff that will last. Training institutions were familiar with turnover difficulties. He suggested that the RRG should take charge of monitoring the capacity building element for member countries. Mr Chafota suggested the use of the SAWC (attn. Dorothy Oyier) and its short courses and modules. Mr Daconto said that he would circulate a copy of the Training Needs Assessment that was undertaken for the SADC Wildlife Management Training Project.


5.2 Concluding Remarks and Closure of SADC Rhino Recovery Group Meeting

Mr Sefu reviewed and summarised the progress and results of the meeting. Having been initially sceptical of the planning of the RRG, he was now convinced of its value, and it was now essential to make sure that it became a success. From March 2002, the RRG would face a major challenge for financing its activities. Members must see to it that the RRG moves, and does not become a sitting target. Mr Sefu appealed to all member countries to work on the priority activities that have been identified at the meeting, and make them work. It was not for the SADC rhino programme only to support these priorities, but all members needed to identify and secure National Support, as well as other donors to support the group in future. This would be crucial to ensure the success and sustainability of the group.

Mr Sefu thanked the Government of Italy for supporting the SADC rhino programme, and thanked the SADC rhino programme for selecting Malawi to host the meeting, as home of the SADC WSTCU. On behalf of the Malawi DNPW he thanked all participants for attending and wished all a safe journey home. With these remarks he closed the inaugural meeting of the SADC RRG.

ANNEX A LIST OF PARTICIPANTS

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ANNEX B AGENDA

Day 1 Friday May 24th, 2002

Session I Chair: L Sefu

0835 Welcome remarks (Chair, G Daconto)

0845 Self-introduction by participants

0850 Overview of SADC Regional Rhino Programme
Rationale for the SADC RRG and Objectives of Meeting (R Brett)

0910 Opening Address (Mrs Martha Nasho MP, Deputy Minister for Tourism, Parks & Wildlife, Malawi)

0925 Coffee/Tea

Session II Chair: H Nzima

Presentations by Consortium Members:

0950 Structures supporting rhino conservation and levels of rhino coordination (Martin Brooks)
(IUCN/SSC AfRSG, SADC RMG, etc)

1010 SADC RMG: background, achievements and common benefits (Martin Brooks)

1030 National Strategy Development: Common Issues and Lessons Learnt (Rob Brett)

1045 Reintroduction Guidelines: Overview (Raoul du Toit)

*Presentations by Rhino Focal Points of RRG Range States:
(SWOT analysis on country reintroduction/recovery programmes;
Feedback on SADC Rhino Programme support)*

1100 Angola (N L Kingengo)

1120 Botswana (M Tjibae)

1140 Malawi (R Bhima)

1200 Mozambique (F L Langa)

1220 Tanzania (M Maige)

1240 Zambia (G Kampamba)

1300 Lunch

Session III Chair: M Brooks

1400 Individual and Common needs of RRG members (Plenary Discussion)

Inputs by Range States to Presentation Table/Matrix, in order to identify and register the following:

- Identification of gaps in members programme development

- Recognition of conditions, key components and building blocks for rhino reintroduction/recovery (coordination, strategic planning, use of reintroduction criteria, project evaluations and development, funding, etc)
- Listing of common regional needs, key attributes or functions, to be used in drafting Terms of Reference for the SADC RRG (Day 2)

1530 Coffee/Tea

1550 Individual and Common needs of RRG members (continued) (Plenary Discussion)

16:45 Summary of Day 1 (Chair)

17:00 Close of Day 1

Day 2 Saturday May 25th, 2002

Session IV Chair: J Chafota; Rapporteur: R Brett

0800 Terms of Reference of the SADC RRG (Plenary Discussion)
(a) Aim or Objective of the SADC RRG
(b) Strategies of the SADC RRG

1000 Coffee/Tea

1030 Terms of Reference of the SADC RRG (continued) (Plenary Discussion)

1130 Membership of the SADC RRG (Plenary Discussion)

- Selection of Members
- Criteria for selection
- Length of Service
- Consistency of Range State Membership (e.g. Focal points)
- Co-opted/Technical membership
- Election of Office bearers – Chair and Vice-Chair

1300 Lunch

Session V Chair: Leonard Sefu; Rapporteur: Rob Brett

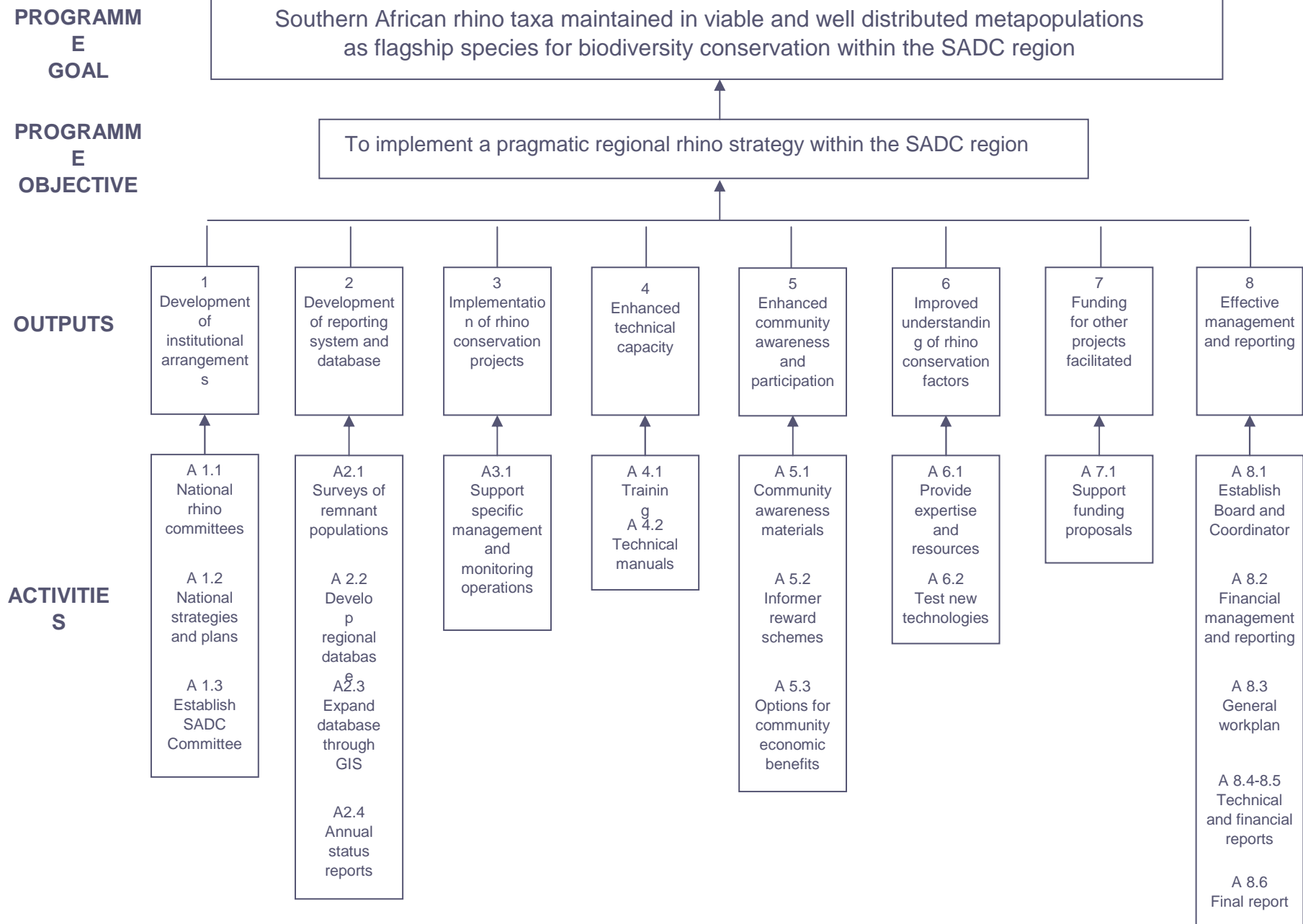
1400 *Modus Operandi* of the SADC RRG (Plenary Discussion)

- Office bearers
- Frequency of meetings/workshops (e.g. annual, with 1 additional workshop every two years)
- Geographical Scope
- Rhinoceros Species
- Funding
 - Operational Costs: Secretariat
 - Self-support
 - Identification of sources of funding
 - Promotion of self-sufficiency

1600 Any Other Business: Outstanding Agenda Items

1630 Concluding Remarks and Closure of RRG Meeting

ANNEX C SADC RPRC GOAL, OBJECTIVE & OUTPUTS (LOGICAL FRAMEWORK)



ANNEX D SADC RPRC: ACTIVITIES BY OUTPUT (MAY 2002)

Output 1 Institutional Arrangements

- All SADC Rhino Range States - Focal Points appointed and established (September 2000)
- All SADC Rhino Range States - Detailed Country Reviews of Rhino Conservation (September 2000)
- Botswana –New Rhino Conservation Strategy drafted; stakeholders' workshop convened (February 2001)
- Namibia - New Rhino Conservation Strategy drafted (February 2002)
- Rhino Management Group of Southern Africa (RMG) – Meeting convened (South Africa: October 2000)
- All SADC Rhino Range States – Meetings convened (South Africa: March 2000 and 2001)
- Rhino and Elephant Security Group of Southern Africa (RESG) – Workshop convened, new ToR and Strategy developed (Namibia: July 2001)
- SADC Rhino Recovery Group (RRG) – Inaugural meeting convened (Malawi: May 2002)

Output 2 Reporting Systems and Surveys

- All SADC Rhino Range States – WILDb rhino population and monitoring database developed tested in Zimbabwe and Botswana, and refined (Site version 1.31, National version 1.0)
- All SADC Rhino Range States – Workshop on rhino monitoring databases (South Africa: November 2000)
- Zimbabwe – Capacity building for rhino surveys and monitoring (establishment and use of WILDb database in Matusadona and Sinamatella IPZs – August 2001)
- Tanzania – Technical Assistance and Training for rhino surveys in Selous GR, Tanzania (August 2001)

Output 3 Rhino Conservation Projects

- All SADC Rhino Range States – Improving security and management of rhino horn stocks in SADC rhino range states (TRAFFIC)

Output 4 Technical Capacity and Training

- All SADC Rhino Range States – Development of rhino monitoring instructors training course (3rd Edition) and production of course materials (March 2001)
- Botswana, Malawi, South Africa, Zambia, Zimbabwe – First SADC rhino monitoring instructors training course held (South Africa: March 2001)
- All SADC Rhino Range States – Guidelines for Reintroduction Projects
- All SADC Rhino Range States – Guidelines for Survey and Recovery of Dispersed Rhinos

Output 5 Community Participation

- All SADC Rhino Range States – Community Involvement in Rhino Conservation: Review
- Namibia – Biological and human factors limiting West Kunene black rhino population

Output 6a Provision of Expertise from SADC Region: Evaluations and Assessments

- Botswana –Future options for rhino management and reserve expansion at Khama Rhino Sanctuary, Serowe, Botswana (September 2001)
- Botswana – Rhino reintroductions to Mombo Medium-Density Tourism Zone, Chief's Island, Moremi GR (September 2001)
- Malawi – Ecological and Institutional evaluation, and development of guidelines for future management of black rhinos in Liwonde NP (July, October 2001)
- Zambia – Reintroduction of black rhino in the Luangwa Valley NPs (July 2001)
- Zambia – Management of the white rhinoceros in Mosi-oa-Tunya National Park (July 2001)
- Swaziland – Expert assessment of black rhino carrying capacity in two rhino reserves (April 2002)

Output 6b Tools and Technology for Rhino Conservation

- All SADC Rhino Range States – Radio-tracking coordination/review and radio-collar development
- SADC RMG – *RHINO* population estimation software development
- SADC RMG – Workshop on biological management to meet continental and national black rhino conservation goals (South Africa: July 2001)
- All SADC Rhino Range States – Rhino horn finger-printing: development and validation of techniques
- All SADC Rhino Range States – New technology for rhino monitoring (transponders, GPS): review
- All SADC Rhino Range States – RMG Model/Manual for Assessment of Black Rhino Carrying Capacity (Version 1.0)

ANNEX E PROGRAMME DEVELOPMENT: INDIVIDUAL & COMMON NEEDS OF RRG COUNTRIES

(Shaded cells indicate needs, deficiencies or gaps in programme development for range state)

PROGRAMME COMPONENTS/NEEDS		ANGOLA	BOTSWANA	MALAWI	MOZAMBIQUE	TANZANIA	ZAMBIA
POLICY AND STRATEGY – COORDINATION	Legal provisions	Adequate penalties in place	Adequate.	Current law under amendment.	Adequate.	Adequate, under review	Adequate. Need to be expanded to include rhino-specific legislation under new policy
	National Strategy		Being finalised, and being followed	(priority 8)	Within 2 years	Drafted and being followed, to be endorsed.	USFW RTCF funding (priority 1)
	National coordination group		Internal process	Internal process (priority 7)		Committee in place with authorities represented	Steering Committee in place, ToR to be confirmed in new strategy
NEW POPULATIONS	Rhino Status Survey	Presence of rhinos needs confirmation	NA	NA	Presence of rhinos needs confirmation	(priority 5)	NA
	Identify priority areas for introduction (including feasibility)		Complete (WR and BR)			Internal funding (priority 7)	RPRC proposal: 2003-2004 (priority 4)
	Introduction Plan		In place (WR). Pending (BR)			(priority 8)	NLNP plan in place
	Sourcing of Rhinos	WR for Kisamma NP	Agreed (WR). Pending (BR)	Black Rhinos for Liwonde NP: (priority 3)	Limpopo NP sourced (WR), potential input from SADC programme	Internal, depending on surveys (above)	Phase I (5 SR from SANP) sourced. White Rhinos (2) (priority 2). RPRC assistance needed
EXISTING POPULATIONS UNDER MANAGEMENT CONTROL	Programme-Planning for Individual Populations	NA	Some support required, especially Mombo	Management plan for Liwonde NP required: (priority 1)	NA	Site operational plans required, for Selous subpopulations: (priority 2)	WR Plan for Mosi-oa-Tunya NP required

PROGRAMME COMPONENTS/NEEDS		ANGOLA	BOTSWANA	MALAWI	MOZAMBIQUE	TANZANIA	ZAMBIA
	Monitoring	NA	Some support required, especially Mombo	Management plan for Liwonde NP required: (priority 2)	NA	Site operational plans required, for Selous subpopulations: (priority 1) SADC RPRC proposal: 2002-3 to provide monitoring and survey database tool	WR Plan for Mosi-oa-Tunya NP required
	Security	NA	Some support required, especially Mombo	Management plan for Liwonde NP required	NA	Site operational plans required, for Selous subpopulations	WR Plan for Mosi-oa-Tunya NP required
	Biological Management	NA	Some support required, especially Mombo	Management plan for Liwonde NP required	NA	Site operational plans required, for Selous subpopulations: (priority 3)	WR Plan for Mosi-oa-Tunya NP required
TRAINING AND CAPACITY BUILDING	Security and law enforcement	Scout and ranger training – develop school		NA		SADC RPRC proposal: 2002-3: (priority 4)	
	Scene of Crime investigation	NA	SADC RPRC proposal: 2002-3	SADC RPRC proposal: 2002-3: (priority 6)	NA	SADC RPRC proposal: 2002-3	SADC RPRC proposal: 2002-3: (priority 3)
	Rhino Monitoring	NA	SADC RPRC proposal: 2002-3	SADC RPRC proposal: 2002-3: (priority 4)	SADC RPRC 2002-4	SADC RPRC proposal: 2002-3	SADC RPRC proposal: 2002-3: (priority 3)
	Biological Management	NA		(priority 5)	NA	(priority 6)	
	Judicial sensitisation and staff prosecutor training						(priority 3)
	Focal points						(priority 3)
	Rhino programme staff development						

ANNEX F PROGRAMME DEVELOPMENT: SWOT ANALYSIS

(compiled by Dr Roy Bhima, Malawi)

RANGE STATE	ANGOLA	BOTSWANA	MALAWI	MOZAMBIQUE	TANZANIA	ZAMBIA
STRENGTHS	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Rhino listed as protected species 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Draft black and white rhino strategy in place • Coordinating committee specified but not yet convened • Population of 30 <i>C. s. simum</i> • Adequate monitoring and reporting • Adequate Scout density • Adequate budget • Aircraft • Strong legislation: rhinos protected • CITES Authority issues export and import licenses • Strong ivory room 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Adequate monitoring and reporting • Adequate scout density • Adequate budget • Strong legislation • CITES Authority issues export and import licenses 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Several qualified vets (but limited experience with rhinos) • Adequate legislation • CITES Authority issues export and import licenses 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • First national rhino strategy but not yet endorsed • Adequate monitoring and reporting • Equipment: vehicle and crates • Strong legislation • CITES Authority issues export and import licenses • Strong ivory room 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Adequate monitoring and reporting at Mosi- oa-Tunya (11 km² sanctuary) • Equipment: vehicle and crates • Strong legislation: rhino protected Govt. ownership • CITES Authority issues export and import licenses • Strong ivory room
WEAKNESSES	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No conservation strategy • No action plan • No coordinating committee • No information on most issues 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No action plan • <i>D. b. minor</i> extinct • Limited monitoring equipment • Limited expertise 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No conservation strategy • No action plan • No coordinating committee • No capturing equipment expertise • No vehicle at sanctuary • No community involvement in rhinos • No provision for custodianship in legislation 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No conservation strategy • No action plan • No coordinating committee • Little monitoring and reporting • No surveys • <i>D.b. minor</i> and <i>C.s. simum</i> extinct • No community involvement in rhinos • No provision for custodianship in legislation 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No action plan • No coordinating committee • Little monitoring and reporting • No surveys • No information on equipment expertise • No community involvement in rhinos • No private sector involvement • No provision for custodianship in legislation 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 1992 strategic plan out of date • No action plan • No coordinating committee • No equipment expertise • No community involvement in rhinos • No provision for custodianship in legislation

RANGE STATE	ANGOLA	BOTSWANA	MALAWI	MOZAMBIQUE	TANZANIA	ZAMBIA
OPPORTUNITIES	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Collaborating with South Africa • NGO involvement 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Collaborating with South Africa • 2 black rhino from Namibia • Coordinating Committee involvement • NGO involvement • Private sector involvement 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Collaborating with South Africa • 50 Niassa Wildebeest pledged from Tanzania • Community involvement in other sectors • NGO involvement • Private sector involvement 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Collaborating with South Africa • TFCA programme • Community involvement in other sectors • NGO involvement 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Informal collaborating with South Africa • Rhino coordinator available • Community involvement in other sectors • NGO involvement 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Informal contacts with Zimbabwe • Community involvement in other sectors • NGO involvement • Private sector involvement
THREATS	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Rhinos may be extinct • No management plan • No budget for rhino management • No information available on many issues 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No management plan • Limited equipment may make monitoring difficult • Poor expertise in rhino management 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No management strategy and action plan • Only 7 rhinos in the country (not viable) • Limited equipment may make monitoring difficult • Poor expertise in rhino management • Poor budget to improve management 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Rhinos may be extinct • No management strategy and action plan • Poor expertise • Poor equipment • Poor monitoring • Poor scout density may lead to poaching • No budget for rhino management 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Only 15 rhinos in the country (not viable) • Poor scout density • Poor expertise in rhino management • Poor budget to improve management 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Only 6 rhinos in the country (not viable) • No management strategy and action plan • Poor scout density • Poor expertise in rhino management • Poor budget to improve management
SADC RPRC SUPPORT	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Development management strategy and action plan • Step up Coordinating Committee • Set up links with other SADC countries • Establish status of rhino • Initiate monitoring and reporting programme 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Development action plan • Set up links with other SADC countries • Set up ear notching programme • Train some personnel in monitoring and veterinary work • Initiate community involvement in rhino management • Set up horn fingerprinting project 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Development management strategy • Step up Coordinating Committee • Set up links with other SADC countries • Initiate community involvement in rhino management • Train some personnel in monitoring veterinary and capture work • Set up horn fingerprinting project 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Development management strategy and action plan • Set up links with other SADC countries • Set up monitoring and reporting programme • Train some personnel in monitoring and veterinary work • Initiate community involvement in rhino management • Set up horn fingerprinting project 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Development action plan • Set up links with other SADC countries • Train some personnel in monitoring and veterinary work • Initiate community involvement in rhino management • Purchase important equipment • Set up horn fingerprinting project 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Development management strategy and action plan • Set coordinating Committee • Set up links with other SADC countries • Train some personnel in monitoring and veterinary work • Initiate community involvement in rhino management • Purchase important equipment

ANNEX G LIST OF PROJECT PROPOSALS FOR DEVELOPMENT (2003-2004)

THEME	Working Title	Input Needed	Country	Deadline for submission	Previous RPRC input	Other Donors
POLICY AND STRATEGY COORDINATION	Revision of existing management plan to include rhinos at Liwonde NP	Expertise	Malawi	1 September 2002	Following on Evaluation in 2001 from RPRC	FZS
	Expert input to Zambia Strategy Development	Staff Time	Zambia	2002	Luangwa, MoT NP assessment	RTCF
	Development of national rhino strategy for Mozambique	Meeting, Technical Input	Mozambique	2003	None	
	Planning/SWOT mission by programme to Angola, including transfrontier conservation opportunities with Namibia – first stage in national strategy development	Technical Expertise	Angola	1 September 2002	None	
NEW POPULATIONS	Feasibility Study for reintroduction of rhinos to Limpopo NP		Mozambique	Existing proposal, to be revised	None	
EXISTING POPULATIONS UNDER MANAGEMENT CONTROL	Improved Monitoring for Selous GR Subpopulations	Expertise, site training	Tanzania	1 September 2002	Technical input to Selous rhino surveys. Link to monitoring/database survey tool, in addition to WILDb	EU, SRT
	Planning for biological management of subpopulation in Selous GR	Technical input	Tanzania	1 September 2002	Link to site operation plans	
	Law enforcement for subpopulations in Selous GR	Expertise for training	Tanzania	1 September 2002	Technical input to Selous rhino surveys	
	Planning development of Mombo IPZ rhino population	Technical Input	Botswana	1 September 2002	Evaluation of Mombo reintroduction	
TRAINING AND CAPACITY BUILDING	Training/awareness workshop for judiciary with media participation	Meeting costs	Zambia	1 September 2002		
	2 Ecologists - orientation study visit within SADC Region	Travel and subs	Zambia	1 September 2002		
	Vet orientation and rhino management experience within SADC Region (a) Zim course (b) Tz or RSA exposure	Travel and subs	Zambia	1 September 2002		