



# Research and Rhinos: what we need to know to conserve them

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# IRF MISSION

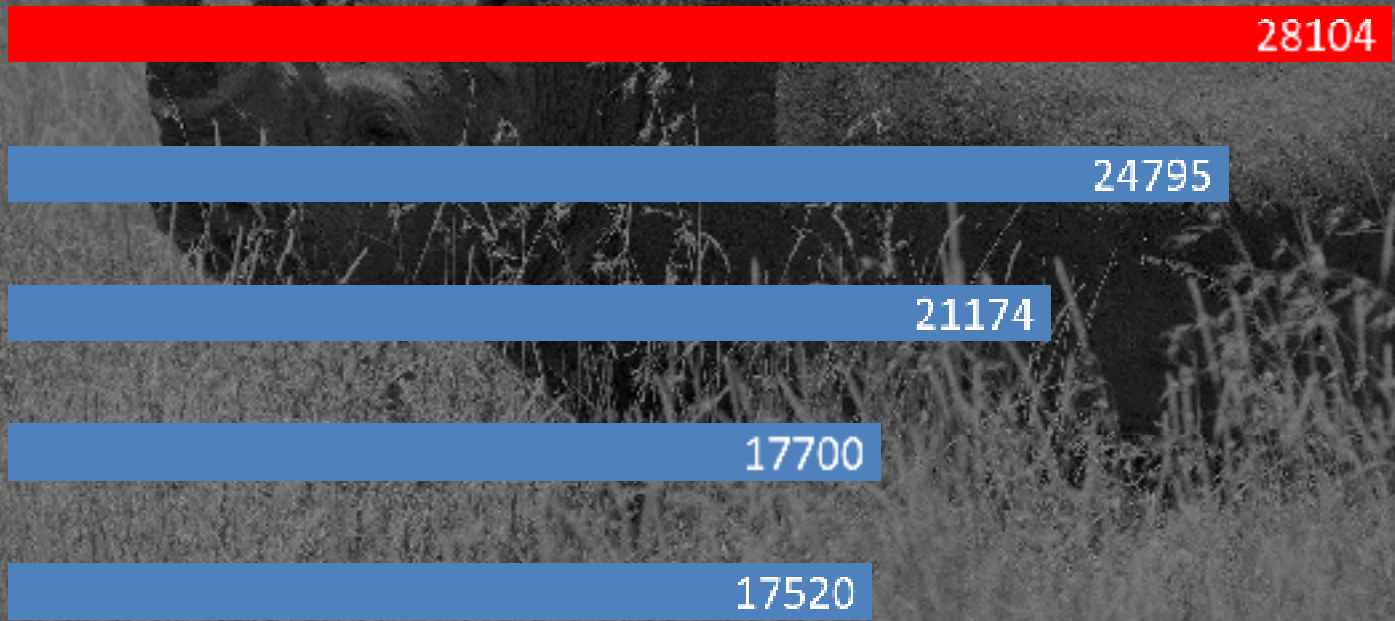
ensure the survival of the  
world's rhino species through  
**conservation & research**

# the good news

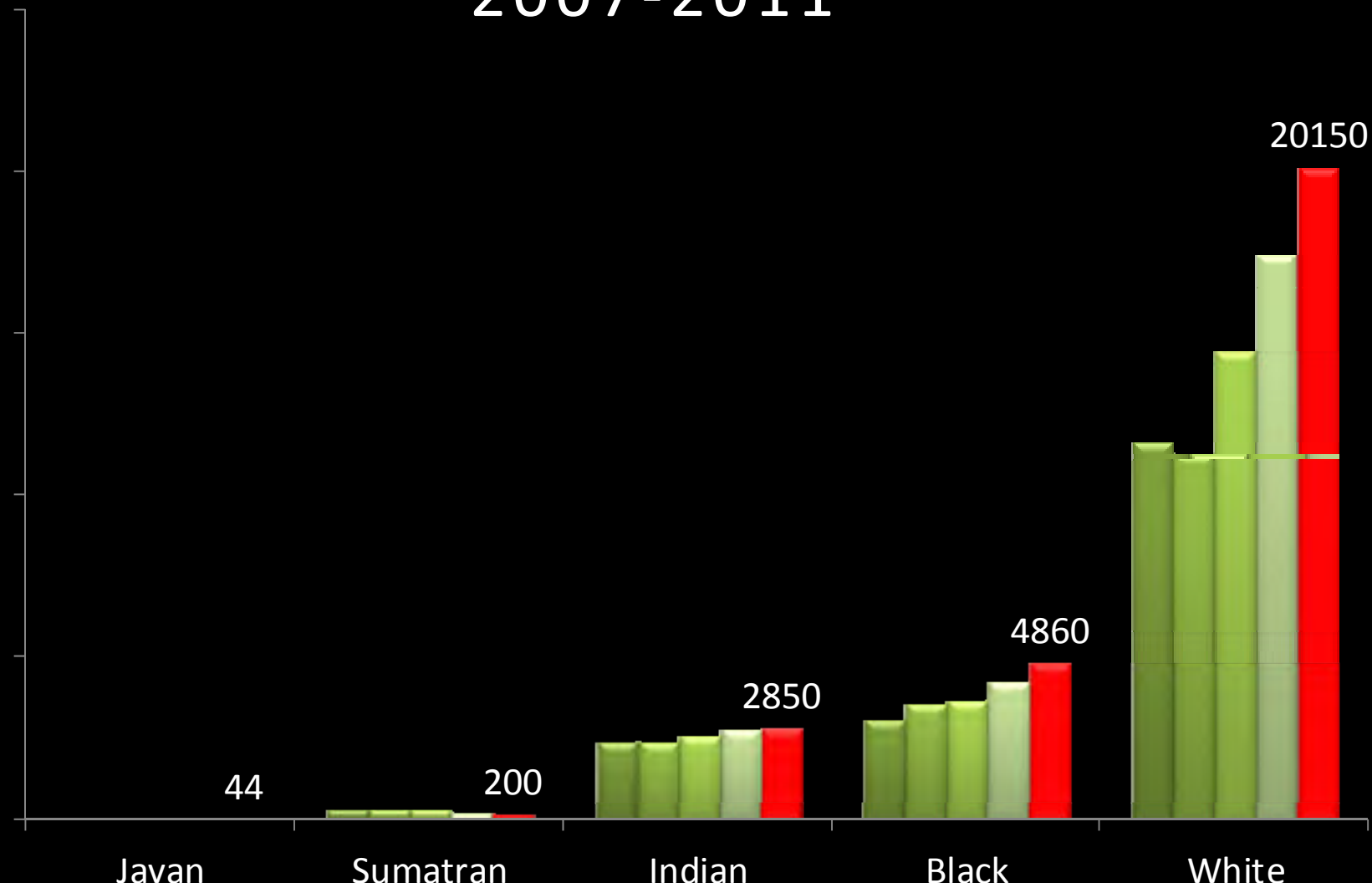




Since 2003, wild rhino numbers have **grown 60%**



# three species **increasing** 2007-2011

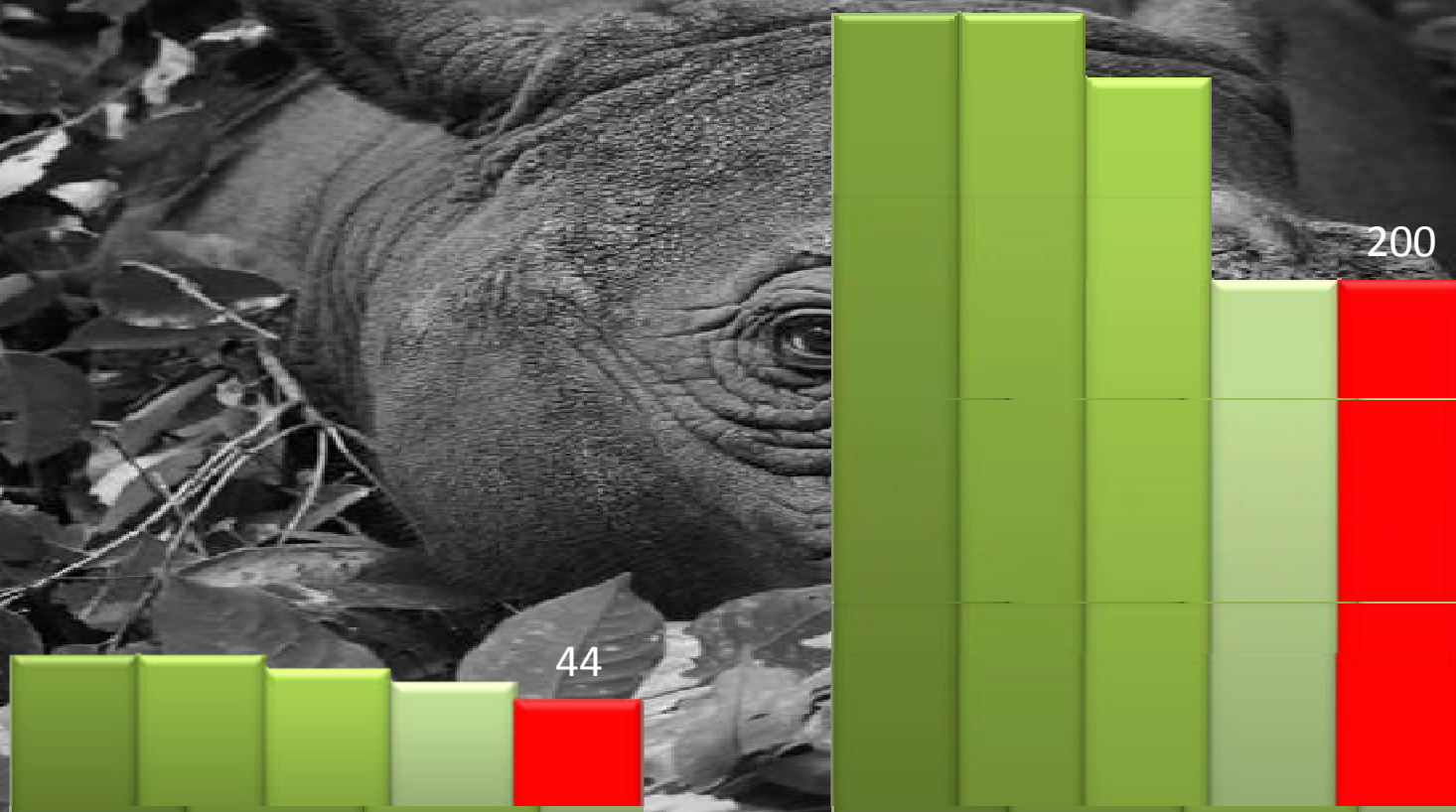


# the **bad news**



# Two species in real trouble

2007-2011



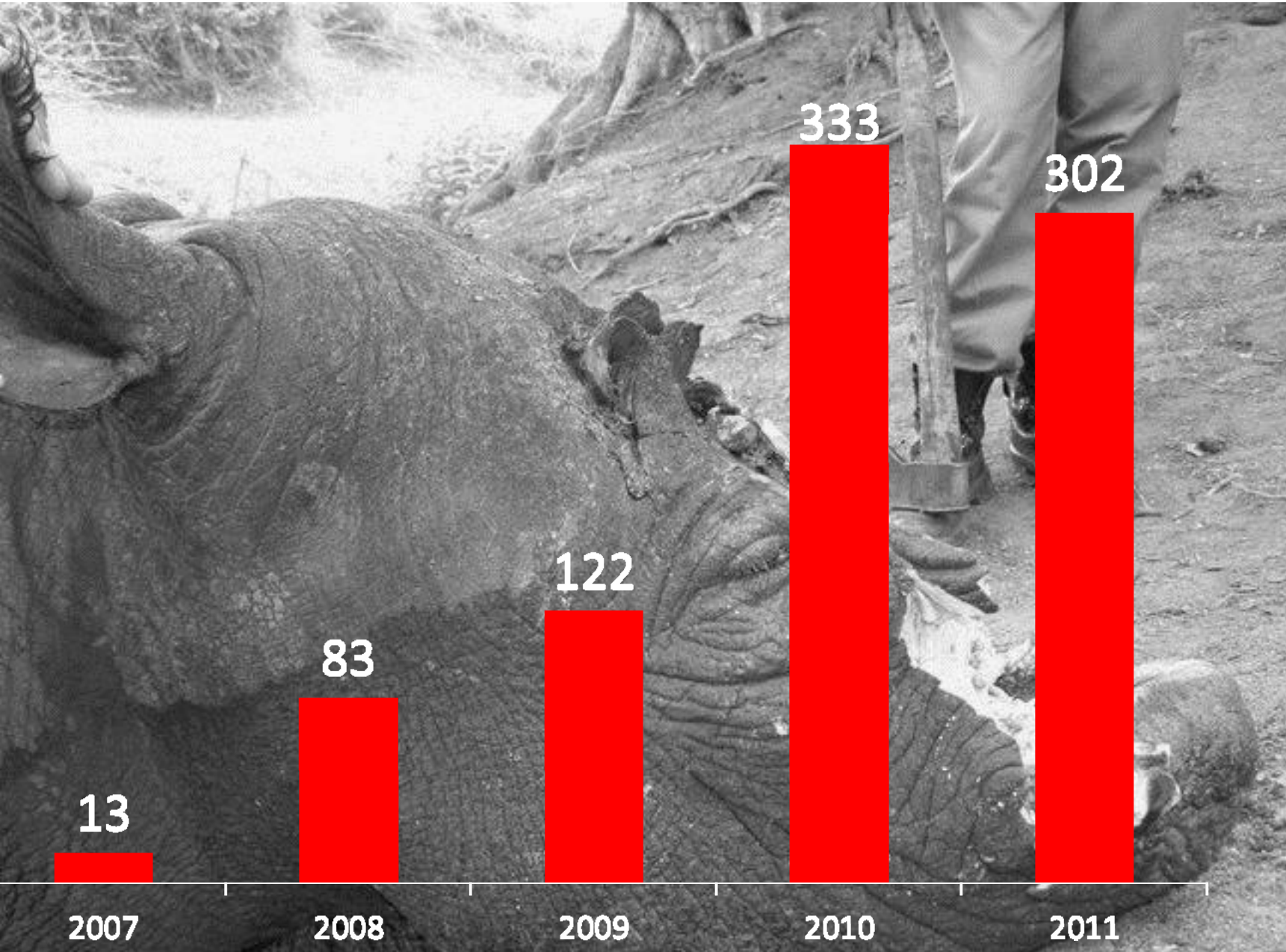
Java

Sumatran

the **ugly news**







China Poaching in South Africa

425 losses predicted in 2011  
in South Africa





**ZOOS:**

a **critical lifeline**

for all **5 rhinos**

and **other species**

sharing their **ecosystems**



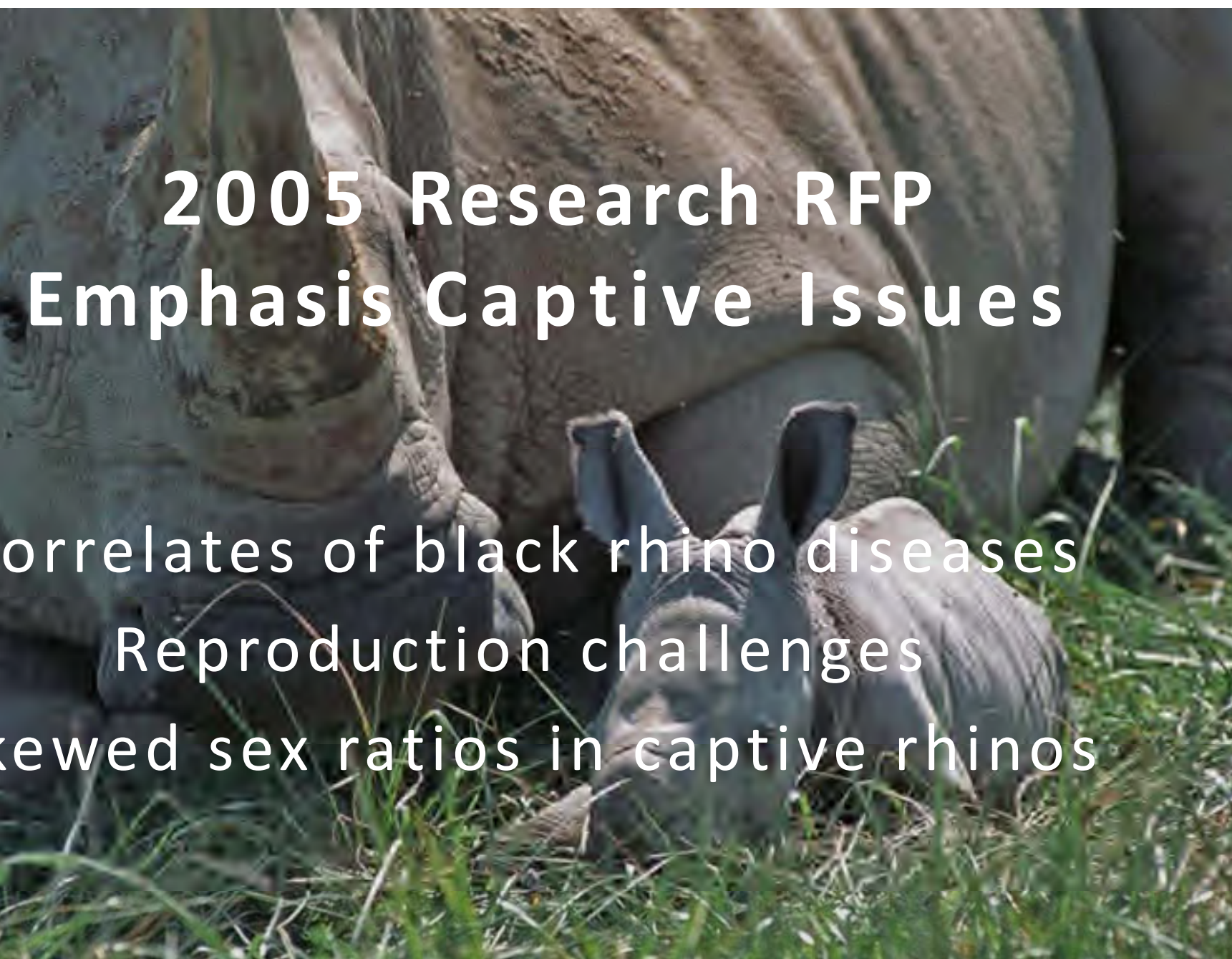
**K** Bowling for Rhinos, **Abilene** Zoological Society, **Amersfoort** zoo, **Audubon**  
**Commission**, **Birmingham** zoo, **Brevard** zoo, **Caldwell** zoo, **CERZA** zoo,  
**Chaw** Animal Park . **Chester** zoo, **Cincinnati** zoo & Botanical Gardens, **Columbus**  
**Aquarium**, **Dallas** zoo, **Detroit** Zoological Society, **DierenPark Amersfoort**,  
**Key** Wildlife Conservation Fund, **Disney** Worldwide Services, **Dublin** zoo, **Erie**  
**Wildlife Society**, **Evansville** Zoological Society, **Fort Worth** zoo, **Fossil Rim** wildlife  
**Gilman** Int'l Conservation, Greater **Los Angeles** Zoo Association, **Great Plains**  
**Delbridge** Museum, **Henry Doorly** zoo, **Houston** zoo, **Howletts & Port**  
**Shephard**, **Indianapolis** zoo, **International Animal Exchange**, **Knoxville**  
**Botanical Gardens**, **Lion Country** safari , **Maryland** zoo, **Mesker Park** zoo,  
**Manatee** Zoological Preserve, **Natural Encounters**, **New Mexico** Biopark,  
**North Carolina** Zoological Society, **Rolling Hills** Wildlife Adventure, **San Antonio**  
**Wildlife Society**, **SeaWorld & Busch Gardens** Conservation Fund, **Sedgwick**  
**County** zoo, **Stuttgart** zoo, **Taronga** Conservation Society Australia, **Toronto** zoo,  
**Virginia** Zoological Society, **Valley** Zoological Society, **Woodland Park** Zoological Society,  
**Atlanta**, zoo **Basel**, zoo **Boise**, Zoological Society of **Buffalo**, Zoological Society of  
**San Diego**



# Rhinos *Ex Situ* are a Valuable Resource

- Insurance against catastrophe
- Educating the public
- Resource for biological information unobtainable from wild individuals





# 2005 Research RFP Emphasis Captive Issues

Correlates of black rhino diseases  
Reproduction challenges  
Skewed sex ratios in captive rhinos

Paradigm shift







# 2009 Research Emphasis *In Situ* Management

- Improving translocation success
- Rhino identification and monitoring
- Conservation genetics
- Black rhino health & mortality



# 2009 IRF RFP Process

- RFP broadly disseminated
- Pre-proposals
- Pool of dedicated reviewers
  - 33 pre-proposals submitted and reviewed
  - Full proposals requested for 11 pre-proposals
  - All full proposals high quality, reviewed externally by three reviewers
  - Final review by IRF Executive Director and IRF Asia VP

# 2009 IRF RFP



5 grants

US \$ 240,325 awarded

US \$ 235,122 match





Improving  
Translocation Success