



# NAPA

## News from African Protected Areas

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### Edito

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#### Asterix and the Cauldron



The 36th album of Asterix adventures was released late October \*. Did you know that it is the most widely read comic in the world? Well, I didn't and that shows, if need be to show it, that we do not know everything. The 13th opus of this exciting saga was entitled "Asterix and the Cauldron". It sort of tells the story of the first tax fraud in human history... but that is not the point. What interests me is the title of this adventure, seeing as soon will open the climate conference in Paris (*called Lutetia at the time of our hero*). The cauldron, isn't it where we now live?

There are facts, and opinions. As we do not know everything (see above), let us stick to the facts!

Global warming (which is the subject of this conference) is a fact. It translates into two words the gradual increase in the average temperature of the earth (atmosphere) and oceans for several decades, and particularly since we measure this temperature. It is no longer a concept, it is no longer a hypothesis, it is indeed happening and all curves attest the phenomenon, whatever the methods used. The ten warmest years on record since 1880 are all post-1998! Clearly, our good old planet warms, and it warms up quicker and quicker – yes, we are in the cauldron.

There are certainly many reasons for this but the increase of the greenhouse gas in the atmosphere is now recognized as one of them. And this

increase is related to human activities, including but not limited to the industrial ones. The climate model projections, established on observations made in the few past decades, predict an increase in average temperature of 1.1 ° C to 6 ° C over the course of this century. This does not depend on the degree of the forecaster's optimism nor of his eye acuity when facing the thermometer. No, it depends on our ability to react.

The stated objective of the Paris Conference is therefore to keep the temperature increase below 2 ° C by 2100. So it seems that we can set goals and define actions to achieve this; we can adjust the cauldron thermostat.

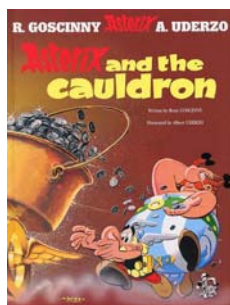
Why do it? Well, there is one simple reason: because we do not want to damage the planet. This is certainly the best motivation but let's us not sink into silliness; this is not a reason that will interest our "decision-makers". So we should rather cite the impact on human health, our daily activities, economy, coastal cities, agriculture that feeds us, world political stability, access to water, ski resorts...

Is it worth trying to convince humanity that species disappear (over 15% are threatened in the short term), while others instead invade many ecosystems? That the genetic richness of our world melts faster than polar ice caps? Not sure that they will care about. What matters is that we manage to convince ourselves that without action, we will be the first victims of our seething activity. And cooking for cooking, well let's do it slowly!

For us, interested in African protected areas conservation, obviously this somehow complicates

the situation. How to mobilize the necessary funding for all that remains to do (remember, our 1992 commitments !!!) when donors have their eyes focused on thermometer and worse, are now only interested in what is directly good for men? Yes, it's complicated, very complicated ... and biodiversity, queen of the 90s, is gradually vaporizing quietly out of sight of donors, as a result of excess CO2.

The good side of this is that it's all about the environment and environmental awareness is growing rapidly. So is our optimism. But at COP 21, it will take more than optimism. It is magic that we need to make our case, and to get our dominant but blind species to open its eyes – or at least one of them...



Asterix, please come back quickly with your potion!

\* Asterix tells the story of a rebel village to the Roman invasion at the dawn of the first millennium, rebellion which is made possible by a magic potion that makes its drinkers invincible.

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Our MOOC on protected areas management has started on the 26<sup>th</sup> of October. It will last until mid-December and you can still join if you wish to. **The**

**course is in French, subtitled in English** so this is also a great opportunity for English speakers to practice a little bit their French skills!

A few **figures** by the 31<sup>st</sup> of October:

**3103 people** have registered,  
coming from **102 countries**  
(**76%** of the **participants** are from **Africa**)

The **teaser** has been watched **7875 times** on **facebook** and **1981 times** on **Youtube**

**www.papaco.org** has been visited **13525 times** in October

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## Systematic conservation planning systems for protected areas in the face of climate change in West Africa

By Bob Smith, Bora Masumbuko and Elise Belle

### Introduction

West African protected areas (PAs) are facing many anthropogenic threats that affect biodiversity, including climate change. In addition, most PA networks fail to protect many species and habitat types. In light of this, it is important to develop appropriate strategies to improve PA planning and increase PAs resilience to global environmental changes including climate change. This will also help achieve Aichi targets 11 (at least 17% of terrestrial areas and 10% of marine areas are conserved by 2020), and 12 (prevent the extinction and improve the conservation status of known threatened species by 2020). Systematic conservation planning (SCP) is generally recognized as the best approach for identifying new priority areas for conservation. Within the framework of the PARCC (Protected areas resilient

to climate change) West Africa project, DICE University of Kent (UK) has developed SCP systems for the West Africa region and for the 5 core project countries<sup>1</sup> in order to help them identify where new PAs should be located - or extended, taking into account the current and future distribution of species (here mammals, birds and amphibians are involved) due to climate change impacts.

Based on a gap analysis and a spatial conservation prioritization, DICE worked with national experts to set targets for a range of conservation features<sup>2</sup>, to measure how well the current PA system meets these targets and identify priority areas for filling in any target gaps.

## Results from the gap analysis

### At the regional level

The network of PAs and IBAs (Important Bird Areas) generally covers the most important areas for biodiversity and meets conservation targets for 74.5% of all conservation features. This regional network however fails to conserve 12.5% of threatened species and any of the East Saharan montane xeric woodland or Mandara Plateau mosaic ecoregion in northern Nigeria. The predicted future distributions of amphibians, birds and mammals in 2010-2039 (including threatened species) are relatively well protected by the current network.

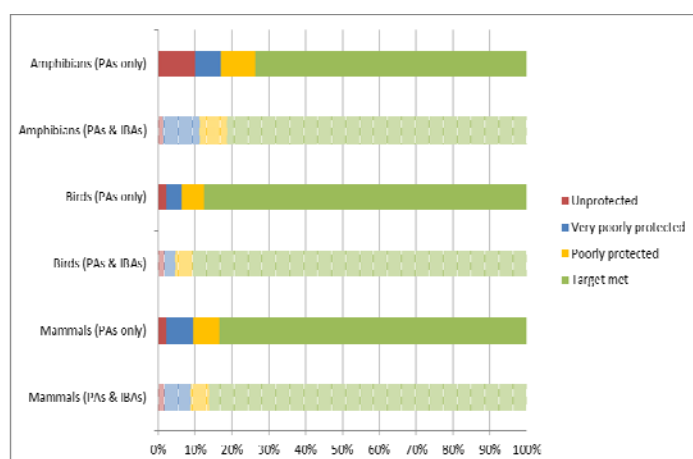


Fig1. Percentage of amphibian, bird and mammal species for which the set target (i.e. proportion of their

current distribution range to be protected) is met by the existing PA network and IBAs.

### At the national level (project countries)

The current **Chad** PA and IBA network meets most of the conservation targets. However, it is failing to conserve any of the East Saharan montane xeric woodland and very little of the Sahara desert ecoregion. On average, about 80% of amphibians, birds and mammals species have met their protection targets in the current network. However, threatened species are less well protected.

The current **Gambia** PA and IBA network does not meet most conservation targets. Notably, it is failing to meet targets for almost all species, although the unprotected IBAs are playing an important role in increasing protection for all three taxonomic groups.

The current **Mali** PA and IBA network is failing to conserve any of the Sahara desert ecoregion and very little of the Inner Niger Delta flooded savanna. Birds are relatively well protected, especially within IBAs, but mammals and particularly amphibians are poorly represented. The situation is much worse for threatened species, especially for mammals.

The current **Sierra Leone** PA and IBA network does not meet most conservation targets. Notably, it is failing to meet targets for almost all species, especially amphibians.

The current **Togo** PA and IBA network is representing most of the ecoregions and landcover types. The current network is already meeting targets for most species and only a very small proportion are completely missing from the existing PA network. However, it is worth noting that Togo's PA network is currently being revised.

## Identified priority areas

### At the regional level

Priority areas have been identified throughout the region, especially as large areas in Côte d'Ivoire, Ghana and Mauritania.

See map on next page

<sup>1</sup> Chad, Mali, The Gambia, Sierra Leone, Togo

<sup>2</sup> These were (A) broad elements of biodiversity i.e. landcover types, ecoregion types, elevation zones; (B) current species distribution, and (C) future distribution of species that may be vulnerable to climate change (analysis based on bird, mammal and amphibian species).

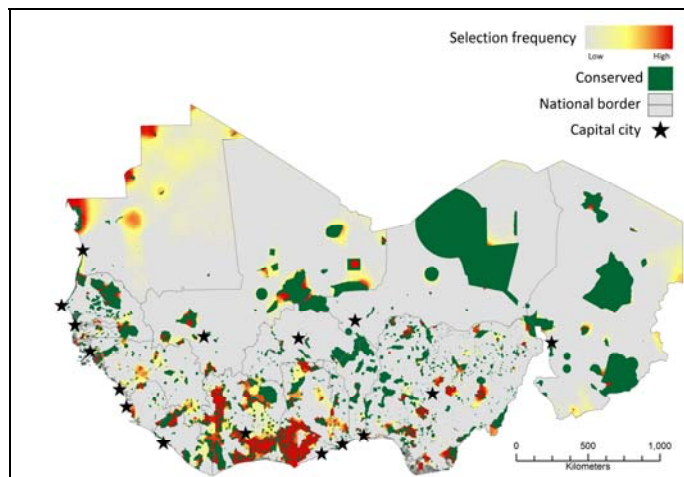
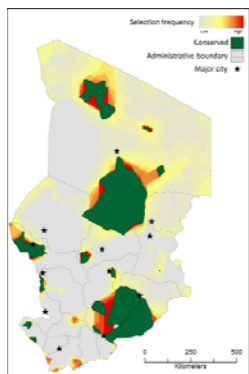


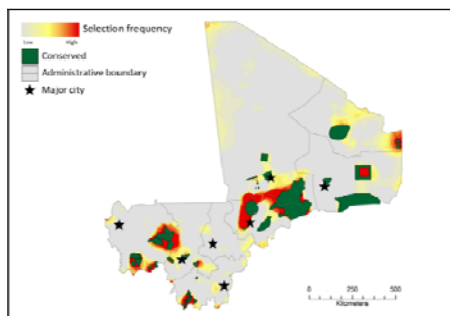
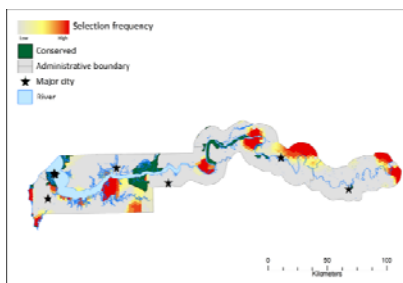
Fig 2. Priority conservation areas for West Africa  
\* The selection frequency identifies priority areas about which areas should be protected.

**At the national level (project countries)**



Most of the priority areas in **Chad** are found around existing conservation areas, with smaller priority areas found in patches in the south of the country. Large areas in the north should also be included in the PA network to meet targets.

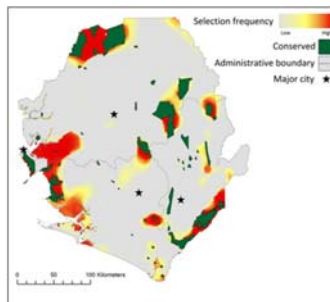
A number of important priority areas in **The Gambia** were identified in different parts of the country, from East to West.



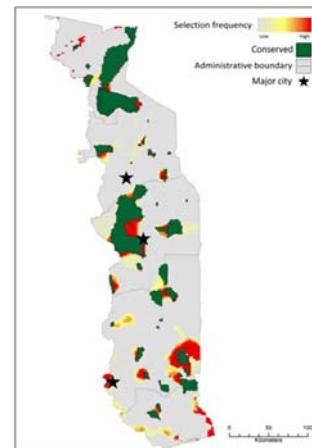
Most of the priority areas in **Mali** are found in the central and southern sections of the country, especially around existing

protected areas. Mali needs to expand its PA network throughout the country to meet conservation targets.

Most of the priority areas are found in the central and western sections of **Sierra Leone**, especially around existing protected areas. Sierra Leone also



needs to expand its PA network throughout the country to meet conservation targets.



A small number of priority areas have been identified outside the existing conservation area network in **Togo**. However, there is still a need to expand the existing PA network in order to meet all the conservation targets, notably with some additional areas in the south.

Fig 3. Priority areas in Chad, The Gambia, Mali, Sierra Leone and Togo for meeting conservation targets, whilst avoiding areas with high human population density where possible. Areas in red are needed to meet the targets, areas in yellow are less important but some are needed to meet the targets.

**Conclusion and general recommendations for future work**

Systematic conservation planning is an important tool to inform conservation policy decisions. Both regional and national conservation planning systems presented here provide information to guide conservation actions and help improve West African PA systems, including under climate change. Systematic conservation planning should be seen as a long-term process which involves developing and implementing a strategy in collaboration with all relevant stakeholders. Notably, data used to develop the SCP systems should be updated as often as possible.

However, implementation of the results should also be made with caution given that, for example, most of the distribution data were based on range maps that include some unsuitable habitats.

Some recommendations for future work therefore include:

- o Enhancing data collection with the inclusion of updated and new datasets such as ecosystem services, opportunity costs from agriculture or land-use plans from other sectors (as they might influence the implementation of the

results), or other conservation areas (such as Forest Reserves that are managed for biodiversity) that were not included in this study,

- Including better landcover and vegetation maps in future analyses and seeking support from donors for the development of such maps in countries that currently lack them,
- Developing new approaches for setting targets that account for taxonomic differences in the precision of range maps and the relationship between range and area of occupancy, and
- Carrying out literature reviews, visiting proposed priority areas and conducting biodiversity surveys to verify that the priority areas are indeed important for their conservation features for which they were selected.

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*Thanks to Bora Masumbuko who summarized this article: [bora.masumbuko@iucn.org](mailto:bora.masumbuko@iucn.org)*

**More info:**  
[www.parcc-web.org](http://www.parcc-web.org)

## Regional climate projections and projections of change in ecosystem services under climate change

*By Andrew Hartley, Richard Jones, and Tamara Janes*

### Regional climate projections

The Met Office Hadley Center (MOHC, UK), one of the project partners, developed regional climate projections for the PARCC project.

Five high resolution regional climate modelling experiments were performed to assess the potential changes in temperature and rainfall across West Africa. These experiments all suggest a general warming trend, in agreement with wider global climate experiments. There is also an increase in variability within the regional climate results, which could result in a greater frequency of unusually hot events. The high level of agreement across global and regional climate models for West Africa strongly suggests that a projected increase in temperature is very likely to occur. This could have large impacts on ecosystems and livelihoods across the West African region.

With regards to rainfall, the projections with both regional and global climate modelling experiments are highly variable, and contain little to no

consensus on either the direction or magnitude of potential changes in rainfall. The best recommendation is therefore to build resilience to current climate variability as either the drier or wetter modes of this variability could be enhanced in the future.



### Projections of changes in ecosystem services under climate change

The MOHC used the regional climate projections to run a model in order to analyse the future impact of land use change and climate change on ecosystem services in West Africa, including carbon storage, water provision and vegetation productivity. Changes in climate would be expected to affect ecosystem types and species distributions, and therefore impact on the capacity of PAs to provide ecosystem services such as food, water, and sequestration of carbon.

Three scenarios of land use were used: (i) preservation of existing carbon stored in forest (preservation of existing forests, and expansion of forest area); (ii) reduction of grasslands in favour of croplands (human disturbance of forest unchanged in West Africa) and; (iii) no human disturbance in both the historical and future periods.

The key findings for the **region** are:

- **Carbon storage of forests is projected to increase under the effects of climate change**, however, human degradation of forest would restrict this increase (high confidence).
- Generally, **vegetation productivity is projected to increase** in most parts of West Africa. The exceptions to this are in southern Nigeria, where land use scenarios predict a high level of human activity, and in the western Sahel, where a drying signal is found in the

climate projections (low confidence, but plausible).

- **In central and eastern West Africa, ecosystems are projected to shift northwards.** This includes increases in tree fraction of ecosystems in Cameroon and Central African Republic, increases in shrub fraction in the savannah grasslands of southern Chad and northern Nigeria, and increases in grass fraction on the edge of the Sahara desert in Chad and Niger.

- Projected vegetation shifts in the Sahel, and Sudanian savannah have a low confidence, but are plausible because there is a lack of consensus in model projections of precipitation.

For **project countries**, the key findings are:

**Chad:** The whole country is projected to experience a northward shift of ecosystems. Increases are projected in: shrub and tree cover in southern woody savannah ecosystems (high confidence); vegetation coverage (grassland) in arid and semi-arid ecosystems of central Chad on the edge of the Sahara (plausible, but low confidence as linked to precipitation); and vegetation productivity in central and southern Chad, indicating stronger vegetation growth thus a trend towards more closed woody savannah, and potentially larger crop yields (linked to temperature, so higher confidence); surface run off, suggesting more water available for ecosystems and agriculture (plausible, but low confidence as linked to precipitation).

**Mali:** In the south of Mali, an increase in the bare soil fraction, replacing grassland, and a reduction in vegetation productivity in arid and semi-arid parts of the country are projected. Given that they are related to a projection of decreased western Sahelian precipitation, these changes are plausible, but low confidence. They do however show that grasslands are highly sensitive to precipitation variability.

**Togo:** Under a scenario of no human disturbance, small increases in vegetation productivity are projected, resulting in an increase in vegetation carbon in woody savannah ecosystems. Under a scenario of human disturbance, a reduction in vegetation carbon in central Togo is projected. A small increase in the fraction of broadleaf tree cover over most of the country is projected in

some, but not all, regional climate model projections.

**Sierra Leone:** Increases in the fraction of broadleaf tree cover are projected to occur throughout Sierra Leone, although human disturbance would restrict this increase. Vegetation productivity and consequently vegetation carbon storage are also projected to increase as broadleaf tree cover increases in the whole country. This is related to increases in minimum temperature, since photosynthesis is not limited by water availability in this region, and consequently has a high confidence.

**Gambia:** An increase in the bare soil fraction, replacing grass cover, and a small reduction in vegetation productivity are projected. These projections are related to a projected decrease in western Sahelian precipitation and thus are plausible but not confident. Projections for change in grass and bare soil fractions in The Gambia are also highly sensitive to precipitation variability, indicated by both year-to-year variability and decade-to-decade variability in vegetation cover.

Some advices for national planning include:

- Reducing future land use change in order to increase the carbon storage of forest and savannah ecosystems (e.g. Togo);
- Preparing the land for the management of biodiversity and the annual fire regime, given the projected increases in woody savannah (e.g. Togo);
- Carbon stocks in tropical forests can take up to 100 years to recover to 'natural levels' following the cessation of human disturbance;
- Uncertainty in precipitation projections can be incorporated into decision making by building resilience to wet years, as well as dry years (e.g. Mali and Chad), in order to account for extremes of year-to-year and decade-to-decade variability, as observed in the past.

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*Thanks to Bora Masumbuko who prepared this article:  
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**More info:**  
[www.parcc-web.org](http://www.parcc-web.org)

## Strategic elements for anti-poaching in African protected areas

### Directions 4 and 5 of the Road Map for African Protected Areas

By David Brugières – BRL (France)

Protected areas in sub-Saharan Africa have been facing, for the last years, a significant increase of rhino and elephant poaching intended to supply Asian markets (and in particular the Chinese and Vietnamese markets) with ivory (for ornamental purposes) and horns (for traditional medicine). This poaching led to the total disappearance of the two rhino species in Central Africa and to the drastic reduction of their populations in some protected areas (PA) of East and Southern Africa (see box here after). There has also been a decline of the elephant populations everywhere, including within PAs. This finding clearly raises the question of what strategy to implement against organized poaching in African PAs. Based on the experience of some PAs (particularly from Southern Africa) that managed to greatly decrease the pressure of poaching in their territories, we identified a few general principles that, if adapted to local contexts, should be used as a basis for any anti-poaching strategy.



### Organisational principles

Each and every anti-poaching strategy is based on three major organisational principles: **mobility, intelligence and leadership**.

- **Patrolling:** traditionally, monitoring PAs consists in positioning eco-guards for a certain duration at specific locations inside and around the PA. Experience shows that this type of practice is

generally inefficient at combatting poaching because eco-guards don't move enough or follow usual itineraries that are well known by poachers. It is therefore essential to have mobile teams that follow various itineraries based on information provided by the intelligence team. These itineraries should only be released on the day of departure. Special units that can be mobilized really quickly for urgent interventions can be a good addition to these regular mobile patrols.

- **Intelligence:** African protected areas are generally too large for eco-guards to randomly meet with poachers while patrolling. It is therefore essential to put in place an intelligence system to anticipate the actions of poachers. This system consists of a network of informers from the villages (or others: fishing camps, etc.) located in or around PAs. These informants, whose identity must be kept confidential, of course, are paid according to the quality of the information they give. They should have a way to contact the intelligence team fast and discreetly (such as with a mobile phone). A disturbing reality must unfortunately be stressed here: poaching very often occurs with the passive or active complicity of local community members, including within communities participating in the PA's community development programs. The main reason for this is that none of these programs can generate as much income as a rhino horn or ivory tusk could. In addition, these programs are based on a collective approach while poaching is most often an individual approach. The information gathered by the team may also be based on modern technology (drones, camera traps, etc.) that is becoming less and less expensive and can thus come as an addition to human intelligence.

- **Leadership:** finally, one of the fundamental elements of any anti-poaching strategy is to position people with strong leadership at the key positions. The ability to develop and implement strategic and operational vision of the anti-poaching fight and to motivate teams in the field is an essential quality to effectively manage the monitoring of PAs. If certain techniques can improve one's level of leadership, this quality primarily depends on individuals' personalities; PAs' managers should then identify anti-poaching teams' managers based on their strong personality rather than their diploma. At this level, as in any

recruitment process, the unfortunate common process of co-optation should be banned.



### Other supporting aspects

These three principles that are mobility, intelligence and leadership need to be accompanied by some elements which support their implementation.

- The eco-guards should receive a **good salary** (to limit risks of collusion with the traffickers) and be provided with **equipment** suitable for extended stays in the field. The PA must have material facilitating the mobility of its anti-poaching team. It should not be forgotten that all vehicles involve operating and maintenance costs that increase as the equipment ages. The **development of a culture of maintenance of the equipment thanks to a set of incentives and coercive rules is a priority** to ensure the equipment can be used for a reasonable time. Too many base camps in African PAs don't have usable material because it was not used wisely!

- Continuous staff **training** is important. For eco-guards, this training often tends to focus on physical skills and weapons. Although these elements are essential, other key aspects such as tactical approaches and apprehension of poachers groups, national legislation and the drafting of reports of the facts should not be neglected.

- The development of **closer relations with the local judicial authorities** is absolutely essential. Too often, they are indifferent to environmental crimes and likely to release offenders. Awareness campaigns should be directed to judicial authorities in order to encourage

the strict application of wildlife protection laws. More generally, **PAs should be able to benefit from the support of a lawyer specialised in environmental crimes**, ideally made available to them by the central government or alternatively contracted locally to engage and follow the criminal proceedings until their completion. Experience has shown that such support improves very significantly the frequency and intensity of convictions. Closer cooperation with other law enforcement agencies (police, military, etc.) is also often necessary, as these local authorities, in rural areas, can sometimes be involved, in varying degrees, in poaching activities. Building closer relations with them can involve, for example, joint training sessions with eco-guards. When the collaboration between the PA and the local authorities is good, law enforcement can play an important role, especially to control communication routes.

- Working with **local communities** remains essential, either through the development of income-generating activities or the creation of processes of shared governance of the PA. Ideally, these actions must be "conservation-dependent" meaning they should be related to the conservation of the PA. However, it is important to keep in mind that **there is no direct link between the level of collaboration with local communities and the reduction in poaching**, even when members of these communities are the one poaching, particularly because no personal income can be replaced by a community income.



- Finally, a system of **monitoring and evaluation** of the performance of the anti-poaching system (such as the SMART system) may be



implemented<sup>3</sup>, although it is important to keep in mind that it is only a monitoring tool and is not intended to replace a complete strategy!

### Political will

The last element necessary for anti-poaching strategies to be effective is political will. The African political culture being fairly pyramidal, **the will to protect fauna must be publicly stated by the highest authorities of the state, ideally the head of state.** This should come, if possible, with a symbolic gesture, such as the destruction of ivory stocks, to ensure some media coverage<sup>4</sup>. This commitment should ease the work of government services and of the civil society. However experience shows that political will, even at the highest level, often hardly passes to lower levels: all the provincial governors and the decentralized departments of the state do not always feel obliged to relay at local levels nationally expressed wishes. This is why civil society must play its lobbying role to involve all levels of the state.

**As a conclusion**, it can be said that the fight against poaching has often been considered, especially in francophone Africa, as a problem of resources. Successful anti-poaching experiences show that, although human, financial and material resources are important, strategic and organizational issues are fundamental. PAs' technical and financial partners often cover much of their resource requirements, it is then the responsibility of the PAs' managers to organize and use them efficiently! Of course, the fight against large-scale poaching in the field must come in addition to an effort to dismantle illegal trade channels and, even more importantly, to lobbying activities aimed at reducing the demand for ivory and horns in consumer countries.

Only a strong and coordinated action at all three levels (field, trade, demand) could surely save African pachyderms.

### Rhino conservation in Africa: a story of extremes

In the 1950s, the situation of the two species of African rhinos was very contrasted: whereas the black rhino (*Diceros bicornis*) was present in over 20 countries in

Southern, Central and Eastern Africa with a global rhino population of approximately 100,000, the Southern white rhino (*Ceratotherium s. simum*) population had decreased to less than 500 individuals in two protected areas in South Africa. Thanks to a really active policy of protection and reintroduction involving the private sector, this population grew significantly, reaching 20,000 in 2012. At the same time, the population of black rhino collapsed to 2,410 individuals in the early 1990. The lobby implemented to stop the horns trade in consumer countries (Yemen, Korea, Taiwan, China) resulted in a decrease of poaching and the rhino population rose to approximately 5,000 in 2008. Since then, following the emergence of a new market in Vietnam, rhino poaching clearly gained energy: while only 62 rhinos were poached across Africa in 2006, this figure reached 262 the following year and 1090 in 2013 (90% in South Africa, where respectively 92% and 40% of white and black rhinos live).

This poaching wave led to the extinction of the northern subspecies of the white rhino (*C. scottoni*): restricted since the mid-80s to a single site, the Garamba National Park in the Democratic Republic of Congo, it was declared extinct in 2008. Between the 1990s poaching crisis and the one we are currently experiencing, there has been a major contextual change: the presence of a large Asian community on the African continent. This community plays a major role in rhino horn and ivory trafficking sent to East Asia.

*The author would like to thank B. Chardonnet, P.A. Roulet, R. Ledauphin, T. Prin and P. Bour*



**Fig 1.** Principles and level of action for efficient anti-poaching strategies; at the centre the three organisational principles, around it other supporting principles and political will as the last level

<sup>3</sup> See Calaque, R 2013. Law enforcement monitoring in protected areas: necessary for conservation, but inadequate for good governance. NAPA 64

<sup>4</sup> This has been done recently in Chad, Gabon and Mozambique

## From local biodiversity conservation initiatives to national strategies: towards the formalization of a consultation framework in West Africa?

Directions 1 to 3 of the Road Map on African Protected Areas

By Arsène Sanon – IUCN PACO

In the continuity of projects and programmes aimed at building the capacities of conservation stakeholders and accompanying them, IUCN's Protected Areas and Biodiversity Program for Central and West Africa, with the support of the French Global Environmental Fund (FFEM) and the European Union, organised in Ouagadougou from September 15<sup>th</sup> to 17<sup>th</sup>, a sub-regional forum devoted to local conservation initiatives. The title of the forum was "from local initiatives to national strategies" and it was part of the process of valorisation of results and development of an advocacy by local stakeholders addressed to national and regional decision-makers in charge of the implementation of policies on natural resource management and technical and financial partners.

The event gathered together about 120 participants representing the various stakeholders involved in local conservation actions in West Africa as well as technical and financial partners. The Forum was under the patronage of the President of the West African Economic and Monetary Union (UEMOA) through the Commissioner of the Department in charge of Food Security, Mining and Environment (DSAME).

During the first two days of deliberations, participants have developed results-based advocacy key messages based on their interventions in the field, at local and national scales. The final declaration was presented and discussed on September 17<sup>th</sup> with authorities from 5 countries. This declaration underlined the relevance of an inclusive and collaborative approach between all stakeholders to address both conservation and local development issues. It calls on States to support the effective implementation of decentralization and to disseminate the laws to strengthen the subsidiarity of NRM policies and the involvement of local communities in conservation initiatives.

To continue this dialogue between local and national conservation stakeholders, a focus group was formed in order to establish a permanent sub-regional consultation framework.



Participants to the forum in Ouagadougou

### Messages from the Declaration of local stakeholders for a contribution of local initiatives to national natural resource management strategies

1. The improvement of the local management and governance of protected areas depends on the effective involvement of all stakeholders and the equitable sharing of benefits, which requires the establishment of consultation frameworks for a synergy of actions and conflict prevention;
2. The improvement of the living conditions of riparian communities is essential and requires both the maintenance and enhancement of ecological goods and services and the development of IGAs compatible with conservation;
3. Though some States made significant progress towards subsidiarity through their national laws, the transfer of the resources that accompany the transfer of powers remains inadequate. The establishment of a suitable legal framework for the effective transfer of powers and resources to decentralized authorities – and to the communities – improve the management of natural resources;
4. The enhancement of biodiversity and of the well-being of communities requires the implementation of long-term financing mechanisms for the benefit of policies and programs related to the environment and the adaptation to climate change;
5. The awareness and application of national laws and international agreements by all the stakeholders help to fight effectively against poaching, illegal trafficking of wildlife and plant species, and corruption. It is essential to adopt and

popularize the enforcement by-laws;

6. The development of cross-border synergies contributes to improve national natural resource management mechanisms



### Niassa National Reserve Law Enforcement Advisor – Job Advert

**WCS is seeking applicants for the position of Law Enforcement Advisor for Niassa National Reserve in Mozambique.** This position is responsible for advising on and supporting all law enforcement (LE) activities and operations in Niassa National Reserve (NNR) – which is managed under a partnership agreement between WCS and Mozambique's Protected Area Authority (ANAC).

The principle areas of support are: 1) strengthening mechanisms and systems for LE operations, including monitoring, planning and deployments, 2) maintaining motivation, standards, and discipline in the LE team, 3) developing information gathering, collation and analytical capacity that leads to action, 4) building and developing the skills and competence of all LE staff, particularly patrol leaders and other LE managers, 5) strengthening coordination and communication mechanisms with the operators, relevant local authorities, police and communities, in close collaboration with the Law Enforcement Manager, 6) supervising the management and maintenance of all vehicles, equipment and infrastructure assigned to the NNR LE department, 7) overseeing the strengthening of all relevant policies and procedures, including risk management, 8) advising on LE annual operations plans, budgets and reporting, and 9) developing and supporting the implementation of a performance management system of all LE staff.

This position requires a proven field team leader with the capacity to strengthen law enforcement operations in one of Africa's most critical protected areas. This includes the ability to build and lead a diverse team of 100+ staff and work in a challenging and remote conservation area. The position has the support of a leading international conservation NGO with a strong partnership with the Government of Mozambique, and sound collaboration with committed private operators.

1. Ten-plus years of experience leading, managing, and/or advising on protected area law enforcement operations.
2. Proven experience implementing intelligence-led law enforcement and managing a law enforcement monitoring system.
3. Strong leadership and team management experience, including ability to motivate, set objectives, and manage performance of a multidisciplinary team.
4. Demonstrated experience in successfully building: (i) the skills and knowledge of others and (ii)

5. working partnerships and individual relationships with a national law enforcement body.
5. Skilled at building consensus with conservation partners and other stakeholders.
6. Willingness to rapidly gain an understanding of the institutional and legal framework of conservation in Mozambique, as well as of relevant policy issues.
7. Fluency in English and Swahili and/or Portuguese required.
8. Strong communication skills.
9. Ability to foster an environment of creativity and professional growth, commitment to working collegially with staff, conservation groups, and governmental organizations in a professional and diplomatic manner.
10. Flexibility, optimism, good humour, passion for excellence, self-motivated to achieve a collective purpose.

Interested candidates who meet the above qualifications, should apply by sending an application letter and CV together with the names and contact information of three referees to [wcsmozambique@wcs.org](mailto:wcsmozambique@wcs.org) with 'NNR Law Enforcement Advisor' in the email title not later than 15<sup>th</sup> November 2015. Only short listed candidates will be contacted for interviews.



### WCS is also seeking for several positions in Africa:

Conservation Pilot in:

- Gabon
- Chad-Cameroon
- Tanzania
- Republic of Congo

Please visit the WCS website: <http://www.wcs.org/about-us/careers> - Deadline: mid-November

### Job Offer

#### MIKES Senior Technical Advisor, Eastern and Southern Africa

The Minimising the Illegal Killing of Elephants and other Endangered Species (MIKES) project is the latest phase of the highly successful Monitoring the Illegal Killing of Elephants (MIKE) Programme. MIKE has been implemented in collaboration with African Elephant range States by the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora (CITES) with the support of the European Commission from since 2001, and was designed to generate reliable and impartial data on the trends in the illegal killing of elephants to inform decision-making on elephant conservation. The MIKES project started in August 2014 and is scheduled to end in December 2018.

The MIKE Programme has documented alarming increases in levels of elephant poaching and highlighted the urgent need for action to reduce the increasing threat to elephant populations across Africa as a result of the escalating international illegal trade in their ivory, as well as similar threats that are being faced by other CITES-listed flagship species. The new MIKES project aims to respond to this need by leveraging the strong foundation established and successes that have been achieved by MIKE over the past decade, but with an expanded focus to include: a) other flagship CITES-listed flagship species threatened by international trade; b) initiatives aimed at minimising the impact of poaching and the illegal trade on the target species, in particular through efforts to strengthen the capacity and capabilities of law enforcement (LE) agencies to combat poaching at both site and national levels; c) piloting of the MIKE Programme's successful adaptive management and monitoring approaches in selected sites in the Caribbean and Pacific regions.

To fulfil its law enforcement capacity building aims, MIKES will provide financial and technical support for strengthening law enforcement capacity at eight "focal sites" across Africa, selected because of their importance for the conservation of elephants and other priority CITES-listed large mammal species, as well as the severity of the poaching threats to these species. Four sites are located in Eastern and Southern Africa, and four sites in Central and West Africa. The technical and financial support provided to each group of four focal sites will be coordinated by a MIKES Senior Technical Advisor (STA), for Eastern & Southern Africa and Central & West Africa respectively.

### SPECIFIC DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES

The STA will have overall responsibility for overseeing the delivery of MIKES project support to the four focal sites to which they are assigned, in accordance with the overall law enforcement capacity support packages that have been defined for each site in collaboration with the wildlife management agency, site management and any partner NGOs concerned. The STA will work closely with the partner agencies in defining annual activity plans to be supported by the project (in accordance with the defined framework capacity support package), in overseeing the subsequent delivery of the annual activity plans, and in evaluating subsequent progress made and performance in the delivery of the activity plans. The STA, will also be responsible for coordinating the delivery of any training defined in the activity plan, delivering this training directly where his/her skills

permit, or else organising training by other specialists as necessary. In all these functions, the STA will liaise regularly with the MIKE Central Coordination Unit based at UNEP Headquarters in Nairobi.

The main law enforcement capacity needs of protected areas have been defined in the MIKE Programme Site-level Law Enforcement Capacity Benchmarks. The LE Benchmarks are organised under six law enforcement "pillars" that summarise the main thrusts of site-level law enforcement activities, as follows:

1. Law enforcement finances and human resources
2. Law enforcement patrols and patrol management
3. Site-level investigations and intelligence
4. Law enforcement monitoring and community participation

### REQUIREMENTS

- A university degree in a relevant field (such as wildlife, natural resources or environmental management, biological sciences or forestry) with a minimum of ten years' progressively responsible professional experience in a leadership or advisory role in protected area management in Africa OR Master's degree in a relevant field with at least 8 years progressively responsible professional experience in a leadership or advisory role in protected area management in Africa
- Hands-on, practical skills in designing and implementing protected area law enforcement initiatives under one or more of the following LE pillars: Law enforcement finances and human resources; law enforcement patrols; law enforcement patrol management; investigations and intelligence...
- Practical experience with law enforcement monitoring systems (such as MIST, SMART or MOMS), and of ranger-based data collection a distinct advantage.
- Practical experience with protected area management planning, and plan implementation
- Experience with donor-funded project management, including budget management and financial and technical reporting.
- Demonstrated skills in providing effective training in specialized topics and experience to lead a team
- Financial management skills, including budgeting and monitoring of expenditures.
- Good communication, diplomatic and negotiation skills.
- Written and spoken fluency in English is required.

### APPLICATIONS

Applicants are requested to apply online by opening the vacancy announcement and pressing the "Apply" button at: <https://hrms.iucn.org/iresy/index.cfm?event=vac.show&vacl=1136>

### NAPA – CONTACTS

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Program on African Protected Areas & Conservation  
PAPACO - Program Officer  
PAPACO – Program Officer

*The opinions expressed in this newsletter do not necessarily reflect those of IUCN*