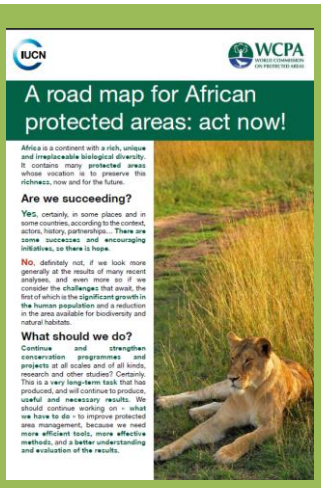

NAPA

News from African Protected Areas

Nouvelles des Aires Protégées en Afrique

N°113
November 2017

Edito

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PAPACO coordinator

2020

2020 is coming fast, promising to be both an important and a symbolic deadline.

For many international agreements, 2020 will be the occasion to take stock of the past decade and probably commit to more results for the next. It is now a habit in all sectors to which men commit (health, education, development, etc.). Fortunately, our memory is short.

In terms of protected areas, a lot of commitments have been made as well. Some, let's be optimistic, will be reached at least partially – like the Aichi goals and in particular target 11 asking for 17% of the land and 10% of the seas to be under a conservation status in 2020. Others, let's be honest, will not be met. Such is the case of target 5 on habitat fragmentation that was supposed to be reduced, target 9 on invasive species that were to be controlled, or target 12 on the most endangered species that were supposed to move out of this status...

But what are such statements worth if they are not shared with all those who could actually help make a difference?

2020 will be the year of the next IUCN World Conservation Congress, which is held every four years. No matter what country is chosen to host this event, there will be a simple choice: organize a congress "as usual" where the regular guests will meet and all others will be missed; or to finally organize a congress ... truly deserving of its "World" label.

Of course, the preparation of each congress comes with many consultations, regional and sometimes national meetings, and exchanges of messages from everywhere. Of course, everything is done to make the event as inclusive as possible. But is it, really? Looking at Africa's participation level, it certainly is not, and for simple reasons. Even for events within a single region, the travel means are not there. As for going to the congress itself, the last meetings' location on distant islands did not make things easier.

Times are changing: today, technology gives us the opportunity to ensure the interactive participation of actors wherever they are. Information can circulate to the most remote places, ensuring the spread of news to each individual. Conversely, everyone can give their opinion, formulate proposals, and share hopes. Instant exchanges can be done at zero cost, projects can be born and grow at the same time in different places, feed each other, enriched by differences, evolve permanently, readjust if necessary. Rather than talking to your neighbor, you can easily talk to those who share the same concerns or the same solutions, the Amazonian forest with that of the Congo, tiger protectors to lion protectors, the turtle conservationists in Seychelles to their friends in Galapagos. All this can easily be done in a matter of minutes, or inversely, spread over months or years. No more urgency, no more deadline, no volatility of shared solutions and the debate can continue endlessly, inscribing the reflection in time.

The only limit is certainly access to these technologies, but is it really a problem?

If we invested in each region, with our members or partners, the money for airline tickets that could be saved by dematerializing the congress, wouldn't these costs be covered? If the host country, instead of renting hotels and meeting rooms, invested in the deployment of connection solutions, attracting also the interested support of big communications firms who dream of such media exposure, couldn't we make it? In short, if we concentrated all our energy on connecting conservationists where they are rather than trying to gather a handful of privileged persons, won't we make a big step? In the right direction? A real impact for the organizing country, who is sure to reach an incredibly higher number of targets, sharing with them its know-how, its vision, while learning a lot more... A sustainable approach if we deploy the right solutions, reusable in the future, for other meetings, other programs. Not to mention the positive impact on the climate if there are fewer actual trips...

For many, this will seem unnecessary because traveling is not really a problem. For others, particularly protected area managers in Africa, it might make sense because it is better to participate from a distance than not to participate at all. A real congress with virtual impacts versus a virtual congress with impacts - perhaps more - real? This is certainly utopian but would not it be worthwhile to try?

Papaco is also on:

Twitter = @Papaco_IUCN
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Facebook = facebook /IUCNpapaco
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Please also visit the IUCN-GPAP (IUCN global PA program) webpage and read the newsletter:
https://www.iucn.org/theme/protected-areas/our-work/newsletter

A virtual congress…

OUR ONLINE TRAININGS

Both our current MOOC (**Protected Areas Management** and **Ecological Monitoring**) **are online** and will be open **until mid-December** to allow the learners to follow the course and do the exams **at their own pace**. **It's all free of course**. You can register on the following links:

MOOC on Protected Areas management:

Register on:
http://papaco.org/enroll-to-the-mooc-gap/

Watch the teaser:
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=10SQ2DRGWoQ

MOOC on Ecological Monitoring:

Register on:
http://papaco.org/how-to-join-the-em-mooc/

Watch the teaser:
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=TbXrSO5_Ktg&feature=youtu.be

NEW

On the **15th of January 2018**, **two new MOOC** will be online**: Law Enforcement in Protected Areas** and **Species Conservation…**

Register now on **www.papaco.org**

Find more information about our **MOOC on www.papaco.org,** at the page « trainings »

Also, join our **Group MOOC** on **Facebook**:
https://www.facebook.com/groups/208309996241190/

And like our papaco **Facebook page**
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Our MOOC are developed in cooperation with the Ecole Polytechnique Fédérale de Lausanne

OUR ONSITE TRAININGS

REMINDER: the 14th University Diploma on PA management will be organized in Burkina Faso from February to April 2018

A new session of our regional **University Diploma** will take place in **Ouagadougou** (Burkina Faso) from the 12th of February to the 6th of April 2018. This **8-week training course** (of which 2 are done in a park) will welcome **20 PA managers** or other PA related stakeholders (from West Africa) for an in-depth immersion in PA management, governance and related stuff. All expenses are covered (thanks to the **MAVA foundation**) during the training which is done in French.
To know more about the course, follow this link on www.papaco.org or this one on Senghor University
Register now: **http://continue.senghor.refer.org/**

Register now ! - Deadline: 26 November 2017

More info ?

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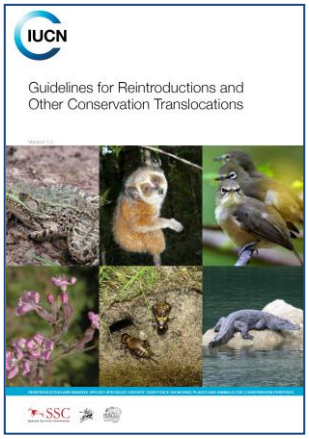
The students of the 5th promotion of the Master's Degree on PA management at the Senghor University (Alexandria Egypt) are looking for support for their internship in 2018

The students of the Master's Degree held at the U-Senghor will do an internship from May to August (3 months) on PA related topics. You may help them find a theme or a place to do the job and therefore benefit to and from the experience of a student, in your organization.
Don't miss this opportunity and contact them at: environnement@usenghor-francophonie.org

Guidelines for reintroductions and other conservation translocations

By the Reintroduction and Invasive Species Specialist Groups' Task Force on Moving Plants and Animals for Conservation Purposes



These Guidelines and their Annexes were developed by a Task Force of the Reintroduction and Invasive Species Specialist Groups, working between 2010 and 2012. This NAPA publishes some important extracts of the Guidelines that can be downloaded (in different languages) on ***www.iucnsscrsg.org.***

1 - Introduction and scope of the Guidelines

These Guidelines are designed to be applicable to the full spectrum of conservation translocations. They are based on principle rather than example.

Throughout the Guidelines there are references to accompanying Annexes that give further detail (*please refer to the full document on www.iucnsscrsg.org*).

Translocation is the human-mediated movement of living organisms from one area, with release in another. These Guidelines focus on conservation translocations, namely a translocation that yields quantifiable conservation benefit. For this purpose the beneficiaries should be the populations of the translocated species, or the ecosystems that it occupies. Situations in which there is benefit only to the translocated individuals do not meet this requirement.

Conservation through intervention is now common, but with increasing evidence and appreciation of the risks. Consequently, any conservation translocation must be justified, with development of clear objectives, identification and assessment of risks, and with measures of performance. These

Guidelines are designed to provide guidance on the justification, design and implementation of any conservation translocation.

But, **they should not be construed as promoting conservation translocation over any other form of conservation action**, and specific elements should not be selected in isolation to justify a translocation.

The Guidelines are a response to the present era of accelerating ecological change: there are increasing and acute pressures on much of the world's biodiversity due to loss of habitats and reduction in their quality, biological invasions, and climate change. The latter is the main force behind the proposition to move organisms deliberately outside their indigenous ranges, an exercise of greater potential risks than a reinforcement or reintroduction. While such 'assisted colonisation' is controversial, it is expected to be increasingly used in future biodiversity conservation.

Buffaloes are often bred to get individuals free of any pathology before reintroduction

Because of such anticipated developments, the Guidelines emphasize the need to consider the alternatives to translocation, to appreciate uncertainty of ecological knowledge, and to understand the risks behind any translocation. Many conservation translocations are long-term commitments, and every case is an opportunity to research the challenges for establishing populations, in order to increase the success rate of these interventions.

2 – Definitions and classification

Translocation is *the human-mediated movement of living organisms from one area, with release in another.* Translocation is therefore the overarching term. Translocations may move living organisms from the wild or from captive origins. Translocations can be accidental (e.g. stowaways) or intentional. Intentional translocations can address a variety of motivations, including for reducing population size, for welfare, political, commercial or recreational interests, or for conservation objectives.

Conservation translocation is *the intentional movement and release of a living organism where the primary objective is a conservation benefit: this will usually comprise improving the conservation status of the focal species locally or globally, and/or restoring natural ecosystem functions or processes.*

A translocation involves releasing organisms. Release here specifically excludes the act of placing organisms into conditions that, for management purposes, differ significantly from those experienced by these organisms in their natural habitats. These differences may include the density under which individuals are kept, their sex ratio and group size, breeding system, environmental conditions, dependence on provisioning and, consequently, the selection pressures imposed.

Conservation translocations can entail releases either within or outside the species' *indigenous range*. The indigenous range of a species is the known or inferred distribution generated from historical (written or verbal) records, or physical evidence of the species' occurrence. Where direct evidence is inadequate to confirm previous occupancy, the existence of suitable habitat within ecologically appropriate proximity to proven range may be taken as adequate evidence of previous occupation.

A - Population restoration is any conservation translocation to within indigenous range, and comprises two activities:

a. ***Reinforcement*** *is the intentional movement and release of an organism into an existing population of conspecifics.*
Reinforcement aims to enhance population viability, for instance by increasing population size, by increasing genetic diversity, or by increasing the representation of specific demographic groups or stages.

b. ***Reintroduction*** *is the intentional movement and release of an organism inside its indigenous range from which it has disappeared*.

Reintroduction aims to re-establish a viable population of the focal species within its indigenous range.

B - Conservation introduction is the intentional movement and release of an organism outside its indigenous range. Two types of conservation introduction are recognized:

a. ***Assisted colonization*** is *the intentional movement and release of an organism outside its indigenous range to avoid extinction of populations of the focal species.*
This is carried out primarily where protection from current or likely future threats in current range is deemed less feasible than at alternative sites. The term includes a wide spectrum of operations, from those involving the movement of organisms into areas that are both far from current range and separated by non-habitat areas, to those involving small range extensions into contiguous areas.

b. ***Ecological replacement*** is *the intentional movement and release of an organism outside its indigenous range to perform a specific ecological function.*
This is used to re-establish an ecological function lost through extinction, and will often involve the most suitable existing sub-species, or a close relative of the extinct species within the same genus.

3 – Deciding when translocation is an acceptable option

A conservation translocation has intended conservation benefit, but it also carries risks to ecological, social and economic interests. There should generally be strong evidence that the threat(s) that caused any previous extinction have been correctly identified and removed or sufficiently reduced.

Assessment of any translocation proposal should include identification of potential benefits and potential negative impacts, covering ecological, social and economic aspects. This will be simpler for a reinforcement or reintroduction within indigenous range compared to any translocation outside indigenous range.

Global evidence shows that introductions of species outside their indigenous range can frequently cause extreme, negative impacts that can be ecological, social or economic, are often difficult to foresee, and can become evident only long after the introduction.

« P*athogen-free » buffaloes*

Conservation translocations outside indigenous range may, therefore, bring potentially high risks that are often difficult or impossible to predict with accuracy. Hence, although risk analysis around a translocation should be proportional to the presumed risks, justifying a conservation introduction requires an especially high level of confidence over the organisms' performance after release, including over the long-term, with reassurance on its acceptability from the perspective of the release area's ecology, and the social and economic interests of its human communities.

In any decision on whether to translocate or not, the absolute level of risk must be balanced against the scale of expected benefits. Where a high degree of uncertainty remains or it is not possible to assess reliably that a conservation introduction presents low risks, it should not proceed, and alternative conservation solutions should be sought.

4 - Planning a translocation

1 - Goals, objectives and actions

Every conservation translocation should have clearly defined goals. Any conservation translocation should follow a logical process from initial concept to design, feasibility and risk assessment, decision-making, implementation, monitoring, adjustment and evaluation.

Planning for a conservation translocation can usefully follow the Species Survival Commission's approach to conservation planning for species**,**

requiring specification of a goal, objectives and actions. Reference to the commonly observed phases of translocated population development may aid planning.

Lions are bred for reintroduction in particular in private conservancies looking for predators

Progress reviews are encouraged at all stages, so that the goal(s) is reached through a cyclical process. A Goal is a statement of the intended result of the conservation translocation. It should articulate the intended conservation benefit, and will often be expressed in terms of the desired size and number of populations that will achieve the required conservation benefit either locally or globally, all within an overall time frame. There may be more than one goal, although clarity of purpose may suffer as goals increase in number.

Objectives detail how the goal(s) will be realized; they should be clear and specific and ensure they address all identified or presumed current threats to the species.

Actions are precise statements of what should be done to meet the objectives; they should be capable of measurement, have time schedules attached, indicate the resources needed and who is responsible and accountable for their implementation. Actions are the elements against which translocation progress will be monitored and assessed.

2 - Monitoring programme design

Monitoring the course of a translocation is an essential activity. It should be considered as an integral part of translocation design, not to be merely added on at a later stage.

The effort invested in developing realistic goals and objectives is the starting point for a monitoring programme; its design should reflect the phases of translocated population development and answer at least the following:

• What evidence will measure progress towards meeting translocation objectives and, ultimately, success or failure?
• What data should be collected, where and when, to provide this evidence, and what methods and protocols should be used?
• Who will collect the data, analyze it and ensure safe keeping?
• Who will be responsible for disseminating monitoring information to relevant parties?

Not all translocations proceed according to plan. There will be a point at which investing further resources is no longer justified, despite any prior management adjustments. The decision to discontinue is defensible if translocation design includes indicators of lack of success and the tolerable limits of their duration, or if undesired and unacceptable consequences have occurred.

An exit strategy should be an integral part of any translocation plan. Having a strategy in place allows an orderly and justifiable exit

5 - Feasibility and design

The primary focus of translocation planning will be the desired performance of the focal species in terms of either its population performance, behavior and / or its ecological roles after translocation. However, the design of the proposed translocation will be subject to both opportunities and constraints, and all will influence the feasibility of the proposed operation.

Feasibility assessment should cover the full range of relevant biological and non-biological factors.

1 - Biological feasibility

Necessary knowledge of any translocation candidate species should include its biotic and abiotic habitat needs, its interspecific relationships and critical dependencies, and its basic biology. Where knowledge is limited, the best available information should be used, and further subsequent information used to confirm or adjust management.

Information from the candidate or closely-related species can be used to construct models of alternative translocation scenarios and outcomes; even simple models can help effective decision-making.

A - Habitat

Matching habitat suitability and availability to the needs of candidate species is central to feasibility and design.

While reintroduction into indigenous range is always preferable, previous indigenous range may no longer be suitable habitat depending on ecological dynamics during the extinction period. The last place in which a species/population was found may not be the best habitat for returning the species.

Suitable habitat should meet the candidate species' total biotic and abiotic needs through space and time and for all life stages. In addition, habitat suitability should include assurance that the release of organisms, and their subsequent movements, are compatible with permitted land-uses in the affected areas.

The ecological roles of translocated species at destination sites should be assessed thoroughly, as part of risk assessment; the risk of unintended and undesirable impacts will generally be least in population reinforcements and greatest in translocations outside indigenous range.

B - Climate requirements

The climate at destination site should be suitable for the foreseeable future. Bio-climate envelope models can be used to assess the likelihood of the climate changing beyond the species' limits of tolerance, and therefore for identifying suitable destination sites under future climate regimes.

C - Founders

Founder source and availability

Founders can be either from a captive or wild source. They should show characteristics based on genetic provenance, and on morphology, physiology and behavior that are assessed as appropriate through comparison with the original or any remaining wild populations.

The potential negative effects of removing individuals from wild or captive populations should be assessed; where captive or propagated populations are sources, the holding institutions should ensure that their collection plans, institutionally and regionally, are designed to support such removals for conservation translocations.

Captive or propagated individuals should be from populations with appropriate demographic, genetic, welfare and health management, and behavior.

Taxon substitution

In some cases the original species or sub-species may have become extinct both in the wild and in captivity; a similar, related species or sub-species can be substituted as an ecological replacement, provided the substitution is based on objective criteria such as phylogenetic closeness, similarity in appearance, ecology and behavior to the extinct form.

Genetic considerations

Founder selection should aim to provide adequate genetic diversity. Source populations physically closer to, or from habitats that are similar to, the destination may be more genetically suited to destination conditions.

If founders from widely separate populations or areas are mixed, there may be genetic incompatibilities.

Conservation introductions may justify more radical sourcing strategies of deliberately mixing multiple founder populations to maximize diversity among individuals and hence increase the likelihood of some translocated individuals or their offspring thriving under novel conditions.

Genetic considerations in founder selection will be case-specific. If a translocation starts with a wide genetic base, a sufficiently large number of individuals, and subsequent differential performance or mortality is acceptable (and will be monitored), then the genetics of founder selection are unlikely to constrain feasibility of a conservation translocation.

The White Rhinoceros has been reintroduced in many reserves in South Africa and beyond.

D - Animal Welfare

Conservation translocations should whenever possible adhere to internationally accepted standards for welfare, but should comply with the legislation, regulations and policies in both the source and release areas.

Every effort should be made to reduce stress or suffering. Stress in translocated animals may occur during capture, handling, transport and holding, including through confining unfamiliar individuals in close proximity, both up to and after release.

Stresses may be quite different for captive-born and wild-caught animals; in particular, intended "soft release" strategies may increase stress in wild-caught animals by prolonging their captivity.

Animals in source populations may suffer stress if the removal of individuals disrupts established social relationships. An exit strategy may require removal of individuals of the translocated species, especially in the case of a conservation introduction; the acceptability of removal should be assessed before starting the translocation.

E - Diseases and parasites considerations

The management of disease and known pathogen transfer is important, both to maximize the health of translocated organisms and to minimize the risk of introducing a new pathogen to the destination area.

While it is neither possible nor desirable for organisms to be "parasite and disease free", many organisms are non-pathogenic until co-infection or co-factors, or spill-over between host species create conditions that promote pathogenicity. In particular, as host immune conditions may determine an organism's pathogenicity, it is important to consider whether the translocated organisms are likely to cope with new pathogens and stresses encountered at the destination site.

The level of attention to disease and parasite issues around translocated organisms and their destination communities should be proportional to the potential risks and benefits identified in each translocation situation; the IUCN Guide to Wildlife Disease Risk Assessment (2013) provides a model process.

Quarantine before release, as a means of prevention of disease or pathogen introduction, is a basic precaution for most translocations; its use should be assessed on a case-by-case basis as it may cause unacceptable stress; conversely, stress may usefully bring out latent infections.

Pathogenicity may be promoted by the stress of unfamiliar or unnatural conditions of confinement, especially during the translocation process. If reasonable precautions are taken and appropriate prophylaxis applied, with stress minimized in the process, there is rarely cause to consider translocation unfeasible due to disease and parasites.

2 - Social feasibility

Any conservation translocation proposal should be developed within national and regional conservation infrastructure, recognizing the mandate of existing agencies, legal and policy frameworks, national biodiversity action plans or existing species recovery plans.

Human communities in or around a release area will have legitimate interests in any translocation. These interests will be varied, and community attitudes can be extreme and internally

contradictory. Consequently, translocation planning should accommodate the socioeconomic circumstances, community attitudes and values, motivations and expectations, behaviors and behavioral change, and the anticipated costs and benefits of the translocation. Understanding these is the basis for developing public relations activities to orient the public in favor of a translocation.

Mechanisms for communication, engagement and problem-solving between the public (especially key individuals most likely to be affected by or concerned about the translocation) and translocation managers should be established well in advance of any release.

No organisms should be removed or released without adequate/conditional measures that address the concerns of relevant interested parties (including local/indigenous communities); this includes any removal as part of an exit strategy.

If extinction in the proposed destination area occurred long ago, or if conservation introductions are being considered, local communities may have no connection to species unknown to them, and hence oppose their release. In such cases, special effort to counter such attitudes should be made well in advance of any release.

Successful translocations may yield economic opportunities, such as through ecotourism, but negative economic impacts may also occur; the design and implementation stages should acknowledge the potential for negative impacts on affected parties or for community opposition; where possible, sustainable economic opportunities should be established for local communities, and especially where communities/regions are challenged economically.

Some species are subject to multiple conservation translocations: in these situations, inter-project, inter-regional or international communication and collaboration are encouraged in the interests of making best use of resources and experiences for attaining translocation goals and effective conservation.

Organizational aspects can also be critical for translocation success: where multiple bodies, such as government agencies, nongovernment organizations, informal interest groups (some of which may oppose a translocation) all have statutory or legitimate interests in a translocation, it is essential that mechanisms exist for all parties to play suitable and constructive roles.

This may require establishment of special teams working outside formal, bureaucratic hierarchies that can guide, oversee and respond swiftly and effectively as management issues arise.

The multiple parties involved in most translocations have their own mandates, priorities and agendas; unless these are aligned through effective facilitation and leadership, unproductive conflict may fatally undermine translocation implementation or success.

A successful translocation can contribute to a general ethical obligation to conserve species and ecosystems; but the conservation gain from the translocation should be balanced against the obligation to avoid collateral harm to other species, ecosystems or human interests; this is especially important in the case of a conservation introduction.

The Dama gazelle is bred in Senegal for further reintroduction in their natural habitat.

3 - Regulatory compliance

A conservation translocation may need to meet regulatory requirements at any or all of international, national, regional or sub-regional levels. This may in include consideration of the compatibility of permitted and non-permitted land-uses in areas either proposed for a release or where released organisms might subsequently move to.

In any country, different agencies may be responsible for proposal evaluation, importation or release licensing, or certifying compliance. A translocation programme may have requirements

to report regularly to such agencies on progress and compliance.

A - International movement of organisms

Such movement of organisms will need to comply with international requirements. For example, the movement of individuals of any species that is on CITES Appendix I, II or III must comply with CITES requirements.

In addition, regulators will need to consider whether permits and agreements are required under the Nagoya Protocol in order to deal with benefits arising from the use of genetic resources and/or traditional knowledge.

The Dammah Oryx, extinct in the wild, is also bred for reintroduction programs currently implemented in Tchad..

B - Legislation for species being moved outside their indigenous range

Many countries have formal legislation restricting the capture and/or collection of species within their jurisdiction. Additionally, many countries have formal legislation restricting the release of alien species, and this may apply to the release of organisms in their native country but outside their indigenous range.

C - Permission to release organisms

Irrespective of any permission to import organisms, any conservation translocation should have been granted the appropriate government license to release organisms.

D - Cross-border movements

Where organisms are either transported across jurisdictional or formally recognized tribal boundaries before release, or are likely to move across such boundaries following release, translocation design should be compatible with the permissive and regulatory requirements of all affected jurisdictions.

E - National and international veterinary and phytosanitary requirements

Where there is any international movement of organisms, compliance with the World Organization for Animal Health standards for animal movement and those of the International Plant
Protection Convention may facilitate importation permits.

National requirements for plant and animal health before release should be met. The importation of wild species that are implicated as vectors of human or domestic animal disease may be subject to particular regulation and control by national authorities.

4 - Resources availability

Effective translocation management will be truly multi-disciplinary, with strong emphasis on incorporating social skill sets as well as biological/ technical expertise. Under normal circumstances, a translocation should not proceed without assurance of funding for all essential activities over an adequate period of time.

Funding agencies should be aware that rational changes to a translocation plan during implementation are normal, and budgets should be flexible enough to accommodate such changes.

6 - Risk assessment

Any translocation bears risks that it will not achieve its objectives and/or will cause unintended damage. Consequently, the full array of possible hazards both during a translocation and after release of organisms should be assessed in advance.

It should be emphasized that any translocation outside indigenous range carries further risks, due to: (1) lack of certainty over ecological relationships and an inability to predict ecological outcomes, and (2) the record of species moved outside their indigenous ranges that have become invasive aliens, often with extreme adverse impacts on native biodiversity, ecological services or human economic interests.

Risk is the probability of a risk factor occurring, combined with the severity of its impact. Individual risks will generally increase as the following increase in scale:

1. The duration of any extinction period,
2. The extent of ecological change during any extinction period,

3. The degree of critical dependence of the focal species on others,
4. The number of species to be translocated,
5. The genetic differences between the original form and the translocated individuals,
6. The potential negative impacts on human interests,
7. The probability of unacceptable ecological impacts,
8. Whether the translocation is into or outside indigenous range.

The total risk landscape will be determined by:
1. The number of risk factors occurring,
2. Uncertainty over the occurrence of each risk factor,
3. Uncertainty over the severity of its impacts,
4. Ignorance of other possible risks factors,
5. The level of competence of those responsible for implementation,
6. The cumulative effects of all occurring risks,
7. The extent to which these risks interact.

The extent of risk assessment should be proportional to the level of identified risk. Where data are poor, risk assessment may only be qualitative, but it is necessary as lack of data does not indicate absence of risk. Conclusions from the risk assessment and feasibility study should determine whether a translocation should proceed or not.

Where possible, formal methods for making decisions based on best evidence should be used. As a general principle, where substantial uncertainty about the risks of a translocation outside indigenous range remain, such a translocation should not be undertaken.

The main categories of risk around a translocation are:
• Risk to source populations: except under rare circumstances, removing individuals for translocation should not endanger the source population.
• Ecological risk: a translocated species may have major impacts (whether desirable/undesirable, intended/ not intended) at its destination on other species, and on ecosystem functions; its own performance may not be the same as at its origin; evidence shows that risks are greater for a translocation outside a species' indigenous range, and adverse impacts may not appear for many years.
• Disease risk: as no translocated organisms can be entirely free of infection with micro-organisms or parasites, with consequent risk of their spread, disease risk assessment should start at the planning stage, with its depth in proportion to the estimated likelihood of occurrence and severity of impact of any prospective pathogen, and should be reviewed periodically through implementation.
• Associated invasion risk: separate from the risk of pathogen introduction, translocation design should be mindful of the wider biosecurity of the release area: care should be taken that potentially invasive species are not accidentally released with individuals of the focal species. This is a particular risk when translocating aquatic or island organisms.
• Gene escape: gene exchange between translocated individuals and residents is one purpose of a reinforcement; however, when historically isolated populations are mixed, or where organisms are moved outside their indigenous range, and there is a risk of hybridization with closely-related species or subspecies, this may possibly result in lower fitness of offspring and/or loss of species integrity. This should be included in a risk assessment.
• Socio-economic risks: these include the risk of direct, harmful impacts on people and their livelihoods from released organisms, and more indirect, ecological impacts that negatively affect ecosystem services; translocations outside indigenous range have greater likelihood of negative socio-economic impacts and, hence, adverse public attitudes.
• Financial risks: while there should be some level of assurance of funding for the anticipated life of any translocation, there should be awareness of the possible need for funding to discontinue the translocation or to apply remedial funding to any damage caused by the translocated species.

It should also be noted that the risks from conservation action, or inaction, change with time. For example, if a translocation from a relatively numerous population is contemplated, the major risk is to the destination ecosystem; as the size of the source population declines, the risk to this population increases while remaining the same for the destination population.

More on www.iucnsscrsg.org

PANORAMA
SOLUTIONS FOR A HEALTHY PLANET

Park agencies collaborate to comprehensively tackle climate change impacts

More on: http://panorama.solutions/en/solutions/park-agencies-collaborate-to-comprehensively-tackle-climate-change-impacts

The project team in Nakuru NP (Kenya)

Summary: a collaborative partnership between Kenya Wildlife Service (KWS) and Parks Canada led to enhanced ecosystem and community adaptation to climate change in six national parks and adjacent local communities in Kenya. Through collaboration and capacity building, it was possible to raise funds and tap into diverse skills that were necessary to initiate broad adaptation interventions in different parts of the country.

Initiatives focused on ecological restoration of degraded habitats, management of invasive species and enhancement of water supply for people and wildlife during the dry seasons to reduce human wildlife conflicts and minimized soil erosion. Formal and informal training for adaptation at individual, institutional and community levels enabled more effective project implementation while a collaborative partnership helped to pool resources, knowledge, experiences, skills and clout for broad implementation of adaptation actions.

More info on PANORAMA

JOB OFFER

WCS

Position: Eastern Africa and Madagascar Program Manager
Division: Global Conservation Program
Location: WCS Headquarters New York

The Wildlife Conservation Society seeks a dynamic, experienced individual to ensure central management and coordination for a large and effective conservation program in Eastern Africa and Madagascar.

WCS has a significant presence in Africa with a strong conservation, protected area management, livelihoods, policy and scientific program. Spanning diverse habitats including vast savannahs and dense forests, productive coastlines and montane forests, WCS landscapes include some of the most biodiverse landscapes on earth, as well as some of the world's most critically endangered and threatened species. Africa as a continent presents a set of complex and expanding conservation challenges and threats, including poaching, rapid expansion of mineral and timber extraction, conflict, low technical capacity and governance, and high levels of corruption. At the same time, there are unparalleled opportunities for WCS to play a direct role in saving some of the most iconic wildlife on the planet. The WCS Africa program is taking on these challenges with a regional approach: the WCS Central Africa region ranges from Equatorial Guinea and Gabon across the Congo basin, to eastern DRC; the East and Southern Africa region reaches from Uganda down to Mozambique; the Sudano-Sahel region stretches from Nigeria across to Ethiopia; and the Madagascar and Western Indian Ocean region covers the range of smaller islands (Seychelles, Reunion, Comoros) along with Madagascar and the East African coastline. Each of these regions is managed by a Regional Director based in the field, all under the overarching leadership of the Executive Director of the Africa Program.

WCS's Africa Program is led, managed, and administered by a small team in New York consisting of the Executive Director, the Deputy Director of Finance & Administration, two Program Managers, the Budget Officer, and the

Administrative Officer, working closely with field staff and with other WCS departments. This team's key roles include supporting Regional and Country Directors and field programs, fundraising and managing grants from private and public sources, guiding program strategy and implementation, representing the program internally and externally, and facilitating communication with and support from WCS departments.

The primary objective of the Eastern Africa and Madagascar Program Manager position is to ensure central management, coordination and support in the sound administration and development of these region's programs and initiatives, as well as providing support to other regions and stand-alone projects, as assigned. This position is responsible for ensuring excellent coordination with the rest of the Africa program, at Headquarter level and with the other regional field programs, and particularly taking the lead in grants management for WCS's Eastern Africa and Madagascar programs, providing facilitation and support to WCS's mission in the region.

The East and Southern Africa and the Madagascar and Western Indian Ocean Regional Directors are leading the development and implementation of new regional strategies, building strong management support to country programs and enhanced collaboration and coordination of technical support among existing WCS programs; the corresponding Program Manager will be responsible for facilitation and coordination for the effective implementation and communications necessary for the success of these initiatives. As these regions develop, the Program Manager will take the lead supporting new regional communications and fundraising strategies to target regional and international stakeholders and capitalize upon WCSs strong legacy, ensuring coordinated contributions and effective follow-up.

Position Objectives

- Successfully manage growing portfolio of grants, related processes and workflow for East Africa region and other countries/projects as assigned;
- Build collaborative relationships as focal point for Eastern Africa and Madagascar programs at Headquarters: representing the interests and priorities of these programs with the wider Africa program and partner departments: ensuring excellent coordination, management and support;
- Ensure effective liaison with donors and partners, as appropriate, for both regional programs;
- Support cross-regional strategic prioritization work: facilitating with effective communications the establishment of program priorities, strategy, approaches: supporting project development and ensuring implementation is monitored;
- Working closely with the Executive Director of the Africa Program and Regional Directors to ensure program objectives are communicated and implemented within the East Africa programs;
- Assist East Africa programs' effective coordination with the Africa Program's Senior Scientist, to coordinate and support implementation of an effective cross-cutting technical support program to assist country programs in building capacity.

Roles and Responsibilities

The Eastern Africa and Madagascar Program Manager will be the HQ representative of the East and Southern Africa Region and the Madagascar and Western Indian Ocean Region. The Program Manager will be responsible for ensuring all 'HQ-heavy lifting' necessary to the sound functioning of the following country programs: Uganda, Rwanda, Tanzania, Mozambique and Madagascar. The position will also support WCS activities in Kenya, where WCS is active but which does not currently have a terrestrial country program, and Marine-based projects associated with country programs in the EA region.

Qualifications

A degree in a related field, or equivalent experience, plus at least 5 years working experience with international networks. An understanding of and commitment to conservation of wildlife and wild lands. Proven effective networking and coordination skills, with excellent communication, organizational and interpersonal skills, with demonstrated success in working with diverse partners to achieve common objectives. Proven successful grants management skills, including proposal and report writing, but also workflow management and negotiation skills. Fluent professional English speaker; French proficiency required. Commitment to conservation and to the mission of the Wildlife Conservation Society.

Application Process

Interested candidates, should apply by emailing an application letter and CV together with the names and contact information of three references to: africaapplications@wcs.org. Please include "Eastern Africa and Madagascar Program Manager" in the subject line of your email. Candidates must also apply online via the WCS career portal by searching job title at: http://www.wcs.org/about-us/careers.

NAPA – CONTACTS **www.papaco.org and www.iucn.org**

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