

Country Profile: Mozambique



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OVERVIEW

Project Title: Strengthening the Conservation of Globally Threatened Species in Mozambique through Improving Biodiversity Enforcement and Expanding Community Conservancies around Protected Areas

Project Sites: Gorongosa National Park (Gorongosa-Marromeu Complex) and the Niassa National Reserve

Species Focus: Elephants, rhinos, and leopards

Total Project Cost: \$15.8 million

Executing Partner: National Agency for Conservation Areas (ANAC), Gorongosa Restoration Project & Wildlife Conservation Society

GEF Implementing Agency: UNDP

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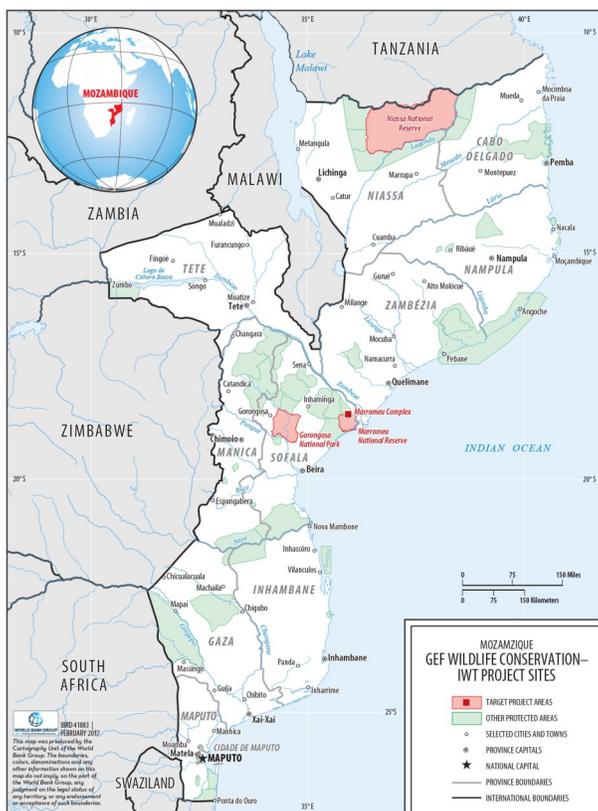
CONTEXT

Mozambique is a major repository of biodiversity with profound international importance. The rural population, which accounts for 70% of total population are highly dependent on the direct use of the country's natural resources. This often leads to overexploitation with few sustainable and economically viable alternatives. The uncontrolled use of natural resources has led to a loss of 4.3 million hectares of forest between 1990 and 2010 (FAO). In addition, there has been a significant increase in wildlife crime over the past five years. During this period, 48% of elephants were lost. This corresponds to nearly 2,000 elephants/year and over 45,000 lost due to poaching since the 1970's. WCS reports that 2,600 elephants were poached from the Niassa Reserve alone between in 2010 and 2011. This crime causes institutional instability and undermines the livelihoods of communities. In an effort to conserve its valuable wildlife, Mozambique developed a National Rhino and Ivory Action Plan (NRIAP) for 2015-2016. It passed the 2014 Conservation Act to that includes criminalization of wildlife offences and established an Anti-poaching Taskforce to support implementation of the National Program for the protection of natural resources. Mozambique has created a police unite focused on environmental crimes, and has active collaboration with South Africa on joint actions on trans-boundary environmental protection.

PROJECT COMPONENTS

The GWP Mozambique project aims to strengthen the conservation of globally threatened species through implementation of the Conservation Areas Act (improving biodiversity enforcement and expanding protected areas through community conservancies and targeted rural development action). The project components are:

1. National strategy to promote the value of wildlife and combat illegal wildlife trafficking
2. Strengthen enforcement capacity in key protected areas
3. Establish conservancies to expand the Gorongosa Protected Area



See the World Bank website for more information: [Global Wildlife Program](#)