



BIODIVERSITY COMPONENT BRIEF | MARCH 2019

# Supporting biodiversity conservation in Mozambique as a key to sustainable economic and human development

## OVERVIEW

Mozambique's rich biodiversity and natural scenery are crucial assets for economic growth generated by wildlife/eco-tourism. More than 25% of the country's land is protected as National Parks, National Reserves, Controlled Hunting Blocks, Forest Reserves, Community Reserves, or Environmental Protected Areas.

### LIFE OF ACTIVITY

August 2016 through August 2020

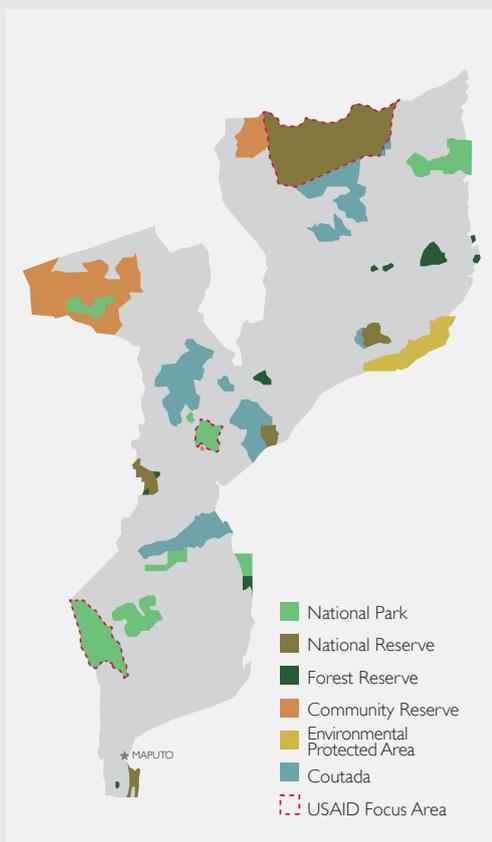
### TOTAL USAID FUNDING

USD 4.8 million

### PARTNERS

National Administration for Conservation Areas (ANAC), Ministry of Land, Environment, and Rural Development (MITADER), Eduardo Mondlane University (UEM), Biofund, Mozambique Association of Safari Operators (AMOS), Mozambique Attorney General's Office (PGR), World Wildlife Fund (WWF), Wildlife Conservation Society (WCS). Implemented by DAI Global and Nathan Associates.

### MOZAMBIQUE'S CONSERVATION AREAS



SPEED+ works closely with the Ministry of Land, Environment and Rural Development, civil society and the private sector to assist Mozambique to meet international biodiversity management conventions, and to improve the enabling environment for biodiversity conservation by:

- 1) Supporting the government to create and implement biodiversity conservation regulations;
- 2) Supporting the effective implementation of the newly strengthened legal framework for countering wildlife trafficking;
- 3) Strengthening the National Administration for Conservation Areas (ANAC);
- 4) Promoting awareness of biodiversity conservation;
- 5) Supporting effective governance of conservation areas through co-management mechanisms;
- 6) Developing tools to support government, private sector and civil society decision-making related to biodiversity conservation.

## SUPPORTING GOVERNMENT TO CREATE AND IMPLEMENT BIODIVERSITY CONSERVATION REGULATIONS

The Law of Protection, Conservation and Sustainable Use of Biological Diversity (Law No. 5/2017) and its General Regulation are important frameworks for combating wildlife crimes, improving management of conservation areas, and supporting private sector partnerships for sustainable biological diversity in Mozambique. SPEED+ provides technical assistance for the creation of specific implementing regulations including:

- **Sport Hunting Regulation:** The lack of a clear and comprehensive Sport Hunting Regulation had caused important international hunting tourism markets to ban imports of trophies from Mozambique. The new Sport Hunting Regulation, approved on December 29, 2017, supports good management of wildlife stocks while enabling Mozambique to receive the economic benefits of appropriate levels of sport hunting determined by implementation of international best practices.
- **Management and Conservation Plans for specific species:** Some commonly hunted species, such as the elephant, lion, hippo and crocodile, require specific regulations in compliance with the Convention for International Trade of Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora (CITES). Well-designed management and conservation regulation will result in improved management of these species, compliance with CITES recommendations and reduced wildlife trafficking.
- **Game Farm Regulation:** Establishes procedures for wildlife management on game farms which are an important source of tourism revenue and employment. Clear regulation of this industry will encourage increased private sector investment, economic activity and job creation, with an emphasis on ensuring equal opportunity for men and women.
- **Professional Hunters Regulation:** Defines the training, registration, licensing and code of conduct for professional guides conducting hunting safaris in Mozambique, with a focus on ensuring equal participation of men and women.
- **Avifauna Regulation:** Protects bird species, habitats and the critical ecosystem services birds provide, while supporting sustainable economic activity such as birdwatching tourism. A focus on mitigating the impact of infrastructure development in new areas will incorporate best practices for installing low-impact energy infrastructure.

## COUNTERING WILDLIFE CRIME (CWT)

The new Conservation Law strengthens penalties, fines and prosecution of wildlife trafficking and poaching crimes, and provides new powers and tools to the authorities to address this threat to biological diversity. However, better coordination of government institutions, from park rangers to prosecutors in courts and custom officials, is needed for efficient CWT. SPEED+ engages with counterparts in:

- **Improving the management of ivory and rhino horn stockpiles:** Increased vigilance by the authorities has led to the seizure and stockpiling of several tons of ivory and rhino horn. SPEED+ is supporting the GRM to make evidence-based decisions on stockpile management or disposition informed by an analysis of the economic and political risks and benefits of various options.
- **Supporting ANAC to establish a Wildlife Crime Unit** in coordination with various government agencies (Police, Customs, Attorney General, etc.) and the growing number of donors engaging in CWT (World Bank, GIZ, UNDP, EU, UNODC, etc.).
- **Providing tools and building capacity of prosecutors, investigators, judges and wildlife rangers** to more effectively identify, charge and prosecute wildlife crimes: SPEED+ has finalized the creation of the *Rapid Reference Manual (Manual de Investigação e Procedimento Penal de Crimes Contra a Fauna Bravia)* in collaboration with the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, World Wildlife Fund, ANAC and the Attorney General's Office, and completed training in three places: Niassa, Gorongosa, and Limpopo. SPEED+ will also provide additional tools and capacity building customized for the judiciary.
- **Building capacity to identify and prevent trafficking of pangolin**, one of the most trafficked mammals in the world.

## STRENGTHENING ANAC

Increased capacity of ANAC is essential to improve long-term biodiversity conservation. SPEED+ is supporting ANAC to prepare for the 2019 CITES Conference of Parties and to finalize the CITES' mandated National Elephant Action Plan. Support is also targeting training plans for the rangers on the front lines of conservation in Mozambique, improving their capacity to interpret and enforce the law.

SPEED+ will ensure that women rangers are invited and encouraged to participate actively, and that the training materials and delivery are gender sensitive.

## PROMOTING AWARENESS OF BIODIVERSITY CONSERVATION

SPEED+ is working with ANAC to develop a communication strategy for the new Conservation Law that will build awareness of biodiversity conservation and the need to protect habitat and multiple-species ecosystems as well as emblematic mammals. The strategy targets decision makers as well as urban youth and the communities bordering Conservation Areas to improve advocacy, networking and public understanding of conservation activities. Partnerships with schools engage young people during events such as World Wildlife Day and International Day for Biological Diversity.

The strategy will encourage civil society engagement in biodiversity conservation and CWT and will contribute to create better-informed citizens and more effective conservationists and environmentalists in Mozambique.

## SUPPORTING EFFECTIVE GOVERNANCE OF CONSERVATION AREAS THROUGH CO-MANAGEMENT

SPEED+ completed the *Co-Management Models in Mozambique and the Region* study, outlining the benefits of co-management of Conservation Areas with innovative partnerships among the government, the private sector and local communities. This collaborative model offers a sustainable solution for Mozambique's CAs to better protect biodiversity and contribute to rural community development. It will also create a healthy business climate, increasing trust and confidence levels for a broader array of potential donors and investors. SPEED+ is also developing a roadmap for nature-based tourism in and around Mozambique's Conservation Areas, aiming to develop tourism products and experiences that can compete with top regional destinations like South Africa.

## DEVELOPING TOOLS TO SUPPORT DECISION-MAKING RELATED TO BIODIVERSITY CONSERVATION

SPEED+ delivers tools to help stakeholders make decisions that balance investment and economic growth with the protection of ecosystems that sustain nature-based businesses and local communities' economies. Tools that will enhance the enabling environment for the success of private sector eco-tourism and wildlife-based economic activities that also protect biodiversity conservation include:

- **Supporting the government to develop the Red List of Threatened Species and to map Key Biodiversity Areas**, fundamental tools for the identification, prioritization, and decision-making around biodiversity conservation. These tools are established in compliance with the International Union for the Conservation of Nature global standards. These tools will inform the on-going Spatial Development Approach being developed by the MITADER.
- **Promoting tourism development for Conservation Areas** through a tourism strategy and tourism infrastructure guidelines;
- **Conducting analysis on the ecological and economic viability of sport hunting.**

Conservation-related businesses such as nature and wildlife tourism build awareness and engagement among customers in support of biodiversity protection. They also bring much needed income to local communities and enhance their commitment to the protection of conservation areas.

Conservation that focuses on people - not just wildlife - will be the most sustainable path forward for biodiversity conservation in Mozambique.