



MOZAMBIQUE

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PARTY TO CITES (1981) | UNTOC (2006) | UNCAC (2008) MEMBER OF INTERPOL | WORLD CUSTOMS ORGANISATION | WILDLIFE ENFORCEMENT NETWORK-SOUTHERN AFRICA (NOT YET OPERATIONAL)

SOURCE • TRANSIT

1823 kg IVORY SEIZED SINCE 2010

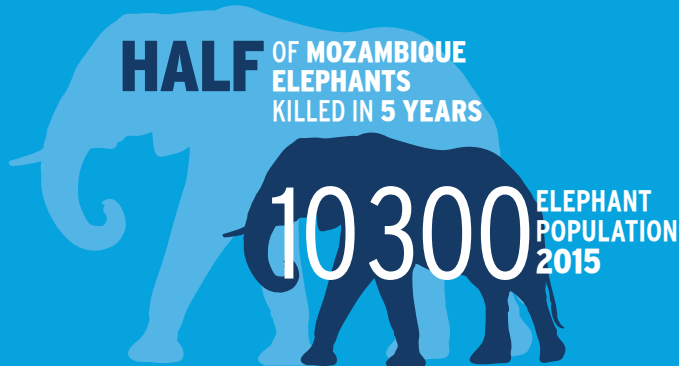
IVORY



SOURCE • TRANSIT

797.78 kg RHINO HORN SEIZED IN OR LINKED TO MOZAMBIQUE SINCE 2010

RHINO



MOZAMBIQUE | INVESTING IN ENFORCEMENT

KEY INDICATORS¹

INTERPOL National Central Bureau has officer(s) dedicated to investigating wildlife crime

Multi-agency enforcement mechanism established to investigate wildlife crime

Financial intelligence unit includes wildlife crime on their portfolios

Assets and proceeds of crime seized in relation to wildlife crime cases since 2014

DNA analysis used in wildlife crime investigations since 2014

Government monitoring of online wildlife trade

Part of bilateral or multilateral agreements that specifically tackle transnational wildlife crime²

Participated in INTERPOL operations on wildlife crime since 2014

Participated in regional/international enforcement operations on wildlife crime since 2014³

Applied or declared intention to apply ICCWC Wildlife and Forest Crime Analytic Toolkit

enforcement officers; and ZAR30m (approx US\$2m) from Dutch and Swedish lottery grants for anti-poaching equipment and training.

- Applying the ICCWC **Wildlife and Forest Crime Analytic Toolkit** is a positive step and it is now important to ensure that information on progress made in implementing the recommendations arising from the Toolkit process is made publicly available.
- Mozambique's **Environmental Police Unit** has more than 1,500 officers. A major impediment to its effective functioning is that it does not currently have a mandate for investigations, although efforts to enable development of investigative capacity are underway. Government investment in the unit increased in 2014 but it remains under-resourced.
- **Capacity to detect wildlife trafficking** at exit points has been increased—scanners are in place at Maputo Airport and Maputo, Beira and Nacala ports, and training of canine units at border points is in progress.
- An **inter-ministerial task force** set up in February 2014 reportedly meets regularly to coordinate enforcement activities on wildlife crime.

- **Bilateral cooperation with South Africa** has been improving, including mutual visits by prosecutors and judiciary. An MoU was signed in 2014 to support development of joint anti-poaching operations in the cross-border Great Limpopo Transfrontier Park. Eight joint operations conducted between January 2015 and June 2016 led to 15 arrests in the trans-frontier area.

- Mozambique has **signed three MoUs**. One with Tanzania in May 2015, addressing information exchange and collaboration between wildlife agencies in the cross-border Selous–Niassa ecosystem and another with China in October 2016, on improving collaboration to combat organised crime, although it is not clear whether this MoU also covers wildlife crime. An MoU with Vietnam on cooperation to combat illegal wildlife trade is in development as of June 2016.
- Mozambique has **failed to report ivory seizures** to the CITES Elephant Trade Information System (ETIS).

CHALLENGE

Mozambique has been identified as a country of priority concern in ivory and rhino horn trafficking. The Niassa reserve in northern Mozambique, which adjoins the Selous Reserve in Tanzania, has been hit by rampant elephant poaching. DNA analysis of ivory seized outside Mozambique reveals that at least 11 large ivory seizures during the period 2006-13 originated from northern Mozambique.

In southern Mozambique, along the Kruger-Limpopo Transfrontier Park bordering South Africa, rhino horn trafficking is a serious concern. According to a 2014 report published by C4ADS, 80–90% of rhinos poached in Kruger National Park during the period 2008–13 were attributed to cross-border Mozambican poachers.

Mozambique is also a major transit hub for rhino horn being trafficked to Asia. A substantial increase in seizures of rhino horn since 2015 has been documented, including a major seizure of 65 rhino horns in Matola in May 2015.

MAIN OBSERVATIONS

- **Support from external stakeholders** has included anti-poaching equipment worth ZAR2.6m (approx US\$200,000) from the South African Government; UNDP funding to develop a National Law Enforcement and Anti-Poaching Strategy; a US\$40m grant from the World Bank to support the Government-led 'MOZBIO' project, including training for

MOZAMBIQUE | ENSURING EFFECTIVE LEGAL DETERRENTS

KEY INDICATORS¹

Legislation treats wildlife crime as a 'serious crime' as per UNTOC, ie, the maximum sanction applicable is not less than 4 years

Sentencing guidelines for wildlife crime have been disseminated

Known convictions for wildlife crime since 2014

Charges brought under ancillary legislation such as anti-money laundering laws in wildlife crime cases since 2014

Has anti-corruption unit

Known convictions for corruption related to illegal wildlife trade cases since 2014

31/100 TI Corruption Perceptions Index 2015

MAIN OBSERVATIONS

- A **prosecutor dedicated** to environmental crime has been appointed within the Attorney General's Office. At least two training sessions have been provided for prosecutors in CITES and wildlife crime.
- Awareness-raising meetings have been held with members of the Judiciary regarding

the new Conservation Law. Nonetheless, a legal review conducted in 2015 by law firm DLA Piper identified **lack of capacity and relevant training in the judiciary** as a major obstacle to effective prosecution and deterrent sentencing for wildlife crime.

- The CITES Secretariat has reported that Mozambique has enacted **CITES-specific legislation**.

CHALLENGE

The new Conservation Law was ratified in April 2014, providing for maximum prison sentences of up to 12 years for poaching of protected species. However, these stronger sentences do not appear to apply for wildlife trafficking cases and the Law fails to define the protected species covered under its remit. The maximum sentence for transport or sale of protected species is a fine equivalent to US\$4,151–82,712.

Corruption is a major impediment in Mozambique. According to a 2014 report by C4ADS, Mozambican poaching syndicates have close links with local enforcement, with evidence linking firearms and equipment used in poaching to police, army and border forces. The NGO Freedom House describes corruption as 'pervasive' in Government and the private sector. A 2016 study by the Centre for Public Integrity

identified Customs and maritime security as among the most corrupt sectors and the judiciary is widely perceived to be corrupt. EIA investigations in 2012 into illegal logging in Mozambique exposed how corrupt Government officials enabled Chinese traders based in Mozambique to traffic of timber to China.

Existing anti-corruption legislation fails to adequately cover activities such as embezzlement and diversion of funds, and corruption cases tend to be dealt with as disciplinary rather than criminal cases.

CASE FILES

Although 539 alleged poachers were arrested during the period 2012–14, this resulted in only 17 fines and no custodial sentences. Three poachers were jailed for 10 years in July 2015 for elephant poaching.

The IUCN Rhino Specialist Groups and TRAFFIC reported to CITES CoP17 that in January 2014, seven high-ranking police officers and officials in Massingir, which abuts Kruger and Limpopo national parks, were arrested for armed robbery and trafficking in rhino horn, but all were subsequently released on bail. Further, a Vietnamese national initially arrested at Maputo Airport going to Kenya with seven rhino horns in May 2012 was then detected one week later at Bangkok's international airport in transit from Kenya to Hanoi with the horns.

MOZAMBIQUE | ERADICATING DEMAND

KEY INDICATORS¹

Prohibits trade in elephant ivory

Prohibits trade in parts/products of Asian big cats

Stockpiled ivory has been inventoried

Destroyed ivory stockpile since 2014

Destroyed other wildlife stockpiles since 2014

No known incidents of thefts of government-owned wildlife stocks

Government-led initiatives to reduce demand for wildlife products implemented since 2014

MAIN OBSERVATIONS

- A **domestic ivory market persists in Mozambique** and ivory carvings are sold in markets in Maputo. In the absence of a clear definition of the species protected under the new wildlife law, it is unclear whether all domestic and international trade in ivory and other CITES specimens is prohibited. A 2006

report published by TRAFFIC (before the enactment of the new law) notes that in 2005 the Government had called upon vendors and those in possession of wildlife products, including elephant ivory, to register and license their products and businesses.

- The Government has reported to the CITES Secretariat that it has conducted an **inventory of Government-held ivory and rhino horn** which was completed in April 2016, with DNA samples taken.
- Mozambique **destroyed 2.4 tonnes of ivory and 193kg of rhino horn** from the Government stockpile in July 2015; however, there is insufficient publicly available information to determine whether the entire ivory and rhino horn stockpile has been destroyed.
- In May 2015, 12 rhino horns were stolen from a police strongroom in Matola. The horns were part of a seizure of 65 horns and 1.1 tonnes of ivory made two weeks earlier. Subsequent arrests included four senior police officers. This followed a 2012 theft



ABOVE: SKULLS OF POACHED ELEPHANTS, NORTHERN MOZAMBIQUE, OCTOBER 2012 © EIA MARY RICE

of 1,094kg of ivory from the central Maputo stockpile. A security audit of warehouses used to store ivory and rhino horn was subsequently completed in May 2016 and efforts are now underway to centralise the stockpile and improve security.

- The Government has collaborated with other stakeholders in holding a **workshop to inform Chinese nationals** based in Mozambique of national wildlife laws.