

Regional Conservation planning for cheetah and African wild dog in Southern Africa: Mozambique as a success story



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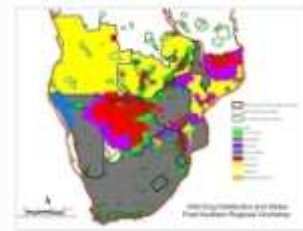
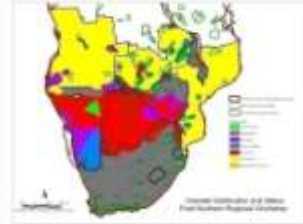
From understanding the big picture to action on the ground

- Cheetah and wild dog more than any other carnivore range over large areas
- So planning for conservation also has to happen at the same scale



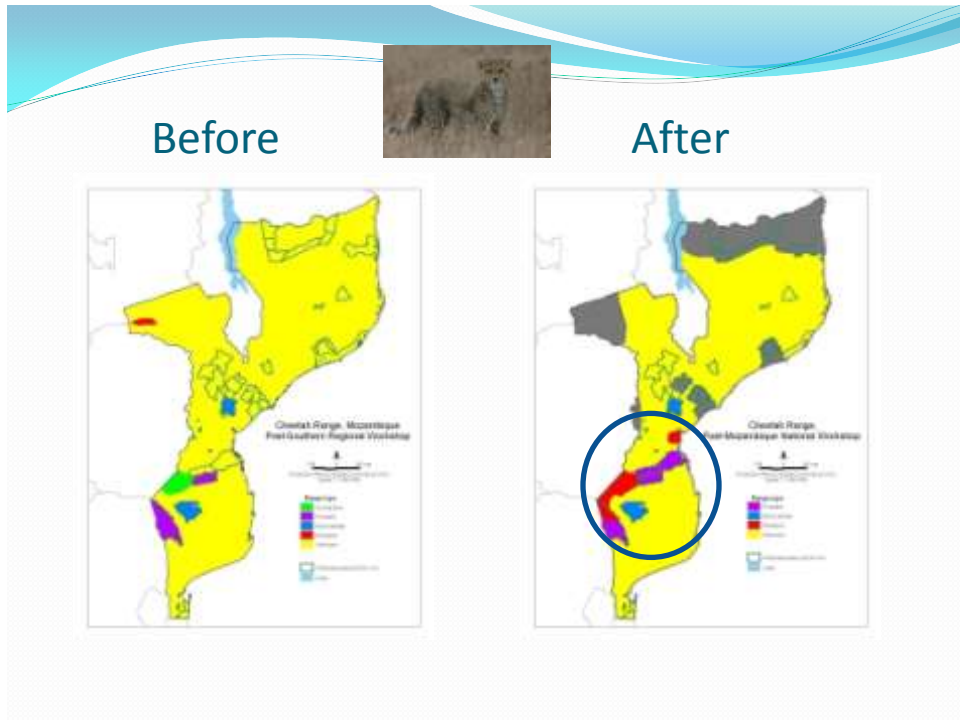
Regional strategies drawn up first – the big picture

- In 2007 two regional strategies were developed – East and Southern Africa
- Process involved mapping current knowledge and developing strategy



National action plans then developed = action on the ground

- Action takes place at the national level. Regional strategy used to guide national plans
- All countries in the region were involved regardless of status of cheetah identified at the regional level
- Mozambique NAP developed in June 2010
- Process allows for more detailed knowledge and understanding to be incorporated.



Questionnaire survey: Introduction

- Carried out in South Central of Mozambique (Banhine, Zinave and Limpopo National Parks),
- Was done during December 2010, just before the heavy rains started,
- To update the information available related to cheetah in the country, which was out of date.



Objectives

General objective:

- To determine cheetah presence or absence to guide conservation efforts

Specific objectives:

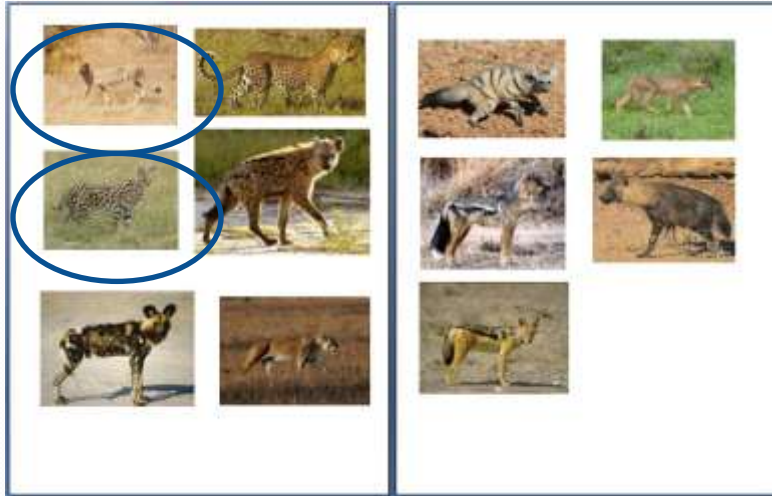
- To determine current range of cheetahs in the study area;
- The threats that the cheetahs are facing ;
- Presence of other carnivores in the study area.



Methods

- Map from National Action Plan (June 2010, Maputo) was used to guide the survey
- Open interview: face to face interview was conducted;
- Focused group discussions;
- Direct observations.

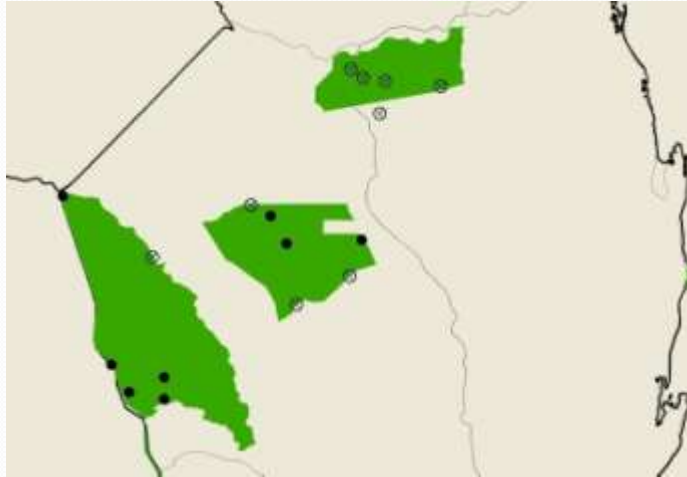
Correct identification?



Results 1: Cheetah Distribution

- Zinave: that previous reports were inaccurate because people were confusing cheetah with serval;
- Banhine: in National Action Plan, was recorded as not present. But was indicated in distribution map of Skinner & Chimimba(2005);
- This survey confirmed cheetah present in Banhine
- Limpopo: also included in the distribution map of Skinner & Chimimba (2005); presence confirmed

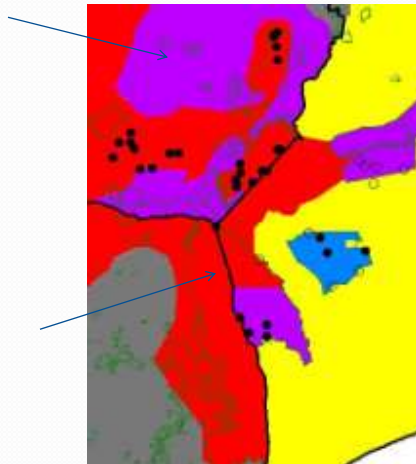
Results 1: Cheetah distribution



GL-TFCA

Zimbabwe component:
Gona-re-zhou (TFP); Save Valley and Nuanetzi (TFCA)

South Africa component:
Kruger (TFP):
Higher densities of cheetah in south compared to north



Results 1: Cheetah population

Variable	Zinave National Park(%)	Banhine National Park(%)	Limpopo National Park(%)
Increase	0	80	90
Decrease	0	0	0
Don't know	100	20	10
Total	100	100	100

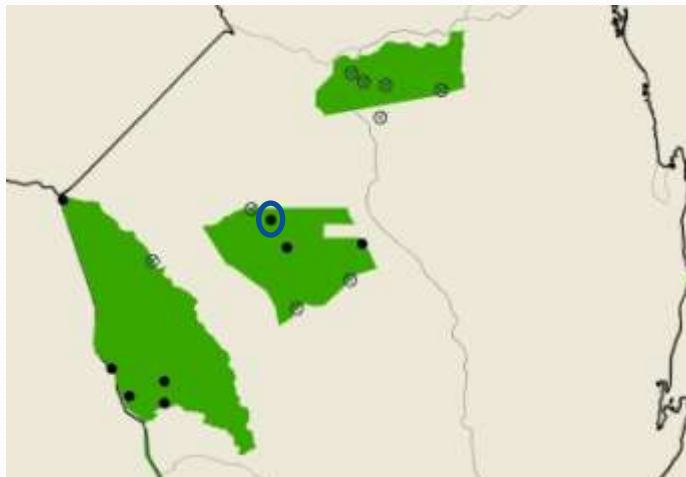
Results 2: Occupation of people

Type of Respondent	Zinave National Park	Banhine National Park	Limpopo National Park
Commercial crop(dry land)	0	0	0
Subsistence crop(dry land)	20	25	20
Commercial livestock	0	0	0
Subsistence Livestock	7	3	6
Wardens	3	2	4
Total	30	30	30

Results 3: Human-cheetah conflict

- **Number of people reporting conflict:** 12 (13.3%)
- **But all these reports were categorized as “small problem”**
- **No problem:** 78 (81%)
- **Livestock killed:** 5 goats in the pasture
- **Livestock management :** All respondents kraal their livestock. Herders are with livestock all day

Results 3: Human-cheetah conflict (Map)





Results 4: Domestic dogs

- **Everyone has dogs** – average # is 4 dogs
- **But happy to vaccinate** – government campaigns
- **Owner control of dogs** is good. Dogs used to protect livestock kraal while the owner are sleeping at night.
- In general dogs are not used for hunting.



Results 5: wildlife populations

- All areas have wildlife and awareness of value is high
- Species reported (important for cheetah): impala, kudu, wildebeest, duikers, waterbuck, bushbuck, reedbuck, hare,
- Respondents recognized that they own wildlife (20% of revenue from wildlife goes back to community, according to forestry and wildlife law)



Results 6: Anti-poaching

- Anti-poaching – VUKA (Zinave), Associacao Avestruz (Banhine)
- Chicualacuala – we need to find out what is happening here
- Rangers and game scouts



Main threats to cheetahs in study area

- Habitat Loss - dry land farming
- Lack of prey (but populations slowly increasing)
- Humans persecution – could increase

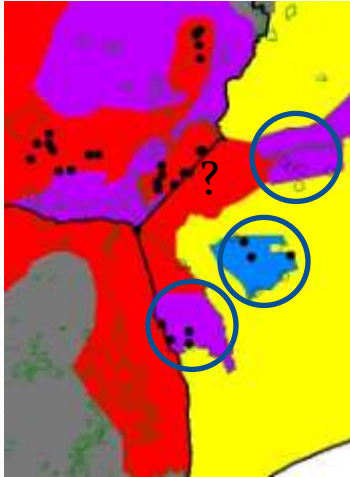
Recommendations

- Awareness training – posters, training course for rangers (add cheetah information to existing courses) because it was found that rangers had little knowledge
- Nation wide awareness campaign using these posters to determine where cheetah have been seen

Recommendations

- More detailed studies of cheetah populations in protected area: Banhine and Limpopo – camera trap survey. We have access to 5 but we need 30
- Funds for detailed questionnaire survey in Chicualacuala and Buzi
- Satellite/GPS radio collar – cheetah in Banhine and Limpopo
- Photographic survey in Limpopo
- Zinave:
 - Introduction not recommended at present because wildlife populations are still low. Natural colonization should occur if wildlife increases

The way forward



1. Cheetah now confirmed in Mozambique in key conservation area – GL TFCA
2. BANHINE
3. LIMPOPO
4. ZINAVE
5. CHICUALACUALA – connecting area?
6. Regional and national planning now more informed
7. Mozambique identified as key area for cheetah conservation
8. Raise awareness and support

Involve everyone and you will understand the whole picture



Acknowledgements

- Fossil Rim Wildlife Centre
- DNAC (providing staff and transport)
- Regional cheetah and wild dog programme (ZSL/WCS)
- Field team including parks staff
- All respondents

Thank You



MOÇAMBIQUE

The beautiful people & beautiful country