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# A message from our CEO

In 2019 Save the Rhino International entered its 25th year and, like any significant anniversary, this provided an opportunity to reflect.

Cathy Dean | CEO

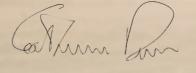
In 1994 our founders sought to protect rhinos after rampant poaching in the 1980s and early 1990s. As poaching slowed in the late 1990s and early 2000s, our attention turned much more towards identifying suitable habitats into which rhino populations could expand.

Today, while the external pressures are vastly different, rhinos are met with very similar challenges. In 2008, poaching rates intensified once more, and today an average of one rhino is killed every 10 hours across Africa. This shocking rate is – thanks to the dedication of rangers, conservation managers, rhino experts and supporters – a decrease from recent years, and despite poaching, the number of rhinos across the world continues to hold steady.

Of course, the importance of finding and creating safe, resilient habitats for rhinos continues, as many healthy ecosystems have been degraded, or lost to development. Establishing rich rhino habitat remains critical for the future of not only the Asian species, which have the most intense habitat pressure, but also African rhinos, as connected landscapes are needed more than ever.

Reducing – and eventually halting – the twin pressures of poaching and habitat loss are at the heart of our focus at Save the Rhino. In 25 years we have achieved many successes; helping to boost black and Javan rhino numbers, improving equipment and living conditions for rangers, and supporting natural breeding programmes for Sumatran rhinos, but there is much more to do.

I'm confident that we can overcome today's challenges. With our rhino family – our team of nine staff in London, our field programme partners across Africa and Asia, and our vast network of friends and supporters – we will continue to champion rhino conservation with the same passion, dedication and commitment that started the charity.





With the support received from

Save the Rhino International

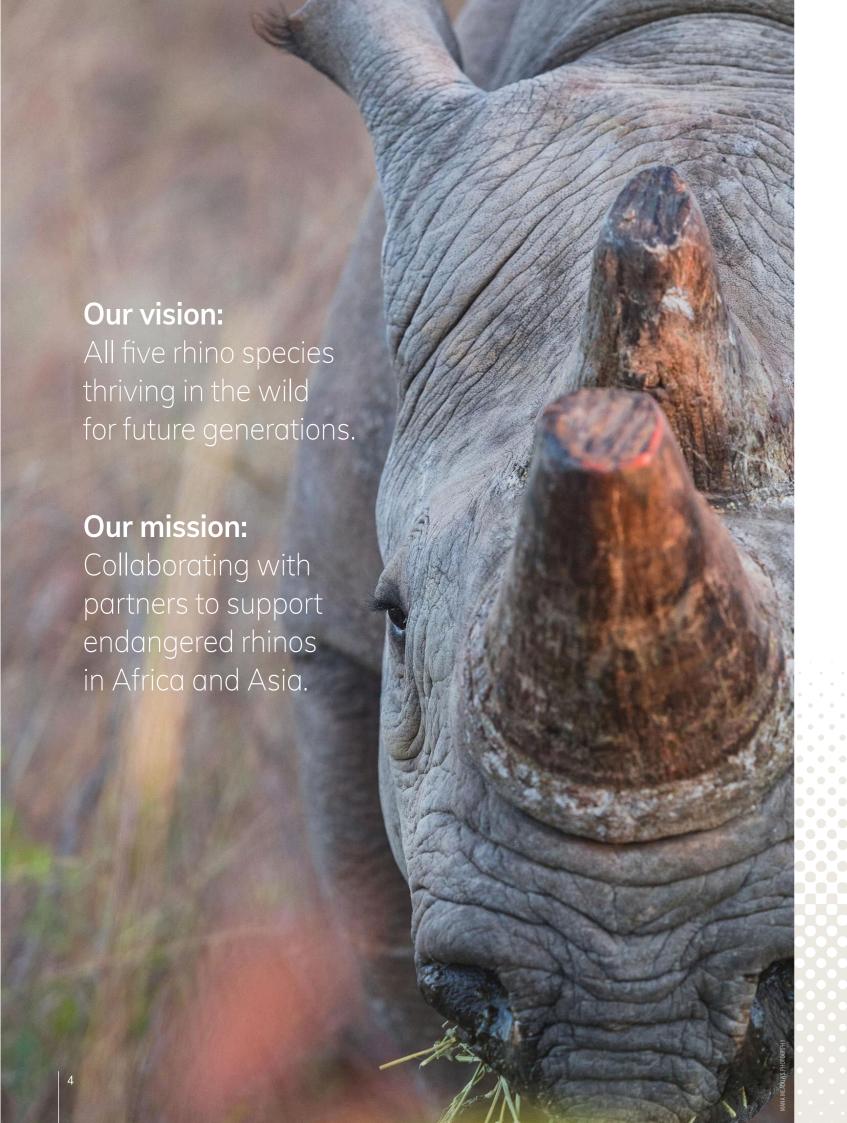
effectively equip staff with the

correct tactical gear, make

sure they have comfortable

for the long evenings and other

Dirk Swart, Section Ranger at



# Our strategies:

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A record 377 rhino

sightings in August

# Achievements this year

African rhino poaching numbers dropped by 20% since 2017, dipping below 1,000 for the first time in five years

We joined a groundbreaking alliance working to save the Sumatran rhino 6 black rhinos received veterinary care thanks to the APLRS emergency black rhino fund

We gave out £1,821,580 in grants to conservation programmes We worked with partners
to share messages
about illegal wildlife
trade to over 215,000
people in China

We helped deliver canine unit training for rangers across Africa

**64 London Marathon runners** charged across London

**148 incredible community fundraisers** got involved to support rhinos

**64 uniforms for rangers** in uMkhuze Game Reserve, South Africa



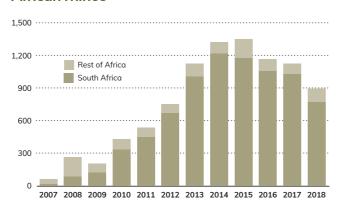


#### Rhino conservation: where we're at

For the third year running, the number of rhinos poached across Africa has decreased, thankfully dipping below the 1,000 mark in 2018, with a total of 892 rhinos killed for their horns. While this is still too many (it means that on average one rhino is killed every 10 hours), the decrease is a positive sign.

As we continue to reduce poaching and disrupt the illegal trade in rhino horn, we must simultaneously protect and expand healthy, resilient habitats to bring stability – and hopefully, growth – for all rhino populations.

#### African rhinos



The current rhino poaching crisis took off in Zimbabwe in 2008. Before this, in the earlier 2000s, rhino poaching numbers across Africa were at record lows.

Once the 'soft targets' in Zimbabwe were exhausted, poaching gangs turned their attention to neighbouring countries. South Africa, which is home to around 80% of Africa's rhinos, was hit hard, with steep increases in poaching from 2009 to 2014.

South Africa continues to experience the highest number of poaching incidents today – 769 in 2018 – though this is the first time since 2013 that the total number for the country has been under 1,000.

Unfortunately, a decreasing trend has not been the case for every country. Tightened security and stronger anti-poaching efforts seem to be pushing criminal syndicates into previously quiet poaching territory. The changing numbers are proof that we need to keep going. Poaching syndicates' methods continuously evolve: by improving our tactics, we can get ahead of the criminals.

#### Asian rhinos

The story is very different for the three rhino species in Asia, all of which exist in much smaller numbers than their African counterparts: poaching is a concern, but the main threat is a lack of healthy habitat.

Javan and Sumatran rhinos each have fewer than 80 animals left, so increasing their numbers is critical. For both species, the challenge is distribution. The last 72 Javan rhinos all live in one

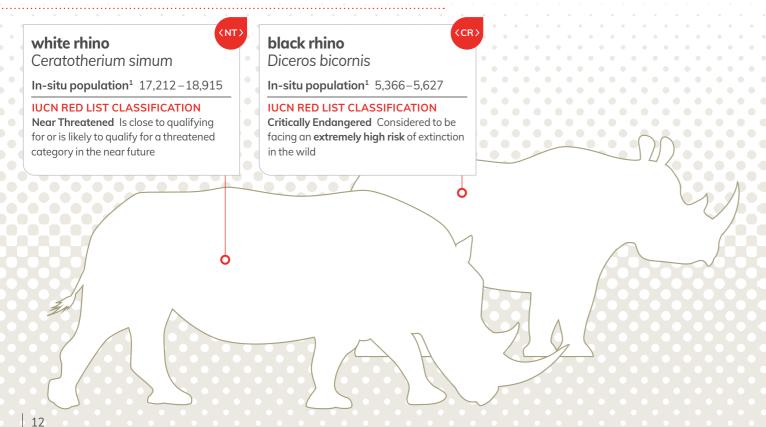
place, Ujung Kulon National Park on the western tip of Java, where they are vulnerable to both disease and extreme weather events. Either of these threats has the potential to wipe out the entire species, so the key objective for Javan rhino conservation is the identifying new suitable habitat and the establishing a second viable population.

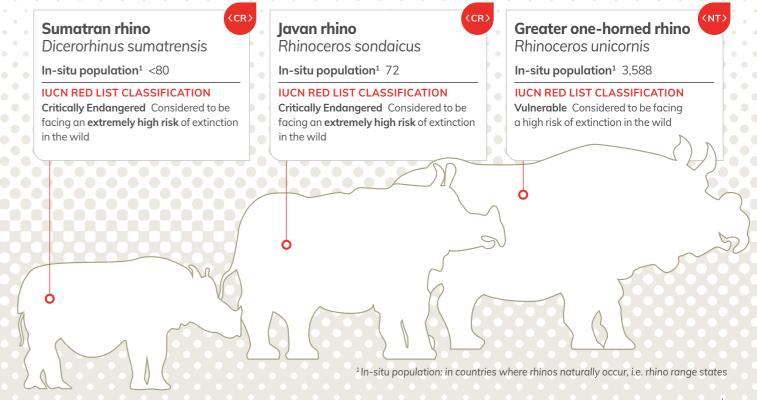
Conversely, the remaining 80 or fewer Sumatran rhinos are scattered through fragments of remaining rainforest on Sumatra and Borneo, and so their chances of finding a suitable mate and breeding successfully are greatly reduced. Our conservation efforts centre on bringing the remaining Sumatran rhinos together into safe spaces, giving the species a chance to propagate and provide hope for the future.

Greater one-horned rhinos are the most populous Asian species, yet there are still fewer than 4,000 remaining. Poaching is more common for this species but, thankfully, incidents in recent years have declined. The overall population continues to grow, but recent natural deaths have sparked concern that their key habitats are at full capacity. Further research and effective habitat management are required if their numbers are to continue to rise.



# RED® Rhinos and the IUCN Red List





## Where we work

In 2018–2019 we supported 32 programmes and projects with grants totalling £1,821,581

£67,479

Borana Conservancy, Kenya Anti-poaching and monitoring

£48,219

Lewa Wildlife Conservancy, Kenya Anti-poaching and monitoring

£102,378

Ol Jogi, Kenya

Anti-poaching and monitoring; Environmental education

f10.007

Ol Pejeta Conservancy, Kenya Anti-poaching and monitoring

£3,796

Northern Rangelands Trust, Kenya

Anti-poaching and monitoring

£263.537

Association of Private Land Rhino Sanctuaries, Kenya

Anti-poaching and monitoring; Captive breeding and veterinary; Capacity building

£52.886 Big Life Foundation, Kenya Anti-poaching and monitoring

£787

Northern white rhinos. South Sudan

Anti-poaching and monitoring

£1,380

Rhino Fund Uganda, Uganda Anti-poaching and monitoring

£60,324

Mkomazi Rhino Sanctuary, Tanzania

Anti-poaching and monitoring; **Environmental education** 

£5,205

Liwonde National Park, Malawi

Anti-poaching and monitoring

£198,610

North Luangwa Conservation Programme, Zambia

Anti-poaching and monitoring; Environmental education; Translocation

£15,079

Wildlife Crime Prevention, Zambia

Anti-poaching and monitoring

£12,453

Gonarezhou National Park, Zimbabwe

Anti-poaching and monitoring

£6,470

Lowveld Rhino Trust, Zimbabwe

Anti-poaching and monitoring; Capacity building

£264,470

Ministry of Environment and Tourism, Namibia

Anti-poaching and monitoring

£189,660

Save the Rhino Trust, Namibia Anti-poaching and monitoring

£90,573

Hluhluwe-iMfolozi Park, South Africa

Anti-poaching and monitoring

£41,882

uMkhuze Game Reserve, South Africa

Anti-poaching and monitoring

£5,935

Welgevonden Game Reserve, South Africa

Anti-poaching and monitoring

£14.777

Big Game Parks, Eswatini Anti-poaching and monitoring

£2,969

Indian Rhino Vision 2020, India

Anti-poaching and monitoring

£4,095

Rhino Protection Unit programme, Indonesia Anti-poaching and monitoring

£30.508

Sumatran Rhino Sanctuary, Indonesia

Captive breeding and veterinary

£858

**Javan Rhino Conservation** and Study Area, Indonesia

Anti-poaching and monitoring

£17,596

**Education for** 

Nature – Vietnam, Vietnam Demand reduction

£148,036

TRAFFIC, Vietnam

Demand reduction

£44,988

TRAFFIC, China

Demand reduction

£1,000

Rhino Resource

Center. UK

Capacity building

£97,954

African Rhino Specialist Group, Africa

Capacity building

£13,686

Regional Canine Coordinator, Africa

Capacity building

£3,986

Rhino horn antiques trade, UK

Capacity building



# **Strategy 1** Saving rhinos

Raising funds to protect and increase rhino numbers and population distribution in African and Asian range states.

We exist to save rhinos from the threats they face, while growing the global population so that they are no longer endangered. To make sure that our funding achieves the most impact, we focus our grants on 'Key 1' and 'Key 2' populations of the Critically Endangered species (black, Sumatran and Javan rhinos).

Our aim is to remove or significantly reduce the threats faced by these rhinos; we want to see the status of the three Critically Endangered rhino species down-listed to a lower category of threat, or even better, to not threatened at all. With this aim in mind, we identify and fund programmes that make the greatest difference to the global outlook for rhinos.

In the past year, several of the programmes we support experienced zero rhino poaching, including:

- North Luangwa Conservation Project (Zambia)
- Ol Jogi Conservancy (Kenya)
- Save the Rhino Trust (Namibia)
- Mkomazi National Park (Tanzania)

Rhino populations must be kept safe and monitored closely if they are to grow. This requires well-equipped and trained ranger teams working around the clock. At Save the Rhino Trust in Namibia, rhino trackers spend three weeks at a time out in the bush, monitoring their precious desert-adapted black rhino population.

SRT rangers now see 81% of their rhinos each month, compared to 25% in 2012, making sure that they are healthy and safe.

#### What is a Key 1 or 2 population?

Developed by the International Union for the Conservation of Nature (IUCN), this classification sorts rhinos according to the number of animals within a single population.

Using this classification, we can understand the current situation and decide on the most effective way forward for a population of rhinos.

Category	Primary criteria	Secondary criteria (OR)
Key 1	Population increasing or stable AND N>100	N>50% of the subspecies
Key 2	Population increasing or stable AND N=51–100	N=26-50% of subspecies
Key 3	Population decreasing (<25%) AND N>50	N>100 even if the population is decreasing >25%





#### **Case study**

# Training rangers in Hluhluwe-iMfolozi Park

Since the current crisis began, poaching has been relentless across Africa, and nowhere more so than in South Africa. The country has lost almost 8,000 rhinos since 2008. Hardest hit has been Kruger National Park, where the majority of South Africa's rhinos live.

However, as security increases and rhinos become harder to find, recent years have seen a surge in poaching within parks in neighbouring areas, such as Hluhluwe-iMfolozi Park (HiP) in the KwaZulu Natal Province.

In the past year, **poaching** has decreased by 27% in Hluhluwe-iMfolozi Park.

**234 canvas boots** provided for field rangers.

# **150 rhino horn transponders** purchased to improve rhino tracking.

The KwaZulu-Natal Province borders Mozambique and is close to the Mozambican capital, Maputo, a notorious base for poaching syndicates. Law enforcement teams across Hluhluwe-iMfolozi Park therefore deal with the constant challenge of poaching gangs trying to enter and find a rhino, sometimes facing multiple incursions in one day. In such difficult and often dangerous situations, it is important that rangers are fully supported, trained and motivated to protect HiP's rhinos.

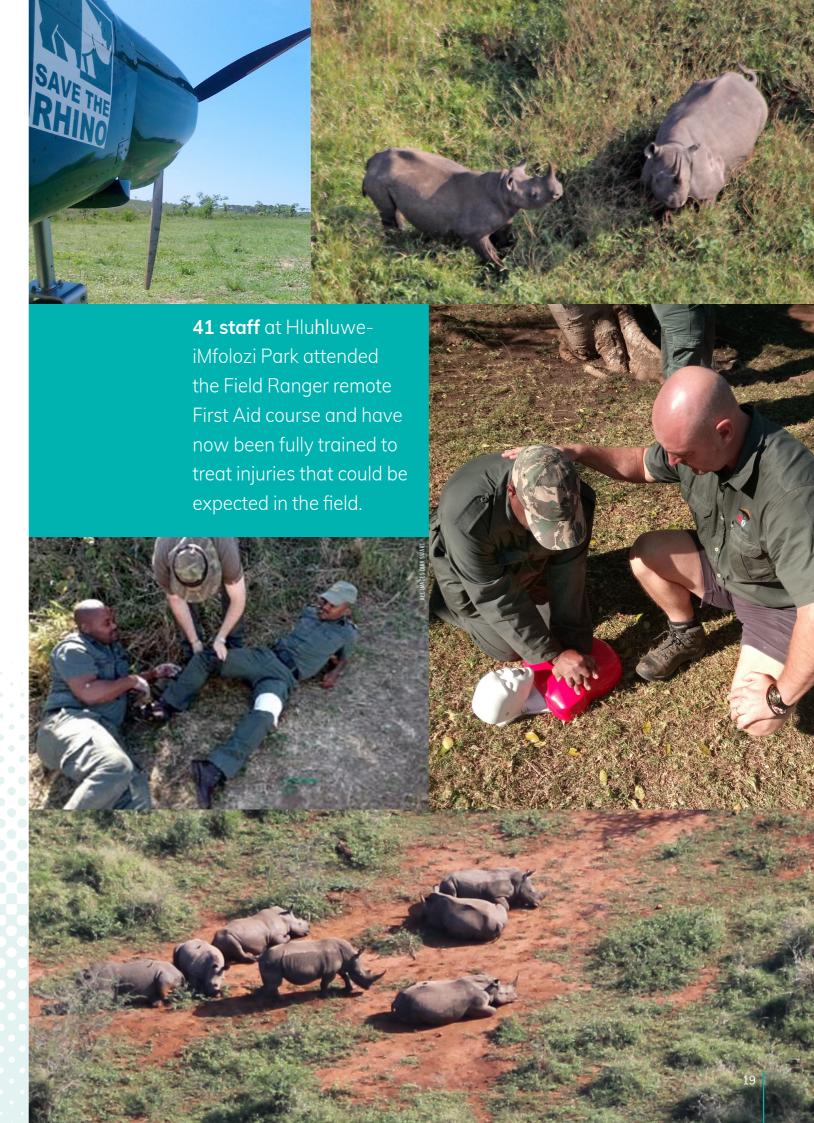
Rangers are in the bush for extended periods of time and can face life-threatening challenges, from highly unpredictable wild animals as well as heavily armed poachers. If anyone is injured, the remote locations of the ranger outposts mean that urgent medical treatment is hard to come by. To improve this situation, we funded first-aid training for HiP's rangers, enabling them to protect themselves and others while they are in the field.



Forty-one staff have now been fully trained to treat injuries that could be expected in the field – gunshot wounds, goring and bite-type wounds, fractures and snake bites – as well as being taught CPR.

Everyone that has completed the course has also been issued with a basic trauma kit, which included wound-packing bandages, a tourniquet, and other simple but effective first-aid equipment. The training will not only ensure urgent medical treatment takes place in the field, which can save lives, but also helps to maintain ranger morale and boost the effectiveness of HiP's dedicated teams.

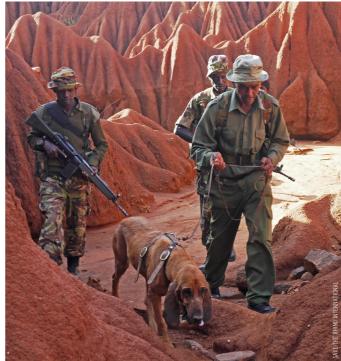
Since April 2018, we've also supported HiP to renovate ranger accommodation, provide veterinary supplies for the canine unit and increase aerial surveillance. Each project is helping HiP's rangers to have a bigger impact in the field; improving tactical work in the Operations Centre so that teams react quickly to any situation, and lifting spirits across the ranger units by upgrading accommodation with better water pumps, solar power and general camp maintenance.





# **Strategy 2** Sharing information

Facilitating the exchange of technical support and information between rhino conservation stakeholders.



The threats facing rhinos in the wild are highly complex, and conservation solutions often require a multifaceted, joined-up approach.

Collaboration for conservation is at the heart of our work; we know that we can maximise our conservation impact by playing an effective 'match-making' role.

By sharing information and linking experts together, we build the knowledge of the people working on the frontline, making sure that everyone is as effective as possible.

Over the last year, we helped create a network of anti-poaching canine units across Africa by delivering a workshop for canine unit professionals. The workshop provides practitioners and other stakeholders with opportunities to share knowledge, gain experience and learn techniques to combat wildlife crime.

The most recent Working Dog Workshop was held in Nairobi, Kenya, and **brought together individuals from more than 30 anti-poaching canine units** from nine countries across Africa.

We also supported the Association of Private Land Rhino Sanctuaries (APLRS), uniting six rhino sanctuaries across Laikipia County in northern Kenya: Ol Jogi, Borana, Lewa, Ol Pejeta, Big Life Foundation and the Sera Conservancy.

An APLRS Administrator has been employed to **help coordinate efforts** to deliver Kenya's national black rhino strategy.

Sometimes the unsung heroes in conservation are those responsible for office administration, report writing, and some of the less 'glamorous' activities. These actions are essential to keep organisations and projects ticking over. To help the Association run effectively, we funded the salary of the APLRS Administrator, enhancing regional collaboration and dialogue between the private and government sector.

The new Administrator will strengthen the capacity of APLRS member conservancies to deliver Kenya's national black rhino strategy, ensuring that everyone works towards rhino species thriving in the wild.

#### Case study

# Facilitating the 13th IUCN SSC African Rhino Specialist Group (AfRSG) meeting, February 2019, Namibia

These meetings, which are held every 2–3 years, play a key part in coordinating and capacity building for rhino conservation efforts in Africa, and in the collection of data and situation assessments required in order for the AfRSG, IUCN (International Union for the Conservation of Nature) and TRAFFIC to fulfil their mandated CITES reporting requirements.

Similarly to meetings held in 2013 and 2016, Save the Rhino sourced donor funding (thanks to USFWS, Oak Philanthropy (UK) Ltd, the International Rhino Foundation and WWF-South Africa, as well as our sister non-profit, Save the Rhino International Inc.); organised all the logistics, and put together the proceedings for the meeting.

## The AfRSG meeting was attended by 71 people:

- 42 AfRSG members and 29 invited quests
- Representing 13 different countries in Africa, as well as Asia (India and China), Europe (UK and Switzerland) and the USA

Doing so is one way of fulfilling our commitment to facilitating the sharing of information between rhino experts and key stakeholders. The group included people with a range of skills and expertise, with representation from African rhino range states, rhino experts, protected areas / private and communal rhino owners / managers, wildlife veterinarians, academics and NGOs / donors.

One of the key discussions at the meeting was the Joint IUCN / TRAFFIC African and Asian Rhinoceroses - Status, Conservation and Trade report for CITES CoP18 (the global meeting of the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species). This independent document forms the basis of major rhino discussions at CITES and its findings and conclusions were presented at the meeting. Other discussions covered individual country rhino reports, meta-population management of rhinos, biological management, translocations, innovative financing, Red Listing revision of African rhinos, and a session dedicated to the discussion of rhino conservation in Namibia.

This year, to make best use of the collective expertise present, the meeting included an increased number of focused workshops to address pressing issues. These issues included rhino population databases; genetic management; rhino site selection; veterinary restrictions to rhino movements; rhino habitat assessments; dehorning; developing rhino professionals; lessons from the latest rhino translocations; Kenya rhino immobilization and translocation protocols; and how the threat of bankruptcy of Africa's largest privately owned rhino population may affect white rhino conservation.

Finally, the AfRSG's vision, mission and objectives were also revisited and revised to the following.

#### Vision

Thriving wild African rhinos valued by people and contributing to their well-being.

#### Mission

The AfRSG guides and facilitates the conservation of viable African rhino populations across their natural range.

#### **Objectives**

- To establish and enhance healthy and persistent rhino populations through advising and facilitating the efficient protection and dynamic biological management of African rhinos within their natural range
- To foster multiple values of rhinos for all people's well-being through promoting sustainable conservation
- To facilitate research, collate information and report on the status of African rhinos to the IUCN and other parties
- To support targeted communication to a wide range of stakeholders
- To ensure effective leadership through capacity building and mentorship of the next generation of rhino conservationists
- To promote sustainable finance and good governance for African rhino conservation
- To manage, monitor, and evaluate the Group via effective, efficient, and transparent governance



# **London Marathon 2018** Rangers in London

Skyscrapers, rushing commuters and an array of shops and cafés, London is a far cry from any African national park. On marathon day, however, it can bear similarities: vast herds migrating across the river, rhinos charging around and a lot of focus on making it to the next watering hole!

In that case, you wouldn't be surprised to hear that the 2018 London Marathon included rangers and conservation managers from Malawi, Zambia and Zimbabwe!

In 2018, for the first time ever, our London Marathon team included nine people who work to protect rhinos on the ground each day.

From Zambia's North Luangwa National Park, we were joined by Ed Sayer, North Luangwa Conservation Programme's project leader, Paimolo Bwalya and Cosmas Ngulube, rhino monitoring team commanders, and Benny Van Zyl, the technical advisor for the K9 Detection and Tracking Unit.

Zimbabwe's Gonarezhou National Park team included two talented rangers, Thomas Mbiza and Brighton Jecha, Elsabe van der Westhuizen, Frankfurt Zoological Society's Technical Adviser, and Callum Duncan, Head of Security. And from Lilongwe National Park in Malawi, we were joined by Park Manager Craig Reid.

#### How the funds raised helped

In **North Luangwa**, this enabled a new rhino scout picket to be built at a strategic location for improved security and monitoring of the Park's black rhino population.

Gonarezhou National Park are currently preparing to reintroduce rhinos after they have been lost in the area due to poaching. These extra funds helped the team construct fences and build their rhino bomas.

At **Lilongwe National Park**, the rhino tracking team needed extra equipment to do their jobs as effectively as possible. The money raised from the Marathon was used to purchase ranger uniforms and new radio equipment, to monitor their rhinos more efficiently.

# **Strategy 3** Involving communities

Working with programme partners to develop community participation in rhino conservation initiatives at levels appropriate to each site.

It takes a community to save a rhino. Local community support and collaboration is essential to almost every programme we work with. By working with people living in and around the places we work and listening to what they need, we can improve the chances for rhinos to thrive.

# Between July 2018 and June 2019, 75% of students visiting the Lolesha Luangwa education programme described their visit as "inspiring and exciting" and "a place to protect".

When a poaching incident takes place, local leaders and communities are the people with the best knowledge to track down suspects. When people surrounding rhino projects benefit directly, through access to better education, improved healthcare, reliable income and more, programmes develop positive relationships with communities, gaining their respect

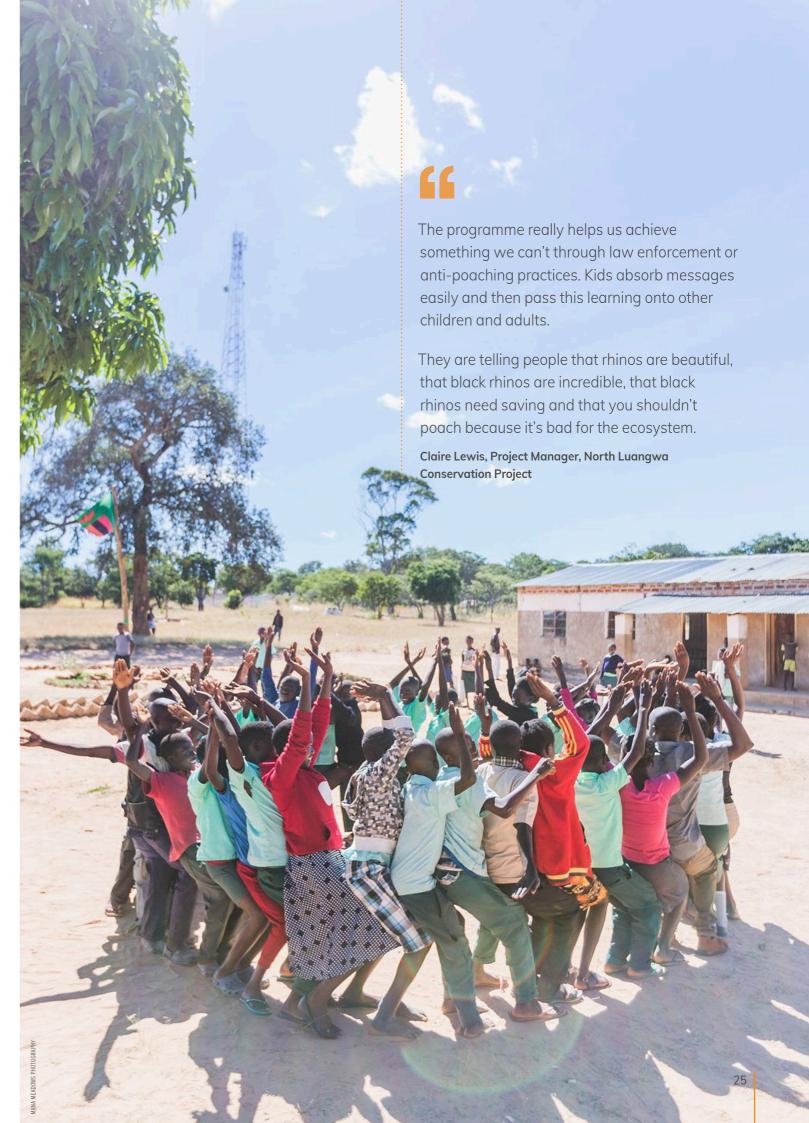
and overall support for its objectives. This mutual appreciation between local people and rhino programmes helps rangers gather intelligence to stop poaching incidents and often reduce overall crime in related areas.

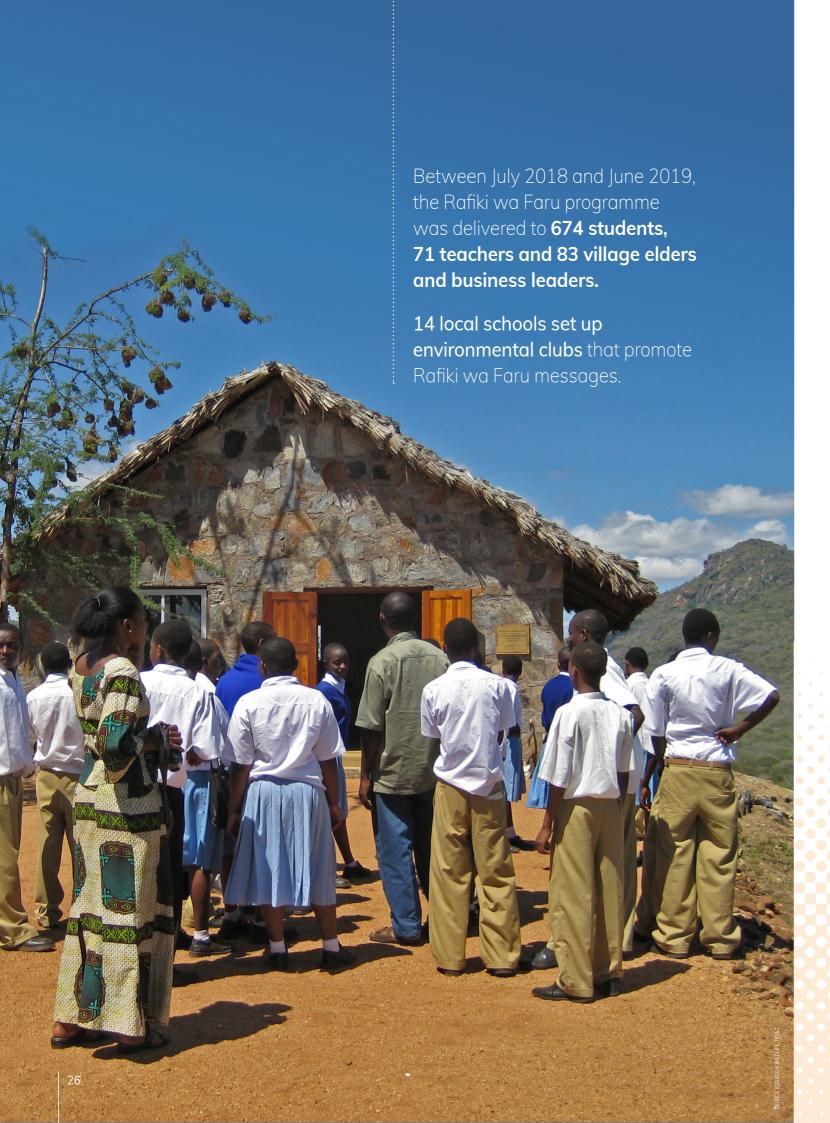
# 29 local theatre events **reached more than 10,000 community members in North Luangwa**, sharing key conservation messages.

In championing community-led conservation, we want to encourage people living near rhinos to feel inspired to protect them. We work with programmes such as Lolesha Luangwa (translating to 'Look after Luangwa') in Zambia, which provides extra education to children from 21 different schools in the North Luangwa region. Each piece of education material at Lolesha Luangwa has been designed to disseminate specific conservation information.

In every community project we review the current activities in the area to make sure that the objectives and target audiences are set to have the biggest impact for local people and rhino conservation.







#### Case study

# Rafiki wa Faru, Tanzania

Mkomazi National Park, in the north east of Tanzania, is prime habitat for the Critically Endangered black rhino. Yet, in the late 1980s, after the poaching epidemic had swept through East and southern Africa, there were no rhinos left in the Park.

In 1989, a collaborative effort by the Government of Tanzania and the George Adamson Wildlife Preservation Trust helped revitalise Mkomazi: habitat was restored, endangered species breeding programmes were put in place, and the black rhino was reintroduced into a safe, fenced area within the Park: the Mkomazi Rhino Sanctuary (MRS).

After losing rhinos once before, everyone working at MRS knew that a multi-faceted approach would be needed to protect the future of the Park's new black rhinos. As well as security methods such as alarmed fencing, anti-poaching patrols, aerial surveillance and a canine unit, Mkomazi also created a flagship education programme in 2008: Rafiki wa Faru.

Rafiki wa Faru, which translates to 'Friend of the Rhino', engages with children and communities in the surrounding park areas, creating content that inspires students to look after their environment and share what they learn with their families and the wider community.

Working closely with local leaders and schools, Rafiki wa Faru brings students into the National Park for conservation talks and activities. During each session, students improve their understanding of Tanzania's long-term rhino conservation goals. Each talk emphasizes the importance of protecting rhinos as an umbrella species, explaining how rhinos are protected from poaching and why this security is essential to benefit rhinos and people.

When students come to Mkomazi, they spend the day with Elisaria Nnko (Rafiki wa Faru's Education Officer and the overall Operations Manager for MRS) at the Education Center and enjoy presentations on rhino conservation, learning important concepts such as 'conservation', 'endangered' and 'extinction'. Participating in special games, activities and talks from rangers, visitors understand the realities of rhino conservation.



We helped repair and maintain the incredible **Rafiki wa Faru bus**, which drives students and groups into Mkomazi for their special visits.

During lunchtime, each student is handed a monocular to explore the view and try to spot a rhino. While rhinos are rarely seen so close to the centre, visitors often see other wildlife including giraffe, impala, kudu and warthogs. At the end of the day, every student is handed a coloured Rafiki wa Faru wrist band and a hand-made rhino toy to take home.

Through the programme, Rafiki wa
Faru is winning over the hearts and
minds of every visitor that comes
into the Sanctuary, improving local
education and inspiring everyone in
the community to love rhinos.

# **Strategy 4** Reducing illegal trade

Challenging the illegal wildlife trade requires action on several fronts, from anti-poaching operations in rhino range states, through the disruption of smuggling routes and dissembling criminal networks, to reducing demand for illegal wildlife products in consumer markets.

In 2014, we worked with TRAFFIC, a charity that works specifically on wildlife trade, to develop the 'Chi' Initiative, a behaviour change programme aimed at a key market for rhino horn – successful Vietnamese businessmen.

In the past year, thanks primarily to a generous legacy donation from one of our long-term supporters, we once again partnered with TRAFFIC to focus on reducing demand of three key consumer areas in Vietnam and China.

In Vietnam, our project centres on working with the Vietnamese Government to understand the level and use of rhino horn products by government officials. By undertaking a series of surveys to understand better why and how rhino horn is used by Government officers, we can develop a range of behaviour change materials to encourage a social norm of zero use of any illegal wildlife products within government.

Meanwhile, on the Chinese side of the China-Vietnam border, we are working to address a very particular market for illegal wildlife products – demand from Chinese tourists who visit Vietnam.

Working alongside Chinese customs officials, the project team can develop a deeper awareness of this specific trade, sharing intelligence with the Chinese Tourist Bureau and Chinese and Vietnamese tour operators to disseminate communications that encourage behaviour change and promote responsible tourism.



And lastly, we are reaching wider Chinese consumers through a partnership with TRAFFIC, WWF and other partners, sharing targeted communications through Chinese social media platforms – particularly WeChat and Weibo, two of the most widely used social media platforms in China.

Using informative and artistic infographics, messages posted on each platform are sharing stories with the public, raising awareness of poaching and the illegal wildlife trade, and, we hope, helping to drive down demand.



#### Case study

# Sounding the Horn: A survey of rhino horn antiques in the UK

A long-time Save the Rhino supporter, Sue Brace, contacted us in September 2017 to say that she'd been collecting data on auction house sales of rhino horn antiques, and asked whether we'd be interested in the findings. We were.

Recent research into the UK trade of elephant ivory antiques had found post-1947 ivory available to buy, leading the UK Government to conclude this trade was detrimental to wild elephants, and to pass the Ivory Act in 2018. As conservation issues for rhinos are similar, we worked with Sue to collect and analyse 2017 data on the UK trade in rhino horn antiques, to better understand whether this may be detrimental to wild rhinos. We did not purchase any items for testing, nor intervene in any of the sales.

# We analysed all 300 rhino horn items offered for sale in 2017 through UK auction houses, to answer the following questions:

- Can we be certain all auctioned rhino horn antiques were pre-1947 and 'worked' – i.e. carved, and of artistic merit?
- Were CITES regulations consistently flagged in the lot descriptions for potential buyers?
- Is the trade effectively regulated and are suspect items appropriately investigated?
- Could the UK antiques trade be used to launder modern rhino horn?

#### The concerns arising from our findings were:

- There is no guarantee all items offered for sale were pre-1947; to our knowledge no radiocarbon-14 dating (the only method to accurately detect horn age) was carried out. In cases where age estimates were provided, they were given as very broad ranges. 89% of all items were listed without any detailed provenance (history) and 25% with no age estimate at all
- It is uncertain whether all items described as rhino horn were in fact made of rhino horn; to our knowledge no DNA-testing was carried out; 20% of the 323 lots offered were described as 'possibly' or 'probably' rhino horn
- 63% of auction houses offered only one or two rhino horn items in 2017; thus expertise in identifying suspect items will be limited when so few rhino horn items are seen
- CITES permit issues and export regulations were inconsistently flagged on auction houses' websites, sometimes not at all

- Based on auction catalogue photographs, all items could be defined as 'worked' but, in some cases, the working appeared minimal or crude
- Four auction houses advertised some lots in Mandarin and 17 auction houses stated the weight of the rhino horn in catalogue listings
- Proper vetting of rhino horn antiques is hindered by: the cost and complexity of having them radiocarbon-14 dated or DNA tested; the rapid turnover of lots for auctions; and the lack of expertise in rhino horn antiques in all but a few of the auction houses involved
- Of the 242 lots sold, for which the sale price is known, 84 items were sold for £200, which is potentially substantially less than the 'grind-down' value of rhino horn
- Professional associations such as the Society of Fine Art Auctioneers and Valuers and the National Association of Valuers and Auctioneers work hard to promote and improve best practice, however, most auction houses (34 of the 51 surveyed) appear not to be members. This means if any stakeholder raises issues, engagement / resolution is on a one-to-one basis and reforms cannot be easily made uniform without regulation
- Formal investigation of suspect items is hampered by lack of local experience, resources, professional input, technical back-up and time

The resulting report, *Sounding the Horn*, was sent to MPs, auction houses, wildlife police offers and other stakeholders. Following the release, which was reported in national media, Save the Rhino's CEO and Communications Manager were invited to No. 10 Downing Street to meet the Prime Minister's Environment Advisor, Lord Randall, to discuss the issues arising.

We suggested immediate 'best practice' improvements that do not require UK legislation, and proposed longer-term changes in legislative guidance, including the introduction of a 'Lifetime Passport' for rhino horn antiques and consideration of a ban (with exemptions) on the sale of rhino horn items.

In the months following the publication, a number of high-profile international auction houses announced that they would stop selling any rhino horn.

Since the first iteration of *Sounding the Horn*, Sue has continued to collect and analyse auction data for 2018 and 2019, which we intend to publish as updates and year-by-year comparisons.

At the time of writing (November 2019), after we raised the alarm, a police investigation is underway into several suspicious items that had been offered for sale by an auction house in the UK.

# ForRangers Interview with Pete Newland

ForRangers is a dedicated group of individuals raising money for the welfare of the rangers who risk their lives daily to protect Africa's endangered species.

The ForRangers initiative is run by Pete Newland and Sam Taylor, two incredible individuals who not only undertake extraordinary events to raise money for ranger welfare, but also work with rangers on the ground and see the difference that every single one of them makes.

We spoke to Pete to find out why he and Sam started ForRangers and their goals for the future.

#### What made you want to start ForRangers?

I began training ranger teams across Africa in 2011, and soon realised the need for good quality equipment and how each ranger only had the essentials to live on while out on duty.

Sam and I wanted to do more so that we could raise funds for the basics: socks, sleeping bags, medical kits. We began to seek out running endurance adventures that would not only raise awareness and money for rangers, but also test our own limits. We initially started with the name Running ForRangers.

# What was the first endurance challenge you completed to raise money ForRangers?

In 2015, Sam and I recruited three others to run the Marathon Des Sables; a 250 km foot race across the Sahara. We raised around \$120,000 and caught the endurance racing bug.

After that we had to change the name to ForRangers as people began to do lots of different expeditions, raising funds not only by running, but also by horse riding (Mongol Derby), canoeing (Yukon Quest), and completing various triathlons.

The ForRangers Ultra is a **230km foot** race in Kenya, organised in partnership by ForRangers, Beyond the Ultimate and Save the Rhino International.

The first ultra was held in 2018 and raised £110,000, helping to purchase more than 60 new uniforms, build two gyms, purchase 40 sleeping bags, train four new rangers, install infra-red CCTV and more.

#### What challenges have you completed so far?

**2015**: Marathon Des Sables (Morocco), Lewa Marathon (Kenya)

**2016**: Jungle Ultra (Peru), Lewa Marathon (Kenya), Fire and Ice Ultra (Iceland), New York Marathon (USA), Brecon Beacons Ultra (Wales)

2017: Lewa Marathon (Kenya), Desert Ultra (Namibia)

**2018**: Mt Aconcagua (Argentina), 6633 arctic ultra (Canada), Lewa Marathon (Kenya), ForRangers Ultra (Kenya), Mt Blanc (Switzerland), Mt Manaslu (Nepal)

**2019**: Arctic to Arctic (1,996 km cycle self-supported, Canada), I almost finished Mt Everest in April but got pneumonia and a fractured rib so had to abort the attempt, Sam summited and put the ForRangers flag on top of the world.

# What have you been able to achieve with the funds raised?

I don't have the full numbers, but since we started we have been able to not only buy specific equipment like thermal optics, antivenom and uniforms or boots, but also build better houses, boost water supplies, provide more food and create gyms. It's the things we often take for granted in the UK and other parts of the world, yet they all make a huge difference to our teams here.

One of my favourite memories is taking eight of our rangers to London for our ForRangers Dinner in 2017. It was their first time out of Africa.

#### Why is ForRangers so important to you?

I spend all my time with rangers, training the teams. After 24 years in the military, I know that good equipment, a comfy bed and some warmth is so important. It's great to be seeing some of the results of our work eight years down the line.

#### What's next on the horizon?

At the moment we benefit ranger units in many countries across Africa, but we would like to expand our reach to other places including Malaysia and Nepal.

We would also like to increase the educational side of our work, training rangers in financial awareness so that we help everyone in a ranger's family.

I'll be retiring from my day-to-day work in 2020 and want to take on more ForRangers expeditions to raise more funds and awareness. There are a few challenges I've got in mind, including the ITI350 in Alaska (350 miles), the Tanzania mountain bike race, the Arch2Arch race in the UK. There are a few more as well, including attempting to summit Everest again, possibly the north side this time!

Each race we do is entirely self-funded, which means that every penny raised goes towards the rangers. They are the reason that we do these events and our inspiration to continue.



# **Strategy 5** Engaging support and inspiring action

Raising awareness of the challenges facing rhinos, engaging supporters and inspiring positive, urgent action.

Connecting people to rhino conservation is essential to achieving our mission; we cannot save rhinos on our own. To combat the threats that rhinos face today, we are part of an incredible network of individuals, all working towards the goal of rhinos thriving in the wild. Together, we can all make a difference and see that vision become a reality. Throughout the past year, we've been improving our ability to share that message.

# More than **112,000 people read our Thorny Issues** discussions.

# We published over **50 news stories online** to inform, engage and inspire.

In May 2018, we launched a new website to give our supporters more of the information they are looking for, in a friendly, accessible way, making it easy for anyone to find out news, share their thoughts and get involved by volunteering, fundraising or joining as a member.

We've also been analysing our online impact more than ever before, so that we create platforms and communities that provide value for everyone involved.





In 2018, we also delivered our first ever unrestricted appeal, with income going towards general rhino conservation rather than one specific programme, allowing us to direct funding to the points of greatest need. Our On the Edge campaign used a range of images and videos to illustrate stories from across the rhino world, communicating about all five rhino species and the people that protect them.

# Our members are a global community, with **individuals joining us from 24 different countries.**

In the past year, we've been so inspired by the dedicated individuals who continue to fundraise, share stories and support rhino conservation. To make sure that they are aware of what they are helping to achieve, we've been improving the way we communicate impact with every

donor, from thank you letters, emails and blogs, to infographics, printed materials and this report.

Whether someone shares a post online, runs a marathon, or donates, we're making sure that every supporter understands what they are helping to achieve: a positive future for rhinos.

#### Case study

# Thorny issue: Legal trade

Conservation of any species or habitat has its challenges. And, like so many scenarios in life, there is rarely one magic answer that provides a perfect solution.

Rhino conservation has its own 'thorny issues', one of the most hotly debated being a legal trade in rhino horn. There are numerous arguments on both sides of this debate, further complicated by different international and domestic laws (the international trade has been illegal since 1977, but a number of countries – including South Africa – have a legal domestic trade).

At the end of 2018, Eswatini (formerly Swaziland) proposed to CITES (the Convention for International Trade in Endangered Species) that the ban on international trade in rhino horn should be lifted at the next Conference of the Parties (held in August 2019).

The country had a similar proposal at the last CITES conference in 2016. In both cases, the proposals were voted down by a large majority: 100-26 votes in 2016, and 102-25 votes in 2019.

While the votes were clear, it is important to understand why this trade is continuously debated and how it impacts upon rhino range states. Eswatini is currently home to 66 Southern white rhinos and holds a large rhino horn stockpile, weighing approximately 330 kg. The 2018 proposal to CITES stated that Eswatini needed to increase revenue for its rhino-inhabited national parks, and therefore that the sale of its stockpile and up to 20 kg of newly harvested horn each year would improve protection of the rhinos and the parks more widely. The horns would be sold to retailers in the Far East, where demand for rhino horn is highest (mostly in China and Vietnam).

Protecting rhinos is expensive. Recent estimates suggest that in South Africa, the total cost of protecting white rhinos on private land has increased by 348% since 2014<sup>1</sup>.

The biggest expense by far is security; well-trained and equipped anti-poaching teams are needed alongside high tech systems to monitor any unusual activity. Unfortunately, there is not currently enough funding to provide all rhino-inhabited parks with every resource and piece of equipment that they need to reduce poaching to zero.

But, is legalising the international trade in rhino horn the best way to increase funding for anti-poaching measures? A legal trade must also benefit rhino conservation as a whole.

At the moment, there are myriad unanswered questions surrounding a potential trade:

- Would the demand in East Asia be satisfied, or would it skyrocket and fuel poaching in the least protected areas?
- Would enforcement agencies be able to differentiate between legal and illegal horn, and stop poached horn leaking into a legal market?
- Would the trade be regulated independently, and if so, how, and by whom?

Furthermore, there must be consideration of the impacts on local communities, on rhino population management, and on the ongoing demand reduction campaigns in Asia.

At the moment, we don't believe there is enough information or infrastructure in place for a legal international trade to benefit rhinos. Whichever side of the legal trade page someone is on, the outcome should be the same: a future where rhinos thrive.

<sup>1</sup> cites.org/sites/default/files/eng/cop/18/doc/E-CoP18-083-01.pdf

# Fundraiser Spotlight Paul Cuddeford



Paul has been running marathons and half marathons for Save the Rhino for 10 years, having now completed 18 marathons and over 700 miles (and counting) in the costume.

Paul also took part in the 2012 Olympic Challenge; taking on as many Olympic sports as possible while dressed as a rhino, including rowing (below, in the blue t-shirt) badminton, hockey, fencing, handball, tennis, athletics and archery! We spoke to Paul to find out why rhinos are so special for him.

# When did you first get involved with Save the Rhino?

I started running and fundraising for Save the Rhino in 2009 when I planned to complete my marathon challenge by running my 10th and final marathon in the iconic rhino costume at the world's greatest marathon: London. Needless to say, retirement didn't quite end at the finish line.

My brother congratulated me on finishing the race and told me that it was an impressive feat but I'd never be able to run the Beachy Head Marathon in the costume. In October of that year, I lined up at the start and am proud to say was the first person ever to complete this tough race in a rhino costume. As for the time, that will remain a secret!

#### What is it like running in the rhino costume?

Running as a rhino is an incredible experience. While it may be physically demanding, and rather hot inside the costume, the support received from fellow runners and the crowds is humbling and inspiring. I would recommend running as a rhino to anyone.

#### What made you want to help save rhinos?

I've loved rhinos ever since I was a child, having visited Windsor Safari Park (now closed) and been up close with a rhino. As I got older and became more aware of the decline of so many wonderful animals, I was drawn to animal conservation charities and Save the Rhino International was the charity I felt compelled to support. Supporting such a wonderful charity, staffed by so many lovely and inspirational people, is a great honour and I know that doing what I do helps, even if it's in a tiny way, to protect rhinos.

# What do you think about the work of Save the Rhino?

Incredible – Save the Rhino is a charity that punches well above its weight, keeping rhinos in the national conscience through fundraising, raising smiles wherever a rhino runner appears and doing amazing work on the ground by supporting rangers, local communities and so much more. I am inspired to continue running for the charity and will keep going until rhinos are safe in the wild.



# Strategy 6 Improving efficiency

In addition to our ongoing efforts to maximise rhino conservation impact, we continually review and improve our internal systems to ensure we are making the most efficient use of our resources, thus keeping costs to a minimum.

In 2018 we moved to new premises. The new office is a much nicer working space – with an open-plan main area, two separate small offices and a generous meeting room, perfect for team meetings and meetings with partners and trustees. An additional benefit is that our famous rhino costumes can now be stored on site instead of being kept in storage, making them much more accessible.

Our famous rhino costumes can **now be stored on site** instead of being kept in storage.

There have also been improvements in our technological systems. We have moved all our data onto a cloud-based system, in turn improving our security and accessibility for members of the team working remotely. Furthermore, we have a new photo library, enabling quick searches through thousands of images that we have gathered from fundraising events and our programmes throughout our 25 years.

This year also marked the end of our three-year strategy, so we are in the exciting position of being able to develop a new strategy for the coming years, reviewing our all-round achievements since 2016 and creating our goals to 2022, while we continue to work towards our organisational vision.



# Fundraising and financials

Our annual accounts are independently audited by Accountancy Management Services Limited. You can view these full accounts online, via the <u>Charity Commission's website</u>.

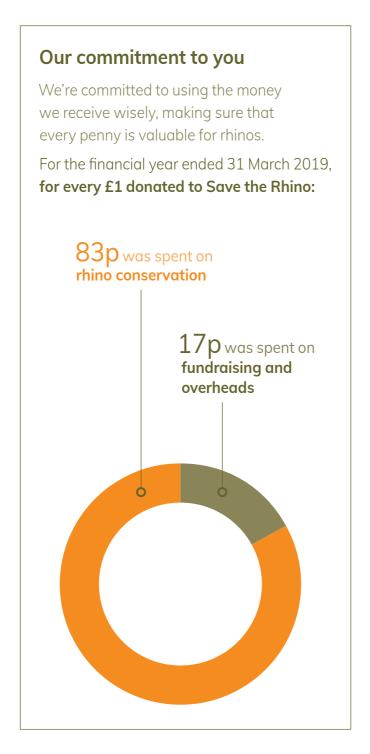
#### **Statement of financial activities**

For the financial year ended 31 March 2019

Total of funds carried forward

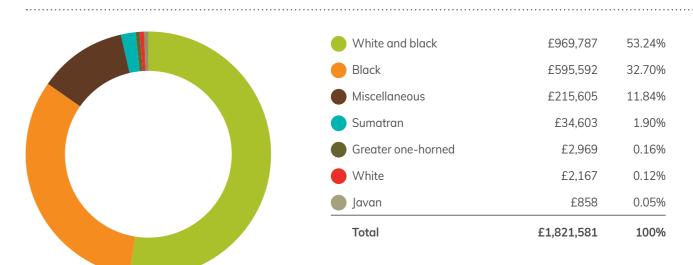
Incoming resources	
Donations and legacies	£1,040,139
Charitable activities	£1,654,192
Other trading activities	£16,328
Investments	£275
Total incoming resources	£2,710,934
December would	
Resources expended Raising funds	£404,884
Charitable activities	£1,986,118
Other	£3,464
Total expenditure	£2,394,467
Net income for the year	£316,467
Transfers between funds	0
Net movement in funds for the year	£316,467
Reconcilliation of funds	£776,900

£1,093,367



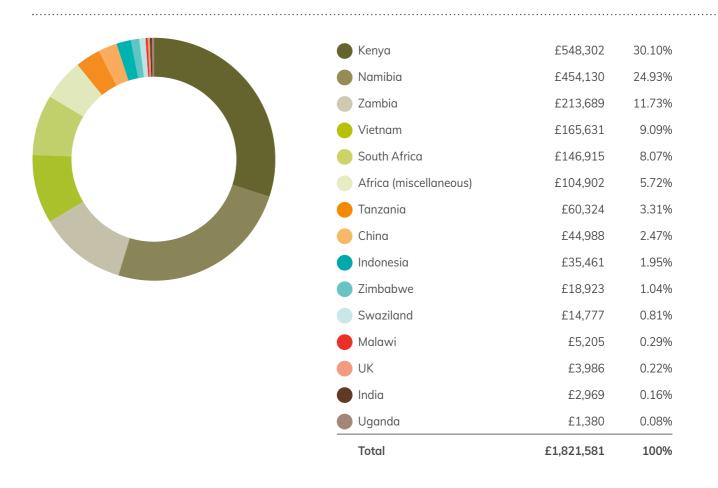
## By rhino species

Total grants awarded 2019



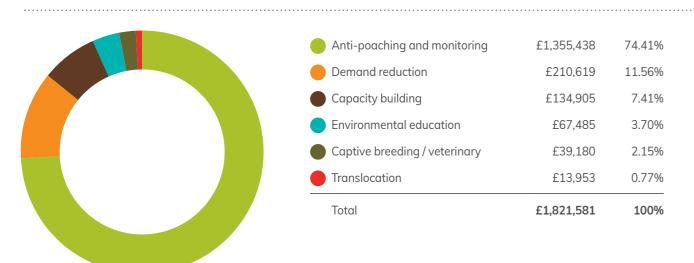
#### By country

Total grants awarded 2019



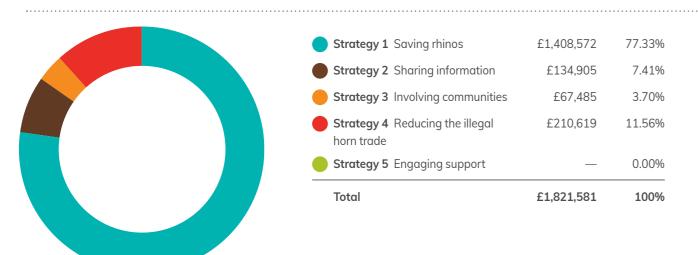
## By category

Total grants awarded 2019



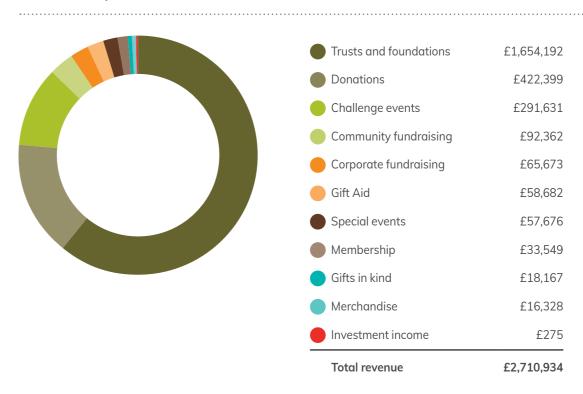
## By strategy

Total grants awarded 2019



## Income by revenue stream

For the financial year ended 31 March 2019



# Looking ahead

2019 will see us developing a new strategy for the coming three years, and while our mission remains the same, saving rhinos, one of the main tools of our trade is fundraising, so this will inevitably occupy much of our thinking.

One part of our new fundraising strategy will be responding to changes in the world of charity giving, such as the development of deeper corporate / charity partnerships and the rise of payroll giving. Another major element will be growing our ability to engage greater numbers of supporters, donors and members in meaningful ways, which leads us swiftly into the world of supporter management systems and social media platforms.

Increasing our core funds allows us to use our technical expertise and longstanding relationships with our conservation partners to identify the points of greatest need and direct funding, sometimes at short notice, to where it can achieve the greatest conservation impact.

One exciting example of our use of unrestricted funds has been our investment as a strategic partner in the Sumatran Rhino Rescue programme, aiming to bring together some of the few remaining Sumatran rhinos into safe spaces where they can be protected, and meet other rhinos for potentially romantic encounters.

In Africa, our CEO Cathy's membership of the IUCN's African Rhino Specialist Group means we are at the heart of discussions about rhino population management. This helps us support efforts to re-establish secure and viable rhino populations in old habitats, where historical poaching decimated previous populations, and facilitate planning on joining up and expanding existing rhino habitats.



Of course, those at the frontline of rhino conservation continue to need our support. Many of our projects focus on improving ranger equipment for monitoring and anti-poaching patrols, whilst providing everyday comforts to improve morale and motivation of teams that work in difficult and demanding environments.

And far away from the rhino habitats, in places where there are still markets for illegal rhino horn, we will be continuing our partnership with TRAFFIC and looking for new opportunities to reduce demand and to interrupt smuggling routes and arrest those making huge profits from this horrific trade.

# A huge thank you!

We couldn't achieve any of this work without the fantastic support of those around us. Thank you so much to every single individual and organisation that contributed to saving rhinos in 2018 – 2019!

#### £1,000+

Alan Wicks, Ales Weiner, Alice Holmes, Alison Kennedy-Benson, Alkhas Khamet, Allie Hunt, Amelia Fisher, Andrew Buxton, Antoinette Sandbach, Ben Crampton, Ben Dando, Berry White, Billy Smith, Bioparc Valencia, Black Rhino Wheels, Brian Newton, Bryan and Hannah Hemmings, Cathy Dean, Charlie Wheeler, Christopher Ephgrave, Christopher Green, Claire Coleman, Claire Lewis, Colchester Zoo Action for the Wild, Craig Pullen, Craig Reid, Daniel Torras, David and Scarlet Worsfold, David Dingle, Debbie Carne, Diane McNabb, Dominic Coomber, Drew Morris, Dublin Zoo, Dundrum Town Centre, Ecko China, Eliza Talbot-Williams, Elizabeth and Reinaldo Do Rego, Elizabeth Tennier, Elizabeth Winton, Elsabe van der Westhuizen, Emma Wain, Emma Zaraisky, Erlebnis Zoo Hannover, Ernest Kleinwort Charitable Trust, Fondation Le Pal Nature, Fred Clark, Fundacion Parques Reunidos, Gavin Chamberlain, Generation Foundation, George Stephenson, Georgina Langton, Greg Stevens, Harry Vowles, Hornï underwear, ICON Germany, INDASA USA, International Rhino Foundation, Isabelle Berner, Jackie Byrne,



James Chew, James Last, Johnathan Goldser, Jonathan Haycock, Jonathan Orbell, Jono Douthwaite, Karl Midlane, Katie Stirling, Keith Richardson, Louise Jackson, Lyndon Edney, Mahlatini Luxury Travel, Marex Spectron, Maria Pereira, Mark Valleley, Martin Blyth, Martyn Holman, Matthew and Jessica Upchurch, Matthew Lloyd, May Basse, Michael Bartels, Michael Sullivan and Associates LLP, Michelle Hincks, Microgaming, Mike James, Mike McQuaid, Namibia Breweries Limited, Natalie Mekloufi, National Office Furniture, New World Foods, Nick Shelley, Nick Watson, Parc Animalier de Branfere, Parc de Lunaret – Zoo de Montpellier, Parc Zoologique de la Barben, Paul Bowker, Paul Cuddeford, Pruvit HQ, Quattro Pensions, Rachael Kerr, Rhino Aluminium, rhino's energy AG, Richard French, Richard Muller, Rob Evans, Rob Surminski, Roger Dutton, Rohan Muir, Ross Jones, Rotterdam Zoo, Salzburg Zoo, Sam Houston, Sam Taylor, Sarah Lee, Save the Elephants, Simon Blair, Simon Gibson Charitable Trust, Simon O'Malley, Simon Small, Sinead Stewart, Stichting Wildlife / Safaripark Beekse Bergen and Dierenrijk, Tallinn Zoo, Tamsin Valjalo, Tarquin Stephenson, The Bernar and Alva Gimbel Foundation, The Betty Lawes Foundation, The Mackintosh Foundation, The Renaissance Charitable Foundation Inc., Thomas James, Tierpark Berlin, Tim Holmes, Tom Underwood, Trevor Cudmore, Ursula Fricke, Victor Stationery, Victoria Rees, Victoria Sujata Charitable Fund, Walt Brown, Wayne Poole, Westlea Landscaping, Wilhelma Zoologisch-Botanischer Garten Stuttgart, Will Pilkinton, William Walsh, Wills Hughes-Wilson, Woburn Safari Park, Yin Hing Chan, Zoo de la Boissiere du Dore, Zoologicka Garden and Chateau Zlin-Lesna, Zoologischer Garten Berlin.

#### £10,000+

Alex Hearn, Beyond the Ultimate, Bytes Software Services, Callum Duncan, Christopher Sims, Disney Conservation Fund, Ed Sayer, Kenneth Donaldson, Lewa Wildlife Conservancy, March to the Top, Paolo Parazzi, Save the Rhino International Inc, Space for Giants, Stuart and Joanna Brown Charitable Fund, The Anna Merz Rhino Trust, The Feldman Family, The Tristan Voorspuy Conservation Trust, Working Dogs for Conservation, WWF South Africa and WWF International, Yorkshire Wildlife Park Foundation.

#### £100,000+

The Betty Liebert Trust, The Wildcat Foundation, US Fish and Wildlife Service Rhino and Tiger Conservation Fund, Valerie G. Merrin 2006 Trust

40 4:

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#### Save the Rhino International

Connecting conservation and communities

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