



ANNUAL REPORT OF ACTIVITIES
2020

Wildlife Conservation Society (WCS)

Rua Orlando Mendes, n.º 163, Bairro da Sommerschield, Maputo City

FOR:
MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS AND COOPERATION
OF THE REPUBLIC OF MOZAMBIQUE

January 2021

Contents

1	PROJECT IN MOZAMBIQUE.....	1
1.1	Table of Projects by province/city.....	1
1.2	PROJECT IMPLEMENTATION LOCATION	1
2	PROJECT DESCRIPTION.....	1
2.1	General Description.....	1
2.2	Description of the Programs developed in 2020.....	3
3	TOTAL PROGRAM VALUE IN 2020.....	12
4	FUNDING SOURCES.....	12
5	NATIONAL COUNTERPARTIES.....	13
6	FINANCIAL EXECUTION BY GEOGRAPHICAL AREA.....	16
6.1	Table of developed activities and financial execution, per project.....	16
6.2	Import value of goods destined for the Project in 2020.....	17
7	SUMMARY OF ACTIVITIES AND RESULTS ACHIEVED	18
7.1	Holistic table of activities and results achieved in 2020.	18
7.2	Overall assessment of the impact of the program developed in 2020	21
7.3	Jobs created in 2020	22
8	CONCLUSIONS.....	23

I PROJECT IN MOZAMBIQUE

I.1 Table of Projects by province/city

Item	Project Name	Province
01	Support to the Niassa Special Reserve ¹	Niassa
02	Support to the management of National Conservation Areas	Maputo City
03	Wildlife Crime Combating Unit	Maputo City
04	COMBO Project - Conservation, Impact Mitigation and Biodiversity Offsets in Africa	Maputo City
05	Marine Program	Maputo City

I.2 PROJECT IMPLEMENTATION LOCATION

- Maputo City*
- Niassa: Niassa Special Reserve

* The COMBO project, the Marine Program, as well as the establishment of the Wildlife Crime Combating Unit are mainly focused in the Maputo city.

2 PROJECT DESCRIPTION

2.1 General Description

The Wildlife Conservation Society's (WCS) projects are carried out in close collaboration with the Government of Mozambique, and they involve wildlife conservation by combating the threats posed by overexploitation of natural resources, advocacy at the national policy level, support in combating poaching, and support in the management of protected areas.

The main objectives have been:

¹ Includes the main funding: ECO-SMART: The Alliance for Ecosystem Conservation Systems.

- a) Increase protection of the Niassa Special Reserve (NER or Reserve), a vast landscape in the north of the country and the largest conservation area in Mozambique, and improve the state of conservation of its elephants through co-management of the Reserve;
- b) Strengthen the management of national protected areas and biodiversity in general by helping to improve policies to enhance the development of an enabling environment for effective and efficient conservation;
- c) Strengthen ANAC's enforcement response, through investment in specialized personnel, in order to improve the ability to dismantle criminal trafficking networks in high-risk areas, such as international airports and ports and border areas; and
- d) Improve the adoption of the mitigation hierarchy in Mozambique.

WCS is managing NER in partnership with the National Administration of Conservation Areas (ANAC) through a NER Co-Management Agreement.

In order to manage the wide, remote and inaccessible landscape in NER, WCS launched the aviation program in Niassa.

WCS is working with the National Administration of Conservation Areas (ANAC), the environmental police, and the office of the Attorney General to combat the illegal trafficking of wildlife, rhino horn, and ivory in Mozambique.

WCS also has a Memorandum of Understanding signed with the Ministry of Land, Environment and Rural Development (MITADER), in which the focal point is the National Directorate of Environment (DINAB) for the implementation of the COMBO project, which aims to support the Government of Mozambique in mitigating the impacts of development on biodiversity.

Through opportunities created by the COMBO Project it was possible to start a marine program in Mozambique in coordination with the Ministry of the Sea, Inland Waters and Fisheries (IIP), with activities developed with the National Institute for Fisheries Research (IIP) and the National Fisheries Administration (ADNAP).

2.2 Description of the Programs developed in 2020

2020, because it was an atypical year due to the restrictions imposed by the Government of Mozambique by virtue of the occurrence of the Covid-19 Pandemic, WCS adopted several prevention measures among some:

- a) quarantine for part of the staff and rotating work, implying to that end, working from home;
- b) ordering many masks for all personnel in field activities;
- c) reduction in the number of workers occupying the vehicles;
- d) signing the sign-in-book in the open air with due observance of social distancing;
- e) purchasing large quantities of alcohol gel for the staff;
- f) Indication of a dedicated team to manage the measures adopted;
- g) Disinfection of the spaces; and
- h) Awareness campaigns on the ways of contamination of COVID-19 and its prevention.

The activities in the community sector which, by the nature of the activity, involved large gatherings of people were cancelled and, in their place, door-to-door public health and sanitation awareness campaigns aimed at Covid-19 prevention were carried out. These campaigns covered in the first phase 1214 families in 19 communities in Mecula district, more than 3000 masks were distributed, 1 adapted drum with a tap for hand washing was fixed in each of the communities, and also posters illustrating Covid-19 and uncontrolled burning prevention measures were distributed.

In 2020, despite the schools being closed, we contacted their representatives and worked with students belonging to school environmental clubs. We facilitated the opening of 4 environmental clubs, 2 in Mecula district and 2 more in Mavago district. Thus, with the previous 4 environmental clubs, we ended the year with 8 school environmental clubs and 82 students who dedicated themselves to the dissemination of information about sanitation of the environment, nature conservation, fighting uncontrolled burning, building poultry houses in the communities, and other activities useful for the socio-environmental development of the communities. The Administration of the Niassa Special Reserve (NER), through the Community Department,

delivered 100 masks, liquid soap, and water buckets with lids to the children of Lishenguwe Primary School, in Mecula District (inside the Reserve), in Niassa Province.

The project to transform honey collectors into beekeepers was expanded with the continued distribution of 38 hives, 20 in the community of Nampequesso, 8 in Ntimbo, 7 in Mecula and 3 in Guebuza. The distribution of these hives was made together with beekeeper protection equipment. Currently, in Ntimbo II there are 46 hives installed. Added to this, a project of plantation of fruit trees was created for 265 families, these, benefited from 1275 plants of various species.

In the Human-Wildlife Conflict (CHFB) sector at NER, a unit responsible for creating feasible strategies to mitigate CHFB was created. This unit consists of:

- a) a driver;
- b) four inspectors,;
- c) an inspector from SDAE-Mecula; and
- d) a manager.

This unit is supported at the community level by MOMS guardians who communicate via WHATSAPP to the Unit in the event of an incident, be it *farm* invasion, threat or attack of people or destruction of property. In 2020, the CHFB mitigation unit recorded 391 CHFB incidents and managed to respond to 276 of these and 2113 animals were chased away and 13 problem animals were put down. It was also recorded 25 people injured and 5 killed as a result of animal attack.

Still in this scope, the system of temporary electric fences is used to protect areas cultivated in blocks from animal attacks. In this context, in 2020, the following was erected:

- a) two electric fences in the community of Nampequesso benefiting 19 families,;
- b) a fence at Msawise benefiting 8 families; and
- c) Another fence in Lugenda has benefited 41 families.

The General Management Plan continued to be developed, progress was made through meetings with consultants, representatives of ANAC (National Administration of Conservation Areas), it is expected that the first draft will be ready in the first quarter of 2021. The proposal of the

specific internal regulations of NER was revised and submitted to ANAC/MTA for approval in order to allow a correct application.

In June 2020, the Council of Ministers approved the proposed Co-management agreement between ANAC and WCS for the administration of the Reserve. It was also approved in the same period the requalification of the Niassa National Reserve (RNN) to the Niassa Special Reserve (NER). This requalification implies the resizing of the territorial area of the Reserve, creation of Buffer Zones, creation of Community Development Zones.

In the inspection sector it has in its ranks 89 inspectors, of which 75 are fit for inspection. During the year, the following was carried out:

- a) 204 foot patrols, covering 15,425.7 km;
- b) 71 car patrols covering 11,997.97 km; and
- c) With aviation, 122.7 flight hours were done with the Bell 407 helicopter, of which 95.4 were done from January to April 2020 and 27.3 in December.

In addition, 120 ambushes were set. These actions resulted in the removal of 36575 traps of various types, seizure of 40 bicycles, more than 600 hunting and mining implements, 21 hunters' camps, 10 illegal loggers' camps, 21 illegal miners' camps, and 30 fishermen's camps.

Because of the Pandemic, the recruitment and training of 30 inspectors to add to the existing staff has been postponed until the year 2021.

The aviation program to strengthen the enforcement sector through aerial surveillance and deployment of inspectors and rations areas of difficult access or inaccessible during the rainy season, continued to be executed. For this purpose, the aviation program has a Cessna 206 aircraft, and because it does not yet have a helicopter, it rents one during the rainy season. In early 2020 the aircraft underwent a maintenance in Nampula, but because of visa restrictions due to the Covid-19 Pandemic, the contracted pilot could not obtain a visa to enter Mozambique for the rest of the year. As for the helicopter, WCS hires the Bell 407 to support surveillance and logistics in the rainy season when most of the Reserve becomes almost impassable for the year 2020. The helicopter was operating in the months of January to May and also in the month of December.

Illegal mining continues to be a problem of importance, in which NER has been committed to eradicating with the support of local government and patrolling activities by air transport has

brought results with arrests and confiscation of materials related to *garimpo* (mining). Illegal mining has its highest incidence in rainy weather because of the availability of water and impassability of roads making it difficult to inspect these regions.

In 2020, 18 defendants were tried, 5 for poaching and 13 for illegal mining. All defendants were found guilty and convicted. However, 13 of them were given 1-year prison sentences and amnestied in compliance with the Government's measures. These trials were held from February to May. From May until December no trial was held due to a lack of magistrates in Mueda district because of threats of attack from insurgents threatening to invade Mueda district.

Ecological monitoring continued to be done with emphasis on elephant monitoring with collars and fire monitoring. A total of 40 elephants in different large herds were equipped with GPS, which allows monitoring them in almost real time and aerial surveillance of about 20% of the total elephant population in the NER.

The revenue from the 2020 concession fees were shared with the communities (the 20% established by law) through the respective Natural Resource Management Committees (CGRN) and work began on the process of selecting projects to be funded. In December the 20% was distributed to 5 CGRN, 4 from *Mecula* and 1 from *Mavago*. The total amount was 1,506,703.02 Meticais. One of the big problems that is faced with the management of the CGRN is the lack of legalization, this fact, causes several problems in the channelling of the 20% amounts due to lack of bank account. In this context, WCS contracted *Lúrio* University to proceed with the legalization of the CGRN; the process was slow because of Covid-19, and only 1 Committee was legalized. The rest will be legalized in 2021.

With regard to NER's infrastructure, there was significant development of more infrastructure in *Mbatamila* (NER's headquarters) and acquisition of a bus to transport staff, firefighting equipment, various materials for the construction of a water system, electricity, water treatment equipment, electrical appliances, uniforms, beekeeping equipment (protection equipment and jars for preserving honey). WCS invested in the construction of two dormitories and a common toilet. Each dormitory has 5 rooms. This effort aims at improving the housing conditions of the inspectors. Four houses were also built for NER's senior staff, two of which are already furnished and are being inhabited. A water system was installed for the NER offices in *Mbatamila*, all piping is installed, and it is only missing a proper electric pump for the system to go into full operation. In the main camp, Maputo, the installation of the electrical system has started. Other works to

repair access roads and bridges have been carried out with the importance of employing local Labor.

WCS and the European Union signed a funding agreement in November 2020 of €4.4. million with a view to disrupt illicit wildlife supply chains in the Niassa Special Reserve, the largest conservation area in Mozambique. This event took place in the City of Lichinga on November 19th. In the same period it was also approved the funding of 1.9 million dollars by INL - USA to combat wildlife trafficking along the border with the Republic of Tanzania and for the improvement of operational conditions. In 2020, WCS continued to invest in strengthening the institutional capacity of ANAC in leading and proper response both in the protection of endangered species and also in the response to intelligence-led product inspection efforts.

During the year, the Wildlife Crime Combating Unit (CWT) hired 2 members to strengthen the team in the coordination of activities and support ANAC in the supervision of its activities. These are the Coordinator of the Program Against Wildlife Trafficking based in Maputo since January 2020 and a Researcher based in Nampula Province.

In order to make its activities more flexible, a vehicle (4X4) was acquired and allocated at the Nampula Province level, and equipment such as *laptops* and cell phones were allocated to the technical staff.

WCS participated in the drafting of the Fiscal Manual, which is awaiting the final date for its official approval.

Under the partnership between WCS, ANAC and Peace Parks Foundation (PPF), the Unit participated in joint security activities and operations by aligning security methodologies involving Kruger National Park, Limpopo National Park and Libombos Transfrontier Conservation Area, all part of the Great Limpopo Transfrontier Conservation Area. Due to the restrictions imposed due to the negative impact of COVID-19, most of the meetings were conducted using digital platforms.

The Canine Unit, now established at Maputo International Airport, continued to operate in the international and national and cargo terminals, although with less intensity due to COVID 19 restrictions and far fewer international flights in the first semester. Compared to other months, the flow of flights and passengers was very high between November and December, so we had to intensify the number of operations and also the time of baggage and Passenger searches and Cargo Terminals.

In December, we participated in training organized by the World Customs Organization and the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC) on how to target risk profiles of illegal goods.

The KBAs Project and Red List were disclosed to the Main Partners with emphasis on the project objectives, the work strategy, the status and expected results. The same project was published in the *Jornal Notícias*.

This activity will be important to disseminate all the information produced and to certify that the Government of Mozambique endorses the results so that they can be used to support decision making and so that the private sector (bidders and environmental consultants) is aware of the Red Listed species and Key Biodiversity Areas identified for Mozambique.

The editing of the final lists, maps and guidelines for online publication on the IUCN website and the global database of KBAs, making the data available to the Government and other interested parties; in addition to the final reports and other summary documents for dissemination, this phase includes an analysis of the potential of the identified KBAs (or some) being integrated into the National Network of Conservation Areas, with a view to achieving the targets set by Mozambique in its National Strategy and Action Plan for the Conservation of Biological Diversity (2015-2035).

In 2020, WCS continued to invest in strengthening ANAC's institutional capacity in leading and responding appropriately both on the endangered species protection side and also in the response to intelligence-led product inspection efforts.

In order to make its activities more flexible, a vehicle (4X4) was acquired and allocated at the Nampula Province level, and equipment such as *laptops* and cell phones were allocated to the technical staff.

WCS participated in the drafting of the Fiscal Manual, which is awaiting the final date for its official approval.

Under the partnership between WCS, ANAC and Peace Parks Foundation (PPF), the Unit participated in joint security activities and operations by aligning security methodologies involving Kruger National Park, Limpopo National Park and Libombos Transfrontier Conservation Area, all part of the Great Limpopo Transfrontier Conservation Area. Due to the restrictions imposed due to the negative impact of COVID-19, most of the meetings were conducted using digital platforms.

The Canine Unit, now established at Maputo International Airport, continued to operate in the international and national and cargo terminals, although with less intensity due to COVID 19 restrictions and far fewer international flights in the first semester. Compared to other months, the flow of flights and passengers was very high between November and December, so we had to intensify the number of operations and also the time of baggage and Passenger searches and Cargo Terminals.

In December, we participated in training organized by the World Customs Organization and the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC) on how to target risk profiles of illegal goods.

The KBAs Project and Red List were disclosed to the Main Partners with emphasis on the project Under the COMBO Project, WCS supported the legal framework and policies through substantial contributions in the process of aligning the Environmental Regulations for Mining Activities with the Environmental Impact Assessment Regulation and the Biodiversity Offsets Regulation. With support from a team of legal experts, WCS, BIOFUND and DINAB developed the final proposal of the Biodiversity Offset Regulation. This document was discussed in a set of technical meetings, and the fifth version of the proposal was submitted to the MTA Technical Council in December 2020. Its approval by the Council of Ministers, is expected for the first semester of 2021.

The development of the metrics to assess the ecological condition of *Miombo* culminated in the publication of the report "A Contribution to Mozambique's Biodiversity Offset System: Framework for Assessing the Ecological Condition of *Miombo* Forests." Funded by BIOFUND, the development of metrics for assessing the ecological condition of the Mangal, which began in 2019, was completed by the end of 2020. With regard to the marine environment, WCS started the development of the metrics for defining the ecological condition of coral reefs. These tools allow the measurement of gains and losses on said ecosystems and are also a very useful tool for monitoring activities. The COMBO project has continued as much as possible with the metrics component and, as a result of a training session for about 60 trainees from various sectors held in February 2020, specifically aimed at this topic, a roadmap was developed to promote the development of biodiversity metrics in Mozambique.

The updated map of Mozambique's protected areas was completed and provided to ANAC, which in turn made it available to INAMI, which manages the national Mining Cadastre platform,

and to the World Database of Protected Areas, managed by the World Conservation Monitoring Center (WCMC).

In coordination with DINAB and other partners, WCS concluded the project for the "Identification and Mapping of Key Biodiversity Areas (KBAs) in Mozambique and Red List of Threatened Species and Ecosystems". A total of 67 endemic species of amphibians, reptiles, butterflies and freshwater fishes submitted to the IUCN were assessed, of which 28 have already been published in their online Red List. Additionally, 29 KBAs were declared, including 9 coastal and 4 marine. This information supported the National Territorial Development Plan (PNDT) approved in 2020 and the Maritime Spatial Management Plan (POEM) currently being developed by the Ministry of Sea, Inland Waters and Fisheries (MIMAIP). WCS has made efforts to have the PNDT consider the KBAs as areas to be avoided by development projects that may compromise their conservation objectives, as well as potential areas to implement biodiversity offsets. And the same is intended for the POEM, which is underway. Another major milestone of the project was a massive effort to ensure coordination of matters around the KBAs and Red List that resulted in the operationalization of the National KBAs and Red List Coordination Group for Mozambique, which was established in late 2019 and is led by DINAB.

Regarding the Marine Program, due to the COVID-19 situation, the data survey activities on sharks and rays at the landing sites of artisanal fisheries, as well as the planned campaigns using Bait-Based Remote Underwater Video (BRUVs) were temporarily interrupted. However, this time was used for the compilation, data analysis and presentation of the information collected over the last 18 months for data from 10 landing sites, and 3 ecological surveys using BRUVs, prior to the onset of the pandemic. The catch data revealed that artisanal fisheries in Mozambique are having a major impact on shark and ray species, and particularly on endangered species.

The ecological data collected from BRUVs suggest that the sanctuary zones between the areas sampled in Mozambique do not provide sufficient protection for shark and ray species in general, and particularly for endangered species. Thus, sanctuary zones should be expanded to cover a larger area as well as sandy habitat, including expansion offshore to encompass deeper areas and a variety of habitats to ensure they provide adequate protection for sharks and rays.

A workshop was held in December 2020 with IIP technicians to present the results of the shark and ray catch data survey in artisanal fisheries landing sites and ecological data using Remote Underwater Bait Video (BRUVs); planning of activities for 2021; presentation of problems and solutions within the shark and ray catch data collection; training on the updated version of the

ODK Collect application used to collect shark and ray catch data; and training on the collection of shark and ray genetic material.

In addition, substantial contributions were made in the revision of the Maritime Fisheries Regulation (REPMAR), especially in the development of lists of protected species (inclusion of 14 shark and ray species) and minimum catch sizes specifically for sharks and rays.

This support was preceded by the hard work of preparing the report and presentation on "Binding and Voluntary Measures for the Conservation and Management of Sharks and Rays - Mozambique", presented by WCS at a meeting on this topic in Maputo, on July 7, 2020, attended by representatives of the National Institute for Fisheries Research (IIP), National Fisheries Administration (ADNAP), National Administration of Conservation Areas (ANAC) / CITES Unit, National Institute of Fish Inspection (INIP), National Directorate of Operations (DNOP), National Directorate of Maritime and Fisheries Policies (DIPOL).

WCS and IIP have started two new projects associated with the marine environment. One to draft the National Coral Reef Strategy and Action Plan. A process was implemented that included a kick-off meeting to revitalize the coral reef technical group in February 2020, 6 webinars and a final workshop held in October 2020. The final document is currently being drafted by IIP, WCS and a few other partners. As part of this support to IIP, WCS developed a report on the knowledge statuses of coral reefs in Mozambique, taking into account past WCS data. A methodological guide for the drafting of monitoring plans for marine areas subject to conservation management measures was also developed, as well as a tool for global monitoring of the results of these measures, including a standard socio-economic and ecological monitoring plan.

The other project aims to support MIMAIP in achieving the national targets set for the protection of the marine environment. To this end, support was given to IIP in setting up a coordination group to develop a robust, integrated and coherent strategic analysis for the expansion of the national network of Marine Conservation Areas, adjusted to the Policy and Law of the Sea and the National Plan for Maritime Spatial Planning. A proposed training plan was also developed to build capacity in the focal points of the CBD biodiversity conventions, the *High Ambition Coalition* and a set of key partners to deal with the aspects related to these conventions/initiatives, so that Mozambique is able to effectively contribute to the commitment to protect and conserve at least 30% of the ocean by 2030, and to the zero draft of the post-2020 CBD framework. The process of collecting information on key marine and coastal biodiversity was also started, and mapping critical areas for ecosystem services that need urgent

protection and that can contribute to achieving national biodiversity conservation targets and to improving the living conditions of coastal communities. To this end, a process of analysis of the information produced was started in a systematic way, integrating social and economic aspects to propose scenarios for the expansion of the network of Marine Conservation Areas aligned with the goals to which the country has committed itself, being able to inform the Maritime Spatial Management Plan (POEM) and identify gaps and needs, whose attainment should be prioritized in the near future.

Finally, the Ministry of Land and Environment (MTA) requested support from WCS to develop the concept note for a series of virtual engagements and dialogues, culminating in a virtual ministerial summit in the second quarter of 2021, to stimulate support in the SADC region for integrated regional and global action on biodiversity and climate change, as well as to build consensus around advocacy from a SADC perspective leading to CBD CoP15 and UNFCCC CoP26. Mozambique will work to motivate increased awareness of the successes of actions in the region on these issues, and seek consensus among SADC members on areas for increased conservation ambition leading to the CBD and UNFCCC negotiations in 2021.

3 TOTAL PROGRAM VALUE IN 2020

Contribution of the NGO	Initial Forecast	Actual Expenditure
Year 2020	USD 3,949,742,87	USD 4,441,825

4 FUNDING SOURCES

The Project's funding sources in this period were:

- a) USAID;
- b) French Development Agency, French Global Environment Fund, and Mava Foundation;

- c) WILDCAT;
- d) CITES-MIKES;
- e) Save the Elephants (STE) and Wildlife Conservation Network's Elephant Crisis Fund (ECF);
- f) IWT (DFID/Defra in Africa Program);
- g) OAK Foundation;
- h) GIZ;
- i) WCS;
- j) United Nations Development Programme;
- k) Bureau of International Narcotics and Law Enforcement Affairs;
- l) MacArthur Foundation;
- m) Shark Conservatio Fund;
- n) Tiffany Foundation;
- o) Foundation Ensemble;
- p) Resources Legacy Fund; and
- q) Blue Action Fund.

5 NATIONAL COUNTERPARTIES

The main national counterparts of the WCS are the following, among others:

Government Entities

- a) Ministry of Land, Environment and Rural Development (MITADER), which includes:
 - a) National Administration of Conservation Areas (ANAC);
 - b) National Directorate of Environment (DINAB);
 - c) National Directorate of Forests (DINAF);
 - d) Directorate of Planning and Cooperation (DNPC);

- e) National Directorate for Territorial Planning and Resettlement (DINOTER);
 - f) Agency for Environmental Quality Control (AQUA); and
 - g) National Fund for Sustainable Development (FNDS).
- b) Ministry of Sea, Inland Waters and Fisheries
- a) National Institute for Fisheries Research (IIP);
 - b) National Fisheries Administration (ADNAP);
 - c) National Policy Directorate (DIPOL);
 - d) National Directorate of Operations (DNO); and
 - e) ProAzul.
- c) Ministry of Economy and Finance
- a) National Directorate of Planning and Budgeting (DNPO)
- d) Ministry of Home Affairs (MINT)
- a) General Command of the Police of the Republic of Mozambique (PRM) - Weapons and Explosives Department;
 - b) General Command of PRM - Natural Resources and Environment Protection Police; and
 - c) PRM Provincial Command of Niassa and Cabo Delgado.
- e) Office of the Attorney General
- a) Environment Office; and
 - b) Offices of Provincial Attorneys.
- f) Ministry of National Defence (MDN) - National Directorate of Defence Policy (DNPD)
- g) Ministry of Industry and Commerce (MIC)
- a) National Directorate of Commerce (DNC)
- h) Ministry of Public Works, Housing and Water Resources (MOPHRH)
- a) National Directorate for Water Resources Management (DNGRH)

- i) Ministry of Mineral Resources and Energy (MIREME)
 - a) National Directorate of Geology and Mines (DNGM);
 - b) National Mining Institute (INAMI);
 - c) National Petroleum Institute (INP);
 - d) National Directorate of Hydrocarbons and Fuels (DNHC); and
 - e) National Hydrocarbon Company (ENH).

- j) Ministry of Transportation and Communications (MTC)
 - a) Mozambique Civil Aviation Institute (IACM);
 - b) Mozambique's National Communication Institute (INCM); and
 - c) National Directorate of Studies and Projects (DNEP).

- k) Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development (MADER)
 - a) National Directorate of Agriculture and Forestry (DINAS); and
 - b) Mozambique Agricultural Research Institute (IIA).

- k) Eduardo Mondlane University (UEM)
- l) Agency for the Promotion of Investment and Exports (APIEX)
- m) Provincial Government of Niassa, Cabo Delgado & Maputo City
- n) District Governments of Mecula, Mavago, Sanga, Muembe, Marrupa and Majune.

NER Tourism Operators

- a) Luwire;
- b) Mariri Investments;
- c) Chuilexi Conservancy;
- d) Kambako Safaris;
- e) Metapiri Safaris;
- f) Johan Calitz Safaris;

- g) Safrique Limitada;
- h) Niassa Hunter Safaris; and
- i) Luambeze Safaris.

Other

- a) BIOFUND;
- b) Centro Terra Viva (CTV);
- c) WWF Mozambique Office;
- d) International Union for Conservation of Nature;
- e) RARE;
- f) Environment Association;
- g) Mozambican Association for Environmental Impact Assessment (AMAIA); and
- h) United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) - BIOFIN Project.

6 FINANCIAL EXECUTION BY GEOGRAPHICAL AREA

6.1 Table of developed activities and financial execution, per project

Year	Province	Amount
2020	Maputo City:	
	USAID -	USD 289,226
	CWT -	USD 457,586
	COMBO, KBA & Marine -	USD 279,574
	Unrestricted Funds - WCS	USD 114,665

	TOTAL	USD 1,141,051
	Niassa:	
	USAID -	USD 1,494,418
	UNDP -	USD 788,292
	CITE MIKES -	USD 27,441
	SEGRE FOUNDATION -	USD 74,210
	UNEP -	USD 96,461
	ECF -	USD 33,648
	TOTAL	USD 2,514,470USD

6.2 Import value of goods destined for the Project in 2020

The total value of imported goods destined for the Project was 115,709USD. It should be noted that WCS seeks to order and purchase goods as locally as possible, such as for example construction inputs and materials from local NER communities.

7 SUMMARY OF ACTIVITIES AND RESULTS ACHIEVED

7.1 Holistic table of activities and results achieved in 2020.

The table below shows the main activities planned for 2020 and the results achieved:

Holistic table of activities and results achieved in 2020 by WCS in Mozambique	
Planned Activities	Results achieved
Supporting the Government of Mozambique in reconciling development projects with biodiversity conservation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Production of an integrated Policy Brief on reconciling biodiversity and development. • Drafting of the final proposal for the Regulation on Biodiversity Offsets submitted to the Technical Council of the MTA. The approval of the Decree by the Council of Ministers is expected for the first quarter of 2021. • Publication of the report for determining the ecological condition of the <i>Miombo</i> forests for Mozambique, completion of the development of the ecological condition of the Mangal forests, and initiation of the development of metrics for coral reefs. • Support for the process of aligning the Environmental Regulations for Mining Activities with the Environmental Impact Assessment Regulations and the new Regulations on Biodiversity Offsets. • Inclusion of Key Biodiversity Areas (KBAs) as areas to be avoided by development projects that may compromise their conservation objectives, as well as potential areas to implement biodiversity offsets in the National Territorial Development Plan (PNDT) approved this year and the Maritime Spatial Management Plan (POEM) underway by the Ministry of the Sea, Inland Waters and Fisheries (MIMAIP).
Marine Program	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Drafting of the report and presentation on "Binding and Voluntary Measures for the Conservation and Management of Sharks and Rays - Mozambique", presented by WCS at a meeting on this topic, in Maputo,

	<p>on July 7, 2020, attended by representatives of the National Institute for Fisheries Research (IIP), National Fisheries Administration (ADNAP), National Administration of Conservation Areas (ANAC) / CITES Unit, National Institute of Fish Inspection (INIP), National Directorate of Operations (DNOP), National Directorate of Maritime and Fisheries Policies (DIPOL).</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Substantial contributions to the revision of the Maritime Fisheries Regulation (REPMAR), especially in the development of the list of protected species and the list of minimum catch sizes specifically for sharks and rays. • Compilation, data analysis, and presentation of results on shark and ray catch at artisanal fisheries landing sites, collected over the past 18 months at 10 sites around the country, prior to the onset of the pandemic. • Compilation, data analysis and presentation of results on ecological surveys from BRUVs in 3 campaigns: Ponta do Ouro Partial Marine Reserve (RMPPPO); Area around Tofo Beach and Pemba (from the mouth of the Lúrio River to Matemo Island in the Quirimbas National Park). • Workshop with IIP to present shark and ray catch data from artisanal fisheries landings; ecological survey data using BRUVs conducted in 3 campaigns; planning for 2021; presentation of problems and solutions regarding shark and ray catch data collection; training in the updated ODK Collect application used to collect shark and ray catch data from artisanal fisheries landings; training in the collection of shark and ray genetic material. • WCS developed a Project to support the development of the National Strategy and Action Plan for Coral Reefs in Mozambique. Under this IIP support, the following was developed: (1) a report on the status of knowledge of coral reefs in Mozambique, taking into account past WCS data; (2) a methodological guide for the development of monitoring plans for marine areas subject to management measures for conservation and
--	---

	<p>(3) a tool for global monitoring of the results of these measures, including a standard socioeconomic and another ecological monitoring plan.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • WCS has developed a project to support MIMAIP in achieving the national targets set for the protection of the marine environment, which includes a proposed training plan to build capacity in the focal points and a set of key partners for biodiversity conventions/initiatives. • WCS has also begun the process of collecting information on key marine and coastal biodiversity, and mapping critical areas for ecosystem services that need urgent protection and that can contribute to achieving national biodiversity conservation targets and improving the living conditions of coastal communities. • The MTA requested support from WCS to develop the concept note for a series of virtual engagements and dialogues, culminating in a virtual ministerial summit in the second quarter of 2021, to stimulate support in the SADC region for integrated regional and global action on biodiversity and climate change.
Support to the Management of National Conservation Areas	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Outset of the drafting of an updated map with all the existing Conservation Areas in Mozambique, which was requested by ANAC and is being executed in coordination with the National Land Directorate (DINAT) • Participation in ANAC's Scientific Advisory Group for the development of its national communication strategy for Conservation Areas • Collaboration and support to the consultants responsible for the study of co-management models for Conservation Areas in Mozambique • Mission support for several technical support teams (US Forest Service, WenaData for WildAid)
Aerial surveillance to allow the Niassa Special Reserve (NER) to continue to reach the historic	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The aerial surveillance program relied on the leased Bell 407 Helicopter that was deployed in the field during the rainy season to assist with aerial patrol, and deployment

milestone of 1 year without record of elephant poaching	<p>of surveillance teams to remote regions, as well as logistical support. The 2020 C200 aircraft did not fly because of a malfunction. It was taken to the city of Nampula for repair and is now ready for activities. The aircraft remains in Nampula because the pilot hired by WCS could not get a visa to enter Mozambique due to Covid-19.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The concessionary operators in NER also have their aviation programs. WCS has therefore supported these efforts by supplying AVGAS fuel for airplanes and JET-A1 for helicopters.
Training of the enforcement force	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The plan was to recruit and train 30 inspectors and incorporate them into the NER ranks. However, this purpose was postponed due to the restrictions imposed by the Government because of the Pandemic. The active inspectors have received continuous training on various topics related to their activities.
Purchase of new work equipment for the surveillance and wildlife teams;	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Diverse equipment was acquired for inspection with emphasis on field material, Smart Cedars and GPS, backpacks and first aid kits.
Placing collars on 40 elephants	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Activity conducted in 2018. Collar renewal scheduled for 2020 was postponed to 2021 due to restrictions imposed by Covid-19. Monitoring of the movements of elephants with active collars occurs at this time
Construction of 2 bedroom blocks and 1 toilet, and 4 houses for managers;	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Completed the construction of 2 dormitory blocks and 1 toilet. Completed and equipped 4 houses for managers.

7.2 Overall assessment of the impact of the program developed in 2020

WCS has made efforts so that the project it has carried out in the Republic of Mozambique has an effective impact on the conservation of parks and animals, specifically in the Niassa Special Reserve. Uncontrolled fires are one of the main ills that plague humans and animals, causing loss of life and property, thus, WCS in 2020 continued with the monitoring and management of fires in order to preserve vegetation, animals and property. The NGO is aware that the biggest enemy

of wildlife conservation is poaching, so it has been carrying out training actions for rangers in order to neutralize poachers. Although Illegal mining is still a challenge, WCS has achieved visible results, as patrols have led to the arrest and confiscation of materials related to poaching, illegal logging, and fishing. Local communities play a major role in wildlife conservation, aware of this, WCS shared in December 2020 with the communities (the 20% established by law) what has boosted their development. In addition, the NGO strives to create community programs with greater community engagement, in this vein, it conducts awareness campaigns and environmental education in schools. The NGO has invested in greater visibility of the Niassa National Reserve, in social networks, through the creation of a channel on *Youtube*, *Facebook* (<https://www.facebook.com/reservanacionalniassa>), which has the effect of increasing the number of visitors and knowledge of the reserve by the general public. In addition, WCS and NER have been in the spotlight in major print media (*Noticias*, *Domingo* newspapers), and also in the television press (TVM) giving visibility of the work it has been developing with its partners in NER. The NGO is frequently invited to participate in conferences, as is the case of a presentation in the Crescendo Azul (MIMAIP) Conference whose theme was "Regional Initiatives for the conservation of marine biodiversity and ecosystem management". Thus, all the activities carried out under the 2019 program continued to have a positive impact for the project of the Society for Fauna Conservation.

In order to fulfil all legal obligations to which it is bound, WCS submitted on 07/072020 a request for extension of WCS's registration to Cabo Delgado, given that part of NER covers this area.

7.3 Jobs created in 2020

In 2020, the NGO made the following hirings:

Job created	Quantity	Nationality
Sustainable Development Manager	01	Mozambican
Human Resources Manager	01	Mozambican
Monitoring and Evaluation Coordinator	01	Mozambican
Human-Wildlife Conflict Mitigation Officer	01	Mozambican
Drivers	02	Mozambican
Field Assistants	02	Mozambican
Director of Operations and Logistics	01	Kenyan
Coral Reef Specialist	01	Mozambican
Researcher for the program against wildlife trafficking	01	Mozambican
Coordinator of the program against wildlife trafficking	01	Mozambican

8 CONCLUSIONS

The year 2020 was plagued by COVID-19 and the impact of the measures to restrict and contain the spread of COVID-19 were duly fulfilled by WCS in the wake of the NER co-management agreement. WCS emphasized its social role by delivering masks, liquid soap, and buckets of water with lids to children at Lishenguwe Primary School in Mecula District (inside the Reserve) in Niassa Province. Also in NER, the 2020 CHFBI mitigation unit recorded 391 CHFBI incidents, but managed to respond to 276 of these and 2113 animals were chased away and 13 problem animals were culled. It was also recorded 25 people injured and 5 killed as a result of animal attack. Revenue from the 2020 concession fees was shared with the communities (the 20% set by law).

As for the Red List and KBAs project, in 2020, despite the restrictions imposed by COVID-19, WCS is getting closer to achieving the goal of improving the national capacity to identify, prevent and mitigate impacts on priority biodiversity in Mozambique. In addition, the project objectives, work strategy, status, and expected results have been disseminated to key partners with emphasis on the project. The same project was published in the Notícias newspaper. Regarding the marine project, started in 2019, WCS began the development of metrics for the definition of the ecological condition of coral reefs. 2020, was also marked by the drafting and presentation of the report on "Binding and Voluntary Measures for the Conservation and Management of Sharks and

Rays - Mozambique", presented by WCS at a meeting on this topic in Maputo on July 7, 2020, attended by representatives of the National Institute for Fisheries Research (IIP), National Fisheries Administration (ADNAP), National Administration of Conservation Areas (ANAC) / CITES Unit, National Institute of Fish Inspection (INIP), National Directorate of Operations (DNOP), National Directorate of Maritime and Fisheries Policies (DIPOL).

In 2020, the Wildlife Crime Unit was strengthened by hiring 2 members to strengthen the team in coordinating activities and supporting ANAC in the enforcement of its activities. WCS is working with the National Administration of Conservation Areas (ANAC), the environmental police, and the Office of the Attorney General to combat the illegal trafficking of wildlife, rhino horn, and ivory in Mozambique.

With regard to initiatives to reconcile economic development and biodiversity conservation, 2020 marked the closing of the first phase of the COMBO Project. In this year, the proposal for the Regulation on Biodiversity Offsets was developed and presented to the Technical Council of the MTA.

Relevant input was also given to the process of aligning the Mining Activities Regulation with the Environmental Impact Assessment Regulation and the proposed Biodiversity Offset Regulation.

Through the COMBO project, WCS was able to include the KBAs in the PNDDT as areas to be avoided by development projects that might compromise their conservation objectives, as well as potential areas to implement biodiversity offsets. And it has been working with the ongoing POEM towards the same goal.

The metrics script for assessing the ecological condition of the *Miombo* forests was published this year, major progress has been made in developing the metrics for *Mangal*, and the process has begun for the coral reefs.

Due to the pandemic, the data collection of shark and ray catches in artisanal fisheries was prohibited, and the ecological data collection campaigns using BRUVs planned for this year were cancelled. However, this period was useful to proceed with data compilation, analysis, and reporting and presentation at a workshop held in partnership with the IIP. This event was attended by IIP technicians, where the planning for 2021 was also carried out; training on the application used to collect data on the capture of sharks and rays in the landing sites of artisanal fisheries; training on the collection of genetic material of sharks and rays.

Financial and technical support was given to the workshop on "Binding and Voluntary Measures for the Conservation and Management of Sharks and Rays - Mozambique", to the MIMAIP and substantial contributions to the revision of the Maritime Fisheries Regulation (REPMAR), especially in the drafting of the list of protected species and the list of minimum catch sizes specifically for sharks and rays.

At IIP request, WCS developed a Project to support the drafting of the National Strategy and Action Plan for Coral Reefs in Mozambique. After the kick-off meeting to revitalize the coral reef technical group, 6 webinars and a final workshop held in October 2020, the final document is being drafted by IIP, WCS and some other partners.

As part of this IIP support, WCS developed a report on the state of knowledge of coral reefs in Mozambique, taking into account past WCS data. A methodological guide for the development of monitoring plans for marine areas subject to conservation management measures was also developed, as well as a tool for global monitoring of the results of these measures, including a standard socio-economic and ecological monitoring plan.

WCS developed a project to support MIMAIP in achieving the national targets set for the protection of the marine environment. To this end, support was provided to IIP in setting up a coordination group to develop a robust, integrated and coherent strategic analysis for the expansion of the national network of Marine Conservation Areas. A proposed training plan was also developed to build capacity in the focal points of the CBD biodiversity conventions, the *High Ambition Coalition* and a number of key partners to deal with aspects related to these conventions/initiatives.

The process of collecting information on key marine and coastal biodiversity, and mapping critical areas for ecosystem services that need urgent protection and can contribute to achieving national biodiversity conservation targets and improving the living conditions of coastal communities has also begun.

The MTA requested WCS's support to develop the concept note for a series of virtual engagements and dialogues, culminating in a virtual ministerial summit in the second quarter of 2021, to stimulate support in the SADC region for integrated regional and global action on biodiversity and climate change, as well as to build consensus around advocacy from a SADC perspective leading to the CBD CoP15 and UNFCCC CoP26. Notwithstanding the difficulties created by the COVID-19 pandemic all WCS projects, mentioned in table 1.1 above, made some significant progress, although there were some constraints on the cancellation of some activities

that were necessary to comply with COVID-19 prevention and containment measures. In 2021 the continuation of activities remains a challenge, but safety measures will have to be given priority for the pursuit of WCS objectives because life is our greatest resource.