

# The Legal Frameworks for transboundary species conservation

**‘Large carnivores programme in the SADC region’**

Dr Rosemary Groom

Southern African Coordinator

Range Wide Conservation Program for Cheetah and African Wild Dogs



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FOR WILDLIFE



# The Range Wide Conservation Program for Cheetah and African Wild Dogs (RWCP)

Dr Rosemary Groom  
Southern Africa Coordinator



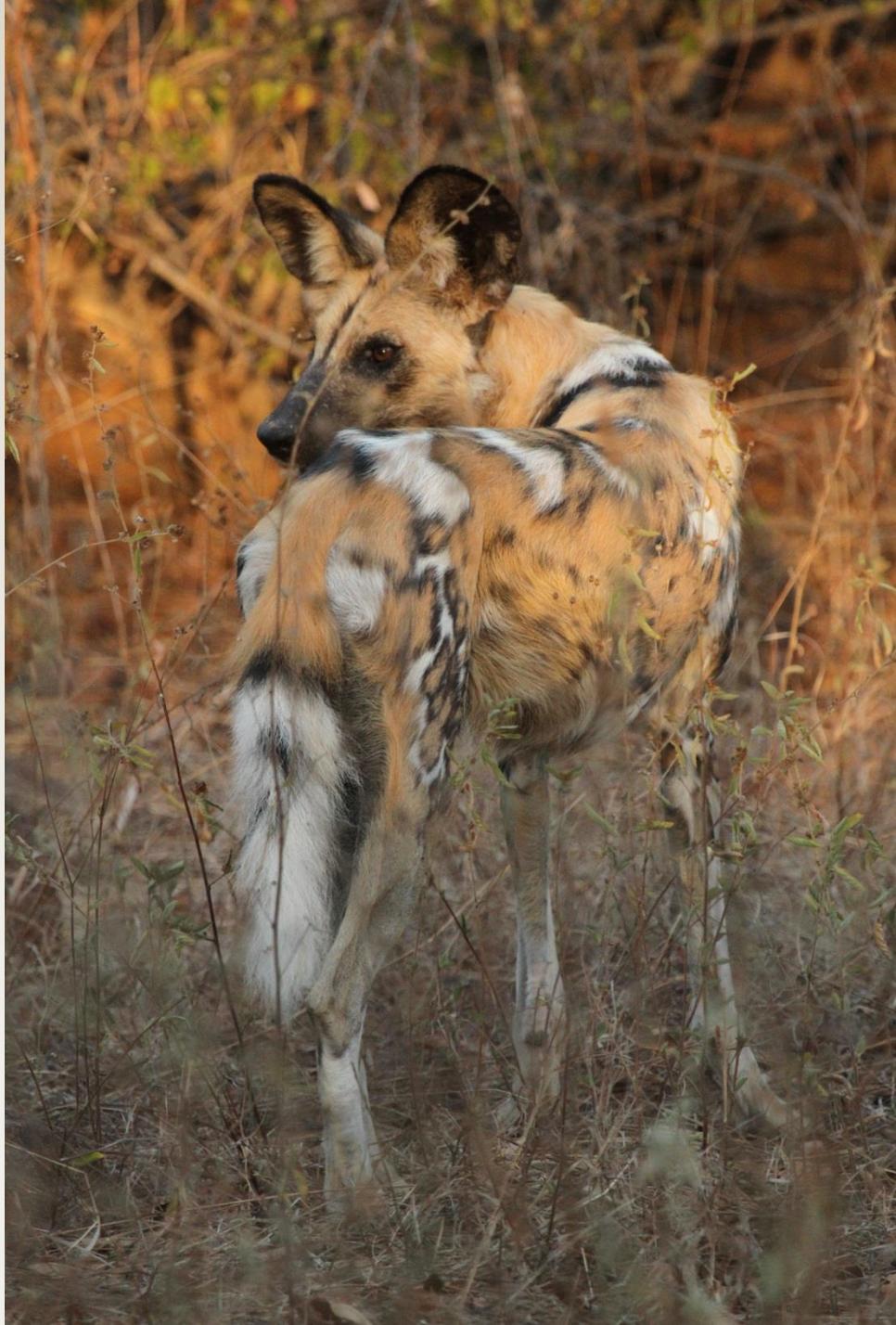
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SPECIES SURVIVAL COMMISSION  
  
CAT SPECIALIST GROUP





Only 1-2 dogs per 100km<sup>2</sup>



Only 1-2 cheetah per  
100km<sup>2</sup>





Harare: 961 km<sup>2</sup>

1,600,000 People

**<19** Cheetah or Wild Dogs

Johannesburg: 1,645 km<sup>2</sup>

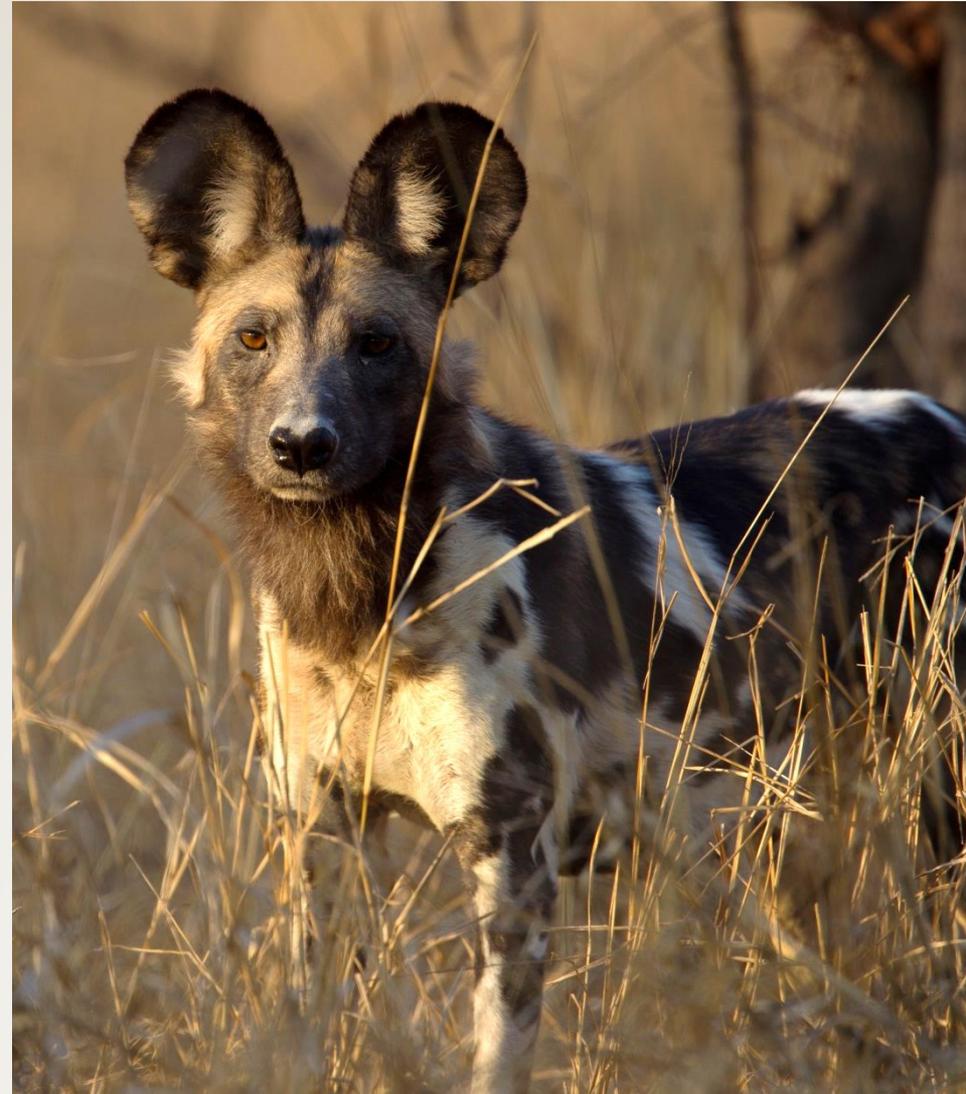
4,000,000 People

**<33** Cheetah or Wild Dogs



**Over 5.5 million people – less than 55 cheetah or  
c. 5 packs of African wild dogs**

# Cheetah and African wild dogs require management on a significant geographical scale

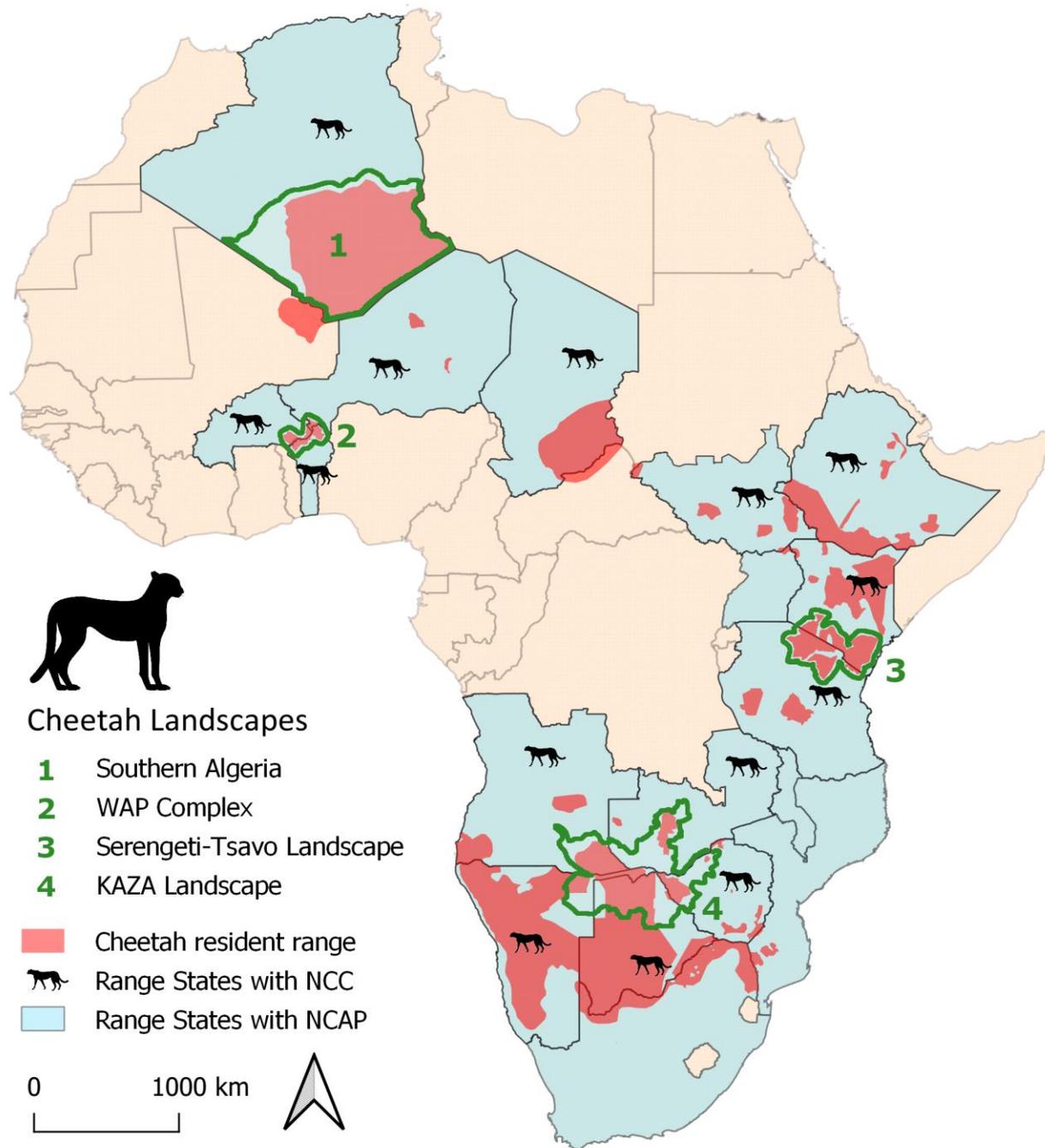


# RWCP

19 National Conservation  
Action Plans

14 National Carnivore  
Coordinators

4 landscapes (soon to be 7)

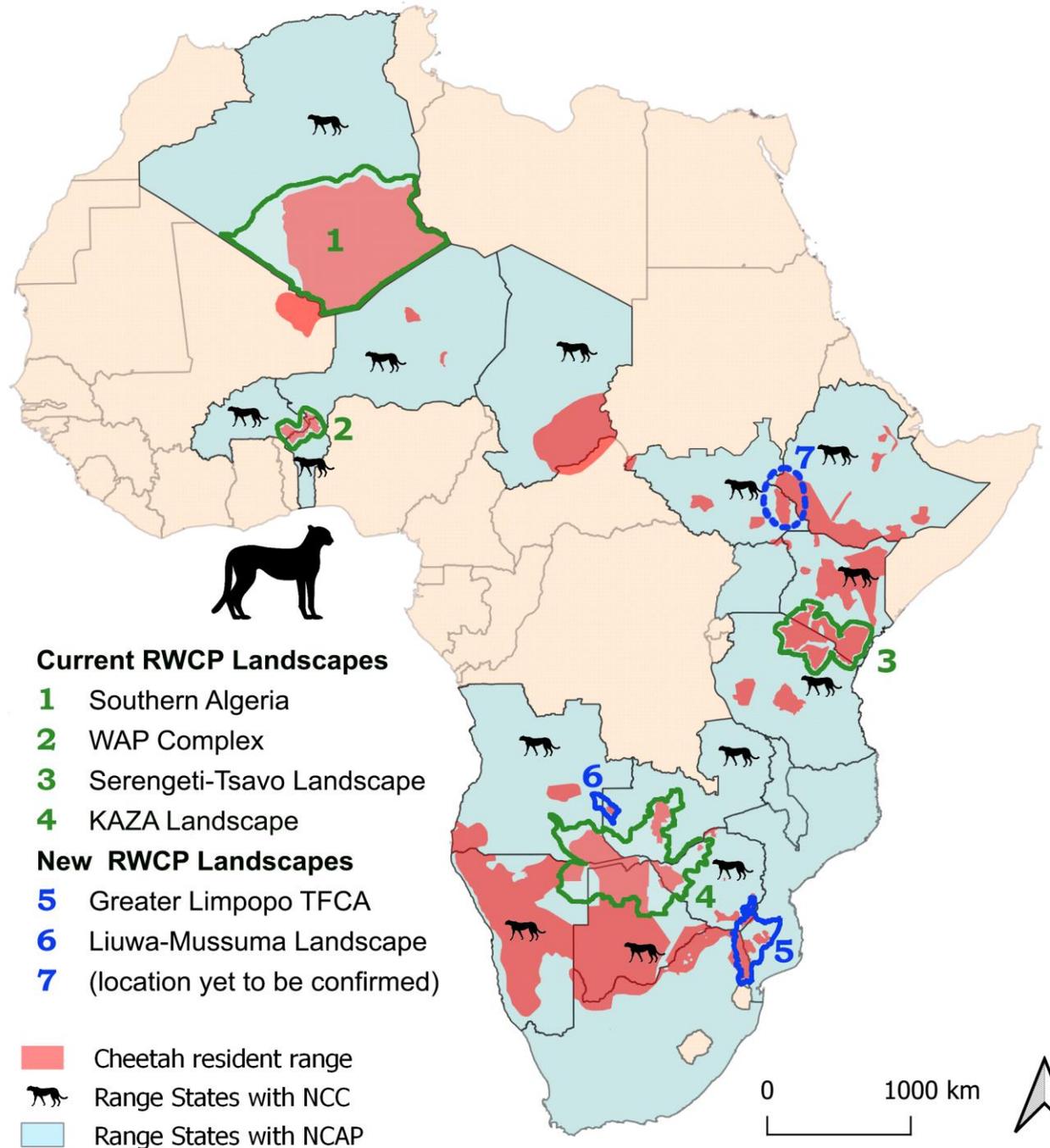


# RWCP

19 National Conservation  
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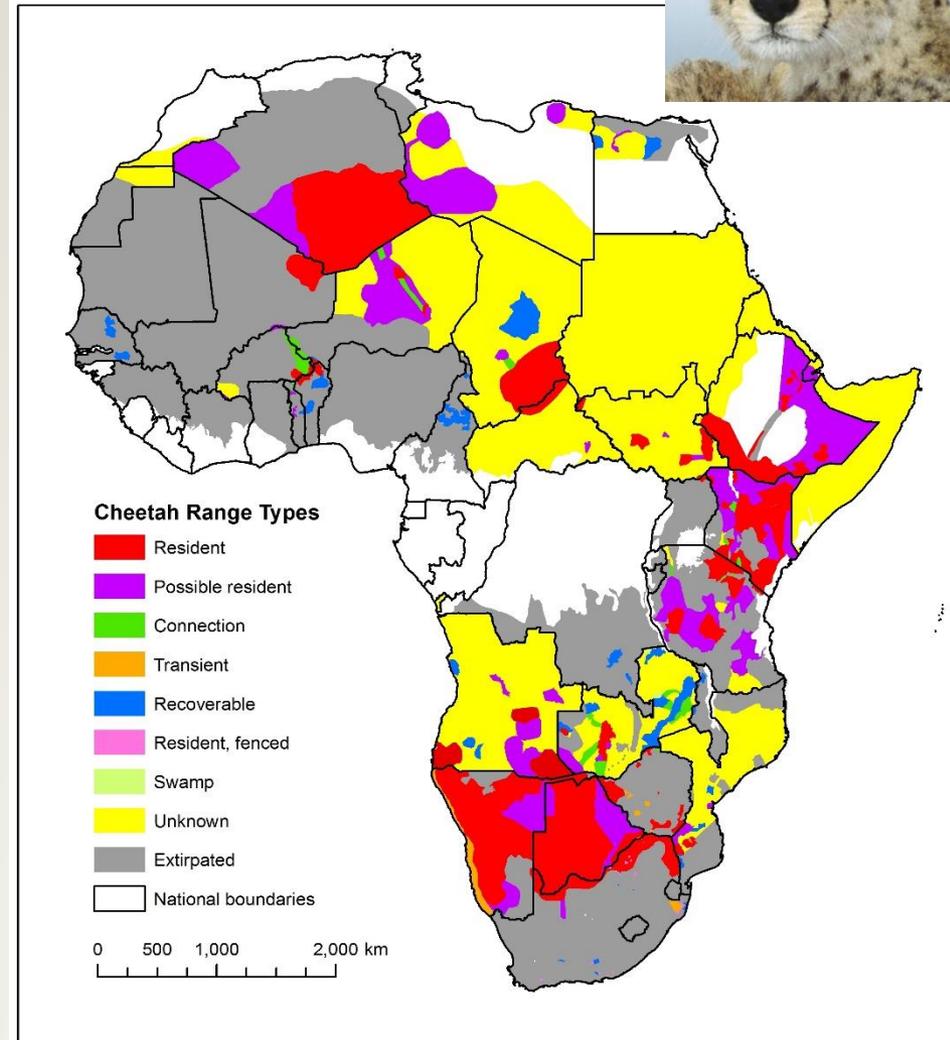
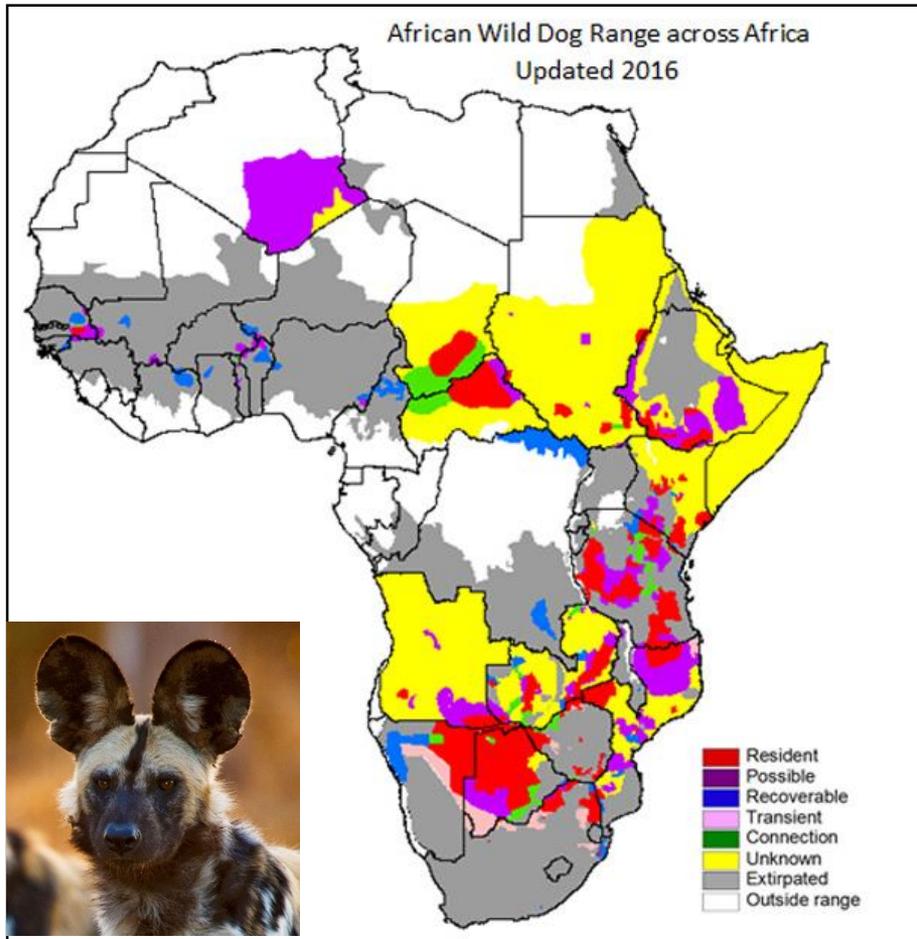
4 landscapes (soon to be 7)



# Goals of the RWCP



- Global distribution databases
- Mapping



# How do we achieve these goals at this scale?

- **Regional Conservation Strategies**
- **National Conservation Action Plans**
- **Local level plans / agreements**



# Strategic Planning



<b>Vision</b>			
Secure, viable cheetah and wild dog populations across a range of ecosystems, that successfully coexist with, and are valued by, the people of southern Africa.			
<b>Goal</b>			
Improve the status of cheetahs and wild dogs and secure additional cheetah and wild dog populations across their range in southern Africa.			
<b>Theme</b>	<b>Objective</b>	<b>Target</b>	<b>Activity</b>
Development	1. Develop capacity in all aspects of	1.1 Identify gaps in capacity in all areas of cheetah and wild dog conservation in the region within two years.	Conduct interviews and questionnaire surveys to establish current situation and identify gaps for all capacity components within two years, including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1.1.1 Law enforcement and conflict;</li> <li>1.1.2 Monitoring and research;</li> <li>1.1.3 Education and outreach.</li> </ul>
		1.2 Develop and implement one annual law enforcement and conflict resolution training programme in each range state within three years.	1.2.1 Develop a list of wildlife and law enforcement training academia/institutions, including curricula, and identify gaps, within six months. 1.2.2 Develop law enforcement and conflict resolution training modules that encompass the range of regional training needs within 18 months. 1.2.3 Activate and source funds to support an annual law enforcement and conflict training programme within one year.
Knowledge and information	2. Improve knowledge on the conservation biology of wild dogs and cheetahs across southern Africa.	2.1 Establish a network of programmes and institutions to develop capacity in research, monitoring, education and outreach within one year.	1.3.1 Develop a network of monitoring, education and outreach within one year. 1.3.2 Establish a committee to drive the development of a regional capacity network within one year. 1.3.3 Develop a web portal to provide an interface between network members and the public within one year.
		2.1.1 Compile available data on conflict, threats and their mitigation and, where possible, collate in standardised formats, from all range states within two years. 2.1.2 Identify shortfalls in existing knowledge about conflict, threats and their mitigation for all range states within two years. 2.1.3 Initiate studies (field studies, surveys, questionnaires and existing data) to quantify conflict, threats, mitigation, and effects on population viability within one year. 2.1.4 Compile national information on conflict, threats and mitigation within one year. 2.1.5 Create a regional database of information on conflict, threats and their mitigation for southern Africa within three years. 2.1.6 Generate knowledge on present and emerging threats to cheetah and wild dog conservation, including illegal trade. 2.1.7 Disseminate knowledge regarding conflict, threats, their drivers and mitigation to all relevant stakeholders within five years.	

Theme

Objective



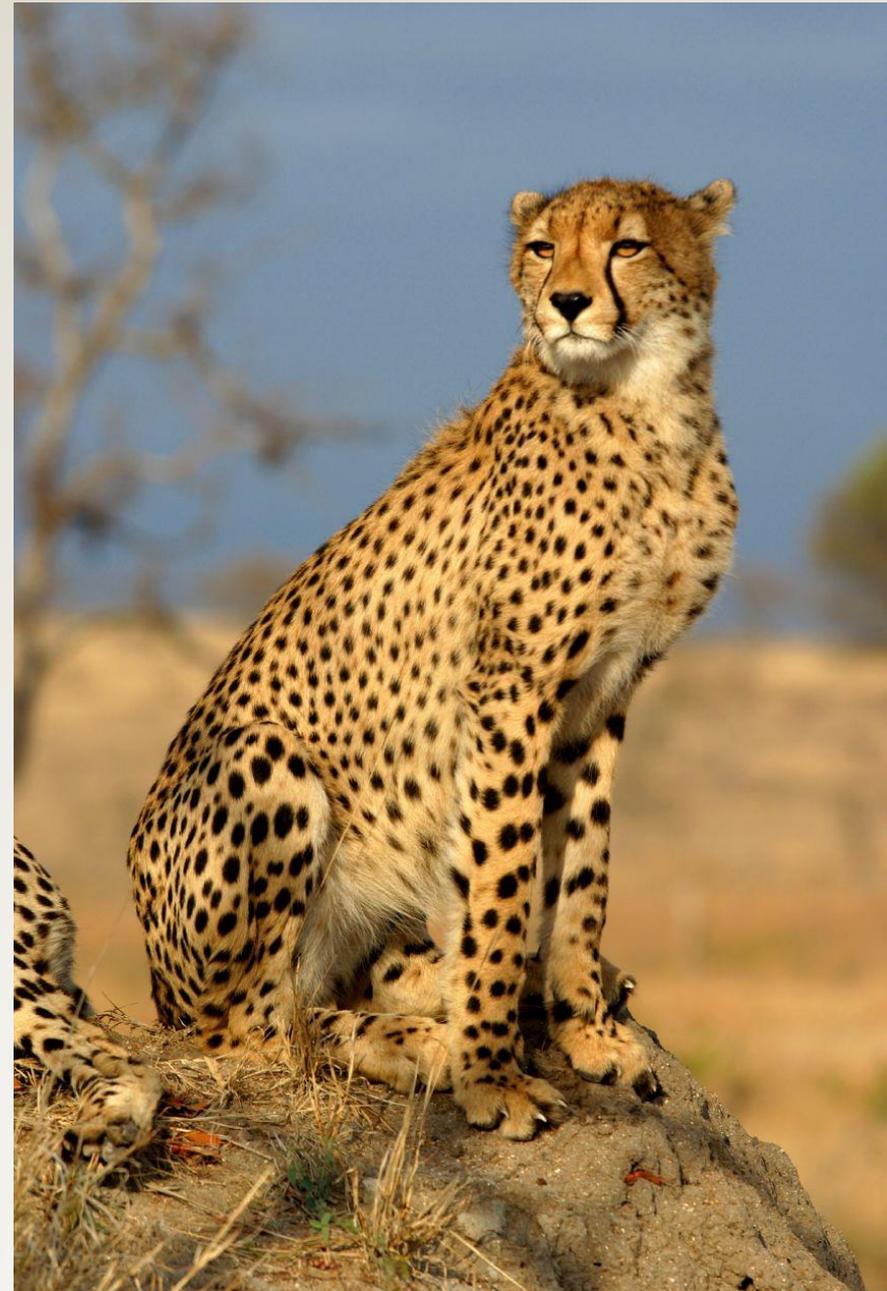
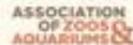
Policy & Legislation

Target

Activity

# REGIONAL CONSERVATION STRATEGY FOR THE CHEETAH AND AFRICAN WILD DOG IN SOUTHERN AFRICA

REVISED AND UPDATED  
AUGUST 2015



# National Conservation Action Plans

Nine in SADC (Four updated in the last 5 years)

## National Conservation Action Plan for Cheetah and African Wild Dog in Zimbabwe

2018 to 2022



Suggested citation: Zimbabwe Parks and Wildlife Management Authority (2018), *National Conservation Action Plan for Cheetah and African Wild Dog in Zimbabwe*



ZIMBABWE PARKS AND WILDLIFE MANAGEMENT AUTHORITY

With support from:



República de Angola  
Ministério do Ambiente  
Instituto Nacional da Biodiversidade e Áreas de Conservação  
(INBAC)



Plano de Acção Nacional de Conservação da Chita e Mabeco em Angola

Outubro, 2016



With support from



## National Conservation Action Plan for Cheetah and African Wild Dog in Botswana

2019 to 2023





## National Carnivore Coordinators



# TFCA Level Strategies

CONSERVATION STRATEGY AND ACTION PLAN  
FOR THE AFRICAN WILD DOG (LYCAON PICTUS)  
IN THE KAVANGO ZAMBEZI TRANSFRONTIER  
CONSERVATION AREA

MARCH 2014 - MARCH 2019



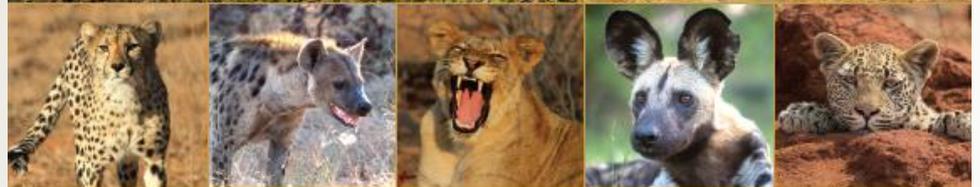
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www.kavangozambezi.org



## The Kavango Zambezi Transfrontier Conservation Area Carnivore Conservation Strategy

2018 – 2022



THE KAZA TFCA

A Strategy prepared by the KAZA Carnivore Conservation Coalition (KCC)

**What's all this got to do with a talk about legal frameworks?**



National laws

National policies

Regional policies

Cultural norms

Local policies and by-laws

Level of enforcement

Land use systems

Legal protection system for PAs

User rights



SADC  
Frameworks &  
Policies



International  
Conventions

TFCA  
Frameworks

SADC Frameworks  
& Policies



International  
Conventions

TFCA Frameworks

SADC Frameworks  
& Policies

Harmonising Policies

International  
Conventions

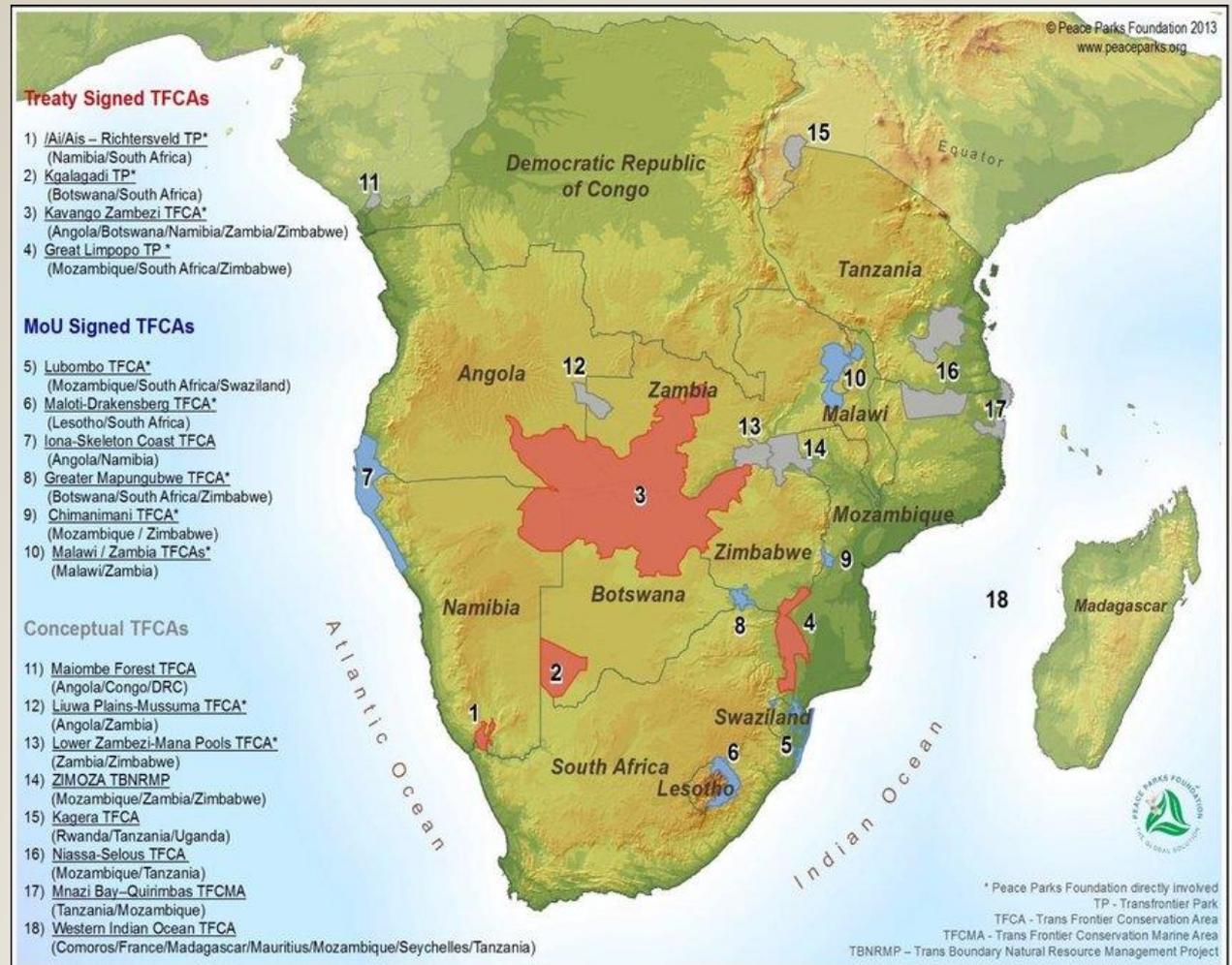
Overarching regulations

TFCA Frameworks

Standardised set of  
guidelines

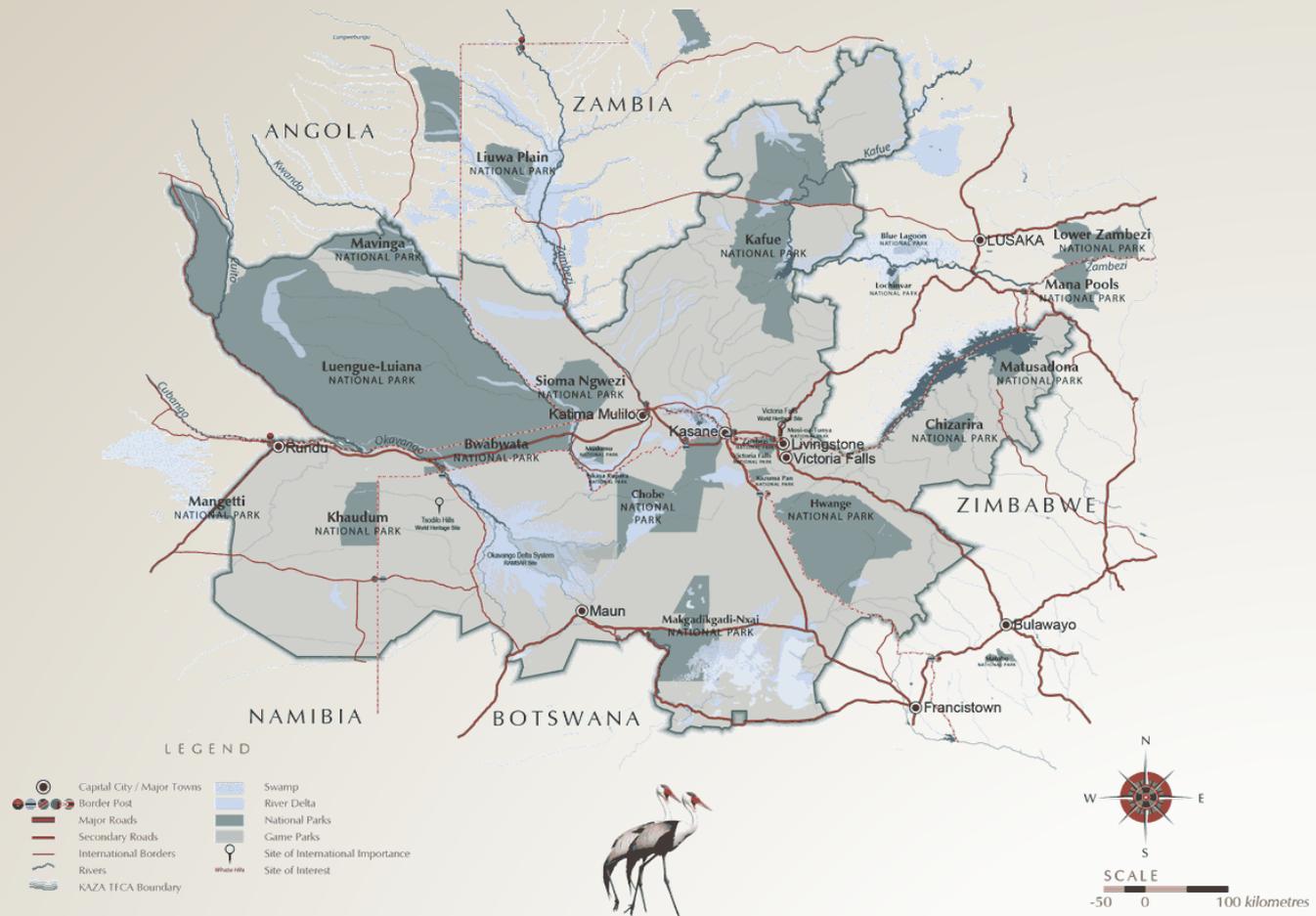


# TFCA's



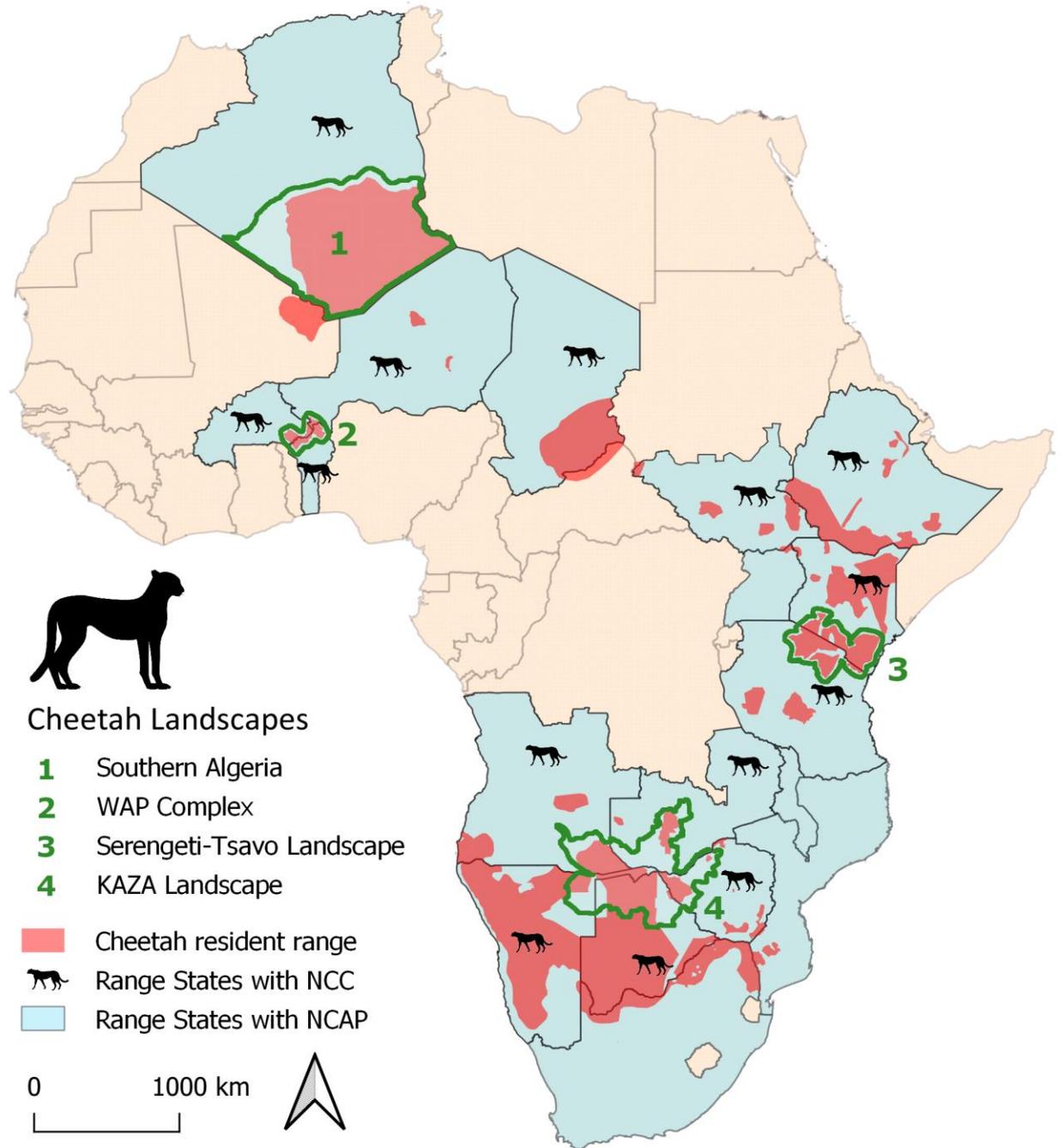
The aim of TFCAs is to facilitate free movement of wildlife by **harmonizing policies**, provisioning of socio economic benefits through tourism and the sustainable use of natural resources, plus involvement of stakeholders in the planning, establishment and management of TFCAs (Peace Parks Foundation 2009).

# KAZA TFCA



The goal of the KAZA TFCA is “To sustainably manage the Kavango Zambezi ecosystem, its heritage and cultural resources based on best conservation and tourism models for the socio-economic wellbeing of the communities and other stakeholders in and around the eco-region **through harmonization of policies, strategies and practices.**”

Existing TFCA frameworks provide a huge advantage when working across international boundaries!!



# Policies, Protocols, Treaties, Conventions



SADC Protocol on Wildlife  
Conservation and Law  
Enforcement (1999)

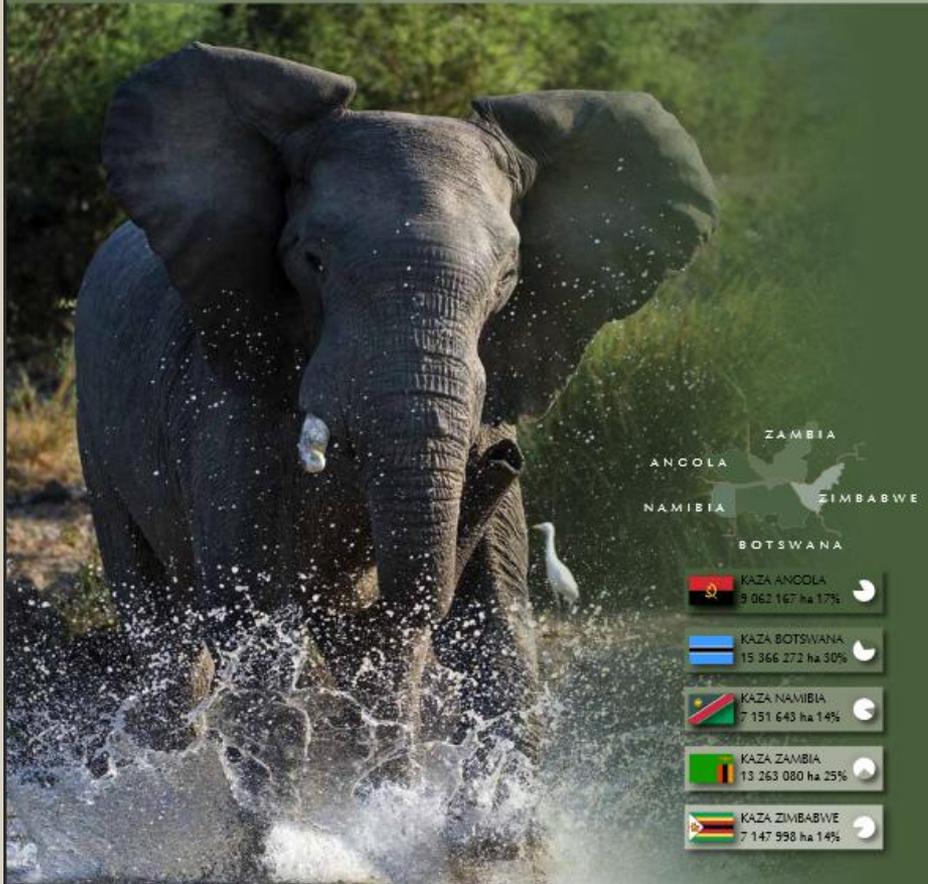
SADC Wildlife Policy and  
Development Strategy  
(1997)

SADC Regional Water  
Policy (2005)



- The Revised African Convention on the Conservation of Nature and Natural Resources
- **Prospects for a Comprehensive Treaty for the Management of Africa's Natural Resources (2013)**
- UNESCO Man and the Biosphere Programme(1971)
- **Convention on Wetlands (1971)**
- World Heritage Convention (1972)
- **Convention on Biological Diversity (1992)**
- United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (1992)
- **United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification (1994).**

KAVANGO ZAMBEZI  
TRANSFRONTIER CONSERVATION AREA  
(KAZA TFCA)  
MASTER INTEGRATED  
DEVELOPMENT PLAN



KAZA TFCA Policy  
Harmonisation  
Volume I Report  
2013.

# What's the relevance to conservation practitioners of all these laws and policies and conventions?

- Make sure you operate within the national laws
- Ensure you understand the local politics and local by-laws for any area you work in.
- Understand that there may be very good laws but enforcement is often poor



# What's the relevance to conservation practitioners of all these laws and policies and conventions?

- Local knowledge or understanding of national laws may be extremely poor >>> education!
- Legislation can be extremely useful to you – know it to use it!
- There are opportunities to advocate for improvements in policies and even legal instruments





# Convention on the Conservation of Migratory Species of Wild Animals

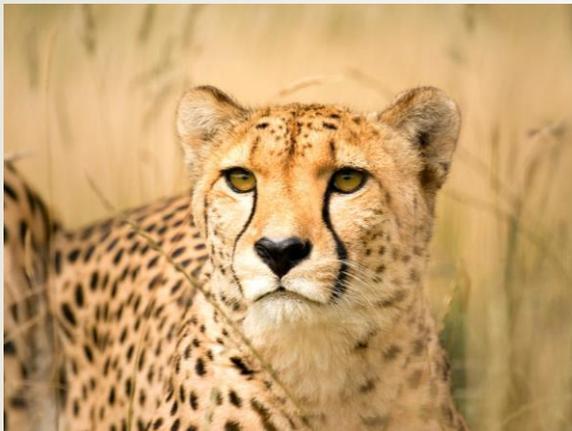
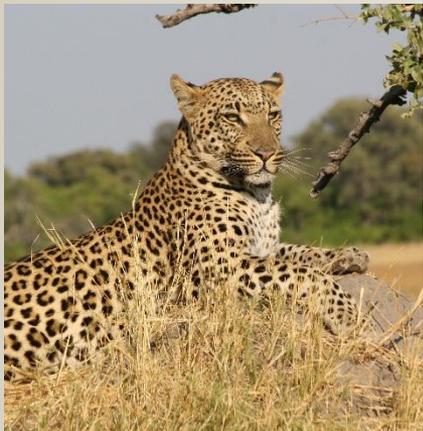
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## African Carnivores Initiative

The Joint CMS-CITES African Carnivore Initiative (ACI)

African Carnivores Initiative

The African Carnivores Initiative is an umbrella initiative that targets four iconic African carnivore species: the African Lion (*Panthera leo*), Cheetah (*Acinonyx jubatus*), Leopard (*Panthera pardus*), and African Wild Dog (*Lycaon pictus*).



# African Carnivore Initiative

Under CMS Decision 12.56 on the Joint CMS-CITES African Carnivores Initiative, adopted by the 12<sup>th</sup> Conference of the Parties to CMS in 2017 in Manila, **Range States are urged to work through the ACI to implement CMS and CITES decisions and resolutions relating to the four targeted species as a way to increase synergies** between the two Conventions.

The Initiative will serve as a guiding mandate for the species conservation by:

- developing **concrete, coordinated and synergistic conservation programmes** for all four carnivore species, with local and regional projects implemented across their African range;
- developing **policy guidance and recommendations** for Range States, CITES and CMS concerning the four species; **and**
- **organizing the collaboration** with other conservation initiatives and organizations, such as IUCN.

## Role of RWCP in Policy Dialogue

- Instrumental in **establishing the African Carnivore Initiative (ACI)**, which is based on the RWCP

*Recommend* that the following measures and activities be prioritized in the Programme of Work of the Joint CITES-CMS African Carnivore Initiative:

- Develop and implement conservation strategies for each of the four species;
- Take measures that allow and secure connectivity between populations of African carnivores;
- Promote the coexistence of local communities and the four carnivores in landscapes where they occur;
- Promote innovative approaches that deliver sustainable benefits to the local communities that pay the costs of living alongside wildlife;
- Establish a national coordination structure based on the *Range Wide Conservation Programme for Cheetah and Wild Dog* to provide technical support, training and mentoring to coordinators and a platform for regular meetings;
- Develop and implement reliable, comparable monitoring protocols for large carnivore populations to inform management decisions;
- Develop the capacity of Range States to monitor populations of the four species;
- Improve education and awareness on the plight of African carnivores;
- Enhance and facilitate communication and information sharing between Range States;

## Role of RWCP in Policy Dialogue

- Instrumental in **establishing the African Carnivore Initiative (ACI)**, which is based on the RWCP
- RWCP approach to transboundary conservation and governmental capacity development is now **recommended within the IUCN Lion Guidelines**.
- The RWCP continues to take a **prominent role in advocating** for cheetah and wild dog conservation within international fora.
- **Key role in the 2013 and 2016 CITES meetings:** series of recommendations and decisions to combat the illegal cheetah trade
- **Supports wildlife authorities** to adhere to CITES / CMS decisions
- Produces **scientific and popular articles** to raise awareness

## Cheetahs, CITES, and illegal trade: Are consumer countries doing enough? (commentary)

Commentary by Sarah Durant on 30 September 2019



# The global decline of cheetah *Acinonyx jubatus* and what it means for conservation

Sarah M. Durant<sup>a,b,c,1</sup>, Nicholas Mitchell<sup>a,b</sup>, Rosemary Groom<sup>a,b</sup>, Nathalie Pettorelli<sup>a,c</sup>, Audrey Ipavec<sup>a,b</sup>, Andrew P. Jacobson<sup>a,d</sup>, Rosie Woodroffe<sup>a,c</sup>, Monika Böhm<sup>a,c</sup>, Luke T. B. Hunter<sup>e</sup>, Matthew S. Becker<sup>f,g</sup>, Femke Broekhuis<sup>h,i</sup>, Sultana Bashir<sup>a</sup>, Leah Andresen<sup>j</sup>, Ortwin Aschenborn<sup>k</sup>, Mohammed Beddiaf<sup>l</sup>, Farid Belbachir<sup>m</sup>, Amel Belbachir-Bazi<sup>m</sup>, Ali Berbash<sup>n</sup>, Iracelma Brandao de Matos Machado<sup>o</sup>, Christine Breitenmoser<sup>p,q</sup>, Monica Chege<sup>r</sup>, Deon Cilliers<sup>s</sup>, Harriet Davies-Mostert<sup>t</sup>, Amy L. Dickman<sup>h</sup>, Eshiana Esaki<sup>u</sup>, Mohammed S. Farhadiniah<sup>v</sup>, Paul Funston<sup>e</sup>, Philipp Hens<sup>w</sup>, Laurie Marko<sup>x</sup>, Helen O'Neil<sup>y</sup>, Anne Schmitz<sup>z</sup>, Esther van de <sup>aa</sup>

1 **PHILOSOPHICAL**  
2 **TRANSACTIONS B**

3 [royalsocietypublishing.org/journal/rstb](https://royalsocietypublishing.org/journal/rstb)

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11 **Opinion piece**



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13 **Cite this article:** Durant SM *et al.* 2019  
14 Bridging the divide between scientists and  
15 decision-makers: How behavioural ecologists  
16 can increase the conservation impact of their  
17

Bridging the divide between scientists and decision-makers: How behavioural ecologists can increase the conservation impact of their research?

Sarah M. Durant<sup>1,2</sup>, Rosemary Groom<sup>1</sup>, Bernard Kuloba<sup>3</sup>, Abdoukarim Samna<sup>4</sup>, Uakendisa Muzuma<sup>5</sup>, Phemelo Gadimang<sup>6</sup>, Rose Mandisodza-Chikerema<sup>7</sup>, Audrey Ipavec<sup>1</sup>, Nicholas Mitchell<sup>1</sup>, Dennis Ikanda<sup>8</sup> and Maurus Msuha<sup>9,t</sup>

# Summary and Take Home Messaging

**Take time to understand the policy and legal frameworks you are working in, both at national and local level.** Not just to make sure you don't break any laws or contravene any policy acts but also ***so you know which ones you can use to support what you are trying to do***

**Work with stakeholders from local governments;** as well as improving national and local capacity for conservation, it should ensure you work within the necessary legal frameworks

Understand the complexity and how national policies are interpreted in **different cultural situations**

You must respect and work within the law – but that's no reason not to **advocate to change policy or legislation to benefit local livelihoods and conservation;** you can make a difference.

**Use existing harmonising structures** like TFCA policies and international fora as much as possible – and make use of the secretariats!

**THANK YOU**

[www.cheetahandwilddog.org](http://www.cheetahandwilddog.org)