

# Is there a light at the end of the tunnel for our rhinos?

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Global



Continental & Rhino Reporting to CITES



Regional



RESG



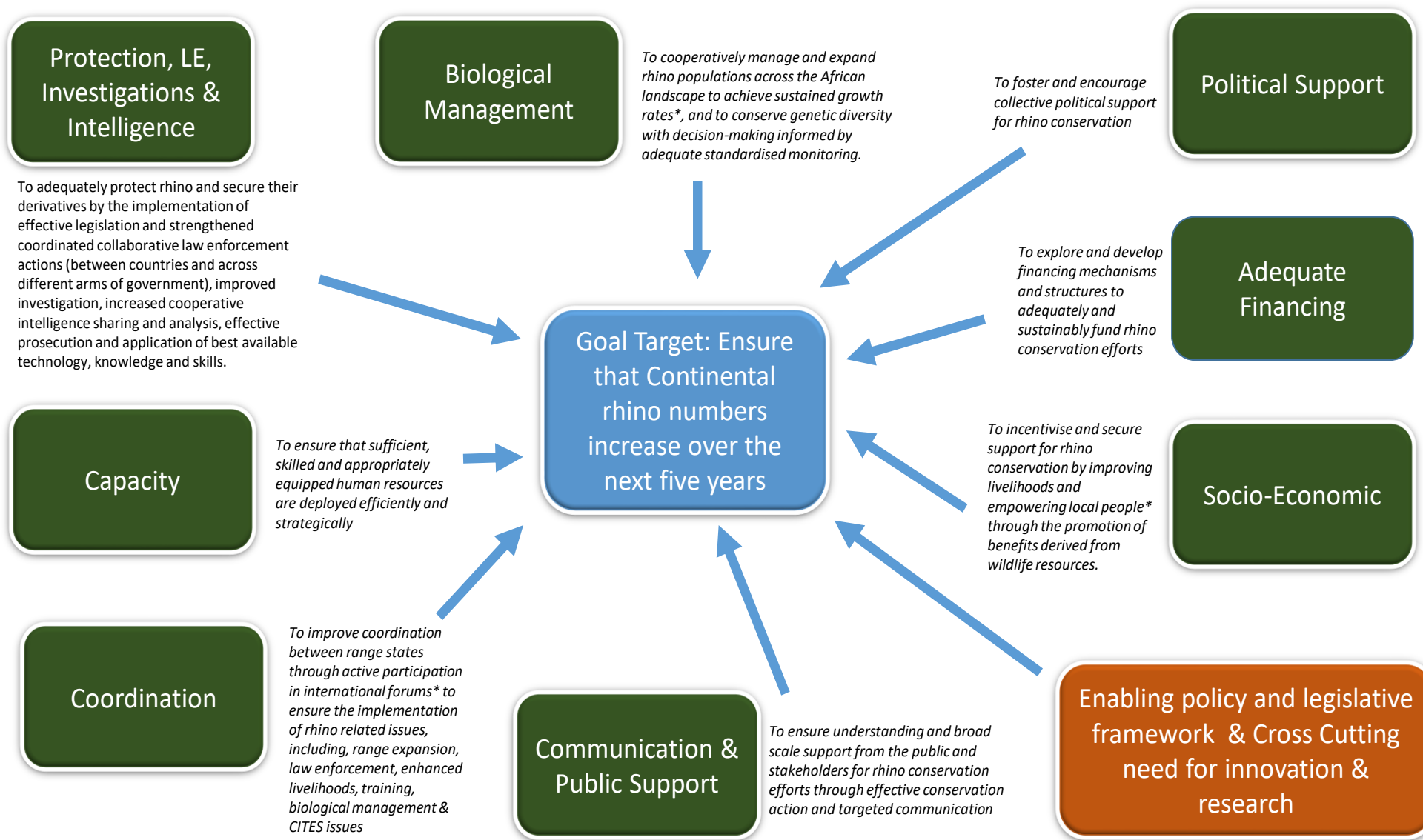
*East African  
RMG*

National Rhino Plans









**Cross-cutting.** The need to investigate innovative options for rhino conservation and adaptively manage is recognised. Applied research should also be undertaken as needed to inform decision and policy making. It is also essential to have enabling policy and legislative frameworks in place.



# The hierarchy of plans

AFRICAN RHINO RANGE STATES'  
AFRICAN RHINO CONSERVATION PLAN



Status Survey and Conservation Action Plan

## African Rhino



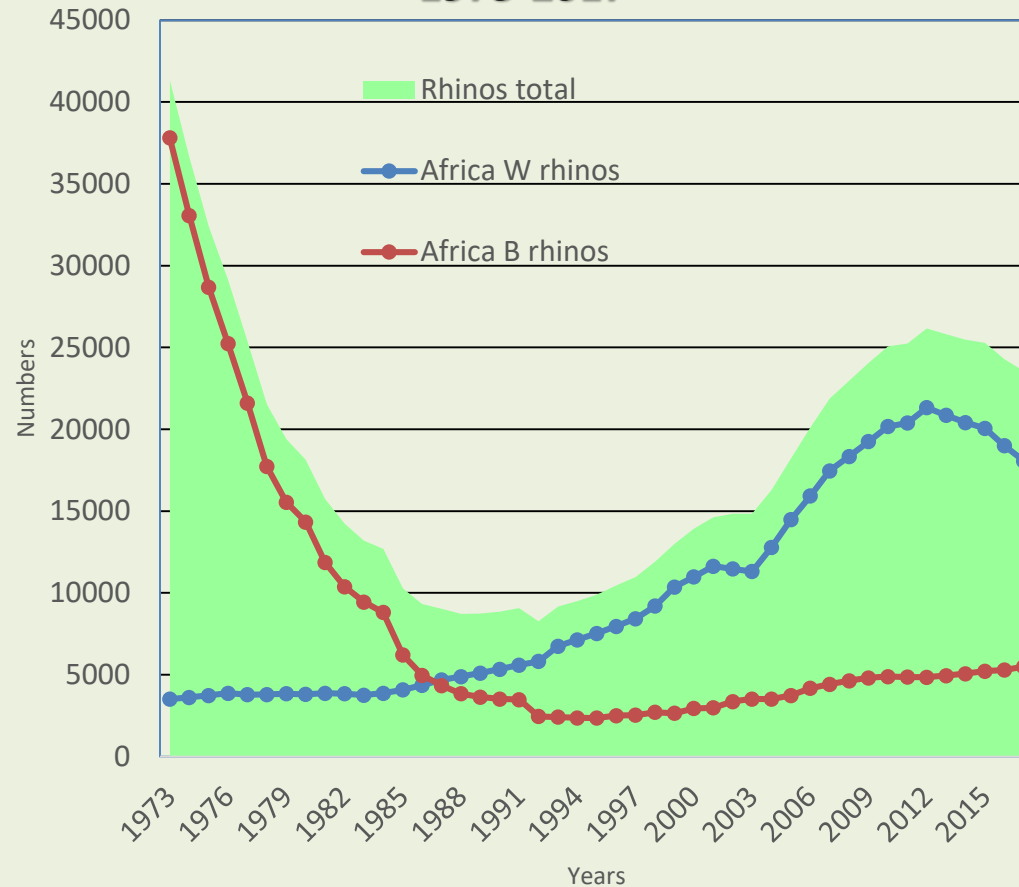
Jointly  
Park Planning & Development  
African Conservation  
Elizabeth, South Africa  
Eastern Cape Park  
IUCN African Rh



Second Edition  
Gab

# Where have we come from?

**Estimated number of African rhinos  
1973-2017**



## **Black rhinos:**

94% reduction from 1970s to mid 1990s

Doubled last 2 decades.

## **White rhinos:**

SWR: From near extinction to 17,300

NWR: From 2,200 to 2 since 1960!

## **History:**

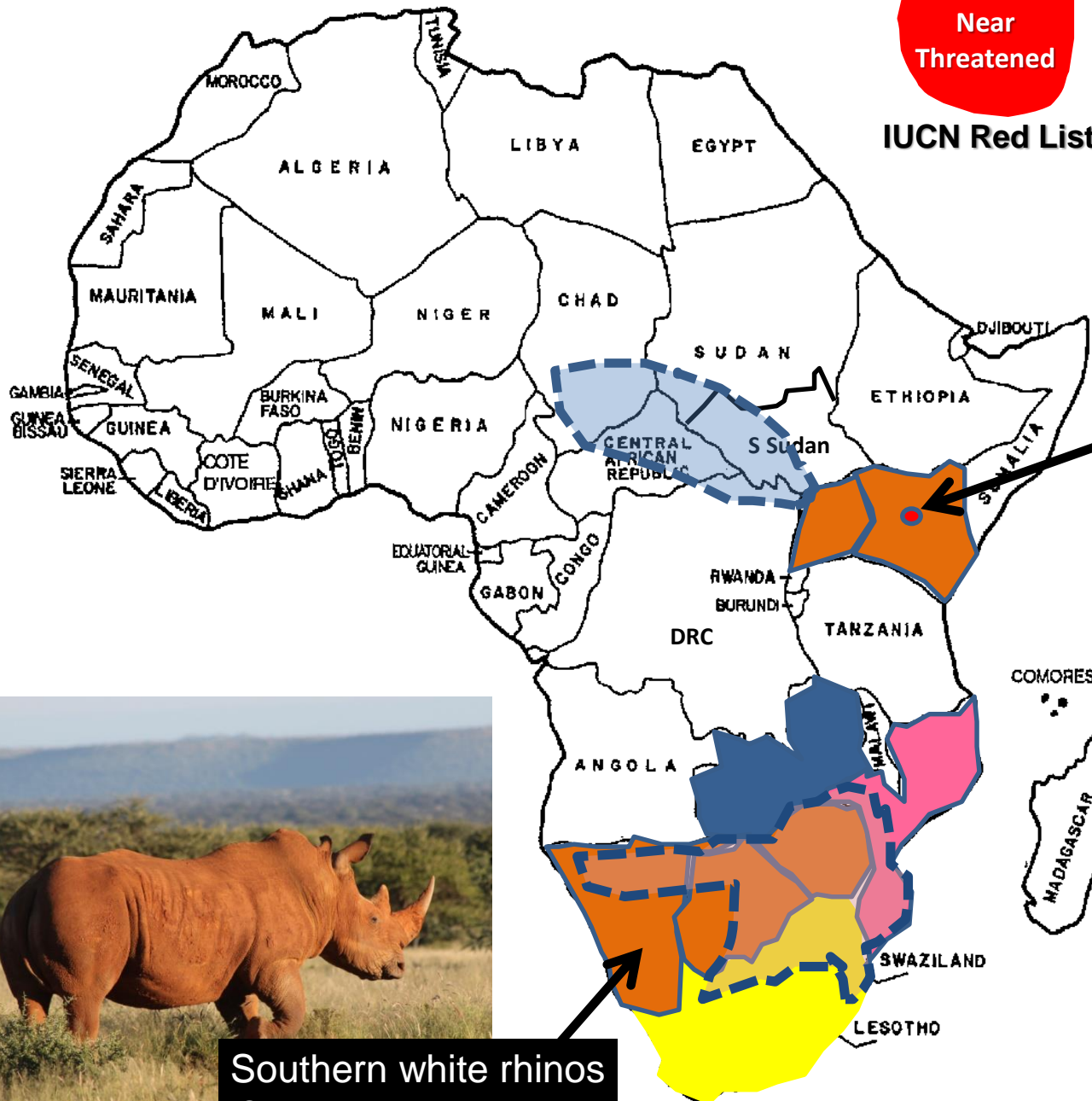
Rhinos lost from 75% range states  
Have been re-establishment.

Only 12 countries, with bulk in the Big 4

# White Rhinos *Ceratotherium simum*

NT  
Near  
Threatened

IUCN Red List



Northern white rhinos  
*C. s. cottoni*

- Resident
- Re-introduced
- Possibly extinct
- Introduced



Southern white rhinos  
*C. s. simum*



# Africa's white rhinos

**DOWN:**  
**20,378 in 2015**

In 2017 = 18,067

Big 4 (9 range states):

- S Africa 86%
- Namibia 6%
- Kenya 3%
- Zimbabwe 2%

Where are they?

- State=65%
- Private= 34%
- Communal=<1%





# Black Rhino *Diceros bicornis*

CE  
Critically  
Endangered

IUCN Red List

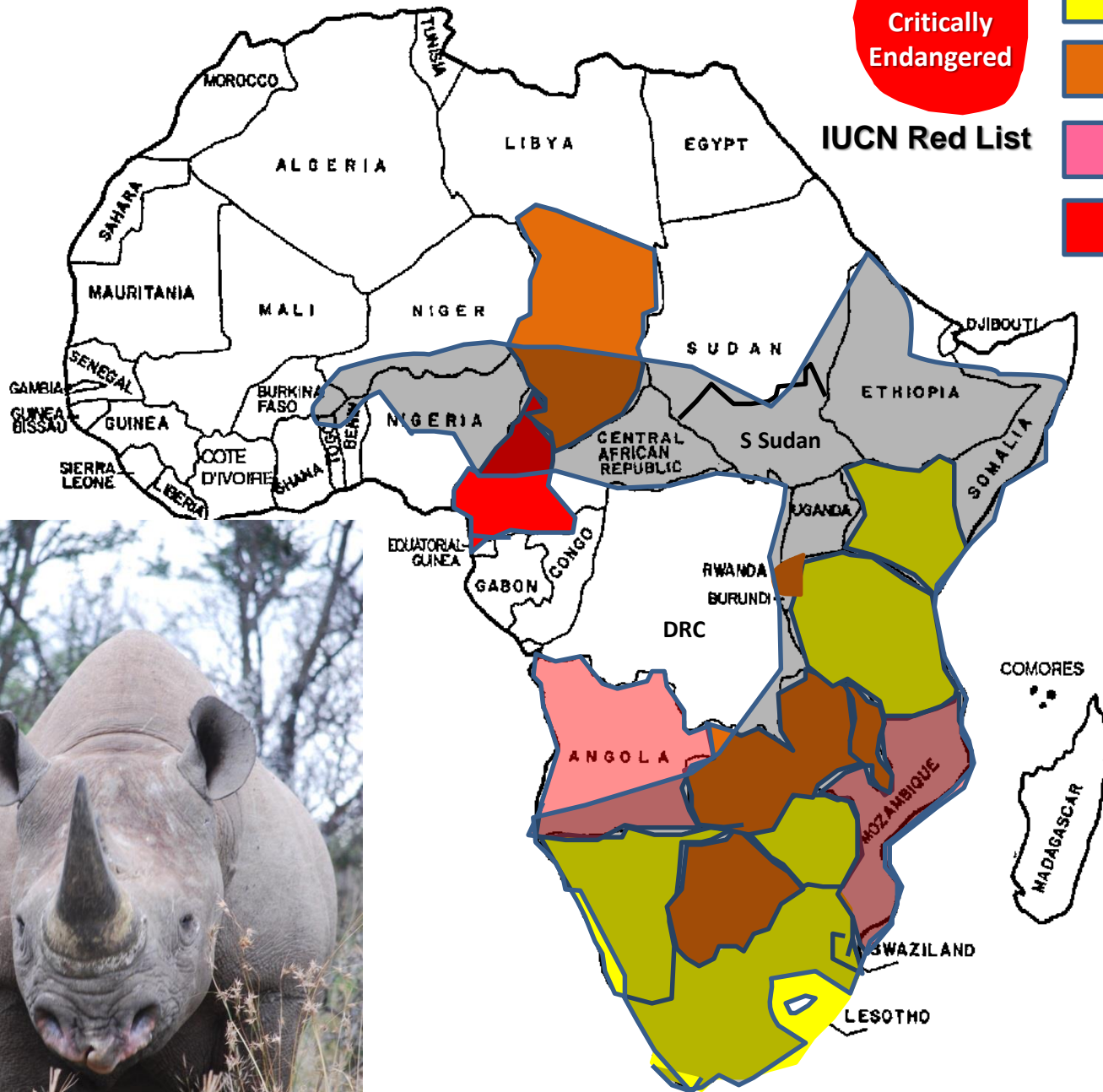


Resident

Reintroduced

Possibly extinct

Extinct



# Africa's black rhinos

**UP:**

**5,250 in 2015**

**In 2017 = 5,495**

**Big 4:**

- S Africa 32%
- Namibia 34%
- Kenya 14%
- Zimbabwe 10%

## Africa's Big 4 RHINO countries:

S Africa 17,671 (74%) **DOWN**

Namibia 2,832 (12%) **UP**

Kenya 1,258 (6%) **UP**

Zimbabwe 887 (4%) **UP**

Botswana 502 (2%) (Inc 215)

7 other countries 404 (2%)

**94% in S'n Africa!**

## Where are they?

- State=67%
- Private= 27%
- Communal=6%





ВНИМАНИЕ!  
ЗАПРЕЩАЕТСЯ  
СЛУШАТЬ РАДИО

18.10.16

















## **African and Asian Rhinoceroses – Status, Conservation and Trade**

**A report from the IUCN Species Survival Commission (IUCN SSC) African and Asian Rhino Specialist Groups and TRAFFIC to the CITES Secretariat pursuant to Resolution Conf. 9.14 (Rev. CoP17)**

Richard H Emslie<sup>1,2</sup>, Tom Milliken<sup>3,1</sup>, Bibhab Talukdar<sup>2,1</sup>, Gayle Burgess<sup>3</sup>, Keryn Adcock<sup>1</sup>, David Balfour<sup>1,4</sup> and Michael H Knight<sup>1,4</sup> (compilers)

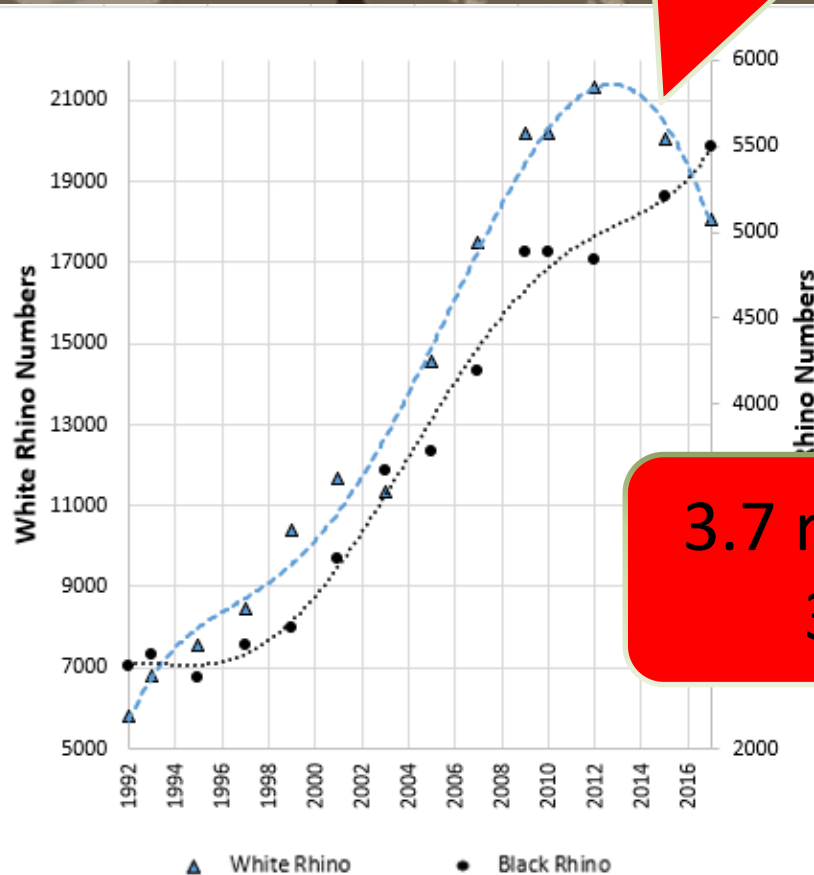
<sup>1</sup> IUCN SSC African Rhino Specialist Group (AfRSG), <sup>2</sup> IUCN SSC Asian Rhino Specialist Group (AsRSG),

<sup>3</sup> TRAFFIC, <sup>4</sup> Nelson Mandela University, South Africa

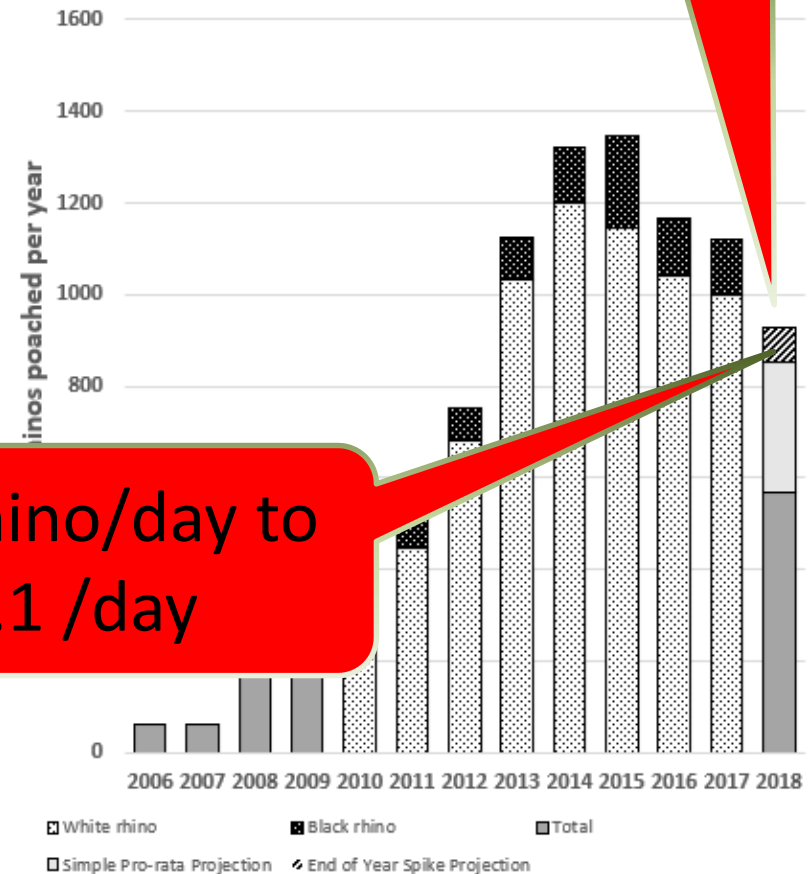
# Poaching of Africa's rhinos

8,413 (compounded > 10,400)!  
Proportionally WR>BR

879



3.7 rhino/day to  
3.1 /day





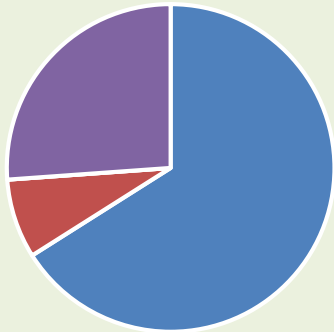
# Continental rhino numbers

	White	Black	Total
<b>Botswana</b>	50	502	552
<b>Cameroon</b>	2	2	4
<b>Central African Republic</b>	1	1	2
<b>Democratic Republic of Congo</b>	29	29	58
<b>Kenya</b>	745	1258	2003
<b>Namibia</b>	28	28	56
<b>Mozambique</b>	1	30	31
<b>Namibia</b>	9	1857	1866
<b>Rwanda</b>	19	19	38
<i>Senegal</i>	3	3	6
<b>South Africa</b>	15625	2046	17671
<b>Swaziland</b>	66	21	87
<b>Tanzania</b>	160	160	320
<b>Uganda</b>	22	22	44
<b>Zambia</b>	14	48	62
<b>Zimbabwe</b>	367	520	887
<b>Total</b>	18146	23564	41710

Kruger NP  
 2015: 8,875  
 2017: 5,142  
 40% reduction  
 Drought & poaching

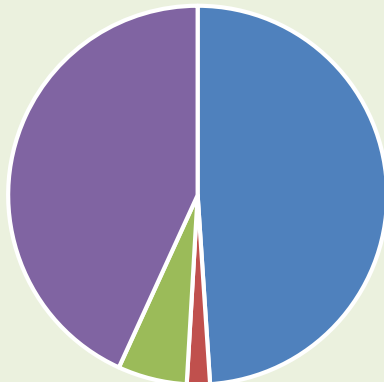
# Increasing role of private sector

2018: Namibian black rhino



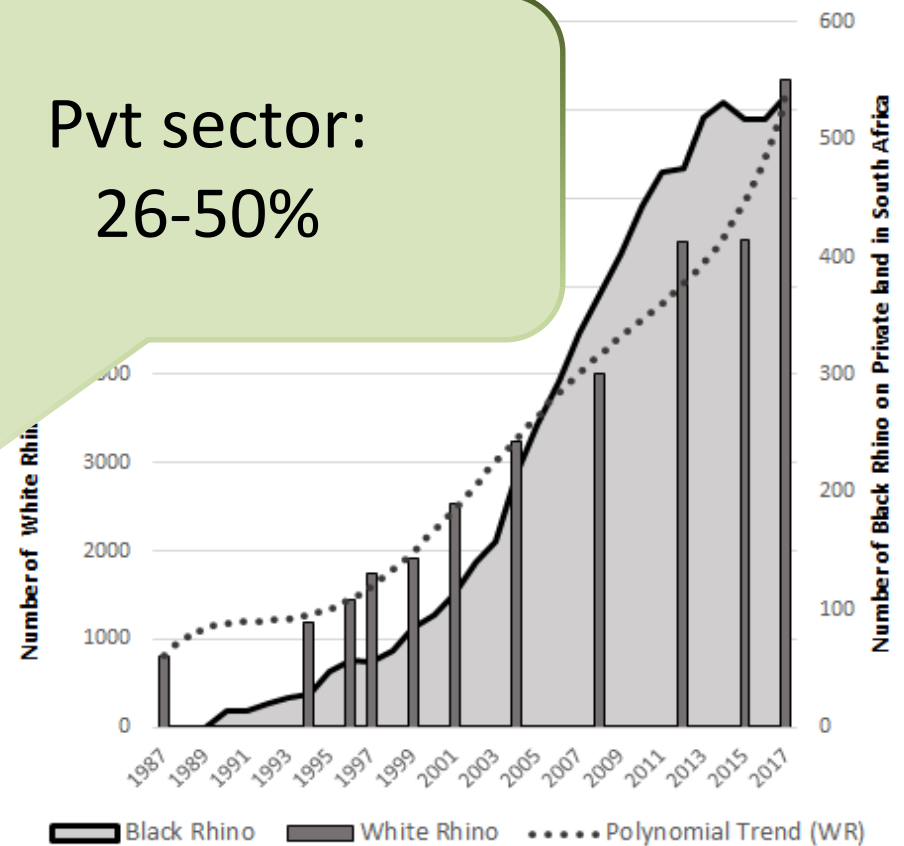
■ State ■ Communal ■ Municipal ■ Private

2018: Kenyan black rhino population



■ State ■ Communal ■ Municipal ■ Private

Pvt sector:  
26-50%



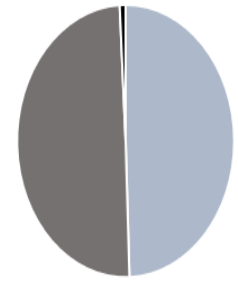
2012



2015



2017



■ White rhino managed on Private Land ■ White rhino managed on State land ■ Other

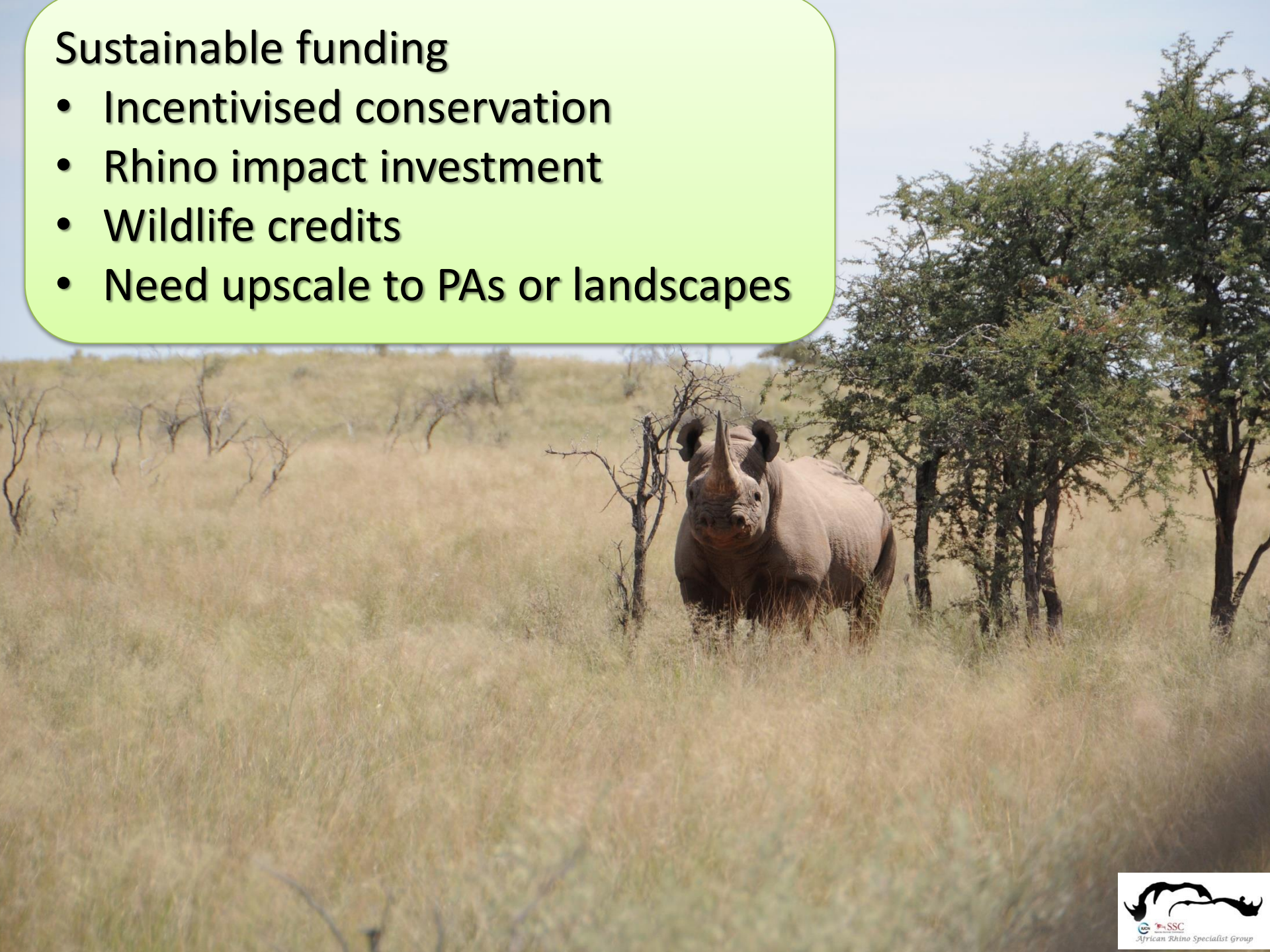


# Rhino conservation is expensive

- Kruger NP
  - ~\$800/yr/km<sup>2</sup> (Total: \$16m)  
\$74m/5 yrs (ie ~\$1,600/rhino/yr)
  - Other PAs (\$1,210-\$10,620/rhino/yr)
  - Security costs escalating by ~75%/yr
- Largest private rhino population
  - \$357,000/month (60% sec.)  
=\$2677/rhino/yr

# Sustainable funding

- Incentivised conservation
- Rhino impact investment
- Wildlife credits
- Need upscale to PAs or landscapes



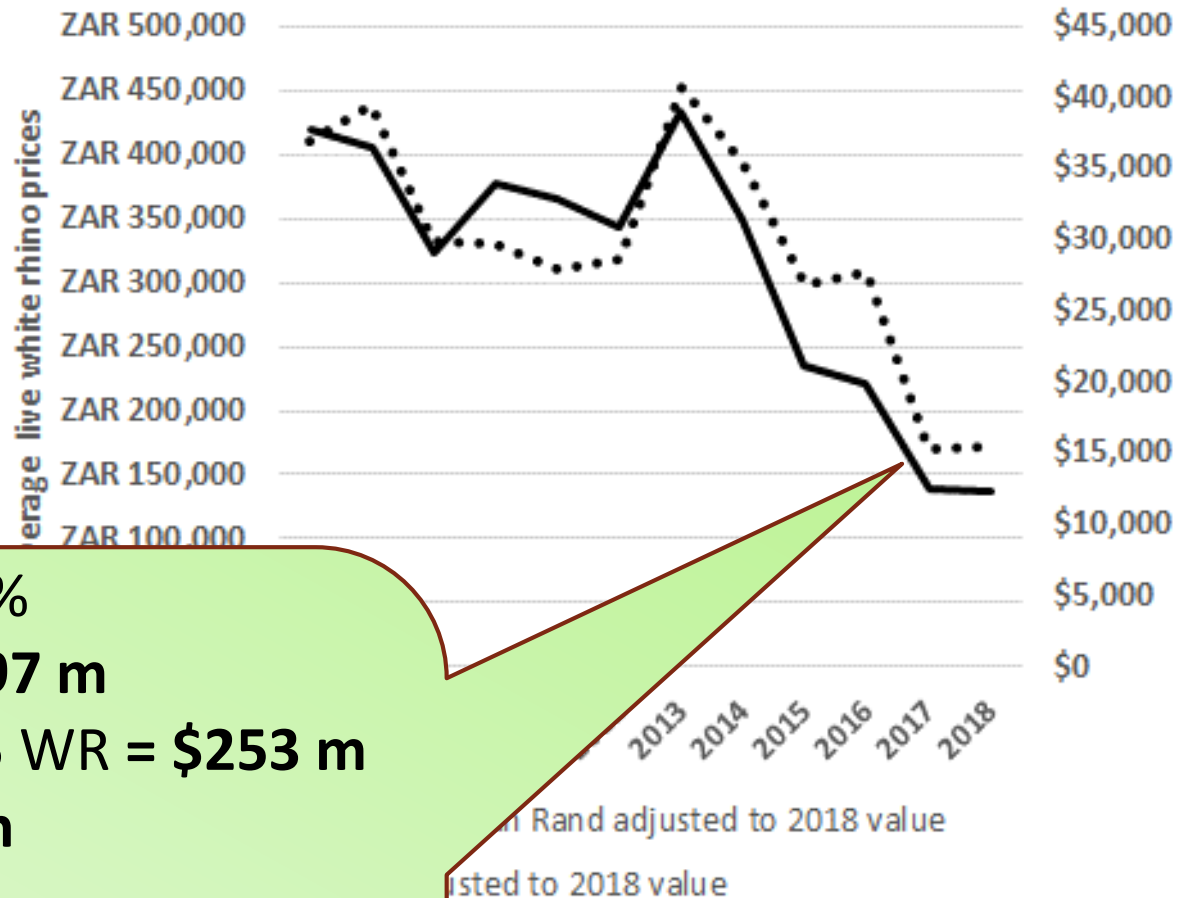


# Other costs

- Human lives: Rangers, communities
- Emotional/social: Psychological
- Opportunity:
  - Conservation- <5% conservation
  - Infrastructure degradation
  - Crime
- Reputation:
  - Green militarisation
  - Corruption disease
- Messaging:
  - poacher advertising
  - war of elite on poor



# Live Sales



- Loss in sales price 67%
- Asset value loss = **\$397 m**
- Poaching loss of 6735 WR = **\$253 m**
- Breeding loss = **\$60 m**

**SUM=\$711m (ie \$105,300/rhino)**

- + security costs (**348%**)
- **Fine of \$70k/animal!!!!**



# Targeted messages to RHINO poachers?

What's written

What's heard?

What should  
be written?

What we want  
to be heard?

Producers

On the ground poachers

Number of  
rhinos

*There is a product*

Well managed  
rhino pops

Its not easy  
to get horn

Number  
poached

*Its easy to get horn*

Poachers  
caught, killed,  
sentenced,

Not worth  
the risk

Price of  
horn high

Millions of  
users

Rhino going  
extinct



ogs,  
ng

egal

t

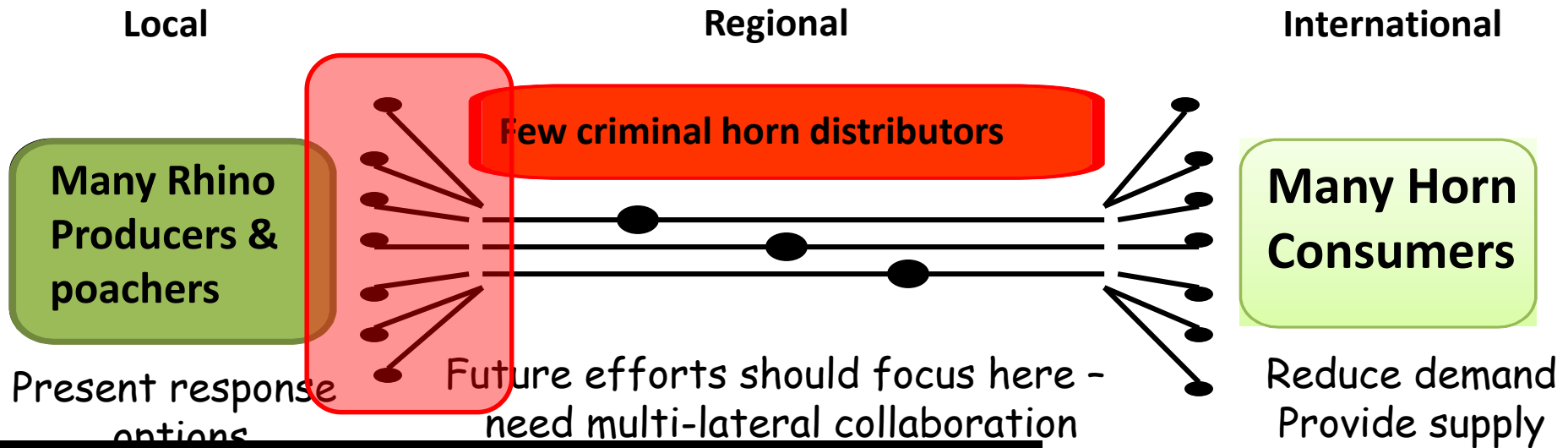
Stay out  
Life at risk

Sustainable  
legal medicine

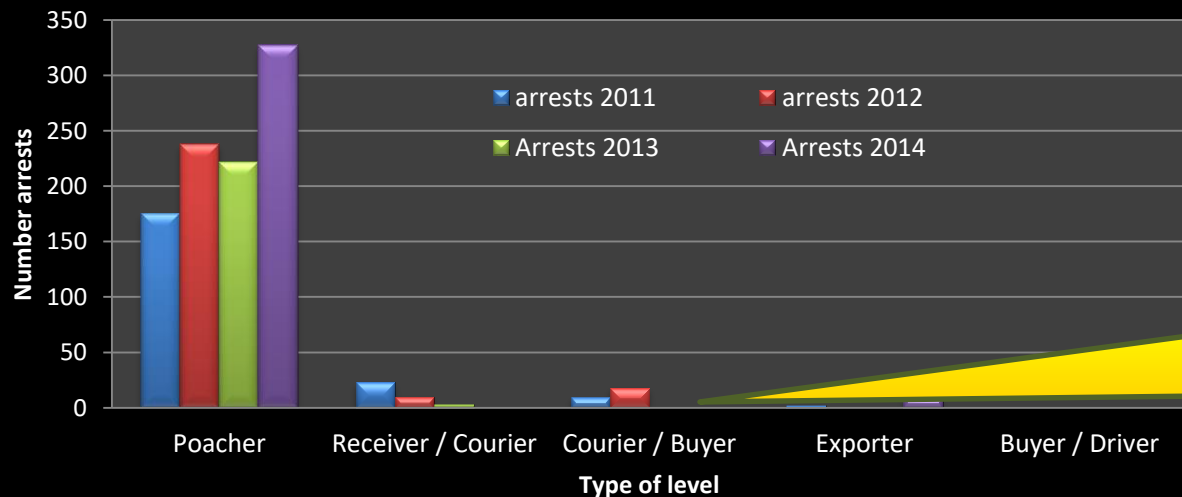
Not a good  
illegal investment

# GAME CHANGING INTERVENTIONS

## CHANGING INCENTIVES TO POACH



**South Africa**  
**Arrests : Levels of Threat 2011 -14**

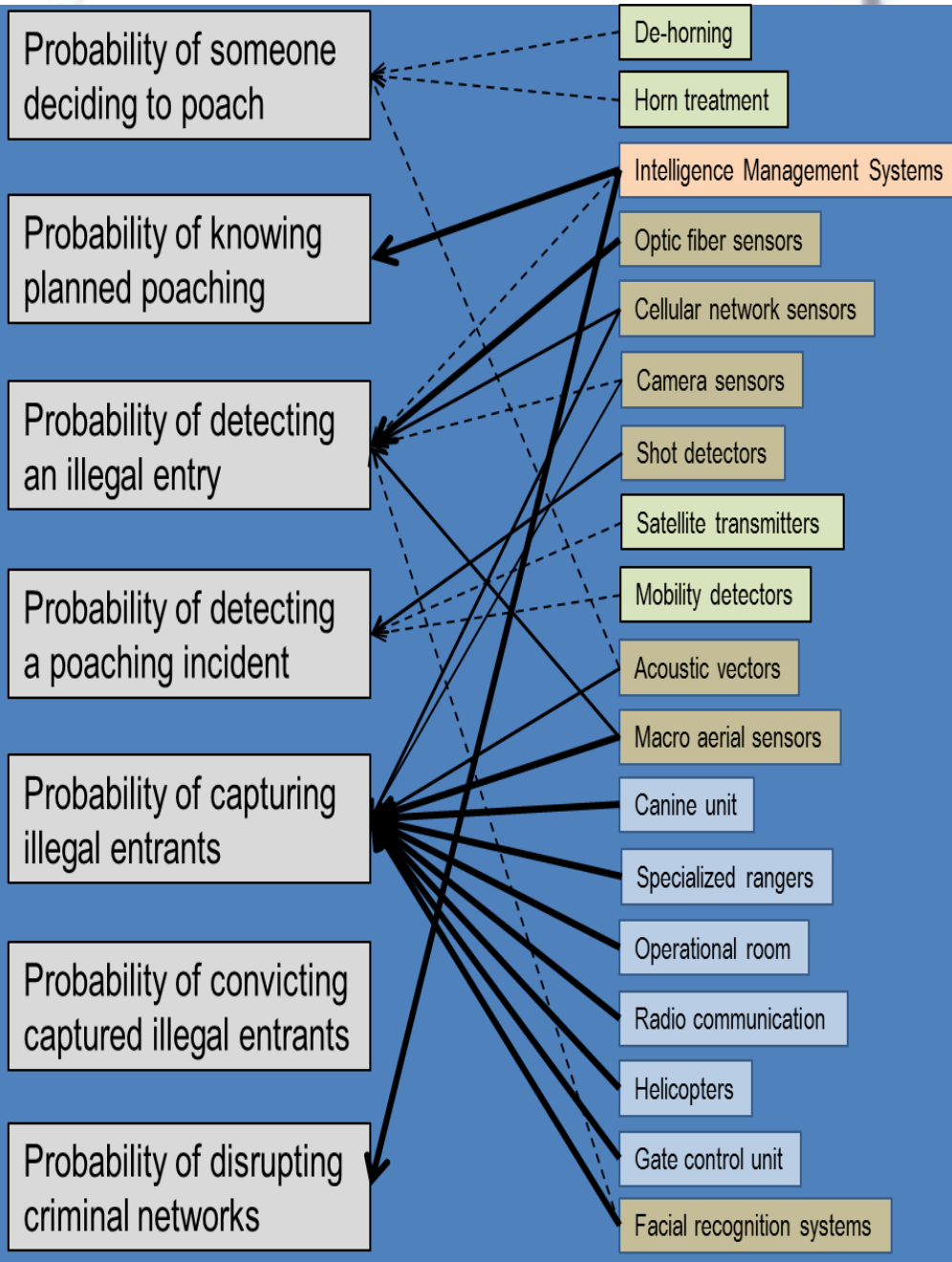


Proactive intelligence  
Break govt silos  
Incentivise communities

2018:  
13% level 3&4 of ~160 arrests  
530 rhino cases (750 accused)  
70 trails – 93% success



# Where should we put our effort?



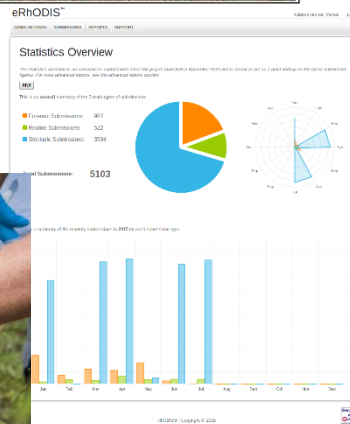




# eRhODIS®: Sampling apps (2014)

Sealed sampling kit photographed

Field data collected via app



**RhODIS Sample Submission Form A**  
Rhinoceros animal sample collection  
FORENSIC POACHING

**RhODIS Kit Number** VGL-012298

**Date Collected** 22-05-2014 11:30:48  
**Police Station:** Onderstepoort  
**CAS:**

**Animal Information**

Animal ID / Name	Ear Notches (from front)	Microchip #1 (Body)	Placement 1
		NONE	
		Microchip #2 (Body)	Placement 2
		NONE	

**Age** Adult  
**Sex** Female  
**Species** White  
**Subspecies** None

**Horn Information (if horns are removed - please complete a separate horn form for each horn and follow the instructions on that form for handling each horn)**

Front Horn	Microchip	Length (cm)	Placement	Sample Collected
Present		Length Front (cm)		
		Length Back (cm)		
Back Horn	Microchip	Length (cm)	Placement	Sample Collected
Present		Length Front (cm)		
		Length Back (cm)		

**Sample Information**

Type	Number of each sample type	Other Samples	Ear Tag No
Blood	0		
Hair	0		
Tissue	0		
Horn	0		

**Outer Bag Kit Number** VGL-012298  
**Inner Bag Kit Number** VGL-022298

**Owner Information**

Owner	Fam	Tel Number	Cell Number	Email
ERC	Kaaplaas	0125229068	0605286676	ian@gmail.com

**Area Information**

Area/Town	Province	Country	Lat (S)	Long (E)
Onderstepoort	Gauteng	South Africa		

**Veterinarian Name** Alan Guthrie  
**Authorized Person Name** Gideon  
**Authorized Person Signature**  
**Sign Date** 22-05-2014 11:30:45



Secure Pdf returned via email

Sample data uploaded directly to the database



UNIVERSITEIT VAN PRETORIA  
UNIVERSITY OF PRETORIA  
YUNIBESITHI YA PRETORIA

# Trends in rhinoceros horn use





# Ensuring the future of rhinos?

- WHOLE government response
- Regional cooperation
- Priority crime = ECONOMIC
- Effective law enforcement - break crime networks
- Follow the money
- Enabling legislation
- Increase the value of rhinos
- Responsible & ethical use
- Translocations
- Greater social mandate
- Focused messaging
- Price data
- Innovate & experiment

