



**Transfrontier Conservation Areas**  
SOUTHERN AFRICAN DEVELOPMENT COMMUNITY

# WEBINAR SERIES 2025 TFCA INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE & SUMMIT OUTCOMES

**26  
August,  
2025**

**14:00 -  
15:30pm  
(CAT)**

## OBJECTIVE

This session will provide an overview of the key outcomes from the SADC TFCA International Conference and Summit, highlighting major policy commitments, new collaboration opportunities, and innovative approaches to transboundary conservation. We will outline agreed next steps, including joint action frameworks, resource mobilisation, and strategies for turning commitments into measurable impact and an understanding of regional priorities and how they can contribute to advancing conservation and sustainable development in Southern Africa's transfrontier landscapes.





## REPORT BACK ON SADC TRANSFRONTIER CONSERVATION AREAS (TFCAs) MINISTERS DECISIONS (MAY 2025, HARARE, ZIMBABWE)







## SADC TFCA Heads of State Summit and what it means to the SADC TFCA Network

- Summit - Held in Harare, Zimbabwe and celebrated the 25 year- milestone existence of the TFCA
- **Who participated:** Heads of States, Ministers of Environment, Government Agencies, ICPs, Implementing Partners, CBOs, Community leadership, NGOs, TFCAs.
- **WHY THE SUMMIT MATTERED:** Political platform that directly influences our work at ground and regional levels.
  - Heads of State commitment through their Summit Communique and Ministers Decisions.
  - **OUR WORK-GUIDED BY THESE DECISIONS AND HEADS OF STATE COMMUNIQUE**





# Objectives of this Feedback Session

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*To inform and engage the SADC TFCA Network on the key decisions taken at the May 2025 Summit and to mobilize support and coordinated action across Member States, partners, and stakeholders.*





# Decisions from the TFCA Summit of the SADC Heads of State and Governments held in Harare, Zimbabwe, May 2025

Decision #	Issue	Action
1	Implementation of the SADC Transfrontier Conservation Areas (TFCAs) Programme 2023-2033	
i.	Ministers urged Member States, Partners and all the relevant TFCA Practitioners to continue with collaborative efforts towards maximizing the objectives of the establishment of TFCAs and , including using a wide range of existing regional instruments, approved by SADC Member States, as part of the implementation of the SADC TFCA Programme, to strengthen the establishment and operationalization of TFCAs.	<b>Member States to work towards this decision</b>





# Decisions from the Transfrontier Conservation Areas (TFCA) Summit of the SADC Heads of State and Governments held in Harare, Zimbabwe, May 2025

Decision #	Issue	Action
2	<b>Improved Well-being and Rural Livelihoods in TFCAs</b>	
i.	Ministers urged Member States to strengthen the meaningful active participation of rural communities and accountability to ensure equitable benefit sharing in TFCAs.	<b>Member States to work towards this decision</b>
ii.	Ministers urged Member States to consider the development of tailor made, practical and effective approaches to address increased human wildlife conflicts involving all the relevant development and conservation sectors	
iii.	Ministers urged partners to prioritise the development of solutions including legislation to address Human Wildlife Conflict in their support to the region	







# Decisions from the Transfrontier Conservation Areas (TFCA) Summit of the SADC Heads of State and Governments

Decision #	Issue	Action
<b>3</b>	<b>Transboundary Biodiversity Management</b>	
<b>a.</b>	Ministers urged Member States to strengthen coordinated efforts to protect biodiversity in shared ecosystems by addressing issues like poaching, illegal logging, harvesting of plant species, and habitat fragmentation that can occur across borders	<b>Member States and ICPs to work towards this decision</b>
<b>b.</b>	Ministers urged Member States to consider reviving the SADC Rhino Management Group, in collaboration with relevant partners	
<b>c.</b>	Ministers urged Member States to strengthen Indigenous Knowledge systems, coordinated and expanded research programmes including dissemination and application of research outputs to advance biodiversity conservation	
<b>d.</b>	Ministers urged International community to recognize the successes made by TFCAs work within the SADC region, including through influencing decision-making processes in CITES to promote sustainable use of wildlife in the region to continue supporting the livelihoods of local communities and increased conservation efforts.	





# **Decisions from the Transfrontier Conservation Areas (TFCA) Summit of the SADC Heads of State and Governments**

Decision #	Issue	Action
<b>4</b>	<b>Marine Transboundary Conservation Areas</b>	
<b>a.</b>	Ministers urged Member States to promote the establishment of coastal and marine TFCAs, to adequately implement the SADC Blue Economy Strategy and Action Plan and produce tangible and sustainable benefits to local communities, regional economy and biodiversity conservation with regional and international impacts	<b>Start processes of engaging relevant Member States</b>
<b>b.</b>	Ministers urged Member States to strengthen joint management of shared marine ecosystems, to safeguard the livelihoods of coastal communities dependent on fishing and marine tourism	<b>Member States to work towards this decision</b>
<b>c.</b>	Ministers urged Member States to strengthen inclusive financing in their national budgets for TFCA in Marine Protected Areas.	
<b>d.</b>	Ministers urged Member States to strengthen benefit-sharing mechanisms in Marine TFCAs to ensure equitable benefits to the local communities and e., Partners to support the region in this regard	







# Decisions from the Transfrontier Conservation Areas (TFCA) Summit of the SADC Heads of State and Governments

Decision #	Issue	Action
<b>5</b>	<b>SADC Law Enforcement Anti-poaching (LEAP) Strategy Implementation</b>	
<b>i.</b>	Ministers urged Member States to strengthen the implementation of the LEAP Strategy as a pivotal tool for the region's collective efforts in tackling wildlife crime, reinforcing the need for multi-level cooperation among Member States, international partners, and local communities in TFCAs	<b>Member States to work towards this decision</b>
<b>ii.</b>	Ministers urged Member States to enhance mobilization of financial resources to support LEAP implementation initiatives in TFCAs, ensuring that anti-poaching efforts receive the necessary funding for sustained impacts	
<b>iii.</b>	Ministers urged Member States to integrate the LEAP Strategy with other national and regional frameworks, ensuring coherence in the region's approach to biodiversity conservation and sustainable development, including strengthening LEAP implementation structures within TFCAs	
<b>iv.</b>	Ministers urged Member States to urge International and Regional partners to support effective implementation of the SADC LEAP Strategy	





## Decisions from the Transfrontier Conservation Areas (TFCA) Summit of the SADC Heads of State and Governments

Decision #	Issue	Action
<b>6</b>	<b>SADC Law Enforcement Anti-poaching (LEAP) Strategy Implementation</b>	
<b>a.</b>	Ministers urged Member States to secure sustainable financing for TFCAs by diversifying funding sources, exploring innovative solutions such as carbon markets, biodiversity offsets and bonds (using its wildlife capital, like elephants, rhinos and others), eco-tourism, and public-private partnerships (PPPs)	<b>Member States to work towards this decision</b>
<b>b.</b>	Ministers urged Member States to engage with the private sector, local communities, and international cooperating partners to create new funding streams, including ecosystem services payments (PES), to provide long-term financial support for conservation	
<b>c.</b>	Ministers urged Member States to integrate sustainable financing models into national policies, ensuring TFCAs are sufficiently financed through private investments, tax incentives, and collaborative management partnerships (CMPs)	
<b>d.</b>	Ministers urged Member States to develop or strengthen frameworks for carbon credits and biodiversity credits, enabling TFCAs to tap into global markets and unlock private sector contributions, including incentives for nature-based investments	
<b>e.</b>	Ministers directed SADC Secretariat to coordinate a SADC Resource mobilization working group for sustainable financing of TFCAs in the region.	<b>Working Group Exist. Secretariat to facilitate meetings</b>





# Decisions from the Transfrontier Conservation Areas (TFCA) Summit of the SADC Heads of State and Governments

Decision #	Issue	Action
7.	<b>Increasing Tourism and Business Investments In TFCAS</b>	
i.	Ministers urged Member States to develop SADC TFCAs Integrated Tourism Investment Development Plan and align it with national investment plans informed by Biodiversity features and align it with national investment plans	<b>Member States to work towards this decision</b>







## Implications for the TFCA Network

### Opportunities:

- Greater political traction for TFCA activities
- Support and increased opportunities for access to national, regional or international funding
- Enhanced cross-border cooperation and regional integration
- Integration of regional conservation goals

### Responsibilities or Challenges:

- Need for better reporting and monitoring
- Alignment of national TFCA efforts with regional priorities
- Possible policy harmonization requirements





## TFCA Network's Role Going Forward in Response to the Decisions

01

**Coordination:**  
stronger  
alignment with  
ministers'  
resolutions

02

**Engagement:**  
Engage Member  
States, Engage  
local TFCA  
structures

03

**Support:** provide  
technical  
assistance or data  
to implement  
summit outcomes





# Parting statement

***“The decisions made at  
for our work. But it’s  
transform comm***







Thank You





# Sustainable Finance Coalition

Finance solutions for enduring naturescapes

# AGENDA

- 1. Insights from the SF “Bootcamp”**
- 2. What is a Community of Practice (CoP)?**
- 3. Do we need one for Sustainable Finance? *The SF-CoP Terms of Reference.***
- 4. What should we do next? What is your priority?**





# 1. Insights from the SF Bootcamp

- **120+ participants** from across SADC TFCAs (KAZA, GLTFCA, LOZAMAP, others)
- **Sectors represented:** NGOs, government, academia, climate finance, biodiversity, ESG, consultants
- **Key insights:**
  - ✓ Moderate *familiarity* vs. lower *confidence* in applying finance (inc SF)
  - ✓ High interest in **"HOW TO" Finance Solutions for Nature & Cross-Border Models**

## Primary Challenges:

- ✓ Lack of Diversified and Long-Term Finance
- ✓ Limited Access to Viable Financial Tools
- ✓ Difficulty in Articulating Bankable / Investment Cases
- ✓ Low Institutional Readiness
- ✓ Weak Stakeholder Coordination

## 2. What is a Community of Practice?

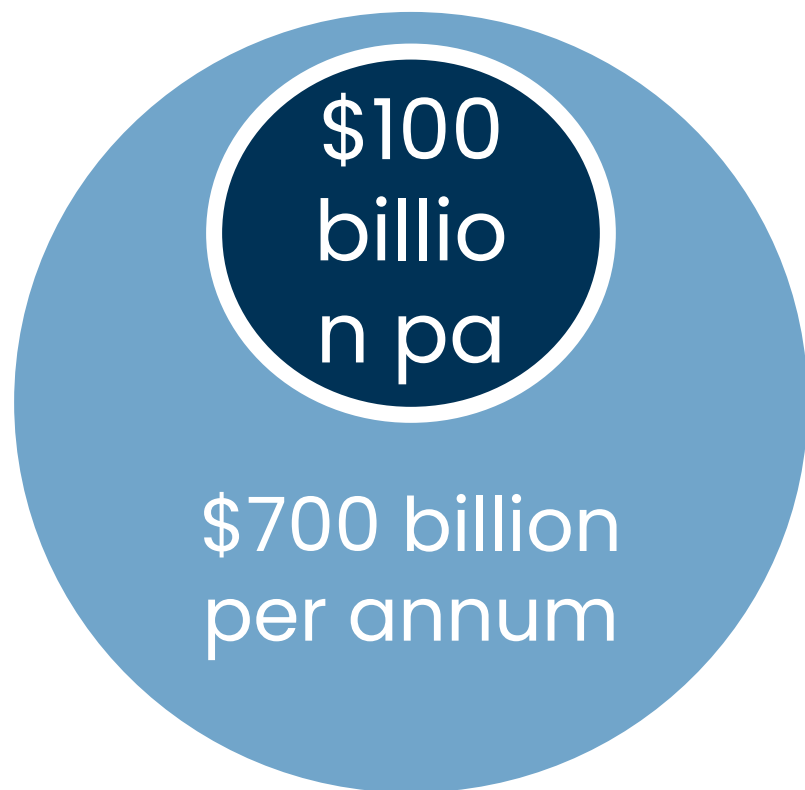
A **Community of Practice (CoP)** is:

- ✓ A group of individuals who **share a concern, passion, or interest** in a subject
- ✓ Who learn from one another through **regular interaction**, aiming to improve collectively



- **Shared Domain:** Members have a common area of interest, expertise, or profession.
- **Community:** There is a sense of belonging and social interaction among members.
- **Practice:** Members are actively engaged in learning and improving their skills related to the domain.
- **Knowledge Sharing:** CoPs foster the exchange of ideas, best practices, and lessons learned.
- **Problem Solving:** Members collaborate to address challenges and develop innovative solutions.
- **Continuous Learning:** CoPs provide a supportive environment for ongoing professional development and growth.

### 3. Do we need a SF-COP?



Source (subject to updated data): Paulson Institute

Collectively Addressing the Finance Gap for Nature



Source (subject to updated data): CFA, OECD, SFC.



A photograph of a savanna landscape at sunrise or sunset. The sky is a mix of orange, yellow, and green. In the foreground, there is a large, dark silhouette of an acacia tree. To the right of the tree, an elephant is grazing in the grass. The background shows a hazy horizon with more trees and a body of water.

**Finding the  
right key  
to open the  
doors to  
financial  
opportunity**

Harnesses the power of collective action to **mobilise money and expertise** to take finance solutions to scale.



Identifying the right **Finance Solution** for the right **Place** with the right **People**.

Take an identified finance solution from idea to **implementation** within clear **impact** parameters.

## 4. A SF-COP: what should we do next?

👉 What should be our first CoP priority?

👉 Which formats (workshops, peer exchanges, dialogues) add most value?

👉 What can you contribute – individually and as an organization?

Sustainable Finance COP - TFCAs SADC

WhatsApp group





If we grow finance solutions for nature champions, they will be enabled to secure and manage their unique resources, and biodiversity and people will flourish.





In partnership with



**WILDERNESS**  
FOUNDATION  
AFRICA

[sustainablefinancecoalition.org](https://sustainablefinancecoalition.org) in [the-sustainable-finance-coalition](https://the-sustainable-finance-coalition) [inventory.sfcoalition.org.za](https://inventory.sfcoalition.org.za)

The Sustainable Finance Coalition is a registered NPC, NPO and PBO. The Coalition is led by Founder and CEO, Candice Stevens, and supported by a Coalition Core Team. Our diverse and innovative Team hails from across Africa offering multi-disciplinary expertise and experience. The delivery of our Finance Model is enhanced through collaboration with our Nature Finance Doers and Drivers at Scale, organisations committed to becoming nature finance implementers. We are supported in our efforts by our Board and a voluntary advisory Council comprised of thought leaders from 20 sectors. The Coalition thanks and acknowledges the collective action required to design finance solutions for nature at scale from across the many parts of our Finance for Nature Ecosystem, and the role of our donors, funders and investors.

**NPC: 2023/202978/08 | NPO: 314-003 | PBO: 930083078**

## DISCLAIMER

In the interests of advancing the development of tailor-made finance solutions for nature and people, we encourage you to talk about our work.

We ask that you appropriately reference the Sustainable Finance Coalition (the Coalition) in all communications, by providing our logo and website: [www.sustainablefinancecoalition.org](https://www.sustainablefinancecoalition.org) and take a moment to reflect on our Values and Commitments, including our Acknowledgement Commitment Statement. Please note that the Coalition's co-founding organisations, WWF-SA and Wilderness Foundation Africa, are independent entities, subject to their own immaterial property and sharing protocols.

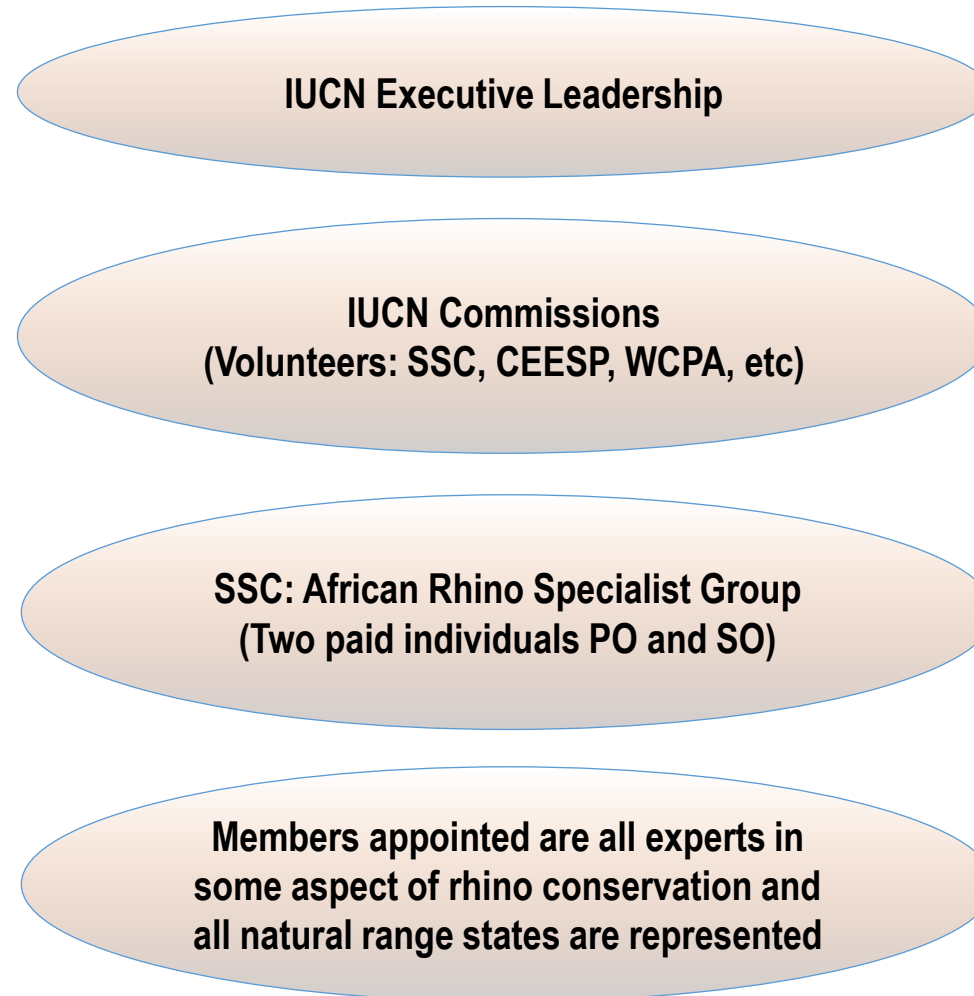
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The Coalition does not guarantee any formal collaboration, partnership or opportunity(s) through our Finance Model or our Finance for Nature Ecosystem and undertaking the Coalition's FIND process confers no rights or guarantees of any kind. The Coalition reserves the right not to pursue opportunities or engagements at any stage.





IUCN: Intergovernmental body – with additional members (e.g., NGOs etc.)







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

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

## Thriving People

To foster multiple values of rhinos for all peoples' well-being through promoting sustainable conservation

## Sustaining Finance

To promote sustainable finance and good governance for African rhino conservation

## Thriving Rhinos

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

## Innovative Knowledge

To facilitate research, collate information and report on the status of African rhinos to the IUCN and other parties

## African Opportunities

To ensure effective leadership through capacity building and mentorship of the next generation of rhino conservationists

## Enabling Engagement

To support targeted communication to a wide range of stakeholders

## Governance

To manage, monitor, and evaluate the Group via effective, efficient, and transparent governance

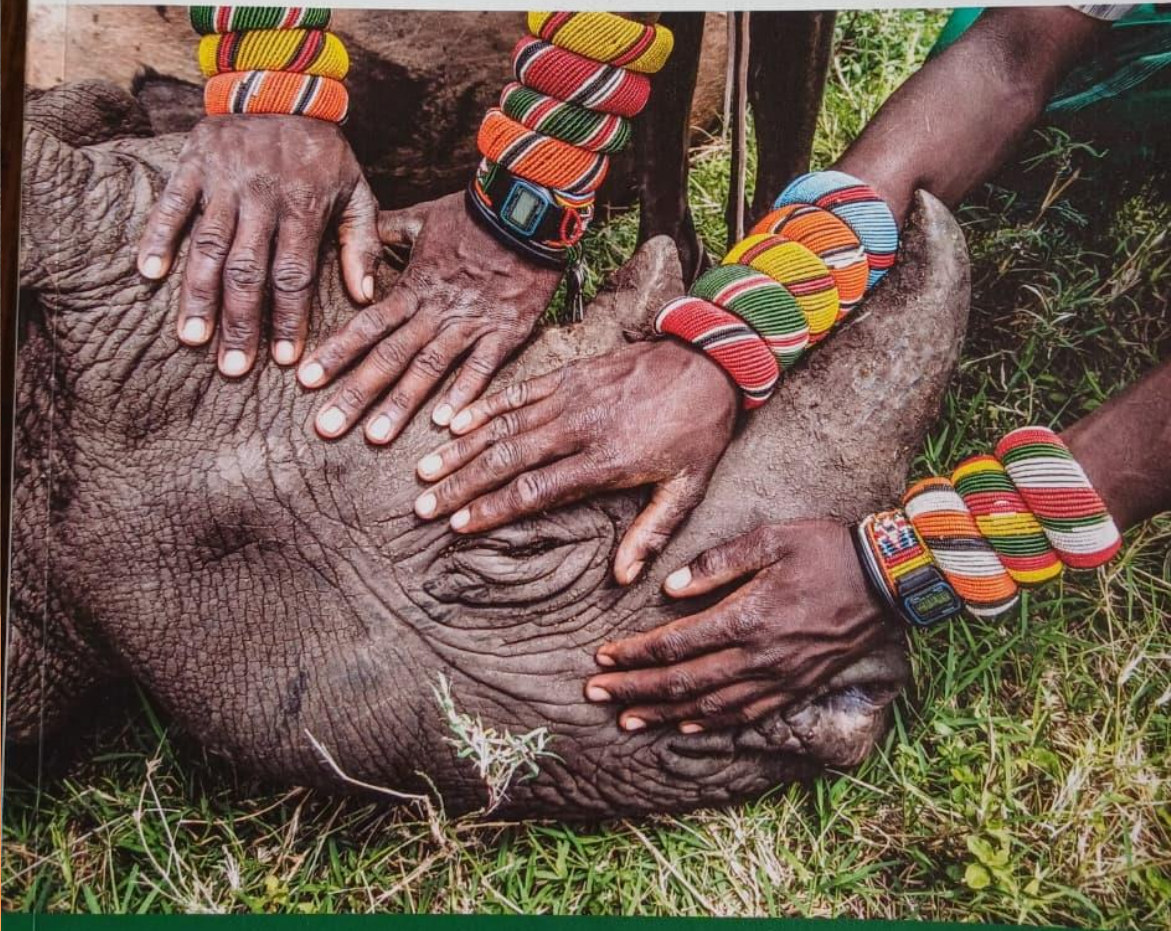




# African rhino conservation 2025–2035

A contemporary strategic framework

Dave Balfour, Sam M. Ferreira, Jamie Gaymer, Claire Lewis, Humbulani Mafumo, Keitumetse Makoma, William Mgoola, Mmadi Reuben, Jo A. Shaw, Simson Uri-Khob



<https://portals.iucn.org/library/node/52180>

## • Values

- Harness human values that delivers positive outcomes for people and rhinos

## • Evidence-based

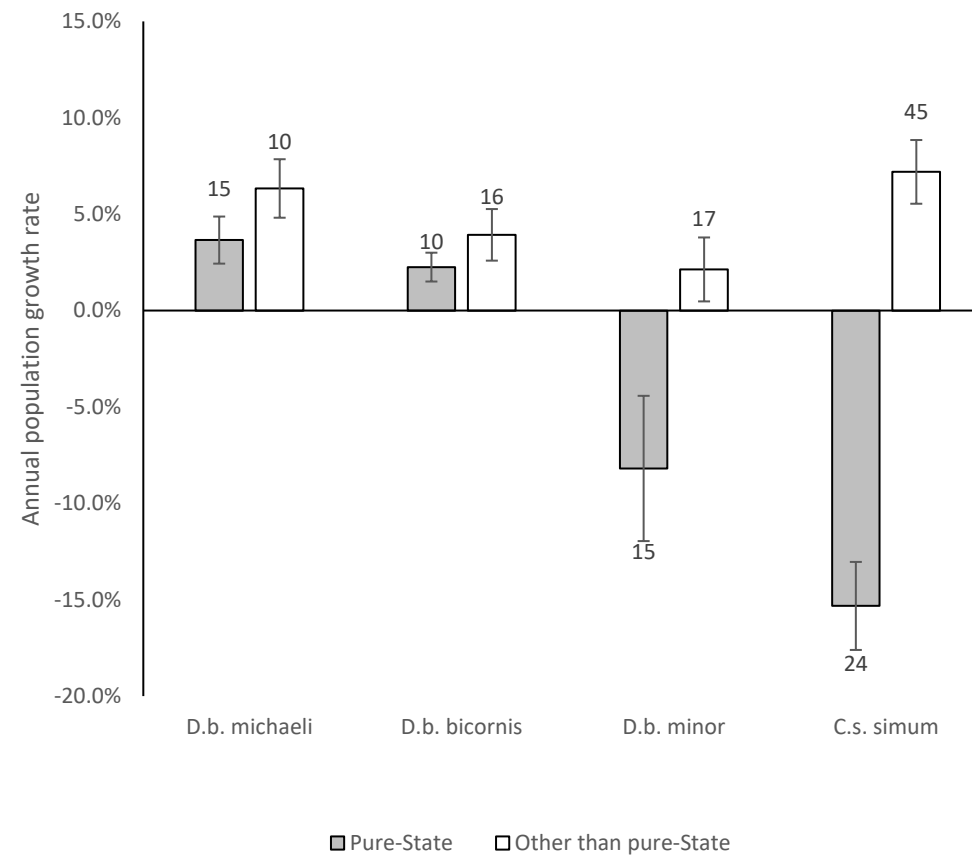
- Evaluate beliefs and interventions with evidence, learn and adapt

## • Neutral Identity

- Create a unique brand based on being issues neutral while cultivating collaboration



# Partnerships that devolve decision-making to local people may be key





Seeking to promote  
meta-population  
management and  
regional coordination  
and collaboration

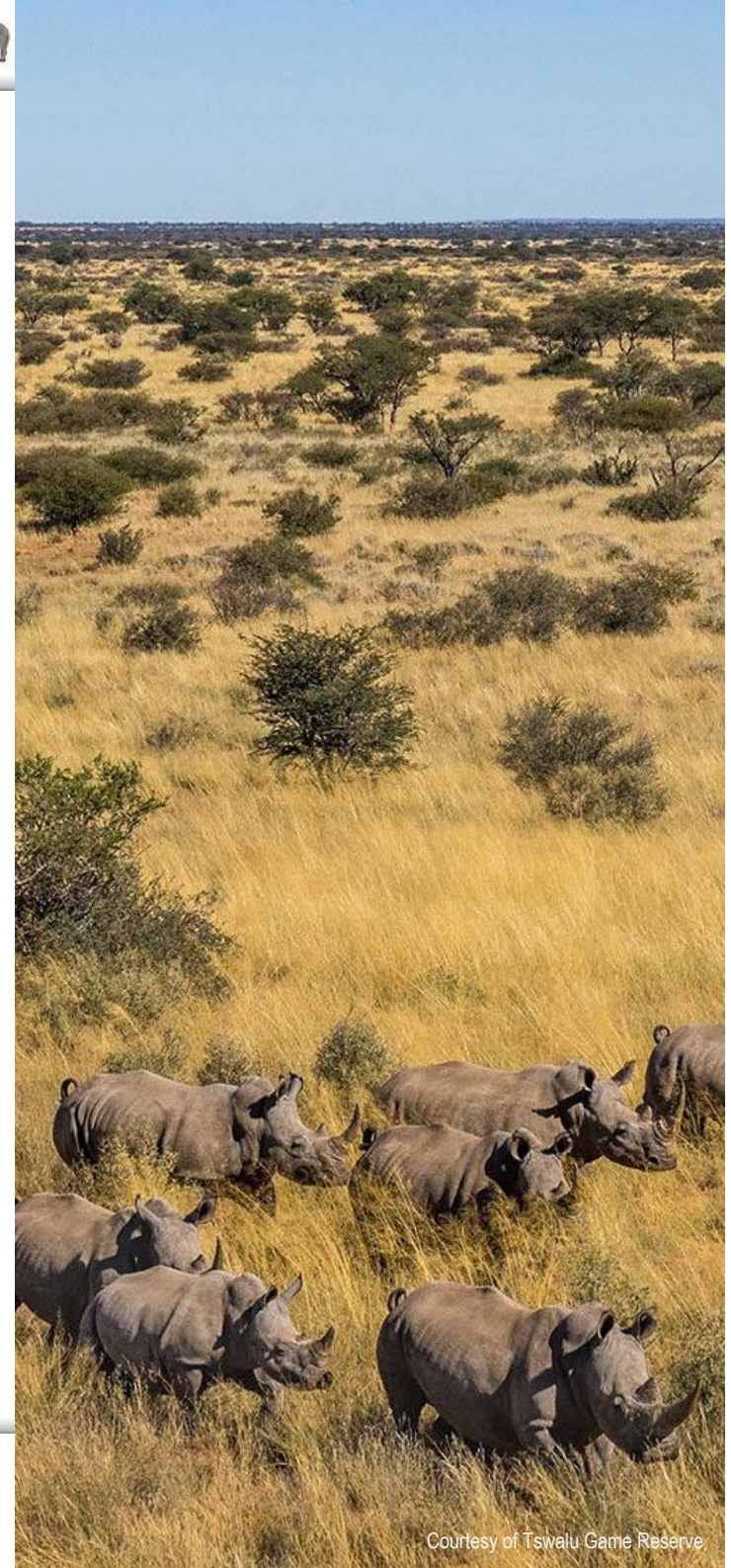






## Set out to revive the SADC regional initiative from 2000

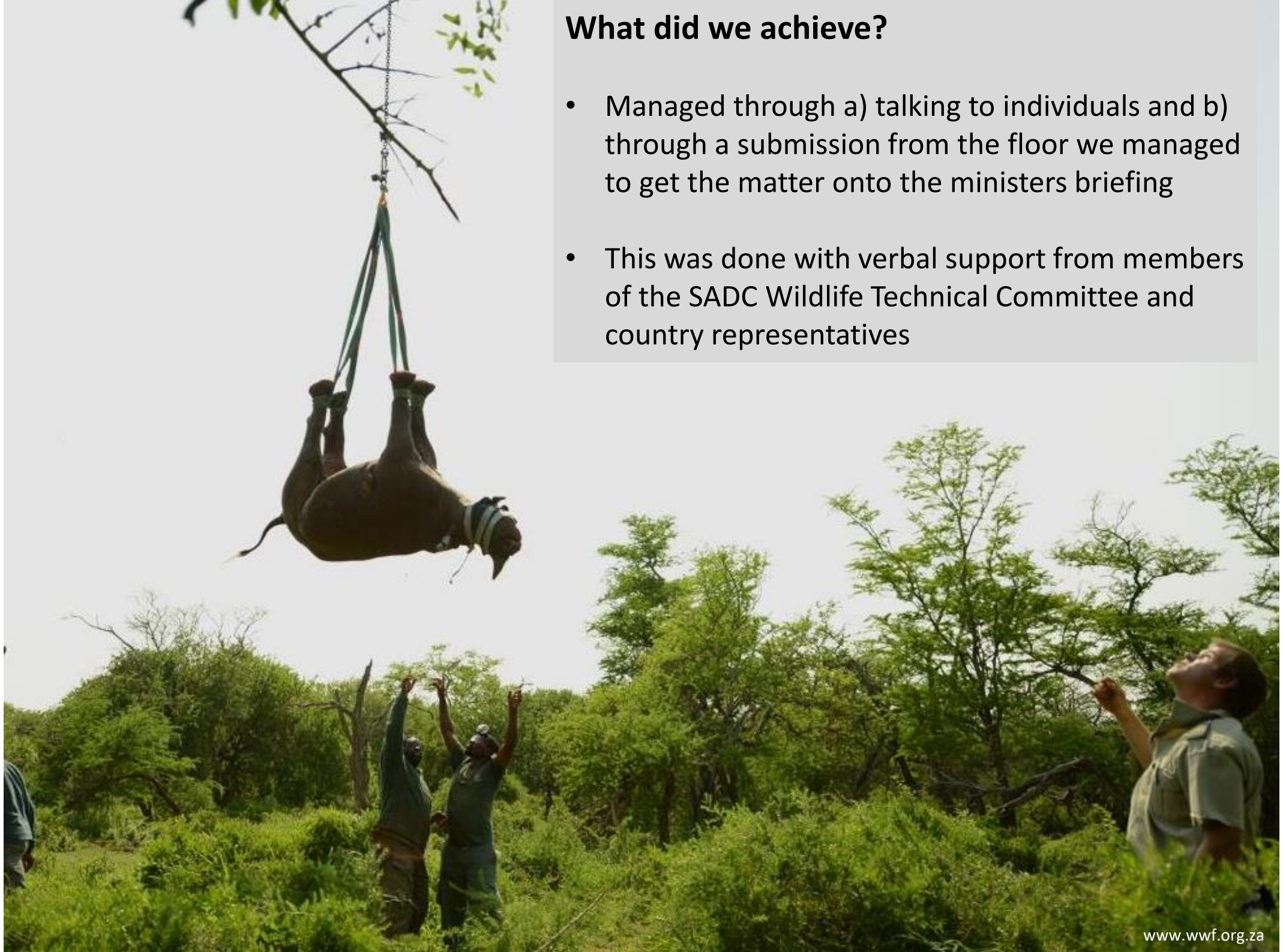
- SADC is very well situated to collaborate and cooperate (established intergovernmental structures)
- TFCAs are a powerful local conservation mechanism
- Partnerships between state and private actors are established
- Longstanding protected areas and state participation
- Both species are indigenous to the region





## What did we achieve?

- Managed through a) talking to individuals and b) through a submission from the floor we managed to get the matter onto the ministers briefing
- This was done with verbal support from members of the SADC Wildlife Technical Committee and country representatives



## Next steps

- Engaging with SADC technical staff
- Discuss and consider an approach for building support and advancing the goal of “promoting regional coordination and collaboration for rhino management in SADC and advancing meta-population management of both species







# Thank You, for supporting the SADC Transfrontier Conservation Areas Summit & Conference!

Harare : 19–23 May 2025

## Institutional Partners



Implemented by:



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Government of Zimbabwe



25 years of cooperation for regional integration and sustainable development!