

Gilé National Park, GNAP

FONDATION
FRANÇOIS
SOMMER



23rd of June, World Female Ranger Day

GNAP supports gender equality and is committed to increasing the number of female rangers involved in the conservation of protected areas



GNAP Rangers ph.©ANAC/Administração Nacional das Áreas de Conservação

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Here's what's been happening last month in the GNAP

Key Issues- May 2021

- The director of the Agricultural Institute of Bilibiza IABil (Cabo Delgado province) together with 40 students and their teacher spent a week in the GNAP coordinated by the Law Enforcement Department. The aim of the visit, promoted by the National Agricultural Programme Administration, was to strengthen naturalistic knowledge and learn about the field approach of GNAP. A Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) between IABil and GNAP has been signed with the aim of creating internships and training courses on natural resource conservation, biodiversity and anti-poaching topics;
- The 20th of May, the GNAP celebrated the World Bee Day: the Community Development Department with support of AFD (*Agence Française de Développement*) through the NTFPs program is daily empowering beekeepers aiming at sustainable honey production creating income for communities and benefits for nature;
- A team from our partner BIOFUND (Foundation for the Conservation of Biodiversity) visited the GNAP with the aim of setting up the launch of the *PROMOVE-Biodiversidade* project which will take place in June;
- GNAP has hired a logistician and a chief mechanic. The recruitment of a financial assistant application was published on the 26th of May;
- Last month, 45 seasonal workers were also recruited to support infrastructure development.

Management and Infrastructure

- Musseia Camp: The roof of the drivers' and guards' pavilion has been completed; construction of the septic tank and additional accommodation is underway. The accommodation for the students of the Agricultural Institute in Bilibiza has been set up for the visit. The roof of the building at the main entrance of the Musseia Headquarters has been replaced;
- The maintenance of the water pumping system from the Molocué River, repairs and routine maintenance have been ensured;
- In May around 40 km of roads have been cleaned from rom fallen trees and opened;



Musseia Headquarters: new staff accommodation

Law Enforcement

- In May, GNAP Rangers have started to be vaccinated against Covid-19;
- A total of 891 km of patrols on foot were undertaken this month; almost 3500 km have been covered by car patrols;
- The Rangers detected 17 signs of illegal activities related to poaching and illegal logging. 6 roadblocks and 38 ambushes have been performed;
- 5 illegal loggers have been arrested in the Buffer Zone thanks to the collaboration with AQUA, *Agência Nacional para Avaliação da Qualidade Ambiental* (National Agency for Environmental Quality Assessment);
- 10 traps, 3 steel cables, 3 fishnets and 2 knives have been confiscated.



Vaccination ©FFS-IGF/PNAG

Biodiversity Conservation

- Elephants stayed mainly inside the *Coutada*; a few of them have raiding crops in the local communities several times this month;
- GNAP priority species were monitored during May: buffaloes have been detected 17 times; zebra, wildebeest and leopard tracks were also recorded. Many spoor were also recorded;
- The International Day for Biological Diversity has been remembered the 22nd of May by GNAP which hosts thousands of different species, from great mammals to birds, shrews, bats and rodents. Several species of insects have been identified; however, an exhaustive research is still in progress:



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Community Development

- Human/wildlife conflict: As a response to elephant raids into village plantations, an awareness-raising mission on the importance of wildlife protection with an emphasis on human-fauna conflict mitigation

measures was conducted involving some 20 local leaders;

- The survey and mapping of areas of historical and cultural value for tourist activities around and within the GNAP is underway. This activity will take about 3 months to cover the entire Buffer Zone. Some sites for potential ecotourism development have been found including Natila's waterfalls, sacred spirit caves, running water and a beautiful natural landscape:



Natila's landscape

- NTFPs:
 - The final report of the DPO 1 Project was submitted together with FFS-IGF. The submission of this document is essential for the award of a potential DPO 2 Project;
 - Mushrooms: the first 11 kg of dried mushrooms sent to Maputo have been sold by the private partner Mozambique Good Trade Company. For 2,5 years, 15 self-managed groups that gathered more than 600 women from 15 communities have been trained to sustainable harvesting and improved drying techniques. Find the full article here: <https://www.linkedin.com/pulse/primeira-venda-de-cogumelos-para-preservar-do-parque-nacional-basile/?trackingId=M%2Ffn8zPT%2BC%2Fy6zmHYV6zQ%3D%3D>
 - A submission that examined the authorisation of mushroom picking within the Park boundaries was produced. The production of this document required research and analysis of international documents dealing with human activities within conservation areas (IUCN);
 - About 120 people (80 ladies) from 3 communities were trained to produce the dried mushrooms. 15 dryers have been constructed;
 - Honey: 11 hives were delivered to 2 communities in the Buffer Zone.

Forecast for June 2021

- The launch of the biodiversity conservation programme *PROMOVE-Biodiversidade* will take place in the GNAP released by the Minister of Land and Environment;
- The maintenance of roads and infrastructure will be carrying on;
- Law enforcement and other core activities will be guaranteed;
- Wildlife data collection and monitoring of priority species will be ensured.



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