

GNAP Newsletter

December 2022

GNAP wishes you Merry Christmas and Happy New Year!

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View from Mount Pope© FFS-IGF

Key Issues- November 2022

- GNAP hosted the FFS project officer and the FFS-IGF project coordinator who held a training on the use of the EarthRanger system for the rangers (see the dedicated article "EarthRanger training in Gilé National Park" published the 15th of December);
- The 2nd coordination meeting between GNAP and prosecutors was held at the Pebane district Headquarters, hosted by the Pebane district Administrator in the presence of the Warden of GNAP and the President of the Pebane Judicial Court. Members of SERNIC *Serviço Nacional de Investigação Criminal* (National Criminal Investigation Service), the civil society, SDAE Pebane *Serviço Distrital de Actividades Económicas* (District Service of Economic Activities), AQUA *Agência Nacional para Avaliação da Qualidade Ambiental* (National Agency for Environmental Quality Assessment), the Provincial Forest and Wildlife Services and the Operation Chief of the district command have been involved. The television broadcaster TVM and the Zambezi radio station Radio Mozambique recorded the event. The meeting was an opportunity to renew the commitment to interaction and collaboration between government institutions and GNAP to improve communication and knowledge exchange on ecosystem protection and environmental crime deterrence:



Corporate group photo ©GNAP

- GNAP management unit, together with representatives of our partners *Radeza* and *Nitidæ*, attended the 2nd annual meeting called by the GNAP Warden Mr. Muchanga. The Administrators of Mocubela and Gilé districts, the permanent secretary of Pebane district, 14 community representatives, a member of the provincial Department of Conservation and Environmental Services, the AQUA's Head of Supervision and the Director of the Mulela post office were also present. The focus of the meeting was the involvement of communities in the participatory management of natural resources and value chains with a view to improving livelihoods and reducing pressure on the forest;
- The recruitment of candidates for the position of a Non-Timber Forest Products project coordinator has been completed, while the infrastructure technician and one driver have been employed;

- The GNAP team was updated on the legislation and policies governing staff in the conservation area;
- 33 seasonal workers were recruited to support infrastructure development.



The 2nd annual meeting participants ©GNAP

Management and Infrastructure

- Musseia Headquarters: the area for the construction of the new kitchens was defined and compacted. Electrical maintenance was carried out in the rangers' accommodation. Transport of drinking water was ensured;
- Lice Tourist Camp: restoration of the roof of the meeting hall is in progress;
- Etaga guard post: concrete plinths for the installation of radio communication antennas were constructed. The state of preservation and physical integrity of an existing ruin was evaluated with a perspective of extending the current structures;
- Planning for the construction of a bridge over the Malema River is in course;
- A foundation structure of mortar stone was built in the depression of the Rio Nakuca road section. The depression in the Muarriga road section has been rehabilitated.



Construction area of new kitchens in Musseia and ruins in Etaga ©GNAP

Law Enforcement

- The Law Enforcement Department (LED) carried out a 12-day working visit to the authorities of the 4 districts bordering the GNAP (Pebane, Gilé, Mocubela and Mulevala). The visits aimed to renew cooperation and interaction with local institutions, as well as prosecutors and district courts, with a focus on the human-wildlife conflict and collaboration in territory management;
- In November a total of 46 patrols were undertaken covering 1,183 km on foot and more than 2,400 km by car. GNAP deployed an average of 6 rangers per day;
- 49 signs of illegal activities, mainly related to poaching, were detected;
- The following items have been confiscated: 32 traps, 10 traps, 7 cable traps, 4 machete, 1 spear, 4 hunting nets, 5 fishing tools and 1 fishing net;
- 4 roadblocks and 30 ambushes have been performed;
- 7 poachers were arrested and related legal cases have been opened.



The FFS Project officer Mrs. Merel and the LED's Head Chief Zavale during the EarthRanger training ©GNAP

Biodiversity Conservation

- Elephants remained mainly in the western side of the GNAP and in its Buffer Zone;
- Human/wildlife conflict HWC: just one case of HWC has been recorded in November;
- Animals directly observed were mainly waterbucks (241 direct observations), kudo (182) and gray

- duikers (101), 1 yed96 sables, 70 buffalo, 62 wild pig, 54 reedbuck, 40 bushbucks, 19 red duikers, 12 warthogs, 5 zebras and 1 crocodile have been sighted;
- Spoors of elephants, zebra, buffalo, wildebeest, sable, kudu, waterbuck, bushbuck, reedbuck were also recorded;
- A female grey duiker and a wild pig were found dead: the first was killed by mechanical traps, the latter by steel cable. A carcass of a sable was also found, but the cause of death is unknown.



Nile crocodile in GNAP ©FFS-IGF

Community Development

- NTFPs:
 - Honey: 15 catch boxes and beehives were positioned to capture migratory swarms during the flowering season;
 - Mushrooms: The opening up of agricultural fields as an alternative form of family income for mushroom picking groups continues. GNAP dried mushrooms were launched on the market and sold by the *MozgoodTrade* brand;
 - Cashew: permanent meetings were organized to ensure the joint cashew sales campaign from the end of November by the sales groups around GNAP's Buffer Zone:



GNAP mushrooms in MozgoodTrade catalogue ©MozGoodTrade



One of the cashew sale workshops ©GNAP

Forecast for next months

- NTFPs: The opening and handover of the Honey House and Mushroom Selection Centre in Gilé district are underway;
- The maintenance of roads and infrastructure will be carrying on;
- Law enforcement and other core activities will be guaranteed.

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