

GNAP Newsletter

August 2022

Here's what has happened in June and July in the GNAP

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Zambezi aerial view ©T. Prin/ FFS-IGF

Key Issues- June/July 2022

- GNAP welcomed Mrs. Celmira da Silva, Director General of ANAC (*Administração Nacional das Áreas de Conservação*) together with Alban de Loisy, Director General of Fondation François Sommer on the occasion of the July Steering Committee. GNAP thanks its partners Biofund and AFD *Agence Française de Développement*:



FFS-IGF/GNAP team and Mrs. da Silva at Musseia Headquarters ©GNAP

- On the 23rd of June, GNAP celebrated the dedication and commitment of our women rangers on World Women Rangers Day. The 31st of July was World Ranger Day: the Musseia Environmental Club performed theatrical, musical and poetry; a football match kicked off by the GNAP's Warden and the film screening on ranger activity closed the celebrations;
- World Environment Day has been celebrated on the 5th of July led by the Pebane District Administrator with the participation of members of the district government, local authorities, community and religious leaders, a delegation from BIOFUND and RADEZA partners and members of CGRNs *Comités de Gestão de Recursos Naturais* (Natural Resource Management Committees). Clean-up day, tree planting and many cultural activities mark the celebration promoted in Buffer Zone communities;
- GNAP together with the environmental clubs of the Buffer Zone communities celebrated World Nature Conservation Day (28th of July) with dedicated activities;
- The interview process for the recruitment of an infrastructure technician is nearing completion;
- 15 new rangers were selected in June and assigned to their positions the following month;
- 53 seasonal workers were recruited to support infrastructure development.



Demonstration march on World Ranger Day ©GNAP



Planting trees with communities on World Environment Day ©GNAP

Management and Infrastructure

- Musseia Headquarters: the external walls of the staff houses were painted with cashew oil. A drainage ditch has been opened in the rangers' camp. The tower for the car wash tank was installed;
- Etaga guard post: the area for the installation of the radio antenna has been demarcated; The process of installing the radio point on Mount Nachipe is underway;
- Lice Tourist Camp: tent maintenance: the outside of the fabric was painted with cashew nut oil. The warehouse was reorganized. New pipes have been installed;
- Gravel for road maintenance to Malema and the Nakololo guard post was brought. Internal roads were rehabilitated, levelled and cleared of fallen trees.



One of the staff accommodation and the warehouse ©GNAP

Law Enforcement

Monitoring and law enforcement activities were carried out regularly. No sightings of poachers have been detected, although rangers came across some signs of poaching activity.

- In June and July, a total of 137 patrols were undertaken covering more than 1600 km on foot, 2400 by bike and 6700 km by car. GNAP deployed an average of 5 rangers per day;
- 39 signs of illegal activities, mainly related to poaching, were detected;
- The following items have been confiscated: 30 traps, 19 steel cables, 9 gin traps, 2 spears and 3 bicycles;
- 6 roadblocks and 60 ambushes have been performed;
- Law Enforcement Department representatives were requested to attend trials in the Pebane and Gilé district courts and the Zambézia Provincial Court following arrests in the protected area.



Rangers on patrol ©GNAP

Biodiversity Conservation

- Elephants remained outside the GNAP most of the time, particularly in the western *Coutada* (Buffer Zone) and near the communities;

- Thanks to the Earthranger monitoring system, GNAP noticed the collar of a buffalo had stopped transmitting. A team of rangers immediately has been deployed to the location reported by the system to investigate. Fortunately, the team found no signs of human presence, nor the buffalo carcass. Sometimes the GPS satellite in the collars can stop transmitting due to dead batteries, but timeliness is fundamental for this kind of situation;



Buffalo ©FFS-IGF

- Human/wildlife conflict HWC: In June, GNAP received several reports of buffaloes in the area close to inhabited places and crops. In some cases, the buffalo do not access crops but use the area as an ecological corridor. GNAP reminded communities of recommendations, such as not to scare the buffalo, to access the machambas in groups, not to set traps or attack the animal, and to alert the authorities in case of further disturbance to the community;
- Animals directly observed were mainly waterbucks 268, around 300 kudo and more than 200 sables. 79 grey duikers, 64 reedbucks, 63 wild pigs, 63 red duikers, 33 buffalo, 21 bushbucks, 19 zebras, 18 wildebeest and 18 warthogs have been sighted;
- Spoors of kudo, waterbuck, buffalo, zebra, elephants, wildebeest, sable, bushbuck and reedbuck were also recorded.

Community Development

- Meetings:
 - Honey: 65 kilos of honey harvested in May were processed in three different processing zones in June: top-quality honey will be sold in shops in GNAP, Nampula and Maputo. Lower quality honey will be used in the process of producing peanut butter samples. In June, 2 kilograms of raw wax with propolis wax added were produced in 2 communities;
 - In order to build new CGRNs, GNAP held trainings, in particular on the importance of this community body and on forest governance decision-making, reaching out 13 communities interested in the process. Each CGRN will consist of 50 members;
- Within the framework of developing inclusive models of Natural Resource management, Gilé National Park, in collaboration with AQUA *Agência Nacional para Avaliação da Qualidade Ambiental* (National Agency for Environmental Quality Control), trained 12 community rangers from the GNAP's Buffer Zone;



Building new CGRNs

- NTFPs:
 - Honey: 65 kilos of honey harvested in May were processed in three different processing zones in June: top-quality honey will be sold in shops in GNAP, Nampula and Maputo. Lower quality honey will be used in the process of producing peanut butter samples. In June, 2 kilograms of raw wax with propolis wax added were produced in 2 communities;
 - Mushrooms: in June, mushrooms were selected and collected from 26 collection groups from 17 communities. 7 types of mushrooms were processed, 2 of which were included in the process for scientific species identification to investigate commercial potential in the future. In June, one group in particular was able to purchase cashew nuts for sale from the savings generated by the mushroom harvest. The results reflect the high motivation of the group. In July, 3 new mushroom harvesting groups were set up, involving 70 women in basic training on processing and harvesting techniques.



Mrs. Juliana presents the mushrooms produced by her group ©GNAP

Forecast for August

- NTFPs: due to low temperatures and irregular rainfall, the planned honey harvest will be carried out from the end of August to the first half of September;
- The maintenance of roads and infrastructure will be carrying on;
- Law enforcement and other core activities will be guaranteed;

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