

GNAP Newsletter - January 2024

<https://www.parquenacionaldogile.gov.mz>



Lice River © X.Gasselin/FFS-IGF

- Key Issues -

- On 15th of December, Gilé National Park held its 6th ordinary meeting of the Park Management Board. The permanent secretaries representing the administrators of the Gilé, Pebane, Mocubela and Mulevala districts were present, as were the partners and leaders of the respective communities;
- GNAP convened the local leaders of 2 communities near the park with the aim of collaborating to stop the opening of the cultivated fields at the entrance to the Musseia Headquarter and start the reforestation operation of the areas. The meeting culminated in the signing of a commitment to end agricultural activities in the area in question by May 2024;
- In January, the Director of Pôle Nature Mr. Courbois visited GNAP accompanied by FFS-IGF project manager and FFS-IGF project coordinator. The director visited Musseia Headquarter, met the teams and visited the BZ communities that benefit from the NTFPs (Non-Timber Forest Products) programme. The mission also provided an opportunity to validate the annual activity plan and to meet CIRAD teams in Maputo, the French Ambassador to Mozambique, AFD *Agence Française de Développement* (French Development Agency) Director in Mozambique and the ANAC, *Administração Nacional das Áreas de Conservação* (National Administration for the Conservation Areas) Director General. With the end of the 1st quarter of 2024 in sight, the signing of the co-management agreement, which is currently being reviewed on the Mozambican side;
- Law Enforcement Department LED: 2 rangers have been trained on communication and image techniques in Maputo, held by ANAC;
- Mr. Buruwate FFS-IGF technical advisor in GNAP officially left his position. The team have expressed his gratitude to him for the work he has accomplished;
- 35 seasonal workers were recruited to support infrastructure development.



Mr. Courbois and Mrs. Lupaka NTFPs project manager during a visit in the community ©FFS-IGF

Management and Infrastructures

- The Operations Department participated in the installation of 6 mills in the communities of the BZ carried out by our partner *RADEZA* as part of the GNAP support project;
- Musseia Headquarter:
 - ordinary maintenance activities have been carried out, including the replacement of the damaged wooden walkway, the completion of the electrical system in the staff homes and the water supply of the camp
 - nursery: planting and watering various seedlings, filling bags with soil, creation of flowerbeds for sowing vegetables;
- Mulela guard post:
 - the septic tank has been installed;
- Nachipe antenna:
 - the damaged converter has been replaced;
- Roads :
 - fallen trees have been removed along the Malema Cuculo and mount Pope sections;
 - mapping and technical supervision of the opening of the road on the southern border of GNAP is underway;
 - the extraction of crushed stone and mineral sand for the construction of the bridge over the Malema River is ongoing. The isolated plinths were created and the walls of the abutments of the bridge over the river were removed;
 - the embankment works on the bridge over the Nwoto River are underway.



Water tower in the southern border ©GNAP



Law Enforcement

- Latest report states that the LED carried out a total of 38 patrols on foot and 16 by car covering respectively more than 800 km and 3200 km. 43 ambushes and 8 roadblocks were also carried out leading to the arrest of 7 poachers and one illegal miner. Six court cases were opened;
- 21 signs of illegal activities mainly related to poaching were detected in December;
- 32 traps, 11 gin traps, 9 spears, 5 machetes, 3 fishing tools and one steel cable have been confiscated;
- 4 joint patrols with AQUA *Agência Nacional para Avaliação da Qualidade Ambiental* (National Agency for Environmental Quality Assessment) were carried out in the districts of Pebane, Gilé, Mulevala and Mocubela;
- Human-wildlife conflict, HWC: 8 cases of HWCs have been recorded in December.

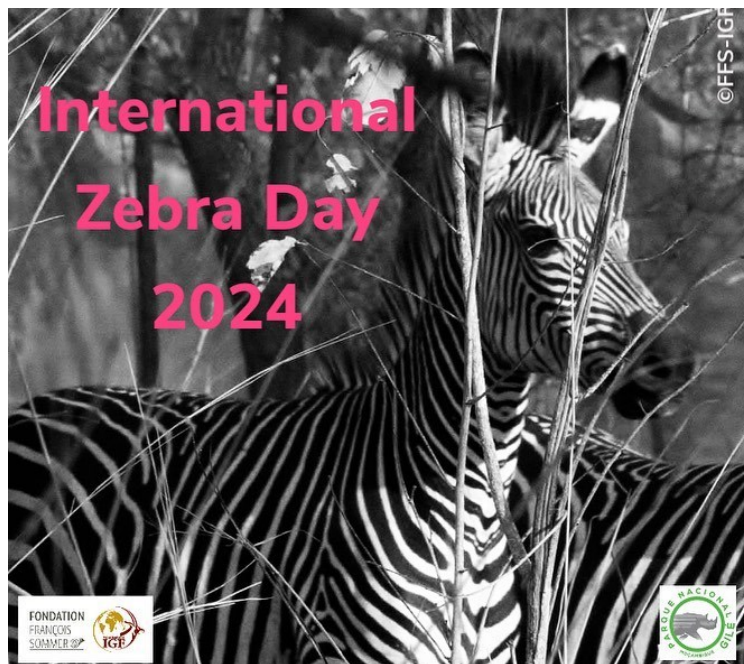


Daily patrol ©FFS-IGF

Conservation and Science

- The monitored elephants remained in the southern area of the GNAP during the past months with several raids in the BZ and in community fields;
- In December, GNAP rangers directly observed 203 waterbucks, 160 kudus, 91 sables, 71 grey duikers, 52 bushbucks, 49 reedbucks, 45 warthogs, 32 bush pigs, 24 zebras, 16 buffaloes, 7 red duikers, 4 wildebeests, 3 klipspringers and one lion;
- Spoors mainly of kudu, waterbuck and sable were recorded; elephant, zebra, wildebeest, buffalo, bushbuck and reedbuck were also recorded;
- A carcass of kudu and a carcass of bush pig were found: sex, age and cause of death of the animals

- are unknown;
- The 31st of January GNAP celebrated International Zebra Day 2024: an average of 20 zebras per month have been directly observed during daily patrols over the past year. Some zebras are monitored by GPS collar and usually remain in the northern area of the park. 15 Crawshay zebras (*Equus quagga crawshayi*) were first translocated in October 2013 from Niassa National Reserve to GNAP and an additional 50 Crawshay zebras were translocated in 2018. Today, the zebra population in GNAP is stable at around 60 animals:



GNAP International Zebra Day poster ©FFS-IGF

Community Development and Sustainable Livelihoods

- Health Fair:** As part of the Integrated Health Services Fair and Legal Support of the GNAP Community Health Program with the aim of reducing premature marriages, malnutrition and bringing basic clinical services closer to the villages in Pebane and Gilé districts, the CD Department visited the communities with a joint team of technicians to provide health/legal services, distribute football equipment and promote sports and health;
- Projeto Xadrez (Chess Project):** At the end of December, GNAP organized the 1st Girls' Chess Championship at the primary school of the Malema Centro community. 19 girls from 5 schools in the BZ participated together with their parents, caregivers and teachers. The 3 winners took home medals and 3 complete sets of school supplies. This chess programme was set up as part of the Non-Timber Forest Products (NTFPs) project, co-funded by AFD to raise girls' awareness of sex education and early marriage.



1st Girls' Chess Championship ©GNAP

- Agriculture campaign:** As part of supporting value chains for harvesting groups, the NTFPs project distributed 150 kg of peanut seeds, 40 kg of maize seeds and 40 kg of pigeon pea seeds;
- The agricultural cooperatives *Opola Mawa Orera* (OMO) and *Opua Oravo Orera* (OOO) have been approved and legalized as legal entities with administrative rights;
- NTFPs**
 - Honey:** In December, approximately 22.5 kg of raw honey were collected from the apiaries of 3 communities and processed in the Musseia Headquarter. The hives and capture boxes were regularly monitored;
 - Mushrooms:** awareness meetings on good practices and the sustainable use of natural resources were held;
 - Snails:** in December the second sale of 500 snails from the farms of 2 communities was carried out;

- Cashew: 13 joint sales were carried out, supported by technicians from the CD Department. In December it was possible to sell around 26 tons of cashews. Members of the involved Buffer Zone communities are satisfied with the increase in sales value through this joint selling (VC venda conjunta) model.

Forecast for 2024

- The maintenance of roads and infrastructure will be carrying on;
- Law enforcement and other core activities will be guaranteed.



Copyright © 2023 GNAP, All rights reserved

If you want to subscribe to the Newsletter, please [click here](#)