

## GNAP Newsletter - September/October 2024 -

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A ray of sun on the GNAP ©T.Prin/FFS

Dear Friend,

Over the past few months, Gilé National Park has been regularly carrying out its activities, from patrols to wildlife monitoring, from community development activities to meetings with local institutions, from infrastructure maintenance to work to improve the road network.

- On the occasion of **World Tourism Day** (27th of September), the Community Development Department promoted various activities among the community with the aim of raising awareness on forest conservation in a future vision of sustainable tourism;
- A meeting between the GNAP, local institutions, representatives of the *África Mining* company and local miners (garimpeiros) was held with the aim of gathering information on the illegal exploitation of mineral resources in the Buffer Zone;
- Following a report of illegal cutting of native species trees during a routine patrol of the Law Enforcement Department, awareness-raising in Buffer Zone's communities was intensified with the support of the Community Development Department.

You will find all the details in the following paragraphs.

Thank you and happy reading,

*GNAP management*

### Management and Infrastructures

- Musseia Headquarters: ordinary maintenance was ensured. Mosquito nets were replaced in the lodgings and offices, and the painting with cashew nut oil with immunizing effect was completed;
- Water supply to the radio repeaters in Etaga and Mount Pope is underway. Toilets made from local materials were installed at one of the guard posts;
- Roads and bridges: work on the bridge over the Malema River and maintenance on the bridge over the Niwarione river continues. 17 km of road in a critical wetland area called "*dambo*" have been reclaimed. Six km of road near the Lice checkpoint was rehabilitated;
- 30 seasonal workers were hired monthly to support the infrastructure development.



Maintenance of bridges and staff houses ©GNAP

### Conservation and Science

- The latest direct observations record 220 kudus, 189 bushbucks, 120 sabres, 97 common duikers, 77 reedbucks, 56 buffaloes, 37 bushbucks, 35 wild pigs, 31 warthogs, 9 wildebeests, 5 elephants, one red duiker and one crocodile;
- 20 of the 200 buffaloes, which were translocated to GNAP between August and September, were monitored using GPS collars. The data shows that most of the individuals headed towards the Lice and Mulela rivers, away from the release boma, while the others approached the villages. The animals'

adaptation to the new environment is constantly under observation;

- Human-Wildlife Conflict (HWC): a call regarding buffalo involvement from a Buffer Zone community was recorded. Two herds of elephants were driven out by communities in the Pebane district (see also the “Community Development” paragraph).



Collaring of a buffalo ©Q.Ebrard/FFS

## Law Enforcement

- In recent months, the Law Enforcement Department have performed a monthly average of 44 foot patrols and 16 car patrols covering more than 900 km of foot patrols and approximately 7000 km by car per month;
- An average of 39 ambushes and 5 road-blocks were also carried out;
- An average of 17 illegal activities were detected in recent months, mainly related to poaching and logging. Rangers confiscated 40 traps, 17 cable traps, 7 gintraps, 5 spears, 2 machetes and 4 set of fishing gear. A poacher and one illegal fisherman were arrested and trials were opened.



Poaching tools handed in as part of the SCAMBIO project ©GNAP

## Community Development and Sustainable Livelihoods

- Human-Wildlife Conflict (HWC): 45 food kits were distributed to community volunteers in 7 districts in September. Training on awareness of security and mitigation measures and the proper use of deterrent flares was provided;
- SCAMBIO project\* : 19 different poaching tools were collected and delivered in Pebane province. As part of the project, they will be exchanged for useful agricultural materials and seeds;
- NTFPs project:
  - Honey: 15 kg of honey was collected; 2 kg of honey was sent to the *Mozambique Good Trade* company;
  - Mushrooms: 37 mushroom collection groups were monitored. 140 kg of dried mushrooms were produced, and most were delivered to the *Mozambique Good Trade* company in Mocuba;;
  - Peanuts: 2 kg of peanuts butter was sent to the *Mozambique Good Trade* company.

\*Since 2016, the SCAMBIO project has been providing agricultural tools and seeds in exchange for hunting tools volunteered by community members and former poachers.



One of the GNAP's awareness training in the community ©GNAP

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