

Cheetah and African Wild Dogs in Tanzania: Progress Against the National Conservation Action Plan (2016)



*Second Meeting of the range states of the CITES joint CITES – CMS
African Carnivore Initiative
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NATIONAL ACTION PLAN FOR THE CONSERVATION OF CHEETAHS & AFRICAN WILD DOGS IN TANZANIA



Tanzania Wildlife Research Institute, Tanzania

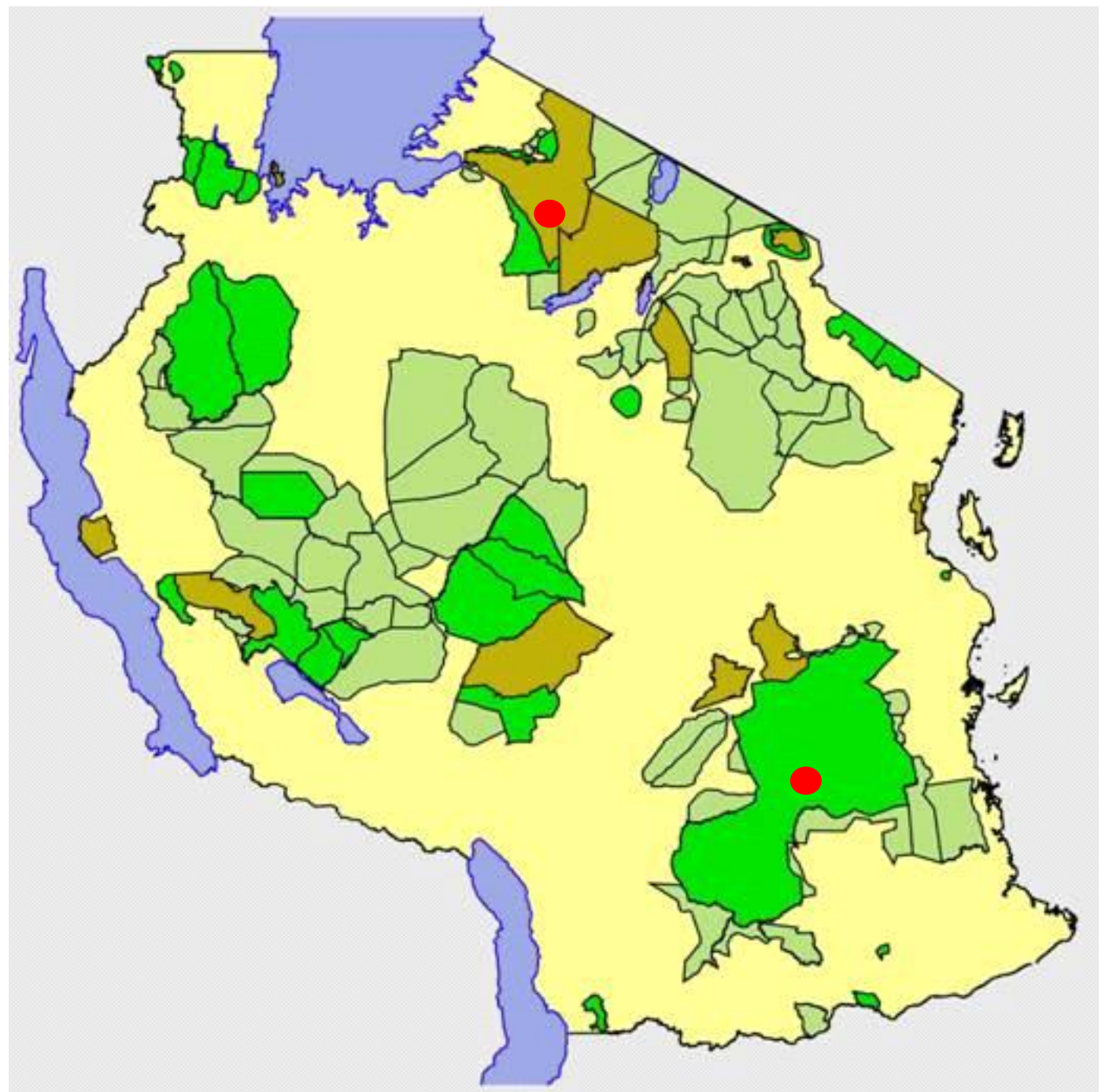


Tanzania

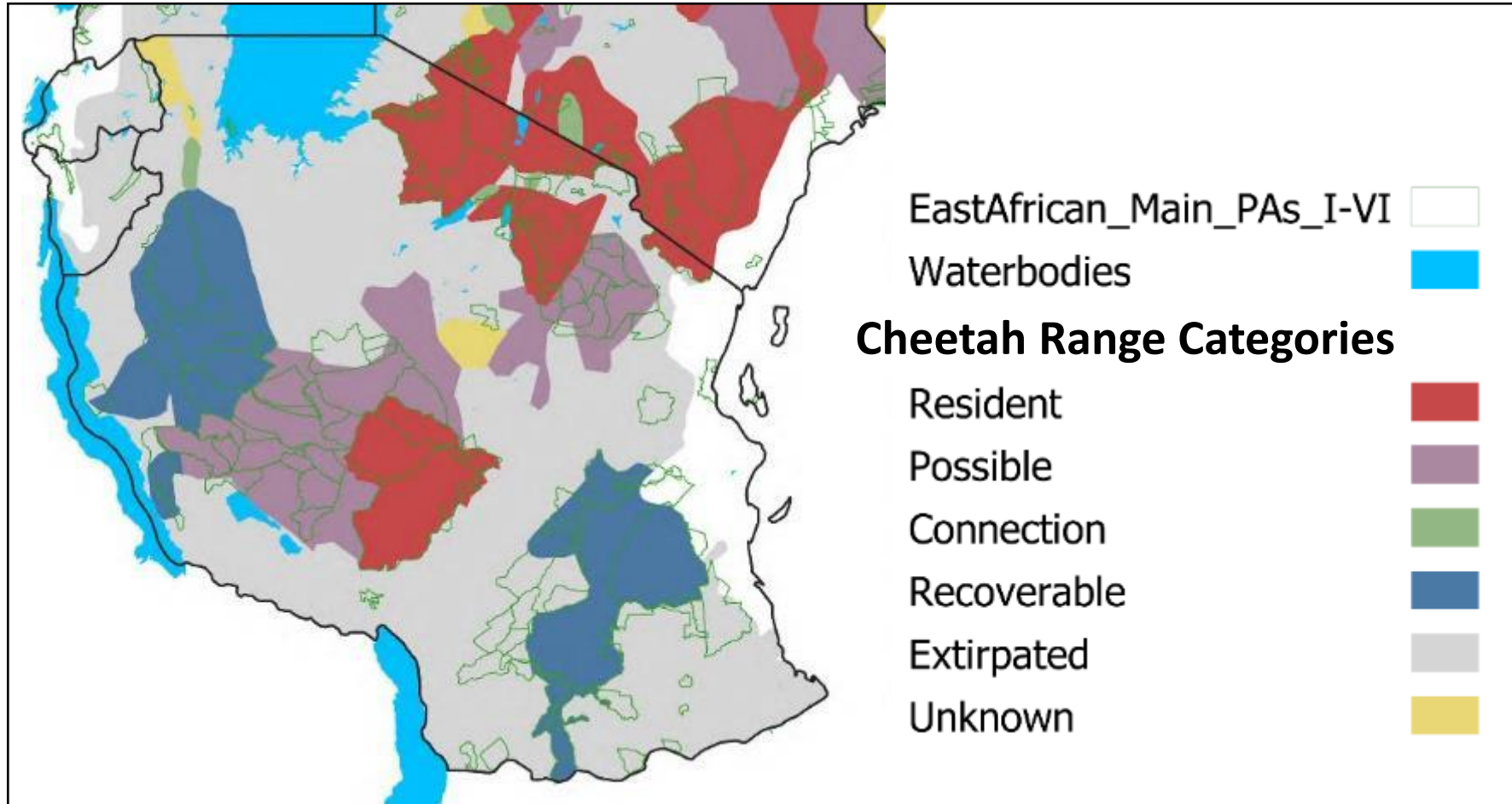
Tanzania has a strong protected area network:

- 22 National Parks
- 29 Game Reserves
- 26 Game Controlled Areas
- 38 Wildlife Management Areas

Famous for its cheetah in the open plains of the Serengeti and for relatively strong wild dog population in e.g. Nyerere National Park / Selous Game Reserve

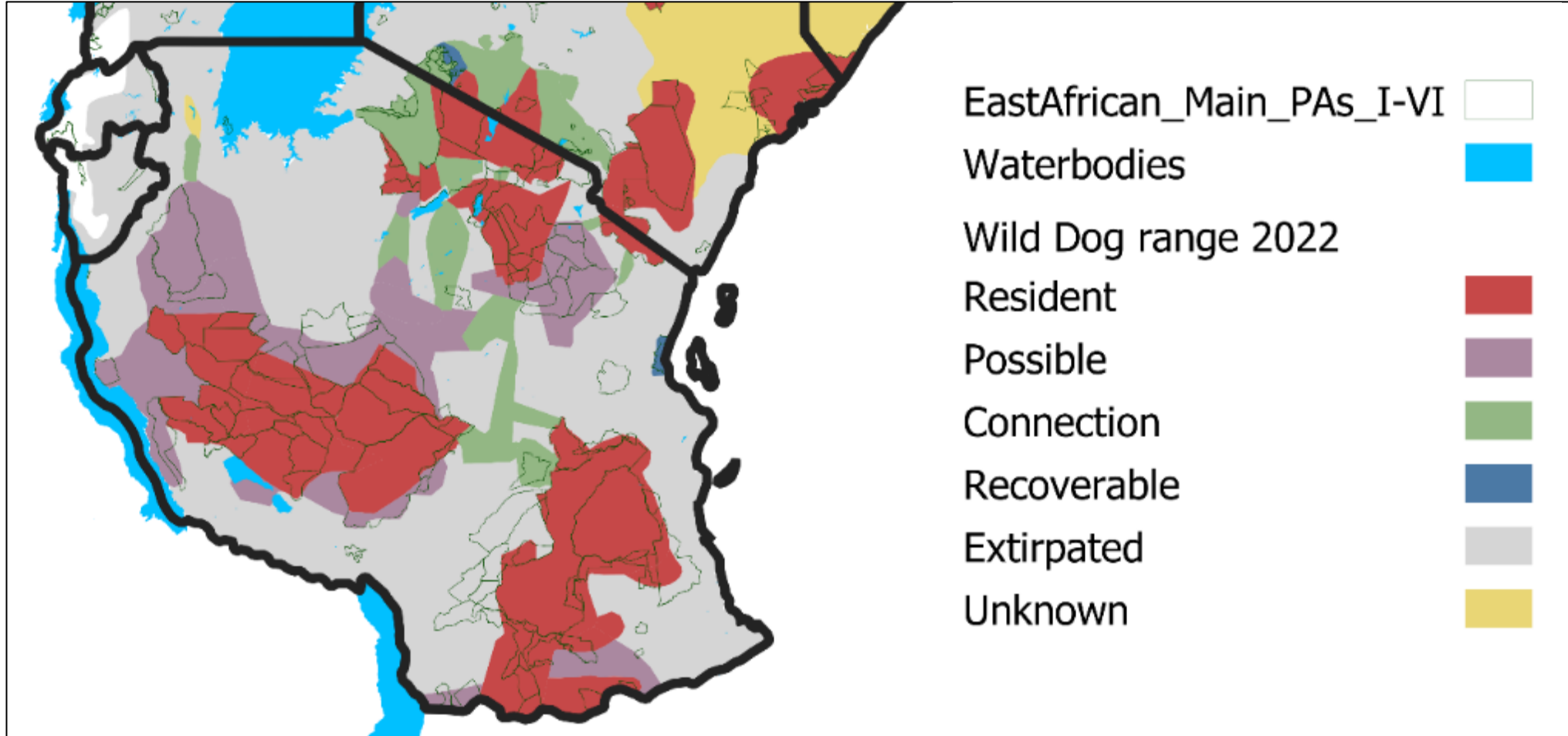


Cheetah Distribution and Status in Tanzania



- Cheetah population fragmented but transboundary to Kenya
- Facing rapid fragmentation of habitat; now absent from Nyerere / Selous
- 104,103 km² = 13% of Tanzania is Resident range for cheetah (IUCN/SSC 2016)

African Wild Dog Distribution and Status in Tanzania



- Wild Dogs widespread across Tanzania – transboundary to Kenya and Mozambique
- **BUT** facing fragmentation of habitat, disease & persecution from livestock herders
- 242,769 km² = 31% of Tz is Resident range for wild dogs

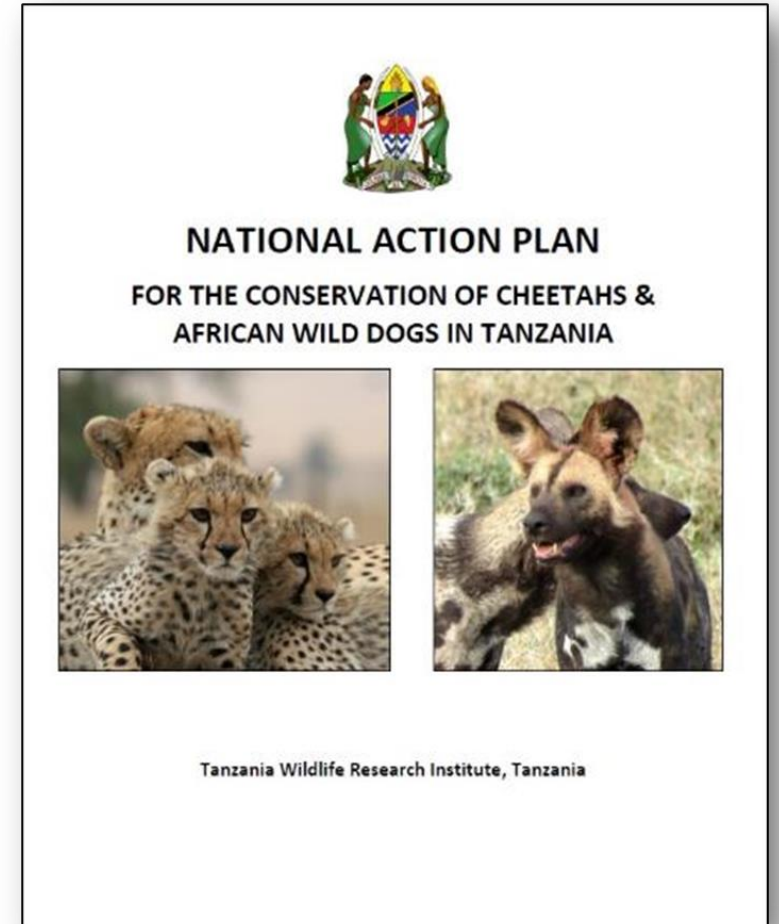
Cheetah and African Wild Dogs – Tanzania National Conservation Action Plan (2016)

VISION

To secure viable and ecological functioning Cheetah and Wild Dog populations as valued components of development in Tanzania

GOAL

To reverse declines and improve the status of Cheetah and Wild Dog populations and their habitats across Tanzania



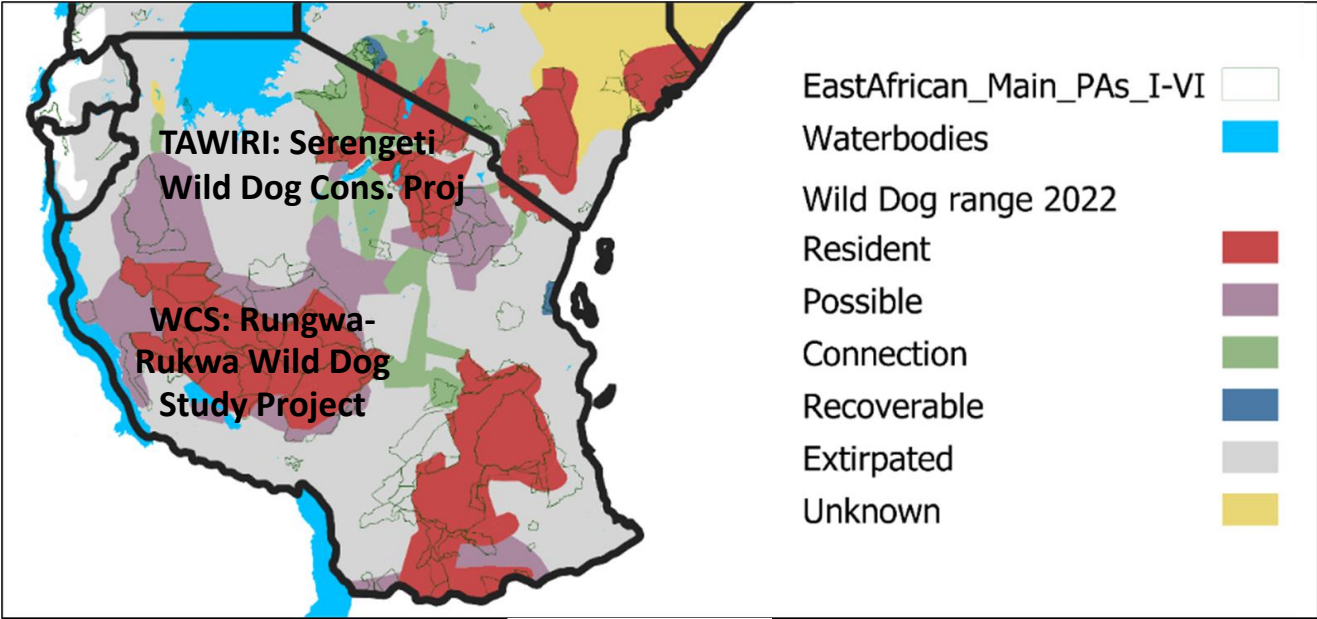
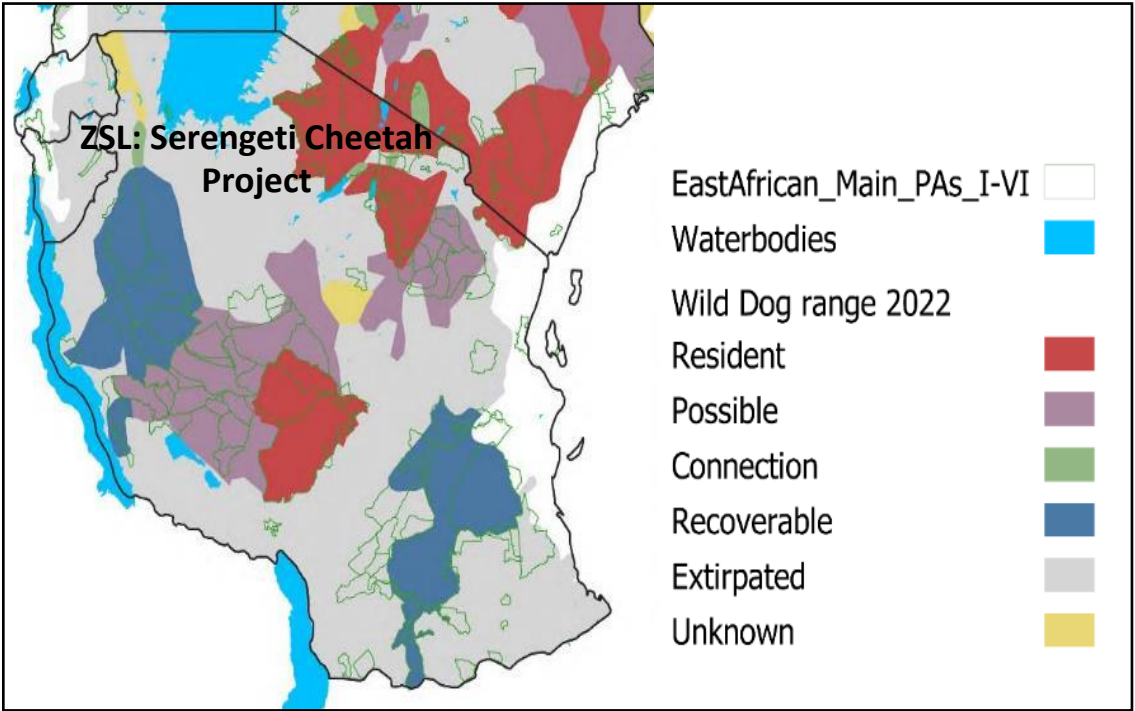
National Conservation Action Plan: Key Areas

- Survey & Information – Population status, range, Habitat and management
- Coexistence – Cheetahs, Wild dog, Human Relationship
- Capacity Development – Resources (Human, financial), Trainings, Equipments
- Policy & Legislation – Proper policy and legal frameworks
- Land Use Plan



Implementation of National Conservation Action Plan

Actors / Partners



Zoological Society of London, ZSL



AFRICA RANGE-WIDE CHEETAH CONSERVATION INITIATIVE
FUNDED BY THE HOWARD G. BUFFETT FOUNDATION



Wildlife Conservation Society, WCS

ZSL: Serengeti Cheetah Project (Zoological Society of London, ZSL)

Founded in 1974



Surveys and information (Target 2.1):

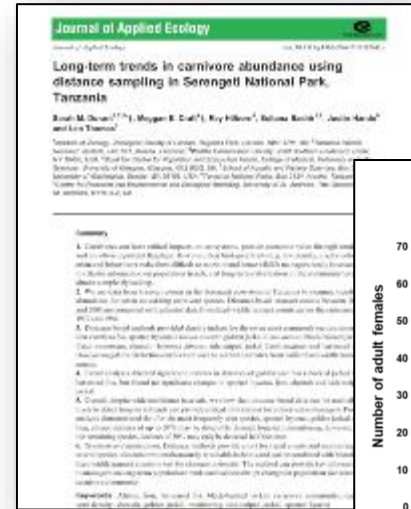
Surveys and monitoring on cheetah status and ecology: behaviour, genetics, population dynamics and threats – contributing much of what we know of wild cheetah ecology today.

Coexistence (Target 1.2): research on livestock depredation and human/cheetah interactions.

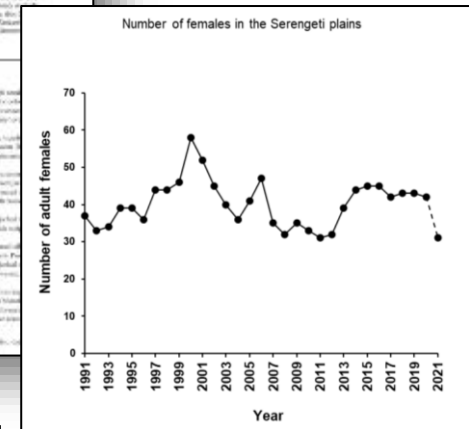
Capacity Development (Target 3.2): e.g. hosting multiple MSc and PhD students; training of National Cheetah / Carnivore Coordinators (NCCs), etc.

Citizen science (Target 1.3 and 2.1):

- Cheetah Watch Campaign >2,300 contributions
- 'Kill Your Speed' Campaign
- *iNaturalist.org*



AFRICA RANGE-WIDE CHEETAH CONSERVATION INITIATIVE
FUNDED BY THE HOWARD G. BURETT FOUNDATION





Serengeti Wild Dog Conservation Project



Objective: to conserve the wild dogs in the community areas as well as securing a viable population to Serengeti National Park

Surveys and information – Target 2.1

- 10 – 14 packs sighted annually
- Collaring of the free-ranging and released packs brings insight into wild dog demographics

Capacity Development – Target 3.2

- 10 Village Game Scouts (VGS)
- 4 community trackers
- 3 PhD & 4 MSc

Coexistence – Target 1.5 (Monitoring disease)

Canine Distemper Virus (CDV) – 3 packs were lost:

- Year 2007 – 36 individuals
- Year 2017 – 22 individuals
- Year 2020 – 32 individuals

Advocacy – Target 5.1 & 5.3

- Conservation education to pastoralists



Rungwa-Rukwa African Wild Dog Study

(Wildlife Conservation Society, WCS)

Surveys and information (Target 2.1):

Objective - to assess the status/ecology of wild dogs AWD in the Rungwa-Rukwa landscape of south-central Tanzania.

Specific objectives:

- Assess the number of packs and individuals.
- Assess habitat preferences.
- Assess conservation threats.

Provisional estimate of wild dog numbers from Katavi to Ruaha: 610 individuals and > 32 packs.

RUNGWA-RUKWA AFRICAN WILD DOG STUDY
UTAFITI WA MBWAMWITU RUNGWA - RUKWA

HELP conserve one of Africa's most charismatic Endangered species. *Saidia kuhifadhi mbwamwitu!*

Please report your African Wild Dog sightings to Monty Kalyahe:
mkalyahe@wcs.org
Phone / WhatsApp +255 742 784343
Please email / whats app me for a recording sheet.

I need African Wild Dog pictures like this;

Tafadhali uonapo mbwamwitu toa taarifa kwa Monty Kalyahe:
mkalyahe@wcs.org
Simu / WhatsApp +255 742 784343
Tafadhali tuma barua pepe/mtandao wa kijamii (whatsapp) kwa karatasi ya kurekodi.
Nahitaji picha ya mbwamwitu kama hii;

LEFT SIDE RIGHT SIDE UPANDE WA KUSHOTO UPANDE WA KULIA

THANK YOU • ASANTE SANA!

Promoting Co-existence

- Collaborative development of Human-Carnivore Conflict Toolkit (Obj 1-1:2)
- Human-carnivore conflict training to TAWA rangers (Obj 2, 3-3.2)
- National HWC data survey (Obj 1)

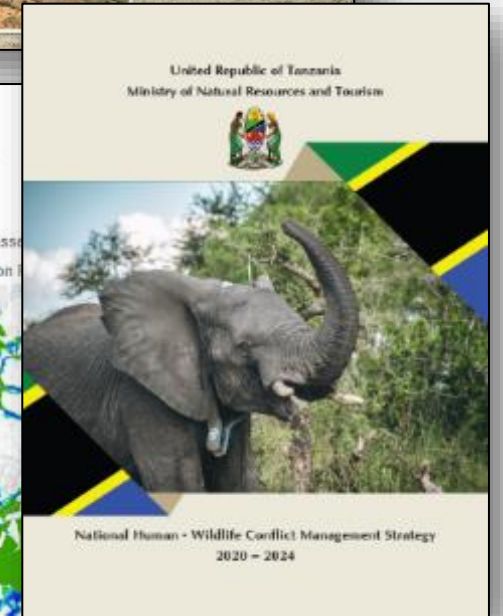
Habitat and prey management

- Upgrading GRs, GCAs and WMAs
- Strengthen ant-poaching operations
- Protection of corridors –Wildlife Corridor Regulations (2018)

Policy & Legislation

Nat. Action Plan for Cheetah & Wild Dogs 2016 (Obj 6-6.1)

- Wildlife Corridor Regulations (2018)
- National Cheetah / Carnivore Coordinator (NCC) appointed 2017, TAWIRI
- National Corridor Action Plan 2022 (Obj 4-4.3, 5-5.3) & government commitment to landscape connectivity
- National Human-Wildlife Conflict Action Plan 2020
- Ministerial Carnivore Committee established



THEME	OBJECTIVE	ACTIVITIES CONDUCTED	ORGANISATIONS/ ACTORS
Coexistence	Implement strategies to promote coexistence of cheetahs and wild dogs.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> HWC national action plan 2020 Citizen science (Target 1.3 and 2.1) 	MNRT ZSL, TAWIRI
Surveys and information	Provide stakeholders with scientific information on the status of and threats to cheetah and wild dog populations	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Decades of cheetah survey and monitoring northern Tz Wild dog monitoring north Tz Wild dog surveys southern Tz; Wild dog monitoring Rungwa-Rukwa 	ZSL, TAWIRI Lion Landscapes-WILDCRU WCS
Capacity Development	Strengthen human, institutional and information resources for conserving cheetah and wild dogs	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 6 PhDs in carnivore ecology since first Regional Strategy was launched – all now in prominent positions. 	ZSL
Policy and legislation	Review and harmonise legislation, and, where necessary, develop new legislation, across cheetah and wild dog range at national and international levels	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> National HWC Plan 2021 with input of cheetah and wild dog data and needs National Corridor Action Plan 2022 with input of cheetah and wild dog data and needs 	MNRT, WD, TAWIRI & multiple stakeholders
Advocacy	Mainstream Cheetah & Wild Dog conservation in land use planning & its implementation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Cheetah & wild dogs advocated as focal species in National Corridor Action Plan 2022 Cheetah proposed to Minister as Species of Conservation Concern 	MNRT, WD, ZSL
National plan and regional strategy	Develop, update, and implement regional and national conservation programmes for cheetah and wild dogs	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> National Action Plan workshop 2013, endorsed 2016 National Cheetah / Carnivore Coordinator (NCC) appointed 2017 	MNRT, TAWIRI, WD, ZSL's Cheetah Conservation Initiative (CCI)

CHALLENGES TO CHEETAH AND WILD DOG CONSERVATION IN TANZANIA

- **Habitat & Prey loss** - maintaining landscape connectivity for these two very wide-ranging species
- **Conflict with livestock farmers**
- **Cross border conservation** – fostering collaboration across borders :- Tanzania-Kenya and Tanzania-Mozambique
- **Disease management in African Wild Dogs** – as witnessed by 3 different outbreaks of Canine Distemper Virus (CDV)

**ASANTE
SANA**

