UN environment programme

Convention on the Conservation of Migratory Species of Wild Animals

CMS

Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora

CITES

2nd Meeting of Range States of the Joint CITES-CMS African Carnivore Initiative (ACI2)

Entebbe, Uganda, 1 – 4 May 2023

CITES-CMS/ACI2/Outcomes

OUTCOMES OF THE ACI2 MEETING, 1 - 4 MAY 2023, ENTEBBE, UGANDA

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The [Second Meeting of Range States of the Joint CITES-CMS African Carnivores Initiative (ACI2)](#) brought together representatives of all countries that are Range States to one or more of the four species covered by the ACI, i.e., African Lion (*Panthera leo*), Leopard (*P. pardus*), Cheetah (*Acinonyx jubatus*), and African Wild Dog (*Lycaon pictus*) as well as relevant observer organizations. The main objective of the meeting in Entebbe was for Range States to discuss the [ACI Programme of Work](#) approved by the Standing Committees of both CITES and CMS, its implementation and prioritization of activities (including an implementation stock take), conservation issues specific to the species covered by the ACI, and operational matters for the future of the ACI (including its governance, *modus operandi*, and funding).

The following outcomes were agreed by the Range States at the ACI2:

1. ***Transboundary cooperation on big cats***

    1.1 Representatives of the Governments of Zambia and Zimbabwe as well as the Executive Director of the Kavango-Zambezi (KAZA) Transfrontier Conservation Area (TFCA) Secretariat presented on the lessons learned from the KAZA TFCA while representatives of the Governments of Benin, Burkina Faso and Niger of those of the W-Arly-Pendjari (WAP Complex) tri-partite cooperation.

    The meeting participants agreed that the KAZA TFCA and WAP are models that can be replicated in other areas, where multiple states can establish TFCAs.

    The meeting participants further agreed on the need to:

    a. Seek high-level political support for existing agreements and conclude new agreements for transboundary cooperation, where necessary;

    b. Establish clear and equitable governance structures, e.g., rotating chairmanship, cost distribution, shared risk, transparent reporting;

    c. Establish partnerships for specific themes and geographic areas, including a coordination mechanism;

    d. Harmonize laws and policies, e.g., related to addressing human wildlife conflict, illegal killing and enforcement, tourism, research;

    e. Establish joint knowledge management systems that allow comprehensive monitoring and information sharing;

    f. Establish clear and equitable benefit sharing schemes as appropriate and a feedback redress mechanism;

    g. Collaborate to overcome or address the impacts of insecurity on conservation efforts.

2. ***ACI POW and its implementation***

    2.1 *Prioritization of ACI POW Results*

    Meeting representatives broke into four regional groups (Central, Eastern, Southern and Western Africa) to prioritize the Results of the ACI Programme of Work. The outcomes of the group exercise showed several commonalities but also differences contained in Annex 1 to this document.

3. ***Cheetah and African Wild Dog conservation***

3.1   The IUCN Regional Strategies and examples of national implementation activities were presented by the representatives of Angola, Benin, Chad, Ethiopia, Kenya, Namibia, Niger, Somalia, South Sudan, Tanzania, Zambia and Zimbabwe.

Following the presentation by Range States, the meeting broke into three regional groups and prioritized the conservation activities for the regions. The agreed regional priorities are contained in Part I of Annex 2 of this document.

3.2   *North-East African Cheetah.*

A representative of IUCN presented on recent findings of illegal trade in Cheetah from the Horn of Africa ad East Africa. The meeting participants agreed on the recommendations contained in Annex 1 of Document 3, set out in Part II of Annex 2 of this document.

4. Leopard

4.1   *Roadmap for the Conservation of the Leopard*

A representative of IUCN introduced the background of the Roadmap, explaining that it had been reviewed by Range States following ACI1 and submitted to the CITES Animals Committee and CMS Scientific Council for review. Both entities delegated the further review to the ACI Range States, requesting the CITES and CMS Secretariats to report on the outcomes of those discussions. The meeting participants agreed:

a. IUCN to update the Roadmap and finalize it in consultation with Range States.

b. Range States will then focus on the development of Regional Conservation Strategies for Leopard, using the Roadmap as strategic guidance.

4.2   *West African Leopard Conservation*

A representative of Panthera presented the survey work currently carried out by the organization in West Africa, followed by presentations of the Governments of Ghana, Ivory Coast, Liberia, Nigeria and Sierra Leone on Leopard conservation undertaken at the national level.

Based on the presentations made, the meeting participants agreed that Panthera and other organisations, in consultation with Range States, will carry out surveys in all Western African Range States.

4.3   *Leopard Conservation across Africa*

Representatives of the Governments of Angola, Burundi, Central African Republic, Gabon and Uganda presented their challenges and successes in Leopard conservation.

Based on the presentations made, the meeting agreed that the main threats to leopard across Africa are human-wildlife conflict and habitat fragmentation.

The meeting participants further agreed that there is a need for:

a. Increased scientific research on and monitoring of leopards in order to ascertain population numbers;

b. Ensuring that hunting quotas are non-detrimental to the survival of the species in the wild (according to CITES CoP Decision 18.166);

c. The development of national action plans for leopard conservation, informed by Regional Strategies;

d. Identifying and monitoring corridors to ensure habitat connectivity;

e. Addressing cultural and religious use of leopard skin; and

f. Establishing a network to share information across the continent.

5. Lion

5.1 Guidelines for the Conservation of Lions in Africa

A representative of IUCN presented the background and evolution of the Guidelines for the Conservation of Lions in Africa, explaining that the Guidelines had been prepared in response to no longer valid Decisions of CITES and CMS COPs on Lion. A first version of the Guidelines were consulted among Range States and had been presented at ACI1, where further comments were made. The Guidelines were then endorsed by CMS COP12 and submitted to the CITES Animals Committee for review. Comments made in this context had not been taken on board yet. The representative also questioned whether Range States had been using the Guidelines and whether they wanted the Guidelines to be further used.

Against this backdrop, the meeting participants agreed:

a. IUCN, in consultation with the Range States, to update the Guidelines and in collaboration with the Secretariats, prepare a web-based document on the ACI web-portal that will be a "living" document and updated as new information becomes available.

b. A review group will be established responsible for the review of proposed amendments to the Guidelines before it will be updated online. The review group will include two Range State representatives from each of the sub-regions in Africa.

c. Representatives from Kenya and Ethiopia will represent the Eastern African subregion. Other ACI subregions are to nominate representatives to the review group (details to be submitted to the CMS Secretariat via e-mail by 30 June 2023).

5.2 Lion Monitoring Guidelines

Presentations relating to lion monitoring were delivered by representatives of Kenya, Namibia, Uganda and Zambia.

The EWT presented the development process of a monitoring manual / guideline in collaboration with experts (initiated prior to the establishment of the ACI).

The meeting participants agreed on the following:

a. Monitoring is essential to understand the conservation status of carnivores and both consumptive and non-consumptive use;

b. Different methods can be applied, spanning over varying lengths of time and requiring various financial and technical skills; and

c. Southern African countries hold long-term experience in monitoring, which they are keen to share with other range States.

5.3   African Lion Database (ALD)

A representative of IUCN and the Endangered Wildlife Trust (as host of the African Lion Database (ALD)) presented the progress made in capturing population data, distribution data and mortality data on the ALD, developed under the auspices of the IUCN SSC Cat Specialist Group and initiated prior to the establishment of the ACI. Next steps foreseen by the IUCN Cat Specialist Group are to include the launch of an online ALD platform and exploring inclusion of other ACI species.

Range States expressed concerns about their lack of involvement in the development of the ALD and the representativeness of the data collected on Lion mortality.

However, the establishment of a database is one of the results considered by all subregions to be a conservation priority and to be urgently developed.

The meeting participants thus agreed:

a. Range States to be involved in the processes relating to the ALD.

b. A working group with the following composition being established to further discuss the ALD:

- Three Range States from each of the sub-regions in Africa:

    - Eastern Africa: Ethiopia, Kenya, Tanzania

    - Central Africa: Central African Republic, Chad, Gabon

    - Southern Africa: Namibia, South Africa, Zimbabwe

    - Western Africa: Benin, Ghana, Senegal

- CITES and CMS Secretariats

- IUCN SSC Cat Specialist Group

- Endangered Wildlife Trust

- Database developer

- Donor

Terms of Reference:

The working group being tasked to:

- Clarify the process to date in developing the database hosted by EWT.

- Discuss the requirements of the Range States in terms of the ALD and how these could be addressed in the ALD.

- Incorporate Range States' requirements in the ALD or, if not feasible, consider the need to develop an alternative option.

- Discuss the potential options associated with oversight and management of the ALD and propose an oversight and management structure.

- Propose the data elements to be included in the ALD.

- Propose processes relating to the following:

  - Submission of data (data sources)

  - Verification of data

  - Data management

  - Data ownership

  - Access to data, including data sharing and associated conditions

  - Report generation

  - References and audit process associated with changes to the database and data records

  - Security measures – database access

  - Terms and Conditions for the management and use of the ALD.

- Prepare a report including proposals relating to the above for consideration by the ACI.

5.4 Guidance for NDFs for Lions under CITES

The CITES Secretariat reflected on the Decisions adopted at COP19 relating to support capacity-building in the making of non-detriment findings (NDF) by Range States. Draft guidance on the making of non-detriment findings will be developed and included in the overall NDF guidance process (Decisions 19.132 – 19.134).

To initiate the process, questions on existing information and processes relating to non-detriment findings for lions were prepared.

The participants were invited to make comments on the questions (to be submitted to the CITES Secretariat via e-mail by 15 May 2023). The questionnaire will be shared through a Notification to the Parties to obtain further information relating to non-detriment findings for lions.

5.5 Conservation of the Northern Lion in Africa

The *Spatially Explicit Conservation Action Plan for Northern Lions in Africa* was introduced to the meeting participants.

Presentations on lion conservation were made by Benin and Senegal.

The meeting participants agreed that:

a. Range States be involved in the finalization of the document to facilitate implementation.

b. Cross boundary cooperation is essential.

c. Threats to be addressed include:

- Habitat degradation

- Poaching

- Human-Wildlife Conflict (especially poisoning and conflict with cattle herders)

- Disease management and monitoring

- Institutional weaknesses

- Insecurity

- Mining activities in some areas

- Long term monitoring

The meeting participants further agreed that:

a. Range States to provide comments on the *Spatially Explicit Conservation Action Plan for Northern Lions in Africa* by 30 June 2023.

b. Action plans for Northern lions in Africa to be developed by range States where action plans have not been developed.

6. *Human-Wildlife Conflict and Coexistence, and Science's contribution to the implementation of the ACI PoW*

6.1 *IUCN Human Wildlife Conflict and Coexistence Guidelines*

The Chair of the IUCN SSC Human Wildlife Conflict and Coexistence (HWCC) Group provided information relating to resources available to assist Range States in mitigating, mediating and managing human-wildlife conflict, including the new [Guidelines on HWCC](#) launched in May 2023 as well as opportunities for collaboration and support.

Issues raised by Range States included:

- That the practical implementation of the guidelines at grassroot level remains challenging

- Funding to implement activities in a sustainable manner

- Addressing the origin of the conflict (People going to species vs. species going to people)

- The need for support – technical and financial.

The meeting participants agreed:

a. The guidelines should be translated into practical and accessible tools, including training courses.

b. Resource mobilization should be prioritized to enable Range States to implement and use the tools available.

c. Capacity building in the use of tools is needed and the IUCN SSC HWCC Group should assist in this regard.

6.2 *Science's contributions to the implementation of the ACI POW*

The Director of WildCRU made a presentation relating to the role of conservation science in the ACI. In terms of research on the ACI species, Wild Dog was highlighted as being under-represented. The use of analyses relating to the fragility of species were reflected on. The areas of work that could be supported by WildCRU include support in terms of surveys, network of experts that could be consulted, contributions to survey data and assessments. A list of questions was posed relating to the contribution and challenges associated with work done by scientists (outside government structures). Zimbabwe and an IUCN representative reflected on these questions.

The meeting participants agreed:

a. Integrated approaches that include the government authorities are essential.

b. Data ownership must be addressed from the start, including conditions associated with research permits / authorizations.

c. The research must contribute to practical implementation on the ground or inform policies in the short, medium or long term.

d. Collaboration with government officials needs to occur during the process to collect data or conduct research.

e. Communication relating to results / outcomes should be done in consultation with the relevant government authority.

f. Data set to be provided to the government to allow for re-analysis or further work and to avoid duplication in efforts in terms of future data collection.

7. Funding and Partnership Options

7.1 Lion Recovery Fund

A presentation was made by the Director of the Lion Recovery Fund, which allocates funding to NGOs based on an invitation for proposals. Three broad contexts within which projects are supported were: Retain, recover and rescue. Information relating to well-established techniques to address coexistence with livestock were discussed, including strengthening of bomas/kraals, livestock herding, and collaring of lions to assist in early warning.

The presentation was noted, and Range States raised concerns about funding only being directed to NGOs and not government authorities.

The meeting participants agreed that the threats to prey populations (such as wild meat) must be addressed prior to reintroduction of prey species and the recovery of prey populations must be addressed prior to the reintroduction of predators.

7.2 IUCN SOS Collaboration with the ACI

IUCN presented the background, objectives and modalities of their re-granting mechanism. Funding had been received by several Range States present, who commented.

The meeting participants agreed that if cooperation is established with the ACI, the granting mechanism should be tailored to the needs of the ACI.

8. Cooperation with other institutions and existing campaigns

The Panel (Niger, Rwanda, Zimbabwe, WildCRU, ZSL) reflected on cooperation and initiatives that could address funding constraints. Representatives of Niger and Zimbabwe highlighted the challenge associated with funding being allocated mostly to NGOs. Opportunities were also discussed, including new innovative options such as the carbon credits for lion conservation and biodiversity credits. The representative of Rwanda reflected on the co-management options and the benefits experienced by Rwanda while the representative of Zimbabwe highlighted a number of funding mechanisms including GEF and partnerships with NGOs.

The meeting participants concluded that partnerships with NGOs enables Range State governments to access much-needed funding.

The meeting participants agreed that:

a. Greater transparency relating to the allocation, access to and use of funds is needed.

b. Cooperation between Range State governments and donor agencies must be strengthened.

9. *Governance and Funding*

Proposals to establish a governance structure consisting of a committee composed of regional government representatives as well as the establishment of four regional coordinators and national coordinators in each Range State for the implementation of the ACI POW was presented.

The meeting participants agreed to establish a working group to further discuss governance and funding:

a. A working group was established, consisting of:

- three representatives of each region as follows:

    - Central Africa: Cameroon, Central African Republic, Gabon

    - Eastern Africa: Ethiopia, Kenya, Rwanda

    - Southern Africa: Botswana, Namibia, Zambia

    - West Africa: Benin, Ghana, Senegal

- the IUCN, and

- the CITES and CMS Secretariats,

which should discuss:

- Proposals for governance structures contained in Doc. 6;

- Funding of similar programmes and initiatives - CITES and CMS Secretariats, including the CMS Central Asian Mammals Initiative (CAMI), CITES Monitoring the Illegal Killing of Elephants (MIKE) Programme, the International Consortium on Combating Wildlife Crime (ICCWC), and the CITES Tree Species Programme (CTSP);

- Regional funding initiatives, such as the Financing Facilities of the Southern African Development Community (SADC) and others;

- Existing trust funds and other facilities;

- Funding modalities and processes (noting the government authorities should be involved in concept development);

- Future funding options; and

- Prepare a proposal for a governance structure and funding modalities and options for consideration by the ACI range States.

ANNEX 1

Logframe of the ACI

Results with aligned scores across all sub-regions (8)

Result	Description	Rating
Result 1.2	Funding for the implementation of the ACI POW and priority activities is secured	1 Conservation importance; 1 Implementation timeframe
Result 1.3	Organizational structures promoting a broad international partnership and synergistic cooperation between ACI Range State Parties and other relevant institutions and stakeholders engaged in the conservation of African large carnivores are established or supported	2 – Conservation importance
Result 5.1	Coexistence of local communities with the ACI species is promoted and improved	1 – Conservation importance.
Result 7.4	The resource kit for the Cheetah has been finalized and a resource kit for Lion, Leopard and African Wild Dog has been developed based on the resource kit for the Cheetah	1 – Conservation importance.
Result 8.1	Infectious disease management plan for populations of the ACI species is developed and implemented	1 – Conservation importance
Result 9.1	Advice for ACI Range States on financing the effective implementation of the ACI POW is developed	1 – Conservation importance
Result 11.2	The African Lion Database is developed and operational	1 – Conservation importance
Result 11.5	A web portal for the ACI to disseminate all relevant information is developed and operational	1 – Conservation importance

Results with aligned scores per sub-regions

Planned action	Continental		Central Africa		Eastern Africa		Southern Africa		West Africa	
	Conservation importance	Timeframe	Conservation importance	Timeframe	Conservation importance	Timeframe	Conservation importance	Timeframe	Conservation importance	Timeframe
Objective 1. International cooperation, coordination and strategic conservation planning **To strengthen the cooperation and coordination between ACI Range State Parties and the global community for the conservation of the ACI species through the development and timely implementation of the ACI Programme of Work (POW; this document), which will regularly be reviewed and amended as needed.**										
Result 1.1. The POW for the Joint CITES-CMS African Carnivores Initiative for the period 2021-2025 is developed, approved and implemented under appropriate organisational structures. *Indicators: (1) ACI POW is endorsed by the ACI Range State Parties and approved by the CITES and CMS Standing Committees, (2) organizational structures for operationalizing the ACI are established, (3) regular reports are submitted to the relevant bodies of the conventions as required, (4) ACI POW is updated based on ACI Range State Parties' feedback, and (5) relevant findings of the CITES Big Cat Task Force are integrated into the POW.*			1	1	1	1	1	1	-	-
Activity 1.1.1. Develop an ACI POW and submit it to the ACI Range State Parties and the relevant CITES and CMS bodies for review and approval and develop adequate structures for the implementation of the POW.										
Activity 1.1.2. Establish the structures for a sustainable funding mechanism for the ACI POW.										
Activity 1.1.3. Establish the structures for the implementation of this POW (e.g., regular Range State Meetings).										
Activity 1.1.4. Review and adapt the ACI POW in consultation with ACI Range State Parties as needed during ACI Range State Meetings or virtual consultations, and report changes to the relevant CITES and CMS bodies.										

Planned action	Continental		Central Africa		Eastern Africa		Southern Africa		West Africa	
	Conservation importance	Timeframe	Conservation importance	Timeframe	Conservation importance	Timeframe	Conservation importance	Timeframe	Conservation importance	Timeframe
Activity 1.1.5. Integrate relevant findings of the CITES Big Cat Task Force into the ACI POW and ensure the exchange of information between the ACI Steering Group[1] and the Big Cat Task Force.										
Result 1.2. Funding for the implementation of the ACI POW and priority activities is secured. *Indicators: Functional funding mechanism for (1) administering the ACI including regular Range State Meetings, (2) the commission of overarching projects, and (3) the implementation of priority projects through public calls is established.*	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
Activity 1.2.1. Secure funding for the coordination and management of the ACI, including regular Range State Meetings.										
Activity 1.2.2. Secure funding for projects contained in the ACI POW commissioned directly through the ACI governance structures.										
Activity 1.2.3. Develop partnerships and adequate tendering procedures to implement ACI planned actions through public calls.										
Result 1.3. Organizational structures promoting a broad international partnership and synergistic cooperation between ACI Range State Parties and other relevant institutions and stakeholders engaged in the conservation of African large carnivores are established or supported. *Indicators: (1) Existing initiatives and programmes for the conservation of the ACI species are considered in the ACI POW, and (2) partnerships and cooperation with other international conventions, scientific institutions, conservation organizations and interested stakeholders are established.*	2		2	3	2	2	2	3	2	2
Activity 1.3.1. Assess the potential to integrate other UN conventions (e.g., the Convention on Biological Diversity, CBD) and institutions (e.g., the United Nations Environmental Programme, UNEP) into the ACI.										
Activity 1.3.2. Maintain collaboration with IUCN and establish partnerships as appropriate in support of common approaches for the conservation of the African carnivores and their prey.										

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[1] The ACI Steering Group is a provisional, informal structure currently consisting of representatives of the CITES and CMS Secretariats as well as IUCN experts, and is to be further discussed and determined by the ACI Range State Parties.

Planned action		Continental		Central Africa		Eastern Africa		Southern Africa		West Africa	
		Conservation importance	Timeframe	Conservation importance	Timeframe	Conservation importance	Timeframe	Conservation importance	Timeframe	Conservation importance	Timeframe
Activity 1.3.3.	Ensure that ACI POW Results are considered in the IUCN Red List Assessment and the IUCN Green Status Assessment for each ACI species and that, in turn, findings and recommendations from the IUCN assessments are integrated into the ACI POW during specific review periods.										
Activity 1.3.4.	Promulgate the ACI among institutions and internationally operating conservation organizations based in Range States and elsewhere and encourage them to participate in the implementation of the ACI POW and contribute to achieving the ACI POW Results listed in this Logframe.										
Activity 1.3.5.	Encourage those Cheetah and African Wild Dog Range States and transit and destination countries along trade routes that are not yet Parties to CMS to become Parties to CMS.										
Result 1.4.	**Conservation strategies and other guidelines and plans for the conservation of the ACI species are integrated into the ACI POW and, as needed, updated or newly developed in the frame of the ACI and in cooperation with the Range State Parties and other partner institutions concerned.** *Indicators: (1) Guiding documents such as the* Regional Strategies for the conservation of the Lion, Cheetah and African Wild Dog*, the* Guidelines for the Conservation of the Lion in Africa (GCLA) *or the* Roadmap for the Conservation of the Leopard in Africa (RCLA) *are reviewed and revised regularly, and (2) further regional conservation strategies or national action plans are developed and implemented as needed.*			1	3	2	2	1	2	1	1
Activity 1.4.1.	The *Guidelines for the Conservation of the Lion in Africa (GCLA)* are reviewed by the relevant Convention bodies (CMS Standing Committee, CITES Animals Committee), revised and updated as recommended by these bodies or the Range States, and disseminated through the ACI website.										
Activity 1.4.2.	Review and update, where appropriate, existing Conservation Strategies for Lions, and support their implementation in ACI Range States through existing or new Regional Strategies or National Action Plans for Lions.										
Activity 1.4.3.	The *Roadmap for the Conservation of the Leopard in Africa (RCLA)* is reviewed by the relevant bodies (CMS Scientific Council, CITES Animals Committee), and is updated according to these bodies' recommendations or upon request of the ACI Range States.										

Planned action	Continental		Central Africa		Eastern Africa		Southern Africa		West Africa	
	Conservation importance	Timeframe	Conservation importance	Timeframe	Conservation importance	Timeframe	Conservation importance	Timeframe	Conservation importance	Timeframe
Activity 1.4.4. Support the development of Regional Conservation Strategies and National Action Plans for the Leopard in the ACI Range States and their implementation through assistance with fundraising.										
Activity 1.4.5. Review and update, where appropriate, the *Regional Conservation Strategies for the Conservation of Cheetahs and African Wild Dogs* and their implementation in the ACI Range States through existing or newly developed National Action Plans, including assistance with fundraising.										
Activity 1.4.6. The CMS Scientific Council, after consultation with the respective Range States, recommends to the CMS COP possible amendments to the list of Cheetah populations presently excluded from CMS Appendix I to reflect the current conservation status of these Cheetah populations as assessed by the IUCN, and informs a Decision for CMS COP14.										
Objective 2. Land use planning and habitat conservation										
To conserve and, where needed and possible, restore the habitats of the ACI species and their prey across Africa, and secure the connectivity between populations by promoting ecological corridors, transboundary protected areas and other best practice land uses, and by minimising adverse effects of land use and development leading to habitat destruction and fragmentation, or impoverished biodiversity.										
Result 2.1. Important conservation areas for the ACI species and their prey species are identified, conserved and, where needed and possible, restored. *Indicators: (1) Report on identifying important conservation areas, their potential and conservation measures is available, and (2) habitat restoration programmes are implemented, and (3) protection is enforced within protected areas.*			2	3	1	2	1	2-3	1	1
Activity 2.1.1. Identify important conservation areas and habitats for each of the ACI species and their prey, assess their conservation potential, and define respective conservation measures.										
Activity 2.1.2. Restore, where needed and possible, important conservation areas and habitats for the ACI species and their prey species (prioritised according to their conservation potential and implementing the conservation measures identified).										

Planned action	Continental		Central Africa		Eastern Africa		Southern Africa		West Africa	
	Conservation importance	Timeframe	Conservation importance	Timeframe	Conservation importance	Timeframe	Conservation importance	Timeframe	Conservation importance	Timeframe
Activity 2.1.3. Enforce protection within protected areas and maintain buffer zones (see also Result 9.2).										
Result 2.2. Connectivity between populations of the ACI species is enhanced, especially by promoting ecological corridors and transboundary protected areas. *Indicators: (1) Report on populations and connectivity is available, and (2) connectivity projects are implemented.*			1	2	2	3	1	1-2	2	1
Activity 2.2.1. Identify important (cross-border) populations of the ACI species and assess population connectivity.										
Activity 2.2.2. Assess and secure the maintenance and integrity of existing transboundary protected areas.										
Activity 2.2.3. Promote the establishment of transboundary protected areas where this is important for the species' conservation or restoration (see also Activities 2.1.1, 2.2.1 and 2.2.2).										
Activity 2.2.4. Establish, where needed and possible, ecological corridors to mitigate habitat fragmentation and enhance connectivity between the populations of ACI species.										
Result 2.3. Best practice land use guidelines for the conservation of the ACI species and their prey species are developed and promoted. *Indicators: (1) Report on the impact of existing land-use plans is available, (2) best practice land use guidelines are available, and (3) best practice land use guidelines are implemented.*			2	3	2	2	1	1	2	2
Activity 2.3.1. Review existing land-use plans at local, national and regional level with regard to their impact on conservation of the ACI species and their prey.										
Activity 2.3.2. Develop best practices land use guidelines (including zoning options) with regard to habitat maintenance/restoration and coexistence between local communities and wildlife to facilitate the conservation of the ACI species and their prey, and discuss them at an ACI Range State Meeting.										
Activity 2.3.3. Support the implementation of best practices land use guidelines, where needed and appropriate.										

Planned action	Continental		Central Africa		Eastern Africa		Southern Africa		West Africa	
	Conservation importance	Timeframe	Conservation importance	Timeframe	Conservation importance	Timeframe	Conservation importance	Timeframe	Conservation importance	Timeframe
Objective 3. Prey base conservation and restoration **To maintain and enhance healthy populations of wild prey of the ACI species through effective conservation, habitat protection and sustainable management.**										
Result 3.1. Prey base for the ACI species is maintained or restored in important conservation areas for each ACI species, where needed and possible (see also Result 2.1). *Indicators: (1) overview reports on the prey situation for the ACI species are available, (2) strategies and action plans for priority areas are developed, (3) best-practice guidelines for prey monitoring are available, and (4) prey restoration and conservation programmes are implemented.*			1	2	2	2	1	1-3	1	1
Activity 3.1.1. Form partnerships to understand and address additional threats to prey species of the ACI.										
Activity 3.1.2. Identify regions and specific areas where prey depletion is the critical threat to the survival of the ACI species.										
Activity 3.1.3. Develop strategies and respective action plans for the recovery/restoration and conservation of prey species in selected priority areas or where improved prey management is a prerequisite for the conservation/restoration of the ACI species.										
Activity 3.1.4. Develop best practice guidelines for the monitoring of wild prey of the ACI species and implement them in important conservation areas where needed and possible (see also Activities 2.1.1 and 3.1.1).										
Activity 3.1.5. Restore and conserve, wherever needed and possible, populations of prey species and important habitats for these species through the implementation of the respective strategies and related action plans or through expert consultations (see also Activities 2.1.3 and 3.1.2).										
Result 3.2. Wild prey of the ACI species is sustainably managed in important conservation areas for each ACI species, where needed and possible. *Indicators: (1) Review of and best-practice guidelines for sustainable use of prey populations is available, (2) review of importance of illegal use of the ACI prey species is available, (3) best-practice guidelines for controlling unsustainable or illegal use of prey species are available and implemented.*			1	3	3	3	2	3	1	1

Planned action		Continental		Central Africa		Eastern Africa		Southern Africa		West Africa	
		Conservation importance	Timeframe	Conservation importance	Timeframe	Conservation importance	Timeframe	Conservation importance	Timeframe	Conservation importance	Timeframe
Activity 3.2.1.	Review and assess the ecological and economic sustainability of all legal use of prey species (e.g., photo or hunting safaris) across the ACI Range States (see also Objective 6).										
Activity 3.2.2.	Develop and promote best practice guidelines for sustainable use of the ACI prey species based on the findings of Activity 3.2.1 and discuss them at an ACI Range State Meeting.										
Activity 3.2.3.	Assess the impact of uncontrolled/illegal use/taking of ACI prey species (e.g., wild meat taking).										
Activity 3.2.4.	Develop, in cooperation with the ACI Range States and other relevant partners, best practice guidelines to control unsustainable and / or illegal use of key prey species based on the findings of Activity 3.2.3, discuss them at an ACI Range State Meeting, and encourage their implementation by Range States where possible.										
Objective 4. ACI species conservation and restoration											
To restore, wherever possible and desired, viable populations of Lion, Leopard, Cheetah or African Wild Dog.											
Result 4.1. Potential sites for the recovery / reintroduction of the ACI species across Africa and general guidance for their recovery / reintroduction including conservation breeding are available. *Indicators: (1) Ex-situ populations of ACI species are identified; (2) strategies to conserve their genetic diversity exist and are implemented, such as through specimen exchange among Range States; (3) areas for restoration of ACI species populations are identified and mapped; and (4) guidelines for the recovery or reintroduction of the ACI species are available.*				3	3	2	2	3 2	3 3	2	2
Activity 4.1.1.	Identify ex-situ populations of each of the ACI species.										
Activity 4.1.2.	Contribute to strategies to conserve the genetic diversity of ex-situ populations of the ACI species.										
Activity 4.1.3.	Form partnerships among Range States and other stakeholders to exchange specimens of ACI species where necessary and possible.										

Planned action	Continental		Central Africa		Eastern Africa		Southern Africa		West Africa	
	Conservation importance	Timeframe	Conservation importance	Timeframe	Conservation importance	Timeframe	Conservation importance	Timeframe	Conservation importance	Timeframe
Activity 4.1.4. Identify and map areas where habitat, prey base and potential conflict level would allow the restoration of populations of the ACI species in their former range in Africa.										
Activity 4.1.5. Develop, on behalf of the Range States, general guidelines on the recovery or reintroduction of the ACI species.										
Objective 5. Conflict and coexistence **To promote coexistence of local communities with the ACI species through understanding and mitigating human-carnivore conflicts by co-management, and by providing socio-economic benefits and improved livelihoods to communities living with these carnivores.**										
Result 5.1. Coexistence of local communities with the ACI species is promoted and improved. *Indicators: (1) Report on best practice experiences for minimizing conflicts is reviewed, (2) best practice guidelines for conflict minimization are available, (3) priority areas with high human-carnivore conflict levels are identified, and (4) conflict mitigation projects are implemented.*	1		1	1	1	3	1	1	1	1
Activity 5.1.1. Review best practice experiences for minimizing conflicts of local communities with the ACI species.										
Activity 5.1.2. Develop best practice guidelines for enhancing the coexistence of local communities with the ACI species and their prey and discuss and promote them at an ACI Range State Meeting.										
Activity 5.1.3. Identify areas where human-carnivore conflicts are threatening the (local) survival of any of the ACI species and where there is need for urgent actions.										
Activity 5.1.4. Implement and map the best practice guidelines for local communities in the priority areas identified under Activity 5.1.3.										
Activity 5.1.5. Raising awareness of stakeholders living in human-carnivore conflict areas for a better coexistence and enhance coexistence of local communities with the ACI species by including local stakeholders into the development and implementation of sustainable management and conservation plans for the ACI species and their prey (see also Results 3.1 and 3.2).										
Activity 5.1.6. Promote socio-economic benefits for local communities living with the ACI species.										

Planned action	Continental		Central Africa		Eastern Africa		Southern Africa		West Africa	
	Conservation importance	Timeframe	Conservation importance	Timeframe	Conservation importance	Timeframe	Conservation importance	Timeframe	Conservation importance	Timeframe
Objective 6. Sustainable use and management **To ensure that any use and management of the ACI species and their prey (be it for consumptive or non-consumptive purposes) is non-detrimental and enhances their conservation and their value for people and the environment.**										
Result 6.1. Guidelines for Non-Detrimental Findings (NDFs) for trade in Lions and Leopards are developed, reviewed and endorsed, and information on NDFs for trade in Cheetahs[2] is collated. *Indicators: (1) NDF guidelines are developed, and (2) NDF guidelines are endorsed.*			2	3	1	1	3	3	2	2
Activity 6.1.1. Develop, in cooperation with relevant institutions of the ACI Range States, guidelines for NDFs for trade in Lions and Leopards and submit them to the ACI Range States and CITES bodies for review and endorsement; in collaboration with relevant Range States, collate information on NDFs for trade in Cheetahs.										
Result 6.2. NDFs for trade in Lions, Leopards and Cheetahs are conducted by ACI Range States having a quota for Lion, Leopard and Cheetah according to the guidelines developed under Result 5.1. *Indicators: (1) NDFs have been conducted in all countries with quotas for Lions, Leopards and Cheetahs according to the guidelines, and (2) recommendations have been formulated and been submitted.*			2	3	1	2	3	3	2	2
Activity 6.2.1. Encourage ACI Range States that have a quota for Lion and/or Leopard (and/or Cheetah) to use the guidelines when making NDFs for trade in these species.										

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[2] Cheetahs are listed under CMS Appendix I. In accordance with Article III on *Endangered Migratory Species: Appendix I*, "Range States that are CMS Parties shall prohibit the taking of Cheetahs, except for the taking for scientific purpose, the taking for the purpose of enhancing the propagation or survival of Cheetahs; the taking to accommodate the needs of traditional subsistence users of Cheetahs; or if extraordinary circumstances so require". Cheetah Range States that are Party to CMS are thus not allowed to hunt the species unless the Party can argue that such taking falls within one of the exceptions and is limited to a certain location and period of time.

Cheetahs are included in CITES Appendix I with the following annotation: "Annual export quotas for live specimens and hunting trophies are granted as follows: Botswana: 5; Namibia: 150; Zimbabwe: 50. The trade in such specimens is subject to the provisions of Article III of the Convention". In accordance with Article III on *Regulation of Trade in Specimens of Species included in Appendix I*, international trade in specimens of Cheetahs of wild origin requires the making of a non-detriment finding by the exporting and importing State.

Planned action	Continental		Central Africa		Eastern Africa		Southern Africa		West Africa	
	Conservation importance	Timeframe	Conservation importance	Timeframe	Conservation importance	Timeframe	Conservation importance	Timeframe	Conservation importance	Timeframe
Activity 6.2.2. Encourage ACI Range States with quotas for Lion, Leopard and Cheetah hunting trophies to exchange information and lessons learnt regarding the NDF process with other Range States and relevant bodies.										
Activity 6.2.3. Review the information provided under Activity 6.2.2 and make recommendations, if necessary, to the ACI Range States, the CITES Secretariat, Animals Committee, Standing Committee, and COP and other relevant bodies.										
Result 6.3. The legal trade in Lions, Leopards and Cheetahs has been reviewed and communicated. *Indicator: (1) A report on legal trade in Lions, Leopards and Cheetahs is discussed at an ACI Range State Meeting and brought to the attention of other audiences, as appropriate.*			1	1	1	1	3	3	3	3
Activity 6.3.1. Compile and analyse, in cooperation with the ACI Range States, information on legal trade in Lions, Leopards and Cheetahs across their range in a report, review the analysis at an ACI Range State Meeting, and formulate recommendations as needed.										
Objective 7. Illegal trade and illegal or incidental killing **To minimize illegal or incidental killing of the ACI species and their prey, and to minimize illegal trade and use at local, national and global levels.**										
Result 7.1. A study on illegal trade and illegal or incidental killing of the ACI species has been conducted and shared with all relevant stakeholders. *Indicators: (1) A report on the impact of illegal killing on the populations is available, and (2) a report on the trafficking routes is available.*			1	1	1	1	3	3	1	2
Activity 7.1.1. Collect, in cooperation with the ACI Range States and other relevant partners, information on illegal trade and illegal or incidental killing of the ACI species, analyse the data with regard to the impact of illegal killing on the populations and submit the respective report to CITES bodies, the ACI Range States and any other relevant bodies.										
Activity 7.1.2. Analyse the routes, i.e., origin, transition and destination countries, of illegal trade and trafficking in ACI species; and summarize the findings in a report to be submitted to CMS and CITES bodies, the ACI Range States and any other relevant bodies.										

Planned action	Continental		Central Africa		Eastern Africa		Southern Africa		West Africa	
	Conservation importance	Timeframe	Conservation importance	Timeframe	Conservation importance	Timeframe	Conservation importance	Timeframe	Conservation importance	Timeframe
Result 7.2. Recommendations to mitigate illegal trade and illegal killing are developed in consultation with the CITES Big Cat Task Force and relevant institutions, and conclusions shared with the ACI Range States. *Indicators: (1) Recommendations have been formulated and submitted, and (2) information has been shared with relevant bodies.*			1	3	1	1	3	3	2	2
Activity 7.2.1. Formulate recommendations to mitigate illegal offtake and trafficking based on the outcomes under Result 7.1, considering the findings and recommendation of other relevant bodies (e.g., CITES BIG Cat Task Force), submit them to the ACI Range States and the relevant CITES and CMS bodies, and integrate the recommendation into all conservation strategies and action plans relevant for ACI species, and into national policies and legislation where possible.										
Activity 7.2.2. Share information and conclusions on the illegal trade in Lion, Leopard and Cheetah between the ACI and the CITES Big Cat Task Force and other relevant bodies.										
Result 7.3. ACI Range State Parties are better able to detect illegal, unreported or misreported trade in the ACI species. *Indicators: (1) South Africa's Barcode of Wildlife Project is used when trading Lion specimens; (2) forensic-type techniques are used to identify ACI specimens traded, and (3) findings are presented and techniques implemented range-wide.*			1	2	2	2	1-2	3	1	1
Activity 7.3.1. Use, where appropriate, South Africa's Barcode of Wildlife Project to help identify Lion specimens in trade, and collaborate with relevant authorities in South Africa to improve the traceability of such specimens.										
Activity 7.3.2. Develop and promote, in consultation with relevant experts, the use of appropriate forensic-type techniques to identify and trace specimens of ACI species in trade (see also Result 7.4).										
Activity 7.3.3. Present findings from Activities 7.3.1 and 7.3.2 to the Range States and consider, at an ACI Range States Meeting, the implementation of these techniques for all ACI species across their range.										

Planned action	Continental		Central Africa		Eastern Africa		Southern Africa		West Africa	
	Conservation importance	Timeframe	Conservation importance	Timeframe	Conservation importance	Timeframe	Conservation importance	Timeframe	Conservation importance	Timeframe
Result 7.4. The resource kit for the Cheetah has been finalized and a resource kit for Lion, Leopard and African Wild Dog has been developed based on the resource kit for the Cheetah. *Indicators: (1) The Cheetah resource kit has been finalized and shared, and (2) a resource kit is available for all ACI species.*	1		1	1	1	3	1	2	1	1
Activity 7.4.1. Produce a final version of the Cheetah trade resource kit in the languages agreed on by the CITES Standing Committee and make it available to the ACI Range States and other relevant partners.										
Activity 7.4.2. Develop a resource kit for the other ACI species or integrate the other ACI species into the Cheetah resource kit, and share the kit with ACI Range States and all other relevant partners.										
Result 7.5. Illegal or incidental killing of the ACI species has been reduced (see also Results 9.2 and 10.1). *Indicators: (1) Livestock depredation reduction recommendations are implemented; (2) disease prevention strategies are implemented in communities; and (3) income generating mechanisms are promoted.*			1	1	2	3	1	1-2	1	1
Activity 7.5.1. Develop and implement evidence-based best-practice recommendations to reduce livestock depredation and loss of human lives or injuries by ACI species (see also Objective 5).										
Activity 7.5.2. Promote wildlife-based income generation mechanisms that benefit people and communities as well as wildlife, and that provide incentives for the sustainable management and conservation of ACI species (see also Result 5.1).										

Planned action	Continental		Central Africa		Eastern Africa		Southern Africa		West Africa	
	Conservation importance	Timeframe	Conservation importance	Timeframe	Conservation importance	Timeframe	Conservation importance	Timeframe	Conservation importance	Timeframe
Objective 8. Infectious and zoonotic diseases **To minimize the impact of infectious disease threats, including zoonoses, to populations of wildlife, including the ACI species, by supporting measures that protect human, wildlife, and domestic animal health.**										
Result 8.1. Infectious disease management plan for populations of the ACI species is developed and implemented. *Indicators: (1) A management plan is developed, and (2) implemented in wildlife areas.*	1		1	1	1	3	1	3	1	1
Activity 8.1.1. Review available evidence to evaluate the likely impacts of rabies, canine distemper, canine parvovirus, and other pathogens of concern on key populations of the ACI species, and identify priorities for intervention at local, national and international level.										
Activity 8.1.2. Using a "One Health" approach, partner with national authorities for public health, animal health, and wildlife conservation, as well as the World Health Organization, to agree and implement vaccination of domestic Dogs (e.g., against rabies, canine distemper; see Activity 8.1.1) in and around wildlife areas.										
Activity 8.1.3. Through a workshop process, identify the most appropriate management tools to reduce other disease threats to the ACI species, balancing impacts on human, wildlife, and domestic animal health, including identifying knowledge gaps.										
Activity 8.1.4. Implement identified management approaches in wildlife areas as appropriate.										

Planned action	Continental		Central Africa		Eastern Africa		Southern Africa		West Africa	
	Conservation importance	Timeframe	Conservation importance	Timeframe	Conservation importance	Timeframe	Conservation importance	Timeframe	Conservation importance	Timeframe
Objective 9. Policies and legislation **To support appropriate global, regional and national policies and legal frameworks for the long-term conservation of the ACI species, their prey and their living space and, where necessary, generate incentives for enhanced political commitment, for local community support, and for stronger international support for the conservation of African wildlife and natural habitats.**										
Result 9.1. Advice for ACI Range States on financing the effective implementation of the ACI POW is developed. *Indicators: (1) A financing strategy is available, and (2) recommendations for policies are developed and distributed.*	1		1	1	1	3	1	1	1	1
Activity 9.1.1. Develop a lasting financing strategy to finance the effective implementation of the ACI POW (based on the CMS and CITES Decisions) and share it with the ACI Range States and potential donors (see also Activities 1.1.2 and 1.1.3).										
Activity 9.1.2. Promote policies to ensure the revenue generated from tourism, trophy hunting etc. of ACI species contributes towards meaningful conservation of the species (e.g., incentives to local communities).										
Result 9.2. Effective policies and legislations for the conservation of the ACI species, their prey, and their living spaces in the ACI Range States, are promoted. *Indicators: (1) A review report on policies and legislation is available, (2) policy and legislation recommendations are formulated and distributed and (3) are discussed at an ACI Range State Meeting.*			2	3	1	3	2-3	3	1	2
Activity 9.2.1. Compile and assess, in a review report to the ACI Range State Parties and relevant bodies of the conventions, the effectiveness of relevant existing policies and legislation for the conservation of the ACI species with regard to offtake and trade and the management of their prey species (for ACI species, see Result 6.1 and Activity 6.1.1).										
Activity 9.2.2. Develop general recommendations for the improvement of policies and legislation, including effective penalties for illegal killing, trade of wildlife and wildlife products (based on Activity 8.2.1), and for the development of sustainable wildlife-based enterprises, and present and discuss them at an ACI Range State Meeting.										

Planned action	Continental		Central Africa		Eastern Africa		Southern Africa		West Africa	
	Conservation importance	Timeframe	Conservation importance	Timeframe	Conservation importance	Timeframe	Conservation importance	Timeframe	Conservation importance	Timeframe
Activity 9.2.3. Present the findings and conclusions from the ACI Range State Meeting on Activity 9.2.2 to the relevant bodies and the COPs of the conventions.										
Objective 10. Capacity and awareness **To develop and strengthen human resources and capacity of ACI Range States to conserve, sustainably manage and monitor populations and habitats of the ACI species, and increase local, national and global awareness for the conservation of these species in collaboration with stakeholders, institutions, and the people and communities at the local, national and international level.**										
Result 10.1. Human resources and capacity of ACI Range States to conserve, sustainably manage and monitor populations of the ACI species are strengthened. *Indicators: (1) Review report on capacities, opportunities and gaps is available, and (2) training opportunities are available.*			1	1	1	3	1	1	1	1
Activity 10.1.1. Review and evaluate capacities and training opportunities, identify gaps in and the needs for national and regional training in the ACI Range States for the conservation, sustainable management and monitoring of populations of the ACI species (see also Result 10.1).										
Activity 10.1.2. Support capacity-building and transfer of skills relevant for conservation, sustainable management and monitoring of the ACI species, especially to the local wildlife and enforcement authorities of and between the ACI Range States (see also Objective 10).										
Result 10.2. Local, national and global awareness for the conservation of the ACI species in Africa is increased and the case for their conservation integrated into educational curricula at national and subnational levels. *Indicators: (1) Review report on existing educational tools and opportunities is available, (2) appropriate further educational tools developed, and (3) public awareness campaigns designed and implemented.*			2	3	2	3	1	1	1	1

Planned action	Continental		Central Africa		Eastern Africa		Southern Africa		West Africa	
	Conservation importance	Timeframe	Conservation importance	Timeframe	Conservation importance	Timeframe	Conservation importance	Timeframe	Conservation importance	Timeframe
Activity 10.2.1. Review the availability of educational tools on conservation of the ACI species at national and subnational levels, and discuss at an ACI Range State Meeting opportunities for further integration into educational curricula in schools, universities and professional training colleges and other public outreach efforts.										
Activity 10.2.2. Design and implement outreach and (public) awareness campaigns targeting people and communities living with carnivores, other relevant stakeholders and the broad public in Africa, and, where appropriate, consumer groups of ACI species beyond Africa taking into consideration Resolution Conf. 17.4 on *Demand Reduction Strategies to combat illegal trade in CITES-listed species*.										
Objective 11. Knowledge and information **To continually increase the knowledge base on the conservation status of, threats to, and effective management tools for the ACI species and their most important prey species by promoting the development of appropriate survey methods, coordinated data collection and analyses to enable adaptive conservation and management, and facilitate communication and information sharing among ACI Range State Parties and between the ACI Range State Parties and the local, national and international communities.**										
Result 11.1. Standards for survey and monitoring of the ACI species and their most important prey species are established. *Indicators: (1) Monitoring guidelines for ACI species and their most important prey are available, (2) monitoring has been performed in the key areas and according to the guidelines, and (3) monitoring networks are established.*			1	1	1	1	1	1	2	2
Activity 11.1.1. Develop guidelines for the survey and monitoring of the ACI species and their most important prey, and submit them to the ACI Range State Parties and, as appropriate, relevant bodies of CITES or CMS.										
Activity 11.1.2. Promote and support the implementation of the guidelines (Activity 11.1.1), starting with identified priority/key areas for the ACI species (see also Activity 2.2.1).										

Planned action	Continental		Central Africa		Eastern Africa		Southern Africa		West Africa	
	Conservation importance	Timeframe	Conservation importance	Timeframe	Conservation importance	Timeframe	Conservation importance	Timeframe	Conservation importance	Timeframe
Activity 11.1.3. Establish monitoring networks for the ACI species and promote the standardized and synchronised monitoring of the ACI species and their most important prey species across the major distribution areas (e.g., transboundary metapopulations).										
Result 11.2. The African Lion Database is developed and operational. *Indicator: (1) The African Lion Database is operational and contains the relevant up to date data.*	1		1	2	1	2	1	1	1	2
Activity 11.2.1. Support the development, establishment and continued functioning of the African Lion Database.										
Result 11.3. The African Lion Database is expanded into an African Carnivore Database. *Indicators: (1) The African Carnivores Database is operational and contains the relevant up to date data, and (2) long-term funding is secured to maintain and curate the database.*			2	2	2	3	1	3	2	3
Activity 11.3.1. Expand the African Lion Database to an African Carnivores Database and compile, in cooperation with the ACI Range States and other relevant partners, the relevant data for the ACI species.										
Activity 11.3.2. Secure long-term funding for the maintenance of the African Lion / African Carnivores Database.										
Result 11.4. A comparative study on African Lion and Leopard population trends, conservation and management practices is available (see also Objective 5). *Indicators: (1) The inventory of all African Lion populations has been conducted, (2) the results of the inventory are available in the African Lion Database, (3) the comparative report is available, and (4) recommendations have been formulated and submitted.*			1	3	2	2	1	3	1	1
Activity 11.4.1. Conduct, in cooperation with the ACI Range States and other potential partners, an inventory of all African Lion populations to establish population size, abundance and trends, and maintain and regularly update this inventory.										
Activity 11.4.2. Ensure the availability of the information collected under Activity 11.4.1 in the African Lion Database (see also Result 11.2).										

Planned action	Continental		Central Africa		Eastern Africa		Southern Africa		West Africa	
	Conservation importance	Timeframe	Conservation importance	Timeframe	Conservation importance	Timeframe	Conservation importance	Timeframe	Conservation importance	Timeframe
Activity 11.4.3. Assess and compare Lion management (including, but not limited to, the role of (international) trade, hunting, informal offtake, problem animal control, and prey species management) within and between ACI Range States (see also Results 6.2 and 6.3 and Objective 7).										
Activity 11.4.4. Formulate recommendations based on the Outcomes of Activities 11.4.1 and 11.4.3 and submit them to the ACI Range States and the relevant bodies at CMS and CITES.										
Result 11.5. A web portal for the ACI to disseminate all relevant information is developed and operational. *Indicator: (1) The ACI web portal is operational.*	1		1	3	1	1	1	3	1	1
Activity 11.5.1. Develop, e.g., based on the CMS Lion web portal, a web portal for the dissemination of all relevant information and documents for the conservation of the ACI species.										
Result 11.6. Information on Lion, Leopard and Cheetah collected and analysed through the ACI is shared with the CITES Big Cats Task Force and any other relevant bodies. *Indicator: (1) The CITES Big Cats Task Force and other relevant bodies are informed on the ACI activities.*			1	2	2	2	-	-	1	1
Activity 11.6.1. Share relevant concepts and information on Lion, Leopard and Cheetah with the CITES Big Cat Task Force and any other relevant bodies.										

RANGE STATES' CONSERVATION PRIORITIES FOR AFRICAN CHEETAH & WILD DOG

PART 1: OUTCOMES OF DISCUSSIONS IN THREE SUBREGIONAL GROUPS

1.   Eastern African sub-region

Burundi, Ethiopia, Kenya, Rwanda, Somalia, South Sudan, Tanzania, Uganda & IUCN SSC CSG, WCS, WWF, WildCRU, UCF

THEME	OBJECTIVE in the Regional Strategy for Cheetah and Wild Dogs (summarized)	ACTIVITIES PRIORITIZED *(IN NUMBERS)*
1. Coexistence	Implement strategies to promote coexistence of cheetahs and wild dogs.	Results (5) Activities : 8-4-4-3-6
2. Surveys and information	Provide stakeholders with scientific information on the status of and threats to cheetah and wild dog populations	Results (2) Activities: 5-5
3. Capacity Development	Strengthen human, institutional and information resources for conserving cheetah and wild dogs	Result(s) (1) Activity: 5
4. Policy and legislation	Review and harmonise legislation, and, where necessary, develop new legislation, for conservation across cheetah and wild dog range at national and international levels	Results (5) Activity: 7-3-4-3 activities being refined to put emphasis on TFCAs and combat of illegal trade in Cheetah and Wild Dogs specimens
5. Advocacy	Mainstream Cheetah & Wild Dog conservation in land use planning & its implementation	Results (3) Activity: 3-7-4
6. National plan and regional strategy	Develop, update, and implement regional and national conservation programmes for cheetah and wild dogs	Results (3) Activity: 3-3-3

2.   North, West and Central African subregion

About 20 countries from this region were represented. The working group was chaired by Niger and reported by Gabon.

The group first had a round table discussion during which each country shared information about their country regarding cheetah and wild dog conservation, the actions that would be prioritised.

Then, the group made an inventory of all the priorities proposed by the countries to bring out those which would be defined as priorities for the North, West and Central Africa region. The idea was to draw up a list of specific priority actions with a deadline for implementation that could be submitted to donors.

To this end, the following main priorities at the regional level in North, West and Central Africa globally were identified:

1. Carry out a status report on the two target species (distribution and population size)

2. Update existing action plans or develop new action plans

3. Develop a fundraising strategy

4. Develop capacity building activities

5. Develop awareness raising activities

These priorities should be implemented within 1 year as soon as funds are available.

3.   Southern African subregion

Angola, Botswana, Namibia, Mozambique, South Africa, Zambia, Zimbabwe, Malawi, Tanzania

Issues Identified:

• DNA barcoding / Forensic science (Cheetah-passport in SA)

• Road Kills

• Training / capacity (monitoring/data analysis / etc that contribute to the conservation of these species

• Co-existence / conflict (high)

• Retaliatory killing

• Regional and national Surveys and connectivity (regional standardised methodology, e.g., KAZA - aiming for MIKE Standards for Cheetah and Wild dog

• Dispersal, Connectivity within SADC region (collar animals - corridors)

• De-stocking in South Africa / reintroductions

• Population decline - possible reintroduction areas

• Land use planning - wildlife planning land use planning

• Development, review and update of national management plans

• Large carnivore management plans

• Enhance law enforcement and anti-poaching

Issues identified were categorized into High Priority, High-Medium Priority and Medium Priority:

High Priority

• **Sustainable financing for conservation** - Credits used in pilot project? in Namibia, bonds (impacts bonds, carbon credits

• Illegal trade of wild dog and cheetah products - live sale. Link to forensic science - standardise methodologies and techniques,

    • Standardisation of the techniques is a high priority - DNA barcoding / Forensic science (Cheetah-passport in SA)

        ➢ Awareness on registered laboratories for certification

        ➢ Chain of custody method

- Training / capacity (monitoring / data analysis etc. that contribute to the conservation of these species

- Co-existence / conflict (high), anger management

- Retaliatory killing

- Regional and national Surveys and connectivity (regional standardised methodology e.g., KAZA - aiming at MIKE Standards for Cheetah and Wild Dog

- De-stocking in South Africa / reintroductions

  - Population decline - possible reintroduction areas

- Development, review and update of national management plans

  - Large carnivore management plans (recommendation)

- Enhance law enforcement and anti-poaching

High-Medium Priority

- Dispersal connectivity within the SADC region (animal collaring and corridors management)

- Land use planning - wildlife land use planning

Medium Priority

- Roadkills

- Diseases / zoonoses

PART 2: RECOMMENDATIONS FROM THE REPORT ON THE SITUATION OF THE CHEETAH ACINONYX JUBATUS SOEMMERINGII IN THE HORN OF AFRICA

The urgency of the threats posed to *A. j. soemmeringii* requires conservation action, despite limited data and understanding, Thus, improving the knowledge base should be advanced in parallel with implementing recognised urgent conservation measures. The following actions are therefore recommended:

Improve knowledge base

1. Research to understand harvest patterns. This should include a) understanding the spatial harvesting patterns; b) understanding methods of Cheetah cub capture, and whether such captures lead to surplus killings of adult females; and c) assessment of the level of undetected trade, including estimation of the survival rate of captured animals at each stage of the trafficking process, and an estimation of the extent of unreported and undetected trade.

2. Research to understand drivers of demand in order to design interventions to change behaviour and suppress demand.

3. Research to understand the role of social media and encrypted messaging apps in the illegal trade in Cheetah at different stages of the trafficking process, in order to design interventions to combat the trade.

4. Identify, assess and monitor key indicators of habitat status for free-living cheetah populations in the Horn of Africa and identify priority areas for long-term monitoring.

5. Surveys to provide abundance estimates for vulnerable populations, and the establishment of long-term strategies for monitoring Cheetah population trends.

6.   Genetic research to identify the limits to *A. j. soemmeringii* distributional range, including identifying whether populations in South Sudan, Northern Kenya and Uganda are comprised of members of this subspecies. A more limited distributional range of *A. j. soemmeringii* would substantially increase the urgency of addressing the decline in the North-East African Cheetah subspecies.

Reduce demand

7.   Active engagement with social media companies to remove posts associated with Cheetah trade and to remove images that promote the use of Cheetahs as pets in order to reduce demand.

8.   Interventions, such as raising awareness and targeted enforcement, to change behaviour and suppress demand.

Improve cooperation and information exchange

9.   Put in place harmonized national databases of illegal Cheetah trade incidents to support counter trafficking efforts across the Horn of Africa region.

10.   Create a centralized inventory of confiscated Cheetahs (and their offspring in captivity), which should be continuously updated/expanded in cooperation with HAWEN in all countries holding such Cheetahs and including all holders.

11.   Improve international cooperation and transboundary conservation within the range of *A. j. soemmeringii*, including protection of prey species and habitats, under the auspices of international conservation conventions and consideration of the establishment of transboundary conservation areas.

Improve protection and conservation

12.   Provide support to HAWEN to allow it to fulfil its function to combat illegal trade in *A. j. soemmeringii*.

   13.   Ensure that the ACI POW is implemented in full, particularly the three Results and five Activities relating to illegal trade in Cheetah under Objectives 6 and 7 (see footnote 3 of the Report on the Situation of the Cheetah *Acinonyx jubatus soemmeringii* in the Horn of Africa).

14.   Improve understanding of the anthropogenic drivers of poaching of cheetah and its prey and its impacts on population dynamics to inform meaningful management and conservation strategies.

15.   Improve capacity in *A. j. soemmeringii* Range States for monitoring Cheetah, for wildlife protection in general, and for combatting illegal trade in Cheetah specifically.

16.   Consider use of confiscated animals within a sustainable *ex situ* conservation Cheetah breeding population as a potential source population for future reintroductions or reinforcements. This could include, for example, allowing confiscated individuals to become part of an international *ex situ* breeding programme.