



UPDATE

ZA

2018

CREATING PARTNERSHIPS  
THAT REDUCE THE  
IMPACTS OF THE ILLEGAL  
WILDLIFE TRADE ON  
ELEPHANTS AND RHINOS



# Khetha Program Quarterly Newsletter

Oct - Dec 2018

# Strengthening wildlife trafficking law enforcement at South Africa's borders

Khetha supported the Department of Environmental Affairs (DEA) in issuing a range of training and guidance documents for law enforcement officials who would be exposed to wildlife trafficking incidents while on duty.



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In December, Environmental Management Inspectors (EMIs) at South Africa's border control posts received photographic wildlife trafficking detection and handling guidelines.

## Wildlife photography improves attitudes towards wildlife

Khetha, in partnership with Wildshots Outreach, provided wildlife photography training to eight young, unemployed men and women from Islington, close to the Kruger National Park. The aim of the training was to build marketable technical skills while also fostering an appreciation for wildlife. While the participants live only a few kilometres from the closest protected area, most had never been inside a park. The students attended four workshops after which they tested their new skills during a wildlife photography drive in Thornybush Private Reserve. All participants received a certificate of achievement after the training. This work supports our efforts to build bridges between local communities and protected areas.



Mikhongelo Mathebbula with the photo he took of an elephant during his wildlife photography training provided by Khetha and Wildshots Outreach.

## Forming a District Natural Resource Management Committee in Moamba, Mozambique

Khetha, through WWF Mozambique, began the process of forming a District Natural Resource Management Committee in the Moamba district in Mozambique that will convene key stakeholders in the southern Greater Lebombo Conservancy to address illegal wildlife trade and related issues in line with the Khetha Program.

## Developing guidelines for the design and implementation of Anti-Poaching Units

The 2016 Rhino Conservation Lab, hosted by the DEA, determined specific requirements for rhino conservation, including the establishment of Anti-Poaching Units for each protected area with rhino and the development of appropriate environmental asset management technologies. Khetha contracted the Council of Scientific and Industrial Research (CSIR) to directly support the DEA in this initiative.

CSIR will support the development of guidelines for the design and roll-out of Anti-Poaching Units, including the review and standardization of protocols and procedures for such units. CSIR will also develop guidelines on the evaluation, selection, procurement and implementation of appropriate anti-poaching technologies.

## Strengthening prosecutorial capacity in Mozambique

In December, Khetha, in partnership with WWF Mozambique, trained 23 prosecutors and officials from the National Crime Investigation Service (SERNIC) from the Inhambane, Gaza and Maputo provinces on a newly developed manual aimed at improving government investigation and prosecution capacity to respond to the illegal wildlife trade.



From left to right: Mr. Foloma Marcelino, Wildlife Officer, WWF Mozambique, Mr. Januário Necas, Deputy Attorney General, and Ms Virgínia Maria Hobjane, Chief Prosecutor of Gaza Province, Mozambique at the training of prosecutors and other law enforcement officials in December 2018.

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## Developing elephant and rhino poaching crime scene guidelines and training curriculum

Khetha contracted the Green Law Foundation to produce guidelines and a corresponding multimedia training curriculum to strengthen the capacity of both governmental and privately employed law enforcement officials that may be required to deal with rhino and elephant poaching crime scenes.

Proper management of crime scenes is essential to ensure admissible testimony and evidence in court. Over the past few decades a number of lessons have been learned about processing poaching crime scenes and which led to the amendment and refinement of crime scene standard operating procedures (SOPs). These SOPs will be documented and included in the training materials.

## Assessing wildlife crime-prevention approaches

Khetha selected a team of specialists, Conservation Synergies, to assess the applicability of various wildlife crime prevention approaches founded on conservation criminology principles. The assessment will consider initiatives relating to situational crime prevention, community-oriented policing, problem-oriented policing and integrated social prevention initiatives around the world. The assessment will also consider methods of preventing crime offences and rehabilitating offenders which can be translated to both the wildlife conservation and security sectors.

Starting in January 2019, they will conduct a literature review and consult with a network of leading criminologists and conservation practitioners in the landscape to provide recommendations applicable for the Great Limpopo Transfrontier Conservation Area (GLTFCA).

Look out for our next Quarterly  
Newsletter in April 2019

