

**SEA 2018 1432**

**Mid term evaluation of the ‘Preserving threatened species, their habitats and the people depending on them Building on the experience and success of SOS – Save Our Species’ programme**

**FINAL REPORT**

**European Commission**

**Date: 07 July 2023**

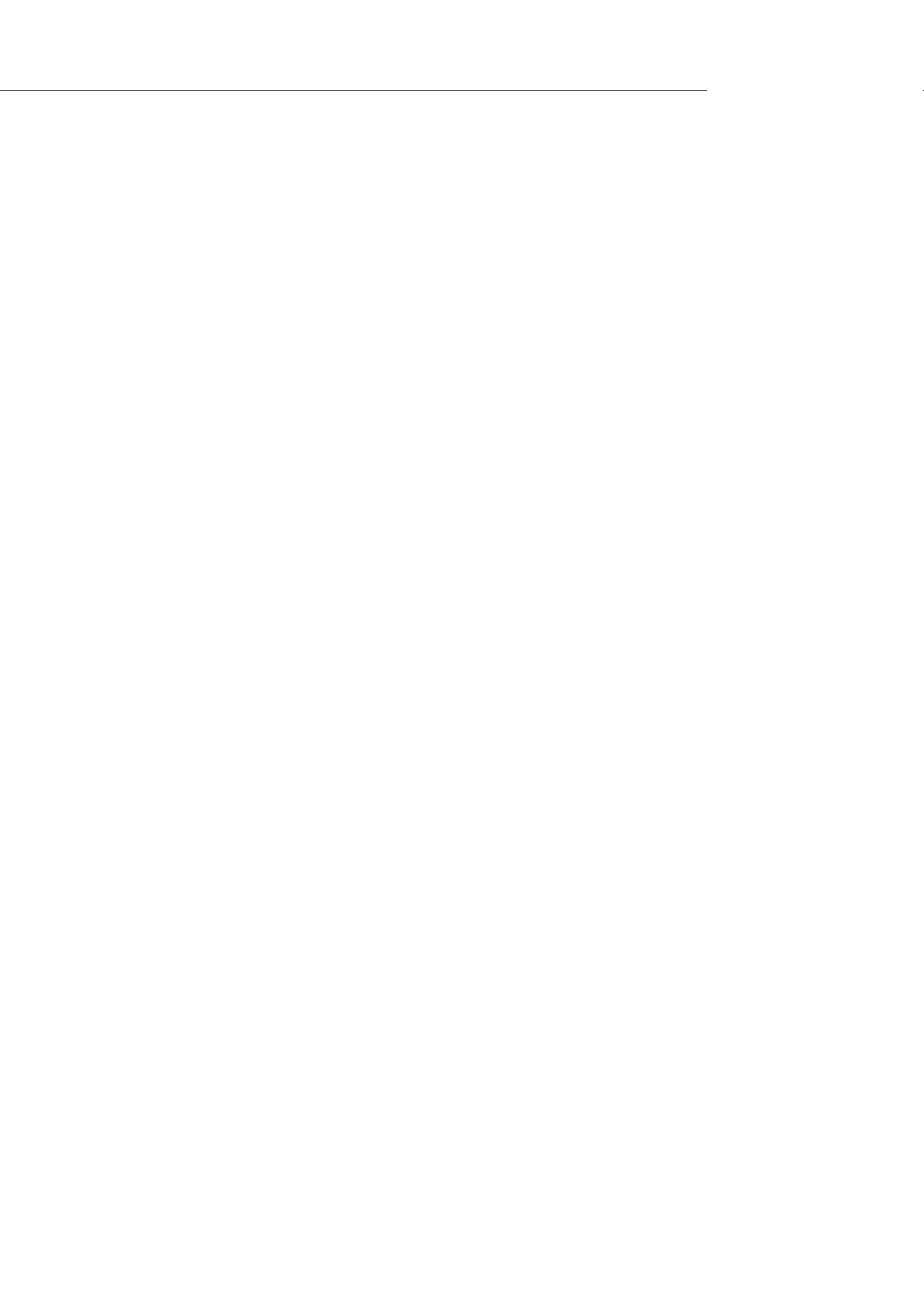
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**Many CSO reported having received the final instalment of the grant several months after the completion of the project. This has posed serious funding problems for small CSOs with little or no cashflow**



- 1 Policy:** To what extent is this project coherent with the EU policy and strategy in the field of biodiversity? This relates to questions EQ1 and EQ2
- 2 Operational:** To what extent have the implementation mechanisms of the programme been effective and efficient? this relates to EQ3 and EQ4
- 3 Impact:** What are the main achievements of the programme and are they sustainable? This







between DG NIPA and SOS secretariat were based on informal exchanges during that period. The last Steering Committee was held on 17<sup>th</sup> April 2023 in Brussels.

A Secretariat made up of 11 staff based in the IUCN head office in Switzerland. This secretariat runs the whole SOS programme ie the SOS AWI and the other seven initiatives. Out of the 11 staff, 2 are working fulltime on SOS AWI and 7 part time. Two programme officers are based fulltime in Africa (one in Senegal and one in Kenya). One of the main functions of the two officers is to support the CSOs in the project applications (only shortlisted applications) and, once a grant is awarded, in the implementation of projects. The staff also secretariat work on a part-time basis.

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**Figure 1: Geographical distribution of the projects (both TSG and PAC)**

**Table 5 Number of projects per country (both TSG and PAC)**

Country	Number
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**Figure 3: Categorisation of the Expected Results (n=95) of the 30 completed projects**

**322 Profile of Grantees**

**Type**

**A total of 75% of the grants were awarded to national open type 222e**

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be rated “Achieved”, “Partially achieved” and “Not achieved). An ER was categorized “Achieved” when all its associated Outputs were rated “Achieved”; if not, it was categorized “Partially achieved”. For the projects visited in the field, we also assessed whether the rating mentioned in the final report was deemed correct or not

Half of the projects have fulfilled their objectives 50% ± 5% & the remaining 50% ± 5%











## 43 Efficiency

**EQ#3 How efficient and cost effective has the contract implementation been? Could more results be achieved with the available budget?**

The overall budget of SOS AWA is 16.17ME. The secretariat's operating costs are 20% (human resources + travel + equipment + office), plus 5% of IUCN's overhead costs. It should be remembered that 196 applications were submitted for the three TSG CBP and 266 applications for the RACs, i.e., a total of 462 applications. Applications were assessed quickly after the CBP closed and contracts were generally signed quickly. In addition to running the selection process of applications, the contracting and supervision of the operators' activities are human- and time-consuming. The secretariat also supervised the capacity building activities and carried out the outreach and communication work. The 25% cost rate seems to us to be acceptable given the approach and the way the programme operates. As a comparison, the running costs of the Programme Petites Initiatives (which operates similarly but award smaller grants) is 18% (see Box 1 below).

Two problems, mentioned by several CSOs, can be noted:

The programme was blocked for almost a year (October 2017–October 2018). When the situation was resolved and the programme resumed its intervention, the activities proposed by certain operators in their project were no longer relevant, vQiv

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from the co-financing brought by the grants. Thus, no more efforts were made in securing additional co-financing for SOS AWI. It is noteworthy that large funds have been secured for the other initiatives of SOS AWI grants. As an example, over 20ME have been received from the KfW to fund the Tiger initiative. Similarly, 95ME have been secured to fund phase 2 of the Lem initiative.

It is useful to recall here that at the project level, 74% of the Expected results have been fully achieved and 25% partially achieved (1% not achieved) – see Figure 4.

Criteria	Evaluation rating
Effectiveness	Satisfactory

#### 45 Sustainability

**EQ#6** How likely is it that there will be a continuation of long-term benefits in the foreseeable future?

Several elements suggest that there will be a continuation of long-term benefits of the projects once the grants are closed. This includes:

- ~ Over 80% of all projects have obtained part of the 5rd of the SOS grant (result of the on











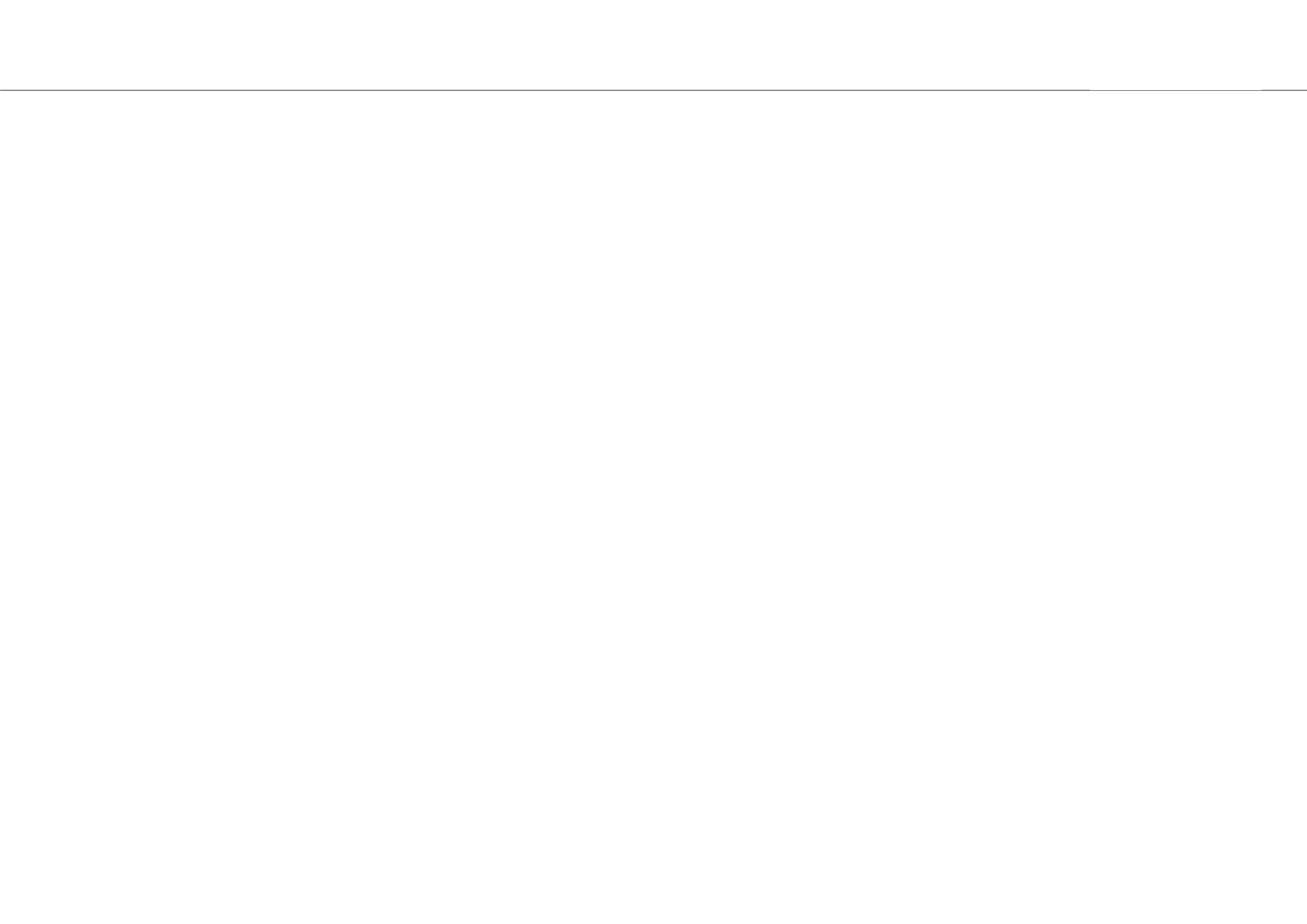


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- He has a good knowledge of local CSO and NGO in Africa. He evaluated in 2013 and 2019 the phase 2 and 5 of the Programme Petite Initiative of the BEM, respectively. This programme supports the implementation of biodiversity conservation projects by CSO and NGO in Africa through small grant mechanism.

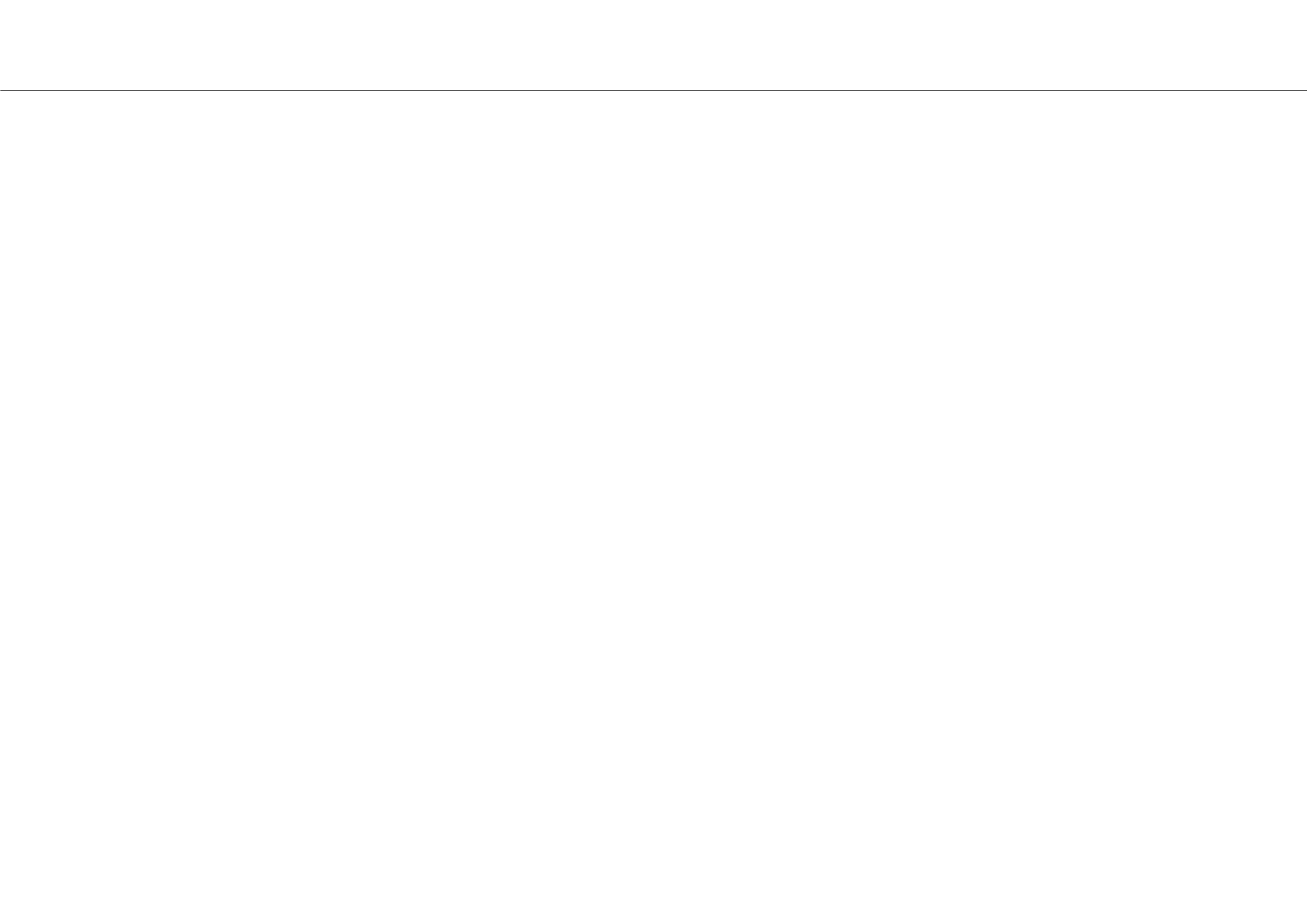
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	<b>Uganda Conservation Foundation / 202B 051</b>	<b>Maha Ukigizi, Cat Mgr</b> <b>Jimmy Ksenbo</b> <b>Deris Onond, Law Enforcement officer; UWA</b> <b>Alma Peters, Earth Ranger expert</b>
<b>Zambia</b>	<b>Zambia Carnivore Programme / 2018A-105 &amp; 2020B 040</b>	<b>Nadia Capata, uB/C/M</b> <b>Matt Bader (ZCP)</b> <b>Rachel MCRubb (CSI)</b> <b>Benson Kanyenbo, Law Enforcement officer (CSI)</b> <b>Ruth Chindi, HWC officer (CSI)</b> <b>Sidney Njovu, Carine Unit officer (CSI)</b> <b>Felicia Mwale, field ecologist (ZCP)</b> <b>Dennis Zimba, HCC officer (ZCP)</b> <b>Bernh Beza, Cat Monitoring officer (ZCP)</b>

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Evaluation criteria	
	<b>Very</b>
	<b>High</b>
	<b>Medium</b>







	<b>Very High</b>
	<b>High</b>

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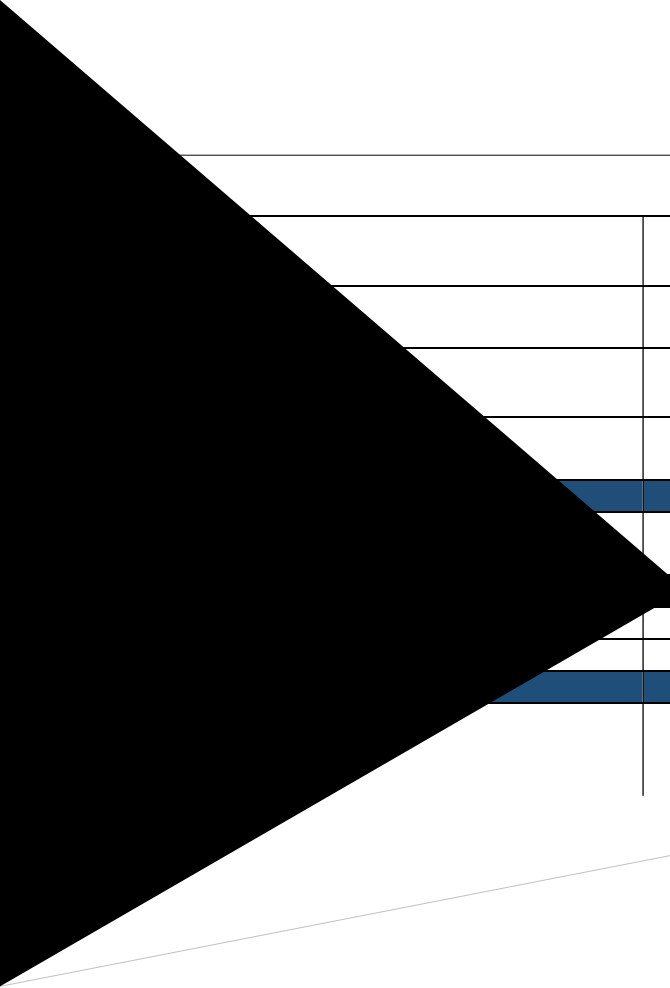


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Evaluation criteria	Very High	High	Medium	Low	Very Low



**Kaoo NBS) including 42 cameras newly purchased with UCN  
grant funding**  
**Regular aerial surveys to monitor individuals and collation of  
all data collected from all survey methods**  
**Training of conservation staff specifically on the use of field  
data collection application software for all three sites**  
**All rhino databases were updated on a monthly basis**  
**The first result of monitoring the black rhino population on an  
individual basis with the aim of having at least ú            tp    atg**













Evaluation criteria <sup>3</sup>	á
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