



Range wide conservation planning for Cheetah and African Wild Dog



Talk structure

- Background – why cheetah and wild dogs?
- Range-wide conservation planning
- Conservation implementation
- Process is co-led with Rosie Woodroffe



Why two species together?

Cheetahs and wild dogs are:

- ecologically similar
- face similar threats

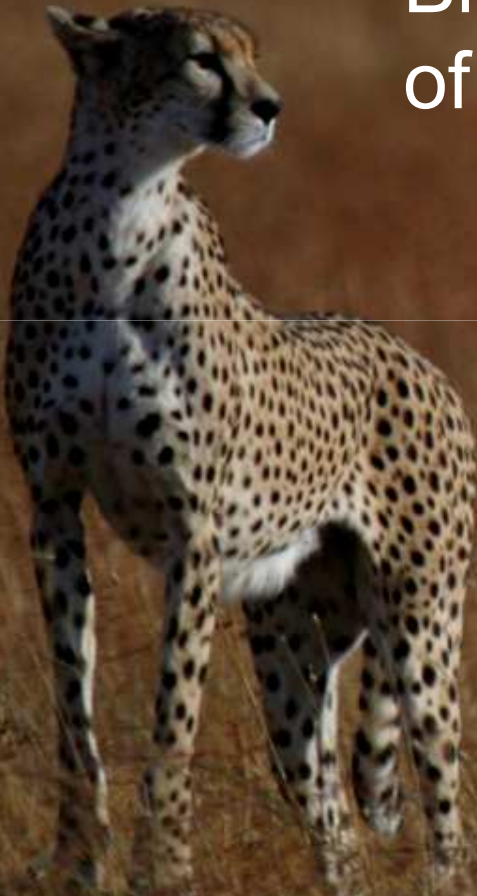


Ecological similarities between wild dogs and cheetahs:

Broadly distributed in Africa outside of central and western forests

Predators of medium-sized ungulates

Fare poorly in competition with larger carnivores such as lions and spotted hyaenas



Consequently, both species
live at low densities and
range widely

Home range sizes
wild dogs: 300-2,000km²
cheetahs: 200->2,000km²

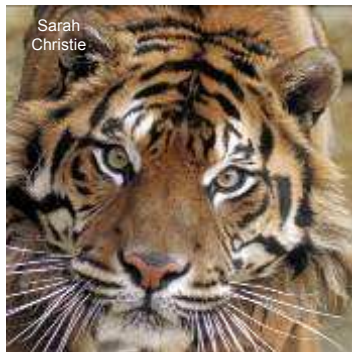
Maximum population densities
= 2 adults per 100km² for both
species



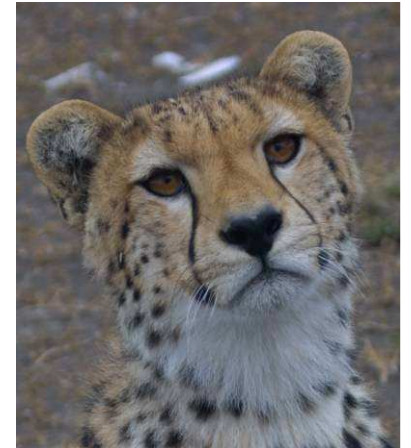
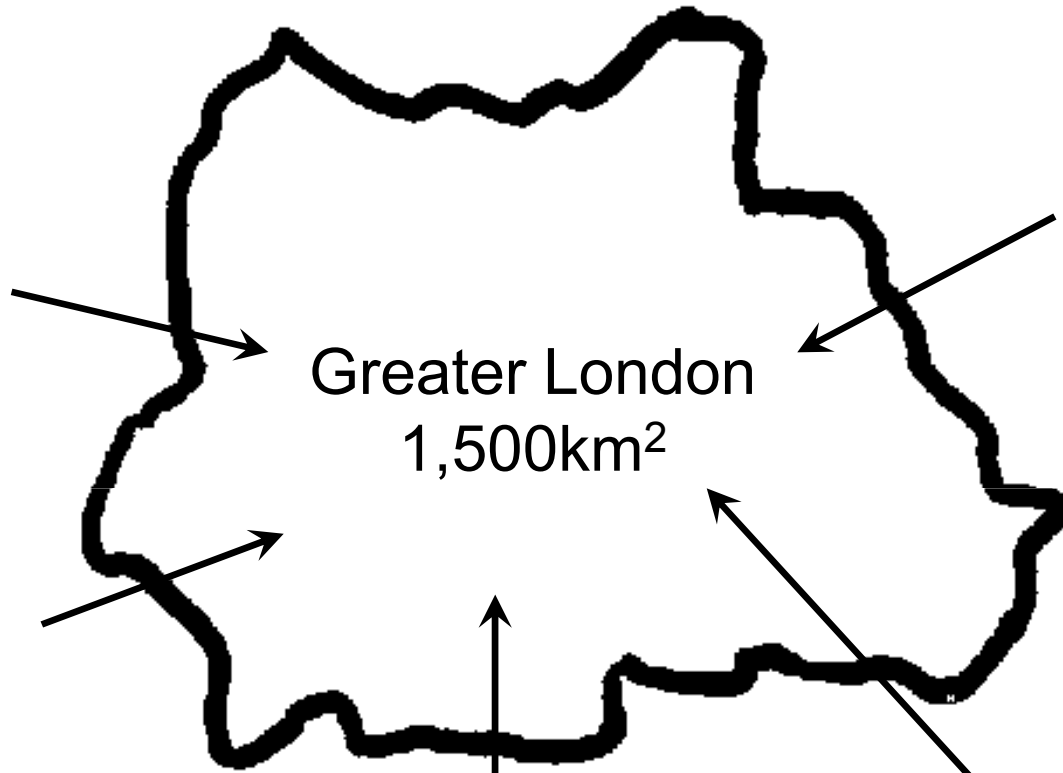
Large carnivore densities (highest recorded)



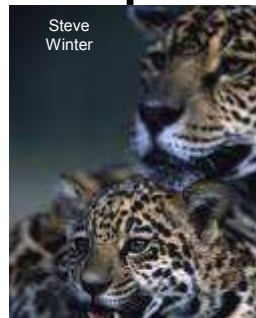
c. 300



c. 150




< 30



c. 100



< 30



Conservation of cheetah and wild dog requires land use planning on a scale rarely seen in terrestrial conservation including:

- Conservation outside as well as inside protected areas
- Conservation across international boundaries

Requires national and international coordination

Range wide conservation planning for cheetah and wild dogs

- Workshop based process
- Participatory and consensual
- Combine two species to increase leverage
- Regional conservation strategy for conservation across national boundaries



Key elements to effective planning process

- Participatory and consensus driven
- Engages all key stakeholders needed for implementation
- Based on the best available knowledge
- Is realistic





The conservation planning process – two key themes

Compiling, analysing and interpreting distribution data



Strategic planning for conservation action



Engagement of stakeholders:

- Government – national wildlife authorities
- Species biologists/conservationists
- NGOs

Individuals and institutions best able to implement the plan

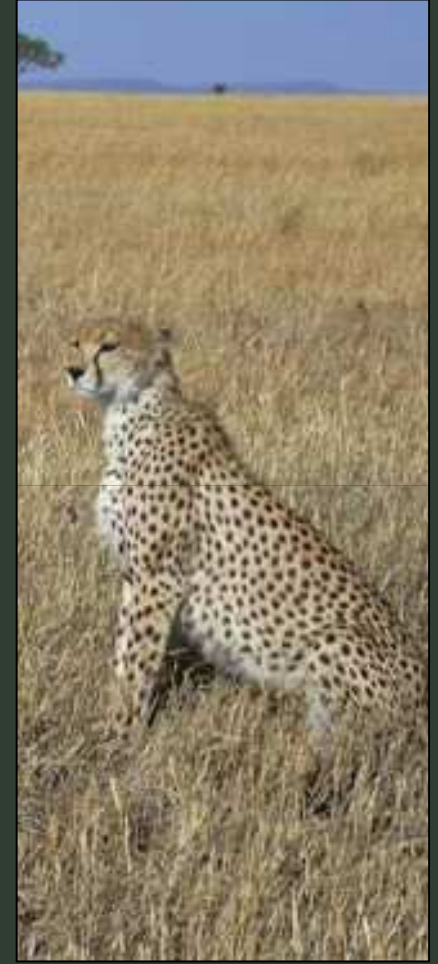


Two major themes in the
conservation planning process

Compiling, analysing and
interpreting distribution
data



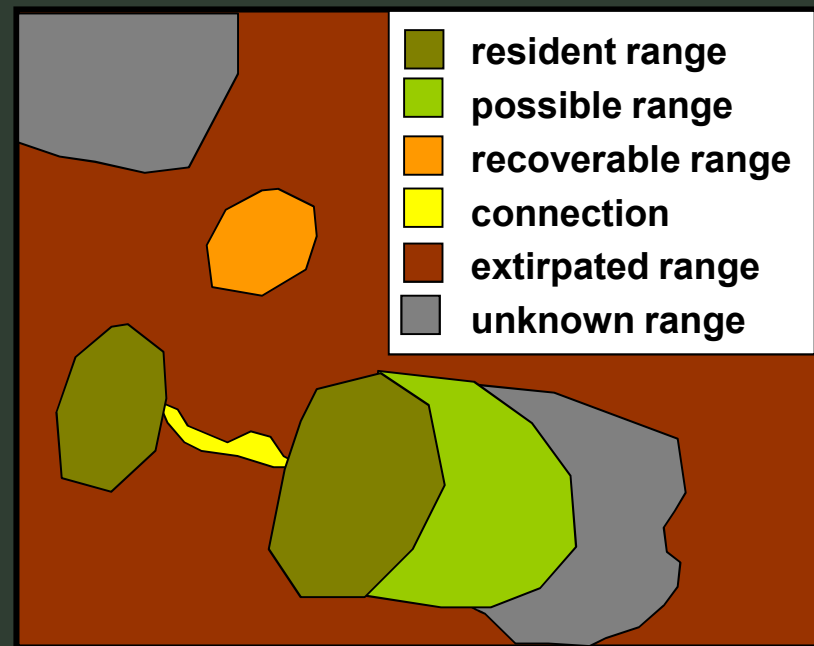
Strategic planning for
conservation action

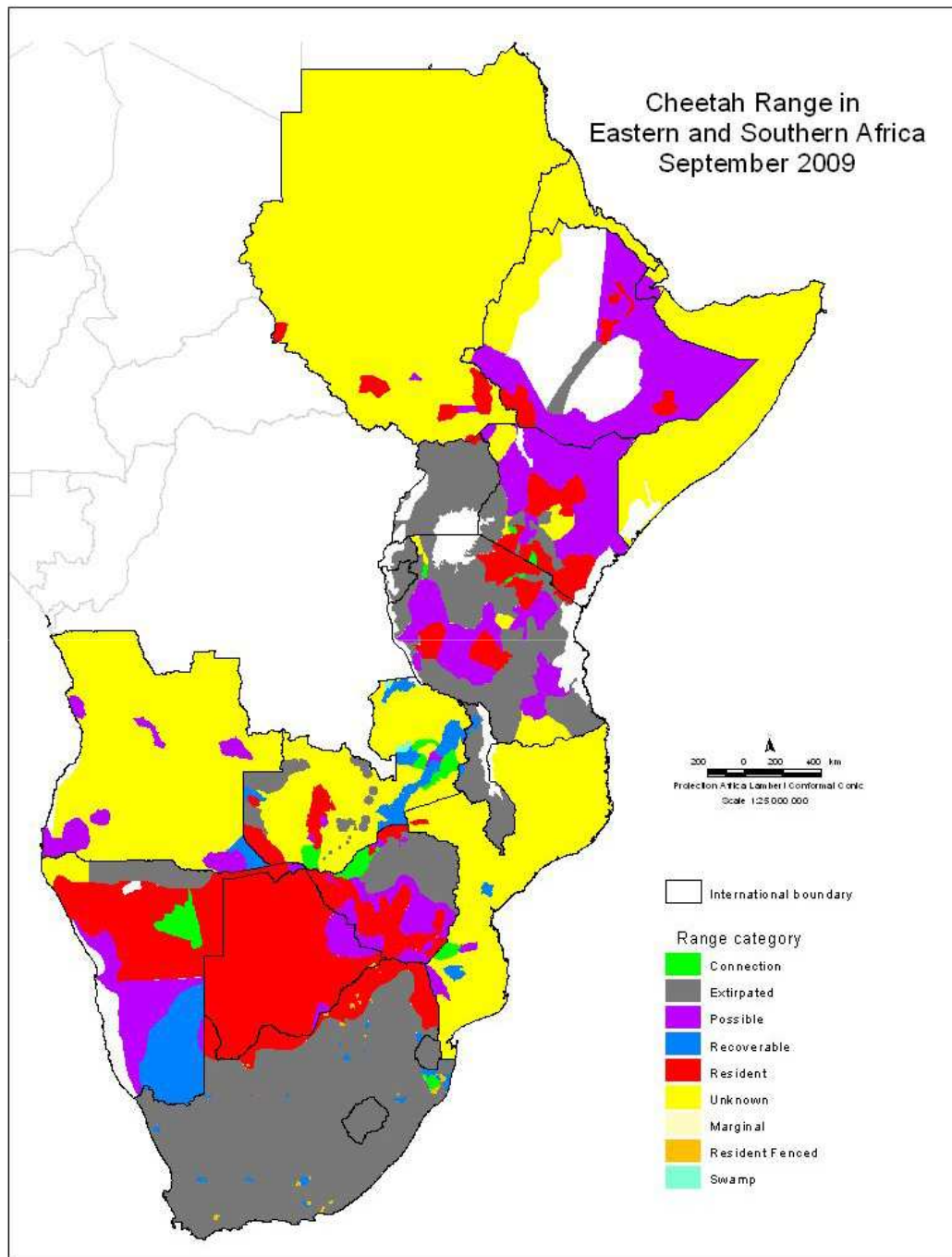


In this process, participants compiled, analysed, and interpreted data – contributed by themselves and others – to determine:

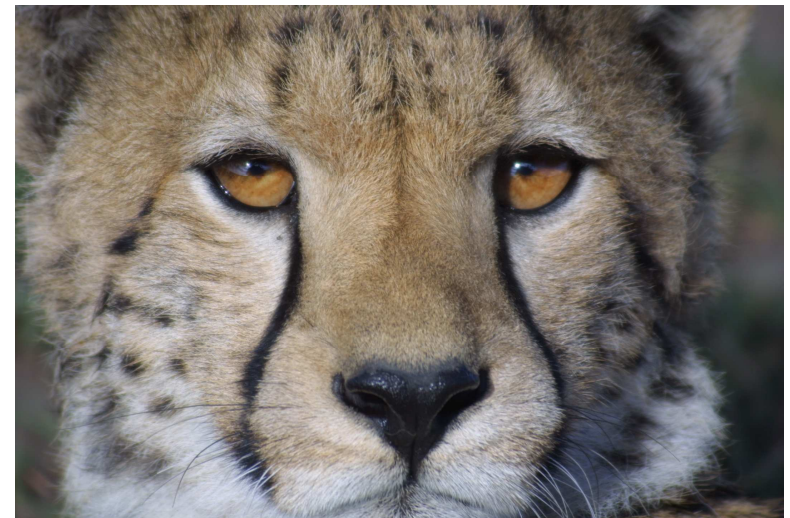
The current distribution and status of cheetahs and wild dogs across the region

This included areas where the species were known or suspected to be resident, corridors between suitable areas, and areas where recovery might be achievable



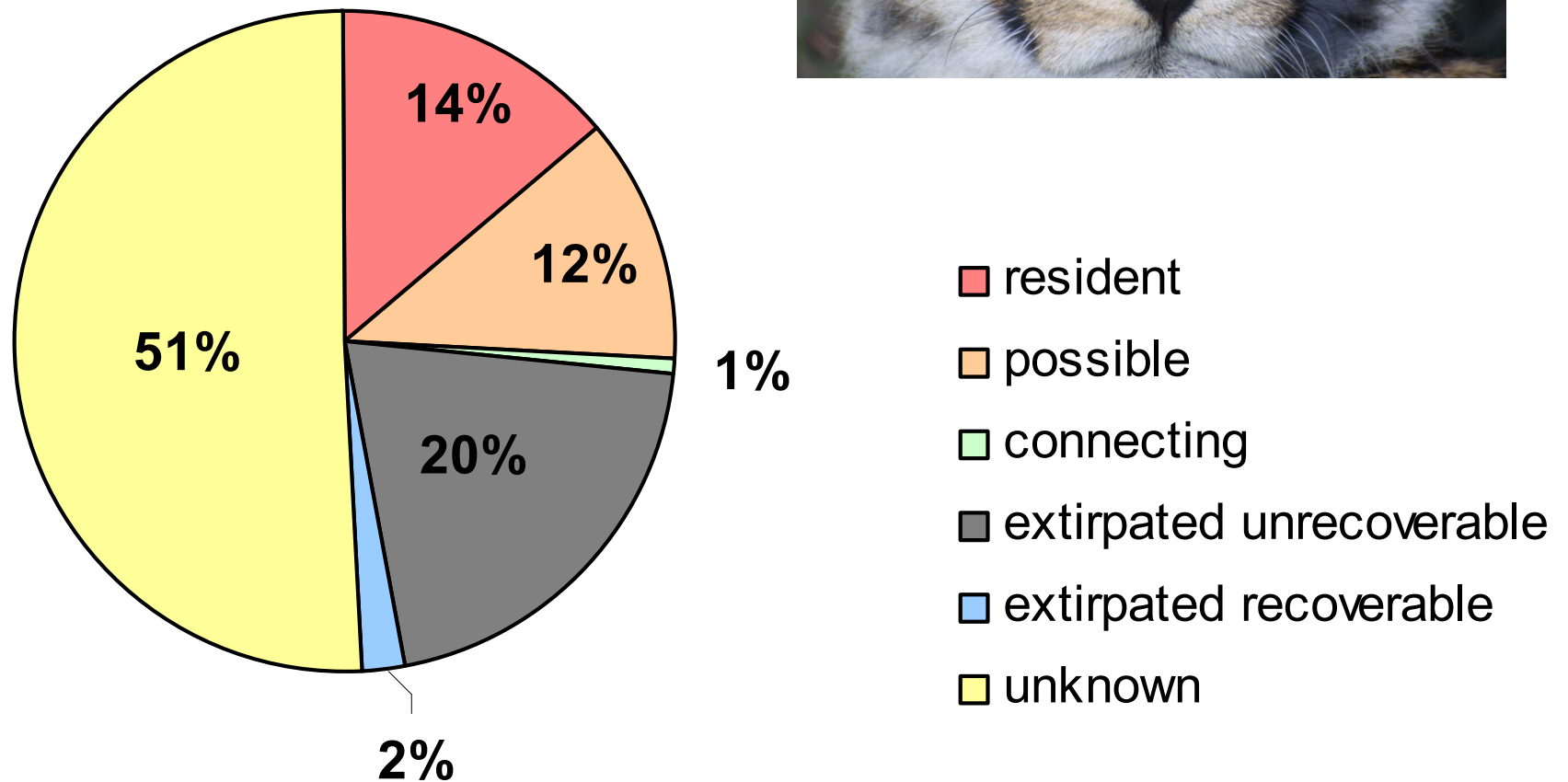


- Small proportion of resident range
- Substantial areas of probable range
- Extremely large areas where status is unknown
- Little recoverable range – centred entirely in southern Africa

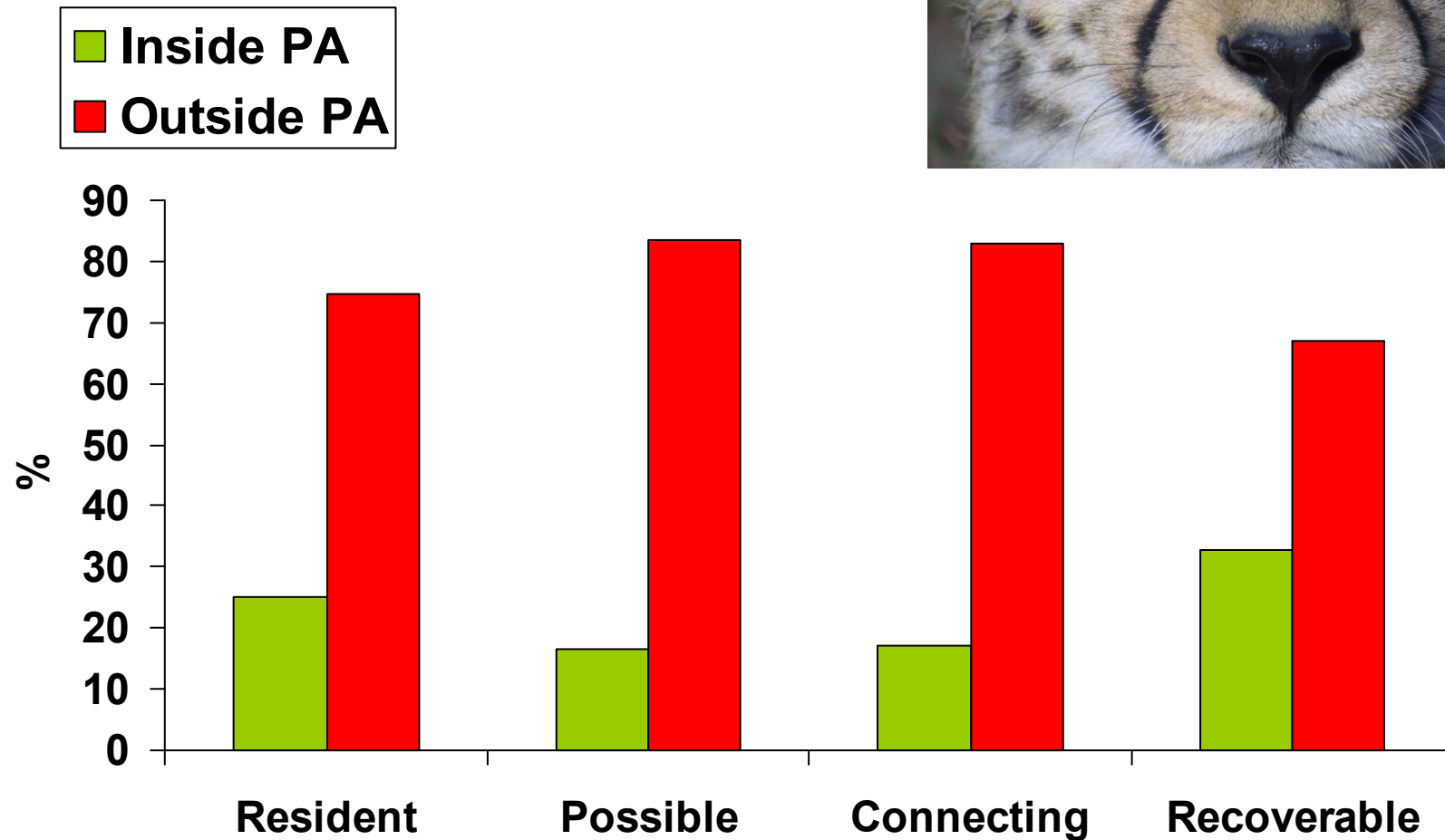


IUCN/SSC 2007

Cheetah range



Where is cheetah range?



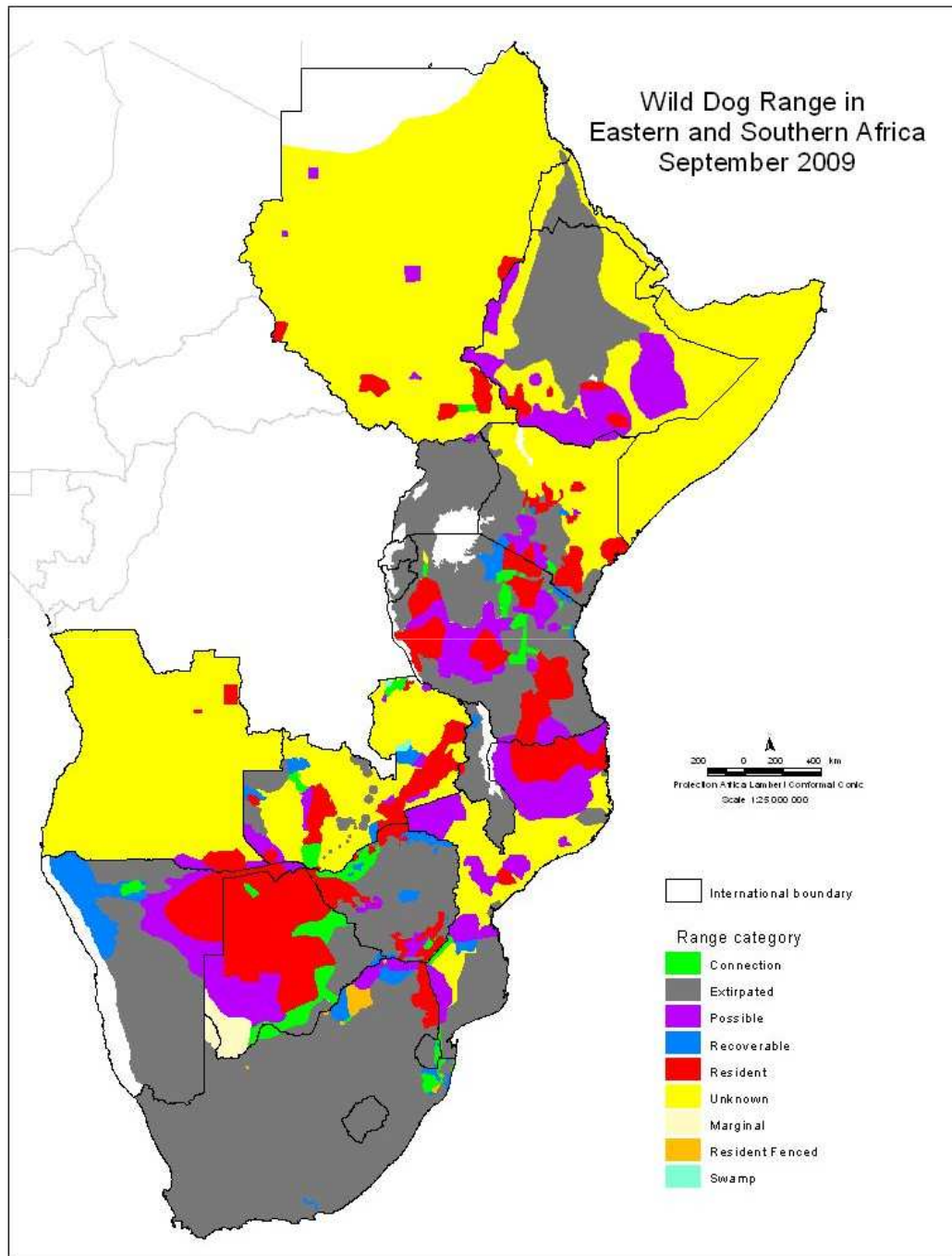
Resident cheetah populations within protected areas

Total	
South Africa	7,720
East Africa	3,667
Total	11,387



Cheetahs and national borders

- 33% of known resident cheetah populations are transboundary
- Resident cheetah populations are shared by up to 5 countries.

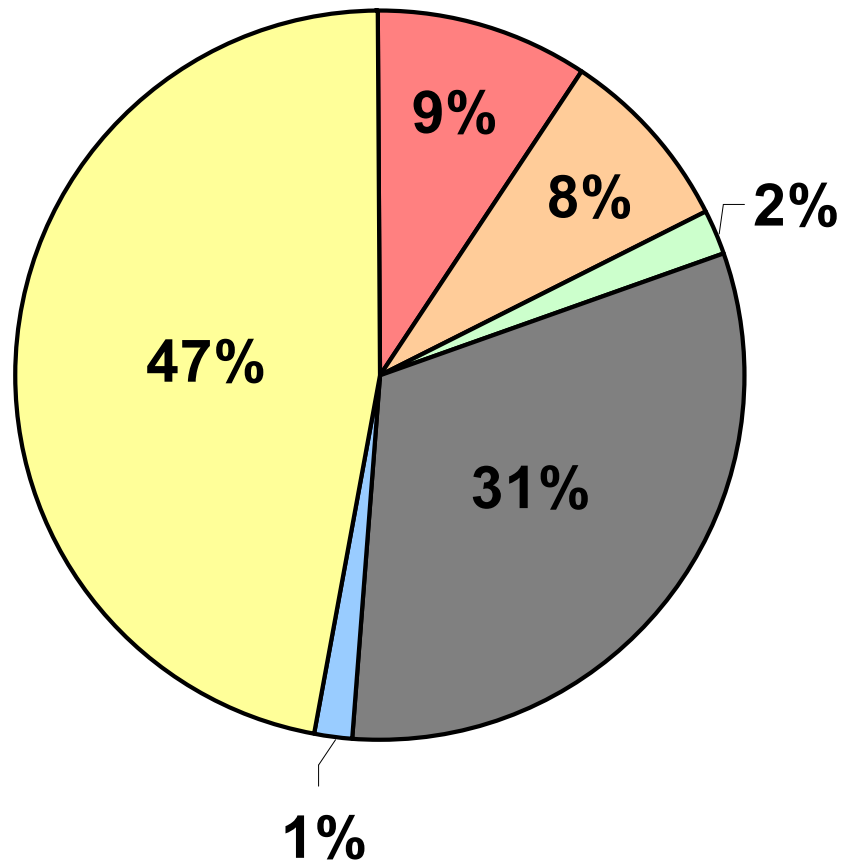


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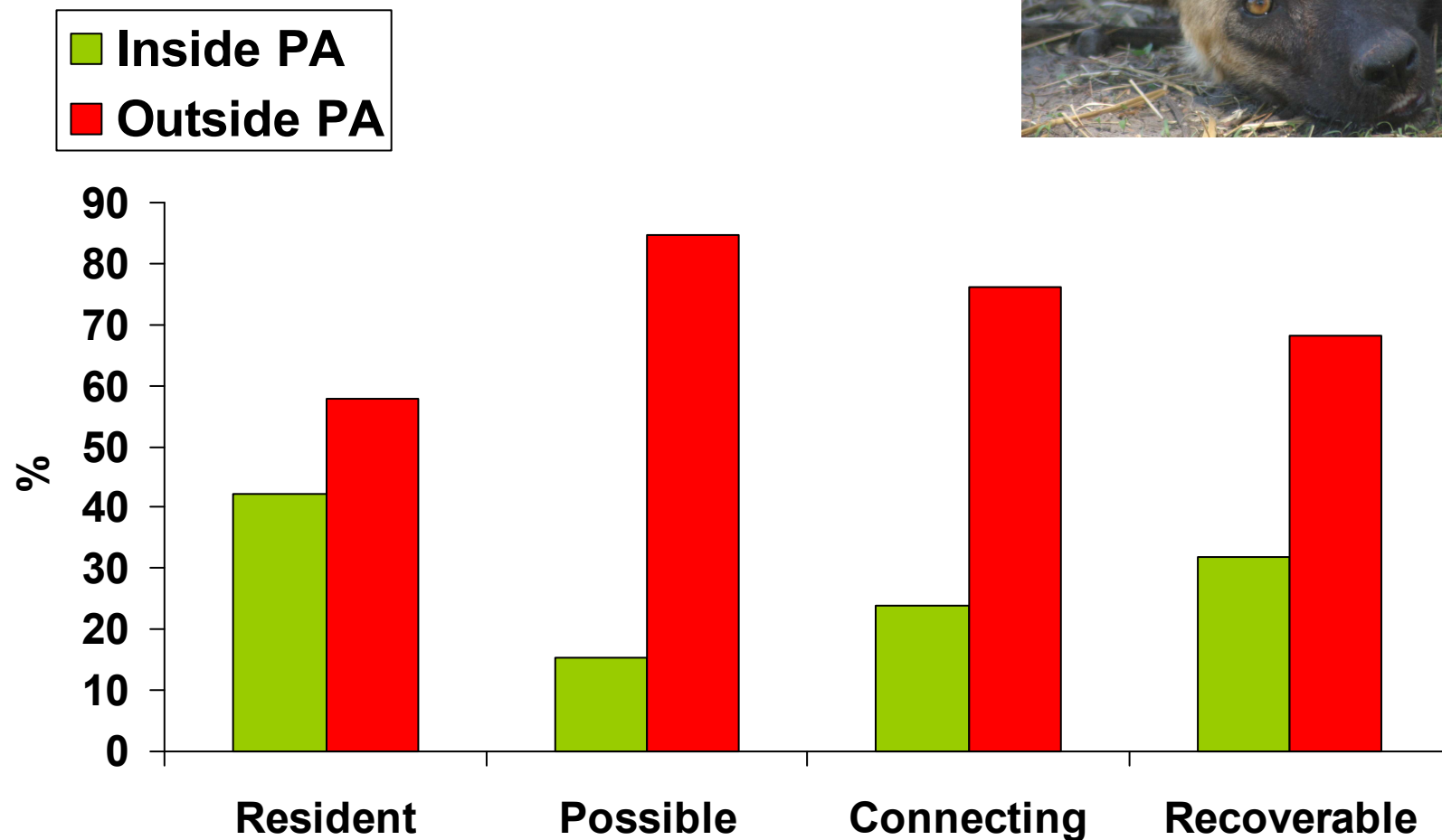
IUCN/SSC 2007

Wild dog range



- resident
- possible
- connecting
- extirpated unrecoverable
- extirpated recoverable
- unknown

Where is wild dog range?



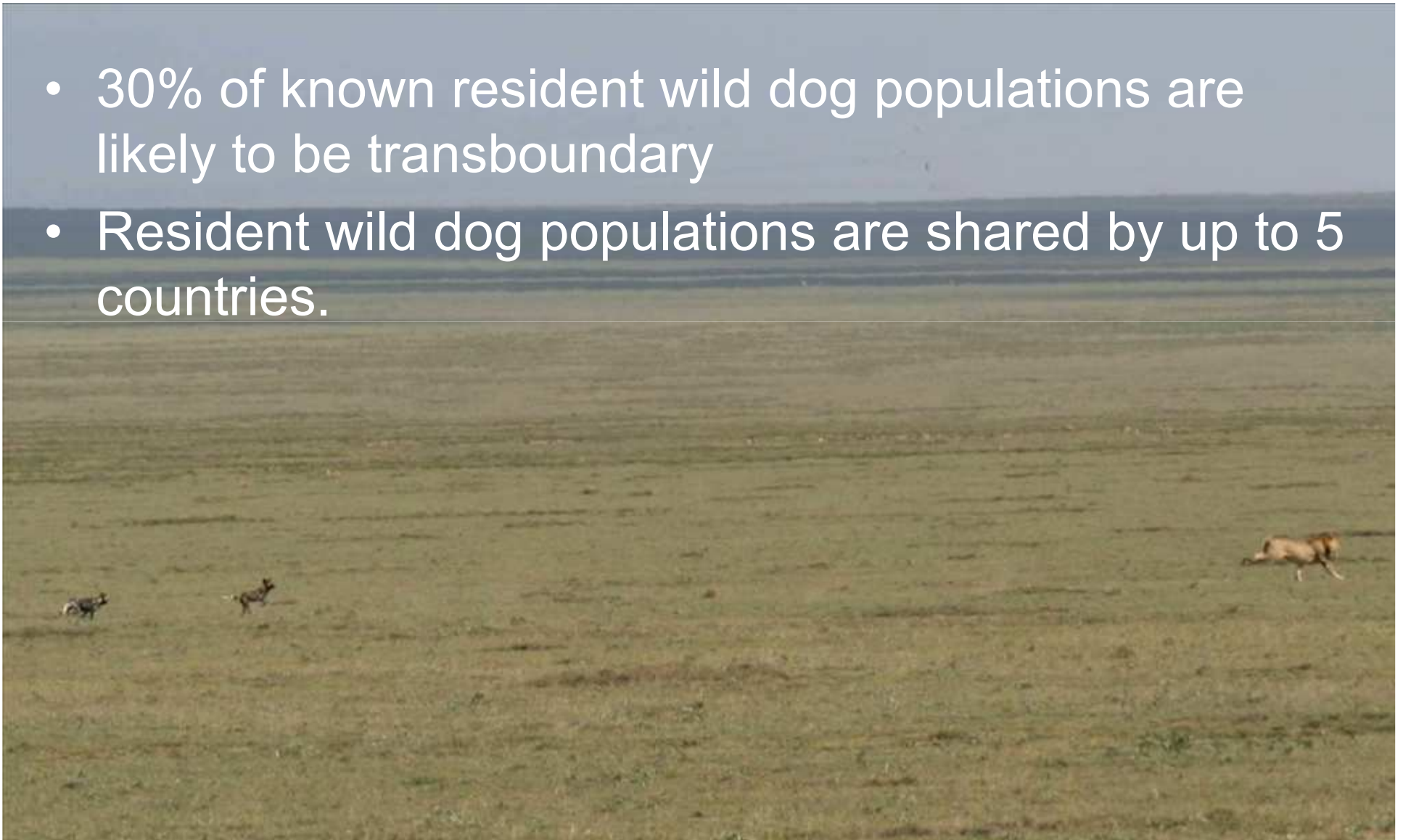
Resident wild dog populations

Eastern Africa	3299
Southern Africa	4273
Total	7572
Equivalent to 727 packs	



Wild dogs and national borders

- 30% of known resident wild dog populations are likely to be transboundary
- Resident wild dog populations are shared by up to 5 countries.



Summary – southern and eastern Africa

- Cheetah and wild dog occupy only a small percentage of historical range
- Most cheetah and wild dog occur outside protected areas
- c. 1/3 of cheetah and wild dog populations are transboundary
- Current protected area network supports <3000 cheetah
- <800 packs of wild dogs remain





Two major themes in the
conservation planning
process

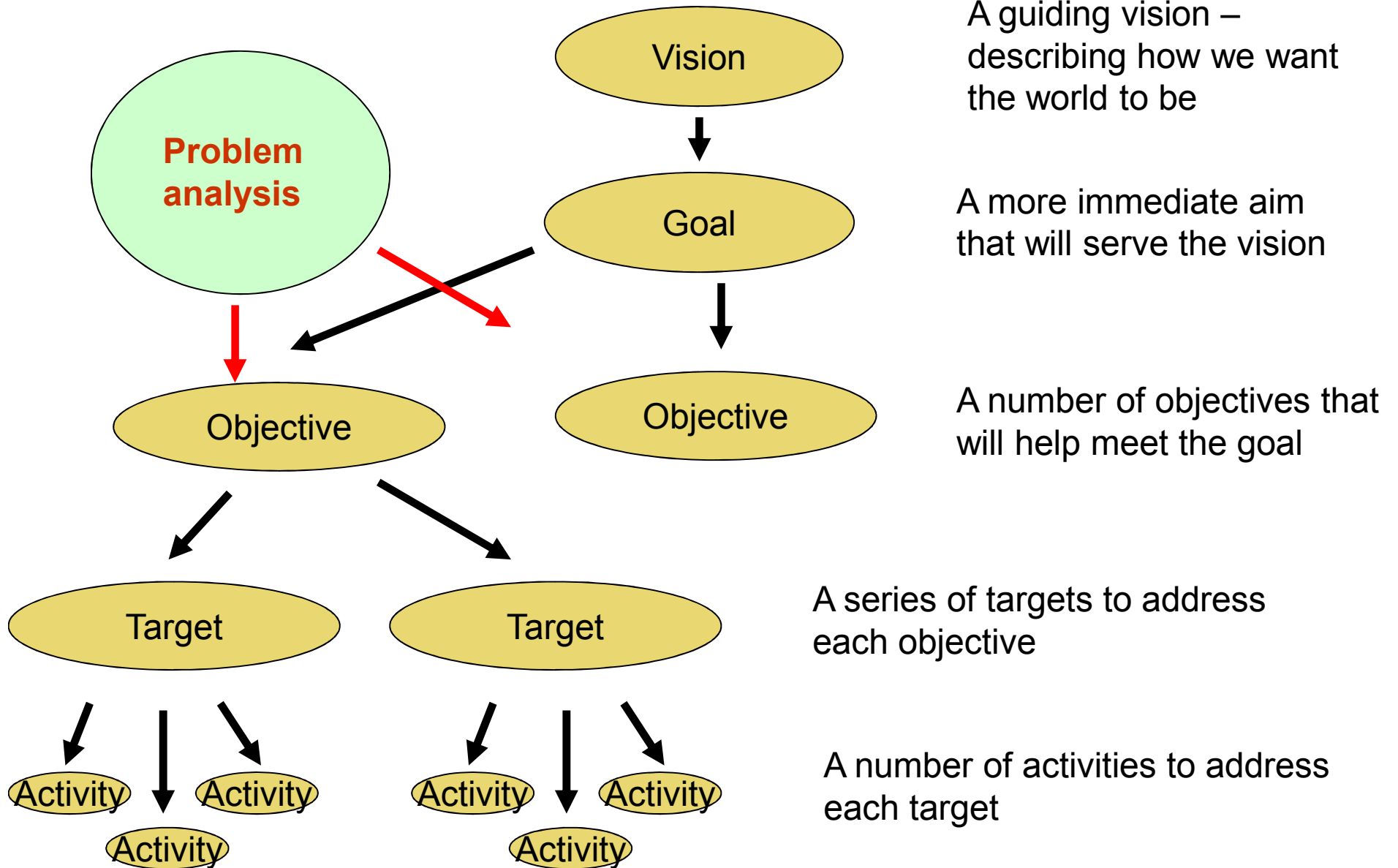
Compiling, analysing and
interpreting distribution data



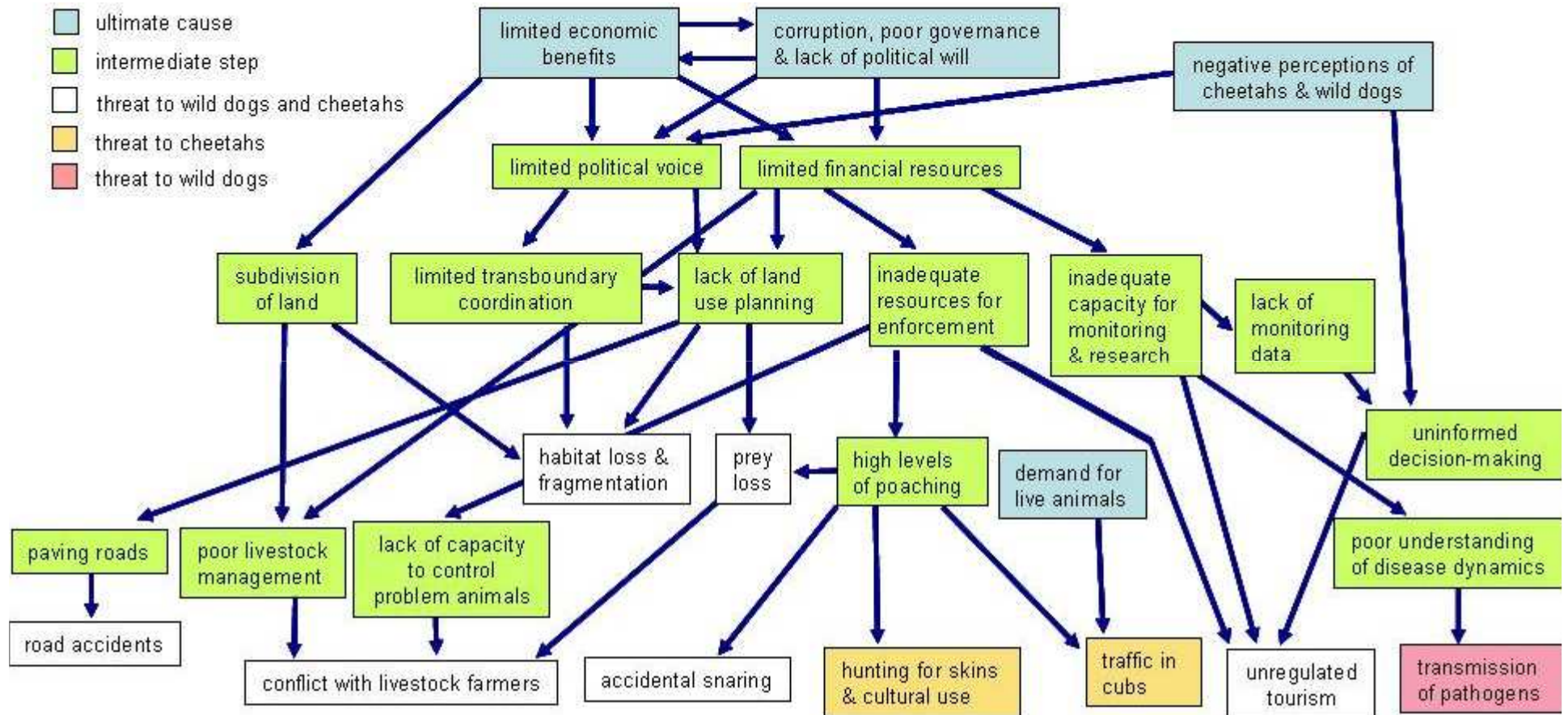
**Strategic planning for
conservation action**



Strategic Plan



Eastern Africa Problem Tree



Objective based working groups



End product: strategic plan

Vision			
Secure, viable cheetah and wild dog populations across a range of ecosystems, that successfully coexist with, and are valued by, the people of southern Africa.			
Goal			
Improve the status of cheetahs and wild dogs, and secure additional viable populations across their range in southern Africa.			
Theme	Objective	Target	Activity
Capacity Development	1. Develop capacity in all aspects of cheetah and wild dog conservation in southern Africa.	1.1 Identify gaps in capacity in all areas of cheetah and wild dog conservation in the region within two years.	Conduct interview and questionnaire surveys to establish current situation and identify gaps for all capacity components within two years, including:
			1.1.1 Law enforcement and conflict;
			1.1.2 Monitoring and research;
			1.1.3 Education and outreach.
		1.2 Develop and implement one annual law enforcement and conflict resolution training programme in each range state within three years.	1.2.1 Develop a list of wildlife and law enforcement training academia/institutions, including curricula, and identify gaps, within six months.
			1.2.2 Develop law enforcement and conflict resolution training modules that encompass the range of regional training needs within 18 months.
			1.2.3 Activate and source funds to support an annual law enforcement and conflict resolution training programme in each range state within one year.
			1.2.4 Develop and implement one annual law enforcement and conflict training programme in each range state within three years.
		1.3 Establish a network of programmes and institutions to develop capacity in research, monitoring, education and outreach within one year.	1.3.1 Create a database of institutions and programmes involved in research, monitoring, education and outreach within one year.
			1.3.2 Establish a committee to drive the development of a regional capacity network within one year.
			1.3.3 Develop a web portal to provide an interface between network members and the public within one year.
Knowledge and information	2. Improve knowledge on the conservation biology of wild dogs and cheetahs across southern Africa.	2.1 Generate and disseminate standardised, quantitative knowledge of conflict, threats and their drivers and mitigation across southern Africa within five years.	2.1.1 Compile available data on conflict, threats and their mitigation and, where possible, collate in standardised formats, from all range states within two years.
			2.1.2 Identify shortfalls in existing knowledge about conflict, threats and their mitigation for all range states within two years.
			2.1.3 Initiate studies (field studies, surveys, questionnaires and existing data) to quantify conflict, threats, their drivers and mitigation, and effects on population viability; ongoing.
			2.1.4 Organise and hold a workshop to collate national information on conflict, threats and their mitigation within two years.
			2.1.5 Create a regional database of information on conflict, threats and their mitigation for southern Africa within three years.
			2.1.6 Generate knowledge on present and emerging threats to cheetah and wild dog conservation, including illegal trade.
			2.1.7 Disseminate knowledge regarding conflict, threats, their drivers and mitigation to all relevant stakeholders within five years.

Implementation:

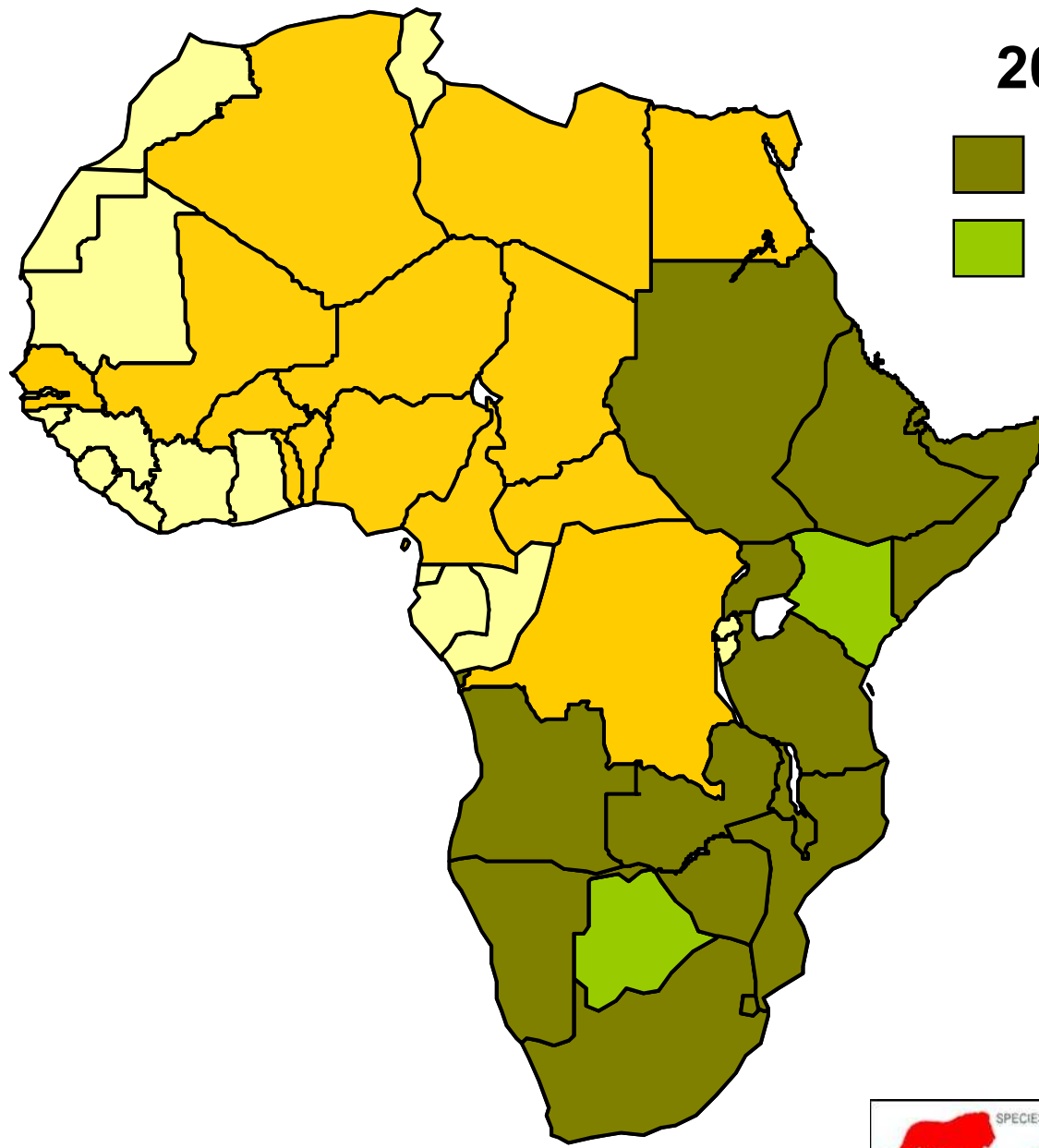
A nice strategy is not
enough!!

Conservation
implementation
happens at the national
level



Conservation implementation





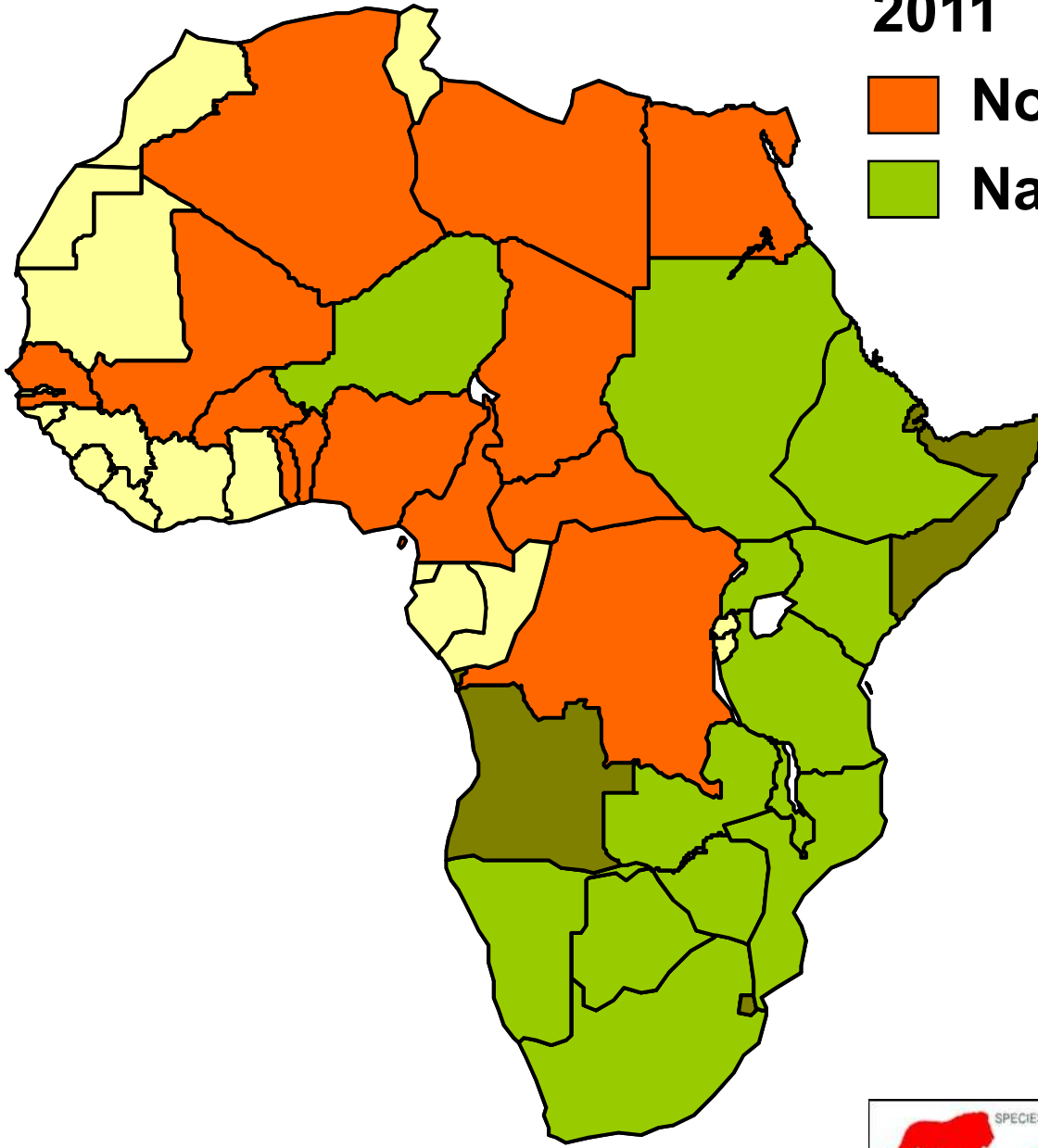
2007:

-  **Regional strategies**
-  **National Plans**



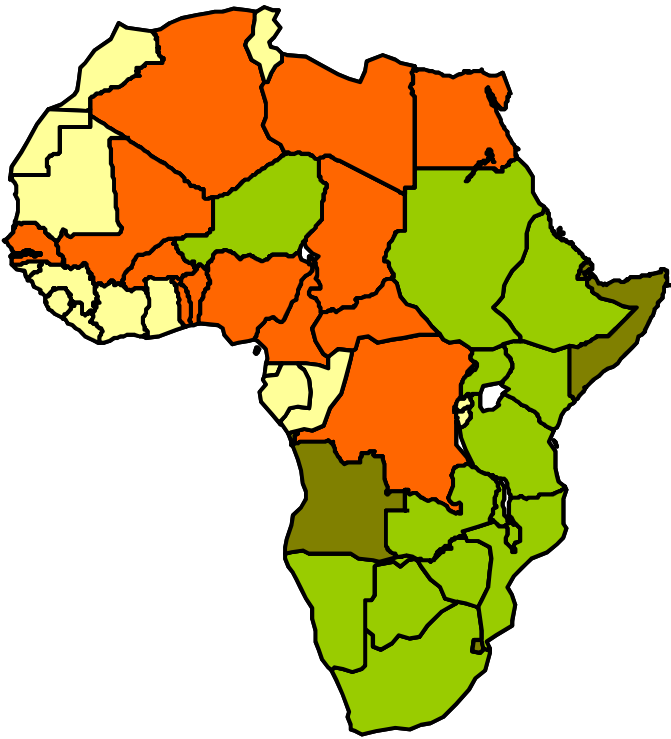
2011

-  North/west/central
-  National plans



North/west/central africa

The final piece of the jigsaw



Cheetah and wild dogs in north west and central Africa

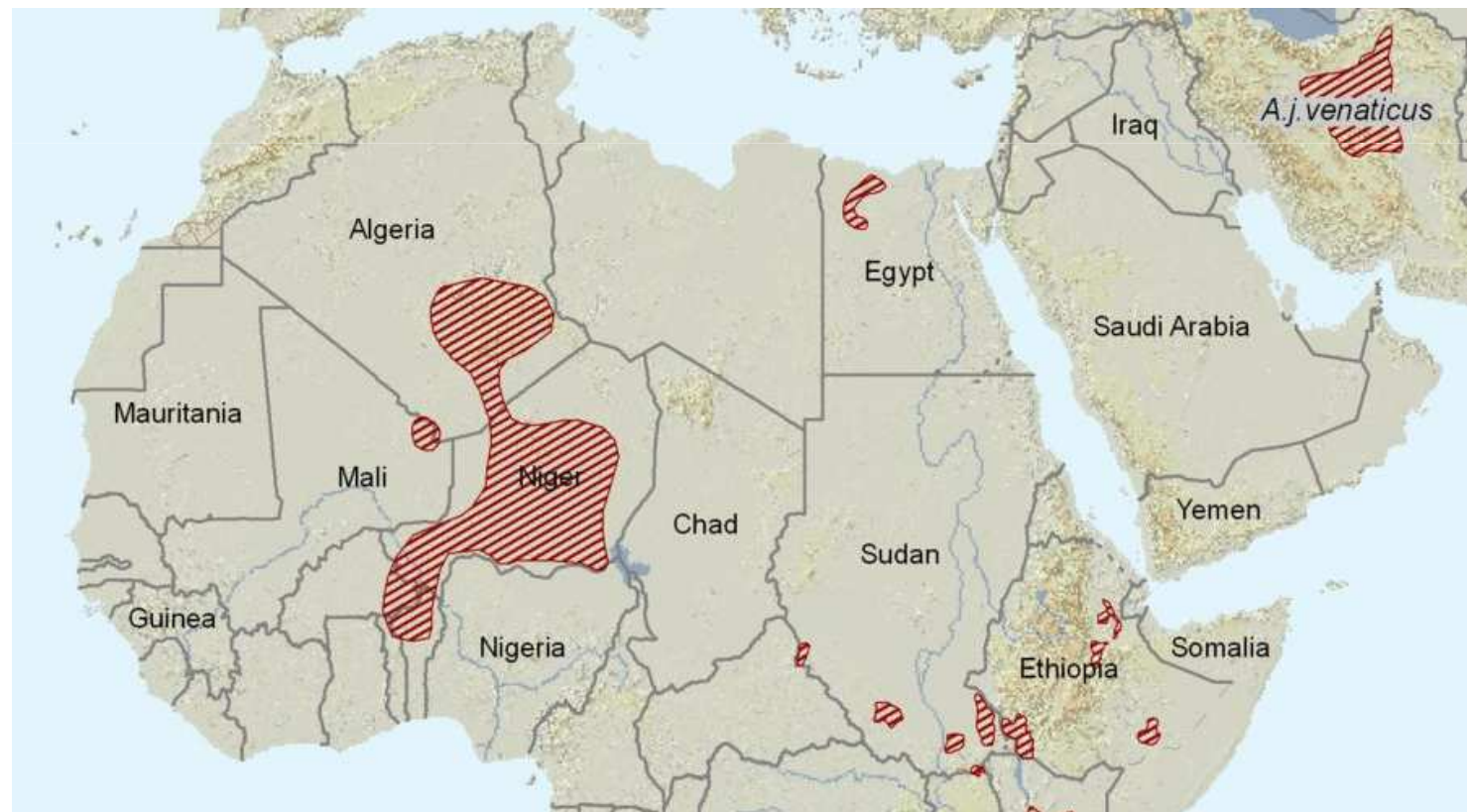
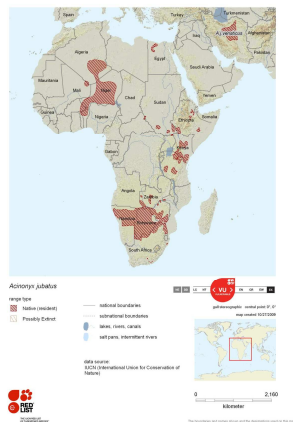
- Both species ranges have declined drastically
- Loss of prey and degradation of habitat

There is an urgent need:

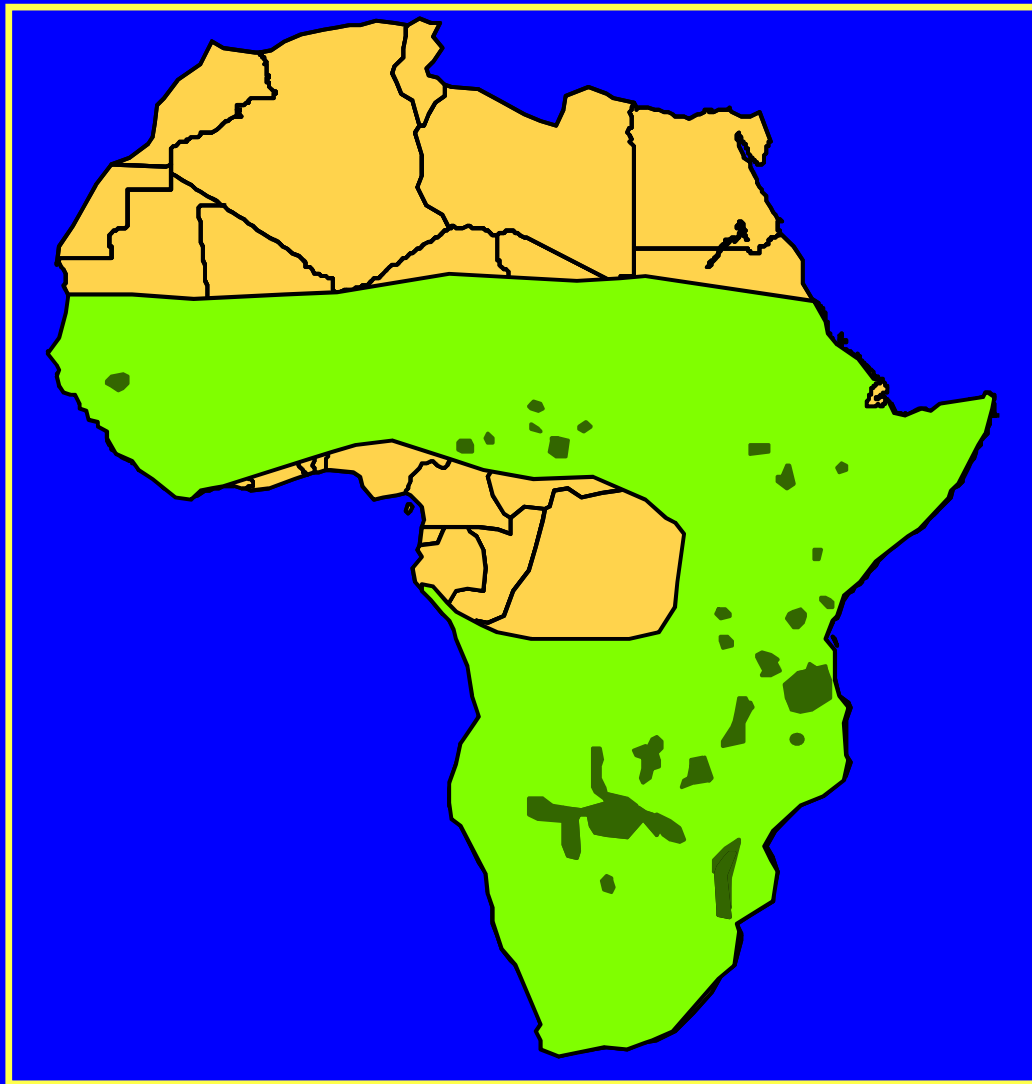
- To consolidate knowledge
- To develop a plan of action

Cheetah

Region harbours the Saharan cheetah which is critically endangered (IUCN) numbering less than 250 individuals



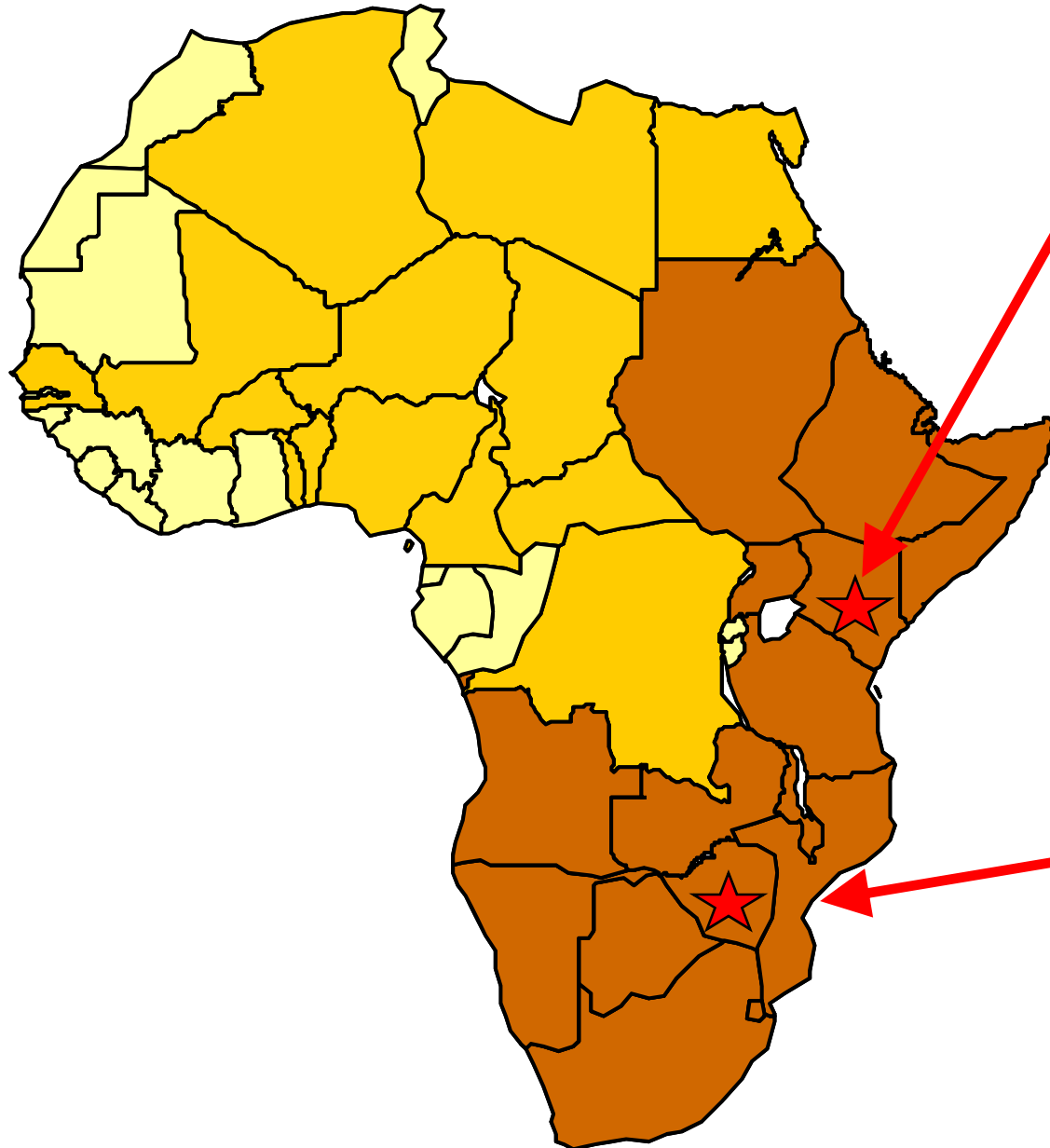
Wild dog



In 2001 the world population was highly fragmented

The species is listed as “endangered” by IUCN due to small population size & continuing decline

Regional co-ordination



Dr. Mordecai Ogada
Coordinator for eastern Africa

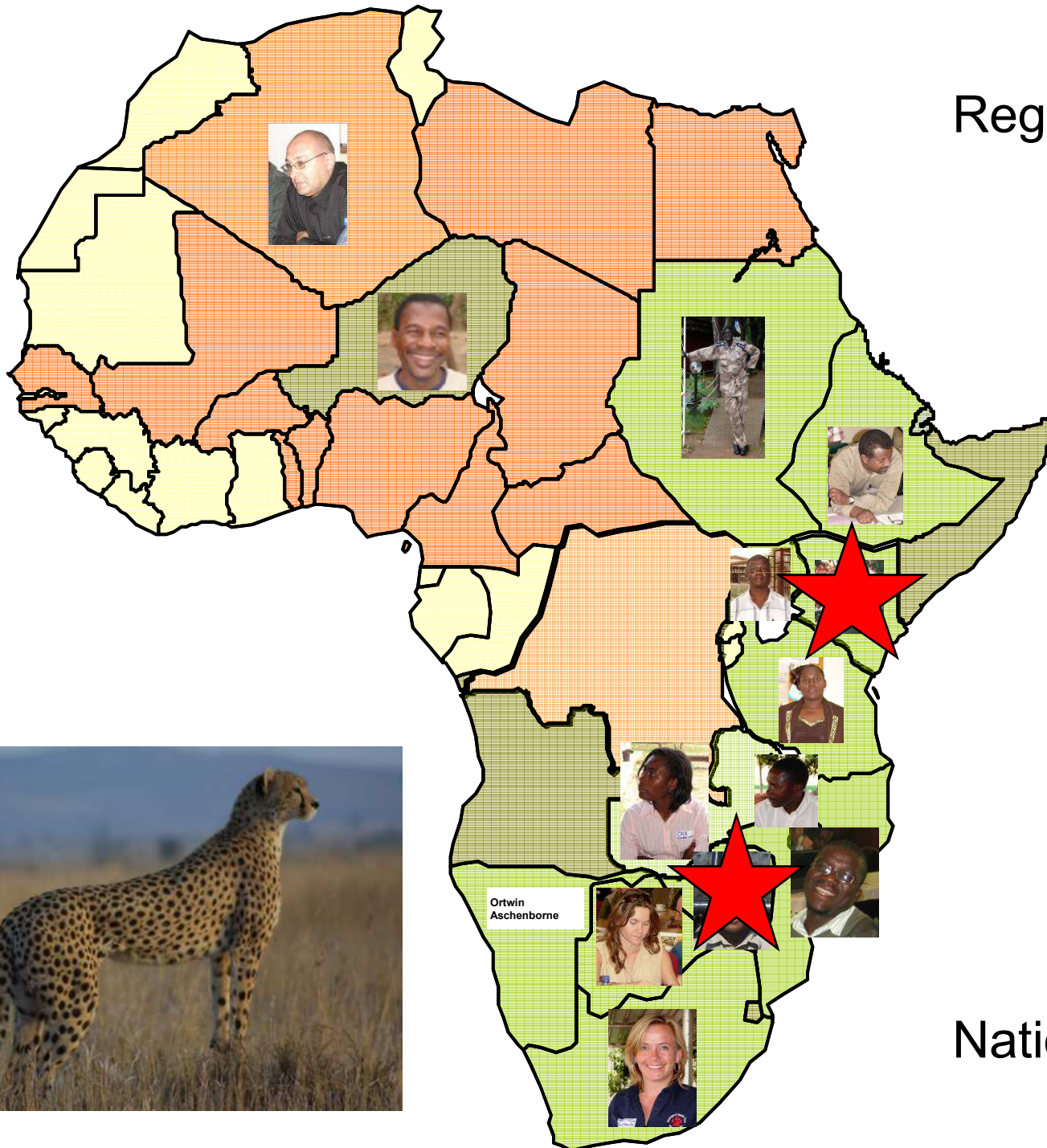


Dr. Netty Purchase
Coordinator for southern Africa

Host country partners:

- All individuals and organisations represented at regional and national workshops



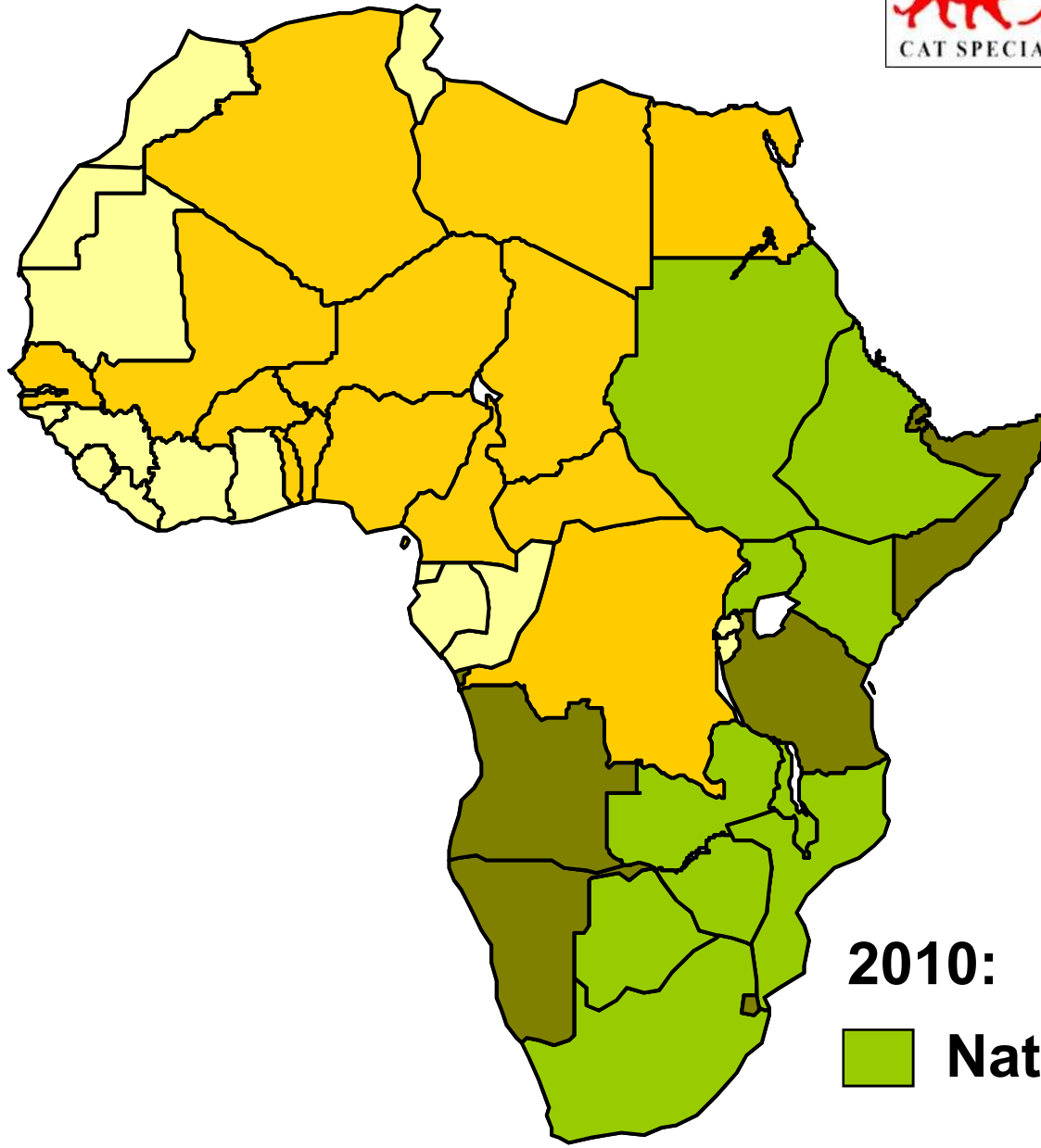


Regional hubs

National hubs



Ortwin
Aschenborne



2010:

 National Plans complete

Range wide conservation planning

- Combining cheetah and wild dog increases leverage
- Summary of current knowledge – distribution and threats
- Strategic plan for conservation

East African strategy: Feb 2007

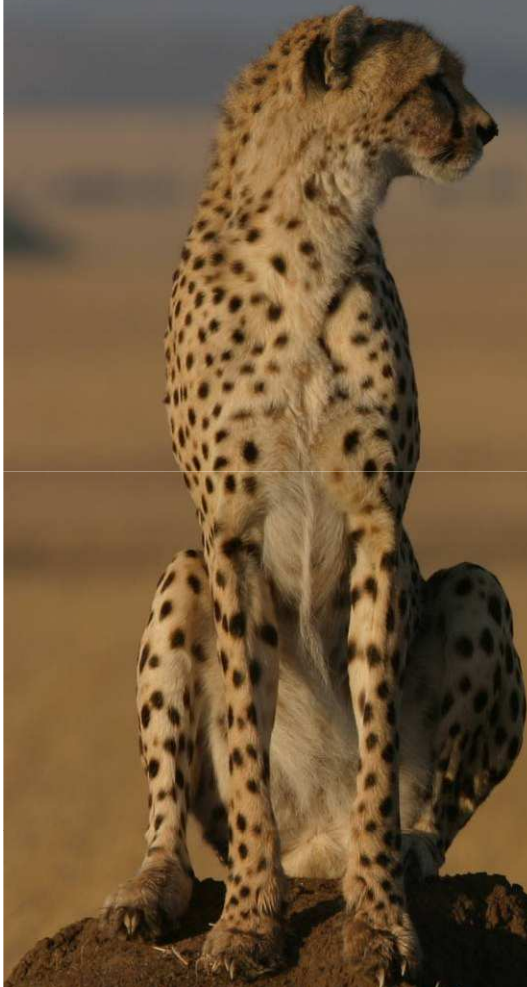
Southern Africa: Dec 2007

North/west/central Africa: Niger Jan 2011



Rangewide planning process:

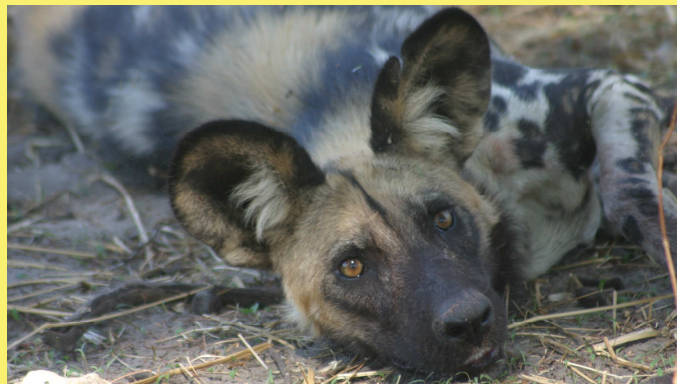
- Consensual process between government, individuals and NGOs
- Provides a framework for conservation
- Raises international and national profile for the species
- Galvanises conservation action between and within range states.



Range wide cheetah and wild dog conservation: From regional to local



Cheetah and Wild Dog Conservation



Actors

Actors

Actors

Actors

Thank you

Wildlife Conservation Society
Zoological Society of London
Howard Buffett Foundation
St. Louis Zoo
Columbus Zoo



The cheetah and wild dog network