

### SIGNIFICANCE OF SOUTH AFRICA'S RHINO CONSERVATION EFFORTS

RHINO

Saving

Africa's

Rhinos

# Dr. Joseph Okori: WWF AFRICAN RHINO PROGRAMME LEADER 2012.



# **White Rhinoceros History**

- <u>1800's</u> white rhino almost driven too extinction. SINGLE RHINO SOURCE FOR AFRICA  $\leftarrow$ <u>1895:</u>  $\rightarrow$  20-50 in SA
- $\underline{1968:} \longrightarrow 1,800 \text{ in SA} \longrightarrow (Africa: 0)$
- <u>1991:</u>  $\longrightarrow$  5,057 in SA  $\longrightarrow$  (Africa: 198)
- $\underline{1997:} \longrightarrow 7,913 \text{ in SA} \longrightarrow (Africa: 528)$
- 2010: → 18,796 in SA → (Africa: 1,369)
- 1898 2010: 100 years of undisputed recovery.
- 1980's: Translocations to the rest of Africa.

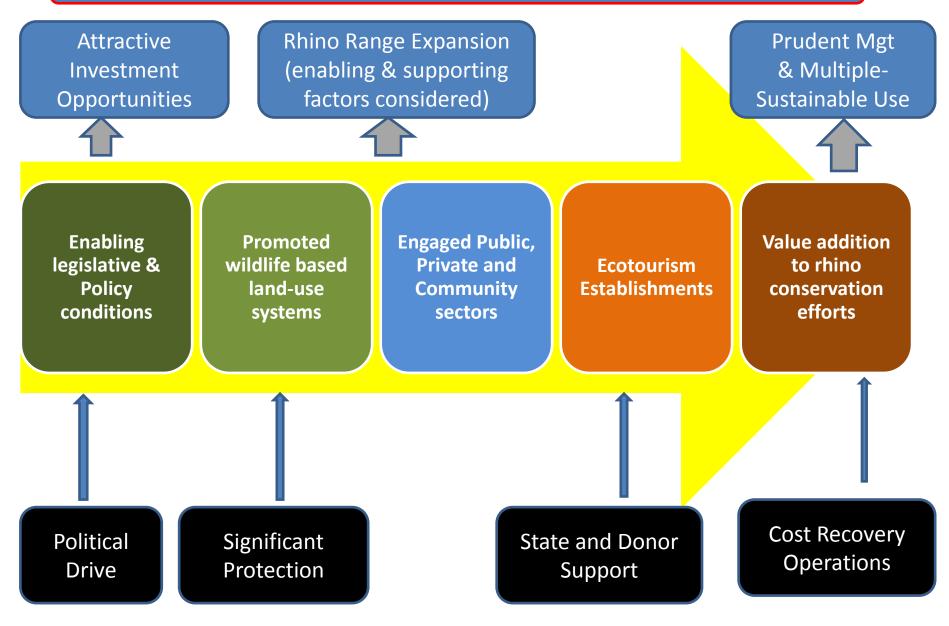
Black Rhino Trends									
Country	1980	1984	1987	1991	1992	1994	1995	1997	2010
Botswana	30	10	0	50	50	10	0	0	7
Kenya	1500	550	381	398	414	417	420	424	
Zimbabwe	1400	1680	1775	1400	425	381	315	339	
Tanzania	3795	3130	275	185	127	132	32	46	133
Uganda	5	0	0	3	0	0	0	0	0
Zambia	2750	1650	106	40	40	33	0	0	27
Malawi	40	20	25	5	0	2	2	3	24
Swaziland	0	0	6	6	6	4	9	10	17
Sudan	300	100	3	0	0	0	0	0	
Rwanda	30	15	15	0	15	10	4	4	
South Africa	630	640	577	771	819	897	1024	1043	1915



#### **African Rhino Growth:**

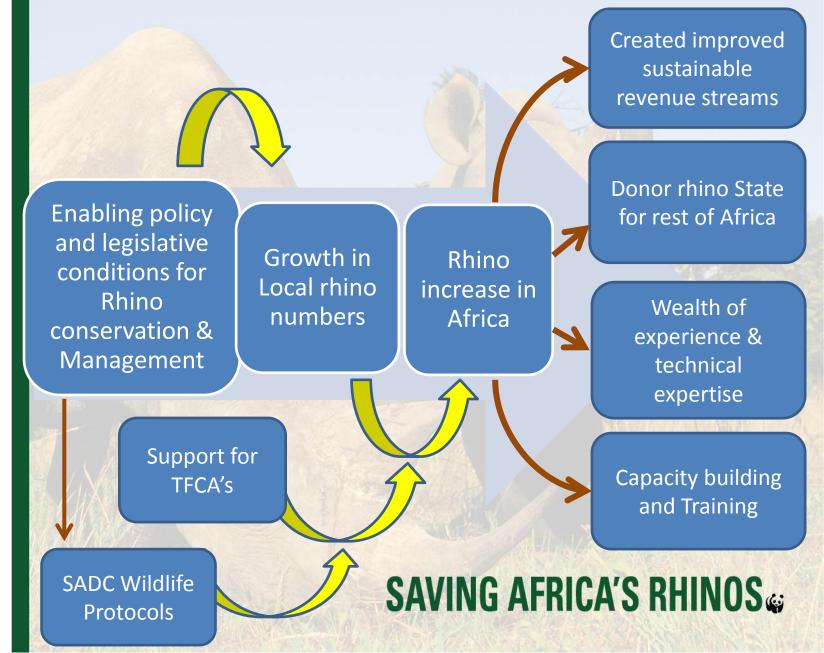
- Since 1991 white rhino numbers in the wild in Africa increased at average annual rate of 6.8% with total of 20,170.
- For black rhinos the average annual net growth in numbers in the wild was 4.8% with total of 4,880 at end of 2010.
- What is significant is that South Africa remains the major white rhino range state in Africa conserving roughly 93.2% of this species with numbers increasing to 18,800 by end of 2010.
- The private sector in SA have too grown their populations to exceed those of the rest of Africa (over 5000 rhinos)

#### How South Africa Achieved rhino growths





### **Significance of SA achievements**

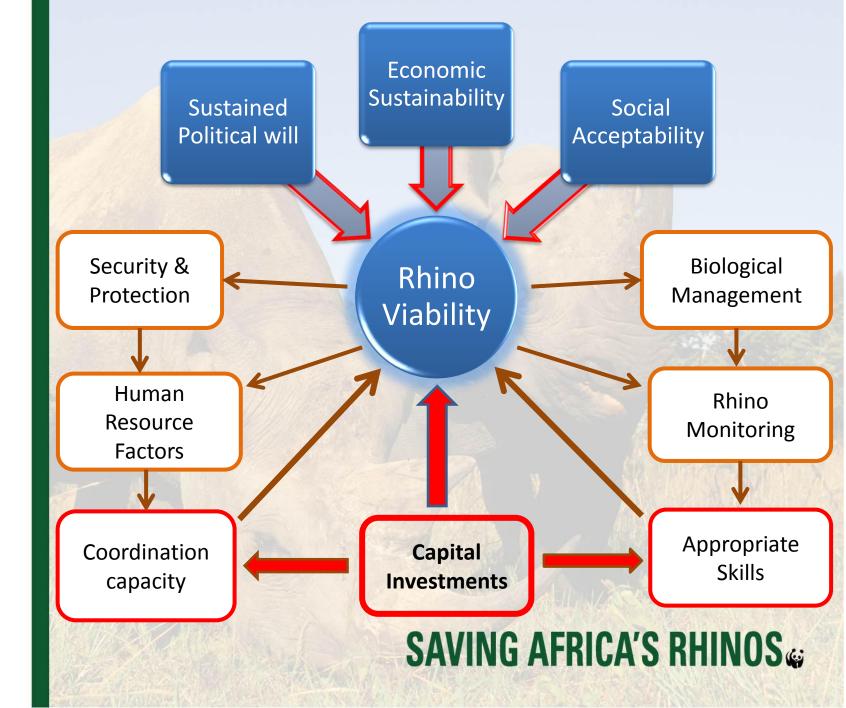




#### African Rhino Growth considerations: A Multifactorial Effort – 6 fixes

- Security and Protection: Minimize illegal activity and losses of rhino through appropriate management action.
- Biological management: In order to manage rhinos, their habitat and other competing species to ensure that meta-population growth of at least 5% is achieved.
- Rhino monitoring: Maintain accurate population estimates and demographics for active management purposes
- Coordination: To develop and implement effective coordination frameworks and mechanisms for conservation action.
- Capacity: Human resources and Skills
- Economic and Social sustainability: Political and Public support for rhino conservation.







Human Resource and Capacity needs in Rhino conservation: major contributors to growth

- Field Management of rhino populations: rhino growth management skills, habitat assessment, patrols and surveillance, captures & translocation.
- Law enforcement: supporting policies, deterrents & penalties, skills & staffing, reward systems, investigations & arrests, intelligence & community informant networks
- Institutional memory building: Trainer of Trainers, in-service training, research & development.
- Public awareness: information dissemination, accuracy of messaging, education and capacity to maintain networks and communication.

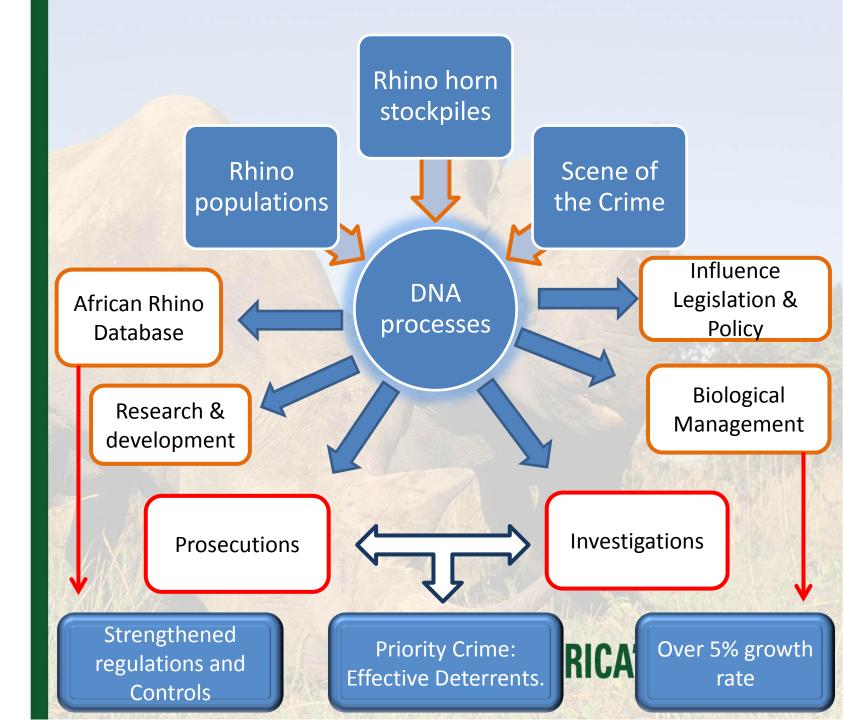


# **Great Initiatives** and Innovations **Require:** Skills Resources Capital

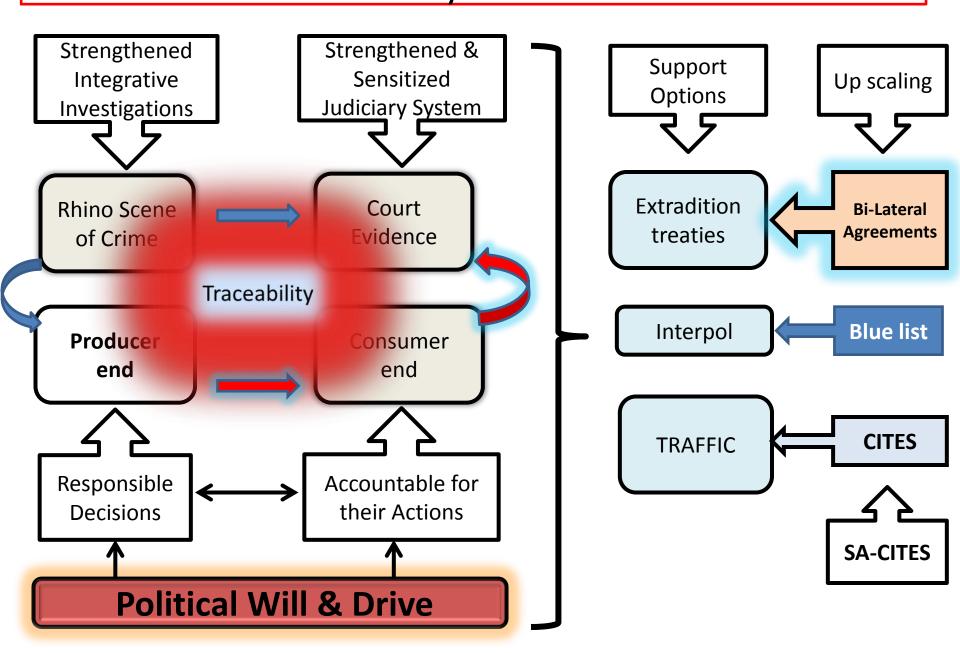
•

•





# Strengthening of law enforcement effort through an effective DNA traceability system





# THANK YOU