



INTERNATIONAL
RHINO
FOUNDATION

ANNUAL **REPORT** **2018**



RHINO STATISTICS

5 species of rhinos

3 species
are Critically Endangered

3 rhinos killed
per day by poachers
in Africa

67 Javan rhinos
are left on the planet, and the
entire population lives in 1 site.

<80 Sumatran
rhinos survive

+\$1 million
in grants awarded to strengthen
security and anti-poaching efforts
for large rhino populations in
southern Africa

38 from 0
A re-established greater one-
horned rhino population in India's
Manas National Park has grown to
38 individuals (from zero)

OUR VISION

A world where rhinos
thrive in the wild.

OUR MISSION

To ensure the survival of rhinos
through strategic partnerships,
targeted protection, and
scientifically sound interventions.



LEADERSHIP MESSAGE



**SUSIE ELLIS
PHD**

Executive Director



JOHN LUKAS

President

From its inception 28 years ago, IRF has focused on areas where rhinos are in the most need of attention and where precious conservation resources will have the most impact. Among the most important lessons we have learned is the value of collaboration. Lasting solutions involve a multitude of stakeholders – local people, communities, government agencies, zoos, conservation organizations, scientists, and others. Our key partners and grantees in the field share our commitment to creatively and collaboratively seek ways to work together towards our common goal - to sustain all five species of rhinos in the wild.

We continue to be optimistic about what IRF, its partners, and supporters can accomplish by working together. New challenges in rhino conservation appear almost every day, and ongoing threats to rhinos persist. Yet our resolve to secure a bright future for rhinos is stronger than ever.

We are proud to be a partner in Indian Rhino Vision 2020, which has established a new population of greater one-horned rhinos in India's Manas National Park. The population now has seen its twelfth birth and has grown to 38 animals in just 10 years.

This year thanks to an anonymous donor, IRF and our partner the Rhino Foundation of Indonesia have doubled the capacity of the Sumatran Rhino Sanctuary. The facility now will be able to hold up to 12 animals. IRF remains laser-focused on making sure this iconic species survives well into the future, by continuing protection as well as enhancing the captive propagation program. Our aim is to quickly and safely produce as many Sumatran rhino calves as possible. With a population of fewer than 80 animals left in the world, time is of the essence.

Operation: Stop Poaching Now has provided much-needed funding to help fight Africa's rampant poaching scourge. Thanks to generous donor support, IRF grants have equipped rangers, purchased vehicles, purchased a tracker dog and funded training for his handlers, and tested real-time rhino tracking and monitoring devices. In Asia, we have provided funding to Education for Nature Vietnam to work with Vietnamese law enforcement and

the judiciary to dismantle criminal networks trafficking rhino horn.

Our work in Zimbabwe's Lowveld Conservancies led to an increase in the black rhino population there from 370 to 550 animals, even in the face of intense and ongoing threats from poaching. Several key arrests led to significant sentences for at least two poachers.

As IRF grows, we continuously work to ensure wise investment of IRF's limited resources by making sure that the majority of funds go directly to field programs. We also will continually seek new funds to address the ever-changing challenges facing rhinos. IRF has made significant strides this year. New challenges in rhino conservation appear almost every

day, and ongoing threats to rhinos persist. We need your help to counter the threats and protect rhinos in the wild from harm. On behalf of the Board of Directors and staff, thank you for your support of the International Rhino Foundation.



For 28 years, the International Rhino Foundation has worked to ensure the survival of rhinos through strategic partnerships, targeted protection, and scientifically-sound interventions.

STATE OF THE RHINO



JAVAN RHINO

Rhinoceros sondaicus

CRITICALLY ENDANGERED

~67; POPULATION STABLE

Javan rhinos exist only in Indonesia’s Ujung Kulon National Park, the largest remaining tract of lowland tropical forest on the heavily populated island of Java. Video camera-trap research and monitoring activities indicate that 67-68 rhinos remain. Ujung Kulon National Park is believed to be close to carrying capacity. IRF’s program of controlling the growth of the ubiquitous Arenga palm within Ujung Kulon has successfully increased available habitat and made room for nine rhinos to use newly rehabilitated habitat.



SUMATRAN RHINO

Dicerorhinus sumatrensis

CRITICALLY ENDANGERED

< 80; POPULATION DECREASING

Fewer than 80 Sumatran rhinos are thought to survive on Earth, with three small populations on Sumatra in Bukit Barisan Selatan, Gunung Leuser, and Way Kambas National Parks, plus perhaps a handful of animals in central Kalimantan. Poaching for horn for illegal markets in China and Vietnam remains a threat, exacerbated by small population effects, human encroachment, potential catastrophic events, and invasive plant species. Priorities for the species include continued protection by anti-poaching units and capturing and translocating isolated animals to managed breeding facilities.



GREATER ONE-HORNED RHINO

Rhinoceros unicornis

VULNERABLE

~3,600; POP. SLOWLY INCREASING

With strict protection and conservation measures, the greater one-horned rhino has recovered from fewer than 20 individuals to more than 3,600 animals today. Most of India’s rhinos – an estimated 2,655 individuals – are found in Kaziranga, Manas, and Orang National Parks and the Pabitora Wildlife Reserve in the state of Assam. At least 314 rhinos inhabit other protected areas in India, and Nepal holds approximately 645 greater one-horned rhinos. Poaching remains a significant threat to this species, particularly in Assam, although intensive protection has reduced the number of poached rhinos annually for the past eight years.



BLACK RHINO

Diceros bicornis

CRITICALLY ENDANGERED

~5,500; POPULATION STABLE

Intensive anti-poaching efforts have kept black rhino numbers relatively stable as births slightly offset both natural mortality and poaching losses. Black rhinos occur primarily in southern and eastern Africa with the biggest strongholds in South Africa, Namibia, Kenya, and Zimbabwe. Safeguarding this species requires active management of wild populations and bolstering anti-poaching and law enforcement activities.



WHITE RHINO

Ceratotherium simum

NEAR THREATENED

~ 18,000; POPULATION DECREASING

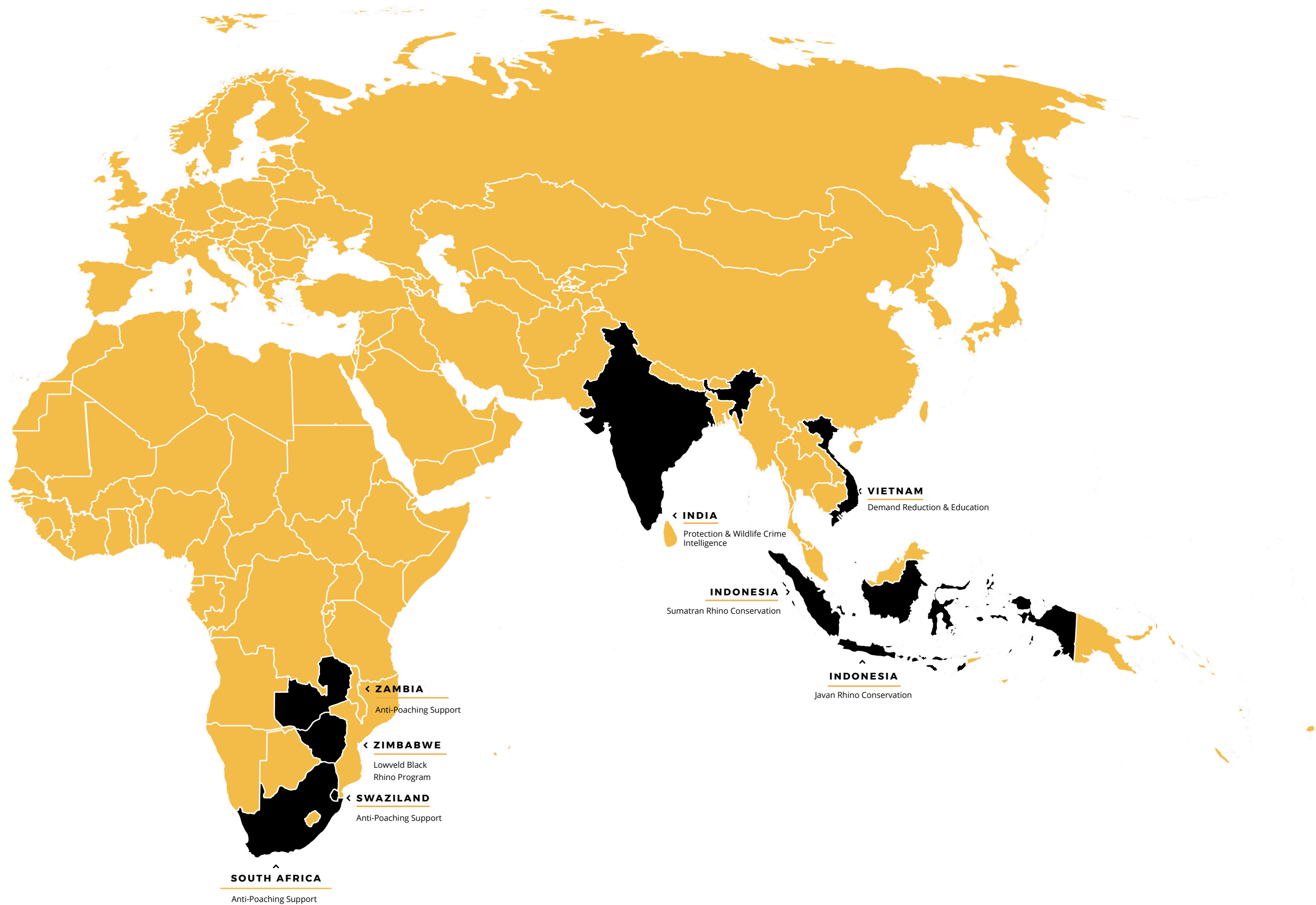
After many years of growth, the white rhino population is now slowly decreasing because of the current poaching crisis. South Africa holds more than 90% of the world’s population, with other significant populations in Namibia, Kenya, and Zimbabwe. Poaching pressure is so great that some populations are now unable to keep up with poaching losses. The highest priority for ensuring this species’ survival is to step up intensive protection efforts, and to increase international insistence that range country governments enforce their wildlife crime laws.

WHERE WE WORK

Populations of all five rhino species across Africa and Asia are threatened by poaching and human activities encroaching on their habitats.

IRF invests its precious resources where they are most needed and where they will do the most good for threatened rhinos, protecting populations that are key to each species' survival. For Javan and Sumatran rhinos, that means working to protect the entire population because so few individuals are left. To safeguard black and white rhinos, we focus on sizable populations (more than 100 animals) ranging over large areas. And, to protect greater one-horned rhinos, IRF works in the ecosystem that is home to the majority of the species' population.

More than 81% of IRF's funds go directly to local partners who implement rhino conservation programs in India, Indonesia, Zimbabwe, Vietnam and Southern Africa.



OUR PROGRAMS

Throughout its 28-year history, the International Rhino Foundation has funded and operated rhino conservation programs in Africa and Asia. The problems facing rhinos are too big and complex for one organization to solve alone. That's why strategic partnerships - with our donors, our partners, local communities, and our board and staff - are at the heart of everything we do.

GREATER ONE-HORNED RHINOS

cause for celebration

Manas National Park, straddling the border between Bhutan and India's state of Assam, held 85-100 rhinos in 1990. Over the next 11 years, civil conflict wiped out the park's rhino population. In 2011, IRF teamed up with the Government of Assam and other partners to re-establish a population of greater one-horned rhinos in the park. We

moved 18 rhinos from other parks to Manas, which were later joined by eight hand-reared animals that had been orphaned and rescued during monsoon floods. Despite some losses to poaching, the new rhino population has flourished. This year, we celebrated the 12th birth in the park, bringing this population to 37 rhinos - a conservation win!



Thanks to strict protection, populations of greater one-horned rhinos continue to thrive.



Collaboration between governments and other stakeholders has been the key to success for the greater one-horned rhino.

SUMATRAN RHINOS

a bold new plan

In dense, steamy rainforests on the Indonesian islands of Sumatra and Borneo, Earth's few remaining Sumatran rhinos struggle to survive. Barely hanging on in fragmented sub-populations, this rhino is so rare - fewer than 80 exist - that only a handful of people have ever seen one in the wild. Despite ongoing protection by IRF-funded Rhino Protection Units, Sumatran rhinos still face extinction. Animals have become isolated in tiny pockets, decreasing the probability of breeding-age animals encountering one another.

This year, in concert with our on-the-ground partner, the Rhino Foundation of Indonesia, we've doubled the capacity of the Sumatran Rhino Sanctuary, which now holds seven animals, including two youngsters born at the facility. Our goal is to quickly and safely increase rhino births by moving reproductively viable animals from the wild into the Sanctuary's breeding program, while continuing to strengthen anti-poaching programs in core rhino habitats. The Government of Indonesia fully supports these strategies.



The expansion of the Sumatran Rhino Sanctuary will be a critical addition to the conservation breeding program to save this species.



Sumatran rhino cooling off in mud wallow during midday heat. Sumatran Rhino Sanctuary, Way Kambas National Park.



Sumatran rhino Rosa browsing on one of over 180 naturally-growing plant species in her semi-wild enclosure at the Sumatran Rhino Sanctuary.

SUMATRAN RHINOS

artists for rhinos

In January, as part of our Disney Reverse the Decline grant, IRF and Indonesian partners brought together artists and companies to create “Gifts for Delilah” – symbolic wishes for a secure future for the 2-year-old calf born at the Sumatran Rhino Sanctuary. Gifted Indonesian artists as well as three Disney Imagineers created artwork sold online. The event also featured a keynote by Indonesia’s Director

General for the Conservation of Natural Resources and Ecosystems, a screening of a Sumatran rhino documentary, and a lively kids’ session with Indonesia’s National Storyteller. The event was covered in local print and online media and television stations – all aiming to call attention to the plight of the Sumatran rhino and to share a hopeful message for their future.



IRF executive director Susie Ellis presents a Sumatran rhino painting to Indonesian Ministry officials at the Tim Badak Art Exhibit in Indonesia, January 2018.



‘Sumatran Rhino’ digital painting by Disney Imagineer, Morgan Richardson.



Two year-old Delilah is the second Sumatran rhino to be born at the SRS in Sumatra.



A special kids’ event was also held to inspire the next generation of rhino conservationists.

JAVAN RHINOS

in harm’s way

Thanks to IRF-funded Rhino Protection Units, no Javan rhinos have been poached in more than 20 years in Indonesia’s Ujung Kulon National Park, the only place in the world where this shy, secretive species is found. But protection isn’t enough. A significant portion of Ujung Kulon is dominated by an unpalatable palm (*Arenga obtusifolia*), which creates a dense canopy that chokes out rhino food plants growing on the forest floor. With our partner, the Rhino Foundation of Indonesia, we have hired more than 140 local workers to clear 380 acres of palm. Once an area is cleared, rhino food plants thrive, growing chest high in only a

few months. More than nine rhinos now use the palm-free areas. In December, Anak Krakatau, a volcano just north of Ujung Kulon, erupted and partially collapsed, triggering a tsunami. More than 426 people lost their lives and more than 14,000 were injured. Protection and habitat management teams safely evacuated to higher ground until the danger passed, and the Javan rhino population was not affected. We will continue to work with the Government of Indonesia and on-the-ground partners to safeguard the species’ future by moving a subset of Ujung Kulon’s 67 rhinos to a suitable and secure second habitat in the species’ historic range.



Photo courtesy of Ujung Kulon National Park



Photo courtesy of Ujung Kulon National Park



Photo courtesy of Ujung Kulon National Park

OPERATION: STOP POACHING NOW

IRF is addressing the poaching crisis in a multi-faceted way:

The poaching scourge has pushed black and white rhino populations to the tipping point, particularly in Africa, where losses could soon outnumber births. These rhino populations are being decimated by organized poaching networks that brutally kill three rhinos every day. The poaching menace is not unique to Africa, however - Asian rhinos face unrelenting poaching threats as well.

ENHANCING ANTI-POACHING EFFECTIVENESS

In South Africa's Addo Elephant National Park, we equipped rangers with gear to improve night patrols, including items such as sleeping bags, tents and night vision goggles. Six license plate recognition cameras now monitor vehicles and people going in and out of the park, adding to security.

In Eswatini (formerly Swaziland), we purchased tracker dog "Dozer" and funded training for four dog handlers. Dogs are integral members of anti-poaching teams, able to recognize scent that poachers leave behind and to follow the trail until suspects are caught.

In India, monsoon rains often prevent rangers from effectively patrolling and responding to poaching incursions in Assam's Pabitora National Park. A new speed boat and a new Jeep help Pabitora's rangers more rapidly respond to poaching events.



For the fifth year in a row, rhinos in South Africa are still being poached at an alarming rate of three per day



Anti-poaching patrols and monitors are the front-line defense for rhinos. White rhinos are now at a tipping point where poaching rates have surpassed natural birth rates in some populations.



Rhinos only give birth to one calf at a time and their gestation is 15-16 months long.



Rhino horn is made of keratin fibers, the same as hair and fingernails, and it has no medicinal benefit.

BEEFING UP RHINO MONITORING

In Zambia's North Luangwa National Park, we are funding testing of small, cost-effective radio frequency devices that can be implanted in a rhino's horn. These real-time tracking and monitoring devices hold great promise for rhino managers who must know where their rhinos are at all times.

GATHERING INTELLIGENCE TO FIGHT WILDLIFE CRIME

In India's state of Assam, we employ two Wildlife Crime Specialists who work closely with police and the judiciary to investigate wildlife crime and bring poachers and criminal networks to justice. Rhino poaching was down again this year in India, but regional poaching gangs are still very active, which means we can't let down our guard.

SUPPORTING RANGER WELL-BEING

The current poaching epidemic has forced rangers to shed their typical role as conservationists to engage in active, front-line warfare with highly organized poaching networks. Putting their lives on the line is a daily stressor for rangers and their loved ones. Through our partner, StopRhinoPoaching.com, IRF supports Operation: Embrace in South Africa's Kruger National Park, providing wellness services for rangers and their families.

REDUCING ASIAN DEMAND FOR RHINO HORN

Vietnam's burgeoning economic growth has led it to become the second largest consumer of rhino horn in the world, behind China. IRF supports Education for Nature – Vietnam (ENV) and its behavior change campaigns to reduce demand for horn by increasing public involvement in protecting the world's rhinos. ENV also works with Vietnamese law enforcement and the judiciary to dismantle criminal networks that traffic rhino horn, and aid in prosecution of senior figures within these criminal organizations.

BLACK & WHITE RHINOS

ZIMBABWE

In the 1980s, Zimbabwe’s black rhinos were nearly wiped out by large-scale, organized poaching, leaving just 370 animals one decade later. By 2000, the population had recovered to approximately 435 individuals, and as of December 2018, black rhinos number nearly 550. These rhinos are spread over private and state land, with 90 percent of the population in the Lowveld conservancies.

Poaching gangs still operate in Zimbabwe - 51 rhinos were lost to these organized criminals in 2018. Several arrests resulted in significant sentences - two poachers were sentenced to 10 years in jail and another to 12 years. Our partner, the Lowveld Rhino Trust, strives to strengthen coordination with law enforcement agencies to keep such cases under scrutiny and to draw attention to weak prosecution efforts.



The Lowveld Rhino Trust in Zimbabwe rescues and rehabilitates rhino calves that are orphaned by poaching.

This year, the Lowveld Rhino Trust rescued five young black rhino calves who had lost their mothers to poachers. The orphans are being hand-reared until they are old enough to be safely reintroduced back into the wild.



Black rhinos are territorial and typically solitary except for mothers raising calves and during breeding season.



A sleeping white rhino with oxpeckers. These birds have a symbiotic relationship with rhinos and keep them clean of ticks and other parasites.

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\$500,000 +

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US Fish & Wildlife Service

\$100,000 - \$499,999

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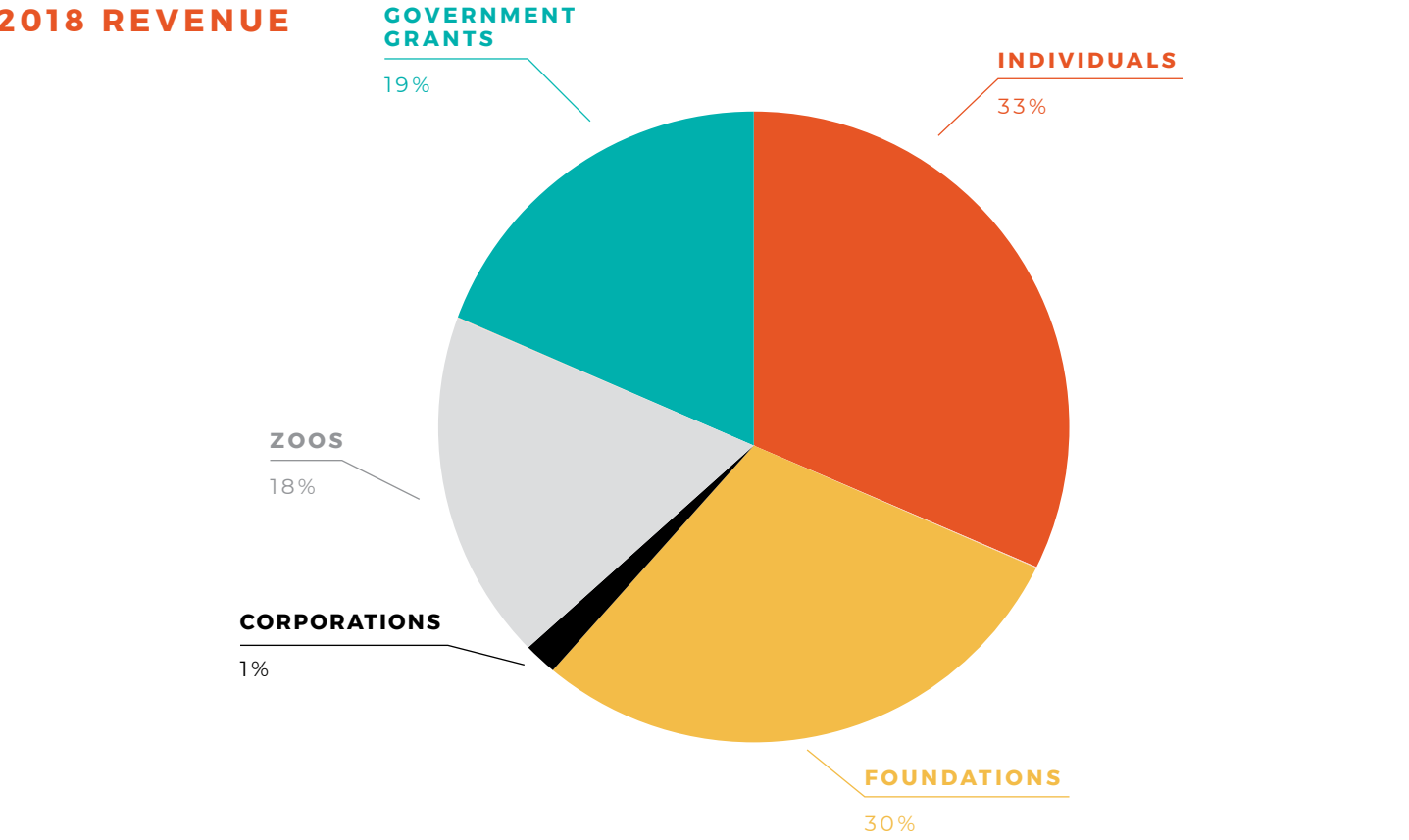
2018 REVENUE

INDIVIDUALS	\$ 1,265,549
FOUNDATIONS	\$1,161,426
CORPORATIONS	\$23,976
ZOOS	\$690,656
GOVERNMENT GRANTS	\$749,999
TOTAL CONTRIBUTIONS	\$3,891,606
MERCHANDISE SALES, NET	\$13,685
INTEREST INCOME	\$46,523
TOTAL REVENUE	\$3,951,814

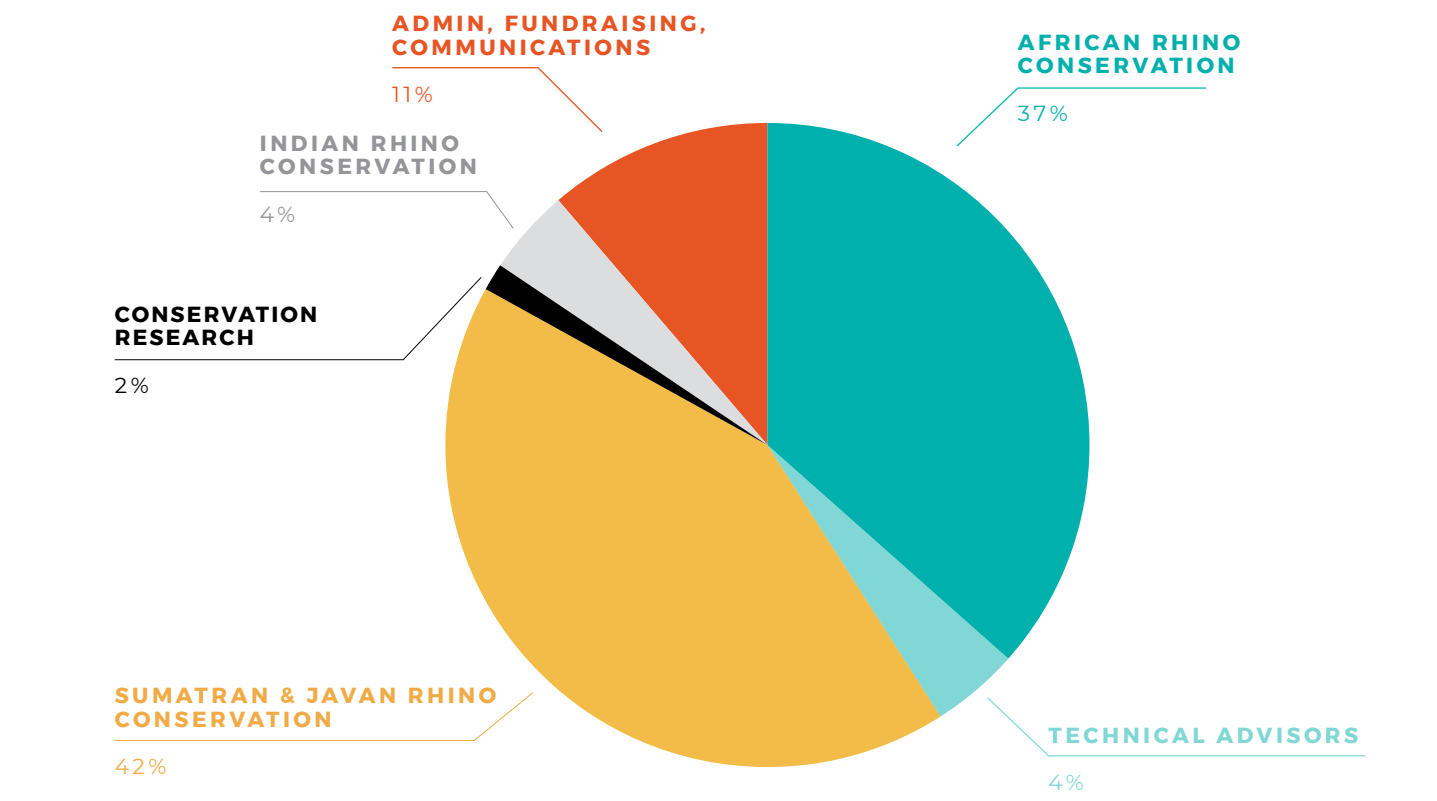
2018 EXPENSES

AFRICAN RHINO CONSERVATION	\$939,975
ZIMBABWE BLACK RHINO CONSERVATION	\$429,999
ZIMBABWE BLACK RHINO SPECIAL PROJECTS	\$205,835
SOUTHERN BLACK RHINO SUSTAINABILITY PROGRAM	\$2,506
OPERATION: STOP POACHING NOW	\$296,635
UGANDA RHINO CONSERVATION	\$5,000
INDIAN RHINO CONSERVATION	\$113,128
INDIAN RHINO CONSERVATION	\$113,128
SUMATRAN & JAVAN RHINO CONSERVATION	\$1,072,631
SUMATRAN RHINO CONSERVATION	\$851,611
JAVAN RHINO CONSERVATION	\$221,020
CONSERVATION RESEARCH	\$38,850
TECHNICAL ADVISORS	\$108,550
TOTAL PROGRAM EXPENSES	\$2,273,134
ADMINISTRATION	\$291,573
FUNDRAISING	\$121,546
COMMUNICATIONS	\$120,611
TOTAL ANNUAL EXPENSES	\$2,806,864

2018 REVENUE



2018 EXPENSES



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