



# RHINO RECOVERY FUND

September 2025  
World Rhino Day

# REMOVING HORNS

## The Urgent Fight for Rhinos' Future

Rising to a prominent tip and weathered with age, a rhino's horn is a symbol of power and resilience. Yet this same horn—nothing more than compacted keratin, like human fingernails—places a target on rhinos. Internationally, people prize these horns as status symbols, fueling a lucrative illegal trade that drives rhinos in Africa and Asia toward extinction. Today, the horn trade is the single greatest threat to their survival.

While the Rhino Recovery Fund (RRF) supports efforts to dismantle the organized crime networks behind this trade, it will take years of persistent effort to halt them completely—and rhinos need protection now. One of the most effective short-term measures is conceptually simple: remove the very prize poachers seek. Strategic dehorning—a safe, painless procedure—has become a vital tool in rhino conservation, especially in landscapes where corruption and crime are rife. The RRF enables wildlife vets and field teams to carry out these urgent interventions, buying rhinos precious time. But dehorning alone cannot secure their future. Their horns will grow back, making them targets once more, and in the meantime, poachers typically don't stop; they just shift to other endangered wildlife. This is why the RRF simultaneously addresses broader threats to rhinos. From reducing demand in consumer markets to strengthening law enforcement, the RRF and our partners are laying the groundwork for lasting success.

As pressures on rhinos intensify, so must our response. Your generosity makes this possible. Because of you, the RRF can support urgent dehorning interventions, enable frontline teams, and protect the wild spaces where rhinos can thrive—creating comprehensive protection. Thank you for standing with us and for making rhino recovery possible.



# SUPPORT RHINO DEHORNING

Dehorning is one of rhino conservation's most direct, life-saving interventions in landscapes plagued by poaching. The procedure is performed by highly experienced veterinary & operational teams and is done while the rhino is sedated & immobilized. Dehorning is temporary, painless, and harmless to the rhino. It also dramatically reduces the incentive that drives poaching, buying crucial time for rhino populations to recover. When you invest in dehorning, you're investing in a future where these ancient survivors can thrive again.

## YOU CAN HELP

A **\$1,000 donation** covers the cost of a rhino dehorning intervention—including specialized equipment and helicopter access to remote locations. This investment protects one rhino for three years—the time it takes for a horn to grow back fully. A **\$5,000 donation** can dehorn an entire rhino family group.

**Any amount can make a difference.**

Scan the QR code below or visit [rhinorecoveryfund.org](https://rhinorecoveryfund.org) to donate today.

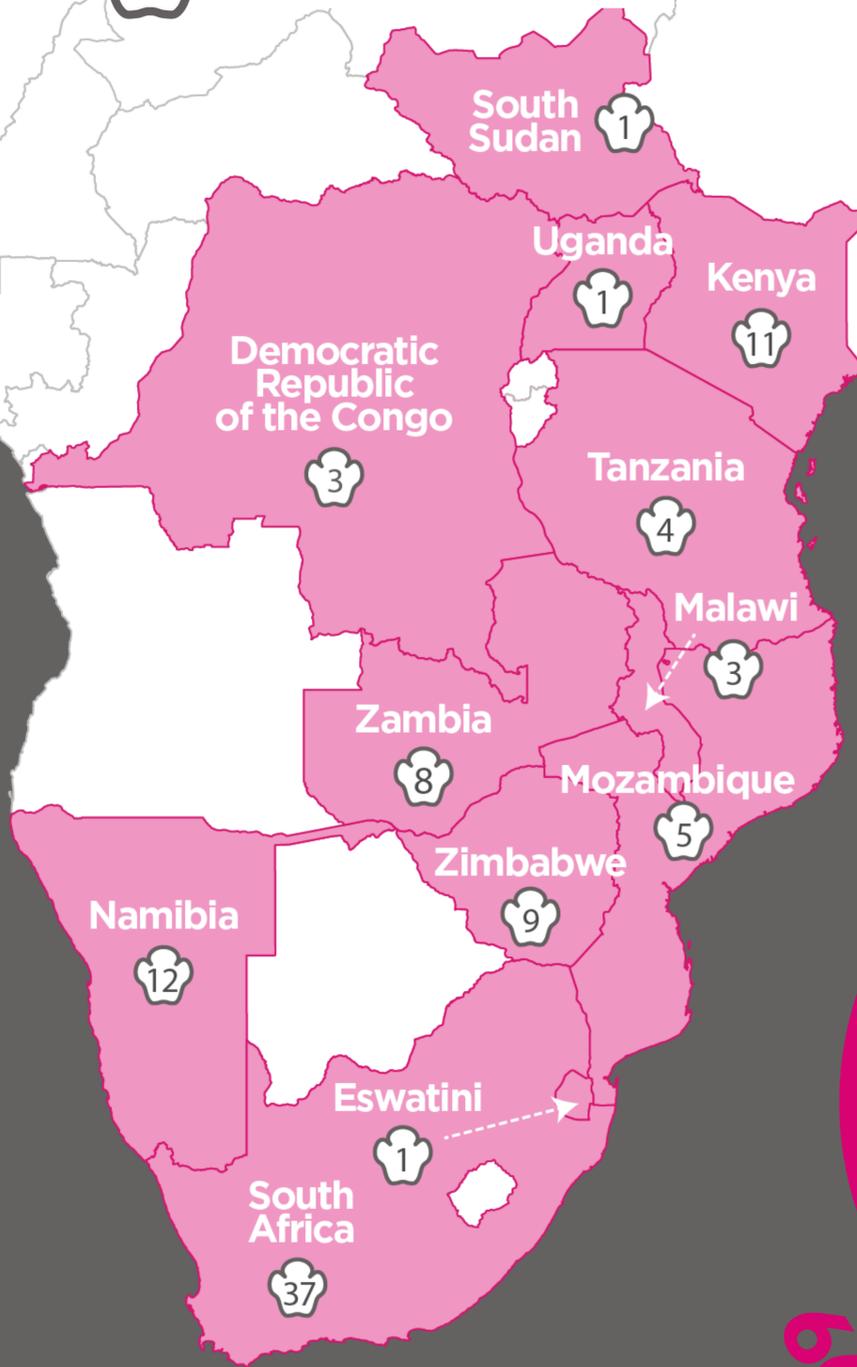


Rhino dehorning procedure done by Rhino Recovery Fund grantee Wildlife Act.  
(c) Wildlife ACT, Love Africa Marketing – Casey Pratt

# RHINO RECOVERY FUND PROJECTS AROUND THE WORLD



**NUMBER OF PROJECTS PER COUNTRY**



**The Netherlands**



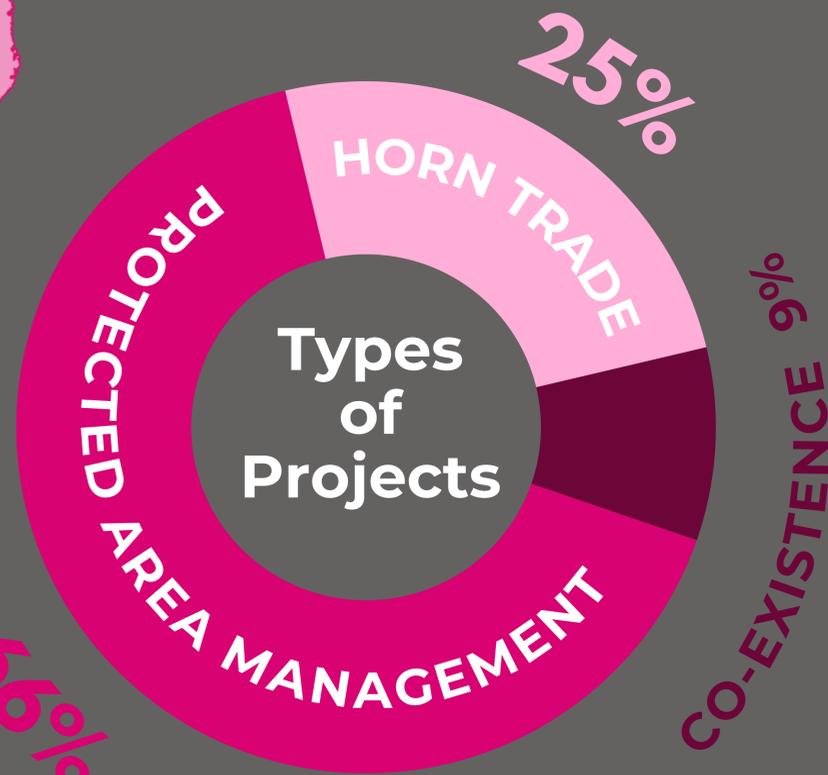
**Multiple Countries**

Projects cover across countries



**Africa & Asia**

Projects cover across Africa and Asia



To date, the Rhino Recovery Fund has granted **\$8.9 million**, investing in



**17**  
COUNTRIES



**127**  
PROJECTS

*Projects represent the number of grants issued.*

# LONG-TERM RHINO RECOVERY REQUIRES MULTIFACETED STRATEGIES

Thanks to the RRF's support, GKEPF teams can safely guide each white rhino to its new home in the Greater Kruger private reserves.  
(c) We Wild Africa

## Rewilding White Rhinos Greater Kruger Environmental Protection Foundation South Africa

The Greater Kruger Environmental Protection Fund (GKEPF), in partnership with African Parks, is working to rewild approximately 250 white rhinos across private reserves in South Africa. Supported by the Rhino Recovery Fund, the GKEPF completed the first phase of this project in 2024—reintroducing about half of the rhinos—and is receiving additional funding to finish the project. The Greater Kruger area offers prime breeding habitats for rhinos, and private reserves along the western boundary have shown strong

poaching resilience. Releasing rhinos into these conditions will help restore populations decimated by decades of poaching and strengthen the species' long-term survival prospects. Also, the reintroduced rhinos will help reestablish ecological processes, as their grazing shapes vegetation and benefits other species.

## Protecting Wild Sumatran Rhinos Leuser Conservation Forum Indonesia

The Leuser Ecosystem in Aceh, Indonesia, represents the most critical habitat remaining for the Critically Endangered Sumatran rhino. As the species stands

perilously close to extinction, the Leuser Conservation Forum (FKL) is implementing a comprehensive program to protect and grow the remaining population. With support from the Rhino Recovery Fund, FKL is expanding ranger programs, restoring degraded habitat areas, and promoting community education initiatives. This multifaceted approach aims to safeguard the Leuser Ecosystem as a functioning home for rhinos while building long-term local stewardship essential for the species' survival. Through the intensive protection of the Sumatran rhino, other endangered species have benefited, including Sumatran tigers, orangutans, and Asian elephants.



Plant nursery managed by Leuser Conservation Forum.  
(c) Leuser Conservation Forum



Member of wildlife protection team planting a sapling. With support from the RRF and other groups, the Leuser Conservation Forum manages 13 wildlife protection teams dedicated to safeguarding and restoring the Sumatran rhino's habitat. It also manages plant nurseries that restore degraded areas for the benefit of Sumatran rhinos and other endangered species.  
(c) Leuser Conservation Forum

**Safeguarding the Javan Rhino's Habitat Through Community-Based Coastal Management**

**The Alliance of Integrated Forest Conservation Indonesia**

The coastal waters surrounding Java's Ujung Kulon Peninsula, the last natural habitat for the Critically Endangered Javan rhino, are a hotspot for illegal activity. Unfortunately, these waters allow poachers to reach the peninsula by boat undetected. Limited resources prevent Ujung Kulon National Park (UKNP) and partners from mounting effective resistance to such entry. The Alliance of Integrated Forest Conservation (ALeRT), an organization that has partnered with UKNP to protect Javan rhinos, is working with villages to establish a community-based coastal management initiative. Through the Rhino Recovery Fund's backing, ALeRT supports the development of a fisheries management plan to ensure sustainable fishing for local communities. In return, participating fishermen will

support surveillance efforts by reporting illegal activities they encounter on the water.

**Improving Local Community Support for Rhinos**  
**Save the Rhino Trust Namibia Namibia**

Namibia's Kunene Region is home to the world's largest free-ranging black rhino population, yet poaching pressures threaten their survival. In this vast and remote landscape, effective protection relies on strong community engagement. With their knowledge of the land and emerging threats, local communities can be key allies in rhino conservation. In 2022, Save the Rhino Trust launched the Rhino Cup Champions League, a community football tournament promoting positive attitudes toward rhinos. With support from the Rhino Recovery Fund, the program is expanding into the region's Etosha landscape, home to a high density of rhinos. By providing local relevance and conservation education through league events, the initiative fosters



*With RRF support, Save the Rhino Trust provides a cash prize to the tournament's winners, building community investment in rhino protection. (c) Save the Rhino Trust*



*(Participants in the community-based coastal management initiative) RRF funding enables ALeRT to convene with local fishing communities and provide the training and equipment to spur community involvement in surveilling coastal waters. (c) The Alliance of Integrated Forest Conservation*

pride and pro-rhino behaviors, building the grassroots commitment essential for long-term rhino protection.

**Gonarezhou National Park's White Rhino Reintroduction Project**  
**Frankfurt Zoological Society & Gonarezhou Conservation Trust Zimbabwe**

Gonarezhou National Park (GNP) is a critical landscape for rhino conservation in Zimbabwe. As part of the Great Limpopo Transfrontier Park—a vast conservation area spanning South Africa, Zimbabwe, and Mozambique—GNP benefits from cross-border cooperation and offers a strategic location for rhino populations to expand. In 2025, the Gonarezhou Conservation Trust, a partnership between Zimbabwe Parks and Wildlife Management Authority and Frankfurt Zoological Society, began reintroducing white rhinos to GNP. By creating a new rhino population in GNP, this initiative reduces competition for food, water, and space for existing key populations elsewhere. The Rhino Recovery Fund (RRF) supported the initial release and recently provided additional funding for population monitoring

in GNP. This follows the RRF's support for the 2021 black rhino reintroduction in GNP, restoring both African rhino species to this park.



*The Gonarezhou Conservation Trust, with RRF support, is bringing white rhinos back home to Gonarezhou National Park after being absent for nearly a century. (c) Frankfurt Zoological Society*

# THE POWER OF IMMEDIATE ACTION

The illegal trade in rhino horn demands swift action and lasting solutions. While strategic dehorning provides crucial protection against more immediate poaching threats, the Rhino Recovery Fund (RRF) recognizes that true recovery requires addressing the full spectrum of challenges rhinos face.

Because of donors like you, the RRF can deploy both urgent interventions and long-term strategies. From reintroducing white rhinos in Zimbabwe's Gonarezhou National Park to engaging coastal communities as rhino guardians around Java's Ujung Kulon National Park, your support enables comprehensive protection. Across Africa and Asia, these efforts create the foundation for rhino populations to not just survive immediate threats, but to thrive for generations.

Whether mobilizing emergency dehorning operations or building community stewardship that spans decades, every approach strengthens the protective network around rhinos. Your support makes all the difference. Together, we are building a future where rhinos remain a living part of our wild world.



[RHINORECOVERYFUND.ORG](https://rhinorecoveryfund.org)

