



## Benefiting livelihoods by improving biodiversity and management effectiveness of Uganda's only wild rhino sanctuary

Type of priority area

Privately protected area

Primary objective

Livelihoods

Target groups

Local Communities

Women

National Government

Main activity focus

Livelihoods/Alternative economic activities

Ecosystem/habitat restoration

Invasive alien species



Duration  
01.09.2020 – 31.08.2021



Type of grant & project budget  
Rapid Response Grant | 99,500€



Location  
Uganda, Eastern Africa



Protected & Conserved Areas  
Ziwa wildlife sanctuary



WDPA ID  
Not reported



BIOPAMA RRIS Link  
<http://rris.biopama.org/country/ug>

### Project Lead

Rhino Fund Uganda

### Description of the project:

Activities include reinstatement of a Biodiversity Management Program (BMP) that was suspended due to Covid19, to improve the habitat for white rhinos by bush clearing and invasive species management allowing suppressed grasses to flourish. The success of the program to date shows that it will enable other wildlife and bird species to utilise the improved habitat thereby increasing biodiversity.

The Biodiversity Improvement Program will employ and equip local manual labour, trained Rhino Fund Uganda rangers and a Uganda graduate Biodiversity Officer, all who, in turn, will add to the economic prospects of the local community due to their improved purchasing power.

A Revolving Goat Scheme (RGS) will bring new, income earning opportunities to women in the local community, who will have the opportunity to raise goats for food or sale. In either case, this will help alleviate malnutrition and enhance the community economy.





### The BIOPAMA AC Objective(s) Addressed

Support to maintain community livelihoods and/or enhanced resilience of local communities to major shocks caused by COVID pandemic, whilst effectively contributing to protected areas management



### Priority Need Addressed

Covid-19 has hit Rhino Fund Uganda (RFU) hard, resulting in income loss of 93% overnight, representing urgent and serious threats to ranger and community livelihoods, which are exacerbated by other socio-economic impacts. Should RFU fail, there is no other NGO, or other organisation, in Uganda with the relevant expertise or manpower to take on the sanctuary.



### The change the project implementation will bring for the protected areas

This project will improve community livelihoods via employment and micro-enterprise, bicycle and goat donations, firewood and cattle-grazing access, and combatting malnutrition, excessive charcoal production and over-grazing in community lands. It will improve biodiversity and habitat within the Sanctuary, optimizing the carrying capacity for white rhinos, enabling calving rates to be maintained. It will ensure social dynamics that reduces inter-species fighting and thereby injury or death of the endangered rhinos. Management effectiveness in anti-poaching and tourism will be maximised.

The project Benefiting livelihoods by improving biodiversity and management effectiveness of Uganda's only wild rhino sanctuary is financed by the European Union and the Organisation of African, Caribbean and Pacific States through the Biodiversity and Protected Areas Management (BIOPAMA) Programme.

BIOPAMA assists the African, Caribbean and Pacific countries to address their priorities for improved management and governance of biodiversity and natural resources. BIOPAMA provides a variety of tools, services and funding to conservation actors in the African, Caribbean and Pacific (ACP) countries. The BIOPAMA grant-making facility is managed by IUCN (International Union for Conservation of Nature) and supports projects on the ground to strengthen the management and governance of protected and conserved areas, with a total budget of 21 million Euros.

This project is financed by the European Union and the Organisation of African, Caribbean and Pacific States through the BIOPAMA Programme. The contents of this material are the sole responsibility of Rhino Fund Uganda and can under no circumstances be regarded as reflecting the position of the EU nor of the OACPS.

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