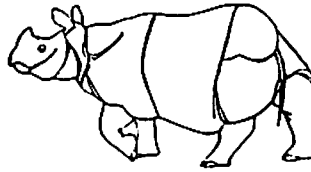


IUCN SSC ASIAN RHINO SPECIALIST GROUP



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REPORT OF THE IUCN/SSC ASIAN RHINO SPECIALIST GROUP

TO THE UNEP CONFERENCE AMONG RHINOCEROS RANGE STATES, CONSUMER STATES, AND DONORS

**28 June 1993
Nairobi, Kenya**

Mohd Khan bin Momin Khan & Thomas J. Foose, Ph.D.



IUCN
The World Conservation Union

SPECIES SURVIVAL COMMISSION

**REPORT OF THE IUCN/SSC ASIAN RHINO SPECIALIST GROUP
TO THE UNEP CONFERENCE AMONG
RHINOCEROS
RANGE STATES, CONSUMER STATES, AND DONORS**

The purpose of this report is to initiate a strategic analysis of the current status, biological objectives, and projected costs for rhino conservation in Asia over the next 3-5 years.. As such, the report is an extension of the attempts by the IUCN SSC Asian Rhino Specialist Group to facilitate development of rhino conservation strategies and action plans at global, regional, and national levels.

Asian rhinos are among the most threatened species in the world. Worldwide, only 12,000 rhino of all 5 species combined survive on the planet. Half of this number are African southern white rhino. Of the 3 species of Asian rhino, only 3,000 survive and two-thirds of these are one species, *Rhinoceros unicornis* (the Indian/Nepali or Asian Greater One-Horned Rhino). The other two species, *Dicerorhinus sumatrensis* (the Sumatran or Asian Two-Horned Rhino) and *Rhinoceros sondaicus* (the Javan or Asian Lesser One-Horned Rhino) are critically threatened: fewer than 1,000 Sumatran rhino survive; fewer than 100 Javan. Decline over the last 10 years has perhaps been more spectacular for the African black rhino, but fewer of any of the Asian rhino species survive than of either of the African species.

This report concentrates on the remaining major range states for rhino in Asia: India, Nepal, Indonesia, and Malaysia. Information for this overview has been derived largely from the Rhino Conservation Strategies and Action Plans prepared by India, Indonesia, and Malaysia and from the report submitted by Nepal to the December 1992 Preparatory UNEP Rhino Meeting. Unfortunately, it has not been possible to obtain full information yet from Nepal.

However, this report is intended as an initial draft of a process that will hopefully enable more strategic planning and support for Asian rhino conservation. It represents a skeleton on which flesh can be added, especially during the course of the UNEP Rhino Conference.

Many persons have contributed to the information contained in this report, including S.C. Dey, S. Deb Roy, Jasmi bin Abdul, Mohd-Tajuddin Abdullah, Zainal Zahari Zainuddin, Patrick Mahedi Andau, Laurentius Ambu, John Sale, Widodo Ramono, Haerudin Sajudin, Marcellus Adi, Sukianto Lusli, Nico Van Strien, Philip Wells.

**Mohd Khan bin Momim Khan
Thomas J. Foose, Ph.D.
20 June 1993**

IUCN/SSC ASIAN RHINO ACTION PLAN SUMMARY

1. Preserve and manage the great one-horned, Javan and Sumatran rhinos as species and as components of their ecosystems.
2. Therefore, maintain viable populations *in situ* of all Evolutionary Significant Units (ESUs) of the three species against the pressure of habitat destruction and poacher activity.
3. To achieve this goal, develop populations of 2,000-3,000 individuals of each species. Ensure that for each species their populations are distributed across at least five separate sanctuaries, each of which would be capable of accommodating a minimum of 100 rhinos, preferably more. It is highly desirable to have two or more sanctuaries that can accommodate at least 400-500 rhinos each, though this might no longer be feasible for two of the species.
4. For Javan and Sumatran rhino in particular, Goal 3 will entail substantially expanding the existing population and establishing additional sanctuaries. For all three species, a total population larger than the minimum (i.e. 2,000), and additional sanctuaries capable of accommodating reasonably viable populations (> 100), are highly desirable.
5. "Doomed" rhino (i.e. individuals which are outside populations of reasonable viability and which cannot be protected with available or acceptable levels of resources) should be used for captive propagation, "gene pools", or be translocated to other natural sanctuaries where they may be part of viable and protectable populations.
6. Develop captive populations of at least 150 rhinos for each of the three species to reinforce the populations in the wild.
7. Encourage and assist efforts to reduce further the trade in rhino horn. Specifically:
 - There needs to be more enforcement of laws against internal trade in rhino horn and products, particularly in Singapore, Thailand, China, Hong Kong, and Taiwan. Use of substitutes for rhino horn needs to be promoted.
 - Efforts to prevent the illegal international commerce in rhino horn. Export of horn from India and Sumatra needs particular attention;
 - The internal trade of horn in Laos needs to be prohibited.
8. Implement public awareness and education campaigns in the vicinity of *in situ* rhino populations, to draw the attention of local communities to the importance and rarity of the rhinos, and thereby to mobilise public opinion in support of their conservation.
9. Continue wildlife management training programmes with a particular emphasis on developing an indigenous capacity to monitor and manage wild rhino populations, to capture, translocate, and reintroduce rhinos, and to maintain and breed them in captivity.
10. Continue protected area management training programmes, with an emphasis on survey techniques, anti-poaching measures, and village extension work. Devise methods whereby villagers can derive economic benefits from the protected areas.
11. As the situation permits, investigate the status of the Javan rhino in Indochina, and the Sumatran rhino in northern Burma, with a view to assessing what, if any, conservation activities should be undertaken.

**OVERVIEW OF COMPONENTS & COSTS* FOR CONSERVATION STRATEGIES & ACTION PLANS
FOR ASIAN RHINOS IN MAJOR RANGE STATES**

ACTION COMPONENT	INDONESIA		MALAYSIA		INDIA		NEPAL **		TOTAL	
	Capital	Operation	Capitl	Oprtu	Capitl	Oprtu	Capitl	Oprtu	Capitl	Oprtu
<i>In Situ</i> Protec./Mgmt.										
Rhino Units		3,132		1,082		3,000		1,000		13,000
Facilities	216		730		1,166					
Equipment	590		415		233					
Staff/Institution	98				267					
Surveys/Monitoring	348	352	260	372	167					275
Community Extension	184	366			1,600					
Habitat Improvement					1,500					
Sanctuaries			395	15	133	100				700
<i>Ex Situ</i> Programs										
Translocation	297	50	300	446	125	100				990
Captive Breeding	1,210	205	534	333	58	60				837
Genome Banks	10		10		40					90
Strategy: PHVAs/GIS	20		70		40				85	
Techncl/Fiscal Cordn.:										
Range State	472		50	153	43					160
Regional/Global										
Trade Actions		30		30	50					
TOTAL COST	3,445	4,135	4,464	2,431	5,422	3,260	255	1,000	13,586	10,826
RANGE STATE SUPPORT			1,725	1,294		3,260				
TOTAL EXTERNAL FUNDS	3,445	4,135	2,739	1,136	5,422		255		11,861	5,272
GEF Grant	900		900							200
Cofinances (Via UNEP)										
Cofinances (Other)										
TOTAL RESOURCES										

* Cost in thousands of US \$; recurrent costs represent total for the next 3 years; per annum recurrent cost is 1/3 of amount indicated.

** Incomplete information available.

T.J. Fouse & Mohd Khua
25 June 1993

ASIAN RHINO CONSERVATION

MAJOR RANGE STATES

TOTAL COSTS OVER NEXT 3 YEARS

	<u>CAPITAL</u>	<u>OPERATIONS</u>	<u>TOTAL</u>
INDIA	5,422,000	3,260,000	8,682,000
NEPAL *	255,000+	1,000,000	1,255,000
INDONESIA	3,445,000	4,104,800	7,549,300
MALAYSIA	4,464,000	2,431,000	6,905,000
TOTAL	13,586,000	10,826,000	24,422,000

* Information incomplete

ASIAN RHINO CONSERVATION

MAJOR RANGE STATES

EXTERNAL FUNDS NEEDED OVER NEXT 3 YEARS

	<u>CAPITAL</u>	<u>OPERATIONS</u>	<u>TOTAL</u>
INDIA	5,422,000	-	5,422,000
NEPAL *	255,000	-	255,000
INDONESIA	3,445,000	4,135,000	7,580,000
MALAYSIA	2,739,000	1,136,000	3,875,000
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
TOTAL	11,861,000	5,271,000	17,132,000

* Information incomplete

OVERVIEW OF CURRENT AND TARGET POPULATIONS AND PROTECTED AREAS FOR ASIAN RHINOS

COUNTRY	<i>Rhinoceros unicornis</i> Indian/Nepali Rhino				<i>Rhinoceros sondaicus</i> Javan Rhino				<i>Dicerorhinus sumatrensis</i> Sumatran Rhino			
	Crnt Pop	Trgt Pop	Crnt Nbr & Km ² Areas	Trgt Nbr & Km ² Areas	Crnt Pop	Trgt Pop	Crnt Nbr & Km ² Areas	Trgt Nbr & Km ² Areas	Crnt Pop	Trgt Pop	Crnt Nbr & Km ² Areas	Trgt Nbr & Km ² Areas
Indonesia					-50	2,000	1/300	10/5,000	- 600	2,000	3/21,000	5/30,000
Malaysia												
Peninsula					0	100	0	2/500	- 100	400	4/8,000	4/10,000
Sabah									- 60	200	2/2,000	4/4,000
Sarawak									< 25	100	1/600	1/1,000
Vietnam					< 50							
Thailand												
Myanmar										200		2/2,000
Laos										200		2/2,000
India	~ 1,600	2,000+	8/2,000	10/2,500						200		2/2,000
Nepal	~ 400	500+	2/1,000	2+/1,000								
Pakistan												
ASIA TOTAL	~ 2,000	2,500+	10/3,000	12/3,500	< 100	2,100			- 800	3,300	10/37,000	20/50,000

Mohd Khan & T.J. Foose
28 June 1993

ASIAN RHINO CONSERVATION

MAJOR RANGE STATES

RHINO POPULATIONS

	<u>Rhinoceros</u> <u>unicornis</u>	<u>Rhinoceros</u> <u>sondaicus</u>	<u>Dicerorhinus</u> <u>sumatrensis</u>	<u>TOTAL</u>
INDIA	~ 1,600			~ 1,600
NEPAL *	~ 400			~ 400
INDONESIA		50	420-785	470-835
MALAYSIA			135-218	135-218
TOTAL	~ 2,000	50	555-1003	2,555-3,003

ASIAN RHINO CONSERVATION

MAJOR RANGE STATES

TARGET RHINO POPULATIONS

	<u>Rhinoceros</u> <u>unicornis</u>	<u>Rhinoceros</u> <u>sondaicus</u>	<u>Dicerorhinos</u> <u>sumatrensis</u>	<u>TOTAL</u>
INDIA	2,000+			2,000+
NEPAL *	500+			500+
INDONESIA		2,000	2,000	4,000
MALAYSIA		100	700	800
TOTAL	2,500+	2,100	2,700	7,300

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