

日本政府の支援により新たな密猟対策オペレーション・センターを設置

5月16日、岩藤大使は、西マシヨナランド州チェオレ・サファリ地域のムカングにおいて、日本政府が支援するワシントン条約のMIKEプログラムにより建設された「密猟対策オペレーション・センター」の引き渡し式に日本政府を代表して出席し、当国の野生動物保護を担うZimParks公社に引き渡しました。

引き渡し式は、ZimParks公社の担当官及びレンジャーの他、本プロジェクトの実施を担うNGOのタシंगा・イニシャティブ及びワシントン条約のMIKEプログラム担当官など約40名が出席し行われました。

本センターは、ジンバブエ北部のザンベジ川流域に位置し、隣接するマナプール国立公園、サピ・サファリ地域とともに1984年に世界遺産に登録された地域で、世界で唯一の野生動物生態システムが残されている地域です。

しかしながら、本地域は商業的な象の密猟の威嚇にさらされており、多くの象が密猟被害を受けています。

日本政府は、象の密猟や象牙の違法取引に対する国際社会の懸念を強く共有しており、密猟撲滅に向け、ジンバブエのような象の原産国に対してMIKEプログラム等を通じて支援しています。なお、日本政府は、日本国内においても、ワシントン条約に基づく取引規制に沿って象牙違法取引の厳格な規制を行っています。

詳細は下記プレスリリースをご覧ください。



センターの全景



引き渡し式の様子



岩藤大使あいさつ



レンジャー達との記念写真



タシंगा・イニシャティブ及び
MIKE プログラム担当官との記念写真

Embassy of Japan

Press Release

16 May, 2018



Ambassador of Japan hands over new Anti-Poaching Operations Centre in Chewore to ZimParks

On 16 May, 2018, the Ambassador of Japan, H.E. Mr Toshiyuki Iwado, officially handed over the Strategic Anti-Poaching Operations Centre at Mkanga, Chewore Safari Area, Lower Zambezi Valley to the Zimbabwe Parks and Wildlife Authority. Mr Arthur Musakwa, Zimbabwe Parks and Wildlife Management Authority (ZimParks) Director of Conservation, received the new Centre on behalf of ZimParks. The Centre was funded by Japan through the CITES*¹ MIKE*² Programme, and was implemented by Tashinga Initiative. Also in attendance at the handover ceremony was Ms Lynne Taylor, Founder and Executive Director of Tashinga Initiative, Mr Dave Henson, CITES MIKE Programme Officer, representatives of the local community, and ZimParks Rangers in the area.

Japan contributed USD 60,000 for the project to establish the new Mkanga Operations Centre, which is a post for field rangers conducting anti-poaching operations. Located in the Chewore Safari Area which is part of the Mana Pools, Sapi and Chewore World Heritage Site, it has been operational since October 2017. In recent years, elephants here have come under increasing pressure from poachers. In 2016, seven elephants were poached in this area between January and July alone. The new Centre will allow improved and more secure planning and management of patrol activities by the ZimParks Rangers, and thus enhance their capability in monitoring and preventing elephant poaching in the area.

In his speech, Ambassador Iwado emphasised that: “The illegal wildlife trade is an urgent global issue. Japan is deeply committed to the cause of protecting elephants from atrocious acts by international criminal organizations and others. Thus, Japan attaches great importance to supporting range states, such as Zimbabwe, in the fight against elephant poaching, including through the assistance of the CITES MIKE Programme. Japan continues to make utmost efforts in implementing the trade control of ivory under the CITES, and to work together with international partners to tackle the problem of elephant poaching”.

Ambassador Iwado further stated that through conserving the the Mana Pools, Sapi and Chewore World Heritage Site, it would become an important tourism resource for Zimbabwe in the future. However, for it to achieve this, it is important for the development of tourism not to be harmful to the environment, but rather low-impact and sustainable. He congratulated the ZimParks Rangers on their new Centre and hoped that it would motivate them to step up their anti-poaching activities. He also called for increased awareness on the vital work that they are doing to conserve this precious resource.

*1: Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora

*2: Monitoring the Illegal Killing of Elephants

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