Cinco Grandes Reserve
Mozambique

Located in eastern Mozambique, Coutada 5 is the largest and most diverse of Mozambique’s Coutadas. The 687,000 ha Coutada is home to around 50,000 people, mostly inhabiting the coastal and riverside towns. This leaves 85% of the Coutada sparsely populated and ready for conservation activities - including establishing the Cinco Grandes Reserve, a proposed 250,000-hectare restored wilderness conservation area.

Although much of the flora within the conservation area is in excellent condition and some species such as Hippo and Crocodile have stable populations, the years of civil unrest have deprived the area of much of its famous megafauna. Lost species include Elephant, Buffalo, Sable antelope, Lichtenstein’s hartebeest, Eland, Plains zebra, Blue wildebeest, Reedbuck and Waterbuck.

The overarching goal is to develop and utilise the Cinco Grandes wilderness area in a manner such that the seriously depleted biodiversity resources are restored and conserved over time. This ambitious plan will take place with an overall zoning policy so that large-scale wildlife reintroduction can occur in harmony with continued economic development in other parts of the Coutada.
Cinco Grande Reserve - April 2016 Update

Cinco Grande is a registered **Verified Conservation Area**. Its management plan and associated audit are available at: [http://v-c-a.org/areas/mz/cincograndes](http://v-c-a.org/areas/mz/cincograndes)

The Cinco Grande Management Plan describes the area, the current status of biodiversity, and the threats and opportunities it faces. It then sets out the following set of 12 conservation actions which are to be implemented through a three-year rolling work plan. The impacts of these actions will be monitored and reported on in annual audited conservation performance reports.

**The Cinco Grandes Reserve Conservation Actions**

1. Demarcate and secure the wilderness area
2. Identify critical habitats for wildlife and ecosystem services
3. Monitor remnant resident populations of wildlife
4. Establish a low-impact network of roads
5. Identify low-impact sites for hunting and tourism camps
6. Establish low-impact infrastructure for restocking wildlife
7. Implement a habitat restoration programme
8. Implement a phased wildlife restocking programme
9. Establish a sustainable wildlife management programme
10. Support alternative livelihoods for local communities
11. Manage sustainable use by local communities
12. Mitigate the risk of predators on local communities

As of April 2016, the concession holder, **Africa Futura Wildlife Restoration**, is expecting to hear back soon from the Government of Mozambique about its zoning proposals for Coutada 5 including the wilderness restoration conservancy. Once there is final approval of the zoning, the management plan will be implemented and investors will be invited to join this exciting African re-rewilding project.

If you are interested in joining the Cinco Grande Reserve project, please contact us:

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