

www.apopo.org & www.heroRAT.org

REPORT



I fully support the goals of APOPO.

Due to their unique technology,
APOPO protects innocent civilians
against landmines. In addition to this,
the technology can also be
implemented to counter the alarming
spread of tuberculosis in Africa."

Her Royal Highness Princess Astrid of Belgium APOPO's Honorary President



ANNUAL REPORT 2010

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Message from the CEO



Christophe Cox, CEO

In 2010, APOPO accelerated its organizational growth and development, a necessary investment to expand the reach of our live-saving work in the coming years. In Mozambique, our Mine Action team doubled in size, aiming at an even faster return of mine-free land to the people of Mozambique.

APOPO welcomes Håvard Bach as its Head of Mine Action, adding new insights and a vast experience in the field of humanitarian demining to the team. Expanding into new

mine-affected countries, APOPO prepared a Mine Action program for Angola and initiated collaboration with the Thailand Mine Action Center on land release, in order to commence survey work along the Thai-Cambodian border in 2011.

At our headquarters in Tanzania, we stepped up the research effort in Tuberculosis Detection and expanded second-line screening of suspected TB patients to curb the spread of this devastating disease. Our aim is to optimize and standardize our training and TB detection methodology, and thereby advance social change in the area of global health by offering an efficient and effective TB screening alternative in the areas that need it most.

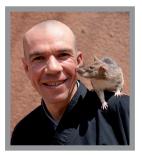
Our collaborative research effort in Remote Explosives Scent Tracing (REST) came to an end and the findings of the research partners involved will soon be presented in a publication by the Geneva International Center for Humanitarian Demining (GICHD). APOPO has already begun training and testing the rats for other potential applications using this technology.

We welcome our new Chair of the Board, Mrs. Diane Verstraeten. Her long experience in the field of international cooperation adds a strong asset to the organization. We express our sincere gratitude to former Chair and APOPO founding member, Professor Mic Billet, for his exceptional dedication and enthusiasm in support of our mission over the past 12 years, and which continues today.

In addition, more active campaigning attracted a huge wave of public support for our HeroRATs. Through the increased media coverage we attracted from six continents, many people learned about our work in 2010.

On behalf of the entire APOPO team and the HeroRATs, I wish to recognize and thank all of our partners, funders and supporters. We truly appreciate your vital and ongoing contributions, which allow us to make a real, lasting, and life-saving difference in the communities we serve. **Christophe Cox**

Bart Weetjens, Founder



At the end of 2010, HeroRATs have helped return more than two million square meters of suspected minefields to the local population."

Message from the Founder

In 2010, we celebrated APOPO's ten-year anniversary in Tanzania. When I reflect on all of the accomplishments and challenges throughout the past ten years, I am thrilled at how far we have come and the extent of our learning.

A few of our noteworthy achievements include:

- Our first group of Mine Detection Rats were officially accredited according to International Mine Action Standards in 2004
- APOPO was endorsed by the International Conference on the Great Lakes Region as the lead agency for Mine Action in the 11 countries of the Great Lakes Region
- In Mozambique, APOPO was tasked as the sole operator for demining the entire Gaza Province
- We established proof of principle for the utilization of trained rats for the detection of pulmonary TB in human sputum
- APOPO launched its public campaign, HeroRAT, to spread awareness, raise funds, and build a large citizen-based supporters network

Now, at the end of 2010, HeroRATs have helped return more than two million square meters of suspected minefields to the local population. In addition, more than 1,900 TB-positive patients have been diagnosed by HeroRATs – potentially preventing over 19,000 new cases of Tuberculosis! Today, APOPO's growth is evident in our diverse and dedicated team, everfocused on improving the quality of our research, training and operations. We have an innovative and adaptable technology that utilizes a local resource in an effort to overcome devastating humanitarian issues in resource-limited communities'.

Ours is a solution that began local, but with each new day is becoming global. As we expand our reach, we are doing much more than clearing land and screening samples. We are saving human lives. And it is this, above all, that propels us onward in our journey. **Bart Weetjens**



Mine action A C T O N

Perspectives

Despite major efforts to eliminate the harm of landmines, these killers continue to claim the lives of children, women and men around the world. Landmines corrupt civilian lives and impede post-war reconstruction of societies – a real political and humanitarian challenge for mine-affected countries and the international community.

APOPO has stepped up the war on landmines in 2010 and is aiming to spread the use of its unique rat detection and land release methodology. APOPO has expanded its mine action focus beyond the use of rats and has made progress in developing combined approaches that lead to greater land release rates and more efficient deployment of the rats. In addition to the current use of rats in clearance procedures, the role of rats in technical survey has been explored which will have a positive effect on overall efficiency of releasing land.

While the Anti-Personnel Mine Ban Convention (APMBC) has been in place for more than a decade, 2010 was a year of celebration in the battle on cluster munitions. The Convention on Cluster Munitions (CCM) was ratified in August 2010 and APOPO became a member of the Cluster Munition Coalition, a broader group of organisations whose aim is to facilitate the implementation of the convention and work towards a world free from cluster munitions remnants.

In Mozambique, APOPO has cleared more than twice the area of land in 2010 as the previous year and the aim is to clear between 1.5 and 2 million square meters of land in 2011. APOPO is continuing to refine its operational land release methodology, which will likely result in the release of additional areas in Mozambique through a combination of non-technical and technical surveys.

We have also made progress in expanding our mine action operations into new countries. Few are aware of Thailand's considerable landmine problem, a gruesome remnant from civil



Håvard Bach, Head of Operations

wars in neighbouring countries. The Thailand Mine Action Centre (TMAC) has asked APOPO to conduct a non-technical and technical survey of two provinces along the Cambodian border.

technical survey of two provinces along the Cambodian border. APOPO will train and deploy three non-technical and two technical survey teams to work within the framework of appropriate land release methodology.

APOPO has

trained and

more than

internally accredited

150 rats for land-

mine detection."

Preparations have also been made for a mine action programme in Angola with at least 40 rats, a manual demining team and a brush cutter team. The aim is to assist the rural population living in mine-affected areas and to help Angola comply with the APMBC by removing all known mined areas. APOPO is further looking to establish a similar capacity in Congo to the one planned for Angola, preferably in partnership with other organisations. Potential partnerships have been explored but firm decisions are yet to be made. Congo is in desperate need of mine action support and there are currently very few resources in country to provide it. The proximity to Tanzania where APOPOs rats are trained is an advantage for APOPO. Unfortunately, funding has not been secured for mine action in Congo.

APOPO has trained and internally accredited more than 150 rats for landmine detection. By adopting a flexible approach in the operational deployment of these rats, we can maximize the effectiveness of their role within wider demining efforts. De-

ployment configurations can be tailored towards specific needs on the ground and operational deployment concepts of partner organisations. APOPO has further explored the individual efficiency of rats and recently proven that rats can cover four – six times more land per day than previously thought. Given the unique collaboration with the Sokoine University and APOPO's focus on finding local and cheap solutions to the problem of landmines, APOPO is becoming an alternative to consider in more mine-affected countries.

Considerable efforts have been made to develop the rat technology over a number of years and the ultimate goal is naturally that all of APOPO's mine detection rats can be utilized to help vulnerable groups affected by landmines. APOPO welcomes partnership with NGOs, national and international organizations and governments for global mine action support around the world. The framework for all of APOPO's mine action support is to develop and utilize appropriate and efficient land release methodology that will enhance the work of APOPO and potential partner organisations.



MOZAMBIQUE MINE ACTION PROGRAMME

The APOPO Mine Action Programme continues to be a committed partner to the National Demining Programme of Mozambique. APOPO has cleared over 2.1 million square meters of land since the start of our operations.

In 2010, we made excellent progress and doubled our output over the previous year – improving our targeted productivity and clearance capacity.

APOPO completed clearance of 796,178 square meters of land and destroyed 861 mines, 374 items of Unexploded Ordnance (UXO), and 6,216 Small Arms and Ammunitions (SAA). All of the land cleared was in rural areas, enabling safe passage to water resources, making land available for agriculture, and allowing freedom of movement for grazing.

APOPO strived to maximize the return on investment in the Mine Action Programme. The average cost of clearance was approximately \$1.50 USD or 1.1 € per square meter – well below the accepted standard of \$2.00. This was achieved with a clearance team of 30 manual deminers, 36 Mine Detection Rats (MDRs) and 14 MDR handlers, supported by the ground preparation team.

Clearance work in 2010 focused primarily on the Pfukwe Corridor in Mabalane District, and this still remains a significant task for 2011 with over 450,000 square meters of Confirmed Hazardous Area (CHA) remaining to be cleared or released by technical survey. The size of this task was severely underestimated in the initial Baseline Survey, with the true size being closer to 2 million square meters rather than the original 1.25 million reported. APOPO's clearance and survey teams' predictions suggest that Gaza Province will be completed well ahead of Mozambique's APMBC deadline in 2014.



MFDE

MINE FREE DISTRICT EVALUATION

The Mine Free District Evaluation is a technical process of community liaison and post clearance assessment to confirm that all communities are free from suspicion of explosive remnants of war. This is conducted as part of the agreed mine free end-state strategy implemented by the national demining authority in Mozambique, Instituto Nacional de Desminagem (IND).

Additionally, APOPO teams visit each village in Gaza Province to confirm with the people if their communities are indeed mine-free. The Mine Free District Evaluation (MFDE) has now been completed for five Districts in Gaza, namely Bilene, Guija, Massingir, Chokwe, and Mabalane. This leaves only six more Districts to be evaluated in 2011. Eight new small minefields were discovered as a result of our MFDE efforts.

APOPO is also a firm adherent to use of Land Release methodology and has identified large areas of land to potentially be released by technical survey in 2011. APOPO worked closely with IND to develop national guidelines which have now been implemented as National Mine Action Standards (NMAS).

As Mozambique continues to work towards meeting its 2014 deadline to clear all known mined areas, APOPO will continue to expand and collaborate with all stakeholders in reaching the national targets in the remaining provinces.

Current Capacities

The APOPO Mine Action team in Mozambique now has 90 full time staff, with 81 operational staff supported by a further 9 office-based staff. At the close of 2010, APOPO had 36 operational Mine Detection Rats, with a further 10 rats in training and scheduled for accreditation in early 2011.

LAND RELEASE

Land Release is the process of applying all reasonable effort to identify or better define Confirmed Hazardous Areas (CHA) and subsequently remove suspicion of mines/ERW using an evidence-based and documented survey and clearance approach. Released land implies that no further action is required for previously contaminated areas of land. This newly developed methodology helps to utilize available demining resources more efficiently in the clearance of genuinely hazardous areas, in order to reach the goal of a mine-free world.

Land Release consists of three main activities

Non-technical Survey involves collecting and analyzing new and/or existing information on a Suspected Hazardous Area (SHA) to confirm whether there is a hazard or not, then to identify the type and extent of hazards within a new and more accurately defined CHA and/or cancel all or parts of a SHA without physical intervention. A non-technical survey does not involve the use of clearance or verification assets and can replace any previous survey of an area.

Technical Survey is a detailed evidence-based intervention with clearance or verification assets into all or parts of a CHA. It should confirm the presence of mines (Defined Hazardous Area – DHA) leading to clearance and/or the absence of mines leading to the release of land.

Clearance describes the use of clearance assets, including mechanical equipment, mine detection animals, and manual deminers, to demine the real mined areas (DHA). Clearance and technical survey are often concurrent activities and technical survey may sometimes be undertaken after clearance has been completed.

APOPO also has a mechanical capacity of one armoured Komatsu back-hoe loader with mine detonating roller disc assembly, and one Casspir MPV for ground preparation and to aid in Non-technical and Technical surveys. Two excavators with bush-cutting flails are being armoured, and will be with APOPO in 2011.

Our work in Mozambique has been supported by the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) and the Belgian, Flemish and Norwegian Governments.

Clearance Plan for 2011

Moving forward in 2011, APOPO will continue to increase the efficiency and productivity of our demining operations in Mozambique. APOPO will increase the number of mine detection rats, handlers and manual deminers and vastly improve our mechanical ground preparation capacity by adding two bush-cutters. We estimate completion of all the remaining known CHAs by early 2011 and will aim to complete the entire Province by the end of 2011.

From 2012 onwards, APOPO will be re-assigned to assist with mine action in other contaminated provinces. APOPO has shown commitment to the National Clearance Plan and is well-positioned to continue its unique and effective clearance system, helping Mozambique reach its goal of being Mine Free in 2014.



Andrew Sully, Mozambique Programme Manager

"In 2010, we made excellent progress and doubled our output over the previous year – improving our targeted productivity and clearance capacitu."

THAILAND MINE ACTION PROGRAMME

Thailand was drawn into the conflicts of its neighbor countries in the mid 70s. The Cambodian wars in particular led to considerable fighting on both sides of the border in which the Khmer Rouge laid the vast majority of the mines. Nevertheless, Thailand bears the full responsibility for clearing them. More than 500 square kilometers of land still remain suspect. New mine casualties occur every year, injuring and killing civilian people in the border areas. Landmines also deprive people of access to land, water and vital resources and impede much needed development in many rural areas. People living near mine-affected areas are bound to a life of fear.

In 2010, the Thailand Government's Mine Action Center (TMAC) requested APOPO to conduct a combined non-technical and technical survey of all mine suspected areas in the provinces of Trat and Chantaburi along the Thai-Cambodian border. Preparations for the project started in October 2010 and APOPO will conduct the survey in partnership with the Thai NGO, Peace Road Organization (PRO). Training courses and SOPs are currently being produced and training of the survey team will likely begin in mid 2011. Although the rats will not be utilized during the first phase of this project, APOPO is looking into bringing the rats to Thailand at a later stage to speed up clearance, when the necessary funds are secured. This will contribute considerably towards increasing the efficiency of survey, clearance and land release activities and aid Thailand's efforts to comply with the 2018 APMBC deadline.

Land release methodology

In Thailand, the first step in solving the landmine problem is to develop an efficient land release methodology. The biggest challenge to efficient mine action is to find a balance between which areas need to be cleared and which areas can be cancelled and released by the survey process. Demining capacities



APOPO is working in collaboration with TMAC to aid Thailand's efforts to comply with the 2018 APMBC deadline.

in Thailand currently waste scarce clearance resources clearing mine free land. APOPO's land release concepts acknowledge that a non-technical survey can be designed to define minimum levels of technical survey required for the release of land. This will ensure that follow-up clearance assets are used optimally in a combination of technical survey and clearance. Land release methodology is the fundamental concept upon which all of APOPO's survey and clearance work is based.



BJECTIVES

Objectives of Thailand Programme

Establish a gender balanced survey capacity and conduct a full, evidence-based non-technical survey of all mine suspected areas in the provinces of Trat and Chantaburi.

Cancel major parts of the currently suspected areas and provide detailed information about the few areas that will remain suspect after the survey.

Use the survey to accurately determine how the remaining Confirmed Hazardous Areas (CHAs) should be released by technical survey and clearance.

Produce provincial district and province reports and update the TMAC database.

Develop and sustain a capacity within PRO that is able to conduct similar survey of all the provinces along the Cambodian border beyond 2011.

Assist TMAC in developing and sustaining improved concepts of land release.

Assist the military Humanitarian Mine Action Units (HMAUs) in conducting more efficient technical survey.

Assist the Thai Government (TMAC) on request with treaty progress reports, developing methods of measuring the scope of the problem, and developing realistic and credible mine action plans for treaty compliance.

A longer-term strategy is needed to help Thailand rid itself entirely from its land-mine problem and comply fully with the APMBC. APOPO will help Thailand and TMAC to streamline its operational land release decision making concepts and is prepared to establish a technical survey and clearance capacity to follow on after the survey and continue to release land for as long as the problem exists or funding permits. APOPO's Thailand programme received financial support from the Lien Foundation in 2010.



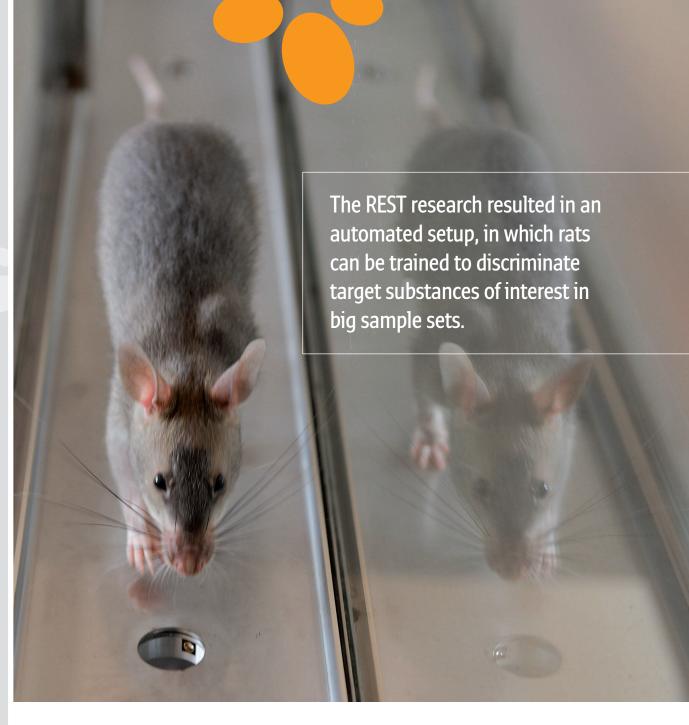
Remote Scent Tracing

Over the past decade, there has been considerable interest in the possibility of detecting areas of land contaminated with explosive remnants of war (ERW) using a system known as Remote Explosive Scent Tracing (REST). REST involves collecting samples of air or dust from defined locations and presenting those samples to mechanical or animate detectors in a remote location. Areas producing positive samples are then either searched more thoroughly by other methods or cleared by machines. Areas producing negative samples are exempt from further inspection except for quality control.

Since 2005, APOPO has been researching an operational REST system using rats and analytical methods, in collaboration with the Norwegian People's Aid and their detection dogs. The project, which was sponsored by the Geneva International Centre for Humanitarian Demining (GICHD) and other agencies, ended in 2010. Its findings are summarized in an article, entitled "Remote Explosives Scent Tracing of Explosive Remnants of War: A Perspective from the 2010 Morogoro Workshop," in *The Journal of ERW and Mine Action*.

Detailed presentation of those findings and much additional information about REST will soon be available in a GICHD publication, tentatively entitled *Remote Explosives Scent Tracing (REST) of Landmines: 1990-2010.* APOPO made major contributions to both of these publications.

Although the research did not result in an operational system for detecting landmines, APOPO is putting this information to good use in our research into other remote scent detection (RST) applications.







KEY INDICATORS

2010 KEY INDICATORS

26,665 sputum samples evaluated by HeroRATs

12,347 patients second-line screened by HeroRATs

716 TB-positive patients detected only by rats

43% increase in case detection rate at partner hospitals

7,160 new TB cases potentially prevented

Tuberculosis detection

APOPO's tuberculosis (TB) detection project continued to expand and improve throughout 2010. To date, more than 1,900 patients have been identified as TB-positive only through second-line screening by our rats.

In 2010, we constructed a new building at our TB Detection Center which provides much needed space for offices, a meeting room, and a dedicated data management area. Remodeling of the original lab extended the animal colony, and improved the behavioral testing areas. APOPO also purchased new fluorescent microscopes (FMs) and a Cepheid GeneXpert, advanced diagnostic equipment which is now being used to analyze smear slides and further our research. The FMs allow for greater accuracy than the light microscopes previously used, while the GeneXpert provides a tool for verifying the presence of TB in samples evaluated as TB-positive by the rats.

In 2010, HeroRATs evaluated 26,665 sputum samples from 12,347 patients, initially screened by smear microscopy at Direct Observation of Treatment, Short Course (DOTS) Centers. The DOTS Centers identified 1,671 of these patients (13.5% of the total) as TB-positive. Analysis of these sputum samples by the rats, followed by confirmatory microscopy conducted at APOPO, identified an additional 716 patients as TB-positive that were initially missed by the DOTS centers. Thus, the use of rats in simulated second-line screening increased the newcase detection rate by approximately 43%.

This increase is similar to that obtained in 2009, when use of the rats increased new-case detection by 44%. The 2009 findings formed the basis of a journal article, entitled "Using Giant African Pouched Rats to Detect Tuberculosis in Human Sputum Samples: 2009 Findings," that appeared in the *American Journal of Tropical Medicine and Hygiene (AJTMR)* in 2010. The article generated substantial media attention. A second article, "Tuberculosis detection by giant African pouched rats (*Cricetomys gambianus*)", which summarizes APOPO's TB detection activities, was also accepted for publication in *The Behavior Analyst* and will be published in 2011.

In order to systematize APOPO's TB detection activities, APOPO formulated and began implementation of a three-year research plan in 2010. It outlines studies that provide a compelling comparison of rats' evaluations to the results of culturing and GeneXpert, develops strategies for using the rats in first-line screening, and optimizes behavioral procedures. This research is made possible with the support of the UBS Optimus Foundation.

Throughout the year, we also found solutions to challenges that could hinder APOPO's progress in TB detection research. A new database was installed in 2010 to allow for ease of data entry and analysis. APOPO increased the number of DOTS centers from which we gather sputum samples on a weekly basis to ensure a sufficient number of samples were available to meet our research demands. Additionally, in an effort to minimize sample-processing time, APOPO has begun research into evaluating the rats' ability to detect TB directly on smear slides, rather than in liquid sputum samples.

APOPO also strengthened its partnerships with other organizations in 2010 to further our research capacity. During the year, APOPO worked productively with Sokoine University of Agriculture SUA (Tanzania), the Tanzania National Institute for Medical Research (NIMR), the Tanzanian National Tuberculosis and Leprosy Program, the Ifakara Health Institute (Tanzania), the Swiss Tropical and Public Health Institute and the Institute for Tropical Medicine (Belgium).

APOPO's management team is grateful for the contributions of everyone who worked on the TB project and applauds the efforts of the staff, partners and stakeholders, whose ongoing hard and capable work is invaluable.



PUBLIC AWARENESS

Public awareness

HeroRAT Campaign

2010 was a tremendous year for APOPO's public campaign, with our HeroRAT adoption program attracting over 1,300 new adoptions. These new adoptions more than tripled the size of our program since the previous year. We also welcomed two new corporate sponsors, Logistics Plus and the A12 Business Club, who each fully funded the training of one landmine detection HeroRAT.

APOPO and the HeroRAT team are very grateful to all of our adopters and donors that came on board in 2010 and those who continue to support our life-saving work.

A special thank you to New York Times writer, Nicholas D. Kristof, whose expertly timed article for Father's Day featured our super-macho, bomb-sniffing rats as the ideal gift for Dad and resulted in many gift HeroRAT adoptions.





Financial update IAL UPDATE

Balance sheet (Euros)

ASSETS	2010	2009
Fixed Assets	1,064,691	686,434
Land and buildings SUA-APOPO	198,393	105,599
Furniture, vehicles and equipment APOPO	363,616	364,021
Furniture, vehicles and equipment SUA-APOPO	197,949	216,814
Prepaid fixed assets	304,734	
Current assets	1,482,016	1,033,360
Current receivables	483,764	223,231
Cash and equivalents	1,012,524	809,812
Other assets	-14,272	317
TOTAL ASSETS	2,546,708	1,719,794
LIABILITIES		
Net capital	1,210,856	1,712,637
Funds of the organization	328,046	328,046
Revaluation of fixed assets	390,950	
Accumulated profits	491,860	246,641
Long term liabilities	1,227,234	624,722
Deferred Income (Grants)	1,227,234	
Current liabilities	108,617	7,158
Current payables	108,617	7,158
TOTAL LIABILITIES	2,546,708	1,719,794





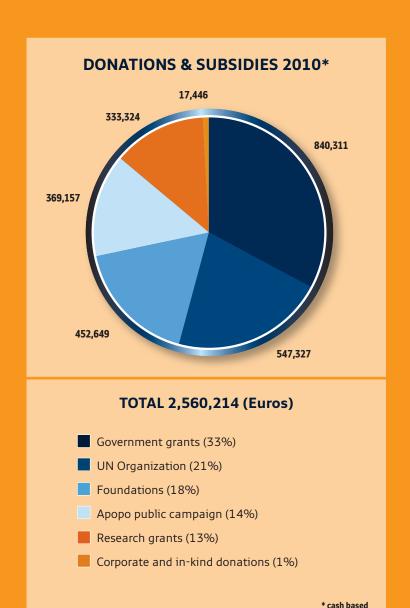
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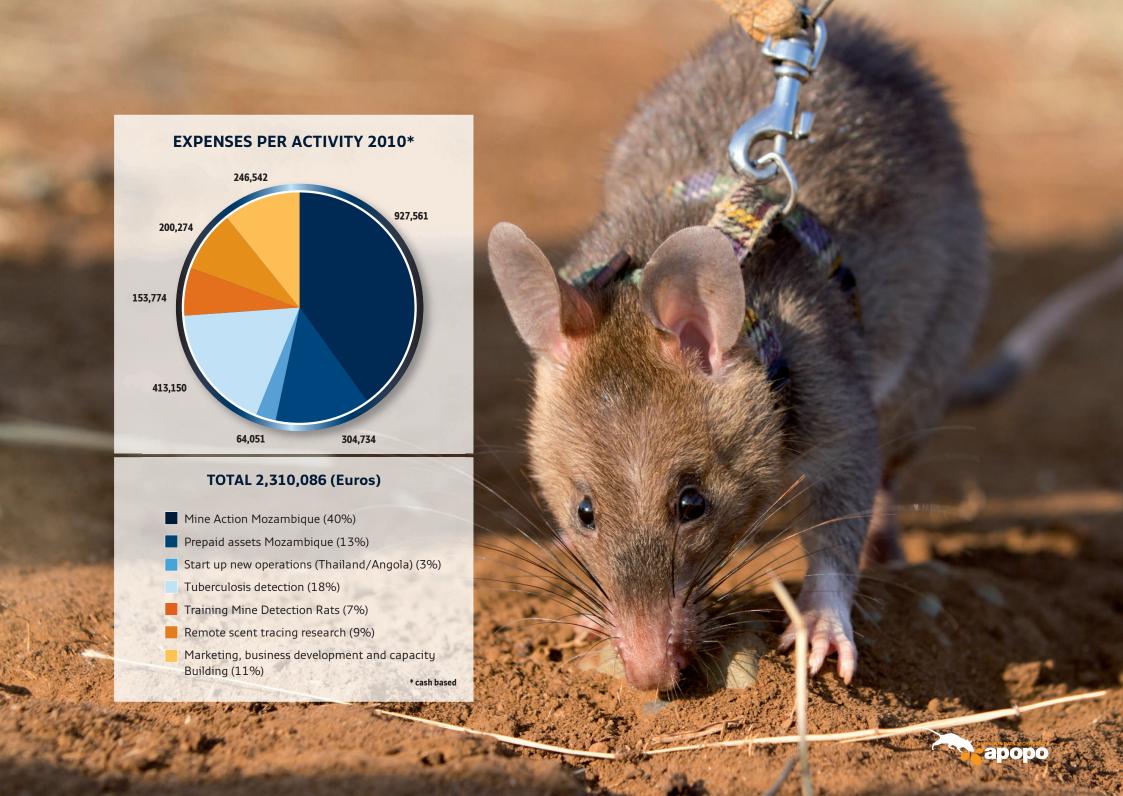
Summary of Financials

In 2010, APOPO was able to expand its life-saving activities thanks to its generous funders, and continue our steady growth since 2008. Governments and the UNDP contributed significantly to APOPO, in addition to foundations and the general public. APOPO spent over 70% of these funds on our current demining operations in Mozambique and tuberculosis detection operations in Tanzania. The rest of the funds were primarily focused on training and research activities, and capacity building.

Profit & Loss Statement (Euros)

	2010	2009
Total Incomes	2,110,215	1,492,990
Total Operational Expenses	924,330	539,914
Total Personnel Expenses	860,667	769,373
Depreciation	199,387	158,294
Other costs	533	-
Operating Result	125,298	25,409
Financial Result	-2,356	9,942
Extraordinary Result	122,277	122,267
Net Income	245,219	157,618





Major Donors DONORS

APOPO extends our heartfelt gratitude to our major donors in 2010

- Belgian Ministry of Foreign Affairs
- Belgian Ministry of Health and Environment
- Flemish Government
- Flora Family Foundation
- Geneva International Centre for Humanitarian Demining
- Imperial
- Lien Foundation
- Fondation Marie & Alain Philippson
- Marty and Dorothy Silverman Foundation
- Norwegian Embassy and Norwegian Ministry of Foreign Affairs
- Peery Foundation
- "Poppies for Peace" campaign ("Klaprozen voor vrede")
- Province of Antwerp
- Roviralta Foundation
- Skoll Foundation
- UBS Optimus Foundation
- United Nations Development Programme

























"A reason for our motivation is to find the essence of APOPO. The way the APOPO project was conceived and developed, you can call a success story about how North-South cooperation can achieve sustainable development. Through the training of local people, they themselves become the experts. The mine detection project is strongly colored African: the staff and their trained rats are the core players."

Bert De Bruyne on behalf of the 'Poppies for Peace' fundraising team

APOPO Board

HRH Princess Astrid of Belgium, Honorary President

Diane Verstraeten, Chairperson Mic Billet, Pro-Chairperson Bart Weetjens, Founder Rudy Van Eysendeyk Xavier Deleval Josse Van Steenberge, Vice-Chairperson Christophe Cox, CEO Inge Weber, Secretary-General Piet Van Hove Frank Braeken

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Please transfer your donation to: King Baudouin Foundation Fund Friends of APOPO Brederodestraat 21, 1000 Brussels Account number: 000-000004-04 (IBAN: BE 10 0000 0000 0404) Reference: 197/0220/00038

For a full list of APOPO's partner foundations in other countries, or to find out how your contribution will help, please visit www.apopo.orq

Photos: Yasuyoshi Chiba / AFP, Sylvain Piraux, Stuart Franklin / Magnum Photos, Alvaro Laiz and David Rengel



