



▶▶▶▶ STATE OF
CONSERVANCIES
REPORT





Printed on Forest Stewardship Council accredited paper.



Cover Photo: Mama Pweza by Paul Wambugu

Winner, USAID's Locally Led Development Initiatives 2022 Photo Contest. The photo highlights NRT Coast's Octopus Project which is generating sustainable income for dozens of fisherwomen on Pate Island. Read more on page 121.



NRT
NORTHERN RANGELANDS TRUST

▶▶▶▶ **2022**

ANNUAL REPORT



▶▶▶▶▶ DEVELOPING RESILIENT
**COMMUNITY
 CONSERVANCIES**
 THAT TRANSFORM LIVES ———
 SECURE PEACE AND ▶▶▶▶▶▶▶▶▶▶
 CONSERVE NATURAL RESOURCES

“

We must empower communities that face the challenges of coexisting with wildlife and we must promote grass-roots organisations to establish community-led approaches that preserve and enhance their natural heritage. The commitment, innovation and courage shown by each of our winners and finalists is deeply humbling. Ian, when we spent time together earlier this year, I was reminded of both your commitment and dedication. It is truly inspiring. We must do all we can to support those who support our natural world, often at great risk to themselves.

H.E. Prince William,
 The Duke of Cambridge,

”



“

A carbon credit market can yield attractive income and development opportunities for communities at the frontline in the fight against climate change. I am pleased to share the encouraging news of the exemplary Northern Kenya Rangelands Carbon Project.

H.E. William Ruto,
 President of the Republic of Kenya

”



“

We are grateful that the Northern Rangelands Trust (NRT) and Isiolo conservancies have been supporting communities in Isiolo County in mitigating the effects of the prevailing drought by improving water supply and disbursing drought-relief fund through its Carbon Project. This timely intervention has been a lifeline for the drought-stricken communities.

H.E Ibrahim Guyo,
 Governor, Isiolo County Government

”





In the majority of the pastoral households in northern Kenya, children's education takes a back seat. Most young boys and girls, therefore, fall prey to retrogressive vices such as cattle rustling, banditry, and drug abuse. But with the support we have received from NRT such as the purchase of beds for the local boarding school, many more children in the region will be enrolled, gaining access to education and thus becoming upstanding members of the community.

Saadia Mohammed,
Chairperson, Nasuulu
Community Conservancy



Our Conservancy has greatly contributed to fostering peace between our community and neighboring pastoralist communities, empowering women, and providing a platform for the development and improvement of livelihoods.

Selina Kipkerker (Mama Culture),
Member, Masol Community Conservancy

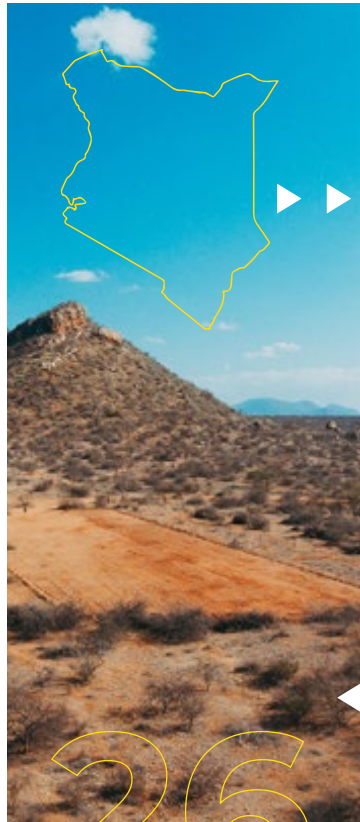


I stayed home for a long time after completing my secondary school studies because my parents were unable to raise school fees for me to attend university. But today, thanks to the skills I gained from the Ujuzi Manyattani training, I have employed four youth at my motorcycle repair shop in Isiolo Town.

Zakaria Abdikadir, a beneficiary of Ujuzi Manyattani,
NRT Trading's Vocational Training Program



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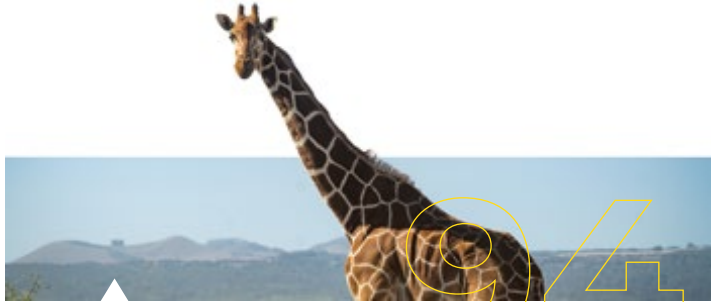
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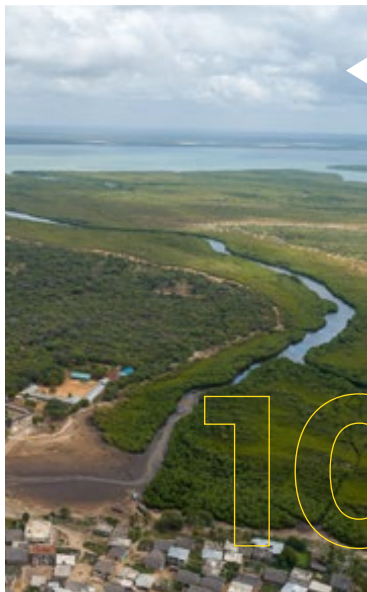


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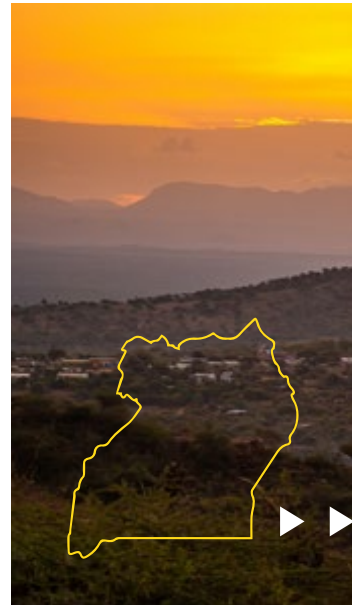
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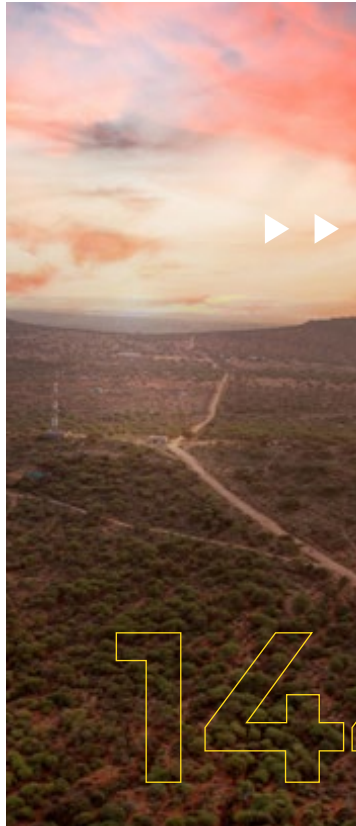
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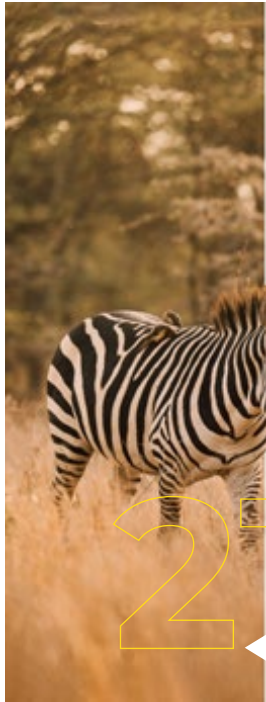
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From the CEO's Desk



2022 was an iconic year.

We encountered raging headwinds as the months unfolded but stayed the course, propelled forward by the pressing need to serve our member community conservancies.

Our determination to rise above all obstacles saw us scale new heights in conservation and make real progress in community development.

As the clock ticks toward two decades of NRT's existence, I am inclined to reflect on NRT's early days.

The year was 1995.

A conservation model that protected endangered species while spurring economic development in neighbouring communities had been pioneered at Lewa Wildlife Conservancy by the visionary, Ian Craig.

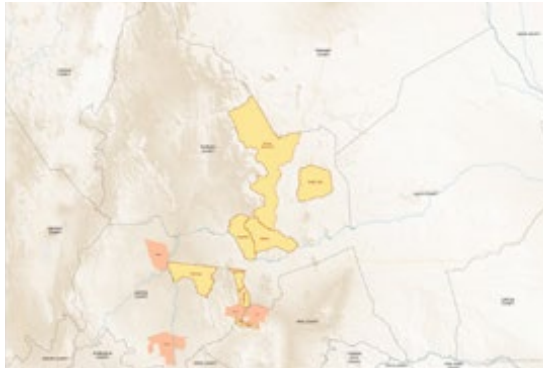
At Il Ngwesi, 500 community members had assembled, led by their elders, to discuss Lewa's model. Would it work in Il Ngwesi, where land was communally owned? Modifying a conservation model to their context was an appealing solution to the many gathered that day. They unanimously agreed to form a conservancy, and with that communal decision, the first community conservancy was born.

Numerous indigenous communities would follow suit in subsequent years as they discovered that the community conservancy model effectively transformed lives.

As community conservancies grew in number, their constituent communities recognized the need for an umbrella organization. In 2004, the elected leaders of nine



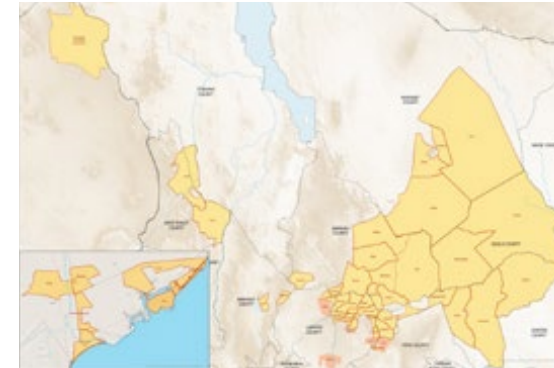
▶ ▶ NRT's Growth



2004



2016



2022

conservancies met and agreed to work together to resolve emerging issues while retaining their autonomy. This became the Council of Elders, and the nine formed the 'Northern Rangelands Trust'(NRT).

NRT's membership grew exponentially as other conservancies sought to join. From nine at the outset, NRT now supports 43 member community conservancies spread across ten counties in northern and coastal Kenya.

The community conservancy model has always been about enabling communities to benefit from conservation. Therefore, since 2015, NRT has disbursed over 522 million shillings (USD 4,423,728) through the Conservancy Livelihoods Fund for community development and implemented 181 projects.

NRT member community conservancies have conserved over 15 million acres of land, which hosts an astonishing variety of wildlife and over a dozen endangered species, including the hirola, the world's rarest antelope, roam the NRT landscape in abundance.

NRT began with five employees, one driver, and a vehicle. Today, NRT and its member community conservancies provide permanent employment to 1,366 people.

As in 2004, the indigenous communities that form the conservancies run and own NRT through the Council of Elders, which consists of the elected chairpersons of all its member community conservancies and is NRT's highest decision-making body. NRT's Board is accountable to this overarching Council.



NRT is advancing conservation and is home to the Northern Kenya Rangelands Carbon Project (NKRCP)—the world’s largest soil carbon removal project, which generates sustainable income for member conservancies for community-led development projects.

In 2022, at a ceremony at COP27, the Project was awarded as a Lighthouse and a natural climate solution that is a true beacon for best practice by the Natural Climate Solutions Alliance (NCSA).

At the Coast, NRT member community conservancies are a catalyst for marine and forest conservation. Over the last four years, they have planted 95,494 mangroves in Pate, Kiunga, and Lower Tana Community Conservancies.

85% of fishers who own illegal beach seine nets voluntarily agreed to replace their nets with legal, sustainable fishing gear through the Kiunga Gear Exchange Program. This fills me with hope.

Even more encouraging is the fact that NRT has expanded its footprint and is now present not only in Kenya but also in Uganda!

Since NRT’s inception in 2004, we have stood in valleys and scaled mountaintops, learning valuable lessons along the way. And the adversity we have endured has refined us.

With each passing year, our vision has remained the same: develop resilient community conservancies that transform lives, secure peace, and conserve natural resources.

Today, NRT’s role as an enabler is more crucial than ever.

- ▲ NRT has supported community land registration to ensure indigenous communities retain total control of their natural resources.
- ▲ With NRT’s support, eight community conservancies secured land tenure rights last year.
- ▲

When the pandemic disrupted normal operations, NRT’s livelihood programs adapted. NRT Trading’s BeadWORKS, for instance, digitized, so communities could earn an income despite global travel restrictions. This contributed to BeadWORKS’ winning the Kenya E-commerce Gold Award for Best Sustainability Initiative of the Year 2022.

And as the nation continued to suffer from an unprecedented drought that decimated livestock herds and orphaned wildlife, NRT bolstered the communities at the frontlines of climate change, implementing timely interventions and supporting adaptation.

The NKRCP handed over Ksh 23.8 million (USD 201,694) in levy fees to the Isiolo, Laikipia and Samburu County Governments. As a priority, the funds were used to support drought relief efforts.

NRT also provided clean water and tonnes of assorted food rations to thousands of vulnerable households in areas hardest hit by the drought.

At a time when pastoralists were reeling from losing their livestock herds to the drought, NRT Trading’s Ujuzi Manyattani doubled down on livelihood diversification, creating new income streams for women and youth through vocational training.

To support wildlife, NRT collaboratively implemented supplementary feeding programs and an irrigation scheme, ensuring the survival of critically endangered species.

Looking ahead, we will continue to work with our member community conservancies, providing technical oversight, assisting them in being custodians of their natural resources and biodiversity, and increasing their resilience in the face of climate change and the impending recession.

The northern rangelands—home to hundreds of thousands of Kenyans, including myself—are filled with visible signs of the consequences of ignoring the climate crisis. The fact that the last seven years have been the warmest ever recorded is a wake-up call for everyone to get involved in conservation.

It is imperative that companies grow responsibly, reduce carbon emissions, and invest in renewable energy. All talk must be accompanied by swift action if we are to build a nature-positive economy and a world in which our children and their children's children have all the natural resources needed to survive and thrive.

I now take this opportunity to thank all our staff for their tireless efforts year after year. Through the ups and downs, you have kept the faith, and your contribution to our growth and those of our member community conservancies is highly appreciated.

We value the relationships and partnerships we have forged with county governments over the years, and we will continue to strengthen county-level conservancies' associations in northern and coastal Kenya in 2023.

Our dependable partners and donors enabled us to hasten the pace at which NRT and our member community conservancies grew in 2022. We remain indebted to each one.

To our Board, whose guidance and direction have been indispensable throughout the years, asante sana!

And to our Council of Elders, whose wisdom and leadership drive us to success in collaborating with indigenous communities, thank you.

Finally, thank you to you, who continue to support us in multiple meaningful ways. You are an important part of our story.

It is now my greatest pleasure to invite you all once again to read about the impact we achieved together in 2022.



Tom Lalampaa,
CEO, NRT



2022 in Numbers

Established in 2004, the Northern Rangelands Trust is a membership organization serving 43 community conservancies spread across 63,000 square kilometers of northern and coastal Kenya.

With the generous support of its donors, partners and the county and national governments, NRT continues to finance indigenous institutions and provide training enabling them to:

Enhance governance structures, lead efforts to promote peace and security, identify, implement, and manage developmental and entrepreneurial projects that transform people's lives and drive growth of businesses, lead the way in wildlife and natural resource conservation and establish relationships with investors, the government and others for a sustainable future.

▶ ▶ Governance



4

new conservancies in Isiolo fully operationalized

450

people including conservancy board members, managers, women and community committee members, participated in NRT's bespoke Leadership and Management Program (LAMP) training



210

members of 8 community conservancy boards were trained in good governance, leadership, and management



62.6%

governance score for conservancies

60

women participated in NRT's second Women's Leadership Summit



12

NRT member conservancies developed or reviewed their management plans



Ksh 152 million

overall County Government funding to NRT member community conservancies



▶ ▶ Peace

10,445

community members (8,886 men and 1,559 women) were engaged in different peacebuilding activities in 5 counties



80

conservancy scouts recruited from Kinnna, Sericho, Cherab, and Garbatulla Community Conservancies in Isiolo County underwent basic conservancy scout training



110

peace interventions were organized to curb conflict or prevent retaliatory attacks



325

conservancy scouts from all NRT member conservancies graduated from a three month training at the Kenya Wildlife Service (KWS) Law Enforcement Academy (LEA) in Manyani



8

motorcycles were procured for the Pate, Kiunga, and Awer Conservancies to improve fisheries and wildlife monitoring, as well as conservancy operations



▶ ▶ Livelihoods

Ksh 55 million

supported 19 livelihood projects including education, economic empowerment, water, and health, benefiting 12,836 people



12,557

students received education bursaries worth Ksh 78.7 million (USD 666,949) from their conservancies through CLF and the Carbon Community Fund (CCF)



8

safe deliveries were performed in Kalama Health Centre's new maternity wing



Ksh 8.3 million

(USD 70,581) earned as labor payment for the creation of beaded products



Gold Award

BeadWORKS was announced as the winner for Best Sustainability Initiative of the Year 2022 at the Kenya E-commerce Awards



43

water projects were completed across NRT member community conservancies benefitting 16,997 households



3



▶▶ Wildlife

100

conservancy scouts in 10 conservancies in Laikipia and Isiolo Counties underwent a Wildlife-CoMMS SMART training designed to teach them how to manage and maintain wildlife databases



2

black rhino calves were born at Sera Rhino Sanctuary, bringing the total population to 21



15

hirola births (9 within the Sanctuary and 6 outside), recorded in Ishaqbini bringing the estimate inside the Sanctuary to 66 individuals



35

sea turtle nestings were recorded and 18 sea turtles were rescued after being caught as by-catch in Kiunga and Pate



4

calves were born at Ruko Giraffe Sanctuary



▶ ▶ Rangelands

502



women (out of 2,302) herders underwent training in various aspects of planned grazing management implementation

501



acres of bare ground cover were rehabilitated

25,023



herders, were reached with factual information on planned grazing management in the Herders Awareness Program

20,000



semicircular earth bunds were established in Oldonyiro, Nasuulu, Meibae, Westgate, Kalama, Il Ngwesi, and Lekurruki Community Conservancies. These surface runoff collection and retention structures are used to promote natural regeneration

5



▶ ▶ Marine

4.4

tons of plastic waste collected from the surrounding beaches in Kiunga Community Wildlife Association (KICOWA) in clean-up efforts. This brings the total plastic collected in 2019 to 2022 to 63.2 tons



55

community members from Lower Tana Delta Conservancy were trained on community-based ecological mangrove restoration (EMR)



14

boats from Kiunga Community Conservancy participated in the Fish-to-Market pilot project



20,476

mangrove seedlings were planted and nurseries holding 11,867 propagules were established in Pate, Marine Community Conservancy (PMCC)



85%

of fishers owning illegal beach seine nets in Kiunga Marine National Reserve have voluntarily accepted to replace their nets with legal sustainable fishing gears under Kiunga Gear Exchange Program



6



▶ ▶ Forests

40,000

polythene tubes were distributed to 15 community tree nurseries in the villages to raise fast-growing seedlings for on-farm planting under the 1-for-1 Program in partnership with KEFRI



2,600

assorted indigenous tree seedlings were planted in Ngare Ndare Forest at the onset of the short rains



11,130

indigenous tree seedlings and 1,000 fruit trees were planted in Mukogodo Forest



600

biogas units were installed in 20 conservancies in northern and coastal Kenya, reducing communities' dependence on forests for fuelwood



▶ ▶ Carbon

USD 324,000

in carbon funding received by each of the 14 community conservancies involved in the Northern Kenya Rangelands Carbon Project



24%

of all Carbon Community Funds were directed to water projects including piping and pump installation, improvements to existing water infrastructure, and bore-hole construction

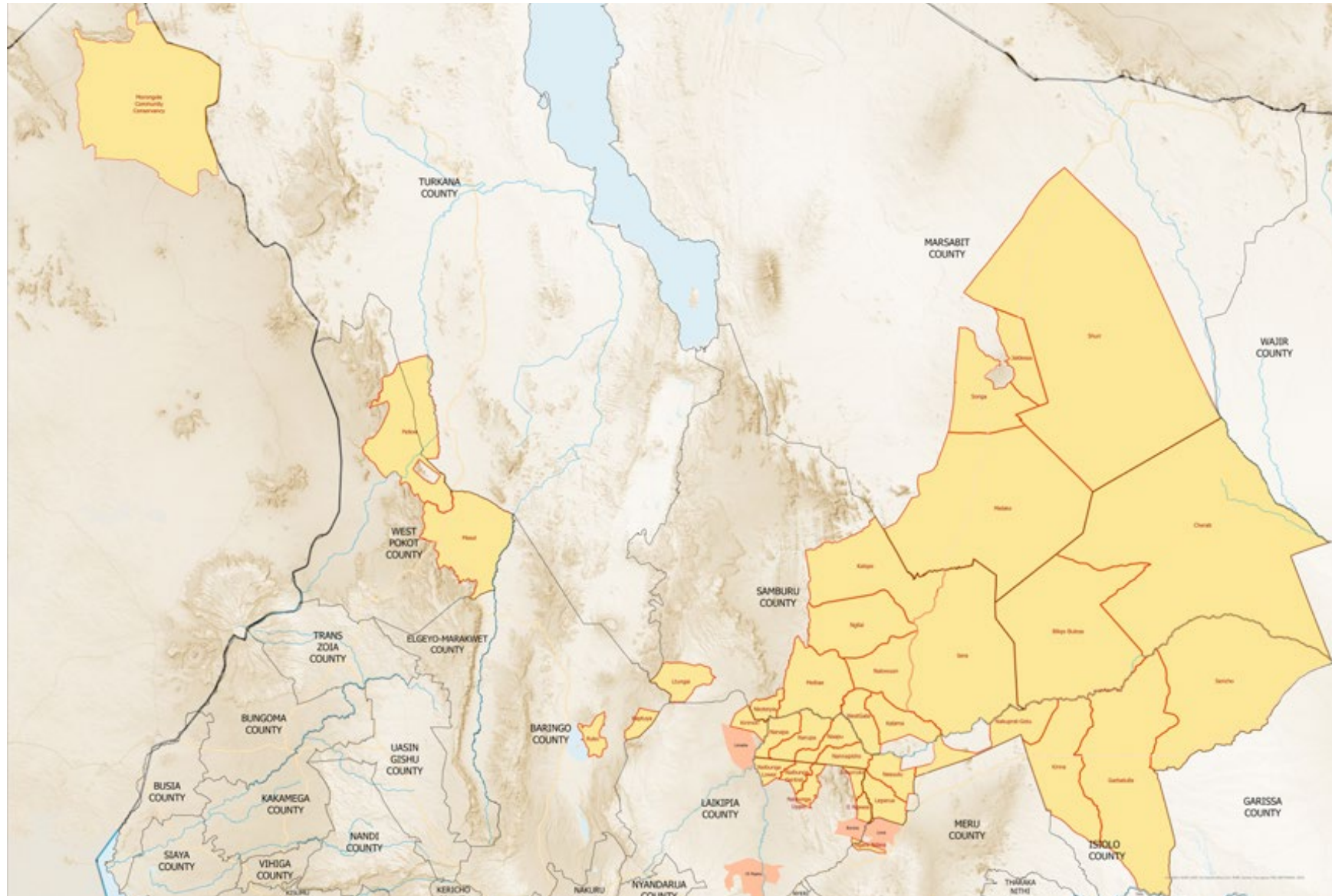


6,614

students from across all 14 Carbon Project community conservancies benefited from school bursaries amounting to Ksh 44,027,000 (USD 337,110) issued by the Carbon Community Fund (CCF)



Northern Community Conservancies

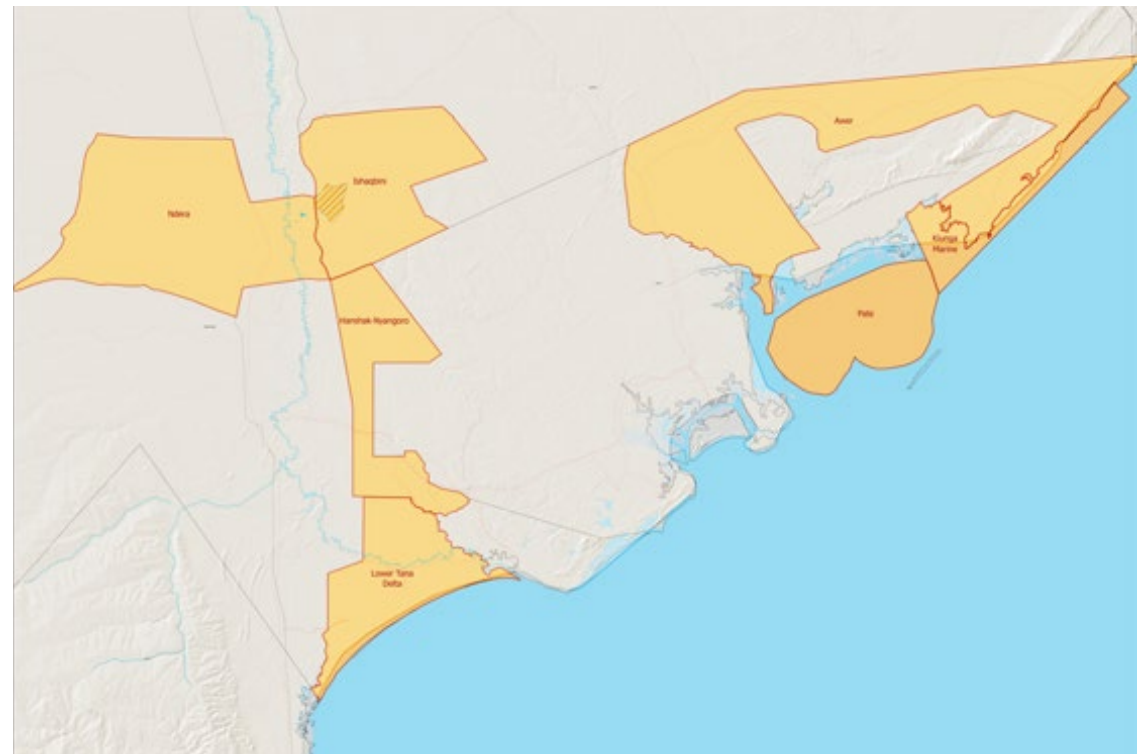


Northern Rangelands Trust

Member Community Conservancies 2022



►► Coastal Community Conservancies



Together, we are the Northern Rangelands Trust





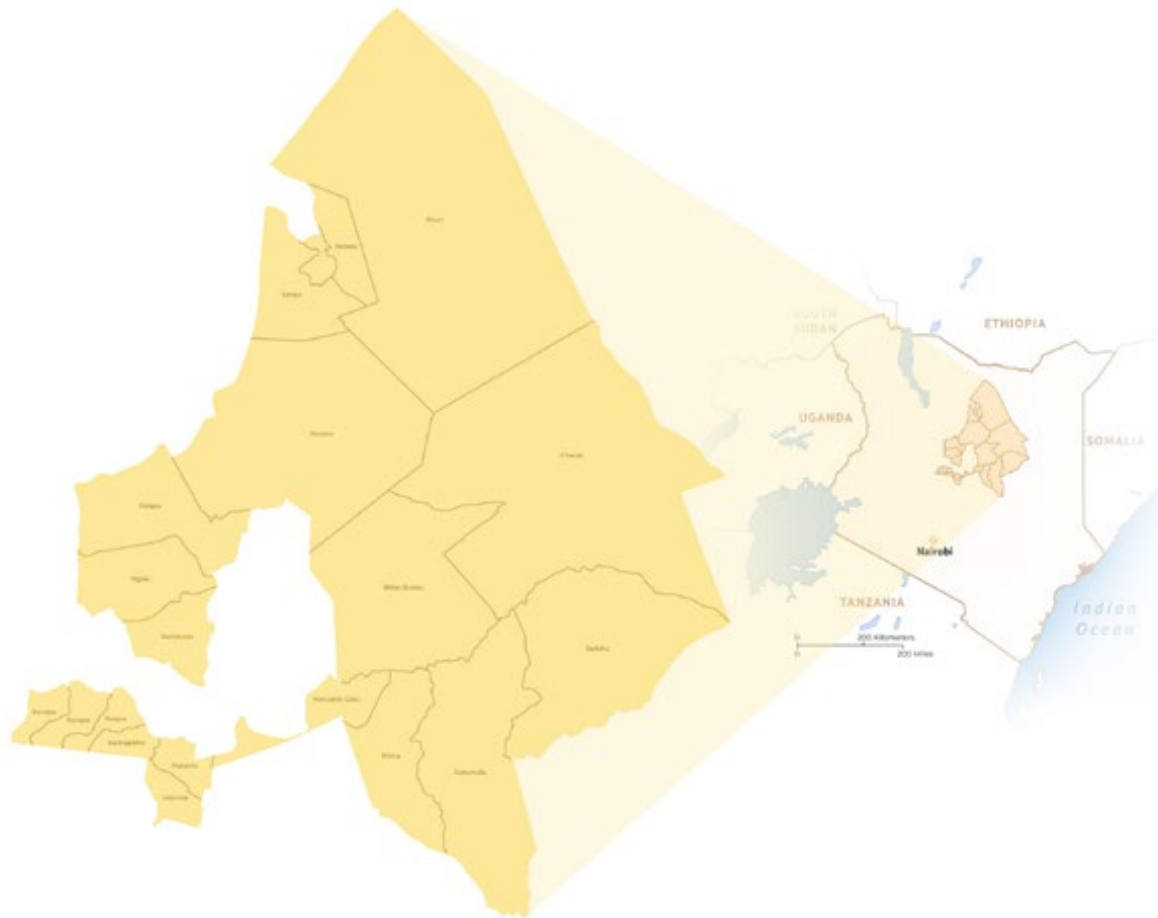
KENYA



EAST

REGION







Biliqo Bulesa Community Conservancy



Isiolo County



376,657 hectares



Population: 7,665



Established
in 2007



Key species: elephants



Staff: 36



► ► Overview

Biliqo Bulesa Community Conservancy, the first conservancy established in Isiolo County in 2007, was formed by bringing together two communal locations within Merti Sub-county: Biliqo and Bulesa.

The Conservancy's vast community land is managed by the traditional Dedha grazing system. The community takes great pride in its scenic beauty, particularly in Baballa, Kismittir, Kuro hot springs, and the great Kom.

The Conservancy, known for elephant conservation and healthy rangelands, serves as an important corridor and dispersal area for diverse wildlife species, including elephants, gerenuk, lion, cheetah, buffalo, wild dogs, and oryx, and large populations of game birds such as sandgrouse and guinea fowl.



▶▶ Conservancy NewsBytes

- In collaboration with partners, the Conservancy built and equipped the Biliqo Dispensary, which has reduced maternal and child mortality rates within and outside the Conservancy. Since its opening in 2020, the Dispensary's maternity ward has successfully performed 133 safe deliveries, bringing the community one step closer to decreasing maternal deaths.
- Through the Conservancy, 500 households and the Biliqo Health Centre have access to clean water.
- In 2022, 30 youth successfully graduated from NRT Trading's Ujuzi Manyattani Program and can now support themselves with the skills they acquired.
- To support its operations and respond faster to community emergencies, the Conservancy spent Ksh 5.25 million to purchase a community vehicle using Carbon Community Funds (CCF).
- The Isiolo County Governor, H.E. Abdi Ibrahim, led a team of investors in performing a natural resource mapping exercise in Kom Durte last year to facilitate the identification, alignment, and leveraging of community resources that will satisfy societal development needs.



Biliqo Bulesa: A Success Story in Community-led Conservation

Biliqo Bulesa Community Conservancy was once a hotspot for poaching. The Conservancy now works to reduce such incidents, and no poaching has occurred in the area in the last five years.

The Conservancy connects key conservation areas in Meru and Marsabit National Reserves and links Shaba, Bullafo Springs, and Bisanadi Game Reserves.

Data gathered from collared elephants reveals that they move through the Laikipia- Samburu-Meru-Marsabit ecosystem. The Conservancy has increased the dispersal area of elephants due to the vastness of their range, allowing elephant populations to thrive.

Biliqo is also a crucial traditional grazing area for pastoralists from four counties: Marsabit, Isiolo, Samburu, and Wajir.

The Conservancy plays a vital role in peacebuilding by using dialogue to break the cycle of raids and counter-raids by different ethnic groups.





Nasuulu Community Conservancy



Isiolo County



34,568 hectares



Population: 3,885



Established
in 2011



Key activity: elephants,
giraffes, gerenuks, Grevy's
zebras, Beisa Oryx



Staff: 26



► ► Overview

Nasuulu Community Conservancy came into existence when four warring communities laid down their arms and formed the Conservancy to foster peace and cohesion among them.

The Conservancy's establishment reduced poaching, led to the resolution of livestock-related conflicts, and brought harmony, benefiting all.

The Ewaso Nyiro River runs along the Conservancy's northern border, providing water to community members, livestock, and wildlife.

Pastoralism is the main source of livelihood in Nasuulu, which has been at the forefront of rangeland management for several years.

As a result of the successful implementation of grazing plans, pasture is abundant in Nasuulu, which also serves as a traditional grazing area, attracting herders and livestock from other communities and prompting the Conservancy's management to play a vital role in peacekeeping.



▶▶ Conservancy NewsBytes

- The Northern Kenya Rangelands Carbon Project's carbon community fund (CCF) facilitated the implementation of the Ksh 15 million (USD 127,118) Nasuulu Tourism Bandas Project in 2022. The Bandas Project, which is set to expand in 2023, will ensure the Conservancy's long-term viability through tourism revenue.
- In 2022, the Conservancy opened the 13-kilometer Langail-er-Ngarentare Road to facilitate access to basic amenities.
- 350 acres of rangelands were reseeded using semicircular bunds to increase grass cover and pasture for livestock and wildlife.
- To reduce the risks charcoal burning poses to its ecosystem, the Conservancy ran public awareness campaigns about the negative effects of charcoal production activities.
- Nasuulu furnished the Samburu Community School dormitory with beds and mattresses using the carbon community fund (CCF) to facilitate children's enrollment in boarding school, ensure uninterrupted learning, and improve their academic performance.
- The Conservancy hosted the Isiolo-Samburu Border Peace Tournament, in which 260 youth from Westgate, Kalama, Nakuprat-Gotu, Leparua, and Nasuulu Conservancies participated and engaged in conversations on peace and conservation.
- Nasuulu distributed 205 grafted mango seedlings to its community members to improve nutrition, generate income, and diversify livelihoods.
- The Conservancy issued education bursaries worth Ksh 4.15 (USD 35,169) million to 788 secondary and tertiary institutions.



350

acres of rangelands were reseeded using semicircular bunds to increase grass cover.





Rangelands Management Lessons from Nasuulu

Nasuulu Community Conservancy, located in Isiolo County in northern Kenya, is home to the Samburu, Borana, Turkana, and Somali, four ethnic communities with previously hostile relations.

Pastoralism is the primary source of income in this Conservancy, which has been at the forefront of rangeland management and played an important role in peacebuilding and community wild-life protection.

Nasuulu is proof that warring communities can coexist and peacefully resolve grazing conflict through dialogue.

This has significantly contributed to the successful implementation of grazing plans within the Conservancy, ensuring livestock have higher quality pasture all year, even in the dry season, reducing conflict over pasture and livestock loss.

Recently, a grazing issue arose in the Conservancy after about ten thousand cattle belonging to herders from other counties invaded the Nasuulu territory to access pasture.

The Conservancy's management and Grazing Committee were successful in moving the encroachers out of the invaded areas. This was a historic moment in which a thorny issue was resolved peacefully without using force.

- ▲ “We only had a conversation with the encroachers, and were able to convince them to move their livestock out of our grazing areas.”
- ▲ Andrew Phitisa, the Conservancy Manager explains. “We have

trained the grazing committee members so they can handle all grazing-related issues,” he adds.

Nasuulu Community Conservancy Grazing Committee members meet quarterly and conduct field visits during which they assess the grass and then draw the grazing plan to be used. Afterward, the proposed plan is presented to the community at community engagement meetings. Once the community approves, the grazing plan is implemented in the Conservancy.





Songa Community Conservancy



Marsabit County



122,884 hectares



Population: 14,800



Established
in 2013



Key species: elephants,
reticulated giraffes



Staff: 16



► ► Overview

Songa Community Conservancy was formed to promote sustainable resource utilization and enhance natural resource and wildlife conservation for social and economic benefits.

The Conservancy’s diverse landscape includes thick grasslands and bushy savannah with numerous acacia trees to the south and dense forest vegetation to the north, close to Marsabit National Park.

The indigenous Rendille community—the majority of Songa’s inhabitants—is a semi-nomadic pastoralist group whose livelihood is centered on their herds of camels, cattle, and goats.

In addition to pastoralism, the Rendille in Songa practice small-scale arable farming, growing maize, beans, and other food crops in the foothills of Mt. Marsabit.

Songa Conservancy, which borders Marsabit National Park, serves as an important corridor for iconic wildlife such as elephants and buffalo during the rainy season.



► ► Conservancy NewsBytes

- 30 herders were enrolled in NRT Trading's 'Ufugaji Bora Mashinani' Program training to increase their capacity in livestock production.
- 6 conservancy scouts graduated from the Kenya Wildlife Service (KWS) Law Enforcement Academy (LEA) in Manyani after a three-month course which equipped them with skills in wildlife monitoring and protection, and general scout discipline.
- The Conservancy, with support from NRT, brought together 200 multi-age set morans, elders, government administration leaders, and the Conservancy's Management to deliberate on peace activities.
- 30 biogas digesters were installed in the homes of community members, providing them with an alternative fuel source to charcoal and fuelwood.
- NRT Trading's vocational training program, Ujuzi Manyattani, graduated 38 youth.
- Lpus Primary School received food, teaching, and learning materials from the Conservancy.
- The Conservancy held two medical outreach camps at the Karare and Parkishon Health Centers.
- The Conservancy repaired a 4-kilometer water pipeline that had been damaged by elephants. The pipeline supplies much-needed water to 216 households in Leyai Village, where for the last three years, residents had been suffering from water scarcity.





Droplets of Hope: Providing Water to the Leiyai Community



In the semi-arid lands surrounding the densely forested Marsabit National Park, the Community in Songa has been affected by water shortage for a long time. For years, the community has been relying on an old water supply connection from a spring in a nearby forest to access clean water. This connection has been broken by elephants for some time, resulting in a water shortage.

In the last two years, the situation became dire and was aggravated by insecurity, placing women and girls at risk as they had to trek five kilometers to fetch water from a nearby village.

In 2022, NRT repaired the broken water supply system in the Conservancy with the support of Agence Française de Développement (AFD) and Rainforest Trust. New water pipelines were laid to supply water to the Leiyai community, and a 100,000-litre storage tank was installed.





Leparua Community Conservancy



Isiolo County



33,550 hectares



Population: 11,000



Established
in 2010



Key species: reticulated giraffes, wild dogs, plains zebras, Grevy's zebra, elephants



Staff: 21



► ► Overview

Leparua Community Conservancy, located in Isiolo's Burat Ward, is home to five ethnic communities: Somali, Samburu, Turkana, Borana, and Maasai. The Conservancy is an important wildlife corridor that connects Samburu National Reserve, Buffalo Springs, and other northern Kenya conservancies.

With livestock keeping being the primary source of income for the communities, the Conservancy was established to conserve natural resources for community development, improve wildlife protection, promote peace among the Conservancy's inhabitants, and secure wildlife corridors. Its vision is to integrate community development and environmental conservation.

Since the Conservancy's inception, the community's livelihoods have improved, their sources of income have been diversified, and the potential of tourism as a revenue source has grown.

Poaching and cattle-raiding incidents have also decreased. Over time, the Conservancy has seen increased social interaction and peace among its community members.



▶▶ Conservancy NewsBytes

- Several joint meetings centered on building peace and enhancing safety were held by the Conservancy to promote peaceful dialogue, nonviolent conflict resolution, and prevent retaliatory attacks between herders of different ethnic groups.
- In 2022, the Conservancy's scouts conducted intensive year-round patrols to protect and promote the well-being of diverse species of wildlife found both within and outside the Conservancy. They also ran an operation to combat illegal charcoal burning.
- 50 women joined the Northern Rangelands Savings and Credit Cooperative (NR Sacco), gaining access to small business loans to finance their enterprises.
- The Conservancy facilitated the renovation and equipping of the Somali-Borana Kilimani Water Project, valued at Ksh 6.5 million (USD 55,084), through the Carbon Community Fund (CCF).



Leparua: A Community on a Mission to Conserve Wildlife

Leparua Community Conservancy, which serves as a wildlife gateway, linking Mt. Kenya to northern Kenya via Lewa Wildlife Conservancy, has been instrumental in improving wildlife protection.

The Community Conservancy has effectively collaborated with government agencies to conserve wildlife. And this joint effort has resulted in a steady increase in wildlife numbers, particularly elephants and reticulated giraffes.

Led by the Conservancy's scouts working in partnership with national government administration units, Leparua works to prevent conflict in its pastoralist, multi-ethnic community by promoting peace through dialogue and conducting stock theft recovery missions.





Nakuprat-Gotu Community Conservancy



Isiolo County



72,418 hectares



Population: 7,425



Established
in 2010



Key species: Beisa Oryx, elephants, giraffes, buffalo



Staff: 31



Celebrated
12 years of Peace

►► Overview

Nakuprat-Gotu Community Conservancy provides a special migratory wildlife route, connecting the Shaba, Buffalo Springs, and Samburu National Reserves to Sera Community Conservancy.

Located in Isiolo County, the Conservancy consists of pastoralists from both the Borana and Turkana communities.

In the past, there would be conflict between these two communities. Today, through the Beisa Oryx Project, they are working together to protect and establish a haven for the Beisa Oryx population in collaboration with other conservation partners including the Northern Rangelands Trust (NRT), County Government of Isiolo, and Kenya Wildlife Service (KWS).

The Conservancy, a vast area of arid bushland with little rainfall, is home to one of Kenya's largest herds of Beisa Oryx, accounting for at least 10% of the country's population (following a July 2020 count in which an estimated 880 individuals were recorded).

The species is listed as 'endangered' by the IUCN due to declining numbers across much of Africa as a result of hunting and habitat loss.

▶▶ Conservancy NewsBytes

- Nakuprat-Gotu Conservancy commemorated International Day of Peace 2022 by celebrating 12 years of the communities' peaceful existence.
- 24 Ujuzi Manyattani graduates from Nakuprat-Gotu and Nasulu Community Conservancies underwent an intensive two-day Yamaha motorcycle repair and maintenance training by Toyota Kenya. Following the two-day training, the top ten performers were selected for additional training as TOTs.
- Ngaremara Ward Primary School Wildlife Club members visited Buffalo Springs and Shaba National Reserves and planted trees at the Reserves' gates and the Conservancy's headquarters. IUCN Save Our Species supported these activities that were performed as part of the Beisa Oryx Project.
- In a major conservation win, increased patrol operations led to a reduction in illegal charcoal burning.



The Beisa Oryx Project: Empowering Indigenous Communities to Conserve an Endangered Species

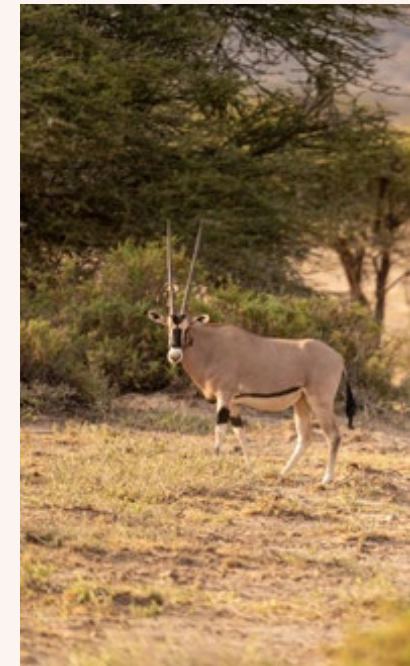
Across the vast expanse of northern Kenya rangelands, every day, the Beisa Oryx roams, seeking to meet its nutritional needs, just like all other wild creatures on this side of the Sahara.

Unbeknownst to this beautiful antelope species, its list of adversaries does not stop at carnivores. Poachers, armed to the teeth with illegal weapons, pose a constant threat, drawn to the stunning beauty that is the Beisa Oryx because of its high-quality meat and tough hide. And in pastoralist communities, its horns are valued as charms and perceived as a source of prestige.

Fortunately for the species, the community in Nakuprat-Gotu Conservancy is leading the fight to preserve them. The majority of Beisa Oryx in Kenya are found outside protected areas.

Therefore, Nakuprat-Gotu is rolling out conservation initiatives and sensitizing communities on the need to protect the Beisa Oryx from extinction through the Beisa Oryx Project, which is supported by the European Union through IUCN Save Our Species.

Thanks to the improved community awareness and buy-in, and NRT Trading's Ujuzi Manyattani Program (which provides community members with an alternative source of income, deterring them from hunting down the Beisa Oryx for commercial reasons), poaching has stopped almost entirely, the species is being protected, and the local herd is growing.





Sericho Community Conservancy



Isiolo County



387,621 hectares



Population: 7,001



Established
in 2021



Key species: elephants,
vultures, ostriches, Grant's
gazelles



Staff: 22



► ► Overview

Sericho Community Conservancy is situated in Isiolo South Constituency. It borders Wajir and Garissa Counties. Communities in the Conservancy practice livestock keeping.

The Conservancy, which consists primarily of arid terrain, was founded to facilitate development, foster peace in the region, and preserve the traditional wildlife migration routes that connect Marsabit National Park to Meru National Park.

A multi-disciplinary team of researchers drawn from NRT, the University of Nairobi, the National Museums of Kenya, and the Wildlife Research and Training Institute visited Sericho and Cherab Conservancies in February 2022 to conduct a rapid biodiversity assessment of the adjacent Lorian Swamp, and a needs assessment on the impact of human-wildlife conflict on community livelihoods in Isiolo County. The experts established that the area was endowed with numerous bird species that run the gamut from passerines, such as kingfishers, cuckoos and woodpeckers, to raptors, some of which have been red-listed by the International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN), such as the Egyptian vulture and the Steppe eagle.

In their report, the research team propounded that due to the area's rich assemblage of biodiversity, it highly qualifies to be classified as both a key biodiversity area (KBA) and an important bird area (IBA).



▶▶ Conservancy NewsBytes

- In January 2022, the NRT Peace Team worked with elders from the Borana community (Borana Council of Elders) in Isiolo South Constituency to plan and coordinate grazing among herders from neighbouring counties who had migrated to various areas within Sericho, Garbatulla, and Kinna Wards in search of pasture.
- 500 students in the Conservancy benefitted from education bursaries amounting to Ksh 2.5 million (USD 21,186) disbursed through the Conservancy Livelihood Fund (CLF).
- The Conservancy's leadership and community members widely participated in the Lorian Swamp Rapid Biodiversity Assessment, organized and conducted by research experts from NRT, the University of Nairobi, the National Museums of Kenya, and the Wildlife Research and Training Institute, between February 22 to 26.
- The new Conservancy Manager, alongside regional finance officers, underwent a QuickBooks and payroll training at the NRT East Regional Office in May. In October, the Manager, and the Conservancy Managers of Cherab, Kinna, Garbatulla, and Biliqo Bulesa were trained in finance and accounts management.
- Women from Sericho, alongside their counterparts from Cherab, Kinna, and Garbatulla Community Conservancies underwent training in module 4 of NRT's Leadership and Management Program (LAMP) in September.
- 20 newly recruited conservancy scouts underwent a three-month Basic Conservancy Scout Training at the Kenya Wildlife Service (KWS) Law Enforcement Academy (LEA) in Manyani.



500

Students benefitted from education bursaries amounting to Ksh 2.5 million (USD 21,186)





Cherab Community Conservancy



Isiolo County



905,584 hectares



Population: 7,276



Established
in 2021



Key species: elephants, giraffes, lions, ostriches, zebras, Beisa Oryx, sandgrouses, saddle-billed storks



Staff: 22



► ► Overview

Cherab borders the Biliqo Bulesa Community Conservancy and is predominantly inhabited by the Borana community.

Cherab was established to secure a wildlife corridor between Meru-Bisanadi-Kora Park and Reserves and Marsabit National Park and Reserve through the Lorian Swamp. The Conservancy focuses on managing the Lorian Swamp as it is an important dry season grazing area for livestock and wildlife.

NRT is working in collaboration with the Connected Conservation Foundation (CCF) to harness the power of satellite imagery to capture information on the extensive Lorian Swamp. This technology ensures that vital data on the Swamp is gathered unobtrusively, eliminating the risk of disturbing the surveyed species and habitats. By mapping this water resource and its ecosystem, NRT researchers can develop more informed plans and conservation activities to deal with evolving climate-driven events and changing natural resources.

▶▶ Conservancy NewsBytes

- In 2022, the Conservancy disbursed education bursaries amounting to Ksh 2.5 million (USD 21,186) to 625 students through the Conservancy Livelihood Fund.
- A sandgrouse count conducted in Cherab in 2022 revealed that there were 95,057 sandgrouses in the Conservancy.
- The Conservancy and NRT supported the community by providing fuel for generators, facilitating the pumping of water from bore-holes while the drought persisted in 2022.
- 20 newly recruited Conservancy scouts underwent a basic conservancy scout training at the Kenya Wildlife Service (KWS) Law Enforcement Academy (LEA) in Manyani.
- Cherab's Board members underwent NRT's Leadership and Management Program (LAMP) training gaining knowledge on how to effectively manage their natural resources, conserve wildlife and secure their livelihoods.





Kinna Community Conservancy



Isiolo County



245,492 hectares



Population: 26,600



Established
in 2021



Key species: elephants, lions,
cheetahs, buffaloes, leopards,
lesser kudu, gerenuks



Staff: 22

► ► Overview

Kinna Community Conservancy was established to improve community resilience and livelihoods and restore ecological connectivity between northern and central Kenya by preserving the biodiversity of the territories between Marsabit and Meru National Parks.

The Conservancy is located in Kinna Ward in Isiolo South Constituency and serves as an important wildlife corridor and dispersal area. Due to its proximity to the Meru National Reserve, cases of human-wildlife conflict (HWC) are common in the area. However, the Conservancy is working to reduce such incidents.

Kinna Conservancy is dedicated to improving and securing the health of wildlife, rangelands, and the local population, by creating wealth through eco-friendly activities geared toward wildlife conservation, implementing comprehensive grazing plans, and preserving progressive Borana culture.

► ► Conservancy NewsBytes

- 834 Conservancy students received education bursaries amounting to Ksh 2.5 million (USD 21,186) from Community Livelihood Funds (CLF).
- 20 conservancy scouts were recruited and completed a three-month basic conservancy scout training at the Kenya Wildlife Service Law Enforcement Academy (LEA) in Manyani.



Garbatulla Community Conservancy



Isiolo County



381,512 hectares



Population: 6,798



Established in 2021



Key species: elephants, giraffes



Staff: 22

► ► Overview

Garbatulla Community Conservancy was established in Isiolo South Constituency to prevent interethnic conflict and promote peaceful coexistence between the community and herders from neighboring Garissa County.

The Conservancy strives to protect the region's natural vegetation, and serves as an important elephant corridor connecting Marsabit and Meru National Parks.

Garbatulla experienced an increase in human-wildlife conflict as a result of the prolonged drought caused by five consecutive failed rainy seasons.

The Conservancy is mainly inhabited by the pastoralist Borana community.

► ► Conservancy NewsBytes

- The Conservancy engaged youth and facilitated several initiatives to resolve conflict in collaboration with the Sub-county Peace Team. Among the key issues discussed were the recovery of stolen livestock, reconciliation between warring communities, and long-term peaceful coexistence.
- The Conservancy issued bursaries amounting to Ksh 2.5 million (USD 21,186) to three local secondary schools through the Conservancies Livelihood Fund (CLF). 336 students benefitted from the bursaries.
- The Conservancy ensured that *dedha* (traditional grazing committees) were established to achieve optimal planned grazing.





Jaldesa Community Conservancy



Marsabit County



60,327 hectares



Population: 27,755



Established
in 2012



Key species: African elephants, African lions, oryx, Thomson's gazelles, and greater and lesser kudu



Staff: 15



► ► Overview

Jaldesa Community Conservancy was established to engage the local community in wildlife conservation while preserving its unique lifestyle. It covers four administrative locations: Qilta, Sagante, Dirib, and Jaldesa.

Bordering the Marsabit National Park to the south-west, Jaldesa Conservancy serves as an important wildlife corridor, allowing species to move between the two conservation areas and beyond.

Its indigenous inhabitants are the Borana community, whose primary source of income is agropastoralism.



▶▶ Conservancy NewsBytes

- The Conservancy provided a 5,000-litre PVC water tank to 60 conservancy households. Victims of elephant incursions and vulnerable members of the society were among those identified as beneficiaries.
- Following a three-month course in motorcycle and mobile phone repairs, 41 young men and women graduated from NRT Trading's Ujuzi Manyattani Program. They also received tools and equipment, enabling them to start their own businesses.
- Eight conservancy scouts completed the Basic Conservancy Scout Training at the Kenya Wildlife Service's Law Enforcement Academy (LEA) in Manyani.
- The Conservancy's Grazing Committees completed the first module of rangelands management training.
- NRT Trading's Ufugaji Bora Mashinani Program trained 30 local herders from Jaldesa.
- 27 biogas units were installed in conservancy homesteads as part of the Conservancy's efforts to reduce over-reliance on charcoal, preventing further forest degradation.
- Throughout the year, conservancy scouts conducted wildlife patrol and wildlife monitoring exercises, collecting data on wildlife sightings, wildlife carcasses, and cases of human-wildlife conflict.



Sparking Peace Conversations in a Conflict Hotspot: **Jaldesa Leads the Way**

Marsabit has been rocked by vicious intertribal conflict for decades, which often stems from competition for grazing land and water and political incitement.

The region shares a large porous border with Ethiopia and Somalia, making it a well-known dispersal point for illegal firearms and narcotics trafficked from those countries.

The conflict between Jaldesa's pastoralist communities dates back to the 1990s and has resulted in a series of bloody conflicts that have claimed many lives, particularly in the last two years.

Jaldesa Conservancy began to ramp up its efforts to restore peace by organizing intra-conservancy peacebuilding meetings.

The Conservancy is supporting the modalities of fostering healing and reconciliation among the resident communities in collaboration with other partners, relying on the ceasefire and improved safety brought about by the successful *Rejasha Amani Marsabit* (Restore Peace in Marsabit) Operation.



41

Young men and women graduated from NRT Trading's Ujuzi Manyattani Program following a three-month course in motorcycle and mobile phone repairs.





Shurr Community Conservancy



Marsabit County



1,040,792 hectares



Population: 21,151



Established
in 2013



Key species: African elephants, African wild dogs, gerenuks, reticulated giraffes, lions, leopards, buffalo, greater kudu, Beisa Oryx



Staff: 16



► ► Overview

Shurr Community Conservancy was founded to promote wildlife conservation and the socioeconomic development of the region's pastoralist community through the sustainable use of natural resources and improved livelihoods.

Shurr's Gabbra community, who are predominantly pastoralists, still maintain and practice their traditional lifestyles, particularly when managing communal resources, despite the existing contemporary dynamics.



▶ ▶ Conservancy NewsBytes

- 11 women from the Conservancy participated in NRT's bespoke Leadership and Management (LAMP) training, improving their governance skills, and facilitating the development of effective leaders within NRT member community conservancies.
- 9 members of the Shurr Board Finance Committee were trained in finance and information and communications technology matters, sharpening their knowledge and building their capacity in these fields.
- Six conservancy scouts underwent a three-month Basic Conservancy Scout Training at the Kenya Wildlife Service's Law Enforcement Academy (LEA) in Manyani, Voi.
- Livestock herders from Shurr were trained in various modern techniques that improve livestock productivity and profitability, by NRT Trading's Ufugaji Bora Mashinani Program Team.



Community-led Conflict Resolution: **Building Peace, Brick by Brick**

Shurr Conservancy, like most of Marsabit, has long been plagued by inter-ethnic tensions stemming from grazing land disputes and tribal politics.

Many precious lives have been lost in the process.

The dire situation has been exacerbated by easy access to illegal firearms, which are mostly obtained from trafficking rings that take advantage of Marsabit's porous border with Ethiopia and Somalia.

Ethnic tensions in the region have persisted for decades, with intermittent brutal clashes in recent years.

Shurr Community Conservancy, on the other hand, has consistently led regional peacebuilding efforts. The Conservancy has established a framework for reconciliation and peaceful coexistence, primarily through the facilitation of peace dialogues.





Melako Community Conservancy



Marsabit County



550,270 hectares



Population: 29,006



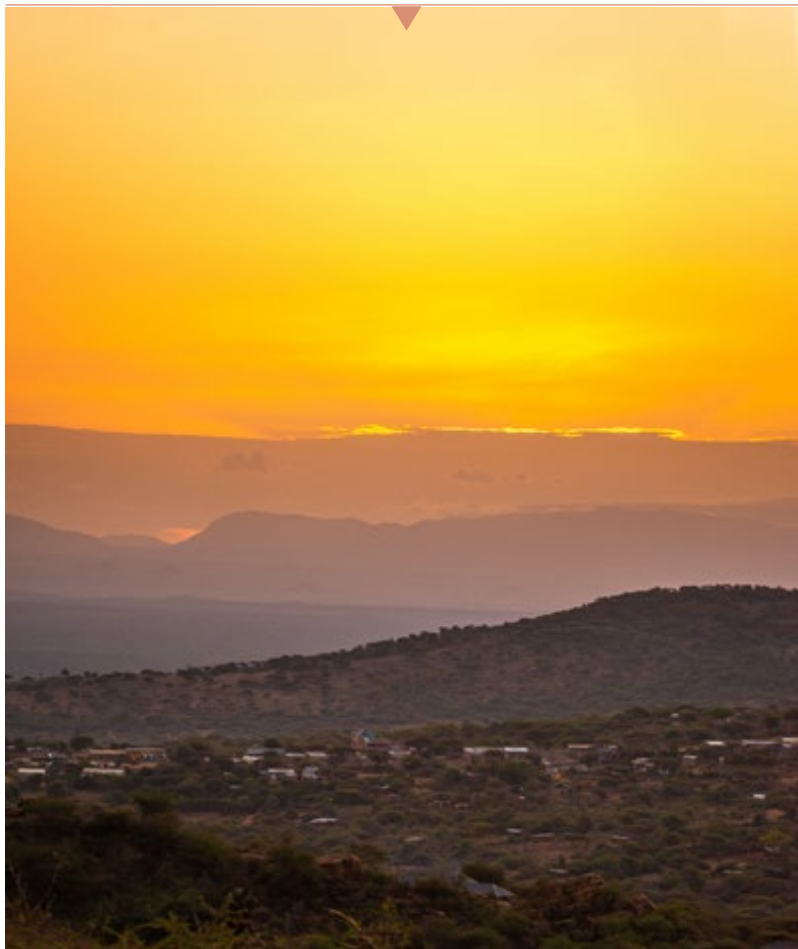
Established
in 2004



Key species: Grevy's zebras, elephants, Beisa Oryx, giraffes, lions, gerenuks



Staff: 38



► ► Overview

Melako Community Conservancy encompasses four administrative areas: Laisamis, Koya, Lontolio, Merille, and Logo Logo. The majority of the people here are Rendile and Samburu who are semi-nomadic pastoralists who herd cattle, sheep, goats, and camels across the semi-arid landscape.

The Conservancy was established to promote peace after years of conflict with neighboring pastoralist communities over pasture and water, cattle raids, ethnic clashes, and road banditry. It was also established to improve the livelihoods of communities, particularly livestock markets, and for land registration purposes.



► ► Conservancy NewsBytes

- NRT Trading's BeadWORKS trained women groups in Melako Conservancy on leather beading techniques.
- The Conservancy established two grass bank sites on communal land in Nairibi and Logo Logo to increase the community's economic opportunities.
- 9 of the Conservancy's scouts underwent a Basic Conservancy Scout Training at the Kenya Wildlife Service (KWS) Law Enforcement Academy (LEA) in Manyani.
- Drought contingency planning was conducted in collaboration with the National Drought and Management Authority (NDMA) in order to respond effectively to drought in the Conservancy.
- In a quick response to the severe drought experienced in 2022, the Conservancy provided diesel fuel for use in the 5 boreholes within its boundaries, ensuring that community members continued to have access to water.
- The Conservancy Management attended a meeting convened by the County Government to involve the public in the development of the County Integrated Development Plan (CIDP). The Conservancy team's priorities included the construction of conservancy scout houses, registration of community land, training of grazing committee members to improve grazing planning, and the management of Prosopis, an invasive species.
- NRT Trading's Livestock Team trained herders in Melako to increase their capacity in livestock production and also distributed livestock feed in the Conservancy.



Melako: A Community Pulling Together in Challenging Times

The Carbon Community Fund (CCF) came in handy for the community in Melako Conservancy as it suffered major livestock loss due to the extended drought in 2022.

The community, which relies on livestock for income, agreed to disburse Ksh 15 million in education bursaries to 1,505 students in the Conservancy's secondary and tertiary institutions who were in desperate need of school fees.

Following an annual general meeting, the community also decided to support the purchase of a solar power system, which was installed at Merille Mixed School. There was no electricity at the 106-student institution.



Ol Donyiro Community Conservancy



Ol Donyiro Community Conservancy is located in Isiolo County and is home to four community conservancies (units): Nannapa, Nanapisho, Naapu, and Narupa. The Conservancy was established in 2016 and consists of public and community land. It is home to the Samburu and Turkana communities, who practice livestock keeping as their main source of livelihood.

Rivers, water pans, springs, sand dams, boreholes, and rock catchment areas are the primary sources of water in Oldonyiro Conser-

vancy. Community members used to travel nearly 10 kilometers to fetch water from the Ewaso Nyiro River. The construction of sand dams on the River has made it easier to access water.

In 2018, due to its extensiveness, the community was split into four community conservancies, Nannapa, Nanapisho, Naapu, and Narupa.



Nannapa Community Conservancy



Isiolo County



25,471 hectares



Population: 6,907



Established in 2018



Key species: elephants, eland, giraffes, gerenuks, lions, cheetahs, African wild dogs, Grevy's zebras, common zebras, buffalo



Staff: 16

► ► Overview

Nannapa Community Conservancy is one of the four units that formed after Oldonyiro Community Conservancy split into four units in 2018.



The Conservancy borders Naibunga Upper Community Conservancy to the south and the Ewaso Nyiro River, which separates it from Meibae Conservancy to the north.

The Conservancy serves as a link between the Laikipia and Samburu ecosystems and experiences high elephant traffic. Due to its proximity to other conservation areas such as Loisaba, Olmalo and Sabuk, it is home to unique wildlife species such as the pancake tortoise and black panther leopard.

Tough terrains, steep slopes, and thickets dominate Nannapa Community Conservancy.

Community members from this Conservancy practice pastoralism as their main source of livelihood.

► ► Conservancy NewsBytes

- The Grazing Committees' annual general meeting was held at Matundai, where the Conservancy elders discussed the effective implementation of grazing plans to improve rangeland health.
- The invasive species, *Acacia reficiens* was cleared in Le-Hassan area.
- Nannapa's Grazing Committees underwent grazing management training facilitated by the Nawiri Program and the Isiolo County Government.
- 2 elephants that were stuck in mud at Nantudu Dam were successfully rescued with the help of the Conservancy's community members and NRT.



Glass Half Full: Improving Access to Clean Water in Nannapa

The Nantudu Dam-Ltinkai Water Pan, located within Nannapa Community Conservancy is a major waterpoint for both livestock and wildlife living in the Conservancy. It serves more than 450 households.

However, due to heavy siltation, Nantudu Dam poses a high risk for most animals, including elephants and camels, who become trapped in the silt as they move deeper into the Dam in search of water.

The increasing silt level significantly affects the water pan's effectiveness in storing water and ultimately reduces the accessible water points.

The Dam was constructed in 2013 after the National Drought Management Authority (NDMA) recognized the need for one.

Following reports of elephants becoming trapped in silt in the Dam, NRT rehabilitated the Dam in 2022 in collaboration with partners, to ensure the safety of wildlife and livestock while also reducing water pollution caused by increasing sediments.

The rehabilitation process involved desilting the water pan, constructing a silt trap to hold off silt before water deposits into the main dam reservoir, gulley heading to protect the Dam from eventual breaching, fencing off the Dam to limit access, and providing waterpoints for domestic, livestock and wildlife use.

In the last two years, nine elephants were rescued after being stuck at Ltinkai Water Pan. Since the Dam's rehabilitation in 2022, no further incidents have been reported.





Nanapisho Community Conservancy



Isiolo County



24,873 hectares



Population: 4,646



Established
in 2018



Key species: elephants, giraffes, gerenuks, cheetahs, African wild dogs



Staff: 14



► ► Overview

Nanapisho Community Conservancy is a pastoralist community comprising the Turkana and Samburu. It borders four other community conservancies: Lekurruki to the south, Nasuulu to the south-east, Westgate to the north-east, and Naapu to the north.

The Conservancy is strategically located and serves as a wildlife migration route connecting to other conservancies. These routes are critical for the survival of wildlife, particularly elephants.

For the longest time, the Samburu and Turkana were adversaries who frequently clashed over livestock and grazing land.

The formation of the Conservancy brought these two tribes together, and they now coexist peacefully as they seek to drive their development.

Nanapisho plays a critical role in climate change mitigation by promoting renewable sources of energy such as solar power and biogas.



▶▶ Conservancy NewsBytes

- 200 Conservancy youth underwent an NRT Trading training that equipped them with skills on running nature-based businesses that promote conservation.
- The Carbon Community Fund provided bursaries to 312 secondary and tertiary level students in Nanapisho Conservancy.
- 600 hectares of land covered with Acacia reficiens in Nanapisho conservancy were cleared by 150 community members who were hired as casuals, benefitting from the six-day activity.
- The Carbon Community Fund facilitated the fencing of Kipsing Secondary School.
- 40 community members attended a village-based Grazing Committee training, in which they learnt about grazing management.



Investing in Infrastructure to Improve Learning

Schools in Nanapisho Community Conservancy have greatly benefited from the support of NRT and its partners who have heavily invested in its infrastructure.

In Kipsing Secondary School, for example, teachers' quarters were constructed and the project was completed.

Kipsing, located in Nanapisho Community Conservancy, is also a beneficiary of NRT and the Conservancy's support. To prevent trespassers from disrupting learning in the school compound, Ksh 1.1 million (USD 9,322) from the Carbon Community Fund (CCF) was allocated to fence the School.





Naapu Community Conservancy



Isiolo County



28,143 hectares



Population: 3,378



Established
in 2018



Key species: gerenuks, elephants, giraffes, lions, cheetahs, African wild dogs, Grevy's zebras, common zebras



Staff: 15



► ► Overview

Naapu Community Conservancy is registered as a community-based organization under the Ministry of Gender, Social Services, and Sports.

The Conservancy serves as an important wildlife corridor and is home to large populations of endangered wildlife species.

Camping investors are drawn to Naapu's beautiful camping sites and curvy hills.

The Conservancy seeks to propel its socio-economic growth using readily available natural resources. It strives to increase the resilience of its communities and empower them to be self-sufficient through training and partnership engagement.



▶▶ Conservancy NewsBytes

- The Carbon Community Fund (CCF) provided bursaries to 284 secondary school, college, and university students in the Conservancy.
- CCF Funds supported the fencing of Lenkuruma Primary School and Mokori Early Childhood Development School.
- The Conservancy conducted quarterly Board and Grazing Committee meetings.
- 120 youth were trained in financial literacy in 2022.
- 7 Finance Committee members and the Conservancy Manager underwent training in financial management and bookkeeping systems.
- 2 data entry conservancy scouts and the Conservancy Manager were trained on the Data CoMMS system.
- 6 conservancy scouts underwent basic conservancy scout training at the Kenya Wildlife Service (KWS) Law Enforcement Academy (LEA) in Manyani.
- 100 casual workers were hired to build semicircular pans in Sipeshan area in the Conservancy.
- 560 morans were engaged in 8 peace meetings conducted across the Conservancy.



The Making of a Safe Haven: Wildlife-proofing Lenkuruma Primary School

Lenkuruma Primary School is situated on a wildlife migration corridor that is a hotspot for human-wildlife conflict.

For the longest time, the school community suffered from attacks by wildlife, which made the school compound unsafe and disrupted learning.

The Conservancy's community members prioritized the school's fencing, using Carbon Community Funds, to ensure that learning took place in a safe environment. Teachers who live within the school compound also felt safer after the school was fenced.



284

bursaries provided to secondary school, college, and university students in the Conservancy



120

youth trained in financial literacy





Narupa Community Conservancy



Isiolo County



37,031 hectares



Population: 5,206



Established
in 2018



Key species: elephants, eland,
gerenuks, cheetahs, African
wild dogs, Grevy's zebras



Staff: 14



► ► Overview

The Narupa Community Conservancy landscape connects the Laikipia and Samburu ecosystems.

It occupies the largest portion of the elephant corridor within the four OI Donyiro units.

Home to the Samburu and Turkana, the Conservancy was established to curb poaching and protect wildlife.

As one of its land uses it was formed to pave way for development to improve the livelihoods of the community members in the area.

The Conservancy strives to foster peaceful coexistence between people and wildlife.



▶▶ Conservancy NewsBytes

- 235 students benefited from the disbursement of bursaries amounting to Ksh 2,000,000 (USD 16,949) provided through the Carbon Community Fund.
- 3,000 kilograms of grass seeds were used to reseed rehabilitated sites in the Conservancy.
- Clearing of the invasive species, *Acacia reficiens*, took place and was facilitated by the Carbon Community Fund.



Rangelands Invaders: Winning the Fight Against *Acacia reficiens*

Narupa's dry season grazing pasture reserves have been invaded by *Acacia reficiens*, a species that has been a major threat to the Conservancy's community.

The species spreads quickly, particularly in overgrazed or eroded areas.

NRT's Rangelands Program supplied Narupa Conservancy with grass seeds for reseeding the degraded areas, ensuring adequate forage and high-quality pasture were available for community members' livestock.

To further facilitate the restoration of the land and the clearing of *Acacia reficiens*, the Carbon Community Fund disbursed Ksh 1,680,000 (USD 14,237) to the Conservancy.



3,000

bursaries kilograms of grass seeds were used to reseed rehabilitated sites in the Conservancy



KENYA



CENTER

REGION







Nkoteiya Community Conservancy



Samburu County



15,715 hectares



Population: 7,407



Established
in 2005



Key species: elephants,
greater kudu, African
wild dogs



Staff: 23



► ► Overview

Nkoteiya Community Conservancy is located at the Kirimon Group Ranch. The Conservancy borders Nannapa Community Conservancy in Isiolo to the east and Meibae Community Conservancy in Samburu County.

Nkoteiya Community Conservancy serves as a vital wildlife corridor, allowing elephants to cross from the Laikipia Plains to the Kirisia Forest and the Matthews Range.

The Conservancy is rich in biodiversity and cultural and natural resources. Elephants roam freely in huge, majestic herds in this area due to the lack of human interference.

The Nkoteiya community established the Conservancy to protect their wildlife while profiting from tourism.

Pastoralism, subsistence farming, and beekeeping are the community's main sources of income.



▶ ▶ Conservancy NewsBytes

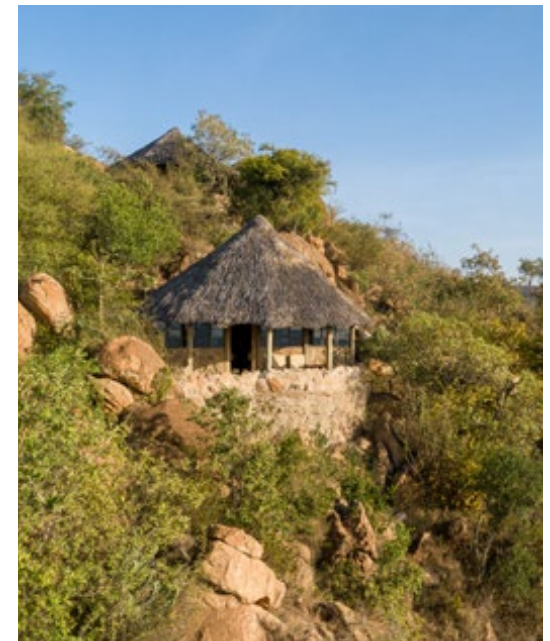
- 80 members of the community were trained in beekeeping and honey harvesting. Each member was also given a modern Turkish beehive to aid in their work.
- 30 biogas units were successfully installed in Conservancy homesteads.
- The second phase of NRT Trading's microfinance loan scheme benefitted 25 women.
- Nkoteiya enrolled nine conservancy scouts in the Basic Conservancy Scout Training and two wardens in the two-month Junior Leadership Training course at the Kenya Wildlife Service (KWS) Law Enforcement Academy (LEA) in Manyani.
- A three-day Rangelands Management course was attended by 70 members of the Kirisia Nkoteiya Zonal Grazing Committee to improve their rangelands management ability.
- The Conservancy Grazing Committee met to plan grazing for the wet and dry seasons.

▶ ▶ Are You Up for An Adventure?

Visit Nkoteiya Community Conservancy! Stunning landscapes and panoramic views make the Conservancy a tourist attraction, increasing revenue for the community's 12-bed community lodge.

The lodge, which has four bandas and two tents, was built in 2021 and employs five permanent employees and up to ten casual workers on occasion. It offers tourists unique experiences such as bird watching and cultural market visits, as well as breathtaking views of curvy hills.

The lodge's income directly benefits the community, with 40% supporting the Conservancy's operational costs and the remaining 60% funding livelihood projects such as healthcare, education, water supply for the community, livestock and wildlife, and rangeland improvement.





Meibae Community Conservancy



Samburu County



101,385 hectares



Population: 9,920



Established
in 2006



Key species: cheetahs, elephants, African wild dogs, Grevy's zebras, giraffes



Staff: 42



► ► Overview

Meibae Community Conservancy is surrounded by Namunyak Conservancy to the east and Westgate to the southeast. Kirisia Forest borders it to the northwest.

The Conservancy includes the ranches of Sesia, Lpus, Ltirimin, Resim, and Ngaroni. The primary source of income for the community is livestock keeping.

Meibae is part of an elephant circuit connecting Mount Kenya, Kirisia Forest, Matthews Range Forest, and Sera Community Conservancy. Elephant herds pass through Meibae, along the Ewaso Nyiro River, and through Westgate Community Conservancy on their way to the Samburu and Buffalo Springs National Reserves.

Meibae Community Conservancy is crucial for wildlife conservation as it serves as a major corridor connecting various conservation areas.



▶ ▶ Conservancy NewsBytes

- 30 members of the Meibae Community Conservancy (The Board, administration officials, village administrators, and women) participated in NRT's Leadership and Management Program (LAMP) training, which aims to improve governance and develop effective leaders within NRT member community conservancies.
- 560 students received education bursaries amounting to Ksh 4 million from the Carbon Community Fund (CCF).
- Village-based committees in Lkalkaloi, Mabati, and Nalepoboo Zones continued voluntary land rehabilitation in 2022.
- 800 dogs and 146 cats were vaccinated against rabies to prevent disease transmission to cheetahs.



▶ ▶ Saving the Bold and the Beautiful: A Community Protecting Cheetahs and Zebras

Meibae Conservancy, in collaboration with Action for Cheetahs in Kenya and Grevy's Zebra Trust (GZT), is leading the conservation of cheetah and Grevy's zebra, which are listed as 'Vulnerable' and 'Endangered' respectively on the IUCN Red List of Threatened Species.

Conservancy scouts usually monitor wildlife migration patterns and vaccinate cats and dogs to prevent disease transmission to big cats. The scouts also avert human-wildlife conflict by mapping wildlife routes with advanced technology and sensitizing the community.

Land degradation is becoming a serious threat in Meibae, prompting the Conservancy to implement measures to rehabilitate and manage their rangelands. These include invasive species removal, perennial grass reseeding, and planned grazing to increase grass cover for livestock and wildlife.



560

bursaries provided amounting to Ksh 4 million (USD 33,898) from the Carbon Community Fund (CCF)





Westgate Community Conservancy



Samburu County



36,294 hectares



Population: 7,183



Established
in 2004



Key species: Grevy's zebras, elephants, eland, Beisa Oryx, reticulated giraffes, gerenuks, lions, cheetahs, wild dogs



Staff: 49



► ► Overview

Westgate Conservancy was founded by a community of predominantly Samburu semi-nomadic pastoralists to protect the wildlife on their land so that the community could reap the benefits of tourism while maintaining their pastoralist way of life.

The community converted their land, Ngutuk-Ongiron Group Ranch, which is located along the Ewaso Nyiro River to the west of Samburu National Reserve, into an 890-hectare core conservation area and a 1,200-hectare buffer zone to improve their rangelands and conserve wildlife.

The Conservancy takes pride in its effective rangeland management, which has led to an increase in wildlife sightings and grass cover for community members' livestock.



▶▶ Conservancy NewsBytes

- The Conservancy issued education bursaries to 516 students using tourism and Carbon Project revenue.
- 17 Westgate Community Conservancy scouts completed NRT's bespoke Leadership and Management Program (LAMP) training.
- In 2022, Carbon Community Fund (CCF) funds facilitated the renovation of an early childhood education (ECDE) classroom at Narapai Primary School in Nasunyai.
- The Conservancy used CCF funds to equip Nasunyai Dispensary in Westgate.
- NRT Trading's Livestock Team trained herders in Westgate to increase their capacity in livestock production and also distributed livestock feed in the Conservancy.

▶▶ Westgate: The Community Setting the Pace in Rangelands Management

The Westgate Conservancy community is fully committed to managing the grazing and conservation areas as rainfall patterns become more variable and unpredictable.

Westgate has implemented an advanced grazing management program to rehabilitate degraded areas and ensure effective land utilization by both livestock and wildlife. This has resulted in higher-quality pasture for livestock.

Each Westgate settlement has established wet and dry season grazing blocks where livestock graze at different times of the year. Westgate has prioritized grazing management and has seen a good recovery of perennial grasses and reduced bare soil in some areas.

As a result of these efforts, Westgate now has healthier rangelands and serves as a sanctuary for wildlife and livestock.

A microcredit program has also been introduced in the Conservancy, facilitating the diversification of the community's income streams.

Women's groups in Westgate have also been empowered through training in basic accounting, leadership, craftmaking, and product development, increasing their income-earning capability.





Sera Community Conservancy



Samburu County



339,540 hectares



Population: 5,356



Established
in 2001



Key species: black rhinos, elephants, eland, oryx, giraffes, gerenuks, lions, cheetahs, wild dogs, Grevy's zebra, buffalo



Staff: 114



► ► Overview

Sera Wildlife Conservancy predominantly consists of the Samburu, Rendille, and Turkana who are semi-nomadic pastoralists.

Sera had a history of conflict over livestock and natural resources and was a hotspot for elephant poaching before the Conservancy's establishment.

Since the formation of the Conservancy, Sera has become safer, allowing wildlife to return to the area in large numbers. The Conservancy now actively advocates for peace and peaceful conflict resolution to protect wildlife and the community.

The Conservancy was founded primarily to resolve conflict, cultivate peace among warring ethnic groups, and improve community members' livelihoods through conservation.



▶ ▶ Conservancy NewsBytes

- Sera Conservancy scouts attended a three-month Basic Conservancy Scout Training at the Kenya Wildlife Service (KWS) Law Enforcement Academy (LEA) in Manyani to improve their capacity in wildlife monitoring and protection, and general scout discipline.
- Samburu elders held a purification and blessing ceremony in Sera Rhino Sanctuary to mark a new beginning and community ownership of the Sera Black Rhino Recovery Project.
- Sera Conservancy held five peacebuilding meetings in the Conservancy's grazing zones to discuss contentious issues and maintain peaceful relations between Samburu herders and the Borana community.
- NRT Trading's Livestock Team trained herders in Sera to increase their capacity in livestock production and also distributed livestock feed in the Conservancy.



▶ ▶ Taking Charge: How a Community-run Sanctuary is Creating a Bright Future for Black Rhinos

Once a poaching hotspot, Sera Community Conservancy has etched its name in history as the first community conservancy in Africa to run a rhino sanctuary.

The Conservancy is dedicated to protecting the critically endangered black rhino.

In the 1980s, Sera had a large population of black rhinos, but prolonged conflict and hunting decimated the population, and the last one in the area is believed to have been killed in the early 1990s.

Cattle theft and conflict between rival ethnic groups in Sera created an ideal environment for poaching to thrive, with poachers taking full advantage of the chaos to harvest rhino horns.

In 2015 the community came together and established Sera Rhino Sanctuary with a founding population of ten rhinos.

Sera is now home to 21 endangered black rhinos, thanks to a concerted conservation effort by the indigenous communities, dedicated conservancy scouts, the Kenya Wildlife Service (KWS), and support from partners.

Since the Sanctuary's establishment, Sera's black rhino population has created employment opportunities for the community and generated revenue to address community needs such as education bursaries and water provision.

Sera Rhino Sanctuary's black rhinos have a bright future, and Sera Community Conservancy is pioneering the community-driven conservation of species on the verge of extinction in East Africa and possibly all of Africa.





Kalama Community Conservancy



Samburu County



49,588 hectares



Population: 9,014



Established
in 2009



Key species: elephants, giraffes, Beisa Oryx, lions, Grevy's zebras, wild dogs, gerenuks, lesser and greater kudu, leopards, cheetahs



Staff: 58



▶ ▶ Overview

Kalama Community Wildlife Conservancy was formed out of the Gir Gir Group Ranch and is home to semi-nomadic Samburu and Turkana pastoralists.

The Conservancy is a vital wildlife corridor for large herds of elephants and other animals migrating between the Samburu and Marsabit areas. It was established to generate income from conservation tourism.

Kalama encompasses nine settlement areas and borders two conservation areas of the game-rich Samburu National Reserve to the south.

The Conservancy neighbours Westgate Community Conservancy to the east and plays an important role in wildlife and environmental conservation, preserving the ecological integrity of the land and contributing to livelihood improvement.

Kalama Community Conservancy generates revenue from tourism by operating several campsites and a lodge.



► ► Conservancy NewsBytes

- Kalama Conservancy communities received their title deeds through a process facilitated by NRT and the Food and Agricultural Organization (FAO).
- Conservancy scouts collaborated with the Grevys Zebra Trust (GZT) in 2022 to distribute 250 bales of hay as part of a supplementary feeding program for a buffalo herd camping in the area.
- Kalama facilitated the construction of Girgir Business Complex, a three-story building project aimed at increasing the Conservancy's income streams and ensuring its financial sustainability. The Conservancy completed the first phase of the project, which included first floor concrete casting and first floor walling.
- NRT Trading's Livestock Team trained herders in Kalama to increase their capacity in livestock production and also distributed livestock feed in the Conservancy .
- Facilitated by the Carbon Community Fund, Kalama launched the construction of a second conservancy scouts' outpost. The construction of the outposts was critical, as it improved the safety of community members in the area.
- Kalama Conservancy distributed 32 tonnes of food to community members in its 15 settlement zones, each receiving nearly 2.1 tonnes.

► ► The Kalama Resource Centre: A Conservation Beacon

Kalama Community Wildlife Conservancy has made significant investments to improve its sustainability. A prime example is the Kalama Resource Centre (KRC) Project. This is a proposed greenfield training and conferencing facility that is planned to be developed by Kalama in collaboration with NRT.

Designed to meet the region's conferencing needs, the facility will create job opportunities and generate revenue, providing the Conservancy with a direct additional income stream while also having a positive conservation impact.

In 2022, the Conservancy hosted a groundbreaking ceremony for the KRC, which showcased how conservation aligns with sustainable economic development.





Ngilai Community Conservancy



Samburu County



124,789 hectares



Population: 10,247



Established
in 2007



Key species: elephants, African wild dogs, gerenuks, reticulated giraffes, lions, leopards, greater kudu, impalas, a variety of bird species



Staff: 14



► ► Overview

When the Namunyak Wildlife Conservation Trust expanded north to include the two group ranches: Ngilai Central and Ngilai West, Ngilai Community Conservancy was formed.

In 2012, a consultative meeting granted Ngilai autonomy, allowing it to operate independently as a Namunyak unit with a board and staff. Ngilai was established to conserve wildlife and enhance safety for people, wildlife and livestock.

The Conservancy is home to some of the continent's largest elephant populations. Community-led conservation efforts in Ngilai have resulted in the restoration of African elephant populations that had previously been nearly depleted due to rampant poaching.

Ngilai Conservancy also serves as an important migration corridor for elephants, allowing them to move seasonally from the Matthews Range to Mount Kenya and the Ngare Ndare Forests.



▶▶ Conservancy NewsBytes

- The Conservancy received title deeds for the Ngilai Central and West community lands through a process that was facilitated by NRT and the Food and Agricultural Organization (FAO).
- During the bi-annual Council of Elders (CoE) Forum in March 2022, the Namunyak umbrella, which includes Ngilai, Nalowuon, and Kalepo Conservancies, was suspended from NRT. The suspension was brought about by several issues, including poor governance, a lack of financial accountability and transparency in sharing community benefits, and a lack of stakeholder engagement.
- Following an appeal from the Ngilai Central community to rejoin NRT in a letter to NRT's CoE, the Council's Governance and Oversight Committee met with the Conservancy's leadership to discuss the need for the Conservancy's registration as an independent entity (a not-for-profit organization). They were later permitted to rejoin NRT.
- In 2022, the National Museums of Kenya, Institute of Primate Research, Ngilai Conservancy, Kalepo Conservancy, and NRT signed a five-year memorandum of understanding to foster international, national, and local collaboration, and promote research, conservation, and training while supporting the development of sustainable community livelihoods in Ngilai and Kalepo Community Conservancies.
- 51 board members and local leaders from Ngilai and Kalepo Community Conservancies underwent training on the first module of the Leadership and Management Program (LAMP), which seeks to improve conservancy governance and communities' capacity to manage natural resources.



51

board members and local leaders from Ngilai Community Conservancies underwent training on the first module of the Leadership and Management Program (LAMP)





Ltungai Community Conservancy



Samburu County



40,086 hectares



Population: 19,132



Established
in 2004



Key species: ostriches,
elephants, Grevy's zebras,
and common zebras



Staff: 26



► ► Overview

The Lolmolok, Longewan, and Amayia Group Ranches merged to form the Ltungai Community Conservancy. The Conservancy borders Laikipia County to the south and Baringo County to the south-west.

The Samburu, Ndorobo, and Pokot communities are its indigenous inhabitants, and agro-pastoralism is their main source of livelihood.

The Conservancy was created to address the long-standing inter-ethnic conflict between the Pokot and Samburu communities, as well as for economic reasons.

Ltungai Community Conservancy is a model for peacebuilding and a learning center for fodder production. The Conservancy has forged a strong partnership with the Samburu County Government and nearby private ranches.



▶ ▶ Conservancy NewsBytes

- 30 herders from Ltungai underwent NRT Trading's training in livestock production.
- The Conservancy held an inter-community peacebuilding session to address insecurity in conflict hotspots.
- A team from the Samburu County Conservancy Fund visited the Conservancy to monitor and evaluate projects supported by the County Government.
- Ltungai held an annual general meeting to discuss the Conservancy's progress, accomplishments, challenges, and 2022 plans.
- The Conservancy's entrepreneurs were among the 50 Star entrepreneurs who attended a four-day business training organized by NRT Trading as part of the Biashara Mashinani Program. The training was designed to equip them with entrepreneurship skills and knowledge about business improvement and expansion.
- NRT Trading's Livestock Team held a livestock feeding demonstration and distributed livestock feed in the Conservancy. The Team then monitored and evaluated the results of these two exercises.

▶ ▶ Ltungai's Journey to Peace

Ltungai Community Conservancy's history is marred by rampant poaching and ethnic conflict fueled by cattle rustling. The violence would affect both communities and wildlife.

Since its formation, the Conservancy has made a concerted effort to foster peace in its communities. While they have not yet achieved perfect peace, supporting peaceful conflict resolution mechanisms remains the communities' top priority.

Scouts from Ltungai Conservancy collaborate with agencies enhancing safety and scouts from county government-affiliated conservancies to protect the Conservancy's communities and wildlife.





Kalepo Community Conservancy



Samburu County



181,696 hectares



Population: 7,585



Established
in 2009



Key species: African
elephants, De Brazza's
monkeys



Staff: 26



► ► Overview

An exceptionally large number of elephant herds trek through Kalepo Community Conservancy as they migrate seasonally from the Matthews Range Forest to the Mount Kenya and Ngare Ndare Forests.

As a result, the Conservancy was founded to promote the community-led conservation of African elephants and other unique species of wildlife.

Kalepo Community Conservancy was a unit of Namunyak Wildlife Conservation until 2022 when it officially separated from the Namunyak umbrella and begun operating as an autonomous and fully-fledged community conservancy with its own board.



▶ ▶ Conservancy **NewsBytes**

- The Kalepo Conservancy Board underwent Leadership and Management Program (LAMP) training, increasing their capacity in governance, decision-making, and finance management.
- The Conservancy Warden attended junior leadership training at the Kenya Wildlife Service (KWS) Law Enforcement Academy (LEA) in Manyani.

▶ ▶ **Getting up to Monkey Business!**

Kalepo is home to the beautiful De Brazza's monkey, an old-world monkey species that is endemic to the marshy and riverine forests of central and eastern Africa.

The Conservancy, in collaboration with the National Museums of Kenya and the Institute of Primate Research, has led conservation and protection efforts for this unique species.

For years, Kalepo has experienced human-wildlife conflict in settlement areas due to large populations of elephants competing for water with the community.

To address this issue, separate water points for communities, wildlife, conservancy scouts, and tourism facilities were developed, significantly reducing human-wildlife conflict.



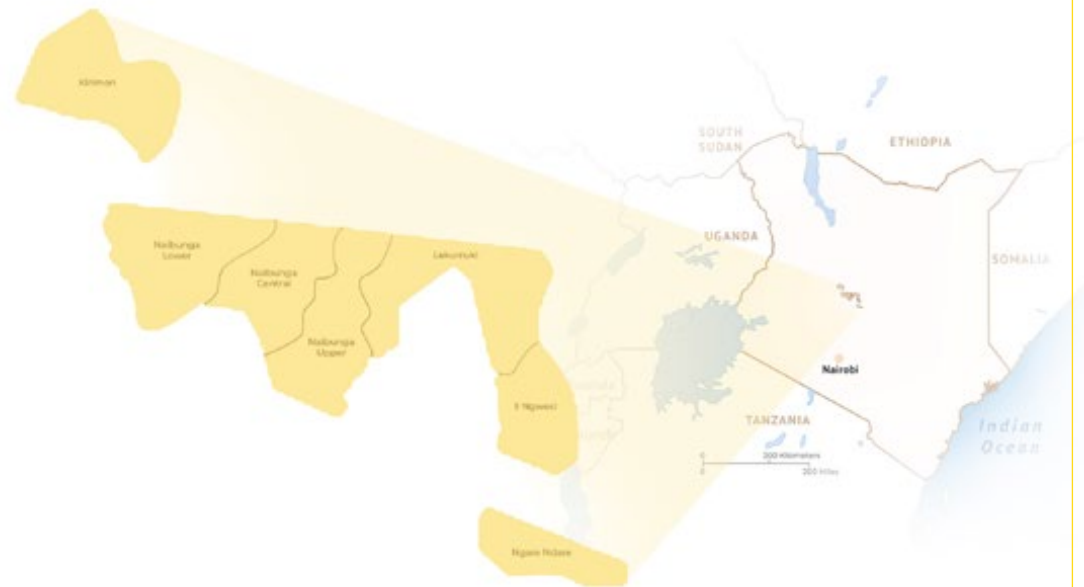
KENYA



MOUNTAIN

REGION





IL NGWESI
 COMMUNITY CONSERVANCY


Il Ngwesi Community Conservancy



Laikipia County



8,675 hectares



Population: 6,128



Established
in 1995



Key species: elephants, leopards, lions, eland, giraffes, gerenuks, cheetahs, kudu, Grevy's zebras, buffalo, white rhinos



Staff: 27



► ► Overview

Il Ngwesi Community Conservancy, which borders Lewa, Borana, and Lekurruki, is home to the Laikipia Maasai. The local community and the Borana Conservancy collaborated to form Il Ngwesi.

The communities set aside 80% of their land for wildlife conservation, establishing protected areas where animals could roam freely without fear of poachers.

The Conservancy owns the award-winning Il Ngwesi Eco Lodge, which attracts both domestic and international tourists.

Il Ngwesi was the first Maasai Group Ranch in Laikipia to join Lewa on a conservation and community development journey in the mid-1990s, with a vision that stretched far beyond its borders.



▶ ▶ Conservancy NewsBytes

- The Conservancy awarded 653 secondary school, college, and university students bursaries amounting to Ksh 9.1 million (USD 77,118) from the Carbon Community Fund.
- CCF facilitated the purchase of 30 acres of land in Narok County for Ksh 6.7 million (USD 56,779).
- The community in Sangaa worked together to control and eradicate the invasive species *Opuntia Stricta*.
- Rehabilitation of Nandungoro Borehole and Sangaa and Lokusero reservoir tanks was done to improve water supply to the community.



Conservation Based Tourism

Il Ngwesi features beautiful landscapes and is among six other NRT member community conservancies benefiting from conservancy-based tourism as a result of wildlife and habitat conservation.

From the local materials used to build Il Ngwesi Eco Lodge to the traditions guests learn when visiting the Conservancy's villages, the Conservancy pioneered a sustainability project that solely reflects Maasai culture.

Revenue generated by the Conservancy supports the communities' education, health, and livelihood needs.





Naibunga Central Community Conservancy



Laikipia County



14,316 hectares



Population: 7,700



Established
in 2004



Key species: elephants, eland, oryx, giraffes, genenuks, lions, cheetahs, wild dogs, Grevy's zebras, common zebras, buffalo



Staff: 30

Naibunga Conservancy borders Isiolo County to the north and covers 466 square kilometers of Laikipia North Sub-county. It comprises nine group ranches that registered as a community conservancy in 2003 and joined NRT in 2007.

Inhabited by the Laikipia Maasai, agro-pastoralism remains the community's main source of livelihood. Some community members also practise sand harvesting or run micro-businesses. The Laikipia Maasai have historically coexisted with wildlife.

Due to its extensive acreage, in 2018, the community decided to divide the Conservancy into three units: Naibunga Upper, Naibunga Central, and Naibunga Lower, with the sole goal of conserving wildlife, promoting peace and stability, and developing livelihoods for the benefit of community members.



► ► Overview

The Naibunga Central Community Conservancy covers three community lands: Musul, Kijabe, and Nkiloriti.

It is bordered to the south by Impala Research Centre and the north by Narupa Conservancy in Oldonyiro, Isiolo, which is close to Loisaba Conservancy.



▶▶ Conservancy NewsBytes

- A peace committee was formed between the Laikipia and Isiolo boundaries to lead conflict resolution processes.
- The Conservancy provided education bursaries worth Ksh 2 million (USD 16,949) to 200 secondary and tertiary students.
- The Carbon Community Fund (CCF) supported the development of the Nkirote rock water catchment area in the Conservancy, increasing water supply to the community.



200

The number of secondary and tertiary level students in Naibunga Central who benefitted from the Conservancy's education bursaries



There's an Elephant in the Room: When a Herd Crosses the Line

Naibunga Central Community Conservancy serves as a major wildlife corridor due to its proximity to conservation areas, resulting in a significant number of human-wildlife conflict incidents due to human life, injuries, and livelihoods lost as a result of elephants and other wildlife species including the hyena, leopard and lion.

Understandably, this has been a major source of concern in Naibunga, prompting the community to request for assistance on numerous occasions.

Many elephants travel through Naibunga from Samburu and Isiolo to Laikipia and back.

This movement pattern is especially concentrated in the Koiya area, with elephants moving into Loisaba and Mpa-la or following the Ewaso Nyiro. Between 2009 and 2019, elephants killed nine people and injured four others.

To avert further loss of human life and incidents of human-elephant conflict, NRT commissioned a feasibility study on long-term fencing solutions for Naibunga.

In 2022, a fence was built in Naibunga Central to keep elephants out of settlement areas while still allowing the free movement of people and livestock.





Naibunga Upper Community Conservancy



Laikipia County



16,856 hectares



Population: 7,590



Established
in 2004



Key species: elephants,
Grevy's zebras, plains ze-
bras, buffalo



Staff: 19



► ► Overview

Naibunga Upper Community Conservancy encompasses three community lands: Il Polei, Murpusi, and Munishoi.

It is surrounded to the west by Oljogi Conservancy and the north by Nanapisho and Naapu Community Conservancies in Isiolo County.

The Mugogodo Forest lies to Naibunga Upper's east.



▶▶ Conservancy NewsBytes

- To aid in the biological control of invasive species, in 2022, 120 casuals were engaged to grow the co-chineal bug and spread the bug across 24 acres.
- The Carbon Community Fund (CCF) provided bursaries to 500 students from the Conservancy. This was a lifeline for parents as most were unable to pay their children's school fees due to the drought.



Reviving the Earth, Healing the Land: Naibunga's Journey to a Brighter Future

Over the years, extreme weather, soil erosion, and poor land use have all contributed to the deterioration of the Conservancy's rangelands.

The Conservancy is now leading in land restoration activities ranging from controlling the spread of the invasive *Opuntia stricta* to healing deep gullies (filling in gullies to prevent further spread) and reseeded perennial grasses within its grazing and settlement areas.

This is in an effort to restore vegetation and grass cover to its landscape for the benefit of livestock, wildlife, and communities.



500

students from Naibunga Upper benefitted from bursaries provided by the Carbon Community Fund.





Naibunga Lower Community Conservancy



Laikipia County



16,559 hectares



Population: 7,860



Established
in 2004



Key species: elephants, eland, oryx, giraffes, reneuks, lions, cheetahs, wild dogs, Grevy's zebras, common zebras, buffalo



Staff: 18



► ► Overview

Naibunga Lower Community Conservancy encompasses three community lands: Ilmotiok, Koija, and Tiamamut.

It borders Loisaba Conservancy and Nannapa Conservancy in Isiolo and is inhabited by the Laikipia Maasai and the Samburu community from the neighboring Isiolo County.



▶▶ Conservancy NewsBytes

- Naibunga Lower hosts the Olgaboli Bandas and Koija Starbeds, both leading examples in community-owned tourism facilities.
- In 2022, the Conservancy received Ksh 6.9 million (USD 58,474) from the Carbon Community Fund (CCF). Ksh 3 million (USD 25,423) of this amount was channelled towards education bursaries, benefiting 200 students.
- The CCF also provided Ksh 4.45 million (USD 37,711) for constructing a new lodge in Tiamamut and renovating a banda in Koija Starbeds.
- NRT Trading's Livestock Team trained herders in Naibunga Lower to increase their capacity in livestock production and also distributed livestock feed in the Conservancy.



Planning the Trip of a Lifetime?

Add Naibunga Lower Community Conservancy to your list of amazing places to visit!

The Conservancy is well known for its outstanding tourism facilities. It owns and operates the Olgaboli bandas and Koija Starbeds.

These community-run lodges were founded by sub-groups of women through women empowerment initiatives before a change of ownership in 2019. The facilities generate revenue for the community and create employment opportunities for community members.

Naibunga Conservancy provides a variety of tourist activities, including singing morans, camel riding, rock climbing, game drives, and an annual bike riding event.





Lekurruki Community Conservancy



Laikipia County



16,856 hectares



Population: 4,935



Established
in 1999



Key species: elephants, eland, giraffes, lions, genueks, African wild dogs, Grevy's zebras, plains zebras, buffalo



Staff: 39



► ► Overview

For decades, the Lekurruki relied on hunting and honey gathering within the wider Mukogodo Forest. Later the community acquired livestock.

As overgrazing deteriorated the rangelands, the community realized the need to safeguard their livelihoods and secure their future by managing available pasture.

Lekurruki is an important corridor for wildlife traveling through the Laikipia-Samburu-Isiolo ecosystem. To alleviate poverty in the community, the members agreed to establish a community conservancy as a wildlife conservation venture as well as a source of income.



▶▶ Conservancy NewsBytes

- The Carbon Community Fund (CCF) facilitated the re-surfacing of roads and the construction of an airstrip at Lekurruki, which resulted in an increase in the number of tourists visiting the Conservancy shortly after the project's completion.
- As a result of the airstrip's good and usable condition, 8 planes touched down on the airstrip in Tassia the first week after it was completed.
- In 2022, 44 students in tertiary institutions received bursaries from CCF funds. In the coming years, the community anticipates increased enrollment in secondary schools and tertiary institutions.
- Lekurruki's Board members underwent training in tourism enterprise.



44

students in tertiary institutions received bursaries from the Carbon Community Fund



Investing in the Future, the Lekurruki Way

The Lekurruki community has reaped massive benefits from wildlife and habitat conservation over the years. The Conservancy owns and operates the prestigious Tassia Lodge, which hosts international and local tourists.

The lodge generates significant revenue for the Conservancy, which is used to fund operations and community projects such as education (school bursaries), water, and infrastructure. The facility also provides employment opportunities for members of the community.

Tourism-related activities encourage communities that have coexisted peacefully with wildlife for centuries to increase efforts to conserve their dwindling natural resources.

To ensure the Conservancy's sustainability, in 2022, the community invested Ksh 5.5 million (USD 46,610) from the Carbon Community Fund in renovating tourism facilities. Since the completion of the renovations, Lekurruki has generated Ksh 3 million (USD 25,423) in revenue, as the number of tourists visiting the facilities has risen.





Kirimon Community Development Initiative



Laikipia County



Established
in 2016



16,312 hectares



Key species: African elephants, African wild dogs, leopards, cheetahs, elephants, giraffes, greater kudu, eland, aardvarks



Population: 8,969



Staff: 18



► ► Overview

Kirimon serves as a major wildlife corridor for elephants moving from Laikipia (Loisaba Conservancy and Naibunga Conservancies) to Samburu via Kirisia Forest in Samburu.

The initiative, which is entirely managed by the community, was established to ensure that its inhabitants thrive and benefit from development through their natural resources.

The institution plays a vital role in wildlife monitoring and protection along the Loisaba Conservancy-Kirimon-Nkoteiya-Kirisia wildlife corridor.



▶▶ Conservancy NewsBytes

- 10 Kirimon scouts underwent a Basic Conservancy Scout Training at the Kenya Wildlife Service Law Enforcement Academy (LEA) in Manyani.
- Kirimon convened 5 peace meetings within and outside its coverage area to promote peaceful coexistence among communities.
- 2 conservancy scouts underwent Wildlife-CoMMS training to improve wildlife monitoring.



10

Kirimon scouts underwent a Basic Conservancy Scout Training at the Kenya Wildlife Service Law Enforcement Academy (LEA) in Manyani





NGARE NDARE FOREST TRUST

Ngare Ndare Community Conservancy



Meru County



5,511 hectares



Population: 14,687



Established
in 2000



Key species: lions, buffalo, elephants, rhinos, leopards, eland, bushbucks, waterbucks, bushpigs



Staff: 34



► ► Overview

Ngare Ndare Forest Trust is an NRT member community conservancy in Meru County that borders Lewa Wildlife Conservancy.

The Conservancy preserves and manages Ngare Ndare Forest, a hidden gem on the northern slopes of Mount Kenya. Ngare Ndare exists to ensure the long-term conservation of the Ngare Ndare Forest and the development of the communities that surround it.

The Forest is an important water tower that supplies water to local communities and Kenya's northern regions while feeding the Ewaso Nyiro, Kenya's third-longest river.

Ngare Ndare Forest links Lewa Wildlife Conservancy and northern Kenya to Mount Kenya Forest Reserve and serves as a vital wildlife migration corridor, particularly for elephants.



► ► Conservancy NewsBytes

- 3,100 assorted indigenous tree seedlings were planted in November (500 in Mithatene Springs and 2,600 in the Forest) at the onset of the short rains.
- 30 new biogas units were installed in households neighboring the Forest, with NRT's support, to reduce community members' reliance on the Forest for fuelwood.
- 10 biogas units of early beneficiaries of the Clean Energy Project were repaired on a cost-sharing basis.
- The Conservancy awarded full scholarships to 24 secondary school students and 5 university students from six villages neighbouring the Forest.
- In partnership with the Kenya Forestry Research Institute (KEFRI), 40,000 polythene tubes were distributed to 15 community tree nurseries in the villages to raise fast-growing seedlings for on-farm planting under the 1-for-1 Program.
- Ngare Ndare Conservancy disbursed part of the revenue generated from ecotourism to 6 community-based organizations, facilitating the implementation of micro-projects, such as the Kiamichora Water Project, in the surrounding villages.
- 6 community waterpoints at the edge of the Forest that provide water to wildlife and livestock were repaired and maintained.
- 5 conservancy scouts underwent basic conservancy scout training at the Kenya Wildlife Service (KWS) Law Enforcement Academy (LEA) in Manyani.



Ngare Ndare: An Indigenous Community Focused on Growing Trees

Ngare Ndare Forest is the only forest in Kenya with an expanding canopy cover.

To reduce reliance on Ngare Ndare Forest for timber and fuel, Ngare Ndare Conservancy has consistently funded tree-planting programs and provided farmers with seedlings at subsidized prices. For every seedling the farmers purchase, they receive another free of charge.

The seedlings are nurtured in 12 community tree nurseries, which produce over 100,000 seedlings annually. The Conservancy also owns an indigenous nursery where over 100,000 indigenous seedlings of various species grow.

Every year, Ngare Ndare Conservancy's community members and other stakeholders come together during the rainy seasons to plant indigenous trees in Ngare Ndare Forest. The Conservancy has also installed biogas digesters in community members' homesteads and donated energy-saving jikos reducing reliance on Forest for fuelwood.

To curb human-wildlife conflict, Ngare Ndare Conservancy has installed and reinforced an elephant-proof fence within its boundaries. This has greatly benefitted the community.

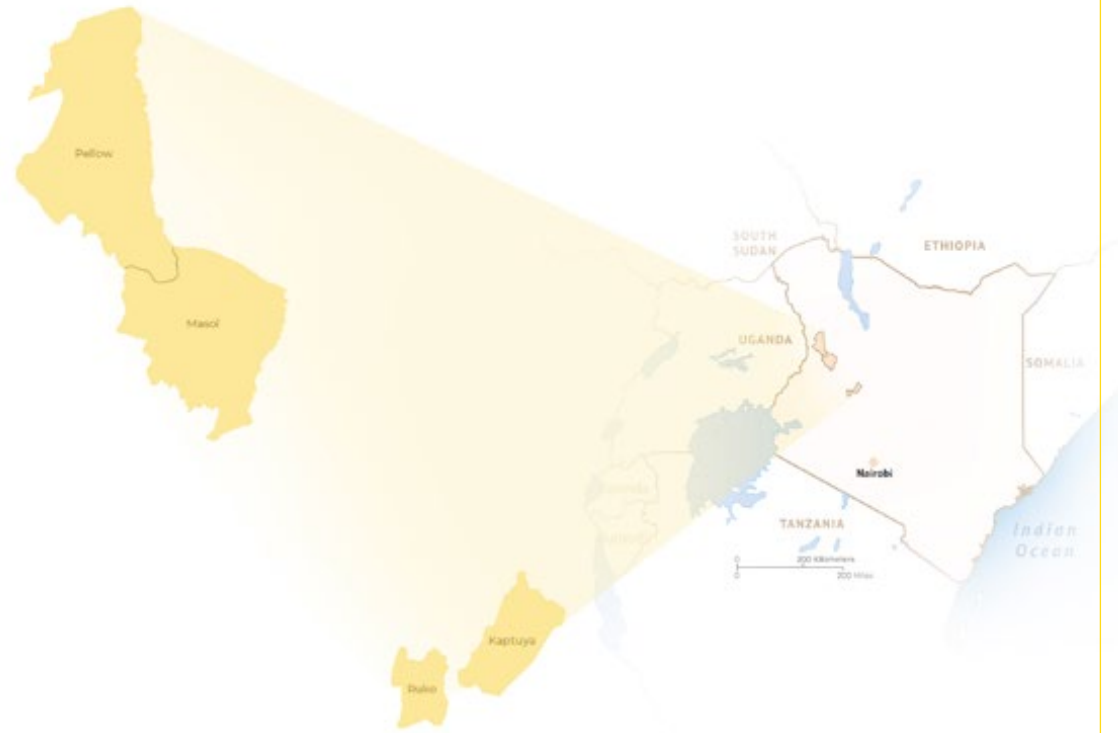


KENYA ▶▶▶▶

WEST

REGION







Pellow Community Conservancy



West Pokot County



191,795 hectares



Population: 21,067



Established
in 2015



Key species: elephants,
pangolins



Staff: 32



► ► Overview

Pellow Community Conservancy, with its diverse landscape and bushy savannah, is home to a semi-nomadic Pokot community whose primary sources of livelihood are livestock keeping and farming.

The Conservancy was formed when peacebuilding efforts bore fruit and the Pokot and Turkana communities agreed to work together to benefit from a joint resource and heritage—wildlife.

The two communities consented to securing the Conservancy's elephant corridor and sharing the tourism revenue generated by their beautiful tourist sites. Nasolot Game Reserve, found within Pellow Community Conservancy, serves as an important wildlife corridor and dispersal area for elephants and other species. Wildlife migrate along the Nasolot-Turkana South border, in the Kerio Valley ecosystem, then cross into Kidepo National Park in northern Uganda.

In the last three years, Pangolin sightings in Pellow have increased, prompting the Conservancy to implement conservation measures for this flagship endangered species.



▶▶ Conservancy NewsBytes

- 20 elephants were collared in Nasolot Game Reserve within Pellow Conservancy in 2022.
- 17 pangolin sightings were reported last year.
- In three major wildlife corridors (the Turkwel River, the Kamrio River, and the Nakipetot River), human-wildlife conflict became prevalent, prompting the Conservancy to address the issue through elephant monitoring and frequent conservancy scout patrols. As a result, incidents of human-wildlife conflict gradually decreased.
- Pellow hosted the Tegla Loroupe Peace Race, bringing together morans from Pokot, Marakwet, and Turkana communities.



Stopping the Countdown to Pangolin Extinction: Pellow to the Rescue

Over the last three years, Pellow Conservancy members have reported increased sightings and illegal captures of the world's most trafficked mammal, the pangolin. The sightings within Pellow revealed that West Pokot has a small population of this species, which accounts for up to 20% of all illegal wildlife trading.

In 2022, the Conservancy implemented conservation measures for this flagship endangered species after 17 sightings were reported. Pellow Conservancy's scouts have received pangolin protection training and are raising awareness in communities about the importance of conserving this endangered species.

As a result, there has been widespread community support, and it is hoped that the species will draw tourists and scientists to Pellow, providing the Conservancy with a valuable source of revenue.





Ruko Community Conservancy



Baringo County



19,000 hectares



Population: 2,063



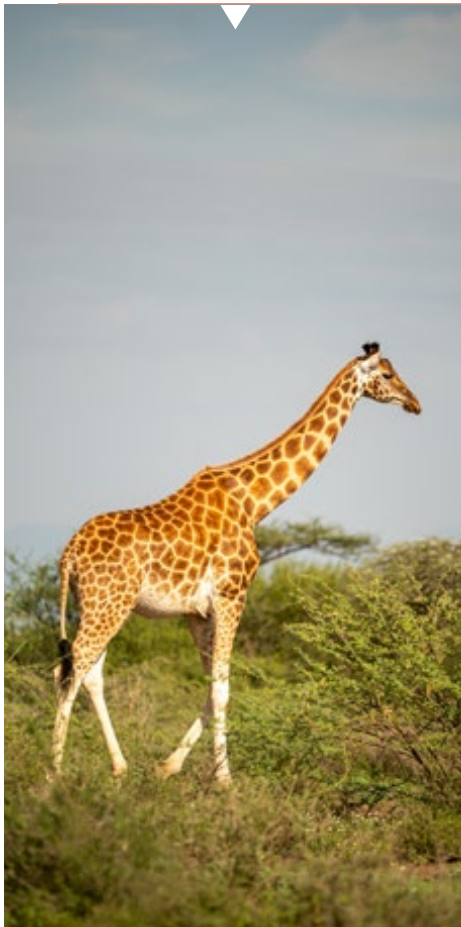
Established
in 2008



Key species: Rothschild's
giraffes



Staff: 29



► ► Overview

Today, the Il Chamus and Pokot communities coexist peacefully in Kenya's North Rift region. But this was not always the case.

Their rivalry dates back to 1907 when pastoralist groups would clash over water and pasture for their livestock, resulting in the extinction of key species such as eland and common zebra due to rampant insecurity and poaching.

In 2006, elders from Baringo County's Rugus and Komolion Locations met to resolve the long-running conflict between the Il Chamus and Pokot.

Ruko Community Conservancy was then founded with the goal of fostering peaceful relations between the two communities through conservation. The moniker 'Ruko' was derived from the elders' hometowns of Rugus and Komolion. The two communities, who rely on livestock, beekeeping, fishing, and small-scale farming for their income, reintroduced eight Baringo giraffes to Ruko in 2012 (nearly 50 years since they had last been seen in the area).

The giraffes have become a symbol of peace, and the two communities are peacefully coexisting while conserving and protecting these endangered species, which generate valuable revenue for them through tourism.



▶ ▶ Conservancy NewsBytes

- Ruko Giraffe Sanctuary currently has 14 giraffes. The 17-square-kilometer Sanctuary was established in Ruko Community Conservancy to accommodate eight giraffes rescued from the disappearing Longicharo Island in 2021. Lake Baringo's water level had been steadily rising, which endangered the giraffes, necessitating their rescue from the Island.
- In 2022, four Rothschild's giraffe calves were born. One passed away, while the other three are still going strong.
- 59 youth and women who participated in NRT Trading's Ujuzi Manyatani Program are now earning a living from skills they learned, including tailoring, motorcycle mechanics, and hairdressing.
- The Conservancy is removing, controlling, and managing *Prosopis juliflora*, an invasive species.
- Ruko Community Conservancy continues to engage morans in conservation and peacebuilding activities.
- 150 youth and women underwent entrepreneurship and financial literacy training.
- A giraffe naming event held in Ruko raised Ksh 885,000 (7,500 USD).
- 9 conservancy scouts graduated from the Kenya Wildlife Service (KWS) Law Enforcement Academy (LEA) in Manyani after a three-month training that improved their skills in wildlife monitoring and protection.
- Ruko Community Conservancy received approvals to relocate zebras and impalas. Preparation for the translocation is currently underway.





Film Featuring Ruko Conservancy and NRT Premieres on Nat Geo WILD

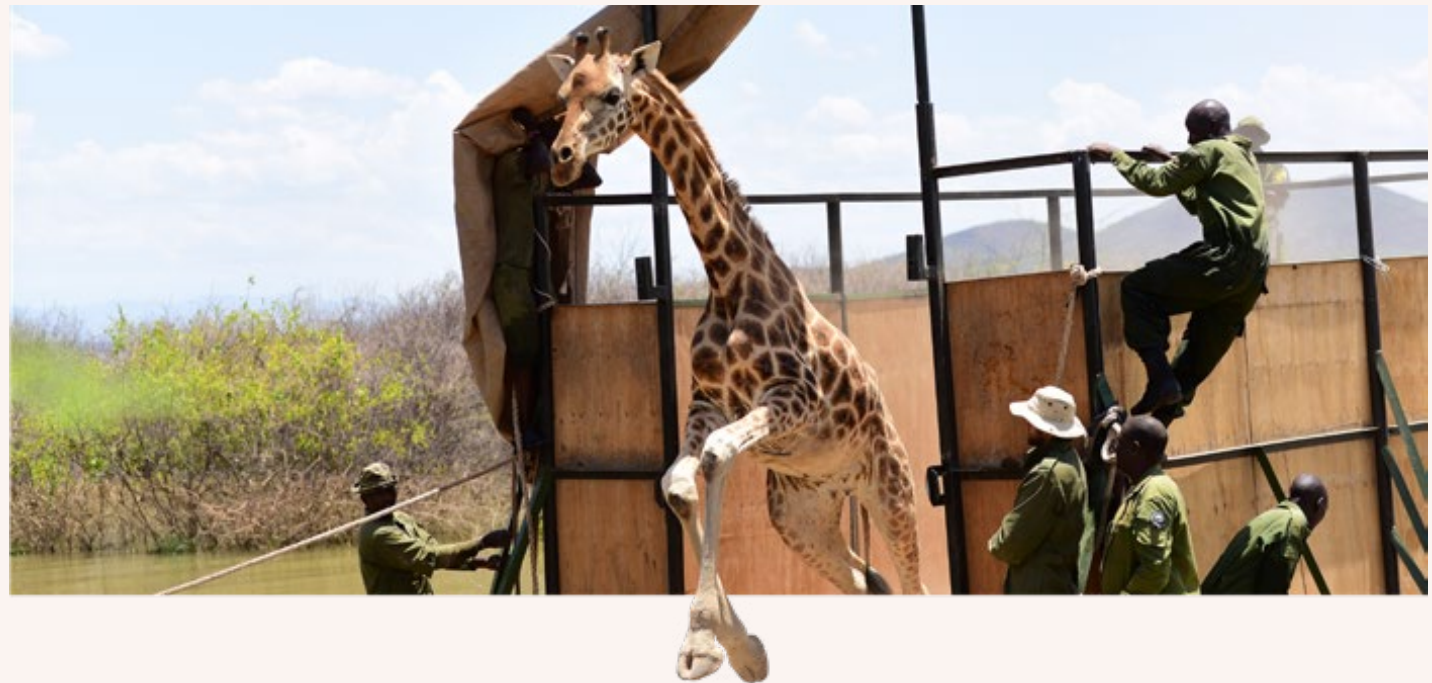
Nine rare giraffe species find themselves stranded on a lake island in Kenya. If they are not rescued, they will die. The only solution is far-fetched: build a modern-day ark, called The Giraft, convince the skittish animals to get on board, and sail them to the mainland before they starve. Can a team of local leaders, Kenyan vets, and conservationists pull it off?

Directed and produced by Tyler Schiffman, the film 'Saving Giraffes: The Long Journey Home' tells the incredible story of how the Ruko community, two tribes previously at war, joined forces to save these nine endangered Rothschild's giraffes from a sinking island in Lake Baringo in a riveting rescue mission carried out by

Ruko Community Conservancy, with the support of NRT, Save Giraffes Now, the Kenya Wildlife Service, and USAID.

'Saving Giraffes: The Long Journey Home' is an account of a dramatic heart-pounding rescue and the dedicated people who against the challenge of climate change and armed conflict, fight for life-saving conservation in their community.

On September 21st, 2022, the film premiered on the National Geographic Wild Channel and is now available for streaming on Disney Plus.







Kaptuya Community Conservancy



Baringo County



12,211 hectares



Population: 9,542



Established
in 2003



Key species: elephants



Staff: 17

►► Overview

Kaptuya Community Conservancy was established to improve the community's living standards through tourism and wildlife conservation. Throughout this region, wildlife conservation is promoted as a land use alongside livestock keeping and agriculture.

The Conservancy brings together community members from Churo and Amaya Wards. It is strategically located in terms of wildlife, bordering Laikipia Nature Conservancy to the south-east, Ruko Community Conservancy to the west, and Mugie and Ltungai Conservancies to the north-east. The Conservancy is critical in ensuring the safety of wildlife roaming in the Baringo and Samburu wildlife corridors.

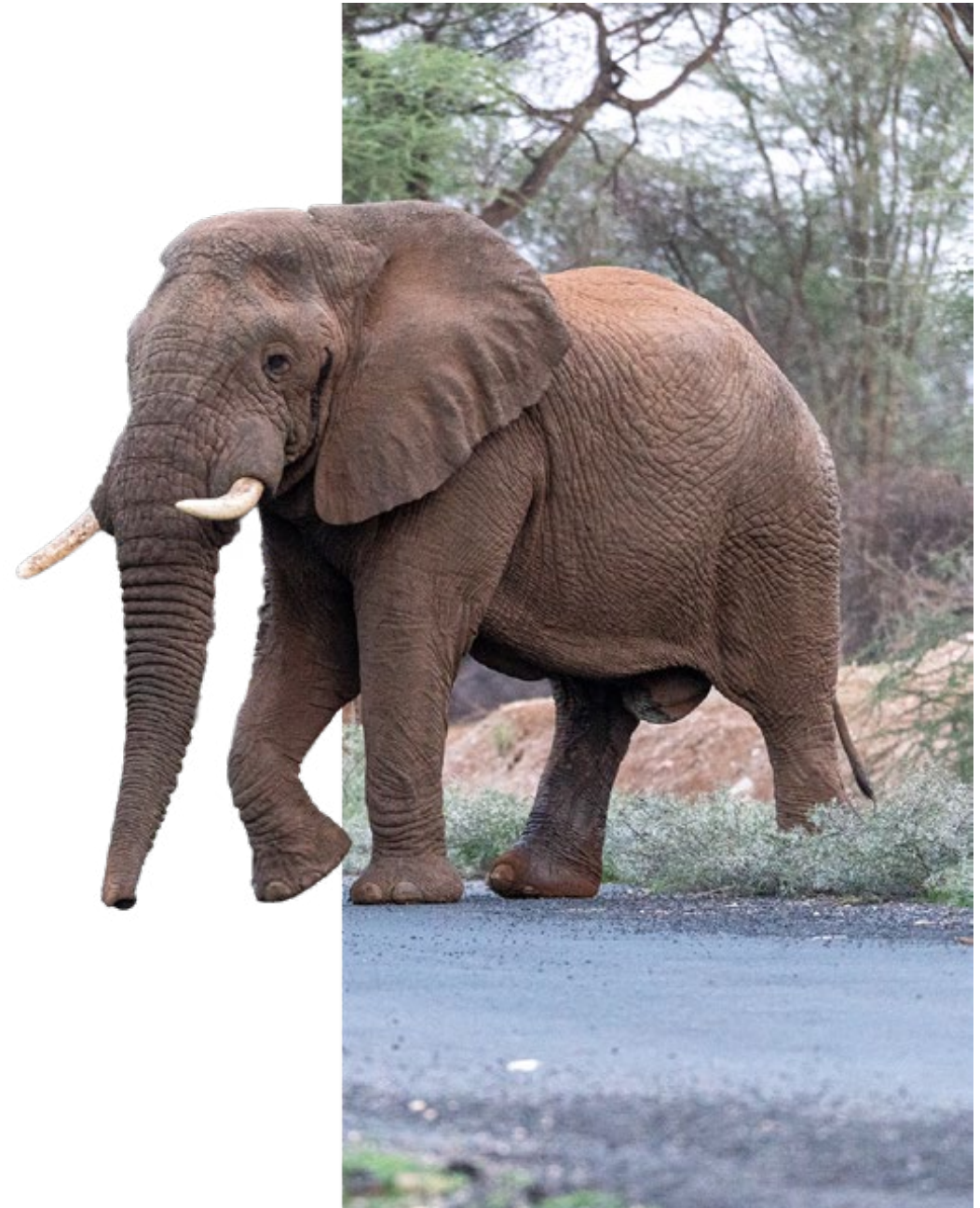
The Kaptuya conservation area and its surroundings were once prone to poaching and conflict, but the existence of the Conservancy has completely reversed that trend.

This was accomplished by establishing a peace circuit that advocates for wildlife conservation and tourism and explores ways to coordinate pastoralism for maximum benefit.



► ► Conservancy NewsBytes

- 9 conservancy scouts graduated from the Kenya Wildlife Service (KWS) Law Enforcement Academy (LEA) in Manyani after undergoing a three-month training that equipped them with skills in wildlife monitoring and protection and general scout discipline.
- 11 biogas units were installed in Conservancy households to curb the use of firewood fuel.
- 120 youth underwent training on financial literacy and life skills by NRT Trading.
- The National Land Commission, Kenya Wildlife Conservancies Association (KWCA), and Baringo County Conservancies Association (BCCA) sensitized the community on land registration and land ownership.





Masol Community Conservancy



West Pokot County



138,630 hectares



Population: 47,574



Established
in 2015



Key species: elephants, giraffes, gerenuks, lions, cheetahs, African wild dogs, Grevy's zebras, common zebras



Staff: 30



►► Overview

Masol Community Conservancy is home to the Pokot, who predominantly rely on agropastoralism as their primary source of livelihood. It encompasses four wards: Lomut, Wei Wei, Masol, and Sekerr.

For decades, conflict between the Pokot and Turkana from neighboring Turkana County over pasture and water for livestock was a rampant phenomenon. Leaders and the Masol community sought long-term solutions to the cattle rustling problem. The Community Conservancy approach was considered the most effective way to deal with the conflict, leading to its formation to build peace in the area.

The region contains significant historical sites that are important components of Kenya's historical heritage, and community members have strong attachments to these sites because of their social, cultural, and spiritual significance.

The Conservancy was also established to promote wildlife conservation and improve the livelihoods of the communities.



▶▶ Conservancy NewsBytes

- In 2022, 28 youth and women completed NRT Trading's Ujuzi Manyattani Program training, acquiring skills in catering, hairdressing, tailoring, and carpentry, enabling them to start their own businesses.
- To increase honey production, a modern honey processing unit and a workshop were officially opened at Lomut in Masol Community Conservancy. The European Union (EU) funded the facility as part of the Ustahimilivu Resilience Project. Cheror Community Based Organization (CBO), which has 22 members, benefits from the project, which is implemented by the European Committee for Training and Agriculture (CEFA). Each member of the CBO has an average of ten beehives.
- In 2022, the EU-funded Ustahimilivu Project handed over the Para Sany Irrigation Scheme to the community in Orwa to support farming.



Rising Above Conflict: Masol Gives Peace A Chance

Cattle raids and killings have long been the norm for communities in and around Pokot Central's Masol Ward. Conflict arises due to a scarcity of resources in the region, and clashes occur as herder groups compete for pasture for their livestock.

Masol Community Conservancy, in collaboration with NRT, organized a peacebuilding forum that brought together elders from warring communities and government agencies.

During the forum, the different indigenous communities represented agreed to live in harmony and resolve conflicts amicably. Four meetings were held in total in Tot (Marakwet County), Cheseгон, Chepkokogh (West Pokot County), and Kolowo (Baringo County).



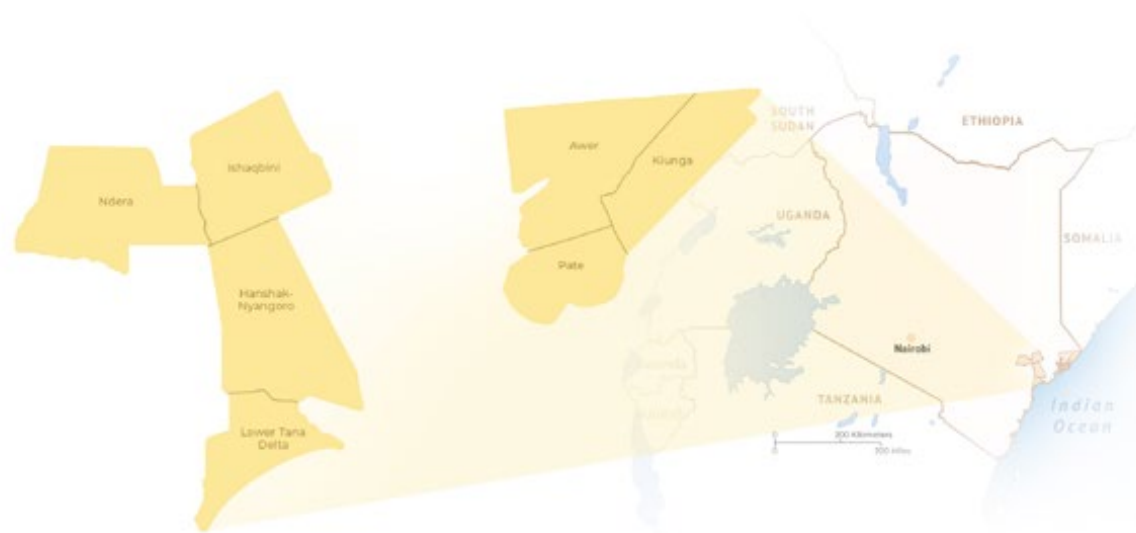
KENYA



COAST

REGION







Kiunga Community Conservancy



Lamu County



72,000 hectares (Marine - 22,755 ha, Terrestrial - 49,245 ha)



Population: 3,898



Established
in 2013



Key species: sea turtles



Staff: 25



► ► Overview

Kiunga Community Wildlife Association (KICOWA) borders the northernmost part of Kenya's coast as well as the Somali border. The Conservancy is made up of ten villages, each of which is represented in its management.

Kiunga was formed by the community to combat the threat posed by ocean plastic on its shores, cutting of mangrove forests, and declining fishery resources, and to conserve the environment, especially fish—the community's primary source of income.

Kiunga operates both marine and terrestrial programs. Its flagship projects are community-based sea turtle conservation and the management of marine litter and plastic on its surrounding beaches.



▶▶ Conservancy NewsBytes

- 4.4 tonnes of plastic waste were collected in Kiunga Community Wildlife Association (KICOWA) during clean-up exercises of surrounding beaches. This brings the total amount of plastic collected between 2019 and 2022 to 63.2 tonnes.
- The existence of clean beaches encouraged nesting, with 35 sea turtle nests recorded, and 18 sea turtle rescues performed during the year.
- To provide access to clean water for communities, a solar-powered desalination plant was installed in Kiunga as well as in two djabias (underground concrete water tanks) in Ishaqbini and Kiwayu conservancies.
- 1.5 tonnes of hard plastic were sold for Ksh 48,000 (USD 406). 40% of the proceeds from the plastic sale will be used to support the operation and maintenance of the plastic recycling center, while the remaining 60% will go toward project expansion.
- In 2022, Ksh 4.5 million (USD 38,135) was paid to fishers involved in the Fish-to-Market Project for 22,307.5 kilograms of fish sold.
- Kiunga Conservancy's 14 boats participated in the Fish-to-Market pilot project, which included 40 fishers who all used legal and non-destructive gear and fully complied with landing site rules.
- With the support of NRT Trading, women benefited from loans and training in entrepreneurship and financial literacy.



The Plastic Problem: Keeping Kiunga's Beaches Clean

As part of the 'Bahari Moja' Project aimed at creating a cleaner and healthier environment for people and marine life, the Kiunga community in collaboration with the Conservancy's partners (who include NRT, Kiwayu Safaris, and Safari Doctors), gathers monthly to clean up and collect plastic and other non-biodegradable waste from their beaches and critical turtle and fish habitats.

Women and youth then recycle the ocean plastic collected and create jewelry, building insulation, and other products for sale.

A dedicated conservancy scout team regularly patrols Kiunga's beaches to monitor and record sea turtle nests or translocate their eggs, if necessary, to protect them from predators or prevent them from being washed away.

Kiunga's other projects include mangrove restoration, fish-to-market, and gear exchange programs linked to education scholarships.





Ishaqbini Hirola Community Conservancy



Garissa County



68,000 hectares



Population: 33,029



Established
in 2007



Key species: hirola



Staff: 47



► ► Overview

The hirola—the world’s most endangered antelope—is endemic to northeastern Kenya, with the Ishaqbini area serving as the species’ natural and preferred habitat.

A decrease in hirola in the region and fear of this antelope’s extinction prompted the Kenyan government to perform a precautionary translocation of the species to Tsavo East National Park (Taita-Taveta County) twice in 1963. The hirola population, however, did not recover. (Today, only about 450 hirola individuals are known to exist, down from 16,000 in the 1970s.)

Between 1983 and 1985, an outbreak of rinderpest in northeastern Kenya caused a dramatic reduction in the species. Insecurity, habitat loss, predation, and poaching further impacted hirola leading to a precipitous decline in their numbers.

In 2005, four indigenous communities: Kotile, Hara, Korisa, and Abalatiro, came to the rescue of the hirola. To stop the countdown to extinction and protect the species, the four communities established Ishaqbini Hirola Community Conservancy with the support of the Northern Rangelands Trust.



▶▶ Conservancy NewsBytes

- 5 hirola were collared and released to reduce population pressure within Ishaqbini Hirola Sanctuary.
- To prevent fatal diseases that hirola are susceptible to, disease surveillance and management were performed. Planning and mobilisation of a livestock vaccination exercise was also done.
- 9 new births of hirola were recorded in Ishaqbini in 2022.
- The Conservancy recruited 2 teachers for 2 primary schools (Hara and Alijari-re Primary Schools), with the Support of Conservation International, and implemented 2 wildlife education programs in schools.
- 4 housing facilities were constructed in Kenya Wildlife Service camps in Masalani, with support from NRT.
- Completed the upgrading of Ishaqbini's Hirola Sanctuary, providing the species with a safe breeding area.



Along Came a Hirola: Protecting the World's Most Endangered Antelope

In 2012, Ishaqbini Conservancy established a 27-square-kilometer sanctuary for hirola, with the support of NRT and other partners, to facilitate the species' recovery.

A founder population of approximately 48 hirola individuals was introduced into the Sanctuary, which provided a secure area, free of poachers and predators, for the viable breeding population.

In 2022, unprecedented drought conditions prevailed in many parts of the country, with northern Kenya particularly hard hit.

The drought negatively impacted several wildlife species in Ishaqbini, including hirola, buffalo, giraffes, and gazelles, as well as livestock, the primary source of livelihood for the Conservancy's communities.

To mitigate the situation, NRT and the Conservancy implemented special interventions such as replenishing water for wildlife at watering points and a supplementary feeding program that provided hay for multiple species, including hirola.

NRT and Ishaqbini also implemented an irrigation scheme, with support from San Diego Zoo Wildlife Alliance (SDZWA) and the SideKick Foundation, to ensure the availability of adequate natural forage for wildlife. The irrigation scheme spanned approximately three hectares of land within Ishaqbini Hirola Sanctuary. Ishaqbini community remained committed to spearheading the recovery and protection of the endangered hirola as the drought persisted.

Today, in line with its vision, the Conservancy continues to strive to ensure effective community resource management, heritage preservation for future generations, wildlife protection, rangeland management, and community development.





LOWER TANA DELTA CONSERVANCY

Lower Tana Delta Community Conservancy



Tana River County



51,785 hectares



Population: 14,000



Established
in 2004



Key species: Red Colobus
and Crested Mangabey
monkeys



Staff: 14



► ► Overview

Lower Tana Delta Conservation Trust was founded by the Pokomo and the Orma to protect and manage their rangelands and indigenous riverine forests.

The Conservancy is home to the Delta Dunes Lodge, which overlooks the mouth of the Tana River. It not only contains a portion of the Tana River (Kenya's largest watercourse) but is also where this mighty river meets the Indian Ocean.

The dominant tribes in the Conservancy are the Pokomo and Orma. Other tribes living in the area include the Giriama, Goshi, and Sanye. The community's main source of income is livestock keeping and farming.

Both the Pokomo and the Orma are represented on the Conservancy's Board and involved in the running and decision-making of Lower Tana.



▶▶ Conservancy NewsBytes

- 4 Participatory Forest Management Plans (PFMPs) were developed for 4 Community Forest Associations (CFAs) in Lower Tana Delta (Mpozi, Chara, Kipini, and Kilelengwani) and are awaiting approval by the Chief Conservator of Forests.
- A peace meeting was held in Ozi Village to raise awareness about the importance of peaceful coexistence in the community.
- Lower Tana Delta Conservancy trained 55 local community members from its four existing community forest associations (CFAs) i.e., Mpozi, Kipini, Chara, and Kilelengwani, on community-based ecological mangrove restoration (EMR), increasing the community's capacity in mangrove restoration.
- The Lower Tana Delta Scholarship Program provided secondary education scholarships to 3 students. Over 30 students from underprivileged families have benefitted from the Program so far.



Community-Led Mangrove Restoration in Lower Tana Delta Community Conservancy

A field-based Ecological Mangrove Restoration (EMR) training was conducted in Lower Tana Delta Conservancy in September 2022 for a team of 55 community members from Chara, Mpozi, Kipini, and Kilelengwani community forest association management committees, and the Lower Tana Delta Community.

The team, who have become restoration experts, were trained on mangrove restoration methods, monitoring, and gapping and can now plant and restore mangroves in degraded areas within the Tana Delta.

These efforts will help the Conservancy establish “best restoration practices” and demonstration sites. The 55 local community experts were tasked with regularly monitoring the performance of the planted sites and filling gaps as needed.

The Conservancy's Participatory Forest Management Plan, which was developed and validated in November 2022, is now awaiting approval from the Kenya Forest Service.





Ndera Community Conservancy



Tana River County



116,371 hectares



Population: 6,206



Established
in 2010



Key species: Tana River
Red Colobus and Tana
Mangabey monkeys



Staff: 14



► ► Overview

Ndera Community Conservancy is located in Kenya's coastal region and comprises the Pokomo and Wardei communities.

Ndera borders Ishaqbini Community Conservancy. Ishaqbini's success in conserving the endangered hirola inspired the formation of Ndera Conservancy.

Ndera was established to combat the numerous threats to the local riverine forests, including encroachment for farming, poaching, and deforestation, resulting in loss of habitat and biodiversity.

The Conservancy is home to the critically endangered Tana River Red Colobus and Tana Mangabey monkeys.

These endangered primates exist in only a few small, fragmented forest patches along a 60-kilometer stretch of the Tana River and occur nowhere else in the world. Their populations are estimated at less than 2,000 individuals, out of which 1,000 individuals are found in Ndera Community Conservancy, in Kinyadu and Lalatifu Forests.



▶▶ Conservancy NewsBytes

In 2022:

- 2,000 tree seedlings were planted in partnership with Kitere Primary School, Minhaj Secondary School, and Minhaj Dispensary to restore the riverine forest.
- The move was part of a wider campaign dubbed 'Adopt a Tree' in which each student was tasked with planting at least one tree and caring for it with the supervision of the teachers.
- 10 biogas kits were installed in community homesteads to reduce overreliance on the Conservancy's riverine forests for charcoal and fuelwood.
- Ndera Conservancy participated in the drafting of the Tana River County Integrated Development Plan (III) and incorporated some of Ndera's priorities outlined in its Conservancy Management and Development Plan.
- The Conservancy secured Ksh 35,000,000 (USD 296,610) from the Water Sector Trust Fund (WSTF) for implementing water supply, water resource management and community-led total sanitation, and sanitation services in Ndera. The County Government also contributed to the funds, which will support the Conservancy until mid-2025.



Swinging for the Fences: Ndera Gives Hope to Endangered Primates at the Coast

Ndera Community Conservancy sits on the banks of the Tana River, close to its convergence with the Indian Ocean, and is home to two of the most endangered primate species in the world: the Tana River Red Colobus and Tana River Mangabey.

NRT has been working closely with Ndera on forest management to support the conservation of these species, which are found in relatively high numbers in Ndera but whose survival is threatened by ongoing forest loss.

Both the Tana River Red Colobus and Tana River Mangabey are only found in the Lower Tana River area. The International Union for Conservation of Nature estimates that less than two thousand individuals of each species remain in the wild.

Timber logging and clearing land for agriculture have led to the widespread loss of their forest homes. Effective, community-led forest management is now critical to their survival.



Hanshak Community Conservancy



Lamu County



29,947 hectares



Population: 7,860



Established
in 2012



Key species: zebras, wild dogs, lesser kudu, giraffes, Somali ostriches, black and white colobus monkeys



Staff: 13



Overview

Hanshak Community Conservancy is located on community land in Didewaride Location and partly within Witu Location.

It is home to several ethnic communities, including the Orma, Luo, and Giriama.

The predominant Orma community comprises semi-nomadic pastoralists. The Giriama, on the other hand, practice farming, while the Luo are fish farmers.

The primary water sources for people and wildlife in Hanshak Conservancy are lakes and rivers, such as Lakes Moa and Atakaye and River Nyongoro. Other water sources include boreholes and wells, which contain salty water and provide domestic water for Dide Waride, Moa, and Chalaluma settlement areas within the Conservancy.

During the wet season, the communities graze their livestock on the northern side of the Conservancy around Pandanguo. In the dry season, they move their livestock to the flood plains south of the Conservancy, around Didewaride.



▶▶ Conservancy NewsBytes

In 2022:

- The Conservancy purchased 3 tents with a two-people capacity, 3 bedrolls and 3 head torches to enhance joint patrols between the Conservancy and Lower Tana with NRT and DANIDA's support.
- 18 newly elected Conservancy Board members (14 men and 4 women) were trained on governance and leadership.
- 53 biogas kits were installed in communities in the Conservancy to reduce overreliance on forests for charcoal and fuelwood.
- The Conservancy, with NRT Coast's support provided water to Didewaride Village residents by desilting a canal from Nyongoro River up to the Village.



Daring to Be Different: Lessons from a Zebra and her Zebroids

For many wildlife species, particularly zebra, Hanshak Conservancy is home.

In Moa Village within the Conservancy, members of the community have been caring for a zebra that gave birth to a male zebroid foal.

In 2020, the zebra, which interacts and grazes with livestock and donkeys, gave birth to a female zebroid.

The newly born male zebroid and his mother relocated to Chalaluma Village, while the female is stationed in Moa Village with the Conservancy's domestic animals.

The Conservancy's Didewaride Village also has a zebra that grazes alongside livestock and donkeys.





Awer Community Conservancy



Lamu County



Established
in 2013



164,107 hectares



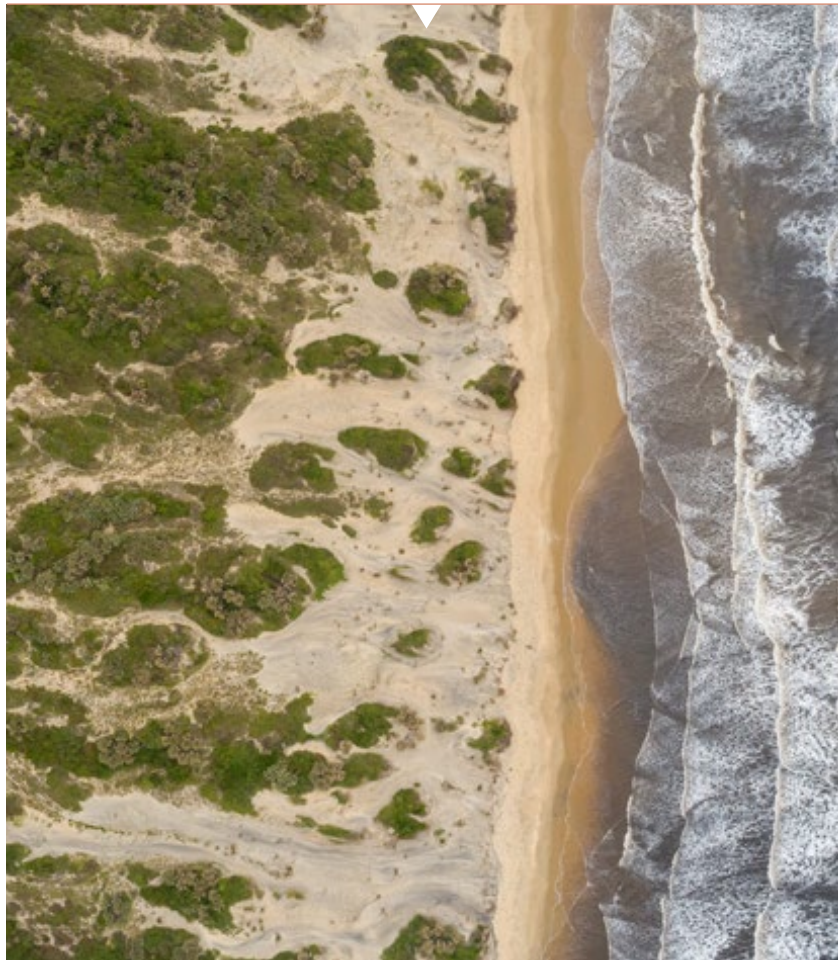
Key species: Ader's duikers, African wild dogs, elephants, hippos



Population: 1,479



Staff: 19



► ► Overview

Awer Community Conservancy was initially part of Kibodo Trust, a community conservation initiative encompassing Kiunga Marine Reserve and Boni and Dodori Forest Reserves.

In 2013, Awer was established as an autonomous organization by indigenous communities to protect and manage their natural resources. Soon afterward, the Conservancy successfully applied for membership at NRT.

The Conservancy is home to the Boni/Awer, semi-nomadic forest dwellers who rely on forests for a living from which they source honey, meat, and wild fruits, and harvest herbal medicines.

The Awer community has historically been marginalized, and portions of its forests have been destroyed. Threats also emerge from across the Kenya-Somalia border, bringing insecurity.

Awer's NRT membership has bolstered the Conservancy and set it on a path toward a brighter future in which lives are transformed, peace is maintained, and natural resources are conserved.



▶▶ Conservancy NewsBytes

In 2022:

- A solar-powered desalination plant was installed in Kiangwe Village to improve community members' access to portable and clean fresh water. The project, which is nearing completion, will address Kiangwe Village's perennial water issues.
- 7 of the Conservancy's community members successfully underwent NRT's bespoke Leadership and Management Program (LAMP) training.
- 50 Conservancy youth were trained in various technical courses, including tailoring, mechanics, electrical wiring, welding, plumbing, hairdressing, and masonry. The training was held at Mpeketoni Polytechnic in partnership with Kenya Red Cross.



50

Conservancy youth were trained in various technical courses at Mpeketoni Polytechnic in partnership with Kenya Red Cross





Pate Marine Community Conservancy



Lamu County



28,107 hectares



Population: 10,737



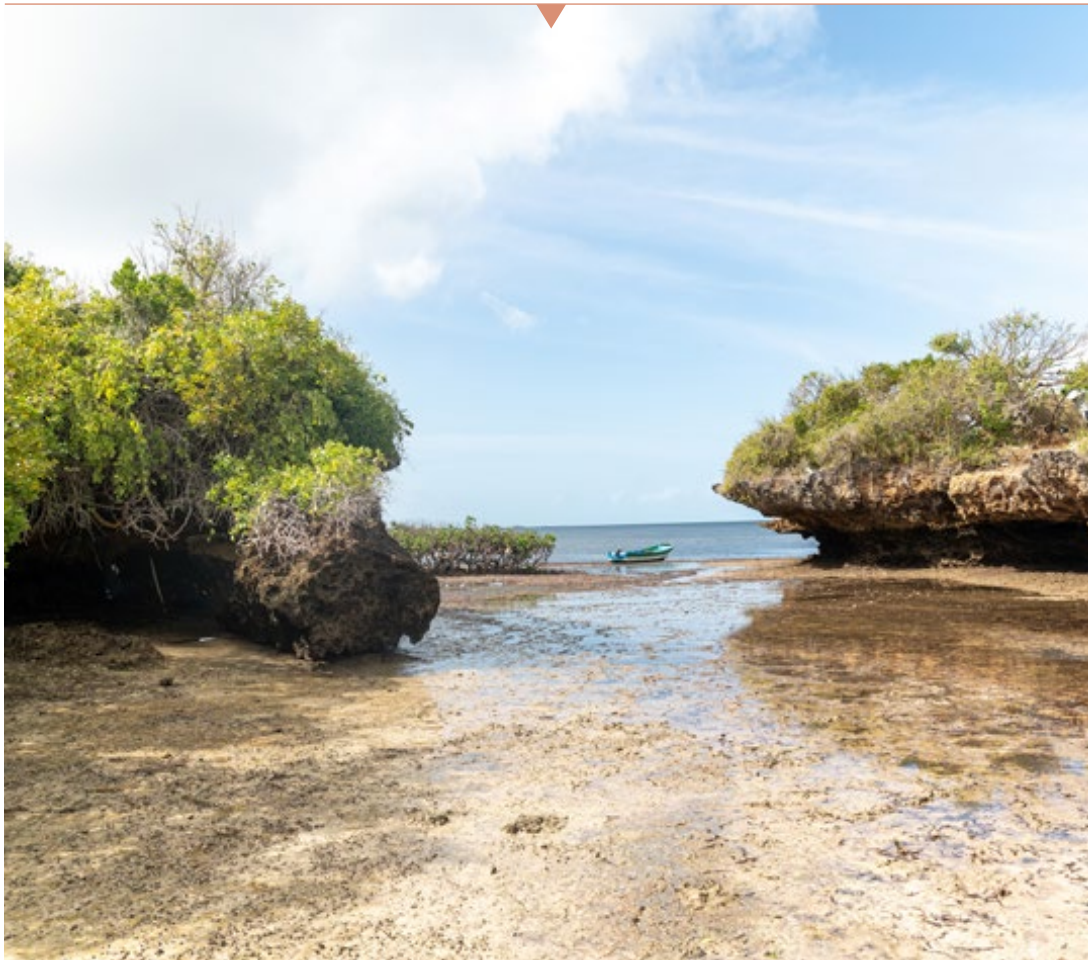
Established
in 2013



Key species: octopuses



Staff: 15



► ► Overview

Pate Marine Community Conservancy is home to unique marine wildlife, including dolphins, turtles, dugongs, crustaceans, and coral reefs, as well as a variety of mangrove forest species.

The Conservancy strives to conserve marine wildlife, enhance livelihoods and build the capacity of the community economically, socially, and environmentally by promoting the sustainable use of natural resources.

Pate's community members primarily support themselves through fishing, particularly octopus farming. A few members of the community also engage in subsistence farming.



▶▶ Conservancy NewsBytes

- 23 community reef restoration experts from Pate, NRT, The Nature Conservancy, KWS, KMFRI, KeFS, and the Reef Resilience Network (RRN) jointly conducted scientific ecological monitoring surveys on coral reef health within restoration areas and their adjacent habitats.
- Pate hosted a group of 60 women from Sera and Kalama Community Conservancies as they visited on an exposure tour. The women exchanged conservation stories and learned about women empowerment programs, community development work, women-led conservation projects, and successful conservation program implementation from their counterparts.
- Additional buoys were placed at the locally-managed marine areas (LMMAs) in Pate Conservancy to mark and secure their borders.
- A needs assessment was conducted to gain a comprehensive understanding of the challenges and opportunities that will arise when the Fish-to-Market Pilot Project is scaled up.



Overcoming Barriers: Pate Women Driving Community Development through Octopus Farming

In Pate, women are changing the narrative of fish farming, which has long been considered a male-dominated industry, by venturing into octopus farming to supplement their family's income.

Initially, the women did not experience any significant financial benefits from octopus farming. The harvesting process was frustrating and exhausting because they often would go for days without catching anything. They also lacked proper fishing equipment for a successful harvest.

NRT, in collaboration with The Nature Conservancy (TNC), Flora and Fauna International (FFI), and other partners supported Pate Conservancy in developing effective fisheries co-management areas that benefit community members while conserving the environment. These co-management areas comprised different zones including no-take zones, seasonal closures (including octopus closures done every four months to allow them to breed and grow), gear restriction zones, species-specific zones and multi-use zones.

The women reported larger harvests after the octopus closures compared to before.

They harvested 3.5 tonnes of octopus after the closures, between 2019 and 2022, compared to less than 100 kilograms before the closures.

The women were also taught proper fishing techniques, financial literacy, and conservation management and taken on an exposure tour in Madagascar. To further empower the women, NRT, in partnership with TNC, purchased two fishing boats for Pate's women groups. This enabled the women to harvest octopus more efficiently for commercial purposes.

These combined efforts resulted in Pate Conservancy recording an income high of Ksh 1,013,148 (USD 8,586), with a portion of the proceeds going into the women's fisher group's savings accounts. The women accrued over Ksh 590,000 (USD 5,000) in savings through their hard work and consistency and purchased a small plot of land on which they established a nursery school for their children.

The Lamu County Government also supported the women's groups by presenting them with registration certificates proving they are legally recognized beach management units.





SAMBUIRII

AFFILIATED





Samburu County-affiliated Community Conservancies

NRT's Council of Elders (CoEs) and Board approved NRT's operation in Samburu County in 2021, allowing NRT support to five community-led conservancies in capacity building and governance.

▶ ▶ Objectives



▶ ▶ Overview

In 2013, the Samburu County Government embraced the spirit of community-based conservation by establishing conservation areas in the northern and central parts of the County. Following various community mobilization meetings, communities resolved to establish five conservation areas.

In 2019, the Samburu County Community Conservancies Fund Bill, 2019 was approved and its implementation is ongoing.



| Conservancy Name | Constituency | Ward |
|------------------|---------------------|-----------------------------------|
| Baragoi | Samburu North | Elbarta, Angata Nanyukie, Nachola |
| Nyiro | Samburu North | Nyiro |
| Ndoto | Samburu North | Ndoto |
| Ltungai-Malaso | Samburu Central | Suguta Marmar, Loosuk, Porro |
| Kirisia-Nkoteiya | Samburu West/ North | Maralal, Baawa, Lodokejek |

The Organizational Structure of the Conservation Areas

- The conservation areas are divided into three units, each of which has a unit management committee of 12 community members.
- Three representatives from each unit form the umbrella Board of Management, which makes decisions.

Impact

- Improved safety for people and wildlife in previously insecure areas of Samburu North and East, as well as the western belt of Samburu West bordering Baringo County.
- Enhanced tourism, increasing revenue for the County Government.
- A rise in wildlife sightings.





UGANDA

REGION





Morung'ole Community Conservancy



Morong'ole Community Conservancy



Kaabong District, Uganda



Established
in 2022



Key species: elephants



► ► Overview

Morong'ole Community Conservancy, Uganda's first under NRT membership, was formed with the transboundary goal of conserving elephants along the Kenya-Uganda border.

The Karamoja Sub-county region, north of Kidepo Valley National Park in Uganda, is inhabited by the Dodoth and Ik communities. The communities, which border South Sudan to the north and Kenya to the northeast, are primarily agricultural and cultivate various crops for subsistence use.

The Conservancy, which includes the sub-counties of Timu, Kalapata, Morung'ole, Kamion, and Lotim, serves as an important dispersal area for the Kenyan ecosystem, which is prone to insecurity between neighboring communities, human-wildlife conflict, and assistance to communities seeking to improve their livelihood options.

Working in collaboration with the Uganda Wildlife Authority (UWA), the National Forestry Authority (NFA), and the Uganda Conservation Foundation (UCF), NRT held several community sensitization meetings in the five sub-counties and conducted tours of northern Kenya's community conservancies. Murung'ole was formed after the communities expressed interest in the community conservancy model.

The Conservancy fits well into the overarching transboundary program that aims to secure wildlife corridors along the Kidepo landscape, which begins with Kidepo Game Reserve (Budi County in South Sudan), continues with Kidepo Valley National Park in northeastern Uganda, and ends with West Pokot in Kenya.

The adoption of the NRT community conservancy model will assist the communities in improving their livelihoods, enhancing safety and protecting their wildlife.



▶ ▶ Conservation Beyond Borders: The Ugandan Community Saving Elephants

Elephant populations across the wild borders of Kenya and Uganda garner little attention and information on the threats they face is scanty.

To gather data that would inform the conservation of elephants and avert elephant-human conflict, Morung'ole Community Conservancy, the Uganda Conservation Foundation (UCF), and NRT launched a transboundary elephant-collaring operation in 2021 in Kenya's West-Pokot, South Turkana, and Marakwet Counties, and in Uganda's Kidepo Valley National Park located in northeastern Uganda, in partnership with the Uganda Wildlife Authority (UWA), Kenya Wildlife Research and Training Institute (WRTI), Kenya Wildlife Service (KWS) and Save the Elephants (STE).

The collaring operation was aimed at facilitating the collection of data that would extend or renew existing elephant-tracking operations and inform wildlife research and management and the

monitoring of potential transboundary elephant movements between Kenya and Uganda.

In February 2022, 15 elephants were collared from Kidepo Valley National Park, through northeastern Uganda, into Kenya's West Pokot and Nasolot areas. These collars, generously donated by STE, will reveal the movement patterns of Kidepo's elephants, providing insight into how the elephants move, where they go, and what they need, and determine whether connectivity still exists between neighbouring countries. During the collaring operation, the team relied heavily on NRT's and STE's elephant distribution know-how and the KWS and UWA's local insight.

All the collared elephants are monitored using the satellite collars, in real time, through EarthRanger technology which provides the KWS and UWA instant access to the data for management purposes.



STRENGTHENING CONSERVANCY


GOVERNANCE

CHAPTER
1
CHAPTER

Leadership Training

Conservancy Elections





Management Plans

Strengthening Conservancy Governance

The Northern Rangelands Trust promotes excellent governance among the community conservancies that make up its membership because it is a catalyst for community development, resilience, and growth.

NRT member community conservancies are run by democratically elected boards and operated by locals, occasionally bringing ethnic groups with a history of conflict together to work in harmony.

Governance places communities at the center of conservation. Members of well-governed conservancies can establish institutional frameworks for conflict resolution and programs that benefit people and wildlife.

In 2022

- NRT expanded its regional footprint to Uganda with the membership of Morung'ole Community Conservancy.
- Four new conservancies: Cherab, Sericho, Garbatulla, and Kinna were operationalised to support the management of community-owned land and enable the indigenous communities to benefit from their natural resource, improving their livelihoods.
- NRT expanded its regional approach aimed at devolving programs and services by fully operationalising the regional offices of: NRT Center, NRT West, NRT Mountain, NRT East, and NRT Coast.
- Namunyak Wildlife Conservancy Trust was suspended from NRT membership following a decision by NRT's Council of Elders on 10th March 2022.
- A regional Council of Elders meeting and managers' forum was held to set the tone for 2022 and discuss the progress made, challenges faced and plans for the year.
- All NRT Coast community conservancies underwent an annual audit and feedback was provided to the respective conservancies' management on the key areas needing improvement.
- NRT, in collaboration with partners such as the Kenya Wildlife Conservancies Association (KWCA) and the Food and Agricultural Organization (FAO), as well as the Laikipia and Samburu County Governments, is supporting community conservancies in meeting the requirements of the Community Land Act 2016, which envisages a complete transition from the current status (unregistered land or group ranches) to community lands.
- NRT's Council of Elders (CoEs) Governance Oversight Committee visited Kirimon and Melako Community Conservancies to conduct fact-finding missions and made recommendations to the Management of the two conservancies.
- The Regional Council of Elders (CoE) and Managers Forum was held, providing a platform for regional teams to learn and exchange ideas.





Leadership, Governance and Management Training

Good conservancy governance promotes sustainability, increases equity in resource utilization and benefit-sharing, and develops efficiencies in natural resource management and livelihood development. We have invested in leadership, governance, and management training to help community conservancies in improving their governance.

In 2022, NRT conducted a series of conservancy capacity assessments to track the progress of each member community conservancy towards resilience in a systematic and objective manner. The Conservancy Resilience Assessment Framework, which is currently under development, is designed to track progress in good governance, management effectiveness, and financial viability, as well as provide detailed data to support targeted action plans aimed at increasing conservancy capacity.

This Framework will be based on NRT's bespoke governance and management effectiveness tool, the 'Governance Index,' as well as other conservation capacity assessment pilots conducted in collaboration with Fauna and Flora International (FFI).



The Leadership and Management Program (LAMP)

NRT's transformational Leadership and Management Program (LAMP) training, for indigenous peoples and local communities (IPLCs) educates, equips, and empowers IPLCs to exercise their human rights, manage their land, conserve natural resources and wildlife, and secure their livelihoods in the face of an unpredictable future. LAMP is available to all NRT member conservancy board and committee members.

The Program is designed to last four months in order to have the greatest possible impact. It is divided into four modules, each running monthly and lasting 2-3 days.



In 2022:

- 12 LAMP trainings were held, with 450 community members (240 women and 210 men) attending.
- 52 women leaders from NRT Coast conservancies and gender champions successfully graduated from LAMP. This graduation marked the completion of the second phase of LAMP, which ran for four months from June to September 2022, and increased the number of women LAMP graduates by 100%, bringing the total number of graduates to 104, up from 52 in the first phase of training.
- 35 women from the Samburu Women caucus were trained on leadership, with support from Management Skills for Wildlife Conservation (MSWC).
- 215 board members from 7 conservancies including, Morung'ole Conservancy in Uganda, underwent LAMP training.
- 7 youth (5 female and 2 male) from the local communities in NRT Coast's conservancies underwent LAMP's Training of Trainers (ToTs) training and are currently assisting in the delivery of the ongoing women's LAMP.
- 20 conservancy scouts from Westgate Community Conservancy (17 men and 3 women) underwent LAMP training.
- 171 people (131 women and 40 men) from NRT Coast conservancies, including women leaders, board members and Community Forest Association (CFA) management committee members graduated from LAMP. This brings the total number of NRT Coast LAMP trainees to 249 since 2016.



“

The County Government will continue to partner with and support NRT's and The Nature Conservancy's conservation and community development efforts.

H.E. Issa Timamy,
Lamu Governor



”



1,195



indigenous leaders in the NRT member community conservancies have participated in NRT's bespoke Leadership and Management Program (LAMP) since its inception 2016

More on Training in Leadership and Governance in 2022

We ramped up our efforts in 2022 to deliver specialized training in program management, governance, business development, and peacekeeping, equipping conservancy boards, committees, and community members in providing effective leadership and offering the support these community institutions require on their path to self-sufficiency.



For more details on 2022 trainings, see appendix 1.1

Governance Training for Boards and Committees

- 210 board members from Lower Tana, Meibae, Cherab, Naapu, Morungole (Uganda), Kalepo, Hanshak, and Ngilai Community Conservancies underwent good governance training to enable them to effectively manage their land, conserve natural resources and wildlife, and secure their livelihoods.
- All NRT member community conservancies held quarterly board, sub-committee, and awareness meetings to deliberate on conservancy plans, progress, management issues, challenges encountered, and other decisions regarding conservancy governance.

Finance Management Training

23 finance committees from community conservancies in NRT East, NRT Centre, and NRT Mountain regions were trained.





Governance Index

To enhance the conservancies' governance capacity, we have continued to revise and improve our approach for measuring governance and management effectiveness. The conservancy governance index is used to inform the tailored support to be given to each community conservancy.

The index assesses accountability, performance, legitimacy and voice, fairness and rights, and conservancy direction. Its results reveal trends in operational efficiency, strategic planning, inclusivity, and equity in decision-making and benefit-sharing.

In 2022:

- Legitimacy and voice, direction, fairness and rights, emerged as the strongest aspect of conservancy governance.
- The overall average governance score for member community conservancies was 62.6%.
- The overall average governance score for NRT Coast member community conservancies was 61.86%.

| Key Category | Overall NRT Score |
|--------------------|-------------------|
| Accountability | 61.18 |
| Direction | 64.06 |
| Fairness & Rights | 65.61 |
| Legitimacy & Voice | 64.63 |
| Performance | 57.51 |
| Grand Total | 62.60 |

2022 Conservancy Elections

Each NRT member community conservancy has a board of directors that is democratically elected by the community. The board is in charge of the community-elected finance, grazing, and peace committees. The conservancy's manager, accountant, head of conservancy scouts, and conservancy drivers all report to the board.

NRT provides oversight, leadership, and management training to its member conservancies to enable them to develop the capacity needed to implement effective governance systems that work together with traditional structures.



For more on conservancy elections, see appendix 1.2

Hanshak Community Conservancy's constitution was reviewed and endorsed by members of the Conservancy. A Board election was conducted and there was unanimous agreement that the Board serves two terms on rotation and that there be equal representation and gender balance. 4 of the 12 elected Conservancy Board members are women.





Harnessing the Power of Inclusivity

Women and youth are commonly excluded from and left behind in the management of natural resources across the landscape of northern Kenya, despite being the resources' principal users.

Cultural constraints prevalent in patriarchal societies frequently prevent women from participating in governance, which ultimately limits conservancies' capacity to fulfill their promise as agents of social transformation, the development of livelihoods, and environmental conservation.

Gender inclusion remains one of NRT's primary priorities. When women are included in conversations on development, education, peace, water, and population, longer-term solutions are more likely to be effective.

In 2022

- 60 women from across the NRT landscape and several partners attended NRT's second Women Leadership Summit held in Lamu, NRT Coast. A proposal to establish a 'women in conservation' caucus with a structure specifically designed for NRT member community conservancies was made during the Summit. The initiative will be adopted at a regional level to amplify women's voices in leadership and conservation across the NRT landscape.



- 200 women from northern and coastal Kenya convened in Ngare Ndare Community Conservancy to commemorate International Women's Day and celebrate the progress made towards gender equality, and the efforts of strong women fighting for change and advocating for gender equality for a sustainable future.
- 60 women from Sera and Kalama Community Conservancies visited Pate Marine Community Conservancy in NRT Coast and learnt from Pate's successful implementation of conservation programs. They also exchanged ideas on conservation and entrepreneurship.



For data on women staff, see appendix 1.3





Using Media Communication to Increase Awareness and Local Influence

The NRT Communications Team collaborated with conservancies across all NRT regions to promote indigenous conservation and livelihood development activities while combating misinformation through the use of television, radio, print, and social media.

Radio

In March 2022, the NRT Communications Team commissioned four radio stations in Marsabit, Isiolo, and Samburu Counties (Radio Angaaf, Radio Jangwani, Serian FM, and Ibse Radio) to raise awareness of the Northern Kenya Rangelands Carbon Project (NKRCP), its benefits, and the amounts disbursed, using the real voices of beneficiaries from participating community conservancies. The radio programme targeted the Borana, Rendille, Samburu, and Maa speakers, as well as a general Swahili audience.

TV and Print Media

Two media trips took place last year: one in May, in which 15 media editors from national, international, and local media houses visited NRT and four community conservancies to learn about our work and programs. Seventeen media pieces were published in the press.

In November, the NKRCP hosted a team of thirteen journalists from various media outlets who visited Lekurruki and Nasuulu Community Conservancies, where they saw numerous development projects and interviewed staff and beneficiaries. As a result of the visit and the NKRCP's participation in COP27, 30 media pieces were published.

Top Stories:

- 17th November 2022. The Guardian: World's largest soil carbon project in Kenya receives award during COP27
- 16th November 2022. Daily Nation: How carbon credits cash is changing pastoralists' lives

From last year's media engagements, 86 positive stories from NRT, NRT Trading, and community conservancies were published and aired.



Social Media and Video

Many NRT member community conservancies communicate and share news and updates with constituents, stakeholders, and board members via WhatsApp and Facebook.






In 2022:

- To quell misinformation about NRT, the Communications Team launched a one-month campaign on social media featuring 'True & False' posters that shed light on NRT and its member conservancies. The campaign targeted areas of concern such as land, safety, and conflict and generated a ton of positive feedback. The posters were meant to help the public understand and differentiate between allegations and the truth about NRT.
- NRT Trading unveiled a new website (nrt-trading.com) with USAID's support through the Local Works Program. The website will focus on NRT Trading's impact as an accelerator and provide details about its enterprises and programs.
- High-quality program presentations were created to highlight the story of NRT, our programs, donor-led accomplishments, and funding use, as well as the incredible work done by member community conservancies.
- The Northern Kenya Rangelands Carbon Project (NKRCF) was promoted across the media in Kenya and internationally through its engagements at COP27. A new Project website was launched (www.northernkenyacomunitycarbon.org).
- The Communications Team also created a series of videos highlighting the work of community conservancies, as well as the impact of NRT and our partners across the NRT landscape.

- NRT's Communication Team joined Tusk Trust in fundraising for our community conservancy scouts and our wildlife response units in the 2022 Wildlife Ranger Challenge, whose aim was to generate funding to support conservancy scouts' front-line work in Africa's protected areas. A total of Ksh 3,285,000 (USD 27,838) was raised on GlobalGiving.

Overall, social media engagement is at an all-time high, with posts about livelihoods, wildlife, governance, and debunking myths taking center stage.

The following is a breakdown of current social media followers across the major platforms:

-  [@NorthernRangelandsTrust](#) – 74,238 Followers
-  [@NRT_Kenya](#) – 3,588 Followers
-  [Northern Rangelands Trust](#) – 730 Subscribers
-  [nrt_kenya](#) – 60,381 Followers
-  [Northern Rangelands Trust](#) – 1,050 followers



Ian Craig, NRT's Conservation Chief wins Prince William Award for Conservation in Africa

On one fine day in 1990, Ian Craig set out for what he thought would be an enjoyable hike in the Matthews Mountain Range.

He and his hiking companion, Kinyanjui, were having a wonderful time exploring the great outdoors when unexpectedly, gut-wrenching cries rendered the air.

Instinctively, they hid in nearby bushes and watched helplessly as six poachers, armed to the teeth, slaughtered nine elephants, cutting out their ivory. This experience in 1990 left an indelible print on Craig's mind, setting him on a path to protect wildlife.

At the peak of the elephant and rhino poaching epidemic, Craig converted his family's 62,000-acre cattle ranch into a rhino sanctuary, which flourished and was later re-established as Lewa Wildlife Conservancy. Craig's vision propelled Lewa to great success, and the Conservancy has grown to become a world-renowned catalyst and model for conservation, protecting endangered species and promoting the development of neighboring communities.

In 2004, in line with his commitment to conservation, Craig championed the formation of NRT. To-

day, NRT serves 43 community conservancies, spread across 63,000 square kilometers, and supports indigenous Kenyan communities in conservation, wildlife protection, monitoring and research, livestock management, and economic development.



“

At the Northern Rangelands Trust, we've developed an entrepreneurial model of putting the communities at the forefront of conservation. The community-conservancy model benefits not just thousands or hundreds of thousands of people. We're talking of one million people seeing benefits from conservation in northern Kenya.

Ian Craig

”

To stop the killing, trafficking and demand for ivory and ensure a secure, stable future for elephant populations and people across Africa, 2014 saw Craig spearhead the establishment of the Elephant Protection Initiative. He campaigned to shut down domestic ivory markets worldwide, resulting in the successful closure of ivory markets in the US, Canada, the UK, the EU, and China.

For his dedication and exceptional continued contribution to conservation in Africa, Craig was presented with the 2022 Prince William Award in November.

In his acceptance speech, Craig, who currently serves as NRT's Chief of Conservation and Development, underscored the importance of the community-led conservancy model stating, "It's no longer a case of working with communities or bringing communities into conservation. It's a case of keeping up with communities. Wealth and opportunity shouldn't solely be in these big, protected areas—it needs to be on the other side, and that's where NRT is going."

This Award is the latest Craig has received for his extraordinary contributions to conservation. In October, Craig was bestowed the 2022 Scientific Exploration Society (SES) Lifetime Achievement Award, which recognizes and celebrates those individuals who have achieved great things and whose passion, determination, and grit inspire all.



“

Congratulations Ian Craig! Your award means a lot to Kenyans, conservancy scouts and communities, Africa, and the whole world. Together, we can achieve a lot in uplifting the lives of communities.

Eliud Kipchoge, E.G.H.

”





Investing in Conservancy Infrastructure

NRT works with conservancies to develop (build or improve) infrastructure for efficient conservancy management and operations.

The infrastructure includes conservancy headquarters and offices, wildlife sanctuaries, safety-related (conservancy scout outposts and KWS camps) and livelihood-supporting infrastructure.

In 2022, Ksh 363 million (USD 3,076,271) was invested in conservancy infrastructure.

In 2022,

NRT implemented the following projects across its member conservancies:

- NRT constructed and renovated 5 classrooms and school fences within three community conservancies.
- Ksh 330 million (USD 2,796,610) was invested in conservancy infrastructure, facilitating the construction of tourism facilities.
- Ksh 353 million (USD 2,991,525) was invested in the construction of livelihood-supporting infrastructure, including tourism facilities, schools, and hay stores.
- Ksh 33,164,000 (USD 281,050) in wages was paid to 300 casuals hired in infrastructure-related projects.



Development of Conservancy Management Plans

Conservancy management plans are developed through a participatory process that involves all stakeholders and communities in the conservancies and serve as a tool for:

- directing conservancy management's actions, ensuring they are focused on priorities established by the wider community, conservancy staff, and boards.

- ensuring management continuity and holding managers and boards accountable; and
- assisting in fundraising by highlighting the areas where additional resources are required.

12 NRT member conservancies developed or reviewed their management plans in 2022. All completed conservancy plans are available on the NRT website.





Engaging County Governments, Assemblies and MPs

Community conservancies and NRT have been working to create synergies between county government activities and the efforts of indigenous communities to improve their livelihoods.

By investing in community conservancies, many county governments are fulfilling their mandate of providing local public services and addressing community development priorities.

Conservancies are starting to align their Conservancy Management and Development Plans (CMDPs) with County Integrated Development Plans (CIDPs) in order to establish community-led funding priorities for the counties.

For data on county government financial support, see appendix 1.5



See 2022 county government engagements in appendix 1.6

See overall county government funding to NRT member Community Conservancies (2014 – 2022) appendix 1.7



Lobbying for Supportive Legislation and Government Funding

NRT is collaborating with county governments to formulate natural resource policies such as the Conservation and Rangelands Policies, that are currently in the public participation stage.

NRT is developing policies to improve grazing management and county government oversight and resource allocation in three counties: Laikipia, Samburu, and Isiolo.



Changing Attitudes and Perspectives: Social-CoMMs

The Nature Conservancy and NRT collaborated on the development of Social-CoMMs, a tool that evaluates the social impact of conservancy and NRT programs and monitors the socioeconomic status of conservancy communities.

The Social-CoMMs survey was carried out in 11 community conservancies in 2022. Garbatulla, Sericho, Jaldesa, Cherab, Kirimon, Lekuruki, Leparua, Melako, Shurr, Songa, and Kinna participated in the survey.

An analysis of the data collected and the information gathered yielded the following findings:

- 80% of conservancy members reported an improved socio-economic status.
- 77% of individuals in the community conservancies felt safe and secure.
- 500,453 conservancy members are benefiting from conservation.
- 68% of people displayed a positive attitude change towards grazing management.

Ksh 155 million



In 2022, NRT Coast conservancies received the highest financial support ever, from the Water Sector Trust Fund (WSTF) of Ksh 155 million (USD 1,313,559), with 15% co-funding from the Garissa, Tana River, and Lamu County Governments to 4 conservancies, to implement integrated water supply, water resources management, and sanitation projects under the “Sustainable Management and Access to Water and Sanitation in Arid and Semi-Arid Areas (SWASAP) Project.”



BUILDING

PEACE

**AND ENHANCING COMMUNITY
WILDLIFE PROTECTION**

CHAPTER
2
CHAPTER

Pillars of the NRT Peace Program

Challenges





Investing in Community Policing



NRT’s Integrated **Peacebuilding** and **Conflict Resolution** Approach

Conflict and insecurity increased in NRT member community conservancies and across the country in 2022 due to a lack of rainfall, resulting in a spike in stock theft, highway banditry, bushmeat poaching, and ethnic feuds.

Drought increased cross-border migration leading to encroachment into protected areas by disgruntled herders searching for pasture and water, causing conflict in traditional grazing blocks. During this time, the Peace Team successfully coordinated grazing activities in the landscape with the support of the respective councils of elders and NGAOs (National Government Administra-

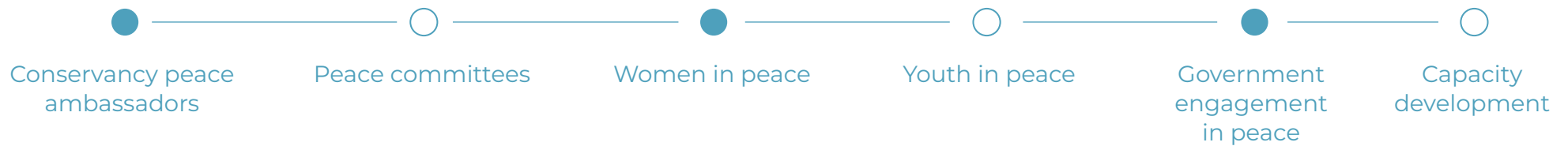
tive Officers) to prevent violence among herder groups from Samburu, Rendille, Borana, Somalia, and Turkana.

NRT recognizes that for conservation in community conservancies to be locally driven and natural resources to be managed sustainably, it must be linked to livelihood development.

Peace and safety, in turn, create the stability needed to attract financial investments and new business opportunities that create jobs and income.



Pillars of the NRT Peace Program



The Peace Team was instrumental in promoting peaceful coexistence among communities and maintaining peace during the country’s general elections and remained apolitical at their peace forums.





Peacebuilding NewsBytes

- 110 peace interventions were organized to curb conflict or prevent retaliatory attacks.
- 15 planned raids were averted by a joint team of NRT peace ambassadors, conservancy scouts, and government teams.
- 5 peace teams consisting of elders, women and youth leaders, faith-based groups, and National Government Administration Officers (NGAOs) were formed and dispatched to five hotspot regions to drive reconciliation efforts.
- 10,445 community members (8,886 men and 1,559 women) were engaged in different peacebuilding activities in 5 Counties (Isiolo, West Pokot, Baringo, Samburu, and Marsabit).
- 377 National Government Administrative Officers (NGAOs) were engaged in various peacebuilding activities.
- 5 peacebuilding meetings were held in Laikipia, Isiolo, Samburu, West Pokot and Baringo Counties to prepare the communities for the country's general elections.
- NRT facilitated the signing of a peace Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) between four communities (Turkana, Meru, Somali, and Borana) that will allow them to coexist peacefully and share resources amicably during drought. The agreement's execution will be overseen by a regionally-selected peace committee and the National Government Administration Officers (NGAOs).
- 35 women peace ambassadors were recruited in Baragoi to lead peace efforts in USAID's People-to-People (P2P) Program.
- The women in Baragoi held a peace walk to promote peace and calls for reconciliation among warring communities in the region.



- 658 people from Isiolo, Samburu, Meru Counties attended the International Peace Day celebration in Nakuprat-Gotu Conservancy to celebrate 12 years of the communities' peaceful coexistence between the Somali, Borana and Turkana communities that had previously lived in hostility towards one another.
- 300 elders from four ethnic groups from Laikipia, Samburu, and Isiolo Counties converged in Isiolo to deliberate on conflict prevention. The elders were tasked with engaging with the morans of their respective areas to quell the conflict along the Nasuulu-Leparua corridor in Burat Ward.
- A 10-day Isiolo-Samburu Sports for Peace Tournament was held in Nasuulu Community Conservancy to build peace, promote conservation talks and nurture talent. Youth from Nasuulu, Kalamia, Westgate, and Nakuprat-Gotu Community Conservancies interacted during the matches, promoting peacebuilding across the border.
- NRT facilitated the National Government Administration Officers' (NGAOs) Samburu North Summit in Baragoi. The Peace Team presented a report detailing how NRT's peacebuilding activities and the strengthening of conservancy governance had led to enhanced safety and peaceful coexistence between the Samburu and Turkana communities.
- 40 elders from Samburu's Ilpiroi Council of Elders held ten peace meetings covering Nannapa and Narupa Community Conservancies at which they promoted peace, discussed safety, and urged various stakeholders to support early warning systems to prevent attacks and expose criminals.
- The NRT Peace Team facilitated peace talks among morans and elders across the Turkana-West Pokot-Marakwet-Tiaty border. The peacebuilding mission bore fruit as the communities agreed to use dialogue to resolve conflicts, restoring calm and harmony to the region.





Peace Ambassadors

Our peace ambassadors continued to mobilize and promote community dialogue and awareness throughout the conservancies. NRT's Peace Team is being supported by 125 volunteer peace ambassadors (31 women, 28 youth, and 64 elders) from various conflict hotspots and ethnic groups in the landscape thanks to funding from USAID's People-to-People Reconciliation Program, Swedish International Development Cooperation Agency (SIDA), the European Union, Italian Aid, and Agence Française de Développement (AFD).

125



the number of volunteer peace ambassadors (31 women, 28 youth, and 64 elders) that support NRT's Peace Team



Peacebuilding Committees and other Peacebuilding Structures

In conflict hotspots such as Oldonyiro-Naibunga, Amaya, Burat, Kim, West Pokot, Baringo, Marsabit, Meru-Isiolo, and Isiolo South, 21 separate peace committees were active. These multi-ethnic select peace committees have influence over numerous administrative units and conservancies.



Traditional Council of Elders (CoEs)

At the conservancy level, a special group of elders from the Borana, Samburu, Turkana, Somali, Rendille, Garba, and Pokot has been working to promote peace. The elders' expertise in conflict management, along with their knowledge of traditional practices, has proven very helpful in resolving disputes.



Government and Stakeholders' Partnerships and Engagement

The collaboration between our peace teams and our allies—the government, regional non-governmental organizations, and other peace actors—improved in 2022.





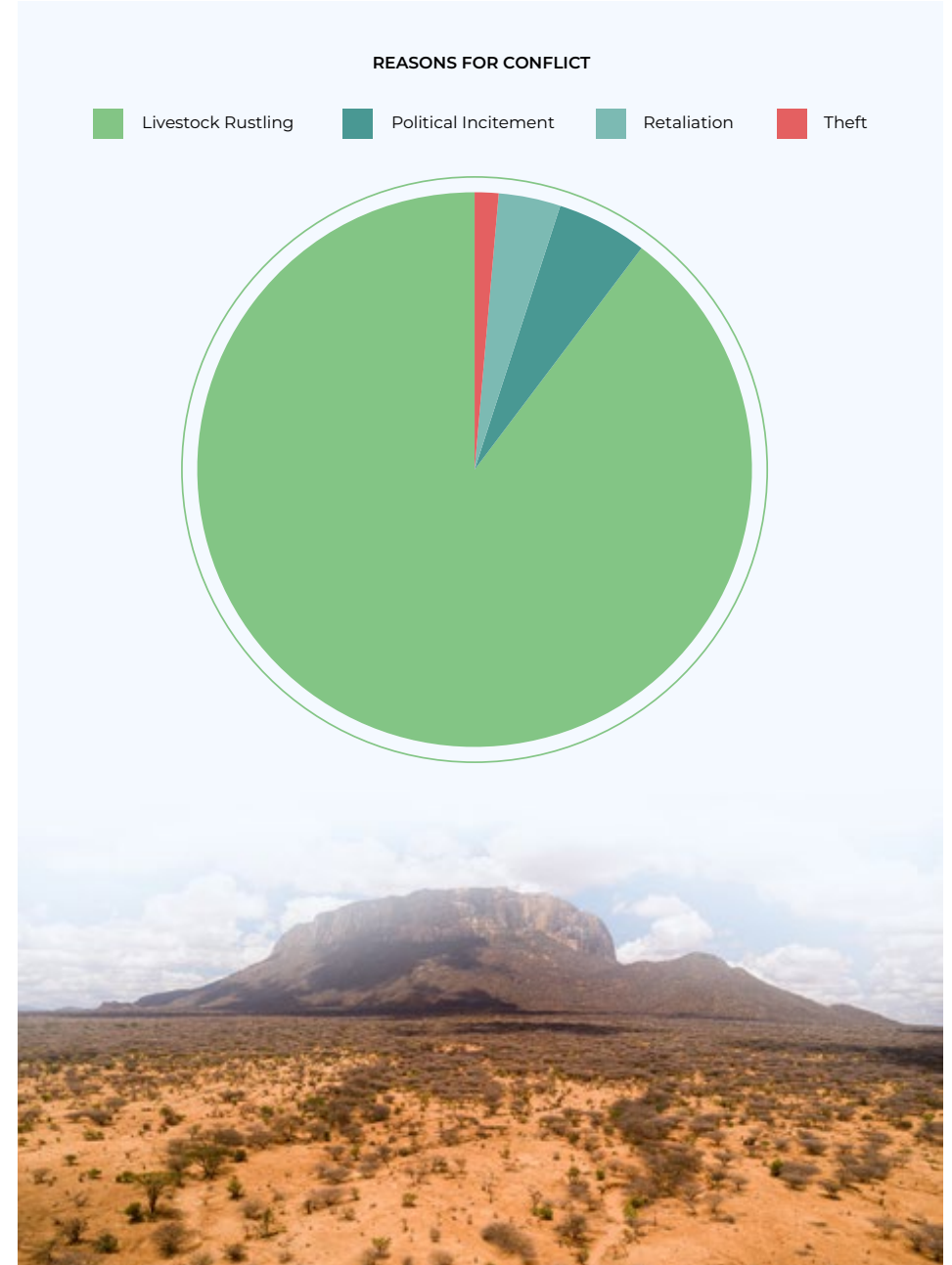
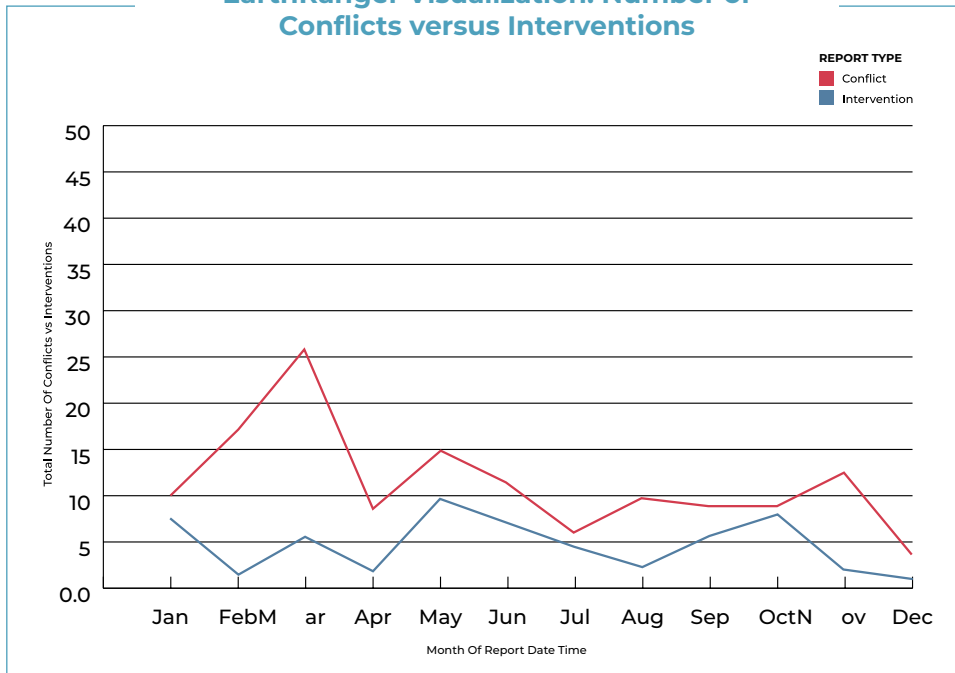
Challenges Faced by the Peace Program

- Organized crime continues to be a concern for communities due to the varied motives of the criminals terrorizing or killing innocent people.
- Conflict hotspots have increased, necessitating sustainable resources for conflict management.
- Climate change has altered the peace architecture, which requires a reassessment of peace and safety initiatives to keep up with modern demands.



See the 2022 peace interventions in appendix 2.1

EarthRanger Visualization: Number of Conflicts versus Interventions



Building Paths to Peace in a Conflict Hotspot: **35 Women on a Mission in Baragoi**

On the surface, life sometimes appears normal in Baragoi, a Kenyan market town located east of Suguta Valley and north of Maralal in Samburu County. But behind the façade of calmness, a heavy burden of grief weighs down on town dwellers as they go about their routines. The gut-wrenching memories of losing their loved ones in catastrophic bandit attacks are fresh.

For decades, heightened tensions, tribal rivalries, road banditry, cattle raids, and a high gun presence have plagued the Baragoi-Suguta Valley region, culminating in internal displacement, poverty, and loss of life.

In 2012, 42 Kenyan police officers and reservists paid the ultimate price when they were ambushed by over 100 bandits during a mission to recover stolen cattle—a dark chapter in the nation’s history.

Serah Lekirenyei, a Baragoi native, recounts tragically losing her two brothers in terrifying raids that also wiped out hundreds of her family’s livestock, their source of livelihood as pastoralists.

“Education has been crippled. Most schools remain closed during times of unrest. Those that open have less than 20 students learning, but in fear,” Serah, who is a teacher, explains.

Violent clashes and raids have prevailed for years. The government has issued curfews and deployed heavy machinery in the region to end the conflict. This appears to be working.

Currently, in the conflict-ridden Baragoi town, which borders Turkana and Baringo counties, an unexpected force is rewriting the story. Since October 2021, the People-to-People (P2P) Program, a three-



“

Women are the mothers of the community. We shelter and feed our sons and husbands, who are the fighters. We urge them to seek peaceful ways to resolve conflict.

Michelina Ayanae

Community member, Baragoi Town

”



year initiative, funded by the United States Agency for International Development (USAID), and implemented by the Northern Rangelands Trust (NRT), has delivered a new dawn.

The program has recruited a 35-strong female-led team of peace ambassadors, including influential leaders from the Samburu and Turkana communities, policymakers, and elites born and raised in the violence-prone region to advocate for peace. Through peace meetings, peace walks, village visits, churches, and mosques, this new, gentler force of women, previously overlooked, is now critical in pleading with morans—their sons and husbands—to refrain from raids and revenge attacks.

“Women are the mothers of the community. We shelter and feed our sons and husbands, who are the fighters. We urge them to seek peaceful ways to resolve conflict,” notes Michelina Ayanae, who now houses orphans and widows.

Despite the fact that women are the most impacted by the recurrent conflict, in Northern Kenya, patriarchy dictates women are there to be seen, not heard, and they have historically been barred from the decision-making table when critical issues affecting them are discussed.

Dida Fayo, former NRT’s Samburu North Lead, says, “We saw a gap and needed to raise women’s voices not only in the community but also in peacebuilding.”

The peace ambassadors have been trained in peacebuilding and reconciliation and are leading the way in building peace, healing the community, and averting further tragedy. They have been exposed to areas that have recovered from ethnic clashes and given a platform to share their experiences.

“In Samburu North, we have not yet achieved a state of complete peace, but incidents of killings, cattle raids, and internal displacement have decreased,” adds Dida.

These women are driving lasting peaceful coexistence among communities with the support of the government, elders, and other peace actors. By resolving inter-ethnic, natural resource-based, and politically motivated conflict, the P2P reconciliation program is bridging the divide, cultivating hope, and helping individuals and the society heal.

The three-year program involves Marsabit, Isiolo, Samburu, Baringo, and West Pokot Counties.

Disclaimer: This story was first published by the United States Agency for International Development (USAID) on Flickr.



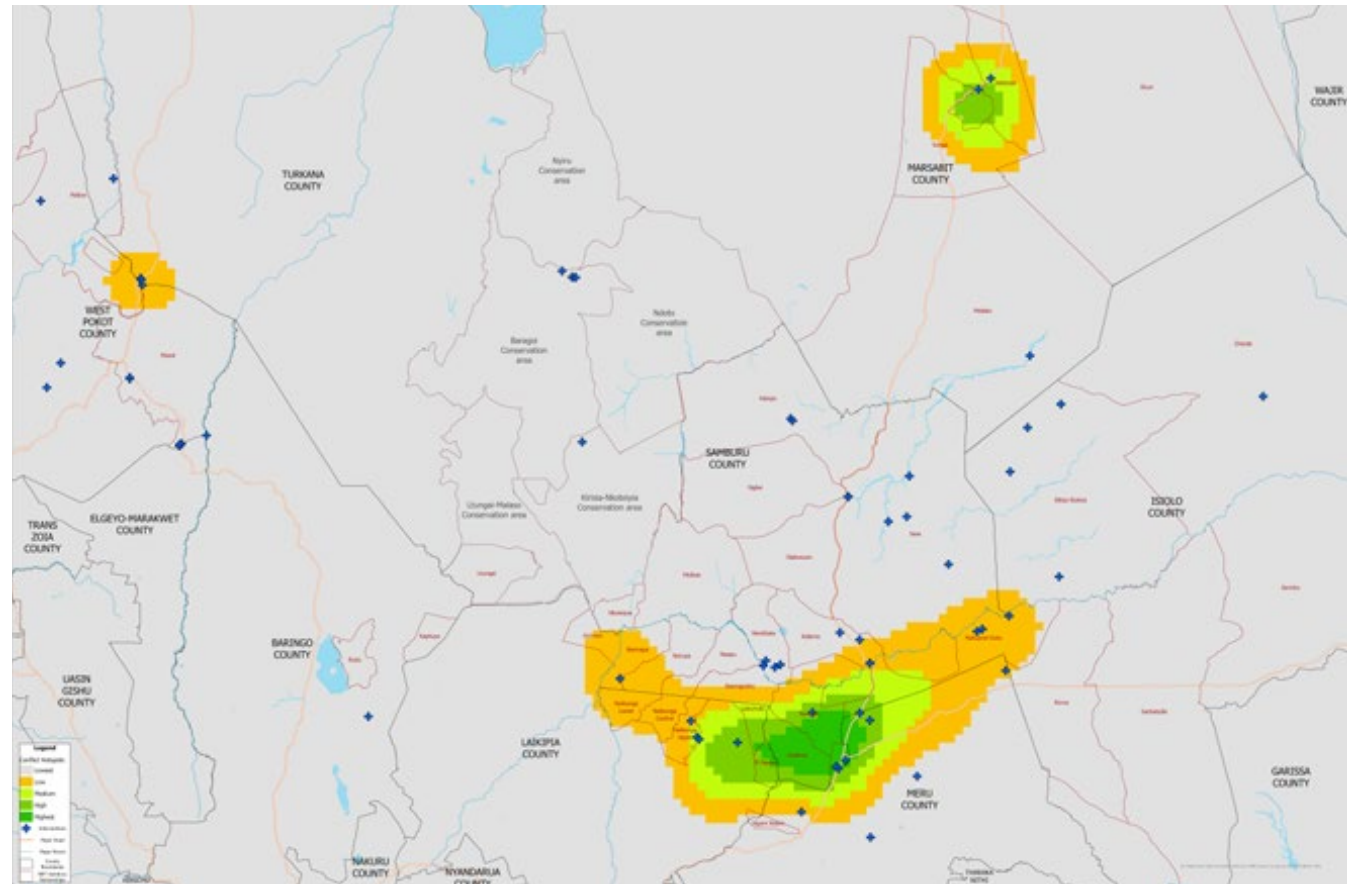
Community Wildlife Protection and Safety

Conservancies are investing in community policing to complement government agencies in order to ensure a human-centered approach to improving wildlife protection and safety in northern Kenya.

All NRT member community conservancies work closely with the Kenya Wildlife Service (KWS), the National Police Service, local government authorities, and NRT to provide a community-led approach to conflict resolution and wildlife conservation.



Current Conflict Hotspots and Interventions



For NRT member community conservancies' 2022 safety incident reports, see appendix 2.2





Investing in Community Policing, to Supplement Government Agencies

A holistic approach to improving wildlife protection and safety in northern Kenya is of paramount importance to conservancies. Therefore, conservancies are investing in community policing.



Conservancy Scouts

Each conservancy employs a team of community scouts who have undergone extensive training in standard operating procedures and human rights. The majority of conservancy scouts are unarmed. They conduct daily patrols to monitor wildlife, gather information, raise conservation awareness in their communities, and perform other conservancy-specific roles.



For data on conservancy scouts in each NRT member community conservancy, see appendix 2.3



2022 Wildlife Protection and Safety NewsBytes

- Due to the severe drought in the pastoral regions, cases of livestock theft and ethnic conflict were high in 2022. This contributed to the cultural changes observed in the new moran generation.
- There was an increase in bushmeat poaching in 2022, with 1,473 kilogrammes of game meat recovered. The most vulnerable animals were dik-diks, giraffes, and lesser kudu. The number of snare traps set by poachers also increased. Wildlife response units were instrumental in deterring the illegal logging of forests, bushmeat and sea turtle poaching, and illegal fishing in NRT Coast conservancies. All confiscated items were handed over to the appropriate wildlife protection agencies.
- 325 conservancy scouts drawn from all NRT member community conservancies graduated from a three-month training at the Kenya Wildlife Service (KWS) Law Enforcement Academy (LEA) in Manyani and are now equipped with skills in wildlife monitoring, anti-poaching law enforcement, and general conservancy scout discipline.
- 47 wardens from NRT member community conservancies and their deputies graduated after completing an intensive two-month junior leadership course at the Kenya Wildlife Service's Law Enforcement Academy (LEA) in Manyani. They were trained in supervisory duties, patrol planning, asset care, general discipline, and camp cleanliness.
- 4 members of the Wildlife Response Unit participated in the Wildlife Ranger Challenge and ran a 21-kilometer half marathon in rugged terrain while carrying 22 kilograms of weight



to raise much-needed funds to support their work as carers and protectors of wildlife. The conservancy scouts covered the circuit in an impressive time of 02:31:39.

- 80 conservancy scouts recruited from Kinnna, Sericho, Cherab, and Garbatulla Community Conservancies in Isiolo County underwent basic conservancy scout training.
- 18 sea turtles were rescued after being caught in fishing nets while 1 adult female giraffe and 1 leopard were rescued from snare traps and released to their natural habitat in NRT Coast.
- 8 motorcycles were procured for the Pate, Kiunga, and Awer Conservancies to improve fisheries and wildlife monitoring, as well as conservancy operations.
- The first phase of construction of four KWS conservancy scout outposts in Masalani, Kiunga, Minjila, and Mongo Sharif has been completed, and the second phase is currently underway.

- Conservancy scouts and our wildlife response units worked in collaboration with law enforcement agencies to coordinate the recovery of stolen livestock and prevent retaliation raids.
- The Mongo Sharif Conservancy Scout Outpost in Kiunga Community Conservancy has been successfully operationalized. This will improve the monitoring and protection of the endangered sea turtle.
- To enhance wildlife, forest, and fisheries monitoring, control, and surveillance, 4 KWS ranger camps at NRT Coast were refurbished.



For summary on annual security incidents in NRT Coast, see [appendix 2.4](#)



Daring to Be Different

Meet Bella Lobaali, NRT's First Female Radio Operator



Bella Lobaali, 28, has no problem reporting to work at 5 a.m. every morning. On the contrary, she looks forward to each workday.

She is NRT's first and only female radio operator at the Joint Operations and Communications Centre (JOCC) based at the Lewa Wildlife Conservancy.

The JOCC is located at NRT's headquarters and serves as a hub for wildlife protection, safety and peace operations and the collation of information from NRT member conservancies, the National Police Service, the Kenya Wildlife Service, and other law enforcement actors.

Bella's job is not for the faint-hearted. Most of her peers would not gladly accept, let alone stick with, this role. Working late into the night is not unusual for her team, especially during critical operations like wildlife rescues.

"Most female radio operators across the conservancies shy away from this job here at the JOCC, as the schedules and workloads are quite different." Despite these challenges, Bella soldiers on with an unwavering passion.

Working as a conservation radio operator is a dream come true for Bella. As a native of Sera Community Conservancy, she had always desired to contribute to her community's development, whose lives intertwine inextricably with those of wildlife.

Bella's journey began in 2015 when she joined Sera as a radio operator.



In 2016, she was transferred to the NRT Coast Headquarters in Lamu, where she worked for a year, gaining experience in a new culture and work environment before returning to Sera in 2017. When a position opened up at the JOCC, Bella jumped at the opportunity to join the team. She was successfully recruited and has been working there since.

Bella's first order of business every workday is to conduct 'call-ups'—the JOCC's bespoke lingo for regularly scheduled radio checks. She performs these checks for each of the 43 NRT member community conservancies to determine the operational status of their radio stations. She also conducts similar checks with the wildlife response units employed by NRT and operating under the leadership of the National Police Service and the Kenya Wildlife Service, to curb poaching and mitigate livestock theft across the NRT landscape at the behest of the National Government.

Bella and her team also help in coordinating critical radio communications with communities and conservancy scouts in the field, facilitating the performance of various activities such as rescues or treatment of injured wildlife, tracking wildlife threats, and relaying information to authorities.

Bella feels honoured when the communities and conservancy scouts with whom she regularly interacts appreciate her work. She elaborates, "Occasionally, community members across the conservancies tell me that they feel at ease whenever they hear my voice over the radio. That inspires me even more."

Heroines such as Bella are indispensable to NRT's efforts to promote peace, protect wildlife and develop local communities.



Conservancy Infrastructure Development Unit

The Conservancy Infrastructure Development Unit is responsible for improving vehicle and aerial patrol access to allow for faster response to safety incidents. The Unit aims to reduce the number of contingencies by increasing patrol coverage.

In 2022, the Conservancy Infrastructure Development Unit graded 36 kilometers of road and 7.3 kilometers of airfield.

During the severe drought in 2022, the Unit tracked water availability in Cherab and Biliqo Bulesa Conservancies, benefitting 5,000 livestock and close to 500 herders, preserving the livelihood of our pastoral communities.



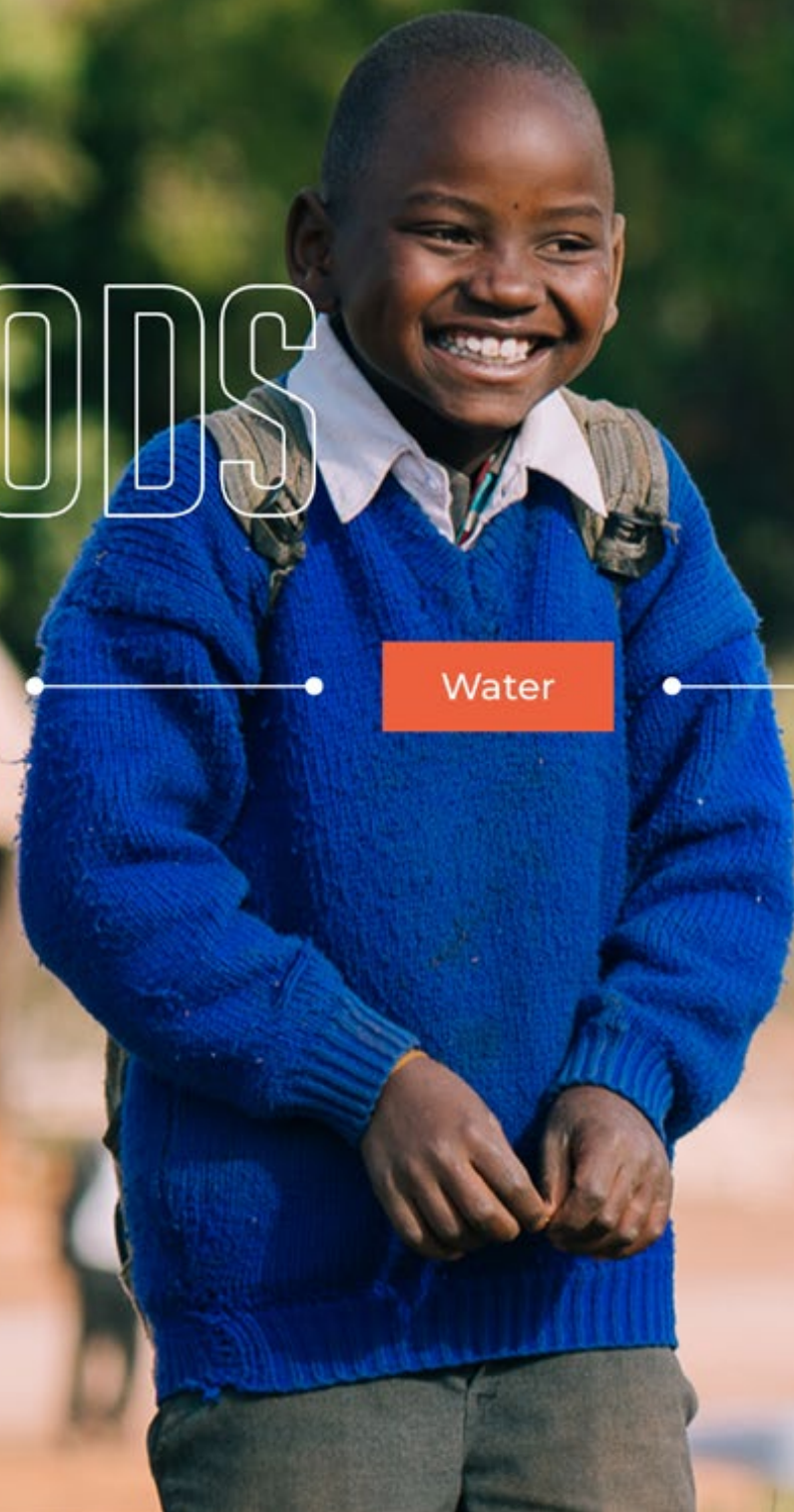
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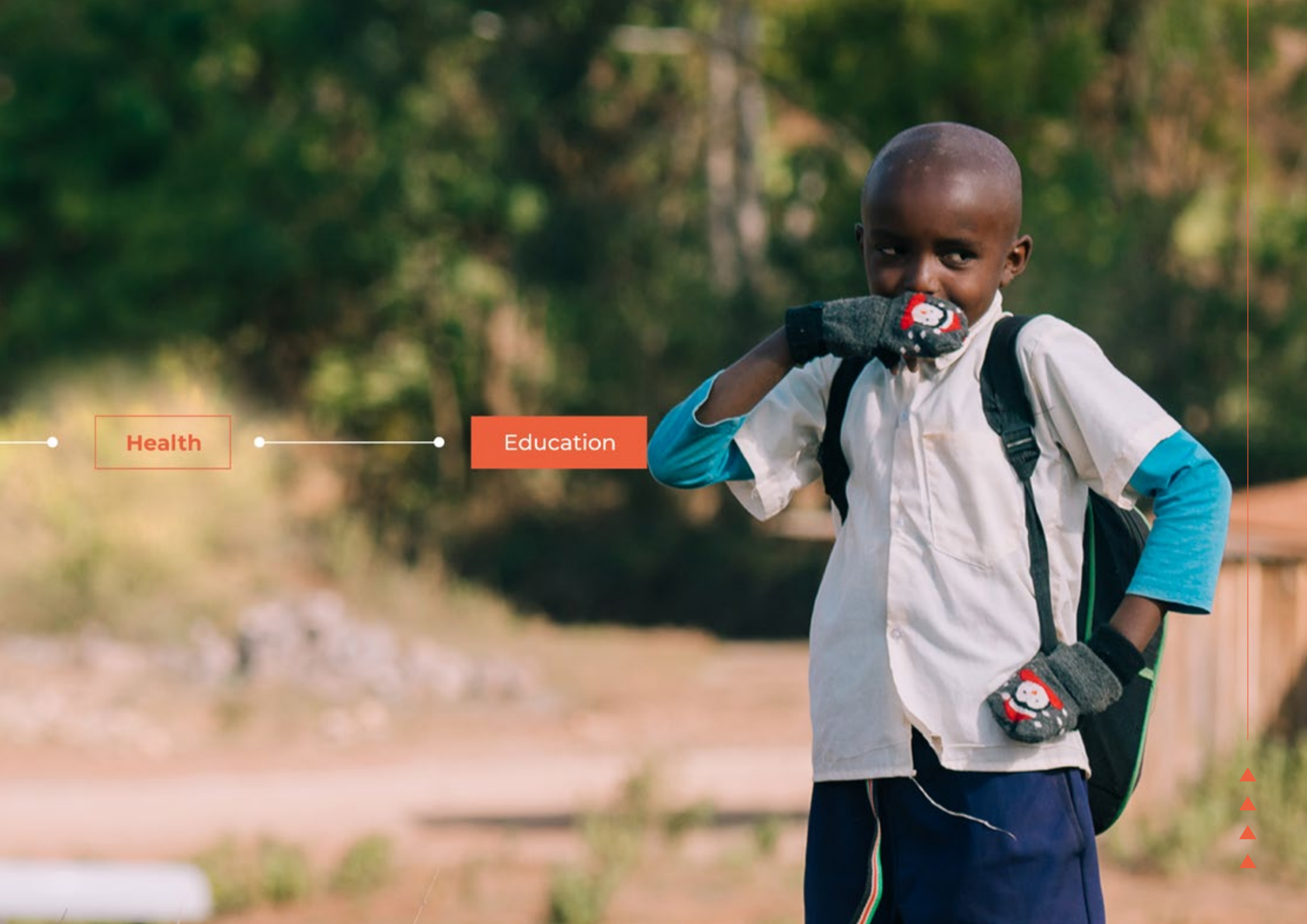
LIVELIHOODS

CHAPTER
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CHAPTER

Conservancy Livelihoods Fund (CLF)

Water





Health

Education



The NRT Conservancy Livelihoods Fund (CLF)

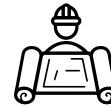
Empowering communities to identify, plan and implement their own development programs.

Over the past eight years, communities in our member community conservancies have benefited from NRT’s Conservancy Livelihoods Fund (CLF), which enables them to identify, plan, and implement their own development initiatives pertaining to livelihoods.

The Fund, established in 2015, enables members of community conservancies to gain benefits from conservation both directly and indirectly through their respective conservancies. Any NRT member community conservancy that submits an application for CLF support that is approved by the conservancy board and reflects community priorities is qualified to receive CLF funding.

Priority is given to projects that link livelihood impact to wildlife

Ksh 522 million



(USD 4,423,728), the amount to date (2015-2022), the CLF has provided for 181 projects across all member conservancies, benefiting an estimated 88,538 people.

conservation, build long-term resilience against climate change, promote peace and sustainable enterprise, empower women and youth, and leverage funding from Government and other partners (for multi-year projects).

In 2022, CLF funds amounting to Ksh 55 million (USD 466,101) supported 19 livelihood projects including education, economic empowerment, water, and health, benefiting 12,836 people.



For cumulative analysis of 2022 CLF spending, see appendix 3.1

For CLF Funding Data (2015-2022), see appendix 3.2



Water, Education, Health & Employment



Water

Integrated Water Resource Management

In 2019, NRT established a Water Program to promote access to reliable and safe water for people, wildlife, and livestock in member community conservancies.

Through the Program, NRT provides water to schools, villages, conservancy headquarters, conservancy scout outposts, tourism facilities, and wildlife water pans, among other places.

The Program is actively being developed to address diverse water challenges across the NRT landscape. NRT's structured approach to water development ensures that water investments are planned holistically, community priorities are addressed with technical, financial, social, and environmental considerations, and that conservancy-level governance and management capacity are built.



Access to safe water and improved sanitation services are key pillars of Kenya's development plan. These pillars are in tandem with the United Nations' Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) No. 6 and Kenya's Vision 2030.



In 2022, 43 water projects were completed, supporting 16,997 households within NRT member conservancies. We continued to improve water access across the entire NRT landscape through a variety of interventions including:



For more on water infrastructure projects in NRT member conservancies, see appendix 3.3

- The rehabilitation of the Nantudu Water Pan in Nannapa Community Conservancy to serve both wildlife and livestock. Several elephants were rescued after becoming entrapped in mud when the pan dried up.
- Various water projects and intervention assessments were conducted through the Carbon Community Fund (CCF) in Biliqo Bulesa, Melako, Westgate, Naibunga Upper, Il Ngwesi, and Lekuruki Community Conservancies.
- NRT identified community water needs for implementation in 2023.
- NRT Coast Conservancies (Ishaqbini, Ndera, Kiunga, and Pate) received Ksh 155.3 million (USD 1,316,101) from the Water Sector Trust Fund (WSTF) for improving domestic, livestock, and wildlife water supply, and safe water access and sanitation.
- The Embossos Irrigation Rehabilitation Project in Ruko Conservancy was completed, increasing water access for irrigation for Arabal's communities and promoting diverse livelihoods and peaceful coexistence among Mukutani Ward residents.
- The extension of a 7-kilometer pipeline at Naisunyai borehole is currently underway in Westgate Conservancy. The Project, which is supported by the EU Kenya Ranger Program, NRT, and the Samburu County Government, will address the water needs of communities, livestock, and wildlife once completed.
- Jaldesa Community Conservancy in Marsabit County distributed 60 5,000-liter water tanks to 60 families to facilitate water storage. Previously, to access water, Jaldesa's communities relied primarily on a nearby dam and a few pipes from neighboring forest water springs, which were frequently destroyed by elephants. This resulted in an inconsistent water supply.



Education

Advancing Education Projects

In the semi-arid landscape of northern and eastern Kenya, a combination of geographic, socio-economic, and political factors hinders children's access to formal education.

Rural schools in this region of Kenya lack basic infrastructure, and the seminomadic nature of the communities makes it difficult for children to stay in one school for the required education period. Formal education has traditionally been a low priority for these groups, particularly of young girls.

12,557



students received education bursaries worth Ksh 78.7 million (USD 666,949) from their conservancies through CLF and Carbon Community Fund (CCF) in 2022.

NRT is developing an education program in collaboration with Lewa's Education Department that will assist select schools in NRT member communities conservancies with infrastructure, housing, classrooms, water, fences, laboratories, boarding facilities, girls' mentorship programs, scholarship support for secondary and tertiary institutions, the capacity building of teachers and parents (management boards), conservation education, health and sanitation, and school feeding programs.



For details on education bursary distribution, see appendix 3.4



Girls Mentorship Program

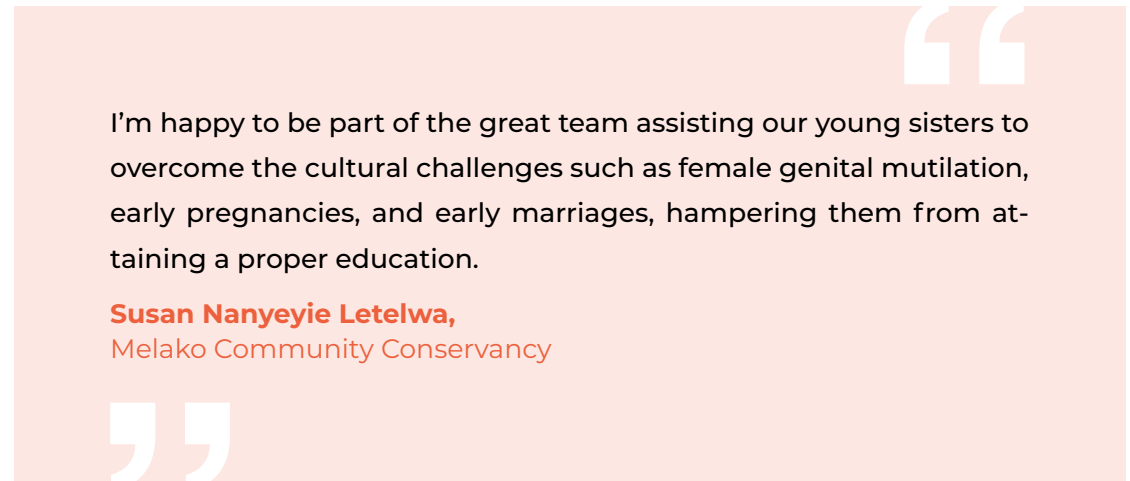
NRT established a Girls' Mentorship Program in 23 primary schools in 14 member community conservancies in collaboration with Conservation International (CI) and recruited 23 fully trained female teacher interns to support and mentor young girls.

The main goals of the Program were to:

- Encourage the enrolment of more girls in schools
- Increase retention rates of the enrolled girls
- Improve the performance of girls in schools
- Increase the transition rate of girls from one education level to another

In 2022

- While the drought persisted, 1,000 students from five schools in Melako Community Conservancy benefited from a School Feeding Program, which increased school enrollment.
- The NRT-CI Mentorship Program has increased enrollment by 154 girls in the 23 schools participating in the pilot, with 152 girls transitioning from primary to secondary school.
- Capacity-building trainings for teachers, students, and parents were held in 7 schools.
- Plans were made to collaborate with the Lewa Education Program to implement a pilot Digital Program in NRT schools.
- An annual female intern teachers training was conducted across the NRT landscape.



I'm happy to be part of the great team assisting our young sisters to overcome the cultural challenges such as female genital mutilation, early pregnancies, and early marriages, hampering them from attaining a proper education.

Susan Nanyeyie Letelwa,
Melako Community Conservancy





Improving Health

NRT supplements government health services and fills gaps in health care provision within its member conservancies through health assessments, infrastructure, and outreach.

In 2022:

- In Songa Community Conservancy, two health outreaches were conducted at the Parkishon and Karare Health Centers. 358 people (277 adults and 81 children) were served and treated for various ailments. Malaria, pneumonia, influenza, and diarrhoea were the most common ailments treated through the outreaches due to a lack of clean drinking water.



- 8 safe deliveries were performed in Kalama Health Centre's new maternity wing.
- NRT conducted a health scoping mission in Isiolo County in collaboration with the University of Plymouth and Isiolo County's Health Department. 8 facilities in remote areas were assessed to determine the level of healthcare delivery and identify the challenges they face. Malaria, kala azar, and yellow fever were identified as the emerging diseases of concern. Malnutrition was widespread in the County after three years of no rain.
- 875 people visited the Biliqo Dispensary facility and were served.
- Biliqo Dispensary made 67 safe deliveries.



Creating Employment Opportunities and Jobs

In a landscape where formal employment is scarce, NRT and the community conservancies are among the largest employers, employing permanent staff and creating thousands of temporary jobs each year.

By the end of 2022:

- NRT employed 1,366 people with 1,086 working for community conservancies and 280 working for NRT.
- Community conservancies had created 300 temporary jobs in infrastructure and water projects.
- A total of 208 locals were employed in the conservancies' community-owned and private tourism facilities.





NRT Trading

NRT Trading is a business accelerator for social and conservation impact enterprises.

It was established by NRT to accelerate the development of sustainable and resilient businesses across member conservancies at all levels of the social spectrum: from household businesses run by women and youth to conservancy-based businesses that leverage community assets to businesses operated by NRT Trading to improve value chain dynamics and connect people to distant markets.

NRT Trading's 2020-2025 Strategic Plan is based on the following three-pillar model:



Pillar 1: NRT Trading businesses (Ufugaji Bora Mashinani) and BeadWORKS)

These are stand-alone, sustainable businesses in key value chains and economic sectors developed, piloted, and run by NRT Trading.



Pillar 2: Conservancy-based businesses (Tourism)

NRT Trading enables community conservancies to attract investors and operate conservancy-owned businesses.



Pillar 3: Household-based businesses (Vocational Training and Financial Inclusion: Biashara Mashinani, Northern Rangelands Savings and Credit Cooperative Organization (NR Sacco), Ujuzi Manyattani)

NRT Trading empowers men, women, and small groups to start and manage enterprises in order to diversify household income and increase economic resilience.

The BASE (Business Advisory and Support Engine): This critical structure houses the functions that provide the leadership for the three pillars.



NRT Trading Socio-economic Baseline Survey

In 2021, NRT Trading conducted a socioeconomic baseline survey in 25 community conservancies in Isiolo, Laikipia, Samburu, Marsabit, Tana River, and Lamu Counties. The survey was conducted to assess the socioeconomic status of community conservancy members and the impact of NRT Trading's programs on community livelihoods. It revealed that:

- Only 1% of the respondents have a university education.
- 59% live in temporary, traditional houses because they are herders, while others live in these structures because family income is too limited to construct a permanent home.
- 4% of households have access to employment.
- 66% of the respondents depend on livestock to cushion them from financial shocks.
- 1% of respondents are involved in trade in gums, resins, dyes, and essential oils.
- 96% of respondents said they had never undergone any formal livestock training.

The results of the baseline survey guided the operations of NRT Trading's Programs.



Pillar 1: NRT Trading Businesses: BeadWORKS & Ufugaji Bora Mashinani

BeadWORKS

BeadWORKS collaborated with women beaders to ensure that quality products were produced and that they could continue earning an income while the country endured a historic drought.

Many community conservancies struggled with worsening drought conditions and insecurity. This affected production, reach, and group visits in some areas.

In 2022:

- 1,200 women in community conservancies were empowered through BeadWORKS.
- The financial rewards to Star Beaders amounted to Ksh 416,434 (USD 3,529).
- 62,592 BeadWORKS items were produced by the beaders.
- BeadWORKS earned Ksh 8,328,670 million (USD 70,581) as labor payment for the creation of beaded products.
- BeadWORKS generated Ksh 32,489,107 (USD 275,331) from the sale of beaded products.
- BeadWORKS contributes 5% of revenue to conservation efforts in host conservancies. This amounted to Ksh 1,624,455 (USD 13,766) in 2022.
- BeadWORKS trained 30 women beaders in Westgate and Melako Community Conservancies on the leather technique, increasing their skillset and earning potential.





For conservancy earnings from BeadWORKS products, see appendix 3.5

BeadWORKS Wins the Kenya E-commerce Sustainability Initiative of the Year Award (2022)

In 2022, the Kenya E-commerce Awards nominated NRT Trading's BeadWORKS E-commerce website for not just one but three awards:

- Best Fashion E-commerce Website of the Year 2022
- Best B2B E-commerce Website of the Year 2022
- Best Sustainability Initiative of the Year 2022

And BeadWORKS was announced as the winner of the Gold Award for Best Sustainability Initiative of the Year 2022!

The nominations and award demonstrate NRT Trading's unwavering commitment to investing in the future of NRT member community conservancies through sustainable, social, and ethical enterprise.

Ufugaji Bora Mashinani

NRT Trading's Livestock Department is implementing a USAID-funded Local Works Program dubbed "Ufugaji Bora Mashinani." This is a practical skill training for select pastoralist groups in 10 community conservancies, delivered using the farmer field school (FFS) approach.

The Program aims at increasing herders' livestock production capacity and was implemented in 10 conservancies across Laikipia, Samburu, Isiolo, and Marsabit Counties.

Ufugaji Bora Mashinani was recommended and informed by the findings of a baseline survey conducted in August 2021, which revealed that herders' lack of practical skills was impeding profitable livestock production.

Training was delivered through a curriculum and manuals approved by the respective county governments and certified by the National Industrial Training Authority (NITA).

In 2022:

- Ufugaji Bora Mashinani trained 90 trainers of trainees (TOTs) on the pastoral field approach in Garba Tulla and Isiolo so they could equip farmers with skills in livestock disease identification, management and control, improving breeding management, and increasing access to quality pasture, fodder, milk, and other livestock products.
- 30 herders in Sera and Biliqo Conservancies are now fully trained on module two of the livestock curriculum, which focuses on animal health and livestock marketing.
- The Livestock Team dewormed 75 heads of cattle in Laikipia as part of NRT Trading's Livestock to Market (LTM) Program.

- To foster partnership, Ufugaji Bora Mashinani collaborated with Partnership and Resilience for Economic Growth (PREG) partners to develop an integrated plan for USAID-funded programs and worked with the Nawiri Program to train field agents on the livestock curriculum.
- Ufugaji Bora Mashinani partnered with the northern Kenya branch of the Kenya Veterinary Association (KVA) to conduct a beef cattle fattening and finishing training organized by a private investor—Feedlot Kenya, in Kajiado. NRT Trading supported the participation of three livestock technical staff and members of KVA in the training which demonstrated simple structural design (as opposed to the conventional structural setup of feedlots), i.e., the use of local materials for holding structures equipped with feed and water troughs.

Fodder Bank

NRT Trading's fodder bank project was established to provide a sustainable solution to the grass shortage problem brought about by climate change in the landscape, which has also exacerbated interethnic conflict over limited resources.

NRT Trading has established fodder banks by growing and harvesting boma rhodes hay.

Boma rhodes hay has a high protein and fibre content and is rich in nutrients.



Pillar 2: Conservancy-based Businesses: Tourism

Tourism

- Increasing Financial Sustainability and Resilience through Tourism
- In northern Kenya, tourism provides an acceptable, complementary form of land use that can be pursued alongside the existing pastoralist lifestyle, providing youth and women with a new source of income in addition to pastoralism.
- Conservation-based tourism has the potential to generate sufficient commercial revenue for conservancies to achieve economic sustainability while also providing their communities with essential services and infrastructure.

In 2022:

- Despite safety concerns in the NRT landscape, there was an upswing in tourism, with member community conservancies registering an income of Ksh 117.2 million (USD 993,220), up 34% from Ksh 85 million (USD 720,338) made in 2021.
- Tourism revenue was used by the conservancies to fund development priorities, including education, health, water, and infrastructure—benefiting the most vulnerable community members and providing alternative employment opportunities.
- 36 conservancy board members from Melako, Naibung'a Lower, and Lekurruki Community Conservancies were trained in governance and tourism operations, equipping them with banda management skills to run community-owned bandas sustainably.
- 9 youth from Nkoteiya, Naibung'a Lower, and Lekurruki Conservancies underwent on-the-job training in hospitality management and some were later employed in the bandas of their respective conservancies.

- 13 conservancy staff from Naibung'a Lower, Lekurruki, and Nkoteiya Conservancies underwent training in wilderness first aid, acquiring life-saving skills and empowering them to succeed in the hotel industry.

Tourism NewsBytes

In 2022:

- Four tour operators were taken on a familiarization trip to the community-owned bandas. As a result of this trip, tour operations generated Ksh 0.5 million (USD 4,237) in revenue for the community conservancies.
- Tassia Lodge was renovated and expanded, increasing its bed capacity from 10 to 16.
- Regrettably, Melako's bandas were destroyed in a fire accident in March 2022.
- NRT Trading benefited from the European Union's support in the form of expert consultants who were seconded to train conservancy Board members on tourism operations. The consultants also assisted with the revamp of The Big North website and developed manuals for setting tables for bush breakfasts, bush dinners, and all lodge meals.
- Using Carbon Project funds, Naisuluu and Lekurruki Community Conservancies invested Ksh 20 million (USD 169,491) in tourism.



For income generated by conservancy bandas, see appendix 3.6



For conservancy tourism facilities' staff data, see appendix 3.7



For NRT member community conservancies' tourism income data (2013-2022), see appendix 3.8


Pillar 3: Household-based Businesses: Biashara Mashinani, NR Sacco & Ujuzi Manyattani

Biashara Mashinani Program

Biashara Mashinani is a structured graduation-based Program encompassing training, business development and mentorship, the provision of financial literacy tools (such as savings and loan facilities and mobile banking), and access to a savings and credit cooperative organization (sacco).

In Biashara Mashinani, individuals and groups in community conservancies are taught skills that enable them to start and run businesses. This approach catalyzes entrepreneurship, diversifying income generation streams for community members and positioning them to capitalize on opportunities in the landscape.

In 2022:

- 2,301 youth and women across the conservancies were trained in life skills, entrepreneurship, financial literacy, and business management through Biashara Mashinani. This empowered them to work for themselves or capitalize on formal employment opportunities, increasing their self-reliance.
- 50 Star Entrepreneurs from 13 community conservancies underwent entrepreneurship training, acquiring skills in business improvement and expansion.
- With the support of USAID’s Local Works Program, Biashara Mashinani created a custom business training curriculum comprising four modules: business idea generation, starting businesses, building businesses, and expanding businesses.
- The first module on business idea generation was taught throughout the conservancies, and a database of 400 business entrepreneurs was created within 10 community conservancies.



Northern Rangelands Savings and Credit Cooperative (NR Sacco)

Founded in 2016, the Northern Rangelands Savings and Credit Cooperative (NR Sacco), is a vehicle for delivering savings and credit solutions to communities within NRT member conservancies. It was established to assist women and youth in conservancies in developing sustainable businesses as alternative livelihood options.

NR Sacco is independent, community-owned, and member-driven. It derives its membership from community conservancies and has become a powerful vehicle for promoting financial inclusion, providing access to financial services through savings and loans, and mobilizing local resources for economic development.

In 2022:

- 523 new members joined NR Sacco.
- NR Sacco's membership stood at 5,563 active members.
- Ksh 37.2 million (USD 315,254) was accrued by members in savings and shares.
- NRT Trading received Ksh 17 million (USD 144,067) for onward lending by NR Sacco to the members.
- NR Sacco disbursed loans worth Ksh 12.1 million (USD 102,542) to finance 291 women and youth-run enterprises. Borrowers underwent business and financial management training before acquiring loans.

- Despite the harsh economic climate which was exacerbated by an unprecedented drought and the skyrocketing cost of living, the borrowers repaid their loans amounting to Ksh 22.5 million (USD 190,677).
- 20 trained Community Enterprise Agents (CEAs) were placed to promote access to financial services and entrepreneurship education in villages.
- The Sacco was active in 39 of the 43 NRT member community conservancies.





I joined NR Sacco after finishing form four in 2016 and learning about it from my peers. The Sacco loaned me Ksh 18,000, which I used to start a goat-selling business.

NR Sacco continued to provide capital to communities throughout the pandemic, unlike most financial institutions, which stopped lending to businesses in 2020.

The NR Sacco loan has changed my life because I buy goats and resell them for a profit. My business is thriving, and I have now opened a shop that is assisting me in paying off my loan quickly.

My family opposed the idea of joining the Sacco and receiving a loan, but now that my goat business has succeeded, they support the Sacco's activities. Many morans have joined the Sacco after seeing how my life has changed.

Saving has become a part of me, and I am very happy that at the age of 25, I was awarded as the best male saver at this year's annual delegate meeting held in Samburu Kalama!

Sameti Philip Lesantanguny,
NR Sacco beneficiary



Ujuzi Manyattani Program

Ujuzi Manyattani is a vocational training program in which polytechnics place trainers in villages to teach marketable skills to community members, providing access to learning for people from disadvantaged socioeconomic backgrounds and those who have not been able to obtain a formal education.

The Program enables pastoralists to acquire practical vocational skills without disrupting their way of life. The goal is to equip community members with entrepreneurship skills that diversify their livelihoods, breaking the ongoing cycles of poverty and conflict over natural resources.

In 2022:

- 544 youth and women graduated from Ujuzi Manyattani, garnering the attention of the national and county governments, and development partners, as the Program expanded.
- Following the signing of a partnership agreement with the National Industrial Training Authority (NITA), NITA's technical team visited Ujuzi Manyattani's training sites and were impressed by the Program's training model.
- 305 youth and women from 9 NRT member community conservancies were trained in vocational skills.



For Ujuzi Manyattani graduation data, see appendix 3.9



Ujuzi Manyattani, Changing Lives, Building Resilience, One Household at a Time



“I acquired my life-changing skills freely and I am teaching the same skills to other youth who want to learn freely in my garage. I urge others to do the same, so we have an educated society,” Says 37-year-old John Lorunyei, a father of two and Ujuzi Manyattani beneficiary from Nakuprat-Gotu Community Conservancy.

John Lorunyei lost his father in 2017.

As the first of eight siblings, he had to find a way to help his mother provide for the family despite his struggles with disability.



A resident of Nakuprat-Gotu Community Conservancy, Lorunyei's options were limited because he had no education, and his family was impoverished.

He sought practical ways to improve his future. After hearing about Ujuzi Manyattani from the Nakuprat-Gotu Conservancy Manager and learning that the Program provided free mobile, village-based vocational training, Lorunyei quickly applied and enrolled in a motorcycle repair and maintenance course.

He chose this course because he noticed a lack of motorcycle repair services in his community.

Lorunyei graduated with 337 other Ujuzi Manyattani trainees on the 6th of April 2022 after three months of intensive training. At the graduation ceremony, NRT Trading provided him and the other graduates with free toolkits. He used his to establish a motorcycle repair shop in Kiwanja in Isiolo.

“I earn my daily bread with the skills I gained from Ujuzi Manyattani training. This has enabled me to take care of my family. I am very grateful to NRT Trading for giving me these skills freely.” says 37-year-old John Lorunyei, a father of two.

Through a partnership between NRT and Toyota Kenya, the latter trained Ujuzi Manyattani graduates on how to repair Yamaha motorbikes and later tested their knowledge.

Lorunyei defied all odds and became one of the top 10 graduates who qualified for advanced skills training by Toyota Kenya.





CONSERVING

WILDLIFE

CHAPTER
4
CHAPTER

Ecological Monitoring

Conserving Endangered Species





Human-wildlife Conflict



Community Conservancies & **Wildlife**

Fifteen years of data reveal that NRT member community conservancies provide vital range and landscape connectivity for critically endangered and endangered wildlife, and in some cases host a large proportion of their national or global populations, demonstrating their effectiveness in wildlife protection and conservation.

Data acquired by conservancies and research partners illustrates the substantial role conservancies have played in stabilizing and growing populations of elephants, reticulated giraffes, Beisa Oryx, and Grevy's zebras.



DID YOU KNOW?



Wildlife-CoMMS

Wildlife Conservancy Management Monitoring System (CoMMS) is a conservancy scout-based monitoring system that helps conservancy scouts collect and monitor trends in wildlife behaviour, illegal activities, wildlife mortality, and human-wildlife conflict. It also enables them to collect information on social attitudes toward wildlife and conservation. This data helps conservancies to shape and adapt their management approach, highlighting priorities, successes, and sometimes failures.





Ecological Monitoring

NRT is monitoring eight endangered large mammals: the hirola, black rhino, Tana River red colobus monkey, Tana River crested mangabey monkey, African wild dog, Grevy's zebra, reticulated giraffe, and Beisa Oryx, as well as two endangered sea turtles, the green and hawksbill turtles. Conservancy-based monitoring of additional endangered species including pangolin and pancake tortoise, is currently under development.

In 2022:

- 100 conservancy scouts in 10 conservancies in Laikipia and Isiolo Counties underwent a Wildlife-CoMMS SMART training designed to teach them how to manage and maintain wildlife databases using SMART (Spatial Monitoring and Reporting Tool for Conservation.) technology. The scouts use the SMART digital platform to monitor wildlife populations and human-wildlife conflict (HWC) incidents and report illegal activities.
- 25 conservancy scouts underwent basic computer training designed specifically for Wildlife-CoMMS database operators, which improved data accuracy during database management and maintenance.
- 16 Wildlife-CoMMS feedback sessions were held across the NRT landscape and attended by 320 conservancy scouts.
- 12 Wildlife-CoMMS refresher trainings were conducted.
- 28 bi-annual feedback sessions were carried out.
- 9 community conservancy managers attended the initial Wildlife-CoMMS database training for conservancy managers.



Surviving an Unprecedented Drought: **When Limits Get Tested**

○

The northern Kenya rangelands are home to an incredible variety of birds and wildlife species, including mighty elephants, towering reticulated giraffes, fearless lions, majestic eland, shy oryx, elegant cheetahs, beautiful rhinos, buffalo, and even the hirola—the world’s most endangered antelope! The region is experiencing the worst drought in 40 years.

The dire situation is exacerbated by La Niña, a phenomenon bolstered by climate change that is pushing away the rains normally received in East Africa, upending lives.

A new report by the Wildlife, Research and Training Institute revealed that between February and October 2022, 205 elephants, 512 wildebeest, 381 common zebra, 51 buffalo, and 49 Grevy’s zebra died due to drought, with 14 different wildlife species affected, and the most impacted ecosystems including Amboseli, Tsavo, and Laikipia-Samburu.

NRT and NRT member community conservancies acted swiftly to reduce wildlife mortality and minimize the drought’s impact on communities and livestock. Through the Supplementary Feeding Program, NRT provided hay for multiple species at the Sera Rhino Sanctuary, Ishaqbini Conservancy’s hirola, and with the support of the Wildlife Conservation Network, Beisa Oryx at Nakuprat-Gotu Conservancy.

The prolonged drought dried up numerous watering points, therefore NRT provided wildlife with drinking water. An irrigation scheme NRT is currently implementing in collaboration with the San Diego Zoo Wildlife Alliance and the SideKick Foundation is

90% complete, and will irrigate approximately three hectares of land within Ishaqbini Conservancy to improve natural forage for wildlife and livestock.

To prevent human-wildlife conflict and promptly address deteriorating animal health while the drought persisted, NRT tracked wildlife across member conservancies using enhanced wildlife monitoring systems. With forage amounts dwindling, Kalama Conservancy donated a truckload of hay to the Grevy’s Zebra Trust. 250 bales of hay were delivered to the Archer’s Gate storage facility and another 150 to the Shaba National Reserve to feed buffalo.

Supported by San Diego Zoo Wildlife Alliance, NRT has been conducting livestock vaccination campaigns in Ishaqbini Conservancy. This prevents livestock diseases that threaten pastoral livelihoods, increases livestock resilience, and protects the area’s critically endangered hirola, which are susceptible to the same illnesses.





Conserving Endangered Species



The Ishaqbini Hirola Sanctuary

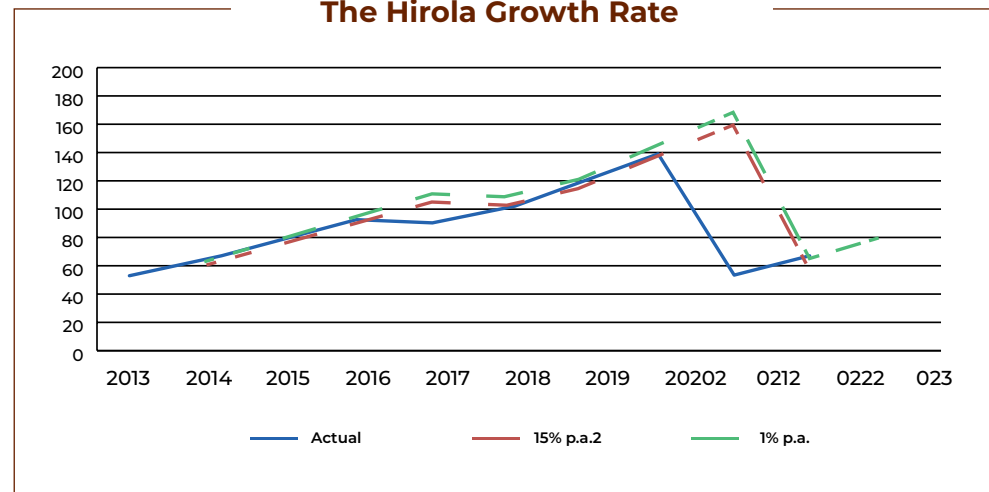
The hirola antelope is the rarest and most endangered antelope in the world. With an estimated global population of 500 individuals, the species has a limited range along the Kenya-Somalia border. Since 2012, the community of Ishaqbini in Ijara, Garissa County, has been spearheading the recovery and protection of the endangered hirola. The Ishaqbini Hirola Sanctuary was among the first community-led conservation initiatives in Kenya.

In 2022:

- Ishaqbini recorded 15 hirola births (9 within the sanctuary and 6 outside), 2 deaths, and an estimated 66 individuals inside the Sanctuary.
- No hirola were lost to the drought, thanks to the Conservancy's provision of supplementary feed to the species.
- Rangeland rehabilitation and a pilot project in grass irrigation are currently underway. The hope is that this will ensure an adequate supply of forage.
- No disease outbreaks occurred in the Sanctuary.
- No vaccination exercises were conducted as herders had migrated with most of their livestock due to the prolonged drought. Vaccination drives are critical not only for disease prevention but also for promoting hirola health and safeguarding communities' livelihoods.



The Hirola Growth Rate





Rothschild's Giraffes

Following the successful translocation of the Rothschild's giraffes from the disappearing Longicharo Island, on the eastern shores of Lake Baringo, to the 17.7-square-kilometer sanctuary on Ruko's mainland between 2020 and 2021, the population on the mainland has steadily increased from 10 in 2021 to 14 in 2022.

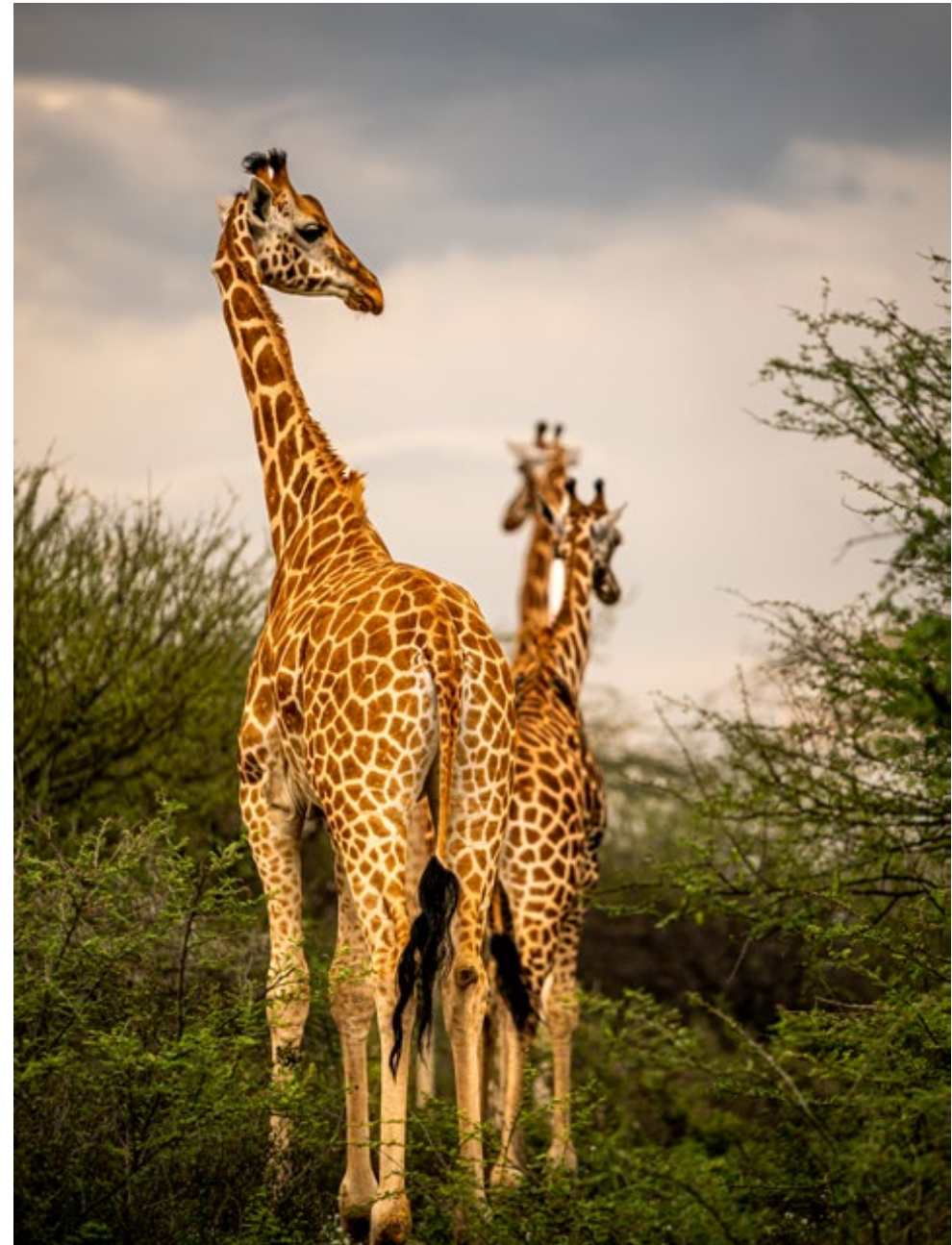
The translocation was necessitated by Lake Baringo's water levels rising by an estimated six inches daily, leaving the giraffes marooned on the Island. Ruko Community Conservancy, the Kenya Wildlife Service, NRT, and NRT's partners worked collaboratively to relocate the giraffes to safety.

The Conservancy has submitted a request to the Kenya Wildlife Service (KWS) to translocate more Rothschild's giraffes, zebras, and waterbucks from other parts of the country to reinforce this population.

Ruko Community Conservancy also participated in the drafting of Kenya's giraffe recovery and management strategy.

In 2022:

- 4 calves were born at the Ruko Giraffe Sanctuary.
- 14 Rothschild's giraffes can be found at Ruko Community Conservancy (2 male, 12 female).





Sera Rhino Sanctuary

Sera Community Conservancy became East Africa's first community conservancy to establish a black rhino breeding sanctuary—Sera Rhino Sanctuary, in 2015. With a founding population of ten critically endangered species, the community is focused on increasing the number of endangered black rhinos and protecting their habitat.

These iconic species have since generated revenue for the community through tourism, which supports livelihood projects such as education bursaries and small-scale businesses and creates job opportunities.

In 2022:

- 2 black rhino calves were born at the Sanctuary, bringing the total population to 21.
- There have been no poaching incidents at the Sanctuary since its inception, thanks to a dedicated team of scouts and strong community and partner support.
- The Conservancy undertook supplementary feeding to prevent any wildlife losses due to the drought.
- Rhino keepers monitor the rhinos daily, and their location, body condition, and behavior are recorded in monthly reports shared with NRT and the Kenya Wildlife Service. Motion-sensor cameras that provide images of rhinos and other wildlife have also been installed at each watering hole in the Sanctuary to facilitate monitoring.





Beisa Oryx

The IUCN Red List classifies the Beisa Oryx (*Oryx beisa ssp. beisa*) as endangered, with an estimated global population of 8,000 to 9,000 individuals. According to NRT's 2020 aerial census, the Nakuprat-Gotu Community Conservancy and the adjacent national reserves of Shaba and Buffalo Springs are home to one of Kenya's largest herds of the species and account for at least 10% of the country's population.

Wildlife-CoMMS findings reveal that 15 conservancies in the Laikipia-Samburu-Isiolo ecosystem have collected enough data on the Beisa Oryx to facilitate trend analysis. The Beisa Oryx is commonly found in Nakuprat-Gotu, Biliqo Bulesa, Sera, Melako, and Kalama Community Conservancies.

Nakuprat-Gotu, in collaboration with other conservation partners including the Kenya Wildlife Service (KWS), NRT, and the Isiolo County Government is rolling out conservation initiatives and sensitizing communities on the need to protect the species from extinction through the Beisa Oryx Project, which is funded by the European Union through IUCN Save Our Species.

As a result of the Project:

- 2,500 trees have been planted as part of school conservation initiatives.
- there is greater community awareness and support for conservation.
- enhanced economic opportunities have been created through NRT Trading's Ujuzi Manyattani Program.
- poaching has almost completely stopped, and Beisa Oryx are no longer hunted for their meat.



No wildlife census was conducted in 2022 due to the severe drought that ravaged the country all year. In 2023, a census is scheduled to take place.

Key Species Monitoring

NRT has continued to provide critical long-term data on the sandgrouse population and assist key community conservancies in monitoring their game bird populations.



Sandgrouse

In 2022, a sandgrouse count was done in Sera, Melako, Biliqo Bule-sa, Shurr, Cherab, and Kalepo Community Conservancies. Most of the sandgrouses counted were black-faced and chestnut-bellied sandgrouse. The results of the count are shown on appendix 4.1.



Primates

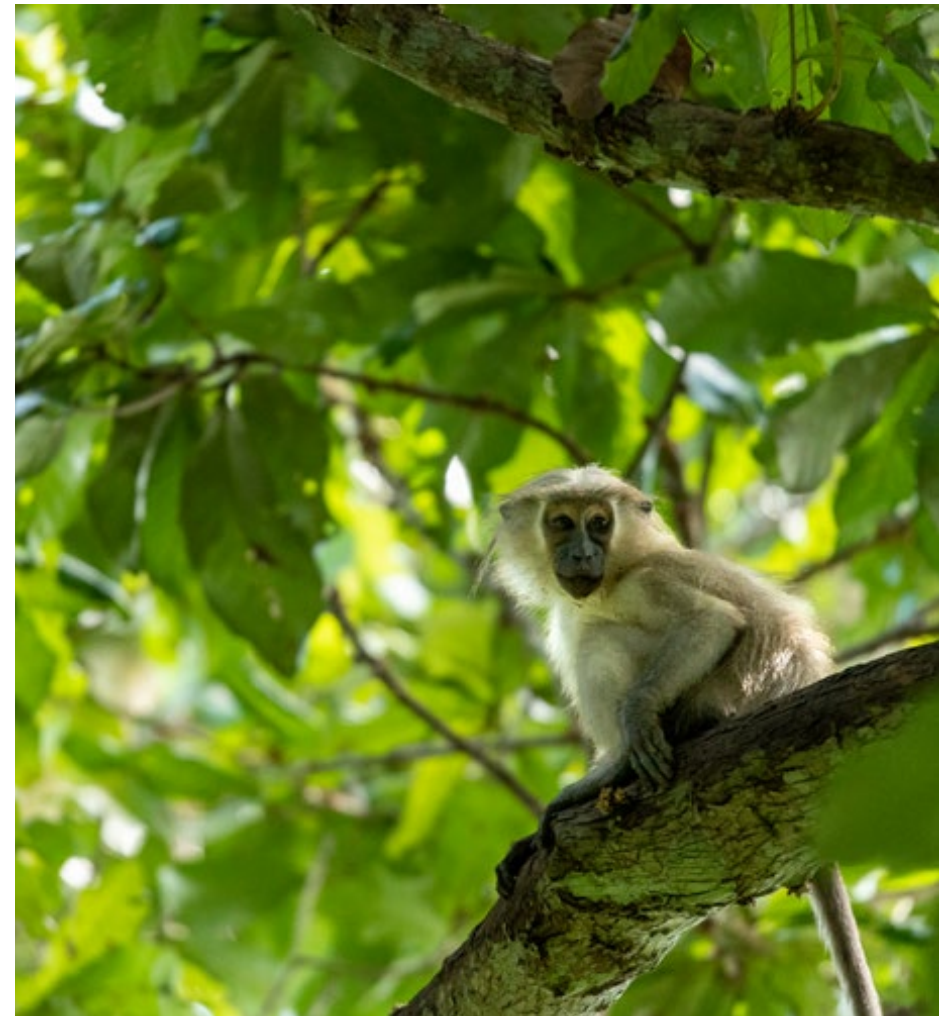
Ndera Conservancy, which borders the Tana River Primate Reserve, is home to two of Kenya's most endangered primates—the Tana River red colobus and the Tana River crested mangabey—both of which are endemic to the riverine forests along the Lower Tana River and are found nowhere else in the world.

Both species are threatened by habitat loss caused by forest destruction from logging, clearing for agriculture, and the drying up of riverine forests as a result of changing Tana River dynamics and climate change, which has resulted in less rainfall and more frequent droughts in recent years.

- ▲ The latest primate survey was carried out by conservancy scouts in 2021 across the five forest patches of Buboya, Kinyadu, Mkomani, Mattanama, and Nkanu.



For data on the 2022 sandgrouse count, see appendix 4.1





Elephants

The PIKE (Proportion of Illegally Killed Elephants) in NRT member community conservancies (Samburu, Laikipia, Isiolo, Meru, and Marsabit Counties) for 2022 was 20%, a significant decrease from 25% in 2021 and 36% in 2020.

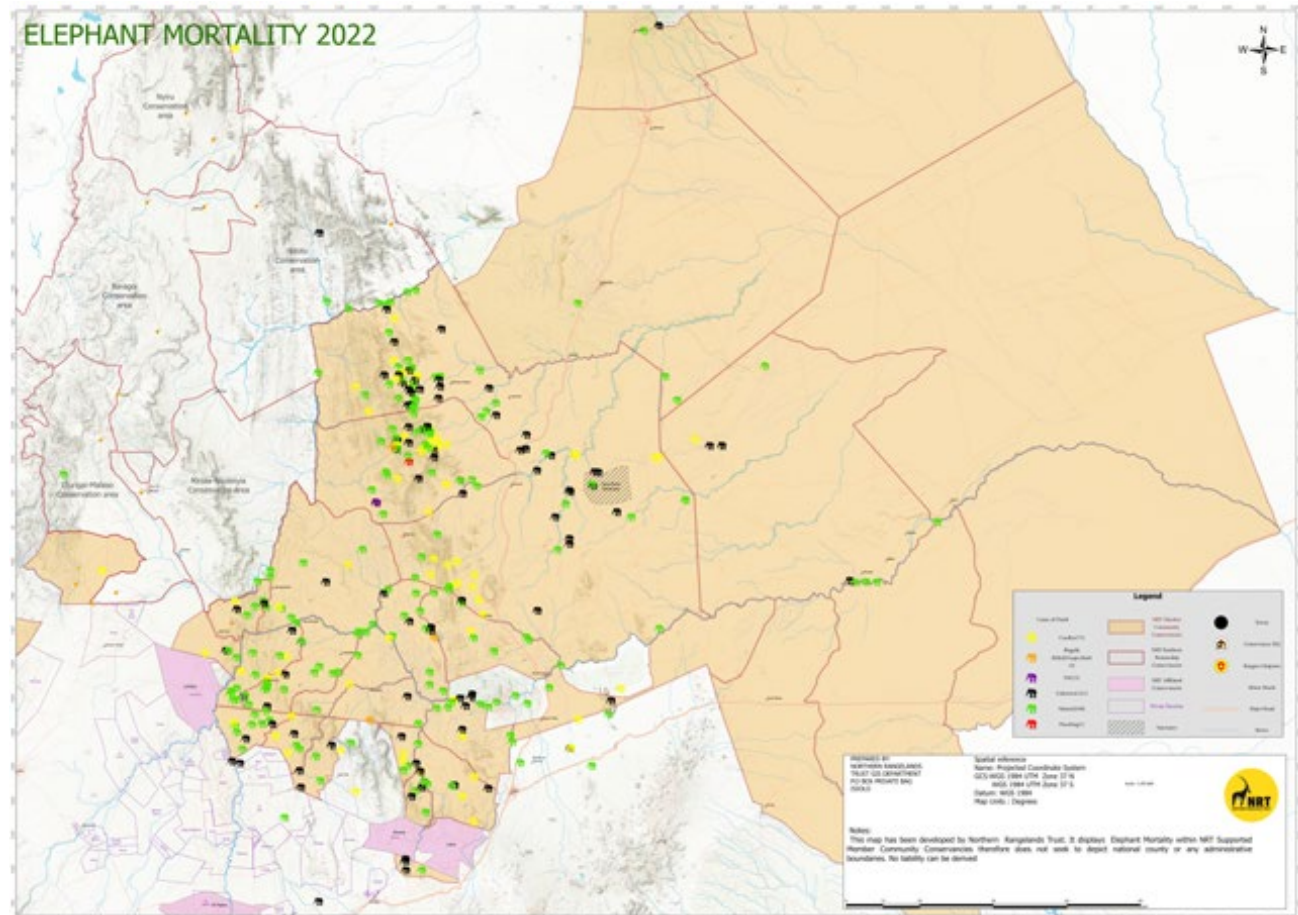
392 elephant deaths were recorded in 2022. The last two years saw an uptick in elephant deaths due to four consecutive failed rainy seasons. The number of elephant deaths was mostly attributed to natural and unknown causes, including drought. Incidences of ivory poaching in NRT member community conservancies remained low.

PIKE trends from 2012 to 2022 reveal that NRT member community conservancies kept their PIKE well below the 30% target.

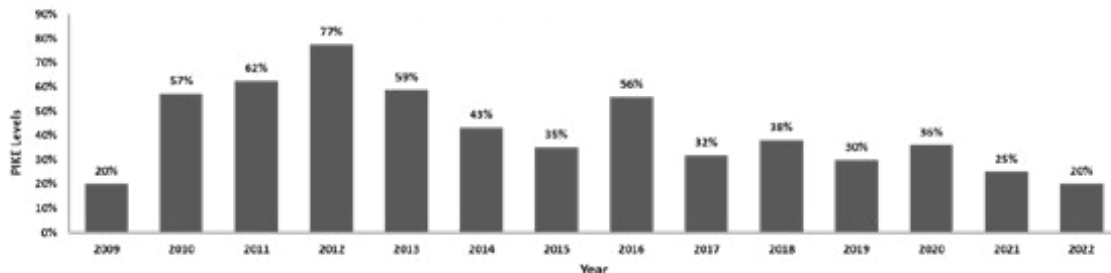
On the other hand, Ngilai Central, Lekurruki, and Westgate community conservancies reported 80 cases of human-wild-life conflict (HWC).

In 2022, the number of illegally killed elephants increased mainly due to resource conflict.

Elephant Mortality in 2022 in NRT Member Conservancies



The Proportion of Illegally Killed Elephants (PIKE) in NRT Member Community Conservancies



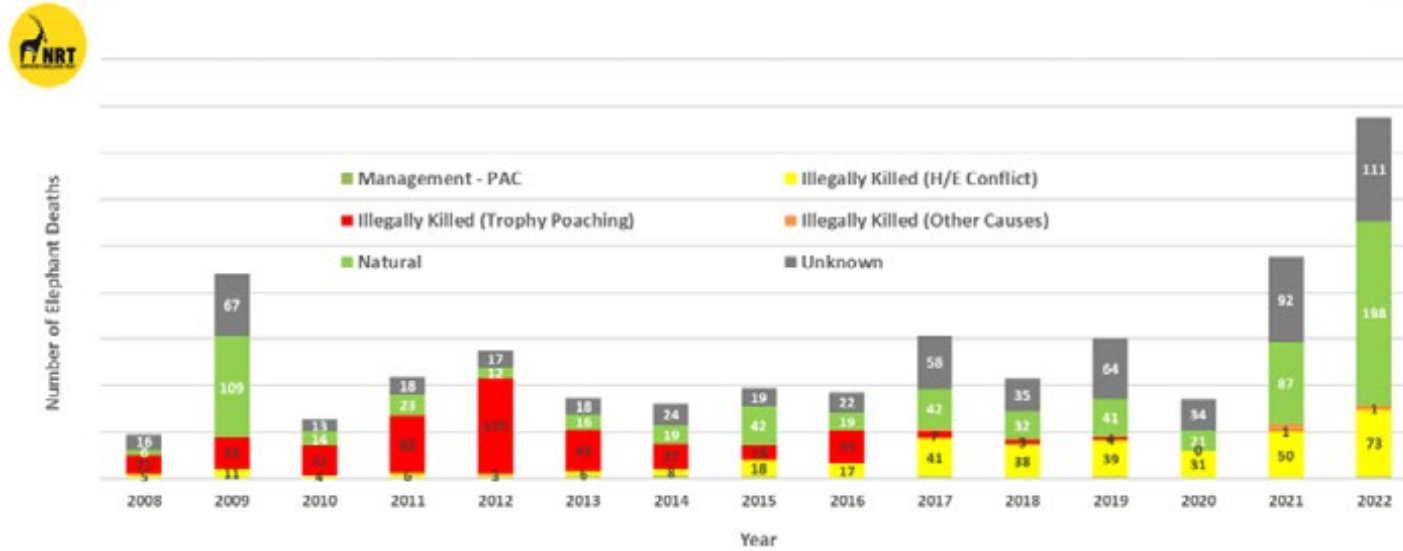
Elephant Mortality by all Death Causes in NRT Member Community Conservancies



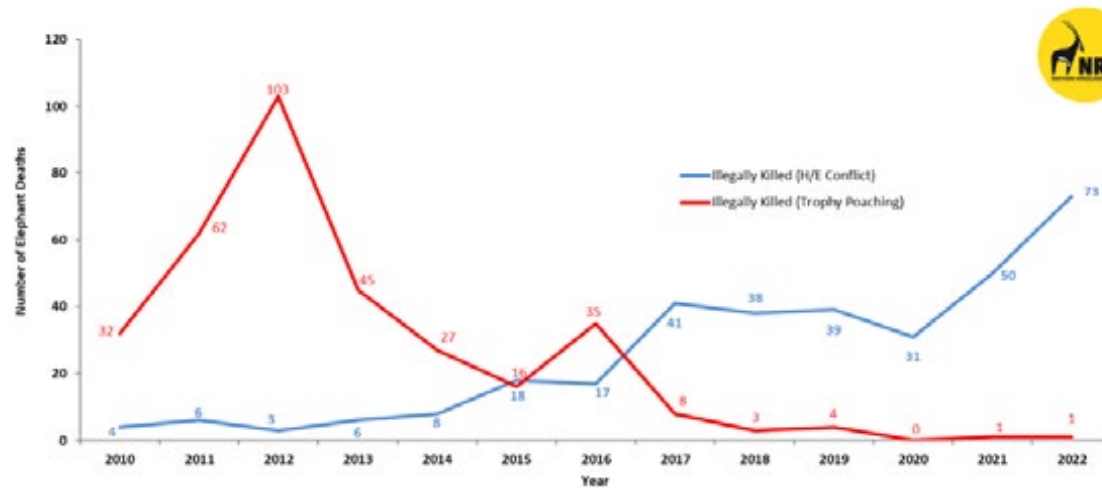
For trends in causes of elephant deaths, see appendix 4.2



Elephant Mortality by all Death Causes in NRT Member Community Conservancies



Elephant Mortality by Cause of Death (2008-2022)



Human-wildlife **Conflict**

Human-wildlife conflict (HWC) monitoring is a component of the NRT member conservancies' conservancy scout-based monitoring system, Wildlife-CoMMS.

The collection of HWC data is critical as it provides an understanding of the major causes of conflict and conflict hotspot areas, and informs ways to engage communities and plan mitigation measures to reduce the impact of HWC on people's lives and livelihoods.

Naibunga Community Conservancy Elephant Exclusion Zones in Settlement Areas

Naibunga completed the construction of a 44-square-kilometer strand elephant fence that was erected around Kimanjo Township within Naibunga Lower and Naibunga Central Community Conservancies to protect community settlements from elephants.

The fence will be managed by a fence committee elected by the community similar to the grazing committee to oversee the running and management of the fence. A team of 10 people including one supervisor and 9 fence attendants will be trained at Lewa Wildlife Conservancy to assist in managing the fence.

Ndera Community Conservancy Protecting Farmlands from Elephant Raids

- ▲ A permanent, portable, solar-powered, electric fence with 1 to 4 strands was erected for testing in some farms in Ndera to prevent wildlife, particularly hippopotami, buffaloes, and elephants, from damaging crops belonging to farmers in Ndera Community Conservancy.

This is a temporary seasonal measure put in place to ensure farmers experience minimal crop loss as a result of wildlife raiding crops.

Cherab Conservancy Community Members Rescue Baby Elephant

One morning in May 2022, we received reports from community members of a baby elephant trapped in a shallow well in Raku Bula, Merti Sub-county, in the newly established Cherab Community Conservancy.

At 2 p.m., the nearly two-month-old male calf was successfully rescued by community members. He was in critical condition, and his family was nowhere to be found. Many community members watched over him before a Tropic Air helicopter was deployed to airlift the calf to Sheldrick Elephant Orphanage in Nairobi, with approval from the Kenya Wildlife Service (KWS).

Sheldrick Trust was ready to provide a comfortable home and family to help him forget the terrible ordeal he had just endured.

We couldn't be more proud of the community members who carried out this successful rescue mission, as well as our team from the Joint Communications Centre (JOCC), who coordinated this rescue with the relevant authorities.



Additional Updates

Lorian Swamp Rapid Biodiversity Assessment

Highlights:

- The Lorian Swamp landscape is a critical ecosystem for biodiversity conservation and the development of sustainable community livelihoods. It is an essential dry-season grazing area and cropland for the local pastoralists and agropastoralists respectively. It also has an enormous potential of being earmarked as a key biodiversity area (KBA). Therefore, it merits consistent biodiversity monitoring during the dry and wet seasons annually to document the changes in vegetation structure and composition, water distribution, and dynamics in the key vertebrate and invertebrate species distribution and occurrence. It is also deserving of formal recognition as a KBA.
- Raptors (birds of prey) sighted at the Lorian Swamp landscape in Isiolo County that are of great conservation importance in the International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN) Red List of Threatened Species include critically endangered species (such as the Hooded vulture, Rüppell's griffon vulture, and the White-backed vulture) and endangered species (such as the Lappet-faced vulture, Egyptian vulture, Martial eagle, Steppe eagle, and Bateleur eagle). Out of the 11 vulture species found in Africa and eight found in Kenya, five species (Hooded vulture, Rüppell's griffon vulture, White-backed vulture, Lappet-faced vulture, and Egyptian vulture) have been spotted at the Lorian Swamp.
- Based on the diverse array of key bird species recorded so far at Lorian Swamp, the area potentially qualifies to be classified as

an important bird area (IBA) with great conservation and eco-tourism potential.

- New sightings of herpetofauna (reptile and amphibian species) that were previously not known to occur in Isiolo County were made. These include Schilluk and Mozambique ridged frogs for amphibians and Tsavo dwarf gecko and *Chalcedis bottega*, a species of burrowing lizard, for reptiles. A single Nile crocodile was spotted in the receding flood waters of the Ewaso Ng'iro River section of Cherab Community Conservancy.
- Isiolo County hosts significant populations of the six large carnivore species found in East Africa (the Lion, Leopard, Cheetah, Spotted hyena, Striped hyena, and African wild dog) alongside mesopredator (small carnivore) populations, and is therefore of key socio-ecological importance in northern Kenya. During the Lorian Swamp rapid biodiversity assessment, the presence of five of the six large carnivore species was physically confirmed, i.e., Lion, Leopard, Cheetah, Spotted hyena, and Striped hyena. The small carnivores that were sighted included the African civet, White-tailed mongoose, Black-backed jackal, Side-striped jackal, and Blotched genet.

Supplementary Feeding

- In response to the severe drought, Ishaqbini, Sera, Naku-prat-Gotu, and Kalama Community Conservancies provided supplemental feeding to wildlife to prevent drought-related deaths, particularly of endangered species.



RANGELANDS

CHAPTER
5
CHAPTER

Conserving Natural Resources

Vegetation Cover





Invasive species management

RANGELANDS

Conserving Natural Resources

Over the last three decades, the rangelands in NRT community conservancies on which pastoralist communities rely have become less and less productive as human and livestock populations have grown and climatic conditions have become varied and unpredictable.

Therefore, NRT's Rangelands Program focuses on improving livestock management through better governance and raising the awareness and understanding of pastoralist communities about the root causes of and solutions for rangeland degradation.

We seek to achieve widespread behavioural change and better rangeland management to stabilize, recover, and sustain grasslands.

The drought conditions experienced across the country in 2022 reduced forage and pasture supplies for livestock and wildlife in all community conservancies with rangeland management programs.

Vegetation Cover in Inside and Outside Conservancies

Drought affects both areas within and outside the community conservancies in nearly the same way, but areas within the conservancies have more green vegetation cover than areas outside due to planned grazing management in the conservancies.

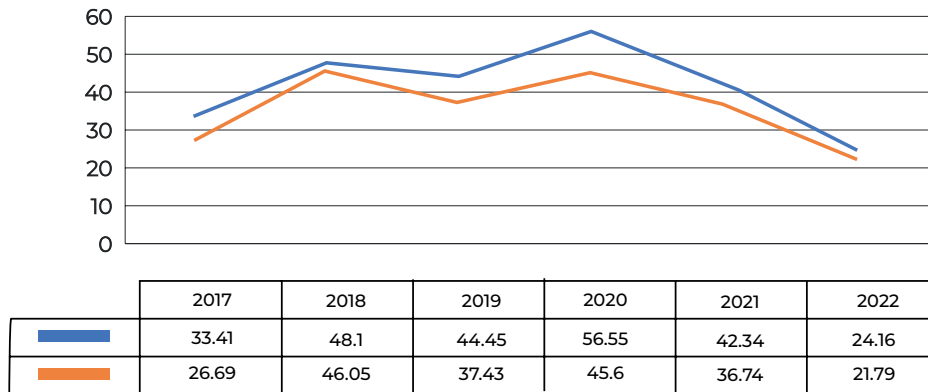
2022 had the lowest vegetation cover recorded in the last five years (2017-2022). Due to nearly five consecutive failed rainy seasons, the forage accumulated in previous years had been reduced to the bare minimum.

In community conservancies, there are a few places with forage that pastoralists use as a last resort for grazing to prevent the loss of livestock. This contributes to their resilience in light of the fluctuating availability of the resource.

These areas within conservancies supported more grazing animals and biodiversity, which contributed to the key outcomes of the planned grazing management implementation.



Vegetation Cover Monitoring Using Satellite Greenness Measures (Every June)



The cartoon animations entertained the herders while teaching them technical rangeland management principles in an easy-to-understand format, resulting in the mindset shifts needed to achieve better rangeland health.

Cartoon screenings attract and reach a large audience, creating a new channel for communicating with and engaging herders on the conservancy grazing model.

In 2022, the drought and the delayed October-November rains made it challenging to access adults to show the cartoons as they were away in difficult-to-reach areas looking for pasture for their livestock.



Remedies for Natural Resource Degradation

Cartoons

During community meetings to discuss the rangelands, NRT's Rangelands Team has been showing a three-part cartoon series to herders, women, elders, and children to spark discussion about rangelands management. The cartoons, voiced in English, Swahili, and Maa, examine how the northern Kenya landscape has changed in recent years, the causes of the change, and potential solutions.

Over the last three years, **9,044** herders (**2,288** male adults, **2,034** female adults, **2,062** youth, and **2,660** children) have been reached with appropriate information on planned grazing management through rangeland cartoon screenings in villages.



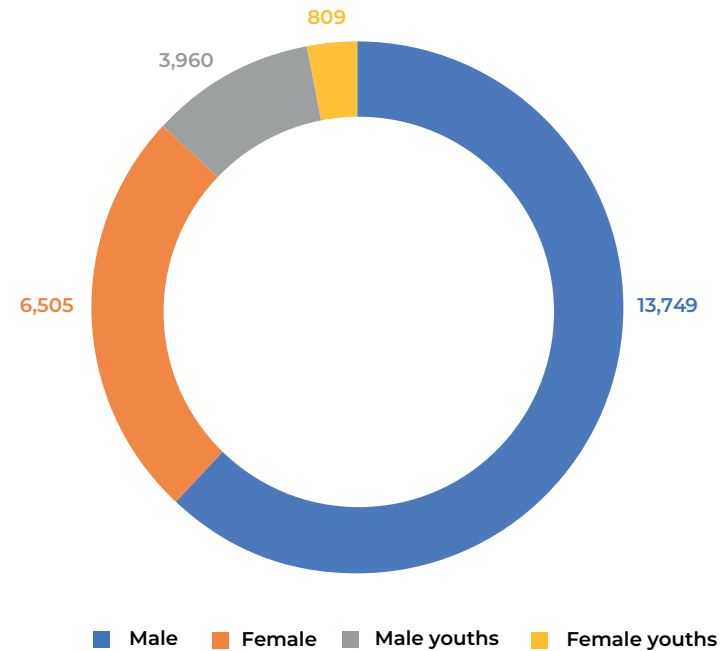
Grazing Plan Implementation

Grazing plans are developed at the settlement level, aggregated at the conservancy level, and shared across the region to develop regional, sub-county or county grazing plans. The wet season is the most important time for grazing planning and management because this is when the most forage grows. Plant recovery time can be increased by concentrating animals in blocks at the zone level within a community conservancy.

In 2022:

- 502 of the 2,302 herders who underwent training in various aspects of planned grazing management implementation were women.
- 25,023 herders, the majority of whom were men, were reached with factual information on planned grazing management in the Herders Awareness Program.
- The first group of rangeland coordinators attended a three-day course on holistic grazing management and other rangeland management activities at Mpala Research Centre. The coordinators in attendance came from Melako, Meibae, West Gate, Kalama, Nakuprat-Gotu, Nasuulu, Leparua, Naapu, Il Ngwesi, Lekurruki, and Naibunga Upper Community Conservancies. The workshops are part of a rangelands mentorship program aimed at ensuring planned grazing management so conservancies can earn future carbon credits.

Herders Engaged in Rangelands Program Activities



Represents total 25,023 herders reached through grazing management awareness program in 2022





Invasive species management

Rangeland rehabilitation through invasive species management and grass re-seeding has been successful across the NRT landscape. Although lack of rainfall continues to have an impact on grass regeneration, research by both NRT and external researchers has shown that clearing invasive species and grass re-seeding results in increased perennial grass cover and less bare ground.

1. Controlling Invasive Cactus

The Naibunga conservancies have adopted a cost-effective and environmentally friendly method to put the spread of the invasive *Opuntia stricta* cactus under control.

The cactus stunts grass growth, injures livestock and wildlife that try to eat the fruit beneath its spines, and in some cases exacerbates human-wildlife conflict by attracting elephants to settlement areas.



Kalama: Before

They employ cochineal, an insect that only feeds on the *Opuntia stricta* cactus. Cochineal lives only on the *Opuntia* plants, feeding on plant moisture and nutrients.

In 2022, 9,960 casuals (8,400 women and 1,560 men) were engaged in growing cochineal bugs in 6 greenhouses and spreading them across approximately 1,156 acres.

2. Rangelands Rehabilitation

Semi-circular Earth Bunds

Herders established at least 20,000 semicircular earth bunds in Oldonyiro, Nasuulu, Meibae, Westgate, Kalama, Il Ngwesi, and Lekurruki Community Conservancies. These surface runoff collection and retention structures are used to promote natural regeneration.

In 2022, 501 acres of bare ground cover were rehabilitated.



Kalama: After



The Prosopis Project in Ruko

Conservancy scouts patrolled and removed Prosopis seedlings that had developed along Lake Baringo's shores where floodwater had receded in an area of approximately 800 hectares. The goal was to prevent Prosopis tree propagation and to control its spread. 991 seedlings were removed in total.

Ruko Community Conservancy received five tree poppers and other equipment from CABI and the Kenya Forestry Research Institute (KEFRI) to assist in the removal of the invasive species and further prevent its spread. This early detection and rapid response strategy is far more cost-effective and environmentally desirable than reactive measures taken after the plants have established themselves, such as tree removal.

3. Conservancy Livestock Movements

Cattle herds are more mobile in their search for grass and water than goats, sheep, and camels, and are the most affected by drought.

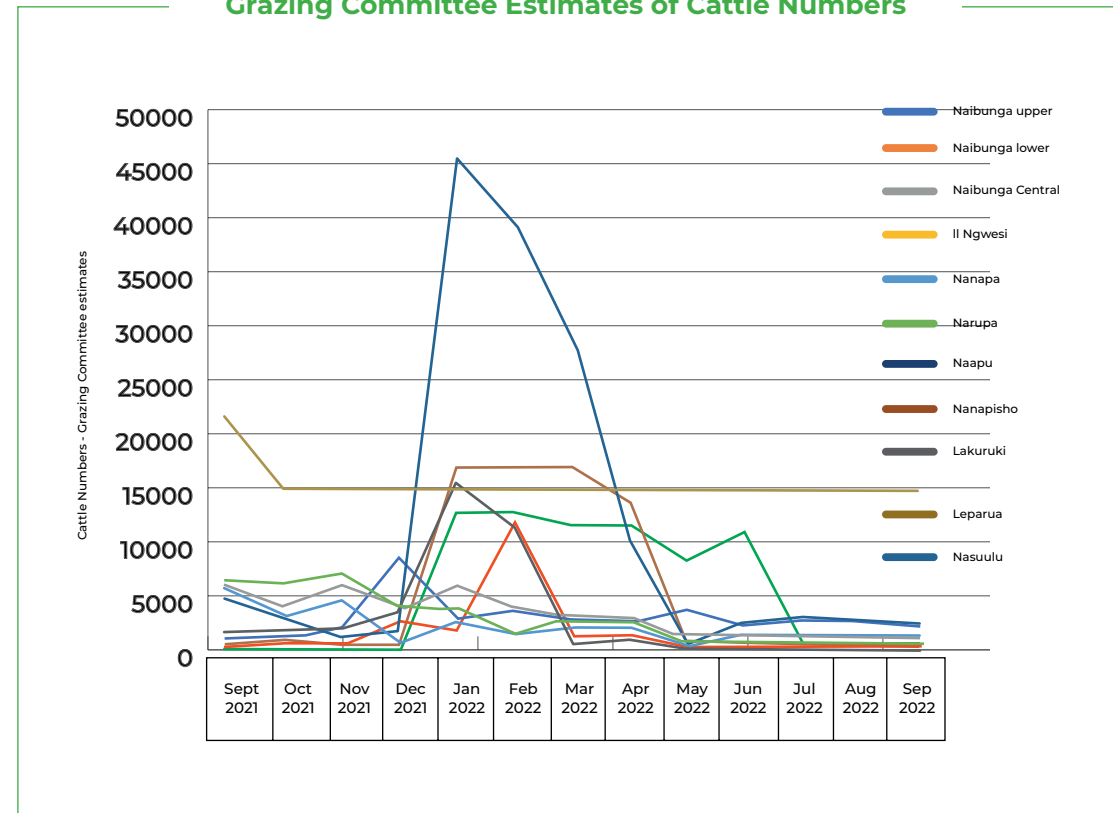
The concentration of livestock in Nasuulu, Nanapisho, Leparua, Naapu, Lekurruki, and Il Ngwesi Community Conservancies was high due to their good grazing management plans and pasture availability. Grazers remained in these conservancies for nearly six months.

- ▲ The growing season for vegetation lasted from December to May. Despite insufficient, patchy rain, the community conservancies worked together to use the little pasture available. In the same period, Nasu-

lu Community Conservancy had the most livestock due to an influx from Marsabit and the neighboring conservancies, namely Naapu, Nanapisho, Westgate, and Kalama.

Despite the reduced amount of pasture, the implementation of planned grazing management allowed for the sharing of grazing resources, which were used sparingly throughout the first six months of 2022, saving herders from massive livestock losses due to drought.

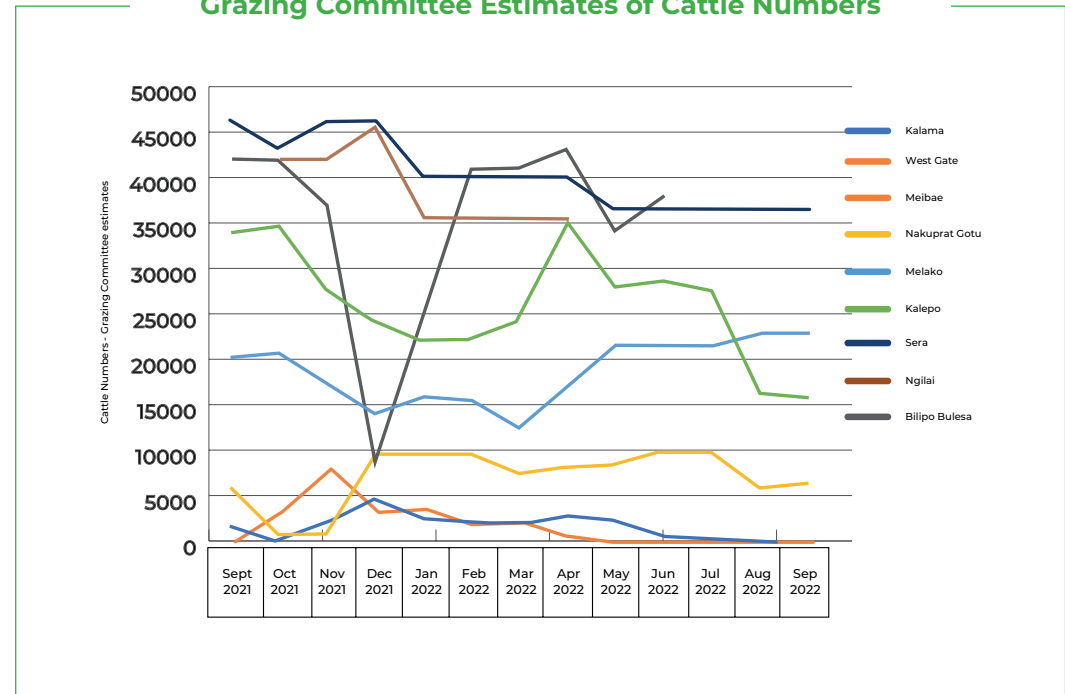
Grazing Committee Estimates of Cattle Numbers



Sera, Biliqo Bulesa, Ngilal, Kalepo, Melako, and Nakuprat-Gotu Community Conservancies led in livestock concentration and had livestock stay in them the longest as they grazed in the greater Sera landscape. Biliqo Bulesa and Sera experienced an influx of livestock from West-gate, Kalama, Melako, and Meibae.

Hundreds of herders drove their animals to Sera, Ngilal, Biliqo Bulesa, Kalepo, Melako, and Nakuprat-Gotu in search of pasture and water, believing the drought would not end on time. As a result of the influx of livestock, pasture in host conservancies was rapidly depleted. Planned grazing management while livestock moved kept the rate of pasture depletion consistent as herders coordinated on grazing plans.

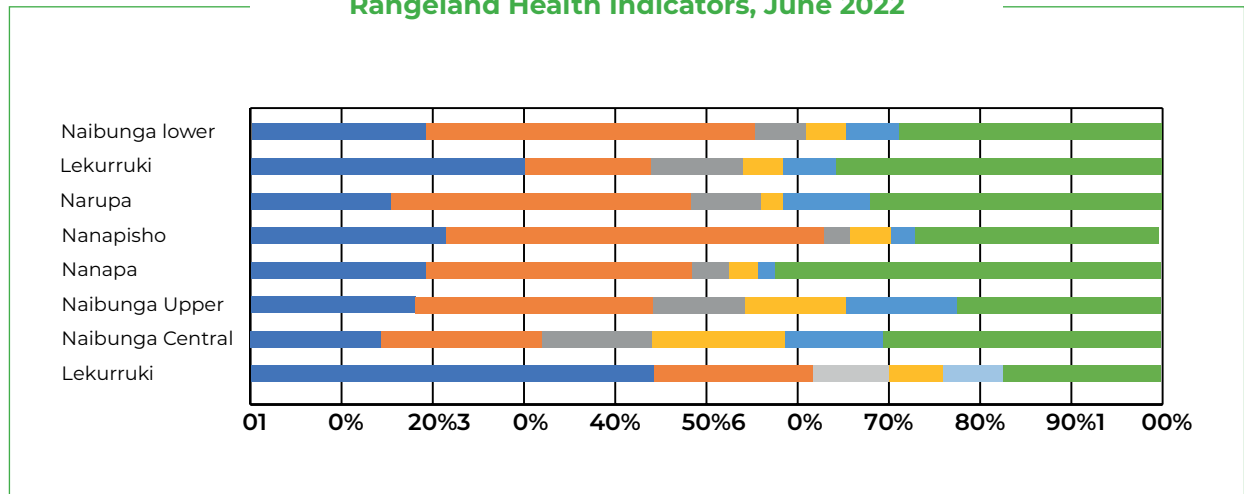
Grazing Committee Estimates of Cattle Numbers



Rangelands Health Indicators

In 2022, the health of the rangelands was poor across all community conservancies implementing the Rangelands Program due to the prevailing drought. Data from the eight conservancies (indicated in the table) revealed an increase in negative indicators, such as bare ground cover and plant gaps while others reported a reduction in positive indicators, such as perennial grass cover, total grass, and plant cover.

Rangeland Health Indicators, June 2022





A Historic Drought and Wildlife

In 2022, the Wildlife, Research, and Training Institute (WRTI) released a report on the impact of the drought on wildlife in Kenya. The report revealed that the prolonged drought affected wildlife in different ecosystems with the most impacted areas being the Amboseli, Laikipia, Samburu, and Tsavo ecosystems.

According to the WRTI report, between February and October 2022, 205 elephants, 512 wildebeest, 381 common zebra, 51 buffalo, and 49 Grevy's zebra were lost to the drought, and 14 different wildlife species were affected.

Through the Supplementary Feeding Program, NRT provided hay for multiple species at the Sera Rhino Sanctuary, Ishaqbini Conservancy's hirola, and with the support of the Wildlife Conservation Network, Beisa Oryx at Nakuprat-Gotu Conservancy. Kalama Community Conservancy worked with Grevy's Zebra Trust to distribute hay to the endangered Grevy's Zebra and buffaloes within the Conservancy.

Drought Fatalities in 2022

205 elephants

512 wildebeest

381 common zebra

51 common zebra

49 Grevy's zebra

14 different wildlife species affected

Source: Wildlife, Research, and Training Institute





MARINE

CHAPTER
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CHAPTER

Sea Turtles

Ocean Plastics





Artificial Coral Reef & Mangrove Restoration

Fisheries Co-management

Marine

NRT Coast continues to transform lives, secure peace, and conserve natural resources along Kenya's north coast through its core robust Marine Program, which aims to protect habitats, reduce fishing pressure on nearshore areas, provide a community-driven approach to reef restoration, and promote livelihood diversification.



Community Based Sea Turtle Conservation

Since 2016, conservancy scouts have been monitoring sea turtles—particularly the hawksbill and green—and recording the locations of all turtle sightings and information on turtle carcasses and nests. Conservancy scout data is collected as part of Marine-CoMMS, a conservancy scout-based monitoring system similar to Wildlife-CoMMS. Poaching, loss of nesting habitat, and netting as bycatch are all threats sea turtle populations face in Kenya.

In 2022:

- 40 fishers in the Fish-To-Market Program were equipped with 50 life jackets and 5 cool boxes, each with a capacity of 170 kilograms.
- 32 fishers from Kiunga Community Conservancy were trained on safety at sea, sustainable fishing methods, proper fish handling, processing and hygiene, and reduction of post-harvest losses under the Fish to Market Pilot Project.
- 35 sea turtle nestings were recorded, and 18 sea turtles caught as bycatch were rescued in Kiunga and Pate Conservancies.



Day in the Life: Meet Ahmed Mohammed, our Sea Turtle Hero

○



For Ahmed Ali Mohammed, a conservancy scout at Kiunga Community Conservancy, releasing baby sea turtles into the ocean is one of his happiest moments.

This journey begins when a nesting female turtle comes to the island at night, digs a nest in warm sand using her back flippers, and lays her eggs—sometimes up to 100. She buries them with the hope that her babies will hatch in two months.

Unfortunately, as she slowly drags herself back to the ocean, predators, including crabs, porcupines, monitor lizards, and humans, are already scrambling over her eggs, digging for a meal. Here is where Ahmed’s role as a sea turtle guardian comes in. During hatching, Ahmed and his team are usually present to help the baby turtles start their new journey to the ocean safely, and ensure they do not fall prey to hungry predators.

Every morning, he leads a team of 18 dedicated conservancy scouts as they patrol the beaches, monitoring and recording these turtle nests. They find them by following turtle tracks in the sand. If the nests are along the tideline, the conservancy scouts usually relocate these eggs carefully further up the beach to ensure they do not get washed away. After placing the eggs in a new hole, they cover them with a wire mesh, which prevents predators from digging them out. They then cover the new nest with sand to allow the eggs to incubate.

Ahmed and his team record the GPS coordinates of every nest they find or make for daily monitoring. They have sighted five sea turtle species during their daily patrols, including the Green, Loggerhead, Hawksbill, Olive Ridley, and Leatherback.

“My wish is to lessen the threats facing these sea turtles through awareness creation and nest protection, so these marine creatures don’t face extinction,” says Ahmed, who is also the Kiunga Community Conservancy Warden.

Why all this effort? Kiunga Conservancy is an important breeding ground for green turtles, which are classified as ‘endangered’ by IUCN. Through Ahmed’s work, Kiunga’s 12 nesting beaches are thriving, with the conservancy scouts recording up to three new nests each day at present.

For more stories about our wildlife guardians, please visit our website.





Ocean Plastic Collection and Recycling

The Kiunga plastic collection and recycling project is locally known as the 'Bahari Moja Project' in which tonnes of plastic debris are collected from the nearby beaches as part of clean-up activities. The Kiunga community has reported increased sea turtle nesting because of the clean beaches.

4.4 tons of plastic waste was collected from the surrounding beaches in Kiunga Community Wildlife Association (KICOWA) in clean-up efforts. This brings the total plastic collected in 2019 to 2022 to 63.2 tons.

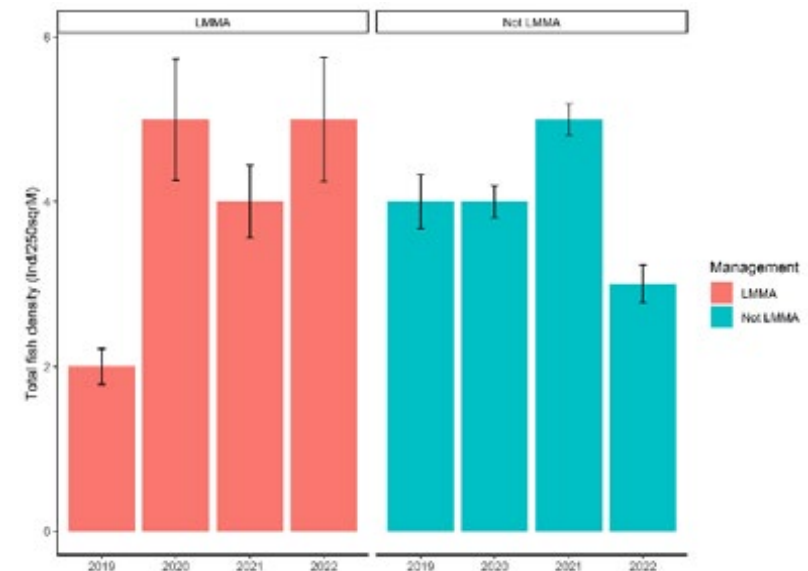


Artificial Coral Reef Restoration

Pate Marine Community Conservancy (PMCC) launched the Artificial Coral Reef Restoration Project to restore at least 0.5 hectares of reef within Locally Managed Marine Areas (LMMAs), enhancing fisheries, and improving LMMA management.

Between November 2019 and March 2022, conservancy scouts in Kiunga and Pate Conservancies conducted coral reef monitoring surveys in conservation areas, including the locally managed marine areas (LMMAs), to monitor their effectiveness.

- ▲ An analysis of the data collected, and the information gathered revealed that in 2022, the mean fish density for all fish species was highest (and on the rise) within LMMAs compared to sites outside LMMAs.
- ▲
- ▲
- ▲

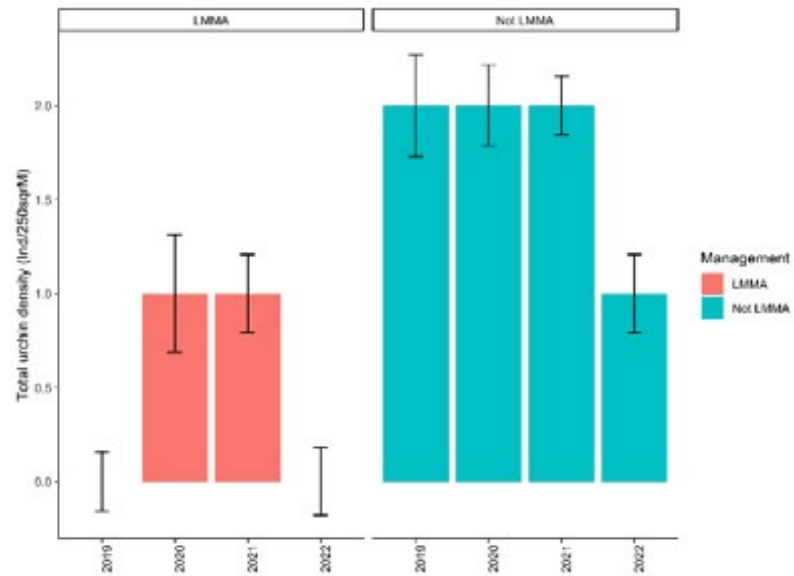


Mean fish densities for sites within LMMAs and outside LMMAs combined for all species is on an upward trend for sites within LMMAs.

This is an indication that the number of fish increased within LLMAs when compared to areas outside of LMMAs where no management measures were in place.

In 2022, sea urchin densities at all sites in LMMAs were low. This signifies that the habitat in LLMAs is improving in comparison to the outside environment. A high number of sea urchins would be an indication that the area is degraded.

In 2022, the conservancy scouts conducted regular scientific ecological monitoring surveys for coral reef health within the restoration area and adjacent habitat in Pate Marine Community Conservancy.



Results from 2022 on sea urchin densities in LMMAs



Fisheries Co-management



Curbing Use of Destructive Beach Seine Nets

In partnership with The Nature Conservancy (TNC), NRT Coast is currently implementing an Illegal Beach Seine Nets Gear Exchange Program (GEP Program) in Kiunga Community Conservancy, whose aim is to ensure all beach seine nets in the Kiunga Marine National Reserve (KMNR) are voluntarily exited by the end of 2023.

In 2022:

- 85% of fishers owning illegal beach seine nets in Kiunga Marine National Reserve (KMNR) voluntarily accepted to replace their nets with legal sustainable fishing gears under the Kiunga Gear Exchange Program.
- 11 out of the 13 illegal beach seine nets operating in Kiunga Marine National Reserve (KMNR) were voluntarily exchanged.

85%

of fishers owning illegal beach seine nets in Kiunga Marine National Reserve (KMNR) voluntarily accepted to replace their nets with legal sustainable fishing gears under the Kiunga Gear Exchange Program.



Locally Managed Marine Areas (LLMAs)

The robust NRT Coast Marine Program empowers the fisher community in Pate and Kiunga Community Conservancies to practice sustainable fishing. Over the years, illegal, destructive fishing has resulted in the overexploitation of nearshore reefs, habitat damage, and the decline of nearshore fish populations, negatively impacting the communities' livelihoods.

To reverse this trend, NRT Coast's community conservancies have established Locally Managed Marine Areas (LMMAs)—regions in coastal Kenya organized in a way that marine resources are owned and managed by the local coastal communities working in collaboration with NRT, donors, and other partner organizations, and relevant government agencies.

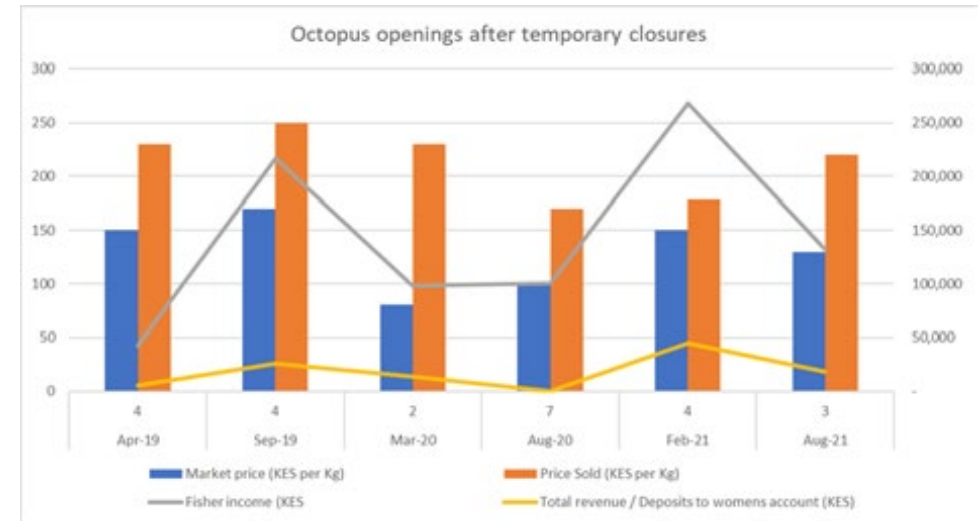


The conservancies' indigenous communities have designated portions of the LMMAs as no-take zones and imposed gear, species, and seasonal restrictions to ensure fish have healthy habitats in which to breed and multiply. This relieves overfishing pressure while increasing total fish catch.

Pate Conservancy currently has four active LMMAs. Two are no-take zones that restrict all fishing on specific reefs, while the other two are seasonal closures specifically targeting octopuses. Beach Management Unit (BMU) members, local fishers, and conservancy scouts collaborate to monitor and prevent illegal fishing within the LMMAs.



Results from Octopus Closures Openings in Pate Conservancy



Results from 2022 on sea urchin densities in LMMAs

| Summary Results from Octopus Closures Openings | | | | | | | | |
|--|------------|--------------------|--------------------|-------------------|---------------------------|-------------------------|-----------------------|---|
| Openings | Date | No. of Days Opened | Biggest Size (Kgs) | Total Catch (Kgs) | Market Price per Kg (Ksh) | Price Sold per Kg (Ksh) | Fishers' Income (Ksh) | Total Revenue / Deposits to Women's Account (Ksh) |
| 1st | Apr. 2019 | 4 | 2.8 | 186 | 150 | 230 | 42,780 | 5,580 |
| 2nd | Sept. 2019 | 4 | 3.8 | 868 | 170 | 250 | 217,000 | 26,040 |
| 3rd | Mar. 2020 | 2 | 3.3 | 425.3 | 80 | 230 | 97,819 | 13,500 |
| 4th | Aug. 2020 | 7 | 3.5 | 588.55 | 100 | 170 | 100,053 | - |
| 5th | Feb. 2021 | 4 | 5.0 | 1507 | 150 | 178 | 268,246 | 45,210 |
| 6th | Aug. 2021 | 3 | 5.1 | 603 | 130 | 220 | 132,660 | 18,090 |
| Total | | | | | | | 858,558 | 90,330 |

No deposits recorded in August 2020 as the fishers did not make any contributions. All revenue was used to assist the fishers during the covid-19 pandemic.





Mangroves

The NRT Coast Conservancies of Pate Marine, Kiunga, and Lower Tana Delta are characterized by mangroves, beaches and dunes, coral reefs, and the deep waters of the offshore North Kenya Banks.

The mangroves cover 35,000 hectares and include the nine mangrove species found in the Western Indian Ocean as well as the rare *Heritiera littoralis*. The Lamu Archipelago mangroves alone account for more than 60% of Kenya's mangrove forests and are one of the largest mangrove forest stands in East Africa.

These mangroves combined with the nutrient-rich cold waters are highly productive and have some of the highest densities of finfish and crustaceans inshore in Kenya, supporting the fisheries that underpin the local economy.

In 2022:

- 95,494 mangroves have been planted in Pate, Kiunga, and Lower Tana Community Conservancies since 2018.
- 2 mangrove community forest associations' (CFAs) participatory forest management plans (PFMPs) and forest management agreements (FMAs) were developed and approved by the Chief Conservator of Forests.
- 98 biogas kits were installed in communities in 5 NRT Coast Conservancies to reduce overreliance on forests for charcoal and fuel. (Ishaqbini, Ndera, Hanshak, Lower Tana, and Pate Conservancies).

- Pate Conservancy conducted a field-based Ecological Mangrove Restoration (EMR) refresher training to facilitate the upscaling of planting efforts in degraded areas and the establishment of a 'best restoration practices' demonstration site. 36 local community mangrove participants and key partners attended the training.
- 20,476 mangrove seedlings were planted and nurseries holding 11,867 propagules were established in Pate Conservancy.





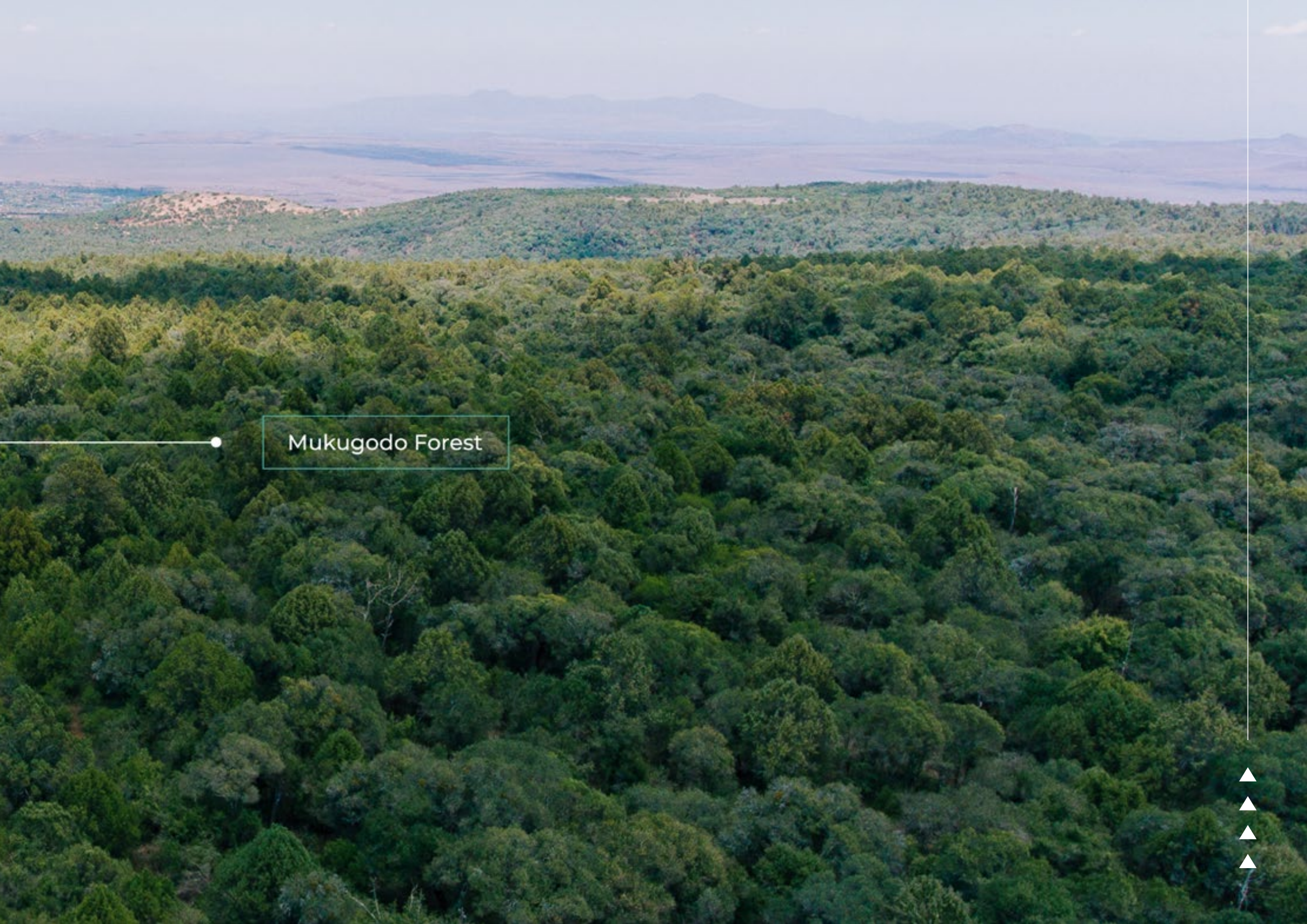
FOREST

CHAPTER
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Ngare Ndare Forest Trust

Kirisia Forest





Mukugodo Forest



FORESTS

NRT member community conservancies are engaged in forestry activities aimed at terrestrial forests, which are vital water catchment areas with high biodiversity.

These activities include: registering Community Forestry Associations (CFAs) and aligning them with conservancy governance structures, developing participatory forest management plans (PFMPs), mapping and monitoring forest conditions, protecting and managing forests, establishing tree nurseries, and undertaking tree planting exercises.

Ngare Ndare Forest Trust (Meru County)

Ngare Ndare Forest Trust is a public charitable trust registered in 2004 that conserves and manages Ngare Ndare Forest, found on the northern slopes of Mount Kenya.

The Forest covers an area of 5,543 hectares. It is rich in wildlife and pure indigenous tree species believed to be 200 years old.

In 2022, regular maintenance of the 26-kilometer fence around the Forest was undertaken to contain wildlife and minimize human-wildlife conflict. Frequent forest patrols by the Conservancy's team of 26 conservancy scouts, and data collection through conservancy management monitoring systems (CoMMS) and a spatial monitoring and reporting (SMART) tool, ensured year-round surveillance.



Nkarro Community Forest Association, Kirisia Forest (Samburu County)

The Nkarro Community Forest Association (Nkarro CFA) is not formally a member of NRT. The Kirisia Forest, however, borders several NRT member community conservancies.

In carrying out its mandate, the Association works closely with Kenya Forest Service, the Samburu County Government, Kenya Wildlife Service, NEEMA, KEFRI, EAWS, Water Towers Agency, and NRT.

In 2022, the Nkarro CFA fenced off 10 hectares of land and planted 12,700 indigenous tree seedlings species. Plans are underway to fence off another 5 hectares.

Mathews Forest, Ngilai Community Conservancy (Samburu County)

Located in Matthews Forest and home to the Samburu people, Ngilai Community Conservancy was established to curb human-wildlife conflict.

The Conservancy has a Livestock Consolation Fund set up for families who have lost livestock due to wildlife attacks.

In 2022:

- 200 seedlings were planted around the Conservancy's headquarters in partnership with the Kenya Forest Service.



- 4 community awareness meetings were held to promote forest conservation in Ngilai Conservancy and its villages: Tepele, Murit, and Nchok.
- The registration of forest user groups began.
- The Ngilai community unanimously agreed that Mathews Forest would be conserved. Over 30 homesteads that had encroached on the Forest were therefore resettled with the support of NRT and the Conservancy.



Ilmamusi Community Forest Association, Mukogodo Forest (Laikipia County)

While the Ilmamusi Community Forest Association (Ilmamusi CFA) is not yet formally a member of NRT, the Mukogodo Forest is adjacent to Il Ngwesi and Lekurruki Community Conservancies.

Ilmamusi CFA organized a 10-kilometer walk dubbed 'Walk Wild' to raise awareness and solicit local support for landscape restoration in Mukogodo Forest.

In 2022:

- Ilmamusi CFA renewed its participatory forest management plan (PFMP) for another five years, from 2022-2026.
- 1,250 semi-circular bunds were dug on Shulumai community land at Ltirim and reseeded by 30 casuals.
- 11,130 indigenous tree seedlings and 1,000 fruit trees were planted in Mukogodo Forest.



Biogas

The Clean Energy Project

Kenya's forests are under enormous strain due to increased fuelwood demand and agricultural expansion. These activities endanger forest ecosystems and release carbon into the atmosphere, contributing to climate change.

In 2022, NRT implemented the second phase of the Clean Energy Project and installed biogas digesters in the coastal region to minimize dependency on fuelwood and promote clean and renewable energy use.

Since its inception in 2020, NRT's Clean Energy Project has revolutionized life for northern Kenya and coastal communities, substantially reducing fuelwood usage across the benefiting conservancies.

In 2022:

- 600 biogas units were installed in 20 conservancies in northern and coastal Kenya.
- 50 biogas digesters were installed in the homesteads of community members in Hanshak Conservancy.

NRT is developing its first Energy Plan to guide and inform NRT's future energy investments.

To ensure equity in the Energy Plan's implementation, NRT will install another 1,000 biogas units across all suitable conservancies and introduce energy-saving cookstoves in community conservancies where biogas did not work.



CHALLENGES

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When Conservation Sings You a Wild Song





Operational Challenges

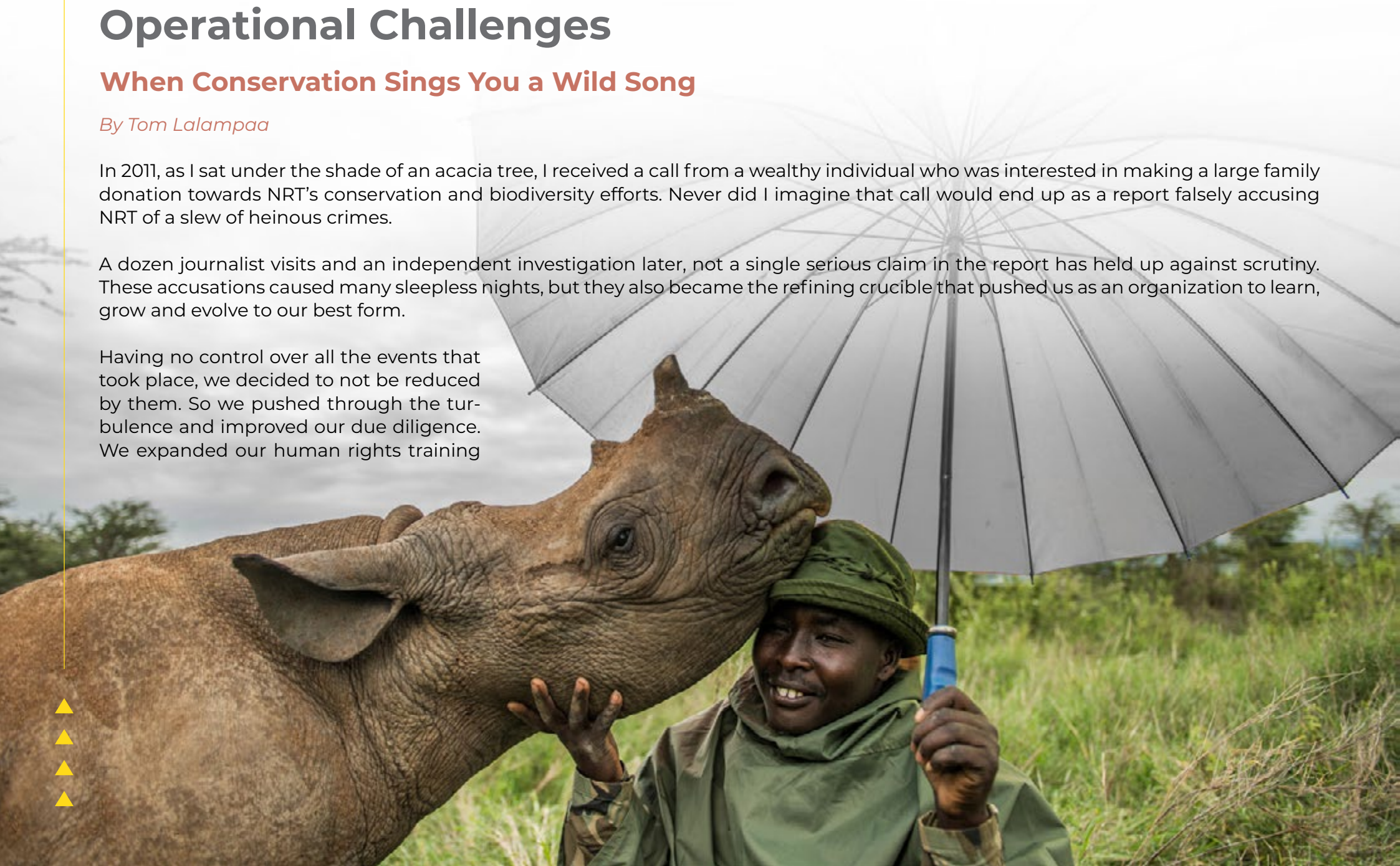
When Conservation Sings You a Wild Song

By Tom Lalampaa

In 2011, as I sat under the shade of an acacia tree, I received a call from a wealthy individual who was interested in making a large family donation towards NRT's conservation and biodiversity efforts. Never did I imagine that call would end up as a report falsely accusing NRT of a slew of heinous crimes.

A dozen journalist visits and an independent investigation later, not a single serious claim in the report has held up against scrutiny. These accusations caused many sleepless nights, but they also became the refining crucible that pushed us as an organization to learn, grow and evolve to our best form.

Having no control over all the events that took place, we decided to not be reduced by them. So we pushed through the turbulence and improved our due diligence. We expanded our human rights training



and enhanced our governance efforts, and our team emerged stronger and more united than ever.

Arguably, all organizations struggle with some level of dysfunction. None can exist in a perfect state, not when they consist of human beings who inherently are imperfect. While we have our flaws, we also have a model that has a proven track record of transforming lives and landscapes. However, just because it works does not mean that it cannot be improved.

Therefore, we are determined to keep enhancing NRT's community conservancy model and increasing its positive impact. And as we serve our member community conservancies, we will continue to hold ourselves to the highest possible standards.

To that end, we have taken the advice of the independent investigation and the dozens of recommendations it made. We have also completed an organizational review whose recommendations are currently being implemented as well. To position us for success, we are developing a new 30-year Strategic Plan that will guide NRT, the member community conservancies we serve, and the programs they run for the next three decades.

NRT operates across a vast landscape, encompassing 18 different ethnic tribes, many of which have been in violent and brutal conflict with one another for as long as anyone's ancestors can remember. The area is rife with stock theft, road banditry and illegal weapons are becoming as common as walking sticks.

Our award-winning peace teams are specially trained to work in this capricious environment, and I am inspired by them every day as they risk their lives to build peace in northern Kenya.

The complexities of dealing with the false claims of armchair conservationists and uninformed activists pale in comparison to the

peace teams' herculean efforts to build and maintain peace in conflict hotspots.

And against the backdrop of our community Wildlife Response Unit's frontline work of protecting wildlife from relentless poachers, the challenges of clearing countless misconceptions seem little more than minor inconveniences. Therefore, with renewed zeal, I continue to take the time to elucidate the work we do and debunk myths circulating in various circles about NRT, such as the false accusation that we own land.

Indeed, NRT owns no community land. All conservancy land is community owned and NRT serves, supports, and strengthens the conservancies through conservation. Indigenous communities establish their own conservancies, and once established apply for membership in NRT.

Over the 19 years of its existence, NRT has accepted 43 community conservancies as members and currently has over 30 pending membership applications. Together, we work to develop resilient community conservancies that transform lives, build peace and conserve natural resources.

There are those that seek alternative uses of community land for personal gain. NRT will always defend the communities and their human rights, indigenous rights, and land rights.

Since NRT membership is voluntary, any community conservancy that wishes to discontinue its partnership with NRT may do so at any time. So far, none has made that decision.

The concept of NRT being a voluntary umbrella body has left many perplexed, including research team leaders. Ami Vitale, in her famous photograph of a rhino and a conservancy scout under an umbrella, perfectly depicts NRT's role.



Just as an umbrella's purpose is to shield those beneath it from the elements, NRT exists to serve and protect each of our member community conservancies and to support them in the best way we can at every stage of their conservation and development journey.

Vitale's masterpiece reminds me of NRT's humble beginnings and an African proverb which tells us that "Little by little, a little becomes a lot." In 2004, NRT was birthed by the desires and requests of indigenous communities to form conservancies and work together toward environmental and economic growth. Today, NRT operates across 63,000 square kilometers of land and is positively impacting the lives of 705,000 community conservancy members.

Renowned author and brilliant storyteller, Peter Martell, sheds more light on how NRT came to be in his book, "Flowers for Elephants,". If you do get your hands on a copy, please read the story about the Ishaqbini community requesting NRT's assistance in saving the hirola and the community's remarkable success in protecting the world's most endangered antelope.

As I reflect on the challenges that have accompanied NRT's phenomenal growth, I remember with a heavy heart, the many colleagues we have lost along the way, and pay tribute to the many conservancy scouts and peace ambassadors who have paid the ultimate price in the pursuit of a safer and more prosperous Kenya.

Many wonderful people in conservation put their lives on the line every day to ensure that this world is a much greener and safer place for everyone.

- ▲ On the other hand, there are those individuals who choose to make it their lifetime's endeavour to oppose any and every organizational, national, and international conservation initiative, including the 30x30 movement and carbon credits.

While no effort to combat climate change is without its flaws, it is a noble goal that is necessary to ensure the future existence of humanity and all life on the planet.

Criticizing is easy, building is hard. Theodore Roosevelt once said, "It is not the critic who counts; not the man who points out how the strong man stumbles, or where the doer of deeds could have done them better. The credit belongs to the man who is in the arena, whose face is marred by dust and sweat and blood; who strives valiantly; who errs, who comes short again and again, because there is no effort without error and shortcoming; who spends himself in a worthy cause."

We need more people involved in the worthy cause that is conservation and climate action. If you beg to differ, the over 4 million Kenyans suffering food insecurity, provide you with 4 million reasons to reconsider your position. The fact that the country has endured five consecutive failed rainfall seasons is a cause for concern.

Climate change is not an abstract concept on this side of the Sahara. It is a painfully lived reality for the children and lactating mothers today who are food insecure due to the drought. The fight against climate change is a global group project that we must win. Failure is evidently fatal.



No one throws stones at a tree which has no fruit.

African Proverb



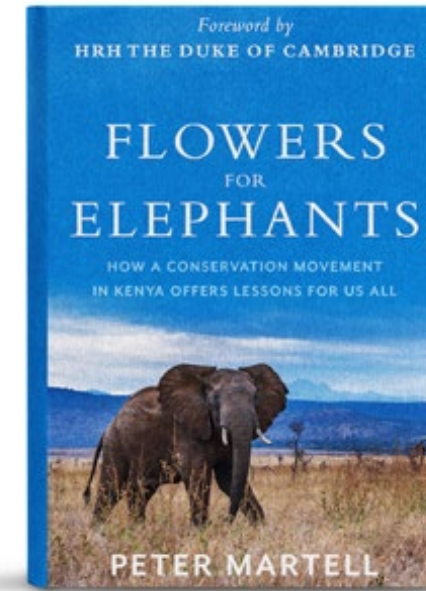
In spite of the naysayers and despite the challenges we face, we continue to put in the work required to enable the most vulnerable households in northern and coastal Kenya to adapt to climate change and its devastating effects. We invite parties that share our vision to collaborate with us to achieve this goal, and we welcome outside input on ways we can increase our impact.

Conservation is a marathon, not a sprint and over the years, we have learnt to balance incremental improvement with some big steps. Day by day, our member community conservancies are becoming more resilient, financially sustainable, and self-sufficient.

Livelihoods are improving, endangered species are being protected, and climate change mitigation measures are being implemented. Our member community conservancies may not yet be where they aspire to be, but they are not where they started. There is progress.

NRT's community conservancy model has always been about improving the livelihoods of the local communities, empowering them, and ensuring the programs we implement are having an impact at the household and community levels.

We consider it the greatest honour and privilege, that indigenous communities in northern and coastal Kenya, and Uganda, have entrusted us with the responsibility of serving and supporting them, as they shape their destiny through conservation.



Flowers for Elephants by Peter Martell, Out Now!



SPECIAL

PROJECTS

CHAPTER
9
CHAPTER

Kenya RangER

Ustahimilivu

IMARA





Advançlaçılı



SPECIAL PROJECTS

Kenya RangER Program

The European Union-funded Kenya Rangelands Ecosystem Services Productivity (RangER) Program aims at improving the livelihoods of communities and landscapes in Amaya Triangle Counties (Laikipia, Samburu, Isiolo, and Baringo) by increasing the productivity of the ecosystem services provided by the rangelands and supporting climate-smart natural resource management, effective governance, and peace and security for wildlife and people.

The Program, which is ongoing in these four Counties that are located in arid and semi-arid lands (ASALs), has numerous benefits including improved human and livestock well-being, enhanced ecological connectivity and biodiversity conservation, ecosystem restoration, climate change mitigation and adaptation, and increased resilience of the indigenous communities, biodiversity, and ecosystems to climatic shocks.

This three-year Program, launched in September 2021, is being implemented by a consortium of partners comprising NRT (lead), the Jomo Kenyatta University of Agriculture and Technology (JKUAT), World Agroforestry (ICRAF), Community Safety Initiative (CSI), E4Impact Foundation (E4I), and the Baringo, Laikipia, Isiolo, and Samburu County Governments.

Key Program Achievements:

- ▲ · Developed a five-year strategic plan for the Cooperation on Peace and Development (CoPaD).
- ▲ · Hosted two governors' summits to deliberate on the Program.
- ▲
- ▲

- Built the capacity of four community conservancy boards in governance through NRT's bespoke Leadership and Management Program (LAMP) training.
- Provided infrastructure to them, including two water sources, two outposts, and two fences.
- Conducted a baseline and scoping study to identify the current status and design responsive interventions.
- Performed a social-CoMMs impact survey in 8 community conservancies.
- Trained 60 conservancy board members on entrepreneurship and environmental impact.



The erection of a 1-kilometer fence at Leberishereki School is ongoing to prevent human-elephant conflict.

Ustahimilivu Project

Ustahimilivu is a four-year Project operating in West Pokot County whose goal is to increase community resilience to drought and other effects of climate change in Kenya's arid and semi-arid lands (ASALs).

Launched in April 2020, this European Union-funded Program collaborates with West Pokot's County Government in improving the lives of residents in 6 wards in Masol and Pellow Community Conservancies, and 5 wards surrounding the 2 conservancies.

In the Project, NRT (lead), the European Committee for Training and Agriculture (CEFA), E4Impact, SOMIRENEC (Social Ministry Research Network), and Amref Health Africa are working together to improve the food and nutrition security of vulnerable households, especially women and children, generate sustainable livelihoods and protect productive assets in West Pokot County.

Key Project Achievements

- 45 reformed morans trained in peacekeeping.
- 1,150 trees planted in peace clubs to promote peace.
- 10,500 mango seedlings distributed to 1,020 farmers (812 of whom have been trained, and 38 groups formed).
- 2,225 beekeepers trained in beekeeping techniques, and 450 beehives distributed to 225 farmers to increase production; 1 honey processing unit established.

- 20 cooperative members trained in business and financial models.
- 1 mega irrigation scheme (Para Sany) set up at Masol Conservancy through CEFA to support farmers.
- 300 Community Health Volunteers (CHVs) supported in conducting nutrition assessments and 40 baby-friendly community initiative groups formed.
- 400 farmer group members trained in gender-sensitive food production, preparation, and utilization.
- 17 savings and loans groups formed and trained.
- 10,807 households issued water treatment commodities



Cheror Honey Processing Unit, built and equipped by CEFA with support from the European Union (EU) through the Ustahimilivu Project. Cheror Community Based Organization oversees its management.



SOMIRENEC Organizes Peace Caravan to **Promote Peace**



Eleanor Roosevelt once said that it is not enough to talk about peace. One must believe in it. And it is not enough to believe in it. One must work at it.

Therefore, the Social Ministry Research Network (SOMIRENEC) in collaboration with Tangaza University College held a successful peace caravan whose theme was ‘Kudumisha Amani Wakati wa Uchaguzi ni Jukumu Letu’, (‘Maintaining Peace during the General Elections is our Responsibility’).

The activity brought together peace actors within West Pokot County who included the National Government, County Government of West Pokot, Peace Monitors, and local artists.

The Pokot Central Sub-county Assistant County Commissioner, Erick Okachi, urged the residents to observe peace before, during, and after the electioneering period noting that elections come only once and life goes on as usual afterward.

Bamfort Surwat, the Pokot Central Police Commander, commended the respective stakeholders for organizing the peace caravan. He exhorted all those vying for different elective posts to maintain the peace as they moved around campaigning. Wycliffe Simiyu from SOMIRENEC noted that without peace, development is impossible to attain.

“You cannot carry out your business or farming successfully if there is no peace. Elections will come and go, but your neighbor will still be with you. I urge you all to maintain peace and avoid being used by politicians to spread hate,” He said.

The peace caravan, which was flagged off in Turkwel by the Pokot Central Sub-county Police Commander had stopovers at Nasolot, Sarmach, Lami Ny-eusi, Orwa and Sigor.



IMARA Program

The Integrated Management of Natural Resources for Resilience in ASAL (IMARA) Program is a seven-year partnership program (2018-2025) that aims to increase the resilience of vulnerable households to climate change-related shocks in the ASAL counties of Isiolo, Elgeyo Marakwet, Laikipia, Marsabit, Narok, Samburu, Turkana, and West Pokot, by diversifying livelihoods and improving natural resource management and use.

The Program is in its second phase and is being implemented by a consortium of five partners, including World Vision Kenya (Lead), NRT, Maasai Mara Wildlife Conservancies Association (MMWCA), Saferworld, and the Stockholm Environment Institute (SEI).

Key Program Achievements:

- 337 Ujuzi Manyattani beneficiaries from Marsabit, Samburu, and Isiolo Counties were issued toolkits to enable them to start earning an income.
- Trained indigenous communities on how to set up a fodder bank so they could store fodder for livestock during dry seasons and earn money by selling hay.
- Provided one-year internships to 12 youth from Isiolo and Samburu Counties in various departments at NRT, including community development and business enterprise.
- The County Cooperative Department trained 150 community members in group dynamics, leadership skills, and governance.
- 86 community agents were trained in saving, and successful trainees were connected with NR Sacco so they could save and

borrow money at low-interest rates to start or expand their businesses.

- Two sand dams in Meibae and Oldonyiro Community Conservancies were rehabilitated.
- 155 farmers from Turkana, Westpokot, and Elgeyo Marakwet Counties were trained in regenerative agriculture and nursery management.
- 30 Samburu women underwent and completed training in the four modules of the Leadership and Management Program (LAMP) training, which seeks to increase women's voices, leadership, and participation in community conservancies.




CARBON

CHAPTER
10
CHAPTER

The Carbon Community Fund (CCF)

Drought Mitigation





Advancing Climate Change Solutions

The Northern Kenya Rangelands **Carbon Project**

A Community-Based Climate Solution 10 Years in the Making

The Northern Kenya Rangelands Carbon Project (NKRCP) is the world's largest soil carbon removal project.

The Project operates across 1.9 million hectares (4.7 million acres) of northern Kenya and involves 14 NRT member community conservancies: Biliqo Bulesa, Il Ngwesi, Kalama, Leparua, Lekurruki, Meibae, Melako, Naibunga, Nakuprat-Gotu, Namunyak, Nasuluu, Ol Donyiro, Sera, and Westgate.

Work on the NKRCP officially started in 2012. In the Project, cattle herders work to rehabilitate overgrazed grasslands by combining traditional grazing practices with rotational grazing, which improves soil health (and pasture quality) and allows perennial grass-

es to regrow. As grass cover increases, more atmospheric carbon is removed from the air and deposited in the soil, improving rangelands across 1.9 million hectares (4.7 million acres).

In restoring the savannah grasslands in an arid region, the NKRCP is anticipated to remove 50 million tonnes of carbon dioxide over 30 years—the equivalent of the annual emissions from over 10,000,000 cars.

Production of credits will fluctuate annually due to changing climate conditions and how well the rotational grazing plans are followed. NRT is committed to continuing to support the participating conservancies to promote regenerative grazing practices.



Developing a carbon project is a long, often expensive process requiring specific technical expertise and appropriate processes to credibly verify the project and ensure its long-term success.

NRT collaborated with the participating conservancies, Soils for the Future and Native, as well as other donor supporters over the past 10 years to develop the NKRCF. 2022 marked an important milestone for the NKRCF when the first revenue it generated was disbursed to conservancies. Communities have since used these funds to help finance their own operations and community-identified development needs. These have included funding education bursaries, constructing school dormitories or teachers' housing, providing equipment to schools, financing microfinance schemes, and providing water infrastructure or healthcare facilities.

Already, 3.2 million carbon credits have been validated, verified, and sold from the Project's first three years. NRT receives no profit from the sale of the NKRCF's carbon credits.

USD 324,000



Amount each of the 14 community conservancies involved in the Northern Kenya Rangelands Carbon Project received in 2022 in carbon funding. Each conservancy is expected to receive this amount in 2023 as well.

The Carbon Community Fund (CCF)

Once credits are issued, they are sold on the international voluntary carbon market. In 2017, NRT entered into an agreement with Native, a Public Benefit Corporation, specializing in carbon project development, to take the NKRCF through the final stages of validation and subsequent verifications as well as to market and sell credits resulting from the Project on behalf of the conservancies participating in it.

These 14 conservancies receive net revenue from the NKRCF. In 2022, conservancies split their share into two: 40% is used to cover conservancy operational costs, whilst 60% of the carbon revenue is allocated to the Carbon Community Fund (CCF), which communities use to fund development projects agreed upon by the community.

Half of the 40% for operational costs is channelled towards rangeland programs in each community conservancy, as the overall success of the NKRCF is dependent on the implementation of rangeland activities, while the remaining half helps in covering core operational costs within the conservancy.

In 2022:

- Each of the 14 community conservancies received USD 324,000 in carbon funding. Each conservancy is expected to receive this amount in 2023 as well.
- Ksh 265,000,000 (USD 2,245,762) in total was available through the CCF to participating conservancies.
- 24% of all CCF funds were directed to water projects including piping and pump installation, improvements to existing water infrastructure, and borehole construction.



- 20% of CCF funds were allotted to bursaries benefiting tens of thousands of students in the 14 community conservancies involved in the NKRCP. The funds, amounting to Ksh 44,027,000 (USD 337,110), were also used to build classrooms, erect school fences, renovate school dining facilities, and furnish a school dormitory with beds.



For Carbon Community Fund expenditure data, see appendix 10.1

For Carbon Community Fund bursary data, see appendix 10.2

For details on Carbon Project-funded infrastructure projects, see appendix 10.3

For data on Carbon Project funds disbursed for drought mitigation, see appendix 10.4

The Northern Kenya Rangelands Carbon Project's Response to Drought

A devastating drought triggered an acute level of food insecurity in many parts of the country in 2022.

Northern Kenya, home to pastoralists, was particularly hard hit as the drought decimated indigenous communities' livestock herds, robbing them of their livelihood and primary source of high-quality protein.

Severe malnutrition has been observed throughout the region, with children aged one to five most affected alongside pregnant and lactating mothers. Malnutrition has weakened their immune systems, increasing their vulnerability to disease.

Many school-age children dropped out due to financial constraints, while others developed nutritional deficiency diseases.

In response to the developing humanitarian crisis and the need for immediate intervention, the Northern Kenya Rangelands Carbon Project (NKRCP) Chairpersons of the participating conservancies collectively agreed to 'pre-release' 2023 funding from the Carbon Community Fund allocations to conservancies that wanted to direct some of those funds to provide food relief to their communities. The CCF has to date distributed Ksh 23,393,039 (USD 198,246) designated for drought mitigation to five community conservancies: Melako, Naibunga Upper, Naibunga Central, Kalama, and Biliqo Bulesa, benefitting 14,330 households.

The NKRCP also handed over Ksh 23,848,500 (USD 202,105) to the Isiolo, Samburu, and Laikipia County Governments, which was received by Governors H.E. Ibrahim Guyo (Isiolo), H.E. Lati Leleliit (Samburu), and H.E. Joshua Irungu (Laikipia) respectively. These funds represent a voluntary levy agreed upon by participating conservancies to support County Government engagement in the NKRCP. The conservancies within each of these counties agreed that the funds should support drought relief interventions to benefit communities county-wide.

In Kalama and Westgate Community Conservancies, 2,800 pupils across 26 Early Childhood Education (ECDE) schools received Ksh 2,600,000 (USD 22,033) from tourism revenue funds for food distribution.

In eight community conservancies involved in the NKRCP, 491.7 acres of land were reseeded by creating semi-circular

bunds in which grass was planted. This greatly helped in the restoration of areas within the conservancies that were completely degraded.

The growth of grass within the bunded areas ensured that more and better pasture was available for livestock.



A livestock mortality rate of 95% was registered in Naibunga Central. This is very unfortunate. The Carbon Project funds allotted for the drought response were beneficial to the community, as they had searched in vain for food and water. School children received food items and were happy to return to school to continue their studies. The community has also seen the importance of conservation, as the funds came from conservation efforts.

Solomon Kaparo, Chairperson Naibunga Central Community Conservancy



Advancing Climate Change Solutions: The Northern Kenya Rangelands Carbon Project

The Northern Kenya Rangelands Carbon Project (NKRCP) is the first project to:

- Generate carbon credits reliant on modified livestock grazing practices
- Work with pastoralist communities who use land and resources communally
- Focus entirely on carbon soil removals
- Use modelled and measured removals

The Project is Verified Carbon Standard (VCS) certified by Verra, one of the world's leading and most respected carbon standards. Additionally, the NKRCP underwent stringent review in 20 additional different categories and was awarded Triple Gold Status by the Climate, Community and Biodiversity Alliance (CCBA) in its first issue of credits due to the additional benefits it provides to wildlife and communities. Only 21 out of 200 projects worldwide currently have the CCB Triple Gold status.

Further, in 2022, the Natural Climate Solutions Alliance awarded the NKRCP as a Lighthouse Project, which was revealed during an announcement ceremony at COP27 in Sharm el-Sheikh, Egypt.

This prestigious award recognizes the NKRCP as a natural climate solution that is a true beacon for best practice. NCS Lighthouses are natural climate solutions that exemplify what it means to invest in best practices on the ground and produce positive outcomes for both nature and people.



FINANCE

AND SUSTAINABILITY

CHAPTER
11
CHAPTER

Sustainability

Government Funding





Looking Forward



Finance and Sustainability

2020 saw a significant dip in the tourism industry following lockdowns triggered by the onset of Covid-19. In 2021, despite the pandemic and safety concerns, tourism experienced a modest recovery, albeit overall tourism revenue was still 37% lower than the high in 2019. Tourist arrival numbers rose dramatically in 2022, increasing conservancy earnings.

The hospitality sector is expected to experience exponential growth in 2023 as it steamrolls to full recovery.

The pandemic and its far-reaching effects underscored the need to develop long-term plans that ensure sustainability, particularly in conservancies. Therefore, the Nature Conservancy and NRT are exploring the potential of Blue Carbon as a source of revenue for the NRT-Marine Conservancies.

New and significant governance issues have emerged as conservancy funds have grown and leadership has changed. Rather than community conservancies graduating from NRT and making way for new members, we now see conservancy resilience as a long-term relationship in which NRT's input and support to a community conservancy vary depending on each member's unique needs, capacity, and challenges.

While excellent financial health is the ultimate goal of our member conservancies, experience has shown that the growth of conservancy resilience is not linear, and NRT's mentorship role is vital in the long term. NRT is now focusing on specific work streams aimed at increasing conservation resilience as they journey to their independence. NRT has been conducting a series of Conservancy Capacity Assessments to enable it and its member conservancies



to methodically and objectively monitor and evaluate each community conservancy's resilience progress.

The Conservancy Resilience Assessment Framework, which is currently in development, will assess progress in good governance, management effectiveness, and financial viability, as well as provide specific data to support focused action plans aimed at enhancing conservancy capacity. This framework will be based on NRT's customized governance and management effectiveness tool, the 'Governance Index,' as well as previous conservancy capacity assessments conducted in collaboration with Fauna and Flora International (FFI).

NRT's approach to sustainability is still evolving. After achieving large-scale proof of concept, NRT's next step is to ensure that this can be translated into long-term success, which can be represented by:

- Ensuring the long-term viability of the NRT model in existing conservancies.
- Making conscious efforts to have conservancies operate independently of NRT.
- The NRT sustainability plan has been redesigned to be more effective on three levels:
 - » Conservancy level
 - » NRT level
 - » National and county government level

As we work to provide conservancies with the expertise they need to govern themselves, their reliance on NRT HQ resources will decrease. As part of our sustainability strategy, NRT is pursuing the following objectives:

- Optimize operations (as envisioned in a five-year plan and a 30-year vision).
- Be able to continue funding NRT programs and associated assistance (this will alter NRT's strategic funding plan. Changes to the strategic funding plan are poised to transform the organization from a donor-dependent state to one with a self-sustaining income base).

- This necessitates NRT diversifying its revenue sources. The following are the long-term objectives in this regard:
- NRT's diversification of its revenue stream so that donor funds account for only 25% of total revenue.
- Capitalization of the Conservation Trust Fund to around USD 50 million, allowing it to generate yearly income equivalent to another 25% of NRT's budget even when invested conservatively.
- Commercial revenue from NRT Trading operations such as carbon, tourist, solar, and other commercial revenue streams to yield an additional 25%.
- National and county governments to provide a minimum of 25% support (facilitated by NRT's creation of a national and county government-level sustainability strategy). Some donor, commercial, and county government support will go directly to conservancies, reducing the amount of money NRT needs to spend on conservancy operations.



NRT Coast

4 NRT Coast Community Conservancies: Ishaqbini, Ndera, Pate, and Kiunga secured Ksh 155 million (USD 1, 313, 559) from the Water Sector Trust Fund (WSTF) with 15% co-funding from the Garissa, Tana River, and Lamu County Governments (for the respective conservancies).

The funds will support these Conservancies in implementing integrated water supply, water resources management, and sanitation projects under the Sustainable Management and Access to Water and Sanitation in Arid and Semi-Arid Areas (SWASAP) Project.

The agreement was signed in December 2022, and the Project will be implemented over 28 months.



Tourism

Five community conservancies put in place the following sustainability measures to enable them to generate revenue from tourism bandas (self-catering accommodation facilities):

- Construction of tourism bandas at Nasuulu Community Conservancy.
- Renovation of Tassia Lodge at Lekurruki Community Conservancy.
- Completion of Meibae's banda.
- Renovation of Koija Star Beds at Naibunga Upper and renovation of Olgaboli's bandas.
- Construction of Girgir Business Complex at Kalama Community Conservancy.

This was made possible by the Northern Kenya Rangelands Carbon Project's Carbon Community Funds (CCF).

Government Funding

NRT continues to receive county government funding to support its conservancies operations and projects.

Looking Ahead

We have taken deliberate steps to ensure that NRT and the member community conservancies we serve are future-ready, as the world continues to shift around us.

Increasing conservancy performance, ensuring that effective governance is taking place at the grassroots level, and raising conservancy governance to the gold standard will remain our top priorities.

As Northern Kenya Rangelands Carbon Project enters its second phase, we will strive to build reserves that increase the sustainability of our member community conservancies.

Indeed, NRT's community conservancy model is about transforming lives through conservation and removing roadblocks to communities' development.

It's about opening doors that lead to endless possibilities and opportunities.

It's about supporting indigenous communities in northern and coastal Kenya, and Uganda in realizing their wildest dreams.

And we are ready to continue the work in 2023!



APPENDIX





1. Strengthening Conservancy Governance

Appendix 1.1: 2022 Trainings

| Training | Region | No. of People Trained |
|--|---|-----------------------|
| Board Trainings | Lower Tana, Meibae, Cherab, Naapu, Morung'ole (Uganda), Kalepo and Ngilai | 210 |
| Community Conservancy Awareness Creation, Natural Resources Management and Governance (Including Rangelands Management and Wildlife) | Samburu | |
| | Laikipia | |
| | West Pokot | |
| | Isiolo | |
| Business Development, Saving and Financial Literacy | | 1,972 |
| New Managers Induction | NRT Mountain, NRT East, NRT Centre, NRT West | 21 |
| Peace, Conflict Transformation and Resolution | Isiolo, Samburu, Marsabit & Laikipia Counties | |
| Biashara Mashinani | | 378 |
| Enterprise Development | | 100 |
| Ujuzi Manyattani Trainings | Ruko, Nakuprat-Gotu, Ishaqbini, Biliqo Bulesa, Ltungai, Naibunga Lower | 117 |
| Finance and HR Training | NRT East | 16 |
| | NRT Mountain | 7 |
| BeadWORKS Leather and Beadloom Trainings | 8 community conservancies | 275 |
| Biogas Training | Ruko, Hanshak, Ishaqbini | 2,400 |
| Livestock and Extension Services | | 161 |
| Fisheries Co-management and Governance Training | | 23 |
| New Competency-based Curriculum (Training for female intern teachers) | | |

Appendix 1.2: Conservancy Board Elections (2021)

| County | Elections Held (Conservancy) | Women Elected | Total Members |
|-----------------|------------------------------|---------------|---------------|
| NRT Coast | Hanshak | 4 | 12 |
| | Lower Tana Delta | | |
| Laikipia & Meru | Il Ngwesi | 5 | 15 |
| | Naibunga Upper | 3 | 9 |

Appendix 1.3: Number of Staff who are Women

| County | No. of Women | Percentage of Total Staff who are Women |
|-------------------------|-----------------|---|
| NRT | 37 out of 280 | 13% |
| Board | 155 out of 420 | 22% |
| Conservancy Managers | 3 out of 42 | 7% |
| Conservancy Scouts | 82 out of 1,033 | 8% |
| Rangelands Coordinators | 2 out of 37 | 6% |

Appendix 1.4: Infrastructure Projects Rolled Out in 2022 in NRT Member Community Conservancies

| County | Conservancy | Infrastructure |
|-----------|-------------------|---|
| NRT Coast | Masalani KWS Camp | <p>Masalani KWS Camp: construction of 4 conservancy scouts' accommodation units and additional ablution facilities</p> <p>2nd Phase of Masalani KWS Camp: construction of 4 additional conservancy scouts' units and additional ablution facilities</p> |



| | | |
|----------|------------------------|--|
| | Minjila KWS Camp | Minjila KWS Camp: construction of 4 rangers' accommodation units and additional ablution facilities 2nd Phase Minjila KWS Camp: construction of 4 additional rangers' units and additional ablution facilities |
| | Mongo Shariff KWS Camp | Mongo Shariff KWS Camp: construction of a surface rainwater collection and water storage djabia (concrete water tank) for the camp 2nd Phase Mongo Shariff KWS Camp: construction of rangers' accommodation units and improvement of djabia |
| | Pate Headquarters | Headquarters' renovation |
| | Pate Outpost | Outpost renovation and improvement |
| | Kiunga Outpost | Mkokoni Outpost renovation and improvement |
| Marsabit | Melako | Logologo School: renovation of 4 classrooms at Logologo Primary School |
| Baringo | Ruko | Sanctuary Fence: continuous maintenance of 7-kilometer fence and completion of 100-kilometer extension stretch Gabion works in the Sanctuary: installation of Gabions in the Sanctuary along the fence |
| | Naibunga | Community Fence: Construction of a 40-kilometer human-wildlife fence |
| Garissa | Ishaqbini | Sanctuary Fence Renovation: installation of cantilever to the fence |
| Samburu | Namunyak - Kalepo | Santait Outpost: Construction of rangers' kitchen |
| | Westgate | Tourism: completion of a local tourism dormitory Tourism: complete installation of 2 upmarket tents |
| | Nkoteiya | Tourism: Addition of a 4th double Banda Tourism: Addition of 2 upmarket tents and improvement of lodge power system |
| | Kalama | Kalama Resource Centre: designs and Boqs done; in tender stage Launched construction of Kalama Resource Centre |
| Isiolo | Cherab | Headquarters: in tender process |
| | Garbatula | Headquarters: in tender process |
| | Sericho | Headquarters: in tender process |



| | | |
|------|------------------|--|
| | Kinna | Headquarters: in tender process |
| | Biliqo | Hay stores and fence: construction of Biliqo hay stores and fence Hay shed and 1-kilometer fence: at the mobilisation stage; currently assembling construction materials and teams Schools projects: Construction of Awarsitu classroom and Godha administration block Babala renovations |
| | Nasuulu | Nasuulu Lodge: in progress |
| | Biliqo | Support to GSU camp: construction of ablution facilities |
| | Nanappa | Construction of Leberishereki School fence |
| Meru | NRT Headquarters | Construction of a meeting shed |



Appendix 1.5: County Government Engagements in 2022

| | |
|--|--|
| NRT East: Isiolo | <p>Disbursed Ksh 9.1 million (USD 77,118) Carbon Project levy fees to the Isiolo County Government to support drought relief</p> <p>NRT East facilitated a forum for Isiolo conservancies leadership and the Members of the County Assembly (MCAs) to enhance their working relationships with the newly elected leaders, cultivate synergy and develop joint approaches to peace and safety interventions, and conservancy business</p> |
| Marsabit | <p>The region participated in the creation of the draft of the 2022-2027 Marsabit County Integrated Development Plan (CIDP)</p> <p>NRT Trading met with the Marsabit County Commissioner, County Secretary, and officials from the Marsabit Chamber of Commerce to deliberate on the expansion of potential opportunities for impactful businesses such as tourism, boosting community conservancy-owned enterprises</p> |
| NRT West: West Pokot Baringo | <p>The NRT West Team and the EU-funded Ustahimilivu Program Team met with West Pokot County officials to present their work plan and progress to the new County leadership</p> |
| NRT Centre: Samburu | <p>Disbursed Ksh 9.1 million (USD 77,118) Carbon Project levy fees to the Samburu County Government to support drought relief</p> <p>Finalized the Samburu County Tourism Strategy</p> <p>NRT Center representatives met with counterparts from other non-governmental organizations at a stakeholders' consultation forum convened by the Samburu County Government to discuss drought-related interventions and programs and create partnerships for drought mitigation</p> <p>Launched Naisunyai water project in Westgate Conservancy in partnership with the County government</p> <p>Conservancies in NRT Centre took part in the County Integrated Development Plan (CIDP) public participation process</p> <p>Peace engagement with the National Government, County Government, and National Government Administration Officers (NGAOs) in Samburu North to strengthen cohesion during the electioneering period</p> <p>Supported the Samburu County Rangelands Policy formation</p> |



| | |
|--------------------------------------|---|
| NRT Mountain: Laikipia & Meru | The regional leadership met the Laikipia Governor, Joshua Irungu, for a brief on NRT's and Community Conservancies' work. The Governor promised to support conservation in the region |
| NRT Coast | <p>NRT Coast sponsored the review of the 2023-2027 County Integrated Development Plan (CIDP) with the Lamu County Government and other key partners</p> <p>Representatives of the Ishaqbini Conservancy met the Garissa County leaders to discuss collaboration</p> <p>Conservancy scouts from NRT Coast community conservancies participated in 2022's Mashujaa Day fete, increasing the visibility of community conservancies and resulting in recognition from the national and county governments</p> <p>NRT Coast hosted a Lamu County stakeholders' forum where our work was presented, collaboration, and future priorities were discussed, as well as the alignment of NRT's programs with the County's plans</p> |



Appendix 1.6: Financial Support from County Governments in 2022

| County | Conservancy | County Government Operations | County Government Capex | Notes |
|----------|---------------------|------------------------------|-------------------------|-------|
| Baringo | Kaptuya | Ksh 0 | Ksh 0 | |
| Baringo | Ruko | Ksh 0 | Ksh 0 | |
| Garisa | Ishaqbini | Ksh 0 | Ksh 0 | |
| Isiolo | Buliqo Bulesa | Ksh 0 | Ksh 0 | |
| Isiolo | Leparua | Ksh 0 | Ksh 0 | |
| Isiolo | Nakuprat - Gotu | Ksh 0 | Ksh 0 | |
| Isiolo | Oldonyiro -Naapu | Ksh 0 | Ksh 0 | |
| Isiolo | Oldonyiro-Nanapisho | Ksh 0 | Ksh 0 | |
| Isiolo | Oldonyiro-Nannapa | Ksh 0 | Ksh 0 | |
| Isiolo | Oldonyiro-Narupa | Ksh 0 | Ksh 0 | |
| Isiolo | Nasuulu | Ksh 0 | Ksh 0 | |
| Laikipia | Il Ngwesi | Ksh 0 | Ksh 0 | |
| Laikipia | Kirimon | Ksh 0 | Ksh 0 | |
| Laikipia | Lekurruki | Ksh 0 | Ksh 0 | |
| Laikipia | Naibunga Lower | Ksh 0 | Ksh 0 | |
| Laikipia | Naibunga Central | Ksh 0 | Ksh 0 | |
| Laikipia | Naibunga Upper | Ksh 0 | Ksh 0 | |
| Lamu | Awer | Ksh 0 | Ksh 0 | |
| Lamu | Hanshak- Nyangoro | Ksh 0 | Ksh 0 | |
| Lamu | Kiunga | Ksh 0 | Ksh 0 | |
| Lamu | Pate | Ksh 0 | Ksh 0 | |
| Marsabit | Jaldesa | Ksh 0 | Ksh 0 | |
| Marsabit | Melako | Ksh 0 | Ksh 0 | |
| Marsabit | Shurr | Ksh 0 | Ksh 0 | |

| | | | | |
|---------------------------|----------------------------|----------------|----------------|--|
| Marsabit | Songa | Ksh 0 | Ksh 0 | |
| Meru | Ngare Ndare | Ksh 0 | Ksh 0 | |
| Samburu | Kalama Conservancy | Ksh 5,000,000 | Ksh 6,000,000 | Ksh 5 million revenue sharing from Samburu National Reserve (SNR) & Ksh 6 million borehole digging (Rugby) |
| Samburu | Ltungai Conservancy | Ksh 5,000,000 | Ksh 1,569,000 | Banda construction and equipping (Ksh 3 million for Malaso Ecolodge and Ksh 2 million for Morpusi Ecolodge water pumping) Ksh 1.5 million for Ksh 100,000 AGM support, 1,041,000 salaries Ksh 144,000 committee meetings Ksh 234,000 staff rations Ksh 50,000 camp maintenance Ksh 30,000 stationery and consumables, Ksh 30,000 executive airtime |
| Samburu | Meibae Conservancy | Ksh 2,000,000 | Ksh 0 | Ksh 2 million rangers' support |
| Samburu | Namunyak-Kalepo | Ksh 1,000,000 | Ksh 0 | Ksh 1 million operation support |
| Samburu | Namunyak-Nalowuon | Ksh 0 | Ksh 0 | |
| Samburu | Namunyak-Nalowuon Umbrella | Ksh 0 | Ksh 0 | |
| Samburu | Namunyak-Ngilai & Reteti | Ksh 1,000,000 | Ksh 0 | Ksh 1 million operation support |
| Samburu | Nkoteiya Conservancy | Ksh 0 | Ksh 3,000,000 | Ksh 3 million conservancy scouts' operations support |
| Samburu | Sera Conservancy | Ksh 0 | Ksh 2,500,000 | Ksh 2.5 million additional bandas |
| Samburu | Westgate Conservancy | Ksh 5,000,000 | Ksh 0 | Ksh 5 million revenue sharing from SNR |
| Tana River | Lower Tana Conservancy | Ksh 0 | Ksh 0 | |
| Tana River | Ndera Conservancy | Ksh 0 | Ksh 0 | |
| West Pokot | Masol Conservancy | Ksh 0 | Ksh 0 | |
| West Pokot | Pellow Conservancy | Ksh 0 | Ksh 0 | |
| Total | | Ksh 19,000,000 | Ksh 13,069,000 | |
| Baragoi Conservation Area | | Ksh 40,000,000 | | Operations support: salaries, equipment, fuel, and administration |
| Ndoto conservation Area | | Ksh 40,000,000 | | Operations support: salaries, equipment, fuel, and administration |



| | | | | |
|-------------------------|----------------------------------|--|------------------------|---|
| Nyiro Conservation Area | | Ksh 40,000,000 | | Operations support: salaries, equipment, fuel, and administration |
| | Total, conservancies outside NRT | Ksh 120,000,000 | Ksh 0 | |
| | | Samburu County Conservancies | Ksh 120,000,000 | |
| | | | | |
| | | County Government Support Operation | Ksh 133,069,000 | |
| | | County Government-Capex | Ksh 19,000,000 | |
| | | Cumulative Government Support | Ksh 152,069,000 | |

Appendix 1.7: Overall County Government funding to NRT member Community Conservancies (2014 – 2022)

| Year | Amount (Ksh) |
|--------------|------------------------|
| 2014 | 13,000,000 |
| 2015 | 20,000,000 |
| 2016 | 31,000,000 |
| 2017 | 40,414,000 |
| 2018 | 24,000,000 |
| 2019 | 40,000,000 |
| 2020 | 177,200,000 |
| 2021 | 247,536,300 |
| 2022 | 152,069,000 |
| Total | Ksh 745,219,300 |



2. BUILDING PEACE

Appendix 2.1: Peace Interventions in 2022

| Month | Incidences | Interventions | Trainings and Exposures |
|--------------|------------|---------------|-------------------------|
| January | 15 | 0 | 1 |
| February | 11 | 6 | - |
| March | 12 | 7 | 2 |
| April | 4 | 0 | - |
| May | 3 | 10 | - |
| June | 6 | 3 | - |
| July | 3 | 17 | - |
| August | 11 | 6 | 1 |
| September | 6 | 4 | - |
| October | 16 | 12 | 4 |
| November | 11 | 27 | 2 |
| December | 8 | 18 | 3 |
| Total | 106 | 110 | 13 |



Appendix 2.2: 2022 Safety Incident Reports of NRT Member Community Conservancies

| Incident | Stock Theft Incidences | Stolen | Recovered | Bush meat | Charcoal Kilns Destroyed | Illegal Fishing | Human- wild-life Conflict | Snares Recovered |
|----------|------------------------|----------------------|---------------------|-----------|--------------------------|-----------------|---------------------------|------------------|
| Total | 243 | Cows: 3,357 | Cows: 1,000 | 21 | 34 | 15 | 74 | 29 |
| | | Goats: 8,708 | Goats: 3,694 | | | | | |
| | | Sheep: 379 | Sheep: 199 | | | | | |
| | | Camels: 2,354 | Camels: 1,115 | | | | | |
| | | Donkeys: 7 | Donkeys: 4 | | | | | |
| | | Total: 14,805 | Total: 6,012 | | | | | |

Appendix 2.3: An Overview of Conservancy Scout Numbers in each NRT Member Community Conservancy

| Region | Men | Women | Total | Trained in 2022 (Basic Conservancy Scout Training) |
|-------------------------------|------------|-----------|--------------|--|
| Isiolo | 217 | 17 | 234 | 180 |
| Baringo | 35 | 3 | 38 | 26 |
| Marsabit | 70 | 4 | 74 | 54 |
| Laikipia & Meru | 118 | 9 | 127 | 63 |
| Coast | 97 | 8 | 105 | 84 |
| West Pokot | 53 | 5 | 58 | 27 |
| Samburu | 270 | 34 | 304 | 183 |
| Mobile Teams & JOCC Operators | 91 | 2 | 93 | 93 |
| TOTAL | 981 | 82 | 1,033 | 710 |

Appendix 2.4: NRT Coast Summary of Safety Incidents

| Incident | Road Banditry | Recovered Trophies | Stock Theft Incidences | Stolen | Recovered | Bush meat | Weapons Recovered | Charcoal Kilns Destroyed |
|----------|---------------|--------------------|------------------------|--|--|-----------|-------------------|--------------------------|
| Total | 28 | 14 | 243 | Cows: 3,357 Goats: 8,708 Sheep: 379 Camels: 2,354 Donkeys: 7 Total: 14,805 | Cows:1,000 Goats: 3,694 Sheep: 199 Camels: 1,115 Donkeys: 4 Total: 6,012 | 21 | 5 | 34 |

| Planned Raids (Sighted Gangs) | Illegal Fishing inside LMMAS | Robbery | Human- wildlife Conflict | Snares Recovered | Poaching | Logging | Rescues & Carcasses |
|-------------------------------|------------------------------|---------|--------------------------|------------------|----------|---------|--|
| 33 | 18 | 9 | 74 | 29 | 18 | 3 | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 18 sea turtles were rescued after being caught in fishing nets • 1 female adult leopard was rescued from a trap • 1 female adult giraffe was rescued from a snare trap and released back to its natural habitat • 1 dugong in Pate • 43 sea turtles • 1 whale shark |



3. Transforming **Livelihoods** and **Business**

Appendix 3.1: **Cumulative Analysis of** CLF spending in 2022

| Project | Funds Disbursed (Ksh) | Percentage |
|----------------------|------------------------------|-------------------|
| Education | 17,431, 076 | 32% |
| Economic Empowerment | 15,048,500 | 27% |
| Enterprise | 3,000,000 | 5% |
| Health | 2,513, 600 | 5% |
| Vocational Training | 5,725,000 | 10% |
| Water | 11,439,200 | 21% |
| Total | 55,157,376 | 100% |

Appendix 3.2: **CLF Funding Data** (2015-2022)

| Year | No. of CLF Projects | Amount (Ksh) | No. of Beneficiaries |
|--------------|----------------------------|---------------------|-----------------------------|
| 2015 | 13 | 19,913,040 | 4,192 |
| 2016 | 28 | 51,729,841 | 9,443 |
| 2017 | 29 | 98,848,463 | 45,775 |
| 2018 | 15 | 27,245,000 | 3,956 |
| 2019 | 46 | 111,599,559 | 5,249 |
| 2020 | 8 | 20,000,000 | 710 |
| 2021 | 43 | 122,917,876 | 8,535 |
| 2022 | 19 | 55,157,376 | 12,836 |
| Total | 181 | 522,411,175 | 88,538 |

Appendix 3.3: Water Infrastructure in NRT Member Conservancies (2022)

| Conservancy | Infrastructure |
|--|---|
| ISIOLO COUNTY | |
| Narupa Conservancy | A water supply extension project from Tura Borehole to Narasha community is ongoing to promote peacebuilding in the area. The project is being implemented in collaboration with other partners including the Nawiri Program and with the Conservancy's Carbon Project funds |
| Nannapa Conservancy | The rehabilitation of the Nantudu Water Pan to address wildlife and livestock needs was completed |
| Biliqo Bulesa | Using Carbon Project funds, the Biliqo Marara, Dima Adho, Biliqo, and Bulesa communities are rehabilitating and extending existing systems to improve water access for domestic use |
| Nasuulu Conservancy | A solar water pumping system from Ewaso Ng'iro River and storage tank were constructed to enhance water supply to the Conservancy's headquarters Water extension to the new Nasuulu Bandas was completed |
| Nakuprat Gotu | The drilling of the Attan Borehole with a yield of 26m ³ /hr to support the Attan community in irrigation, diversifying their livelihoods, was completed. Equipping and extension are planned for 2023 |
| Isiolo South Conservancies: Sericho, Kinna, Garbatula and Cherab | Water assessments for the proposed conservancy headquarters were completed The communities' water needs were identified and prioritized for implementation in 2023 |
| SAMBURU COUNTY | |
| Meibae Conservancy | The rehabilitation of the Mugur e muny Sand Dam which serves a crucial role in providing water for livestock, wildlife, and domestic use was completed |
| Kalama Conservancy | The installation of the Kalama Resource Center water supply system was completed and rainwater was harvested |
| Sera Conservancy | A project to extend water supply from Kapai Well to a new wildlife watering pan was completed, enhancing water access for wildlife, and improving sightings of wildlife to the west of Sera Sanctuary Continuous monitoring of water quality in the rhino sanctuary's water points was undertaken to ensure safe water supply |
| Westgate Conservancy | The Conservancy used Carbon Project funds to conduct detailed assessments so interventions could be implemented to improve water access for domestic use across the Conservancy Working in collaboration with the Samburu County Government under the EU RangER Program, the preliminary works on the Naisunyai Water Supply Extension Project was completed. The Project is expected to be concluded by the first quarter of 2023 |



| | |
|--|---|
| Nkoteiya Conservancy | The drilling and equipping of the Lounnoi Borehole was completed, enhancing water supply to the community, conservancy headquarters, and the Nkoteiya Eco Lodge |
| Ltungai Conservancy | Drilling of the Sunoni Borehole (25m ³ /hr yield) was completed, providing water for livestock and domestic use. The equipping and distribution processes are expected to be complete in the first quarter of 2023 |
| MARSABIT | |
| Melako Conservancy | Using Carbon Project funds, pipeline extension was undertaken to improve water access in the settlement of Manyatta Silapani The Sakardala desalination machine was rehabilitated to provide access to safe portable water in the Village of Sakardala |
| Songa Conservancy | The rehabilitation of the Leyai pipeline was completed, providing a clean and uninterrupted water supply to the residents of Leyai, improving their livelihoods, and reducing human-elephant conflict in the area |
| NRT COAST | |
| Ishaqbini Conservancy (Garissa County) | The Ishaqbini water supply system was rehabilitated and solarized, ensuring water supply to the Hirola Sanctuary, the hara and Korisa communities, and the conservancy headquarters Installation of the Ishaqbini pasture irrigation system was completed, supporting the growth of forage for hirola Secured Ksh 60.8 million (USD 515,254) from the Water Sector Trust Fund (WSTF) for the development of the Kotile water supply system and the rehabilitation and expansion of Alijerere Water Pan to enhance water access for livestock and domestic use |
| Ndera Conservancy (Tana River County) | Procured and installed a new pump at Ndera headquarters Secured Ksh 35.5 (USD 300,847) million from WSTF for the development of the Baomo Water supply system and the new Weljan Water Pan to enhance water access for domestic use, livestock, and wildlife in Ndera Community Conservancy |
| Awer Conservancy (Lamu County) | A 285 l/hour desalination plant was installed, providing access to portable water to the residents of Kiangwe Village who had no alternative source of clean water The Kiangwe Well was rehabilitated and a pipeline was constructed, ensuring the residents of Kiangwe Village could access water for desalination and cleaning |
| Hanshak | A canal diversion was completed, reducing the distance to water points to less than 0.5 kilometers and enhancing water access for the Village of Dire Waride |



| | |
|------------------------|--|
| Kiunga | <p>Harvesting of rainwater in storage tanks at the Mkokoni ranger's outpost was completed, facilitating rangers' access to clean portable water</p> <p>The drilling of a new well at Mkokoni Outpost is underway. This will provide cleaning water for the rangers and preserve the clean rainwater for drinking</p> <p>The Kiunga water supply system is fully designed and awaiting funding for implementation. The system will enhance water distribution at the Kiunga Desalination Plant</p> <p>Secured Ksh 28 million (USD 237,288) from WSTF for enhanced water supply through desalination in Kiwayu Village</p> |
| Pate | <p>Rainwater harvesting was completed at the Ndau Pate ranger's outpost, ensuring rangers could access safe water for use</p> <p>Secured Ksh 31 million (USD 262,711) from WSTF to ensure access to safe water and sanitation in Mtangawanda Village</p> |
| LAIKIPIA COUNTY | |
| Naibunga Lower | <p>Installed storage tanks for rainwater harvesting (2 no, 10,000 L) at the headquarters</p> <p>Conducted training on water governance to increase the Conservancy's capacity to manage conservancy-level water issues</p> |
| Naibung'a Upper | <p>Rehabilitated 3No. boreholes using Carbon Project funds, providing access to safe water to Naibung'a Upper Conservancy's communities</p> |
| Il Ngwesi | <p>Using Carbon Project funds, the Conservancy is providing household water storage facilities to residents of Ethi and is currently undertaking water supply development in Ngarendare Village to increase water access and promote efficient irrigation</p> |
| Lekurruki | <p>The Conservancy used Carbon Project funds to drill and equip a borehole and improve water supply to Taasia Lodge, a critical source of revenue</p> |
| BARINGO COUNTY | |
| Ruko conservancy | <p>Provided 2No. 10,000l water tanks, improving rainwater storage at the Conservancy's headquarters</p> <p>Through the EU RangER programme; Kapturo water pan has been completed to enhance peaceful coexistence of the communities of Kapturo ward in Baringo</p> <p>Embossos Irrigation rehabilitation completed, promoting livelihood diversification by adding farming to cattle keeping</p> |



Appendix 3.4: Education Bursary Distribution per Conservancy (2022)

| Conservancy | Amount Disbursed | Beneficiaries | Source |
|------------------|---------------------|---------------|-----------------|
| Meibae | 4M | 560 | Carbon |
| Sera | 5.8M | 660 | Carbon |
| Kalepo | 3.0M | 500 | Carbon |
| Kalama | 5M | 2,500 | Tourism revenue |
| Westgate | 1.2M | 258 | Carbon |
| Westgate | 3.0M | 258 | Tourism revenue |
| Nasuulu | 4.15M | 630 | Carbon |
| Melako | 15.05M | 1,505 | Carbon |
| Naapu | 2M | 262 | Carbon |
| Nanapisho | 2M | 312 | Carbon |
| Narupa | 2m | 595 | Carbon |
| Iingwesi | 9.1m | 653 | Carbon |
| Lekuruki | 1.5M | 44 | Carbon |
| Naibunga Lower | 2M | 200 | Carbon |
| Naibunga Upper | 2.8M | 500 | Carbon |
| Naibunga Central | 2M | 200 | Carbon |
| Biliqo | 3.15M | 550 | Carbon |
| Nakuprat Gotu | 1M | 75 | Carbon |
| Cherab | 2.5M | 625 | CLF |
| Kina | 2.5M | 834 | CLF |
| Sericho | 2.5M | 500 | CLF |
| Garbatulla | 2.5M | 336 | CLF |
| Total | 78.7 million | 12,557 | |



Appendix 3.5: Earnings per Conservancy from BeadWORKS Products (2022)

| Conservancy | Total BeadWORKS Items Produced | Total Earnings (Ksh) | Conservation Fees (Ksh) | Star Beaders Rewards (Ksh) |
|--------------|--------------------------------|----------------------|-------------------------|----------------------------|
| Melako | 19,952 | 2,099,940 | 517,812 | 104,997 |
| Sera | 8,833 | 1,091,840 | 229,245 | 54,592 |
| Kalama | 3,561 | 609,260 | 92,419 | 30,463 |
| Westgate | 2,608 | 357,490 | 67,686 | 17,875 |
| Lekurruki | 4,404 | 512,030 | 114,298 | 25,602 |
| Il Ngwesi | 12,954 | 2,431,380 | 336,190 | 121,569 |
| Leparua | 4,533 | 510,540 | 117,640 | 25,527 |
| Naibunga | 5,748 | 716,190 | 149,175 | 35,810 |
| Total | 62,592 | 8,328,670 | 1624,465 | 416,434 |

Appendix 3.6: 2022 Income from Bandas

| Bandas | January-March | April-June | July-September | October-December | Total (Ksh) |
|--------------|---------------|------------|----------------|------------------|-------------|
| Ol Gaboli | 209,000 | 279,000 | 500,000 | 67,000 | 1,055,000 |
| Koija | 172,000 | 154,000 | 309,000 | 487,000 | 1,122,000 |
| Melako | 240,000 | 24,000 | 0 | 0 | 264,000 |
| Nkoteiya | 94,000 | 103,500 | 107,000 | 137,800 | 442,300 |
| Tassia Lodge | 0 | 1,728,000 | 1,171,000 | 1,854,000 | 4,753,000 |



Appendix 3.7: Staff Employed in Conservancy Tourism Facilities: 2022

| Conservancy | Facility | No. of Employees | Status | Ownership |
|-----------------------|--------------------|------------------|-----------------|-----------------------------------|
| Il Ngwesi | Il Ngwesi Lodge | 7 | Operational | Community- owned and run |
| Naibunga Lower | Koija Star Beds | 3 | Operational | Community- owned and run |
| | OI Gaboli Bandas | 5 | Operational | Community- owned and run |
| Nkoteiya | Nkoteiya Eco-lodge | 3 | Operational | Community- owned and run |
| Westgate | Sasaab | 36 | Operational | Community- owned and run |
| Kalama | Saruni Samburu | 44 | Operational | Private investor |
| Nalouwou | Sarara Camp | 37 | Operational | Community-owned; Private operator |
| | Tree houses | 28 | Operational | Community-owned; Private Operator |
| Sera | Saruni Rhino | 10 | Operational | Community-owned; Private Operator |
| Ngilai | Kitich Camp | 12 | Operational | Community-owned; Private Operator |
| | Reteti House | - | Just completed | Community-owned; Private Operator |
| Kalepo | Kalepo Tented Camp | 8 | Just completed | Private Investor |
| Lekurruki | Tassia | 6 | Operational | Community- owned and run |
| Melako | Melako Bandas | 3 | Not operational | Community- owned and run |
| Ngare Ndare Camp Site | - | 6 | Operational | - |
| Total | | 208 | | |

Appendix 3.8: NRT Member Community Conservancies' Tourism Income (2013-2022)

| Conservancy | 2013 | 2014 | 2015 | 2016 | 2017 | 2018 | 2019 | 2020 | 2021 | 2022 |
|-------------------|------------|------------|------------|------------|------------|------------|------------|------------|------------|---------|
| Namunyak | 17,802,000 | 16,961,339 | 16,427,099 | 21,665,718 | 22,911,700 | 38,247,520 | | | | |
| Namunyak-Ngilai | 1,780,200 | 1,696,134 | 1,642,710 | 2,166,572 | 2,291,170 | 3,824,752 | 3,839,719 | 1,412,600 | 3,407,000 | 400,000 |
| Namunyak-Nalouwou | 14,646,899 | 14,730,965 | 14,784,389 | 19,499,146 | 20,620,530 | 34,422,778 | 36,200,000 | 20,148,260 | 20,619,901 | |

| | | | | | | | | | | |
|---------------------|------------|------------|------------|------------|------------|-------------|-------------|------------|------------|-------------|
| Kalama | 7,523,501 | 7,675,264 | 7,047,550 | 8,880,000 | 13,921,356 | 19,041,860 | 24,711,375 | 7,335,135 | 17,555,918 | 28,813,955 |
| Ngare Ndare | 3,200,000 | 4,600,000 | 6,797,497 | 6,800,000 | 8,987,982 | 9,800,000 | 15,220,000 | 10,357,887 | 12,789,788 | 10,450,000 |
| Westgate | 6,961,902 | 2,807,661 | 5,109,296 | 7,197,111 | 10,567,004 | 11,527,515 | 16,000,000 | 6,509,814 | 7,116,046 | 22,744,245 |
| Lekurruki | 5,178,495 | 3,444,980 | 2,553,600 | 2,034,174 | | 3,200,000 | 2,505,500 | 900,000 | 1,366,000 | 4,753,000 |
| Lower Tana Delta | 1,457,500 | | 1,433,302 | | | 592,295 | | 350,000 | | |
| Kiunga | | | | | | | | 100,000 | | |
| Il Ngwesi | 13,086,610 | 15,042,840 | 11,958,480 | 10,522,050 | 12,773,837 | 20,531,715 | 22,857,736 | 9,365,082 | 14,946,610 | 33,114,700 |
| Nakuprat-Gotu | 620,000 | 1,562,000 | 1,320,166 | 673,154 | 72,500 | 655,000 | 30,000 | 56,000 | 29,000 | |
| Sera | 1,803,248 | 2,208,162 | 403,029 | 84,490 | 3,002,000 | 5,647,000 | 6,649,000 | 2,977,400 | 4,288,000 | 23,253,400 |
| Ruko | 50,000 | 1,039,750 | 200,000 | 198,100 | 211,000 | 103,400 | | 384,415 | | |
| Melako | | 2,945,000 | 2,052,000 | | | | | 1,469,000 | 1,125,000 | 264,000 |
| Nkoteiya | | | | | | | | | 256,100 | 442,300 |
| Ltungai | | 2,968,200 | | | | | | | | |
| Ishaqbini | 56,000 | 400,000 | | 147,000 | 40,000 | | | | 67,000 | 24,000 |
| Biliqo-Bulesa | 329,306 | 116,000 | | | | | | 250,000 | 190,000 | |
| Naibunga Upper | | | | 68,000 | | | 20,000 | 89,600 | | |
| Naibunga Lower | | | | | | | | 542,000 | 1,289,200 | 2,177,000 |
| Meibae | 25,000 | | | 9,000 | | | | | | |
| Oldonyiro-Nanapisho | | 116,000 | | 100,000 | 13,000 | 150,000 | | | | |
| Oldonyiro-Nanapa | | | | | | | | | | |
| Kaptuya | | | | | | | 4,900,000 | | | |
| Songa | | | | | 4,460,000 | | | | | |
| Total | 56,718,661 | 61,352,956 | 55,302,019 | 58,231,797 | 77,067,379 | 109,432,915 | 133,036,730 | 62,247,193 | 83,679,563 | 117,249,765 |



Appendix 3.9: Ujuzi Manyattani Graduation Figures (2022)

| County | Conservancy | No. Graduated (2022) |
|------------|----------------|----------------------------|
| Baringo | Ruko | 59 |
| West Pokot | Masol | 28 |
| Laikipia | Naibunga Lower | 30 |
| Samburu | Ltungai | 75 |
| | Meibae | 30 |
| Isiolo | Biliqo Bulesa | 30 |
| | Nasuulu | 44 |
| | Nakuprat | 149 |
| Marsabit | Shurr | 21 |
| | Jaldesa | 41 |
| | Songa | 37 |
| | | Total Graduates 544 |



4. Conserving **Wildlife**

Appendix 4.1: **2022** Sandgrouse Count

| Conservancy | 2020 | 2021 | 2022 |
|---------------|--------|---------|---------|
| Biliqo Bulesa | 36,211 | 29,284 | 40,300 |
| Sera | 59,933 | 136,490 | 86,873 |
| Melako | 91,698 | 103,175 | 130,700 |
| Kalepo | 110 | 160 | 70 |
| Cherab | | | 95,057 |
| Shurr | | | 36,325 |

Appendix 4.2: Trends in Causes of **Elephant Deaths**

| Month | Conflict | Illegally Killed | Poaching | Problem Animal Control | Natural | Unknown | Grand Total | PIKE |
|--------------------|-----------|------------------|----------|------------------------|------------|------------|-------------|--------------|
| January | 4 | 1 | | | 15 | 8 | 28 | 17.88 |
| February | 7 | | | | 4 | 10 | 21 | 33.33 |
| March | 7 | | | | 10 | 19 | 36 | 19.44 |
| April | 11 | | 1 | 1 | 27 | 26 | 66 | 18.18 |
| May | 11 | | | | 22 | 14 | 47 | 23.40 |
| June | 9 | | | | 22 | 4 | 35 | 25.71 |
| July | 5 | | | | 15 | 2 | 22 | 22.73 |
| August | 5 | | | | 10 | 3 | 24 | 20.83 |
| September | 4 | | | | 19 | 4 | 27 | 14.81 |
| October | 8 | | | 1 | 23 | 9 | 37 | 10.81 |
| November | 8 | 1 | | | 16 | 8 | 27 | 11.11 |
| December | 4 | 1 | | | 0 | 4 | 18 | 27.78 |
| Grand Total | 78 | 3 | 1 | 2 | 198 | 111 | 388 | 19.85 |



10. Carbon

Appendix 10.1: Carbon Community Fund Expenditure (2022)

| Projects | | Expenditure Percentage |
|--|----------------|------------------------|
| Education | Bursaries | 19% |
| | Infrastructure | 17% |
| Water | | 24% |
| Tourism Enterprise | | 19% |
| Infrastructure | | 7% |
| Health | | 3% |
| Other (Includes: community & conservancy scout welfare programs, women & youth empowerment programs) | | 11% |

Appendix 10.2: Carbon Community Fund Bursary Distribution (2022)

| Conservancy | Amount | Beneficiaries |
|-------------|-----------|---------------|
| Nasuulu | 4,150,000 | 630 |
| Meibae | 4,000,000 | 400 |
| Melako | 1,505,000 | 1,505 |
| Naapu | 2,000,000 | 235 |
| Nanapisho | 2,000,000 | 312 |
| Narupa | 2,000,000 | 350 |
| Sera | 5,800,000 | 660 |
| Biliqo | 3,150,000 | 550 |
| Kalepo | 3,000,000 | 500 |
| Il Ngwesi | 9,122,000 | 653 |

| | | |
|------------------|-----------|-----|
| Lekurruki | 1,500,000 | 44 |
| Naibunga Central | 2,000,000 | 200 |
| Naibunga Upper | 2,800,000 | 500 |
| Nakuprat-Gotu | 1,000,000 | 75 |

The Carbon Community Fund (CCF) is managed and controlled by the community. Each conservancy decides democratically which development projects to fund and which efforts to prioritize. This includes any decision to provide bursaries for students and the financial level of those bursaries.

Appendix 10.3: Carbon Project-Funded Infrastructure Projects Rolled Out in 2022

| Community Conservancy | Infrastructure |
|-----------------------|--|
| Nasuulu | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cleared the Langailer-Ngarentare connecting road • Furnished Samburu Community School's dormitory with beds and mattresses • Disbursed bursaries to 630 primary, secondary and university students • The construction of tourism bandas to promote community livelihood diversification is ongoing |
| Lekurruki | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Resurfaced the airstrip and roads within the Conservancy • Renovated Tassia Lodge • Drilled a borehole at Tassia Lodge to supply water to the Lodge and the community at large |
| Melako | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Installed a solar power system at Merrile Mixed Day School • Disbursed bursaries to 1,505 needy students • Constructed a toilet at Nairibi Dispensary • Equipped the borehole at Silapani with water pipes • In Sakardala, a water purifier machine was purchased to purify salty water |
| Naibunga Central | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Equipped a borehole in Kijabe with pipes, supplying water to Nabolo Primary School and the community • Constructed a concrete tank and repaired another at the Nkiloriti rock water catchment area • Disbursed bursaries to 200 secondary school, college and university students • Drilled a borehole at Musul. Equipping of the borehole is ongoing |
| Naibunga Upper | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Constructed outposts for conservancy scouts, improving patrols, and issued uniforms to 10 scouts • Disbursed bursaries to 500 secondary school, college and university students • Fully repaired the Morupusi windmill which had been faulty for a decade • Converted a broken handpump at Olampaa to a borehole and equipped it with a solar power system • Installed a solar power system at Twala Cultural Manyatta |



| | |
|----------|---|
| Kalama | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The construction of Girgir Business Complex is ongoing. This flagship project will ensure the Conservancy's financial sustainability, by generating rental income • Constructed Naandadapo Early Childhood Education (ECDE) Center • Constructed outposts at Lorubae A and B to enhance safety |
| Westgate | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Renovated Nasunyai Dispensary and constructed a toilet within the facility • Renovated an ECDE class in Narapai Primary School • Installed a solar power system at Ngutuk Ongiron Dispensary • Constructed a new Early Childhood Education (ECDE) classroom at Lpus Leluai Primary School • Installed a solar power system at Lpus Leluai Dispensary • Constructed a new classroom at Kiltamany Primary School • Disbursed bursaries to 258 secondary school, college and university students |
| Leparua | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Renovated existing boreholes and equipped them with water tanks • Disbursed bursaries to secondary school, college and university students • Conducted entrepreneurship trainings for women and youth • Constructed gabion walls on conservancy roads to ease transportation • Provided dairy goats to the vulnerable (including the elderly) so they could restock their herds which were decimated by the drought, robbing them of their source of livelihood |
| Meibai | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Disbursed bursaries to 560 secondary school, college and university students |
| Nannapa | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provided goats to 10 families selected from all the Conservancy's zones so they could restock their herds after losing their livestock—their main source of livelihood, to the drought • Constructed roads, improving safety in the Conservancy • Cleared invasive cactus |
| Sera | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Purchased a mixed printer for Sereolipi Primary School • Disbursed bursaries to 660 secondary school, college and university students • Fenced Sereolipi Primary School's compound • Equipped Sereolipi Health Centre with medicine, giving the community access to free medication • Equipped an existing solar power system at Sereolipi Health Centre with batteries • Rehabilitated the new pipeline system to the main storage tank in Archers Post and equipped it with water pipes • Drilled a borehole at Sereolipi. The equipping of the borehole is ongoing • Purchased 2 <i>jikos</i> (charcoal burners) and <i>sufurias</i> (cooking pans) for Sereoilipi Primary School |



| | |
|----------------|--|
| Biliqo Bulesa | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Constructed an administration block at Goda Primary School • Rehabilitated the borehole at Dhima Adho and renovated the water pipes at the Qonohongura waterpoint, providing water for community members and their livestock • Equipped the borehole at Bulesa with new water pipes • Constructed a classroom at Awarsitu Primary school • Purchased a generator to facilitate the pumping of water from Ewaso River to the Biliqo community • Renovated Biliqo Marara's borehole's piping system and equipped it with water tanks • Purchased a community vehicle • Distributed bursaries to 550 secondary school, college and university students |
| Naapu | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Distributed bursaries to 264 secondary school, college and university students • Fenced the compound of Lenkuruma Primary School • Fenced Mokori ECDE Center |
| Nanapisho | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Disbursed bursaries to 312 secondary school, college and university students • Constructed teachers' quarters at Noloroi Primary School • Constructed a classroom at Lengwenyi Primary School • Fenced the compound of Kipsing Primary School |
| Narupa | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cleared the invasive species <i>Acacia reficiens</i> and planted grass • Distributed bursaries to 595 secondary school, college and university students • The equipping of Tura borehole in Tiamamut community land and the construction of a concrete tank is ongoing |
| Naibunga Lower | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Constructed the first banda at the newly established Tiamamut Lodge • Constructed a banda at Koiija Starbeds • Built an ECDE Center at Il-Motiok • Distributed bursaries to 289 secondary school, college and university students |
| Nakupurat-Gotu | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Constructed an administration block at Gotu Primary School • Disbursed bursaries to 75 secondary school, college and university students • Constructed a new madrassa class in Gotu to promote religious education • Fenced Gotu Primary School's compound and installed a gate, enhancing safety within the school • The construction of a school kitchen and dining hall in Ngare Mara Primary School is ongoing • Constructed two ECDE classrooms at Nakuprat Nursery School |
| Il Ngwesi | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Purchased and distributed water tanks to community members in Ethi • Rehabilitated a borehole in Nadungoro and equipped it with water tanks • Supplied water to the community through the Ntarian Water Project • Purchased water pipes for use in the Ngare Ndare Water Project • Distributed bursaries to 653 secondary school, college and university students |



Appendix 10.4: Carbon Project Funds Disbursed for Drought Mitigation (2022)

| Conservancy | Carbon Allocation (Ksh) | No of households |
|------------------|-------------------------|------------------|
| Kalama | 3,500,000 | 3000 |
| Melako | 5,500,000 | 6600 |
| Naibunga Upper | 5,093,039 | 1800 |
| Naibunga Central | 4,300,000 | 1100 |
| Biliqo Bulesa | 5,000,000 | 1830 |
| Total | 23,393,039 | 14,330 |



▶▶ Photographs

Paul Wambugu

2, 6, 7, 8, 9, 28, 30, 32, 37, 39, 50, 55, 56, 60, 62, 63, 68, 69, 80, 81, 84, 85, 86, 87, 94, 96, 98, 99, 101, 106, 108, 110, 114, 120, 144, 165, 177, 180, 182, 184, 202, 204, 212, 232, 236

Ami Vitale

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Ian Craig

78, 90

Athuman Komora

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Susan Wamuyu

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Kieran Avery

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Mathew Wario

34

Duncan Ndotono

75

Tatiana Karanja

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Jeff DeKock

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