

CONSERVATION EDUCATION

We understand that our neighbouring communities are the most significant stakeholders in our conservation efforts both inside and outside the conservancy. That is why we have increased our emphasis on conservation education so it can reach as many of our community members as possible. We have hired a new Conservation Education Officer who is tasked with raising awareness about environmental issues in local schools and communities.



**WELCOME NEIGHBOURS!
LOCAL SCHOOLS AND COMMUNITY
GROUPS COME IN FREE!**

How to apply

Any school students or community groups in the OI Pejeta area are granted free entry into the conservancy all year round. Groups must organise their own transport and request a visit to OI Pejeta by:

- Sending a letter to: Head of Community Programs, OI Pejeta Conservancy, Private Bag, Nanyuki 10400
- Writing an email to cdp@olpejetaconservancy.org
- Giving us a call on 0713 330 087

Our staff will help organise trip details.

Correspondence should state the name of the school, the intended date of the visit, how many people are in the group and the transport arrangements. We encourage all of our neighbours to apply so they can experience the beauty of nature first hand.

HEALTHCARE

This year, OI Pejeta has been able to facilitate major structural improvements to Mwituria Dispensary, thanks to support from the Rotary Clubs of Langley, B.C and Nairobi North. The clinic, which serves over 3,300 people in the surrounding communities, has never had electricity. This has greatly hindered the provision of emergency medical assistance and made storing vaccines and medication nearly impossible. The renovation included linking the dispensary to mains power, which has not only enabled drugs to be stored, but also allows nurses to administer emergency treatment at night. It has also boosted security at the clinic. Water supply to the dispensary was enhanced too, thanks to the construction of a piping system that provides clean water from a borehole.



REMINDER - SMS CONTACTS

OI Pejeta has an SMS number which allows community members to directly contact OI Pejeta's Community Department for information and feedback.



The number is for SMS only and NOT phone calls.

- For general community enquiries, please contact 0790 889 940
- To report cases of human-wildlife conflict or to contact the OI Pejeta Control Office, please call 0723 312 673

**OL PEJETA
CONSERVANCY**



**COMMUNITY
NEWSLETTER**

AUGUST 2017



GLOBAL RECOGNITION FOR OUR COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT WORK

This April, OI Pejeta won the Community Award at the Tourism for Tomorrow Awards in Bangkok, Thailand. This prestigious recognition was awarded for OI Pejeta's use of tourism income to support sustainable community development.

Our Community Development Programme Manager, Moses Muthoki, was on hand to receive the award – the result of years of hard work from his team and the local communities we work with. OI Pejeta has invested over 8 million dollars to date in support of community development initiatives, from education and health to agriculture and green energy.

ENERGY COOKING COOKSTOVES

OI Pejeta and partners Die Ofenmacher continue to provide an environmentally friendly alternative to traditional cooking stoves. The Improved Cooking Stoves (ICS) use 70% less firewood than the traditional three stone 'jiko' and can cook two meals concurrently. It reduces deforestation, cooking times and the likelihood of smoke related diseases. Demand for ICS from communities has been steadily increasing, which is why we trained 10 community members as stove builders – a full time job. Demand is still increasing however, and we are looking to recruit more stove builders. Any persons interested can contact us via

bernard.mwangi@olpejetaconservancy.org

or by phone on 0725 501 292.



ICT AND EDUCATION

In the last 6 months, OI Pejeta has increased the use of technology in learning. Between April 2016 and April 2017, we have provided ICT training to 8 schools in our surrounding communities: Tigithi, Thome, Sweetwaters, OI Tafetta, Mwituria and St Augustine Secondary Schools, and Uwaso Nyiro and Irura Primary Schools. Each school has been connected to the internet through our partnership with Mawingu. In the next 12 months, we will be connecting Malek, Tharua, Endana and Withare Secondary Schools too. We aim to provide ICT education and equipment to all the schools in our community area and with the support of Vulcan, Mawingu, Afretech Aid Society and PA-MOJA we feel we are making big steps in this direction.



SCHOLARSHIP AND MENTORSHIP

In the last decade, OI Pejeta and partners, have put over 300 students through high school. As part of this scholarship program, we provide mentorship to our sponsored students especially during the holidays. OI Pejeta education staff hold mentorship meetings once a term in different community areas, attended by the student and parents. This is to assess the student's progress and discuss any challenges they might be facing in school. In addition, we hold mentorship days where we invite motivational speakers from all over the world to speak to scholarship students. We also invite former successful scholarship students to the event so they can provide relatable inspiration. We have seen that going this extra mile helps students make the most of their opportunities.



AGRICULTURE AND WATER

We have worked with several community groups to plant around 75,000 trees in the local area. This is to help conserve their environment through the prevention of soil erosion, and ensure water security for farmers.

OI Pejeta's new "Conservation in Action" activity for schools also encourages tree planting. Select, indigenous seedlings can be purchased and planted in designated elephant exclusion zones and offer students the chance to leave a lasting impact. We have also supported local farmers to improve their water storage capacity by providing extension services and cost-sharing opportunities for water pans. These have been particularly critical to farmers during the ongoing drought. At present, we have 89 functional water pans that farmers are using for crops, animal husbandry and domestic consumption.

