

ANNUAL REPORT

2018



OL PEJETA 
CONSERVANCY
A ROLE MODEL FOR CONSERVATION

LETTER FROM OUR MANAGING DIRECTOR

OUR VISION

To become an innovative and sustainable development model of national importance that conserves biodiversity (particularly endangered species) and contributes to economic growth and the improvement of the livelihoods of rural communities.

OUR MISSION

Ol Pejeta Conservancy works to conserve wildlife, provide a sanctuary for great apes, and to generate income through wildlife tourism and complementary enterprise for reinvestment in conservation and communities.

OUR BOARD OF DIRECTORS

- Philip Coulson, Chairman
- Joanna Elliott (Fauna & Flora International)
- Dr. Annette Lanjouw (Arcus Foundation)
- Mike Watson (Lewa Wildlife Conservancy)
- Hon. Francis Ole Kaparo
- Michael Gichangi
- Dr. Helen Gichohi
- Vijay Gidoomal
- Daniel Szlapak
- Richard Vigne

Ol Pejeta moved from strength to strength in 2018. As an organisation our financial performance continued to improve. With a resurgence in the Kenyan tourism industry, Ol Pejeta made good use of its reputation as an excellent safari destination to achieve record revenues and, for the first time, visitor numbers that exceeded 100,000 people. That over 50% of these visitors were Kenyans demonstrates Ol Pejeta's commitment in making sure that those who are ultimately charged with the care and stewardship of the country's natural resources, have the ability to access the Conservancy in an affordable manner, now and in the future.

From a conservation perspective, Ol Pejeta continued to be a leader in black rhino conservation and remains home to the largest single population of this species in East Africa. We worked hard in collaboration with Government to create more conservation space as a means to ensure ecosystem connectivity, and making room for further growth of our black rhino population.

Of course, more conservation space for rhinos provides more space for all other species. Coupled with the fact that our integrated system for safeguarding conservation space also allows opportunities for economic development, we are thus able to increasingly meet the needs of both human and wildlife populations in a model that is more and more recognised and replicated globally.

Moving forwards into 2019, we will aim to further strengthen the quality of our tourism business to enhance net revenues, at the same time as making some significant investments into the agribusiness sector of the organisation in order to improve profitability within this area, whilst creating a platform for tackling livestock and livelihood related issues within this part of Kenya.

We will also invest more into the development and use of technology as a means to improve the effectiveness of our own operations, as well as assisting to provide solutions to conservation globally.

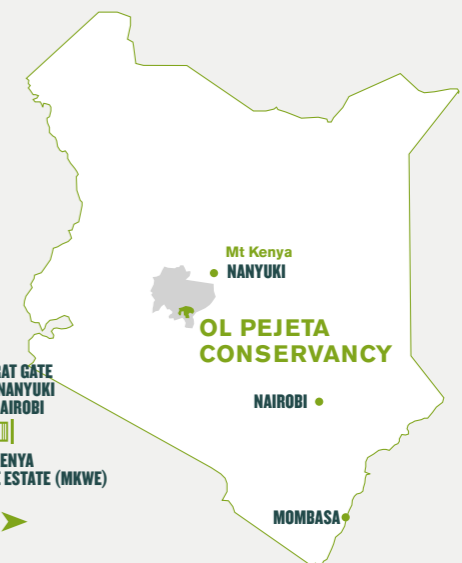
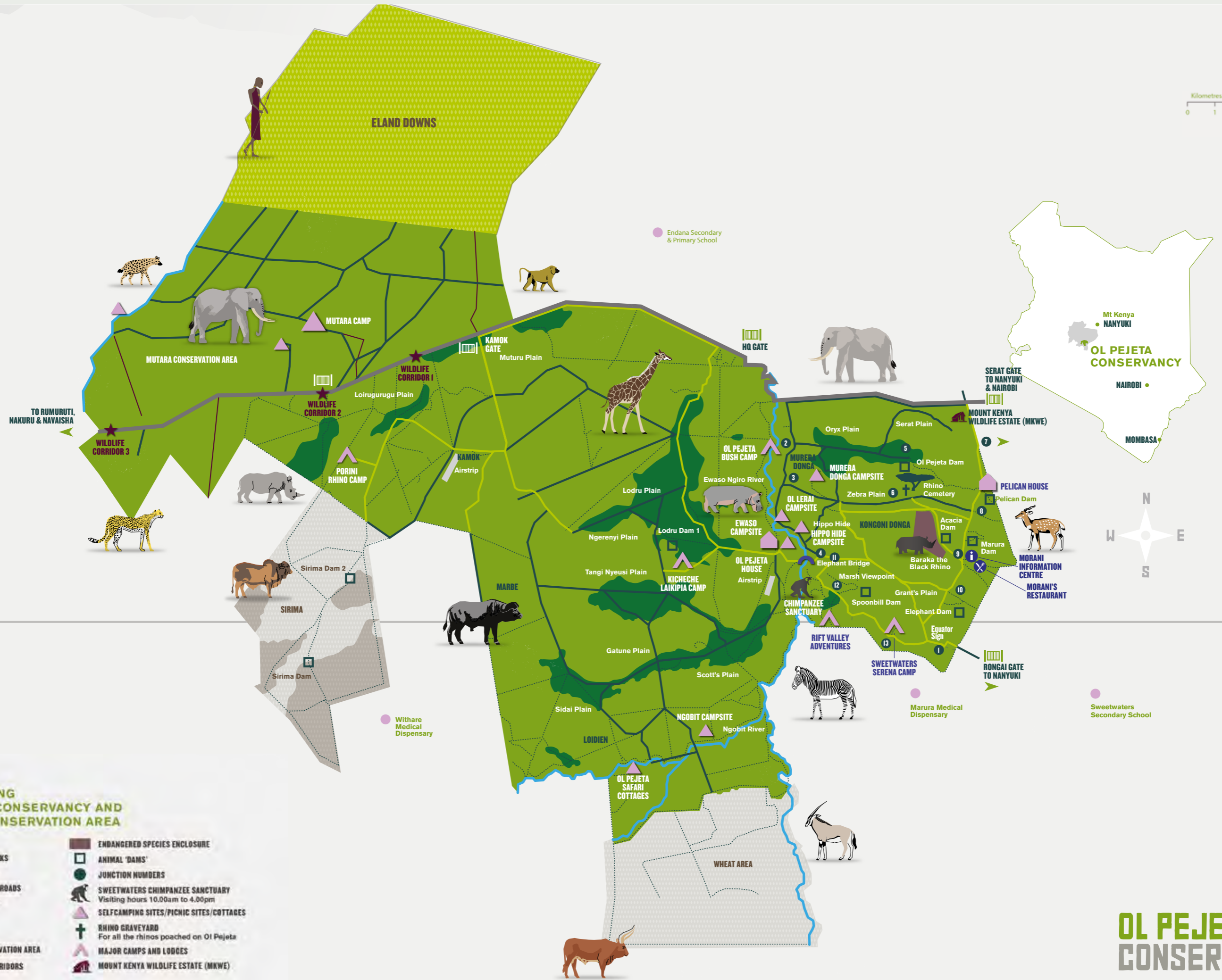
Overall Ol Pejeta Conservancy increasingly sees itself as an engine for sustainable conservation and economic development at a landscape scale. To that end, throughout 2019 and beyond, we will be working within the Laikipia landscape, through the Ewaso Enterprise Partnership, to develop economic and operational collaboration that will hopefully permit the maintenance of conservation space in a manner that encourages and nurtures economic growth.

We see a bright future full of opportunity, and would like to thank all who have supported us in 2018 to achieve the progress we have made. We are deeply appreciative and hope very much that you will continue to partner with us in the future.



Richard Vigne
 Managing Director
 Ol Pejeta Conservancy





EQUATOR

DISCOVERING OL PEJETA CONSERVANCY AND MUTARA CONSERVATION AREA

- ROADS
- ADC FIREBREAKS
- MAIN ROAD
- ALL WEATHER ROADS
- BUSH TRACKS
- RIVERS
- PLAINS
- MAIN CONSERVATION AREA
- WILDLIFE CORRIDORS
- ENDANGERED SPECIES ENCLOSURE
- ANIMAL 'DAMS'
- JUNCTION NUMBERS
- SWEETWATERS CHIMPANZEE SANCTUARY
Visiting hours 10.00am to 4.00pm
- SELF-CAMPING SITES/PICNIC SITES/COTTAGES
- RHINO GRAVEYARD
For all the rhinos poached on Ol Pejeta
- MAJOR CAMPS AND LODGES
- MOUNT KENYA WILDLIFE ESTATE (MKWE)

**INNOVATIVE,
TANGIBLE,
SUSTAINABLE
CONSERVATION
FOR WILDLIFE
AND PEOPLE.**

CONSERVATION

ZERO POACHING

Absolutely no incidents of poaching in 2018.

LAST MALE NORTHERN WHITE RHINO

Sudan passed away in March due to age related illness.

ELEVEN RHINO BIRTHS

Two southern whites and nine black rhinos.

THREE MORE GPS LION COLLARS FITTED

For research and monitoring.

TWO CHIMPANZEES RESCUED & INTEGRATED

Bo and Bella rescued from West Africa and successfully integrated with the others at Sweetwaters.

50% MUTARA FENCE COMPLETE

Around 21 kms.



RHINOS

- Breakthrough in rhino IVF heralds hope for the future of the northern white rhino - the first ever embryo using a northern white rhino sperm and southern white rhino egg was created.
- OI Pejeta surpassed the targeted 6% annual growth rate for rhinos for a total of 120 rhinos.
- Two of the nine black rhino calves born in 2018 sadly died from unfortunate but natural causes - one was caught in a scuffle between its mother and a male rhino, while the other fell prey to lions.

ECOLOGICAL MONITORING UNIT

- Areas of pasture that had been severely impacted by the 2017 drought recovered well with the good 2018 rains.
- 14 Grevy's zebras were moved to greener pastures at the Mount Kenya Wildlife Estate (MKWE).
- 30 acres of the prolific *Euclea Divinorum* was cleared in MKWE to allow for pasture suitable for grazing species.
- Three lions were collared to enable us to make more informed conservation plans. The data gathered from these collars will help us understand how their predation habits affect endangered species, and mitigate human/lion conflict with pastoral communities along our boundaries. We currently host around 70 lions across six prides, with four individuals in different prides collared.
- Numbers of wild dog and jackal, which dropped by about 60% in 2017 due to canine distemper virus, have now stabilised.

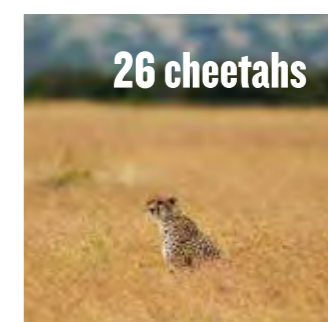


CHIMPANZEES

- Sweetwaters Chimpanzee Sanctuary was accredited by PASA (Pan African Sanctuary Alliance) & GFAS (Global Federation of Animal Sanctuaries). These are official recognitions that the Sanctuary meets international standards of animal care and welfare.
- Chimpanzees Bo and Bella were rescued from Guinea Bissau, where they had been confiscated from the illegal market, and brought to OI Pejeta. After months of careful preparation and slow introductions, they were successfully integrated with the rest of the group at Sweetwaters.
- A new collaboration with San Diego Zoo was established to improve chimpanzee welfare. As part of this, we will be rolling out an online course for animal caregivers in the near future.
- 18 Sweetwaters caregivers were trained in essential chimpanzee welfare
- Partnership formed with US charity Children of Conservation - to support the children of Sweetwaters staff to complete school.
- We continued to receive invaluable support from the Arcus Foundation who chairs our steering committee and enhances our networking, collaboration and technical expertise.



ECOLOGICAL MONITORING UNIT APPROXIMATE ANIMAL NUMBERS:





VETERINARY CARE

- We acquired a bespoke veterinary vehicle, modified for rapid response and field treatment of wild animals.
- Five female chimpanzees were fitted with contraception devices to prevent breeding at Sweetwaters. This is to ensure we remain true to our values as a rescue centre, and keep as many places as we can for chimpanzees in need.
- Two lionesses were successfully treated for serious injuries; one sustained during a fight for pride leadership, and another during a buffalo hunt.
- The veterinary team ran a rabies vaccination campaign for dogs and cats in local villages - 3,465 dogs were vaccinated against the disease, which can be passed to humans and other wild animals, and is fatal.



SECURITY

- There were ZERO poaching incidents in 2018
- Ten more rangers were qualified as National Police Reservists (NPR), which enables them to carry government-issue weapons. This brings the total number of NPR rangers to 43. Four NPR rangers are now permanently stationed in Mutara.
- New uniforms, night vision goggles, thermal imaging equipment and ration packs were secured for the rangers. Together with a ranger gym and a new patrol vehicle. This has greatly improved morale.



MUTARA

- 50% of the Mutara fence has been completed, with the remaining 19 kilometres due to be finished by mid-2019.
- Expected carrying capacity is 60 rhinos, who will be carefully selected and moved from Ol Pejeta once fencing is complete.
- One of the collared lion prides began to take partial residence here in November.
- We are working with the local Water Resource Users Association to explore ways to conserve water in and around Mutara.





**NOW MORE THAN
EVER, WILDLIFE
CONSERVATION
IS INEXTRICABLY
LINKED WITH THE
LIVELIHOODS
OF LOCAL
COMMUNITIES.**

COMMUNITY

- **KSH 17,151,533 SPENT ON EDUCATION**

Of which Ksh 5,435,006 spent on scholarships and bursaries and Ksh 1,322,810 on conservation education.

- **KSH 7,836,567 SPENT ON HEALTH**

- **KSH 10,089,384 SPENT ON AGRICULTURE & WATER**

- **KSH 17,824,455 SPENT ON LAIKIPIA**

Through the Laikipia Cattle, Water and Wildlife project.





EDUCATION

- The Community Development Department awarded 66 full scholarships, and 137 part scholarships, to 203 underprivileged students from neighbouring communities
- 108 computers, tablets and Africa Ruggedised Education Solution (ARES) boxes donated and installed in 6 schools to 1,510 beneficiaries
- Conducted IT training to 221 local school teachers in 11 schools (training is ongoing, even to schools that received technology items in 2017)
- The Butterfly Project - developed to link schools in Canada with schools around OI Pejeta - currently 36 Kenyan and 90 Canadian students involved.
- Built a new library at Njoguini Primary School with help from Afretech

- 295 farmers were trained on how to make organic compost fertiliser, thanks to The Guardian Project
- Conservation agriculture - 459 workshops and training sessions
- OI Pejeta bought farm produce from local communities worth Ksh. 5.2 million in the form of milk, eggs and vegetables
- Greenhouses yielded first crops in three institutions - Mwituria, Tigithi and Njoguini
- We provided artificial insemination services to 566 community cattle, improving local gene pools with resilient and high quality OI Pejeta beef cattle genetics

AGRICULTURE



- 147 energy-saving stoves were built in local communities, benefiting around 735 people. 14 new stove builders were trained - providing employment and project sustainability. These stoves require 55% less firewood than traditional stoves, and produce a lot less smoke.

856 ENERGY EFFICIENT HOUSEHOLDS AND COUNTING...

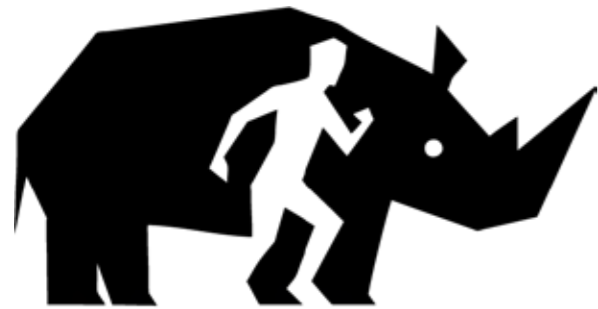


- A partnership between Ol Pejeta, the Rotary Clubs of Langley Canada and Nairobi North, and the Laikipia County Government enabled Ksh. 7 million (USD 70,000) worth of medical equipment and improved infrastructure for six community dispensaries. 60,604 patients attended.
- We formed a new partnership with JW Seagon to provide targeted medical outreach efforts, focusing on preventive and curative services, family planning, and cancer screening among other issues.
- The mobile health clinic reached around 1,795 people in remote villages in 17 health clinics in 2018. They were made aware of visit dates via a blast SMS system, which has 2,853 phone numbers on its database.

THE MONTHLY DIARIES...



JANUARY...



FOR RANGERS
OL PEJETA
VIRTUAL ULTRA



The year kicks off with the launch of the For Rangers Virtual Ultra Marathon - a virtual 1,245 km route between Kenya's rhino parks and conservancies, accessible for anyone with a smartphone to compete in. Aimed at raising money for wildlife rangers in northern Kenya, including the teams at Ol Pejeta, participants have one year to complete the route and pledge to raise a minimum of USD 1,000 each in the process. Using a fitness App, 31 participants from as far away as Canada, Russia and Australia recorded any and all activities that added miles to their individual ultra marathon totals (running, walking, cycling, kayaking, swimming), and received information about each checkpoint on the virtual route when they checked in.

In the Northern White Rhino Enclosure, Sudan is feeling better after a wound that developed in December finally heals. The Livestock Department begin to prep their best cattle for the prestigious Livestock Breeders' Show, and the Community Development Department awards 66 full scholarships, and 137 part scholarships, to 203 underprivileged students from neighbouring communities.

Weather report: Hot, dry and dusty.

FEBRUARY...



Helping Rhinos patron and award-winning artist Karen Laurence-Rowe paints 'The Accuser' - a portrait of a magnificent charging black rhino - to donate to our fundraising auction in London. The proceeds partially fund the much-needed veterinary vehicle, which enables the vet team to provide rapid response to wild animals in distress.

Lola, the hand-reared black rhino who starred in the augmented reality game 'Safari Central' by Internet of Elephants, has her first baby! One other black rhino female, Diane, also gives birth. (Sadly, Lola's calf is later killed in scuffle with a male rhino).

On the cat front; Eunice, a lion in the Eastern Sector Pride, is collared in collaboration with the Kenya Wildlife Service (KWS) to help us gather data for research, and implement human/lion conflict mitigation measures where they are needed. Meanwhile, the first endangered Grevy's zebra is relocated from the Northern White Rhino Enclosure to greener pastures in MKWE, as part of an initiative to reduce grazing pressure.

A Ruppell's vulture tagged by The Peregrine Fund on OI Pejeta returns to the Conservancy after a cross-continental trip to Zakouma National Park in Chad! This is the farthest a vulture from Kenya has ever been shown to go, and an exciting insight into the lives of these misunderstood birds.

After successfully converting the Scott's water pumping station from diesel to solar, work begins on converting the Nyumba Nne borehole pump to solar power. This is part of our mission to run only on renewable energy by 2020. We also kick off a new partnership with the Waste Electrical and Electronic Equipment (WEEE) Centre, and they come to collect 1.7 tonnes of OI Pejeta's electronic waste for recycling.

We have a great time at the world-famous 10to4 Mountain Bike Challenge, where OI Pejeta sponsors a water stop. The race takes place on the slopes of Mount Kenya, and raises money for important conservation work on the majestic mountain that looks over our plains.

Weather report: Still hot, dry and dusty. The grass is brown and grazing is thin.

MARCH...

Sudan's health deteriorates rapidly and on the 19th March, he passes away aged 45. His devastated keepers take solace in the many messages of support we receive from all over the world. Hours after his death, his DNA has been cryogenically frozen to preserve his genetic material for future species recovery efforts. Sudan is survived by the last two female northern white rhinos in the world - Fatu and Najin, who moved with him to Kenya back in 2009. Later in the month, we hold a memorial for him, and over 200 people come to pay their respects.

Fittingly, a sculpture by Gillie and Marc Shattner is unveiled in New York this same month - 'The Last Three' stands 17 feet tall at Astor Place and makes a public statement about the illegal rhino horn trade.

With every death there is also new life to celebrate, and two black rhino calves are born to females Solo and Laikipia. White rhino Njeri gives birth too. We hold a fundraising event with Helping Rhinos in London, named 'Shades of Grey - Saviours of Black and White Rhino'. We raise GBP 47,000 for our rhino conservation efforts.

Meanwhile, the Tourism Department hosts a stand at the Holidays Tourism Fair in Nairobi's Sarit Centre mall, offering irresistible deals for the Easter period. We host the teams and crews of the Classic Rally Safari.

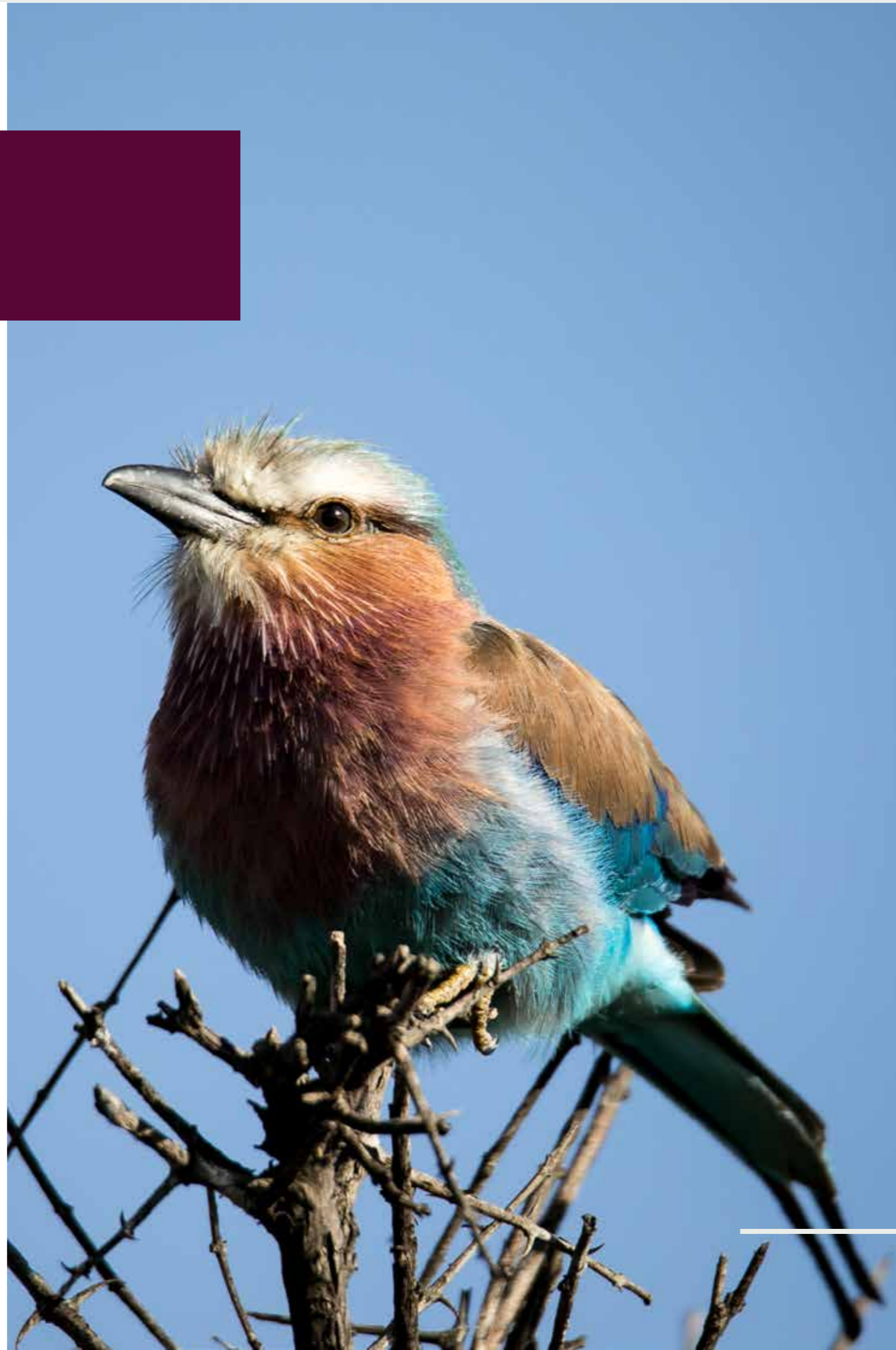
26 OI Pejeta employees take part in an annual three-day first aid course (International Life Saver) and the OI Pejeta Community League volleyball and soccer tournaments kick off, with ten local teams battling it out for the winning place.

Chimpanzee caregivers receive refresher training from the Pan African Sanctuary Alliance - bringing the number of qualified keepers to 18.



Weather report: The rains hit, HARD!

APRIL...



The big rains are both a blessing and a curse - the grasslands and wildlife are in desperate need of it, but our rivers flood and destroy some of our access roads.

The Kenya Forest Service donates 400 tree seedlings that we use to kick off a tree planting programme in seven local schools. Hands on Nature also run a Wild Weekend for seven children from around Nanyuki, which gives kids an opportunity to learn about the wilderness and try their hands at bush craft skills. Two other youngsters - chimpanzees this time - finally start their journey to Ol Pejeta from Guinea Bissau, in West Africa, after a two-year battle to rescue them from illegal captivity and dismal conditions. Black rhino Jo gives birth (sadly, her calf is killed a few months later by lions).

Australian runner Melissa Singleton completes the Virtual Ultra Marathon just four months in (and books her tickets to Kenya to visit Ol Pejeta in July!) The Ol Pejeta tourism guides complete a 10-day guiding course with Essential Guides, then enjoy two days at the nearby Ngare Ndare Forest, meeting the guides there to exchange ideas and experiences. We make a plan to host our new friends next year.

Weather report: Heavy, heavy rains continue.

MAY...

Herbivores revel in the new grass as the rain continues. The tricky driving conditions don't deter the Community Development Department, who delivers more computers to the 12 community schools we work with. Their latest installations bring the total number of desktop computers and Windows Notebooks distributed through the OI Pejeta IT programme to 240. The teachers note a significant improvement in students' performance since they had access to IT, particularly in mathematics and the sciences.

Bo and Bella, the rescued chimpanzees from Guinea Bissau, arrive at Sweetwaters and are placed in mandatory quarantine for 90 days to make sure they're free of any infections and diseases that might harm the other chimpanzees. Their quarantine enclosures are made interesting and engaging, and the girls settle in well. Next door, Manno, another recently rescued chimpanzee, continues to transform from a shy and scared young chimpanzee to a confident and boisterous personality. We can't wait for him to meet the girls.

Many staff find excuses to send snail mail to friends and family, as OI Pejeta partners with the Postal Corporation of Kenya and the Kenya Wildlife Service to launch northern white rhino postal stamps. We hope this will raise awareness on the plight of the northern white rhino.

To celebrate Madaraka Day - a public holiday in Kenya - the OI Pejeta Safari Shuttle offers transport from Nanyuki to the Conservancy, and a game drive, to people for whom OI Pejeta is otherwise inaccessible. At the same time, we reopen the amazing Pelican House after major refurbishment.

Black rhinos Njoki and Susan give birth to two healthy calves.



Weather report: Still wet and green. The rains have been incredible.

JUNE...

Our annual Last Male Standing cricket tournament comes to a nail-biting climax as Kanbis Sports Club clinches victory over Kenya Kongonis CC in the final. Live commentary by ABC & BBC's Jim Maxwell, who is assisted by Australian international scorer Ian Wright, adds a new level of class to what is the biggest tournament yet. 16 teams with players from the Caribbean, South Africa, Mauritius, Zambia, England, Australia and Kenya play for victory over three days, raising USD 30,000 for rhino conservation and the Foundation for Youth Cricket & Education in Kenya.

We team up with Rotary Clubs of Langley Canada and Nairobi North, and the Laikipia County Government, to donate medical equipment and infrastructure to six community dispensaries worth over Ksh 7 million (USD 70,000). The equipment is handed over in a ceremony at Lamuria Health Centre presided over by the Governor of Laikipia County, Hon. Ndiritu Muriithi. Meanwhile, Paul Waitthaka from Withare, Rapunye Daniel from Uaso and Collins Kithinji from Riacho are declared the winners of the first Community Schools Art Competition for their drawings of Baraka the blind rhino.

There is cause for celebration as black rhino Jasho gives birth to a healthy baby boy, putting our rhino population at 120 - the highest it's ever been. We need more room for rhinos though, and work on the Mutara fence intensifies to ensure we can translocate rhino across as soon as possible. Northern white rhino Fatu celebrates her 18th birthday with extra carrots.

Over at the Rift Valley Adventures camp, we host all the beneficiaries of our scholarship programme for a day of rock climbing, Alaskan Kickball, yoga, boot camp and brainstorming sessions. They are joined by ten PA-MOJA teachers from Madison Wisconsin, who support our scholarship programme.

As the rains start to ease up, we begin harvesting hay, and by the end of August we have harvested a record 8,000 hay bales (that's 2,500 tonnes of hay!)



Weather report: Rainy season comes to a close.

JULY...



A massive breakthrough for the northern white rhinos as scientists in Europe announce the first ever hybrid rhino embryo has been produced outside the womb. The embryo - created with a southern white rhino egg and northern white rhino sperm - has a strong chance of surviving to term, and means there is a high chance of success when the procedure is replicated using pure northern white rhino genetics. The next step will be for scientists to harvest eggs from Fatu and Najin to begin this process.

It's World Chimpanzee Day (the first one ever) and we're honoured to host Jane Goodall at Sweetwaters - where she greets some of the chimpanzees she's been instrumental in rescuing and meets their dedicated keepers.

Ben Woodhams, youngest participant in the Virtual Ultra Marathon, visits Ol Pejeta and runs with the rangers. He has already finished the race and



raised USD 2,384!

One of our northern white rhino rangers, James Mwenda, wins the Paradise Ranger Award for his campaign initiatives and his work with Sudan.

The medical team at the Community Development Department host a free medical outreach day with corporate partner JW Seagon, and attend to 181 men, women and children.

The Ecological Monitoring Unit start a *Lantana* clearing process, eradicating the invasive plant from some parts of the Conservancy.

Over in the Technology department, a new partnership with Liquid Telecom gives us access to a super fast 100Mbps internet link to enable us to use cloud computing for conservation.



Weather report: Dry, but exceptional pasture and very happy wildlife.

AUGUST...

We partner with Afrotech and Rotary International to provide a three-day training programme on the use of the African Ruggedised Education Solution (ARES) box - a small server loaded with educational resources intended for classrooms with limited or no internet access. Over 100 teachers, principals and education representatives from schools surrounding the Conservancy attend. The ARES box can run for over six hours on its battery and connect with up to forty devices. 11 schools already have the ARES system installed, and a USD 130,000 grant from four Rotary Clubs in North America will help us roll it out to more schools.

Another innovative technology development this month included the deployment of Audiomoth devices at the wildlife corridors. Using acoustic sensing, Audiomoth will help us understand when, how and why wildlife use our strategic corridors.

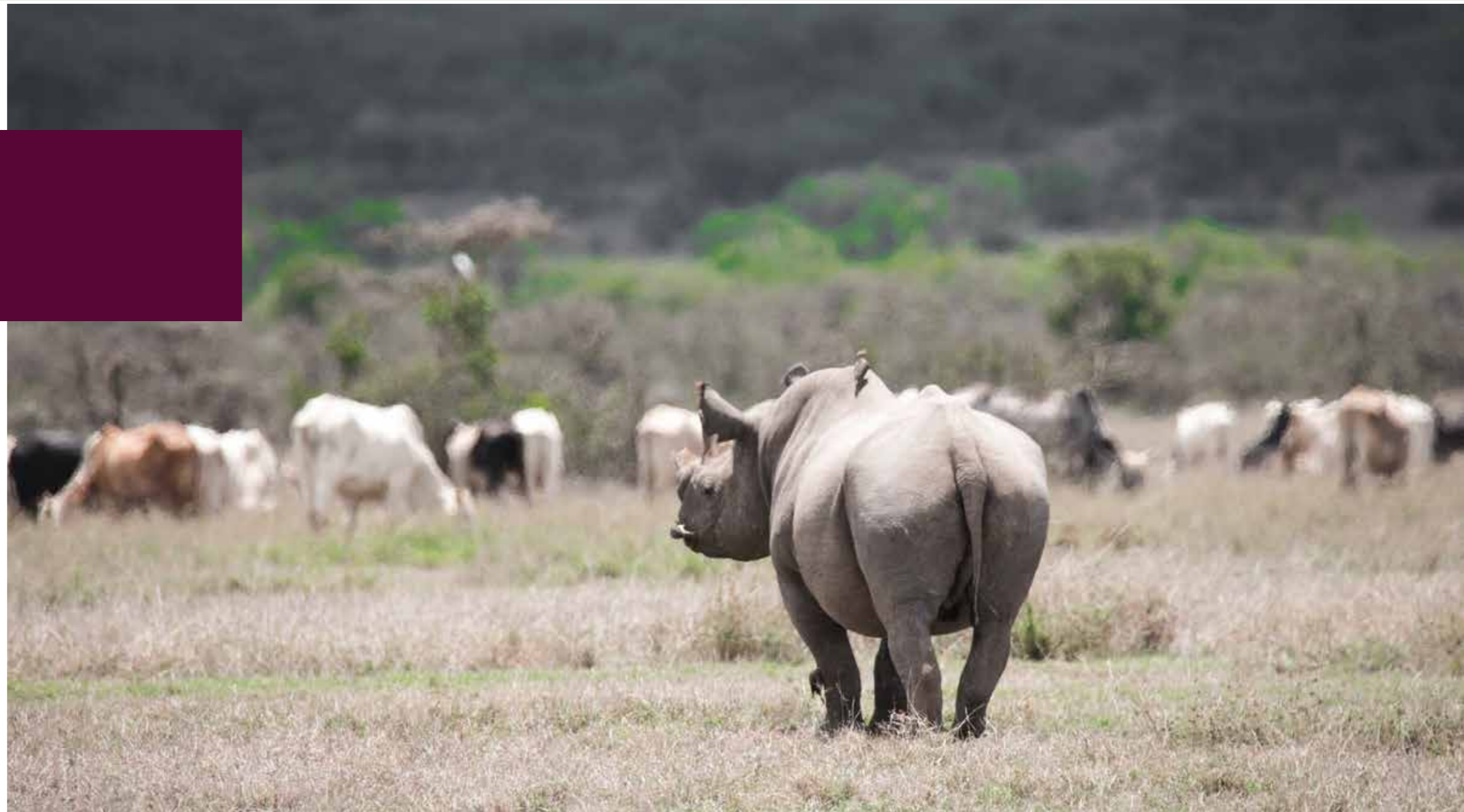
A rhino is named after the famous Indian model, Bollywood actress, producer and social activist Dia Mirza - who we're lucky enough to have as an OI Pejeta champion.

OI Pejeta holds the final stage of the For Rangers Ultra Marathon (real, not virtual) and welcomes 46 runners from all over the world as they finish the 230 km race. It raises nearly USD 120,000 which will go towards improving the welfare of OI Pejeta's rangers and others.

Meanwhile in Nairobi, OI Pejeta scoops multiple prizes at the Livestock Breeders' Show:

- Champion bull under five years
- Champion Boran bull - overall
- Supreme champion
- Champion heifer under three years old
- Reserve champion heifer (x2)

(We continue to have the biggest herd of pure Boran cattle in the world with 7,500 animals).



The Show is attended by His Excellency President Uhuru Kenyatta, whose lunch we supply the beef for.

Back on OI Pejeta, the research team collars another lion and the Security Department's next member, a sniffer dog called Drum, begins his training. Morani's Restaurant launches a new menu that caters for kids, vegetarians, vegans and coeliacs (and by the end of the year, revenue has increased by 120% since 2016).



Weather report: Very dry, but pasture still in good condition.

SEPTEMBER...



Chimpanzee Bella is introduced to Jane, the resident 'foster mother' at Sweetwaters. This is probably the first time she's had a chimpanzee mother figure in her life, and the bond is instant. Bo is a little more wary and prefers to keep her space at first, but after a few weeks she's just as close to Jane as Bella. Their touching new friendship develops in the same month we manage to raise USD 5,843 in just 24 hours to help bring two other rescued chimpanzees - Simon and Tze - to Sweetwaters.

In Nairobi, our long-term beef customers Gourmet Meat Products rebrand and display engaging new posters about OI Pejeta beef for their customers, who have a renewed interest in 'conservation beef'. Alongside this, we develop and launch a new digital marketing strategy for OI Pejeta Beef, with a dedicated website at olpejetabeef.org, and social media channels. We now supply 'The Local Grill' in Nairobi as their exclusive grass-fed beef supplier, and throughout the year donate over 1,000 kgs of beef to schools and official functions.

We complete Phase 1 of the Sirima development. This is a 1 million dollar investment in OI Pejeta's agricultural sector focused on sustainably developing 7,500 acres of land outside the core conservancy area for livestock production and additional wildlife habitat. 5,000 acres has been set aside for growing hay, silage, and fodder crops and 2,500 acres will be fenced off as an endangered species enclosure. A new slaughterhouse and livestock headquarters will be built here too.

Three sports teams from OI Pejeta (football, volleyball and athletics) take part in the 2018 Laikipia Highland Games, each winning gold.

Meanwhile the Technology Department roll out the Sigfox network, implementing Low Power Wide Area Network (LPWAN) technologies to support remote sensing and the Internet of Things (IoT).

Weather report:
Very dry, but pasture still adequate.

OCTOBER...



We're overjoyed to be named Africa's leading conservation company at the 2018 World Travel Awards in Durban, South Africa. The World Travel Awards serve to acknowledge, reward and celebrate excellence across all sectors of the global travel and tourism industry – and winners have become the benchmark for innovation, customer service, sustainability and values. Alongside this, we welcome the 47 Miss Tourism Kenya finalists to Ol Pejeta, as they embark on a roadshow across Kenya.

Bo and Bella spend their first day outside in the bush after months of being kept indoors for health and quarantine reasons - their excitement is tangible to all those watching. Nearby, the Sweetwaters Chimpanzee Adoption Centre gets a refurbishment, with engaging new posters and information to raise awareness about the plight of wild chimpanzees (by the end of the year, chimpanzee adoption proceeds increased more than 42% on 2017, totalling Ksh 7.8 million).

Rock and Stones - one of our valued corporate partners - works with local communities to produce 40,000 Fairtrade beaded bracelets for sale to visitors. On another community note, we pair up volunteers with local villages to build more energy-saving stoves, which are helping to reduce firewood consumption.

Christmas comes early for our logistics department, as we buy four new Land Cruisers and one Suzuki to add to our fleet. This will help us improve staff mobility. They also organise the installation of 18 km of electric fencing on our boundary to further improve security for people and wildlife.

In the communities, we roll out a two-way SMS system for more effective communication about human/wildlife conflict issues. It also means we can provide updates on actions taken to resolve issues, making resolving human/wildlife conflict a much more inclusive process.

Overseas, China reverses a 25 year ban on rhino horn and tiger bone to international outcry.



Weather report: Very dry, pasture starting to suffer.

NOVEMBER...



Our very own James Mwenda - rhino caregiver, Paradise Ranger Award winner and conservation activist - visits Hong Kong to raise awareness about the horrors of the ivory and rhino horn trade. This just one month after China reverses its 25 year ban on rhino horn. James visits schools, gives radio interviews and meets key conservation influencers including Jane Goodall. James is also interviewed for the BBC World Service.

Back in Kenya, it is announced that OI Pejeta is to retain our prestigious IUCN Green List status, given to areas that demonstrate a global standard of excellence in governance, management, design and planning, and conservation outcomes. We're confident that our pledge to run on only renewable energy by 2020 helped to sway the judges, and as if on cue, work to convert the Nyumba Nne water



pump from diesel to solar is complete, projected to save USD 7,000 a year in fuel and maintenance.

On the tourism side, all of our gate clerks and keepers completed an online course in customer care, as the rest of the Tourism Department hosted a Guide Interaction Forum at Serena Hotel in Nairobi. 20 guides from 13 different organisations attend, and we share our conservation messaging, experiences and mission. We also launch the Loyalty Programme for OI Pejeta visitors, and 42 people sign up to start enjoying rewards (free entry tickets, merchandise, discounts, free meals at Morani's and much more). One of our

guides, David Warigia, is awarded silver level accreditation by the Kenya Professional Safari Guides Association (KPSGA), and we hope he will inspire the other 11 guides who were awarded bronze back in May to continue their KPSGA journey.

We launch an online collection of conservation experiences and lessons, named 'OI Pejeta Learning' to act as a resource for teachers and parents. It features downloadable files illustrating practical outdoor learning opportunities for children on OI Pejeta.

Our new merchandise label Urban Ranch is displayed at Christmas fairs and in our shops, and is well received.

On wildlife, it's our blind black rhino Baraka's birthday, and he gets extra treats. On a more sombre note, international auction house Bonhams announced an auction of rhino horn. There is international outcry, and the auction is eventually called off. China reverses its decision to lift the ban on rhino horn and tiger bone.

Our Managing Director Richard Vigne is in Rwanda, attending 'The Business of Conservation' conference - OI Pejeta is one of the only conservancies in Kenya able to meet all of its own operating costs, and Richard shares how we are able to do this. Back on OI Pejeta, we host the FFI Board Meeting (FFI were instrumental in securing OI Pejeta's 90,000-acres back in 2004, helping to convert it to a national land trust).

In the communities, the Community Development Department launch the Laikipia Rabies Vaccination Campaign, and managed to vaccinate 3,465 dogs in OI Pejeta, Ngobit, Mirera, Matanya and Tigithi areas. The disease can be passed to humans and other wild animals, and is fatal.

One of the collared lion prides takes up partial residence in Mutara, a great sign of things to come. The reforestation team in charge of planting acacia woodland in the area take extra precautions though!

Staff celebrate the completion of three new housing blocks that will accommodate nine staff.

Weather report: Rains begin again, but not consistent across the whole Conservancy.

DECEMBER...



VISITORS IN 2018:

- Visitor numbers this year increased by 20,000 from 2017, with 104,354 tourists coming through our gates. We welcomed 28,667 students to the Conservancy on school trips.
- OI Pejeta Escapes processed a record Ksh 11.7 million worth of bookings.
- We recorded a 43.3% increase in revenue from conservation activities - Ksh 17 million compared to 12.4 million in 2017.
- Occupancy in the newly refurbished self-catering Pelican House rose by 21% in the fourth quarter.
- Retail sales of OI Pejeta merchandise and branded clothing increased 500% over the year.
- We introduced horse riding as a conservancy experience, and 402 people enjoyed safari rides throughout the year.
- We welcomed over 30 groups of volunteers plus individuals from all over the world including Europe, USA, Asia (China), Australia.



We treat our visitors to a new Equator sign, and revamp many of the information touch points around the Conservancy. The Rhino Adoption Box opens too, giving our guests the chance to make a direct contribution to our work whilst in the Conservancy - be it rhino conservation, the K-9 unit or through sponsoring a child through school.

In the local communities, the Guardian Project teaches farmers how to make organic fertiliser compost - enabling them to get better yields from their crops and ensure better soil sustainability.

Rangers, OI Pejeta staff and tourists all enjoy the newly opened Gym in the Wild - now none of us have any excuses not to keep fit! Several very fit people start The Great Elephant Walk in OI Pejeta, a five-day fundraising trek

organised by Space for Giants that takes participants from OI Pejeta along the Ewaso Nyiro river and to Loisaba Conservancy.

OI Pejeta is crowned winner of the Gold Mark and Green Edge awards by CIO East Africa, for the way we use modern technology to support our conservation efforts.

The K-9 Unit welcomes Stecy, a 19 month old bloodhound, to the team. She takes over from Lux, who is entering into well-earned retirement.

Over the year we've employed 23 new members of staff (15 of which are from local communities). This brings our total number of permanent employees to 702 (650 of whom

are housed by OI Pejeta), with an additional 120 casual employees and 30 interns having worked with us in 2018. Ksh 301,164,950 was paid in salaries over the year, and the OI Pejeta Savings and Credit Cooperative provided Ksh 44 million in loans to its members.

Narok County Government buys 40 breeding bulls from OI Pejeta, which will be used to improve genetics in the area (which includes the famous Masai Mara Game Reserve.)

Two more black rhinos are born to Jaziri and Malaika, as the rains continue later than usual into December - great for our crops.

Weather report: Rains improve and green is everywhere again.

ACCOUNTABILITY



FINANCIAL REPORT

2018 FINANCIAL INFORMATION

Revenue

USD

NET Trading Income (tourism, agribusiness, misc) less taxes	1,568,783
Partners & Donors	1,129,161
Other Income / Investment Income	623,621

Total Income available to support core objectives	3,321,565
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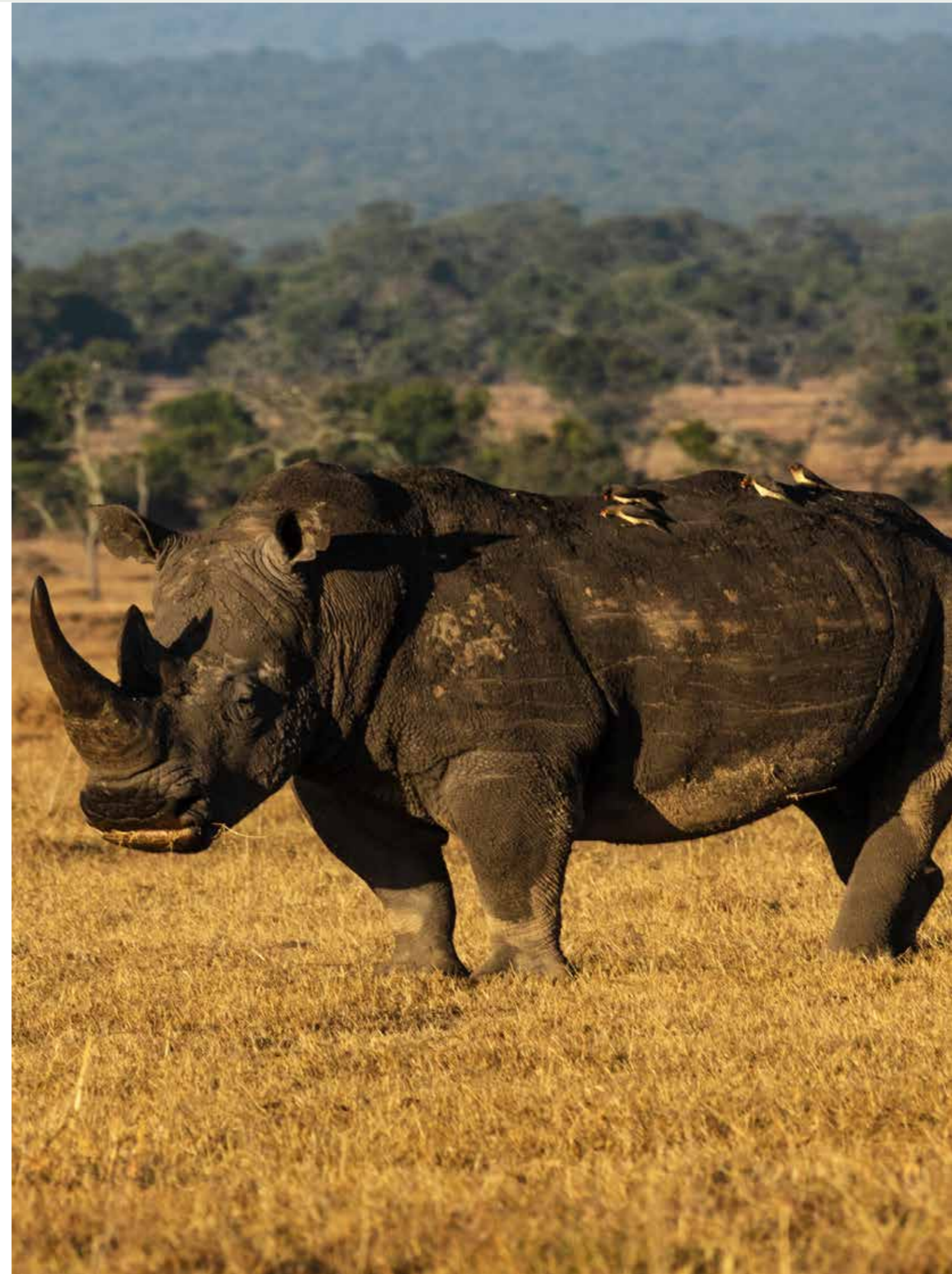
Expenditure

USD

Wildlife & Conservation Programmes	2,002,683
Community Development Programmes	600,234

Total Expenditure - Conservation and Community Development	2,602,917
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Surplus for CAPEX and Reserves	718,648
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FUNDRAISING AND SUSTAINABILITY

We hope you are proud of all we've accomplished in the last year.

**WE WOULDN'T BE
WHERE WE ARE
TODAY WITHOUT OUR
DIVERSE PARTNERSHIPS.**

Receiving technical and financial support from organisations all over the world enables us to have greater impact where it matters most - for both wildlife and people. With most of our administration and overhead costs covered by our commercial income, donors are assured of where their money is going, and appreciate our business-like mentality.

OI Pejeta Conservancy is part of the Ewaso Enterprise Partnership, along with Segera, Mpala, OI Jogi and Loisaba conservancies. Together, these conservancies aim to "work together towards strengthening the rural economy, engaging community and contributing to Laikipia and national development, while maintaining an open, productive and enduring natural landscape that supports wildlife."



There are many wildlife and community projects that would benefit from further support.

If you would like more information about how you can help please contact Elodie Sampere on elodie.sampere@olpejetaconservancy.org.

A SPECIAL THANKS

Below are donors who gave USD 500 and above. We are extremely grateful for their generosity. We also would like to thank all other donors that didn't make it to this list, but whose donation also have collectively made a tremendous impact.

No amount goes unnoticed.

Luann Abrahams	Fauna & Flora International (FFI)	Tillie P. Laird	Hubert Schaefer
Afrotech Aid Society	Carole Ferrari	Cindy Lass	Sea World and Busch Gardens
African Wildlife Foundation (AWF)	Fight For Rhinos	Last Man Stands Australia	Shades Picture Hanging Inc.
Raphael Anampiu	Fondation Ensemble	Karen Laurence-Rowe	Amy Shroff
Arcus Foundation	For Rangers	Heather Leduc	Melissa Singleton
Coralie Arlidge	Melody French	Gavin Lehman	Gurveer Sira
Australia Zoo Wildlife Warriors Worldwide	Rhian Gastineau	Liquid Telecom	Matt Skelcher
Sarah Barber	George Heriots Trust	Lisa Lopez	Wake Smith
Runar Bell	Global Federation of Animal Sanctuaries	Luannocracy Worldwide	Colleen Sorensen
Bently Foundation	Wendy Goodwin	Damon Mackin	Ena Stackhouse
The Big Cat Sanctuary	Patricia Goudvis	Susan Magdanz	Sarah Steward
Arkadius Bieniossek	Anita Govindjee	Anthony Maina	Mr. George Eric Stuteville
Gordon Black	Grit Real Estate Income Group	Lauren Martin	Claire & Ian Summers
Laura Boren	Stephen Gudz	Martin Laing Foundation	Mrs. Bonnie Sutherland
Kristin Brock	Thomas Haight	Lynn Maslen	Taurus Foundation
Ernest And Diane Burgess	Jordan Hanley	Max Planck Institute	Jeremy Taylor
Henry Channon	Sharon Harwood	Eileen McCloskey	Diana Thater
Vera Charles	Helping Rhinos	Michael C. McCulloch	The Association of Private Rhino Sanctuaries
George Edmond Clark	Lois Hild	Mrs. Jean McGreal	The Big Cat Sanctuary
Giles Clark	Jack Holt	Dawn McRae	The Darwin Initiative
Children for Conservation	Lauren Horwitz	Ruth McTighe	The Guardian Project
Louis Cole	Yoko Ito	Sally O. McVeigh	The Royal Foundation of The Duke & Duchess of Cambridge and the Duke & Duchess of Sussex
Claire and John Coleman	Danielle Jackson	Lauren Merriman	Koel Thomas
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		Marissa Quinn	World Association of Zoos & Aquariums (AZA) Conservation Grants Fund
		Jess Rappe	Zoological Society of Hertfordshire
		Kamal Ravaliya	
		Refined Wiki	
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		Linda Salvi	
		Alejandra Sanchez	
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PHOTO CREDITS

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Manoj Shah: Cover page.

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George Leakey / www.leakeystudios.com: page 4/5, 6 (x2), 7, 9, 18/19, 20/21, 24/25, 28/29, 32/33, 34/35, 38/39, 40/41 and 47.

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A special thanks this year to LeakeyStudios, a Kenya based filmmaker and photographer who has extensive experience creating high quality shots and promotional content for various platforms and businesses. He contributed a tremendous amount to this year's Annual Report.

@leakeystudios
www.leakeystudios.com



RECOGNITION AND AWARDS

2012 – 2017: TripAdvisor Certificate of Excellence, 6 Years in a Row.

2012, 2015 and 2016: Ecowarrior Private Conservancy of the Year Award.

2016: African Responsible Tourism Award – Best for Wildlife Conservation.

2017: Ecowarrior Award – Overall Winner.

2017: Ecowarrior Award for SDG 8: Decent Work and Economic Growth and SDG 15: Life on Land.

2017: Leaders in Responsible Tourism, Highly Commended.

2017: Tourism for Tomorrow Awards – Community Award Winner.

2018: Listed on the IUCN Green List of Protected Areas Management Excellence, demonstrating long-term positive impact on people and nature. **Also listed in 2014.**

2018: Africa's Leading Conservation Company – World Travel Awards.

OL PEJETA CONSERVANCY

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