

OL PEJETA CONSERVANCY
www.olpejetaconservancy.org

BUILDING A STRONGER FUTURE



2022 ANNUAL REPORT

OUR VISION

Connected landscapes where sustainable natural resources management supports biodiversity, endangered species, and people.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS (KENYA)

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 Joanna Elliott (*Fauna & Flora*)
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OUR MISSION

OI Pejeta conserves biodiversity and supports sustainable development through innovative nature-based solutions, for future generations.

BOARD OF TRUSTEES (UK)

Joanna Elliott, Chairperson
 (*Fauna & Flora*)
 Dougal Freeman, Treasurer
 Dr. Annette Lanjouw
 (*Arcus Foundation*)
 Charles Graham
 Justin Heath
 (*CEO, OI Pejeta Conservancy, Kenya*)



Justin Mott

A LETTER FROM OUR CEO, JUSTIN HEATH

Dear Friends, Supporters, Partners, and Colleagues,

Since taking on the position of CEO at OI Pejeta in April 2022, I have witnessed the valuable lessons brought forth by the challenges of the COVID-19 pandemic. The Conservancy faced financial debt and recognised the imperative to change course, focusing on “building for a stronger future”.

Simultaneously, Kenya battled severe drought for the second consecutive year, taking a significant toll on our wildlife. During those 12 months we, tragically, lost more than 300 buffalo due to drought and disease. The drought’s severity became evident as our rivers ran dry for the first time, leaving OI Pejeta with limited water resources. Ensuring the provision of water at all 200 points within the Conservancy was a colossal task and meant we had to often resort to truck or bowser transportation.

Nonetheless, we took this challenge head-on and embarked on a comprehensive rebuilding journey, targeting both immediate and long-term improvements. We bolstered cash reserves, reduced debt, and addressed vehicle maintenance, ensuring that 75% of our fleet was operational. Alongside this, we prioritised the restoration of 75% of the water infrastructure and constructed 20 kilometres of all-weather roads. Emphasizing our commitment to sustainable practices, we are developing a phased plan to introduce solar power across the entire conservancy. In tandem, we are undertaking a comprehensive fencing project to mitigate elephant breakages and minimise human-wildlife conflict and poaching risks. In 2022, we made investments in livestock and collaborated with Connect X to enhance staff welfare and streamline operations.

For our long-term vision, a strategic review was conducted, culminating in the finalisation of the 2030 strategy, which had been on hold since 2020. Our goal is to transform our relationship with neighbouring communities into partnerships, shifting from a paternalistic approach to one of support. Furthermore, in line with our forward-thinking vision, we have embraced audacity by venturing into projects outside our traditional scope. A meeting with political leaders and the Board in early November led to an organisation-wide effort to align strategy and structure, which will continue throughout 2023.

Despite the hardships we faced, we had our share of remarkable successes. Rhino conservation efforts bore fruit with the birth of 27 calves, and the oocyte collection programme for the critically endangered northern white rhino achieved an impressive count of 11 embryos.

Through these periods of transition and growth, our staff has shown exceptional dedication and adaptability, becoming pillars of OI Pejeta’s transformation. Their tireless efforts deserve our utmost gratitude.

As we stride forward in “building a stronger future” I look forward to sharing our successes in the forthcoming year with you all.

Sincerely,

Justin Heath





2022

Will go down in history as one of the toughest years OI Pejeta has ever faced. An unprecedented drought wreaked havoc, resulting in the devastating loss of wildlife, livestock, and pasture. The rivers dried up and the earth baked beneath a relentless sun. Then, in December, the rain came, and once again the grass grew, the rivers flowed, the animals sighed with relief. This profound lesson has further fueled our determination to fortify resilience for a stronger future, laying unbreakable foundations for this extraordinary corner of Africa.

BUILDING A STRONGER FUTURE FOR OI PEJETA CONSERVANCY

OVERALL GOALS:

1. TO MAINTAIN SECURITY FOR PEOPLE AND WILDLIFE.

OI Pejeta's boundary is **150 km** long and is fenced to **protect wildlife** but also to help **mitigate human wildlife conflict**. We are proud that we have had **no poaching since 2017** and our fenceline has played a key part in that. Our fenceline however **needs upgrading** over the next two years.

Expected investment required:

US\$1.5M

2. TO MINIMISE OUR ENVIRONMENTAL FOOTPRINT.

The **majority** of OI Pejeta's buildings and boreholes are powered by **expensive, unsustainable** diesel generators. OI Pejeta has an **ambitious** programme to **solarise all assets** where possible, to be more **eco-friendly** and to **save money** that can be **reinvested into conservation and community** projects.

Expected investment required:

US\$2M

3. TO IMPROVE WATER SECURITY FOR CONSERVATION AND COMMUNITIES.

Having a **regular** supply of water across the conservancy is **critical** to support **wildlife**, our **cattle**, and the **communities** that rely on rain-fed agriculture. In 2022, the **rivers ran dry**, and the **rain didn't fall**. OI Pejeta is coming up with a **water masterplan** to capture and use water more **efficiently** and **sustainably**, which should be implemented by **2030**.

Expected investment required:

US\$5M

PROGRESS:



Fencing

In 2022, we made emergency repairs to the OI Pejeta fenceline at a cost of

US\$ 50,000



Solarising

We commenced Phase One - the solarisation of housing, tourism facilities, and borehole pumps across the Conservancy, costing:

US\$ 800,000



Water

We started installing rainwater harvesting at Kamok staff camp, which will help reduce dependence on boreholes.

OL PEJETA'S TEAM IS ESSENTIAL TO ITS SUCCESS



Employees are provided with housing in the Conservancy



Employees commute daily on a company-provided bus.



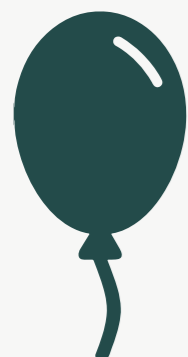
FOOTBALL

The OI Pejeta Football Team is currently participating in the Football Kenya Federation Regional Championship, against teams from Laikipia, Nyeri, Embu and Muranga counties. The team is a strong contender for honours.



TEAM BUILDING

In December 2022, a team building event facilitated by an external party was conducted and it was able to engage over 400 employees from different departments in a fun-filled day. This doubled up as the end-of-year staff get-together and Christmas celebration.



RETIREES' PARTY

On the 29th July 2022, we held a retiree farewell party for 14 employees.



THE TEAM

We closed the year with 595 employees, including 35 new members of staff. We also conducted three C-Suite and three Heads of Department trainings on health and safety, first aid, and fire on 13th June 2022 to 23rd June 2022.



INTERNSHIPS

On average we have 10 interns/attachees on board every month, giving them hands-on training in various disciplines ranging from tourism and hospitality to ecological monitoring and veterinary science.

STAFF WELFARE

We provided a new 43-inch satellite-connected TV in the common rooms at the Sweetwaters Chimpanzee Sanctuary staff housing. We also bought three pool tables and four dart boards for various staff camps.



WILLIAM AND CHARLES REFLECT ON THEIR 27 YEAR TENURE ON OL PEJETA

Imagine an entire night spent by a team of dedicated rangers diligently working to guide an elephant back into the confines of OI Pejeta Conservancy. Night after night, they repeat this arduous task, striving to address the predicament caused by elephants and other wildlife that has broken through the fence, seeking access to the neighbouring community.

Travel back to 1995 when William Okoth, a young ranger, embarked on his journey with Sweetwaters Game Reserve, which would later transform into OI Pejeta Conservancy. At that time, the organisation consisted of only two departments: 'ranching' and 'game reserve'. The community, although integral to conservation efforts, was yet to have its own dedicated department. It wasn't until 2005 that the Community Department took shape, empowering effective communication and nurturing relationships with the local community.

The establishment of the Community Department revolutionised conservation on OI Pejeta Conservancy. It brought forth a range of invaluable benefits, from local employment policies to reciprocal security arrangements - our neighbours have become our eyes and ears on the ground. By fostering this collaborative network, the community acts as our vigilant guardians. Undeniably, the indispensable partnership between OI Pejeta Conservancy and the community has proven to be the cornerstone of our success.

This collaboration has created an environment where wildlife flourishes, humanity thrives, and conservation prevails.



WILLIAM OKOTH

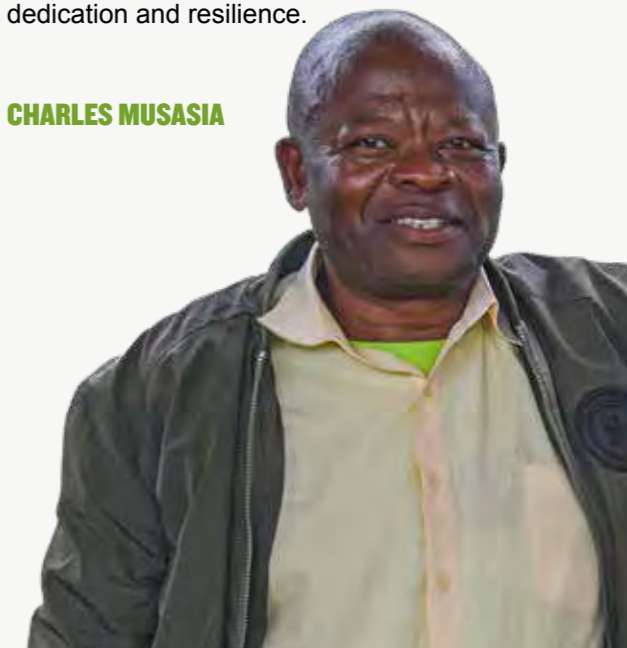
It was against the backdrop of the 1990s, when donkeys were the primary mode of transport on Sweetwaters Game Reserve, that Charles Musasia, now retiring, came to OI Pejeta for the first time. His role was as foreman responsible for tending to the garden that grew food for the resident chimpanzees. Throughout his 27 years here, Musasia encountered numerous perilous situations that posed a threat to his own well-being.

One particularly memorable incident involved a relentless elephant that pursued him to the boundaries of the Conservancy. Musasia managed to navigate through the fence, crossing a bridge into the nearby community. However, the elephant continued its relentless chase. As darkness descended and the elephant's poor eyesight worked to his advantage, Musasia found a hiding place, unable to return to the Conservancy.

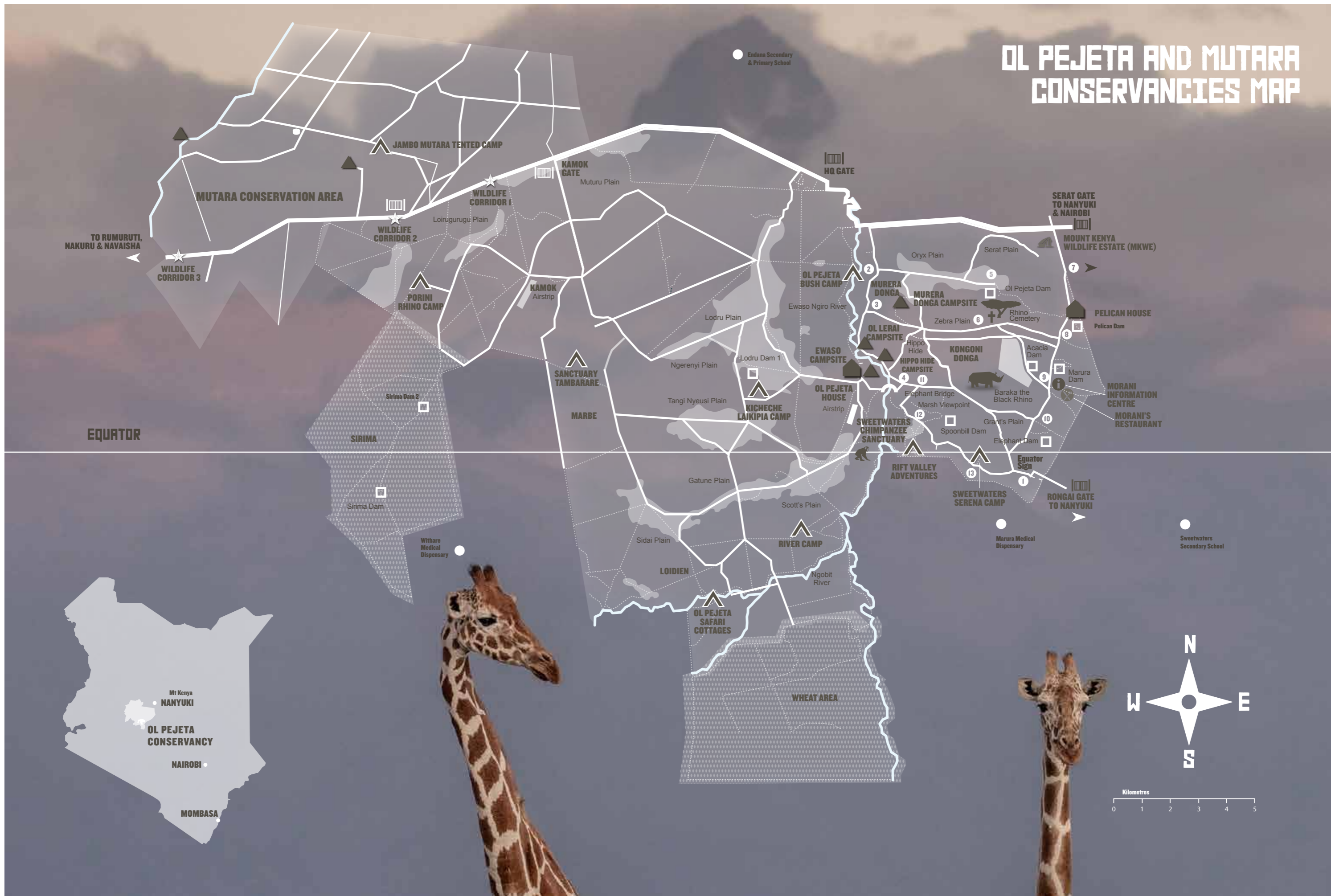
After a restless night spent within the community, Musasia made his way back to OI Pejeta, through the very spot in the fence that the elephant had broken. Upon reuniting with his colleagues at the chimpanzee facility, he began recounting the harrowing tale, only for the same elephant to reappear. Once again, Musasia found himself pursued, but this time, he sought refuge inside the chimpanzees' house, narrowly escaping the elephant's relentless advance.

Like the story of OI Pejeta itself, the tale of Charles Musasia ultimately finds a happy ending. He successfully completed his tenure at OI Pejeta and retired, unscathed, leaving behind a legacy of dedication and resilience.

CHARLES MUSASIA



OL PEJETA AND MUTARA CONSERVANCIES MAP



CONSERVATION AND WILDLIFE



 **11%**

The black rhino population growth was approximately 11% - the highest in 25 years!

 **27**

27 rhino calves were born in 2022 - 22 black and five white.

 **11**

11 new northern white rhino embryos were developed, bringing the total to 24.

 **167**

OI Pejeta's rhino population continues to grow: 167 black rhinos, 44 white rhinos and two northern white rhinos.

 **85**

There are 85 lions, nearly 100 hyenas, 15 leopards and 12 cheetahs on OI Pejeta.

 **4**

Four lionesses were re-collared.

 **32**

32 previously undocumented bird species were recently discovered on OI Pejeta and Mutara, bringing the total count to 330 species on OI Pejeta and 230 species on Mutara.



The endangered black wing starling was recorded for the first time on OI Pejeta.

 **10,088**

Our yearly aerial survey tallied 10,088 animals on OI Pejeta and 1,471 on Mutara.

 **300**

300 buffaloes died as a result of drought/disease, decreasing the population by 9.15% since 2021.

WIDENING OUR REACH

Mutara

We consider ourselves a role model for conservation, and apply all our efforts to creating scalable, practical solutions for wildlife and communities. Since securing funding from the U.S. State Department; Bureau of International Narcotics and Law Enforcement Affairs (INL) in 2020 through WildLandscapes International, we have been able to implement key components towards securing the Mutara Conservation Area (MCA). These include upgrading 10 kilometres of fence line, installing one borehole and training 28 rangers for wildlife monitoring and protection. This year, radio installation, staff housing and a new canteen have also been completed.

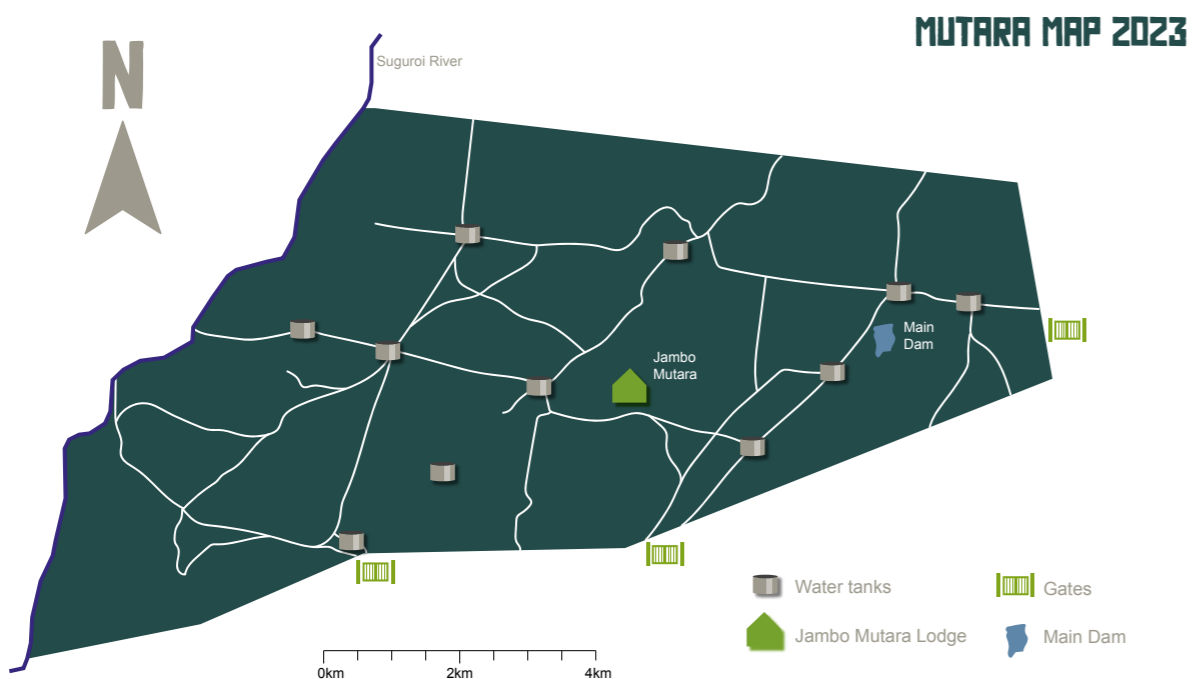
In addition to this, an Environmental Social Impact Assessment (ESIA) report was filed with the National Environment Management Authority (NEMA) and we later secured the necessary licence to turn Mutara into a rhino sanctuary, as required by the Kenya Wildlife Service (KWS).

Despite all our work so far in securing Mutara as a new rhino conservancy, challenges remain, particularly with regard to security around illegal grazing, mostly by sheep and goats. Fence vandalism has also been a major issue and slows down our plan for the introduction of rhinos in the area. Efforts are ongoing to enlist the

support of local police, ideally to set up a base on Mutara, which will be essential in completing the fence upgrade.

Though we encounter frustrating and disheartening challenges in this project, it is crucial to recognise that each hurdle we overcome serves as a valuable lesson for enhancing our model. Furthermore, it provides insights into the needs and aspirations of individuals, particularly those who have yet to experience the benefits of conservation. These valuable learnings will guide our interactions with stakeholders and collaborators as we strive to solidify MCA as a rhino range.

Working with the Laikipia Conservancies Association (LCA), OI Pejeta also secured a partnership with the United States Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS), with the specific intention of enhancing elephant habitat connectivity throughout Laikipia, and indeed the wider Laikipia-Samburu landscapes. The region is home to Kenya's second largest elephant population - roughly 7,000 individuals. OI Pejeta's specific activities include capacity enhancement, community engagement, consensus building among stakeholders, wildlife monitoring and anti-poaching patrols. We are also working to secure an elephant corridor between OI Pejeta, Mutara and Segera, which we will then monitor carefully to assess level of use.

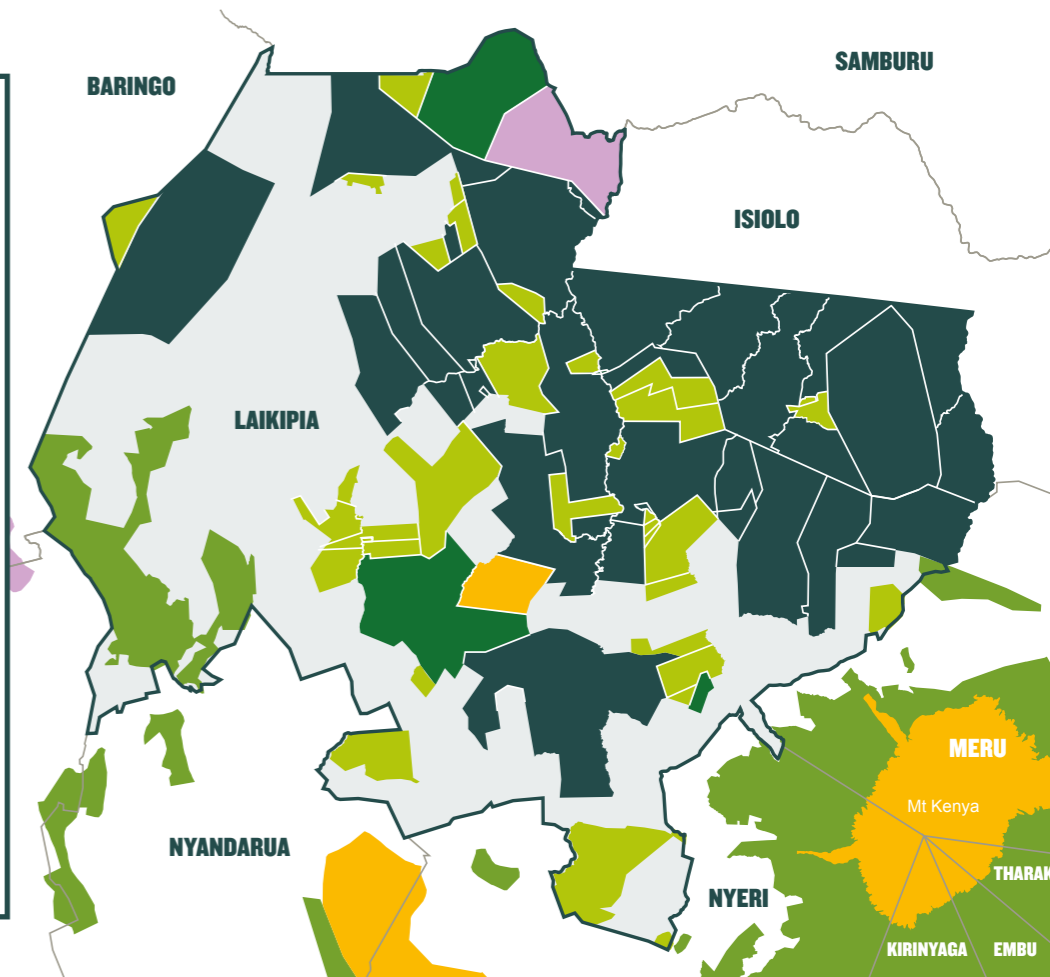
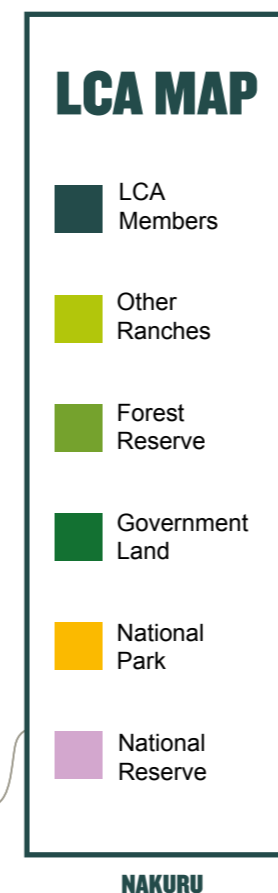


Laikipia Conservancies Association (LCA)

OI Pejeta is a founder member of the Laikipia Conservancies Association (LCA) which works as a unifying body that aims to increase impact and tackle collective issues affecting conservation. The vision is to create a "connected and well-managed Laikipia landscape that conserves nature and improves people's lives."

Over the last 12 months, LCA has made a number of achievements towards this goal. An organisational capacity assessment and strengthening plan was completed, and the Association has grown from one to five full time employees, working in a new office in Nanyuki, and a vehicle has been purchased. A number of meetings have been held, encouraging greater dialogue between members. Four conservancy members were trained in the use of Earth Ranger, a specialised software that tracks and monitors wildlife movements in real time.

A Social Assessment of Protected Areas (SAPA) was implemented in Mugie and OI Jogi, which has since allowed them to share and expand the positive impacts of conservation. The LCA supported the the community conservancy members for the transition under new land law to acquire community titles. They also helped Il Mamusi draft a new participatory forest management plan for the Mukogodo Forest. Finally, the introduction of an LCA and Laikipia County Government task force has been established to ensure regular dialogue with county officials.



SECURITY

KEEPING OUR WILDLIFE AND COMMUNITIES SAFE

OI Pejeta's security team is a tough and dedicated group. Thanks to their commitment, our wildlife and our neighbours are safer, and our conservation efforts go a lot further. Once again, we are proud to report zero poaching on OI Pejeta. Last year, the security team went through two refresher training sessions in March and July on Lewa Wildlife Conservancy - an essential course for those working in such a dangerous field. We also invested in further training for our K9 Unit, who were taught by a professional from Scent Work Solutions Ltd.

As usual, our rangers walked hundreds of kilometres on patrol, both routine and in response to intelligence. A 'poachers' moon' - when the night is lit up with the fierce glow of a full moon - is always a high risk for poaching attempts, and those nights are heavily patrolled too. Last year we had a higher than usual number of poaching attempts - six - but all were thwarted. We also assisted on five other poaching incursions on neighbouring properties. Our team was able to help with 42 cases in the surrounding communities, which further helps strengthen our relations with the people we live alongside, who are then able to support us with intel that helps our conservation work. Our rangers have also been very active on Mutara, where we have been experiencing a number of issues with fence vandalism and livestock incursions.

Technology plays an important role in our security efforts, and in 2022 we continued to use the thermal cameras for 24/7 monitoring of various stretches of our fence lines. We also worked with the Conservation Techlab to set up camera traps at key hotspots, keeping an eye on suspicious activities.



Our ranger patrol team are on a strict training routine to keep them at the top of their game.



ECOLOGICAL MONITORING UNIT

Aerial Survey

OI Pejeta from the sky is a stunning expanse of wilderness, even in the endless hot, dry months of a drought. Under the shade of millions of thorny trees, plains game, predators and large herbivores alike seek solace from the heat. Sometimes, it can be hard to spot a single one - but they are there in their thousands. During the 2022 annual aerial survey, 10,088 animals were counted on OI Pejeta and 1,471 on Mutara. This works out as a 5% increase for OI Pejeta, and a 20% decrease for Mutara. Despite a devastating 36.6% drop in buffalo numbers at OI Pejeta, they still maintain the highest population density among all of the species. In addition, impalas, zebras, giraffes, and eland were observed in even greater numbers than in 2021.

OI Pejeta's herbivore density was estimated at 60.91 animals/km², which was slightly higher than in 2021 (57.32).

Predator Monitoring

OI Pejeta is full of sharp-toothed creatures, with some of the highest predator densities in Laikipia. Mostly, this is made up of lions and hyenas (85 and nearly 100 respectively), but we also have an estimated 15 leopards, 12 cheetahs and a respectable number of jackals, caracals, and bat-eared foxes.

We were pleased to see that jackal numbers are finally increasing again, after they were seriously diminished by canine distemper in 2017. The wild dogs were spotted on one occasion, but other than that they proved characteristically elusive. A leopard, who had been making herself at home in one of the endangered species recovery enclosures, was trapped and relocated to somewhere more suitable for a lady of her tastes.

Pasture Assessment

In 2022, OI Pejeta's grass biomass was at an all time low - the lowest, in fact, for five years - calculated at 21% less than 2021. On Mutara, the situation was the same, with levels declining progressively for the last three years, and a shocking 47% below the established minimum threshold. Grass is critical for so many reasons - for nurturing our huge wildlife populations, for the livestock, for sequestering carbon, and for

holding the soil together so we can maintain water tables, keep our rivers clean and maintain water, mineral and energy cycles. Thankfully, our ecological monitoring unit is keeping a close eye on it, with quarterly pasture assessments to advise on areas to avoid grazing and allow for regeneration. In addition, as a mitigation measure against the effect of prolonged dry spells, OI Pejeta continues with its fodder production efforts for cattle supplementation and to reduce competition with other grazing wild ungulates.

Acacia Woodland Monitoring

The acacia woodland habitat in Laikipia is under threat and it's not just the humble cocktail ant feeling the impact. From the striking patas monkey to a host of other species, many are struggling to survive as the habitat dwindles. The culprits? It's mostly the elephants, who unwittingly leave a trail of broken tree trunks and discarded branches in their wake. The situation worsens during dry spells when they find refuge on OI Pejeta for its good pasture and vegetation, and water access.

Alarming data from 1996 onwards shows a high mortality rate among mature trees, and the chances of seedlings reaching maturity are only 1%. But we're not giving up on this vital ecosystem. With the help of Operation Earth, Kenyan universities, and funding from the Disney Conservation Fund, we are expanding our monitoring areas across the entire conservancy. And that's not all - we are also training apprentices from neighbouring communities to create a strong local capacity for monitoring and restoration. With this collaborative effort, we are determined to save the acacia woodland habitat and ensure a thriving ecosystem for generations to come.



BIRD SURVEY

A major bird survey was carried out on OI Pejeta and Mutara, and excitingly, a slew of new species were added to our bird list. In total, 148 were seen or heard - 130 on OI Pejeta and 86 on Mutara. 12 previously unseen species joined OI Pejeta's list, and 20 on Mutara's. This brings OI Pejeta's bird list to 330 species, and Mutara's to 220. Thrillingly, the endangered black winged starling was spotted, something we've never recorded on OI Pejeta before.



Rio the Photographer



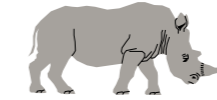
Rio the Photographer

This cheetah and her five cubs were relocated after goat predation in community areas.

VETERINARY UPDATES



Four lionesses were re-collared.



Ariemet, a southern white rhino in the northern white rhino surrogacy plan, was immobilised for a pregnancy scan. She was found not to be pregnant, leading our vets to the conclusion that while the embryo was successfully implanted, the pregnancy was later lost. Later on in the year, she was found to have been made pregnant by the teaser bull Ouwan.



A lion was darted and relocated from Mount Kenya Wildlife Estate to the main Conservancy.



All nine of our K9 Unit dogs were vaccinated for rabies and distemper, hepatitis, leptospirosis and parvovirus.

The KWS vet department requested our assistance in immobilising and treating a one month old mountain bongo on Mt Kenya Wildlife Conservancy.



A zebra with a snare wrapped around its leg was darted and de-snared.



A female cheetah, reported in the Njoguini community for having killed some goats, was immobilised and taken to Nairobi Animal Orphanage with her five cubs.



Gorbachev, an old and grumpy blind elephant who regularly causes havoc amongst our communities, was de-tusked to mitigate human wildlife conflict.

Another lioness had a worn-out and faulty collar replaced.

A southern white rhino bull, Jayjay, was treated for fighting-related injuries.

A little elephant calf was also treated for leg injuries.

The northern white rhino team conducted another ovum pick up on Fatu.

Shadow, a southern white rhino bull, got into a fight with another bull and had to have his injuries tended to.



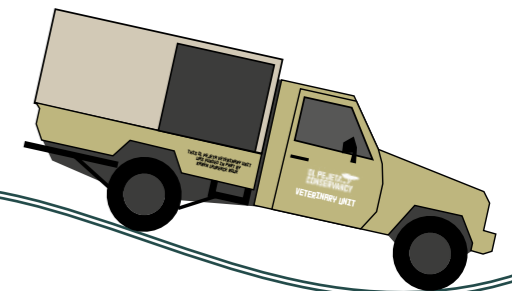
A baby lion cub, who'd got separated from his mother, was rescued and treated for a minor ear injury and then reunited with his mother.

A lion was chemically captured from Exrock community and released back into the Conservancy.



In an effort to reduce the number of grazers in the endangered species enclosure, 46 warthogs were pushed into the Lodro area of the Conservancy.

A tiny rhino calf, just three weeks old, was involved in a hyena attack and separated from its mother. Our veterinary team, together with KWS, treated her for some rather serious injuries.





CHIMPANZEE UPDATES

Arcus Foundation Grant

Sweetwaters Chimpanzee Sanctuary, a haven for rescued chimpanzees from all over the world, was bolstered once again last year by another generous donation from the Arcus Foundation. This was granted in response to the ongoing risks posed by the COVID-19 pandemic, as chimpanzees are highly vulnerable to human disease. Thanks to the new funding, the Sweetwaters team will be able to strengthen infrastructure and protocols, especially at the Visitor Information Centre, subsidise operational costs and improve chimpanzee well-being through increased health and veterinary care.

Veterinary Conference

In June, we were honoured to host the annual Pan African Sanctuary Alliance (PASA) veterinary conference, in partnership with PASA and University of Minnesota Twin Cities and also funded by the Arcus Foundation. Forty-four participants flew in from around the globe to attend workshops and talks on matters from

anaesthesia to disease control. As the famous African proverb tells us, “if you want to go fast, go alone. If you want to go far, go together.” This conference was all about sharing information, discussing ideas and most importantly of all, inspiring and motivating one another in the care of great apes and other primates.

Staff training

Erin Ivory (formerly of Veterinarians International and now of C the Future) and our head vet, Stephen Ngulu, conducted caregiver learning activities in November 2022. They focused mainly on animal welfare and zoonotic diseases, through presentations, Q and A sessions and interactive experiences in the field. The Sweetwaters Chimpanzee Sanctuary team are committed to providing the best possible care for the chimpanzees who depend on them so desperately, and with whom they build such strong bonds. Training enables the caregivers to maximise their impact with their charges, and helps to build more informed and useful programmes for the future.

PASA Re-Accreditation

Taking care of chimpanzees is a privilege, but it’s not easy, especially when they are as

emotionally damaged as our Sweetwaters residents. It requires experience, expertise, patience and strict adherence to protocol. In June, Sweetwaters Chimpanzee Sanctuary was visited by PASA’s Executive Director, along with a third party evaluator, a vet, to determine Sweetwaters’ continued status as an accredited sanctuary. They attended the conference and were given a comprehensive tour of the site as part of the process. A successful re-accreditation is essential for our continued work, and gives further credibility to our team as they take on further rescue missions in the future. The process is still ongoing, and we await the results.

Ewaso Nyiro dries up

The generous 250 acre enclosure that makes up the Sanctuary is separated by the Ewaso Nyiro River, which provides a natural boundary between the two chimpanzee populations, who naturally foster feelings of rivalry and animosity. In 2022, a combination of factors - climate change, drought, abstraction, deforestation and population growth - contributed to the river drying up. This precipitated a number of major issues for our team and for the chimpanzees. Since it is essential the two chimpanzee groups are kept separate, to avoid literal warfare, they were kept contained in much smaller areas, and for long stretches of time

were not permitted to visit the river area, which is the habitat most suited to them. Small spaces can lead to inter-group hostilities, and when chimpanzees fight, it is often to the death.

Wildlife from outside the enclosure, wretched with the drought, repeatedly broke in through the fences to get to the thick browse. In addition to this, warthogs, hyenas and baboons were able to sneak into the enclosure along the river bed, which is usually pumping with water and impassable. This presents the danger of new pathological diseases which would otherwise be kept at bay.

We are doing everything we can to mitigate the effects of changing weather patterns and natural resources on the chimpanzees, and to make sure that they are still given the space they need to flourish in their new lives on OI Pejeta.

The reinforcement of the sanctuary fence and compartmentalisation of the large enclosures has ensured that the chimpanzees have access to large spaces within the sanctuary, without compromising their security and welfare. Luckily, the sanctuary was designed with such contingency measures in place to mitigate anticipated natural calamities like drought and floods.



Rio the Photographer

Goodbye to Sultana, Niyonkuru, Jane and Bella

It is with deep sorrow that we mourn the loss of four chimpanzees last year, including Sultana, a cherished member of the Sanctuary family. Sultana, at the age of 37, had been undergoing cardiac and respiratory treatment following a health examination in September 2021, which revealed a heart murmur and indicated a high likelihood of inflammation and heart disease. Her prognosis for progressive congestive heart failure was unfortunately marked as high. Despite the dedicated management of her symptoms, Sultana tragically succumbed to cardiac failure in May 2022. Her passing leaves a void in the hearts of the Sweetwaters team, as she had been a beloved and gentle presence within the Sanctuary since its establishment.

Niyonkuru, Jane and Bella also passed away in 2022. All three chimpanzees succumbed to acute respiratory disease within a span of 24 hours, despite our utmost efforts to save them. Extensive laboratory tests ruled out COVID-19 as the cause, but it is believed that their deaths were linked to an unidentified pathogen present in their environment. The loss of these three cherished chimpanzees was a devastating blow, and we grieve their passing with profound sadness. To prevent such a tragedy from occurring again, our team is actively investigating the circumstances surrounding their deaths. Every effort is being made to identify the pathogen responsible and implement preventive measures accordingly.

While coping with the loss, it is heartening to observe the resilience and vibrant nature of the remaining chimpanzees. They never fail to captivate and entertain our visitors with their human-like antics and intricate social dynamics.



Sultana
1985 - 2022



Niyonkuru
1990 - 2022



Jane
2004 - 2022



Bella
2015 - 2022

SAVING THE NORTHERN WHITE RHINOS

Right at the beginning of the northern white rhino recovery programme, the creation of just one embryo seemed utterly miraculous. Now, we have 24 on ice - 11 of which were developed in 2022.

We've also taken another big step forward with the first embryo transfer, for which a southern white rhino embryo (donated by the European Endangered Species Programme (EEP)) was used. Initial excitement when the surrogate, Arimiet, was found to be pregnant was followed by disappointment as it was realised that Owuan, the not-so-sterile teaser bull, was deemed responsible. He was re-sterilised in September, and Arimiet was moved from the small enclosure to the 700-acre enclosure.

Mojo, another of our surrogate females, was assessed and considered unfit for the programme, as one of her oviducts was blocked - possibly due to internal injuries from her previous birth. She was released back into the main Conservancy in November. Replacing her are two new females, Daly and Curra, who arrived in the 45-acre surrogacy in November.

Every year we get closer and closer to realising the dream of bringing this noble sub-species back into existence. The extraordinary hard work from all members of the team: from the rangers who affectionately rub their ears to the scientists in far off laboratories, peering through microscopes and developing miraculous fertility engineering, is thrilling and inspiring to witness, and to be a part of. There are lots of ways that you, too, can get involved - check our websites or the final pages of this report to find out more.

There are now 24 northern white rhino embryos, frozen, awaiting transfers to surrogate southern white rhino females.

In 2022, OI Pejeta recorded just 598 mm of rain. The Ewaso Nyiro River completely dried up.

PROLONGED DRY SPELL

Desperately scanning the brilliant blue skies, hoping for clouds, is an ever more frequent occurrence in Laikipia. OI Pejeta's rainfall patterns are showing a worrying trend towards long dry spells - data from the last 20 years show that they are becoming more frequent and pronounced. They are also, as with weather conditions the world over, less and less predictable.

This in turn affects the health of the rangelands, as a decline in grass biomass levels inevitably follows insufficient rainfall. So too are water supplies affected, with rivers running dry, the water table getting ever lower and dams failing to fill up. Water troughs in the west of the Conservancy remained empty, since there was no water in the Ngobit River to feed them. Animals graze despondently on the short, crunchy grass, and sniff the crusty edges of dried up riverbeds, wondering what happened to the water.

Wildlife are hit hard by loss of grazing and browsing. Elephants, who require a staggering 150-170 kgs of vegetation per day, are at particular risk. Buffaloes, who rely heavily on dry fodder, have to stay close to water sources in order to survive, something we always used to be able to provide. However, with grazing and browsing options becoming increasingly scarce, and previously dependable dams and rivers evaporating, mortality rates among these magnificent animals have increased. We have even had to deal with more fence breakages caused by desperate elephants raiding farms in search of food.

However, we remain determined to tackle these challenges head-on and are working resolutely to ensure the well-being of our wildlife and the conservation of their habitats. Our Community Development Department has been working with stakeholders and the local government to address the issue of over-abstraction upstream, which has contributed to the water shortage. Meanwhile, we launched a de-stocking programme in the recovery areas of the northern white rhino enclosure and the Mount Kenya Wildlife Estate to reduce grazing competition and implemented feed supplementation to ensure that endangered species receive enough nutrition to survive the drought.

Despite these challenges, we remain committed to ensuring the well-being of our wildlife and the conservation of their habitats. With your support, we'll continue to find innovative ways to combat the impact of climate change and secure a bright future for OI Pejeta's precious ecosystem.

TRAINING AND TEAMWORK

Andrew Carnegie said that "Teamwork is the ability to work together toward a common vision. The ability to direct individual accomplishments toward organisational objectives. **It is the fuel that allows common people to attain uncommon results.**" We strongly believe in collaborating with people in all aspects of our operations. Last year, we took part in a wide variety of talks, workshops, presentations and forums, all to improve our abilities as conservationists, and to help other people and organisations expand their impact. In 2022, we:

- Were involved in a two-day workshop organised by the KWS Reticulated Giraffe Range Committee and the Giraffe Conservation Fund (GCF).
- Participated in a data harmonisation event at the MIKE (Monitoring Illegal Killing of Elephants) database in Nanyuki, which was hosted by the KWS, Save the Elephants and the World Wildlife Fund.
- Together with Wildlabs and Fauna and Flora (FFI), trained the 'Women in Conservation' in using wildlife collars, camera traps, mobile data collection and remote sensing.
- Hosted students from Manchester Metropolitan University and the University

of Wyoming, and gave a talk on ecological monitoring and rhino conservation.

- Welcomed delegates from Maliasili for a learning tour of OI Pejeta, discussing conservation practices and community development programmes.
- Took part in a stakeholders' forum deliberating on the Wildlife Research and Training Institute's (WRTI) draft strategic plan, and the national wildlife research agenda in Nairobi, at the KCB Leadership Centre.
- Participated in a two-day training in Nanyuki on reticulated giraffe monitoring using GiraffeSpotter, organised by KWS and the Giraffe Conservation Fund (GCF).
- Completed a training on Bayesian modelling for animal population estimation, courtesy of the Zoological Society of London.
- Met with the Grevy's Zebra Trust (GZT), Mpala Research Center and the Northern Rangeland Trust (NRT) for experience sharing on monitoring and observing trends in the landscape, highlighting potential areas of collaboration.



Teamwork is the fuel that allows common people to attain uncommon results.



**Dr. Stephen Ngulu
de-snaring a zebra
on OI Pejeta**

Rio the Photographer

Justin Mott

TECHNOLOGY



1 Women in conservation tech workshop conducted.



10 Over 10 different elements monitored by EarthRanger.



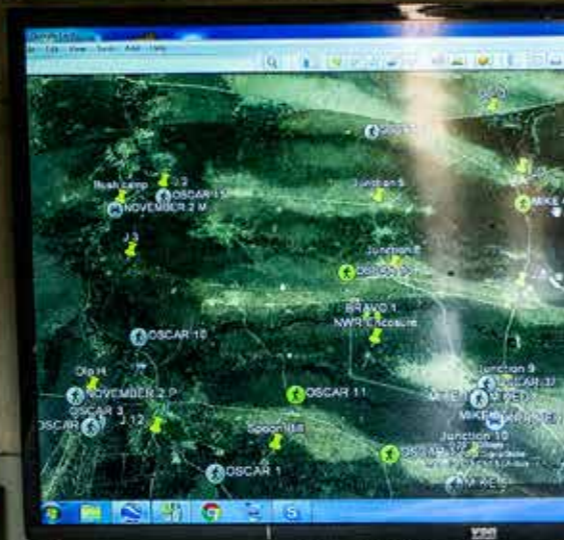
25 New digital radios deployed to enhance patrol efforts.



44 Animal trackers mounted on selected herds.

10,000

Over 10,000 images being classified with the mega detector for object detection in images.



AI AND BIODIVERSITY

Techlab aspires to be a pioneering force in utilising machine learning algorithms for conservation purposes.

Collaborating with the Apsilon ML team, OI Pejeta Conservancy embarked on a joint initiative to evaluate image classification techniques for wildlife migratory corridors. Our main goal was to develop and train a model capable of accurately

identifying species captured in images. The resulting data will offer valuable insights into wildlife movement patterns between OI Pejeta, Mutara Conservation Area, and potentially beyond. This project exemplifies our commitment to leveraging advanced technology and data analysis to enhance understanding of wildlife dispersal and support informed conservation strategies.

WOMEN IN CONSERVATION WORKSHOP

In 2022, we achieved a significant milestone with the successful implementation of the Women in Conservation Technology Programme (WiCT). This programme exemplifies our steadfast commitment to nurturing the growth and advancement of women in the field of conservation technology.

The primary goal of WiCT was to empower women, recognising their vital role as stewards of conservation. Through this programme, we aimed to enhance their skills, knowledge, and networks, providing them with the tools to make

an impact in their respective areas of expertise. Furthermore, we envisioned these participants becoming mentors for others, fostering a cycle of positive transformation within their institutions and future cohorts, thus catalysing a wave of change in the conservation community.

To maximise the programme's effectiveness, we meticulously selected up to 15 participants from diverse backgrounds and geographical locations. This deliberate approach allowed for a dynamic and inclusive training experience, fostering a rich exchange of ideas and perspectives.



Francis from Shades of Acacia Thorn Safaris

MAJOR SOLARISATION PROJECT

The solarisation of key conservancy assets is a vital priority for OI Pejeta management, with a looming deadline of end-2023. This development will allow OI Pejeta to reduce reliance on fossil fuels - and by extension, carbon emissions - as well as lowering operating costs. However, due to the effects of the COVID-19 period, OI Pejeta was not in a position to fund the solar solutions outright and it became necessary to seek a financing partner. After an extensive tender process, management proposed to work with Powering Africa Recharging Conservation (PARC) and GivePower Foundation (GP) to fund and develop the solar infrastructure for key sites on OI Pejeta.

A phased approach was developed and approved by the board in August 2022. A rigorous process of engineering designs and sizing followed and culminated in a financing agreement, worth US\$ 667,000, between OI Pejeta and PARC that was signed towards the end of 2022, setting the stage for a crucial solarisation programme.

Ngobit Solarisation

OI Pejeta relies heavily on pumping water to supply different points within the Conservancy, for wildlife, livestock and people. The Ngobit River supplies over 40% of this water demand, which is unsustainable due to the unpredictability of the river, primarily driven by climate change. On top of this, it is important for the Conservancy to reduce river water abstraction to free up water for the communities downstream. In order to address this, the decision was made to operationalise a new borehole on OI Pejeta. With OI Pejeta's move to renewable energy, the borehole needed to be solarised from the outset. An application for US\$ 150,000 was made to the Poul Due Jensen Community Engagement Grant in early 2022, which was, thankfully, successful. Contracting works started before the end of the year, and will be completed, and fully solarised, in 2023. This will reduce our reliance on the river by up to 50%.

RADIO COVERAGE FOR MUTARA

In 2013, OI Pejeta made a significant transition from an analogue to a digital VHF radio system. This upgrade was crucial to enhance our communication capabilities and improve operational efficiency within the conservancy. However, as time passed, the need arose to extend the radio coverage to the Mutara Conservation Area in preparation for an additional rhino dispersal area.

In 2021, it became evident that a robust communication system was required in Mutara, and it needed to be seamlessly integrated with OI Pejeta's existing infrastructure. The primary objective was to enhance the effectiveness of patrolmen in monitoring the rhino population and ensure uninterrupted communication between both areas. To achieve this, various components were identified as essential.

First and foremost, a reliable and high-performance repeater station was needed to ensure optimal signal coverage and transmission capabilities in the Mutara and OI Pejeta's region. This repeater station would serve as a critical link between field personnel and the main communication hubs at OI Pejeta.

In addition to the repeater station, new two-way communication radios were required to equip the patrolmen with the latest technology. These radios would enable real-time communication, enabling them to coordinate their efforts effectively and respond swiftly to any incidents or threats within the rhino dispersal area.

To support the communication infrastructure, the acquisition of new desktops and workstations was necessary. These devices would serve

as central command points for managing communication channels, monitoring radio activities, and facilitating data collection and analysis.

It is worth noting that the funding for this initiative was provided by an INL (International Narcotics and Law Enforcement) grant to ensure the successful implementation of the enhanced communication system in both OI Pejeta and Mutara.

By deploying this comprehensive solution, OI Pejeta aimed to improve our ability to monitor and protect the rhino population while promoting efficient communication among the field staff. This integration of advanced technology and communication infrastructure not only enhances our operational capabilities but also strengthens our commitment to conservation efforts and the preservation of wildlife in the region.

COMPLETE INNOVATIVE SOLUTIONS

Buckeye Solution

The implementation of the Buckeye Camera Trap solution involved the deployment of one base station and two Buckeye cameras. In collaboration with Wildlife Protection Solutions (WPS), who generously donated the solution, we were able to successfully set it up. This solution aims to support OI Pejeta's security teams in their efforts to monitor potential intrusion zones, as well as detect any instances of animals attempting to breach the fence and encroach community land.

EarthRanger

We have successfully integrated EarthRanger, a software platform that gathers data on activity within a protected area, with various other systems to create a comprehensive, real-time operational platform. This integration has allowed us to map and monitor over 10 different elements, providing a unified and visualized view of the protected area's activities.

Through diligent efforts, we have achieved an impressive Adoption Score of over 20% for Microsoft O365 usage within our organisation. This achievement has significantly enhanced collaboration and enabled OI Pejeta Conservancy to work seamlessly as a cohesive team.

Findmy Animal Trackers

In order to enhance the monitoring of land use and cattle grazing activities, OI Pejeta Conservancy received a generous donation from Findmy. This donation enabled us to equip one cow in each herd with a sensor specifically designed for animal tracking purposes. These collar sensors utilise satellite technology to transmit location data at predefined time intervals. By implementing this advanced tracking system, we can now accurately monitor the movement patterns of cattle, as well as gather valuable data on land use affected by grazing activities. This initiative reflects our ongoing commitment to employing innovative solutions to improve livestock management practices within the Conservancy.



OUR NEIGHBOURS

40,000

Our Community Development department made a positive impact on the lives of over 40,000 people in the region.



21

We supported 21 community blocks to enhance their quality of life and well-being.



26

26 high school students, who received scholarships from OI Pejeta and its partners, graduated.



5

5 new ARES systems were donated to schools.



150

150 bursaries, worth Ksh 7.4m, were granted.



12

We built 12 new classrooms.



13

We refurbished 13 classrooms.



2

We set up two new poultry incubators.

60.8M

We invested Ksh 60.8m in our community development projects.



1

We built a pilot smokeless field kitchen in collaboration with the Smokeless Kitchen.



COMMUNITY INTRODUCTION

Conservation needs to benefit people as much as wildlife if it's to have any lasting success. On OI Pejeta, our neighbours have always been a priority for us, and we are proud of the relationship we have built with them over the years.

2022 was a tremendous year for our community efforts, with major donors and grants coming in to drive post COVID-19 recovery. Our Community Development team successfully increased donor participation in projects, working with The Tina Tower Foundation, The Nobility Foundation, PA-MOJA, Well Aware, AFRETECH and others who deepened their scope of commitment. One notable new addition to our incredible list of partners is the Human Practice Foundation (HPF) an NGO based in Denmark, with whom we completed two new projects: the renovation and construction of new classrooms in Matanya and Yard Primary schools.

The Guardian Project carried on their superb efforts in supporting farmers with organic and climate smart farming - which is so important for drought mitigation and resilience building. More than 500 community members are expected to improve their home cooking situations through micro-finance and enterprise training, thanks to Hamara Ltd and Smokeless Kitchen Foundation. Nearly 1,500 students and community members came onto OI Pejeta last year as part of our conservation education programme.

These are just some of the many achievements made by our Community Development team, who are integral to our commitment to make conservation benefit all those who live alongside us. The department also took the opportunity to take stock of all their projects, in order to ensure that all their endeavours have maximum efficiency and impact. As a result, the improved cooking stove project is under review, though most others are expected to continue.

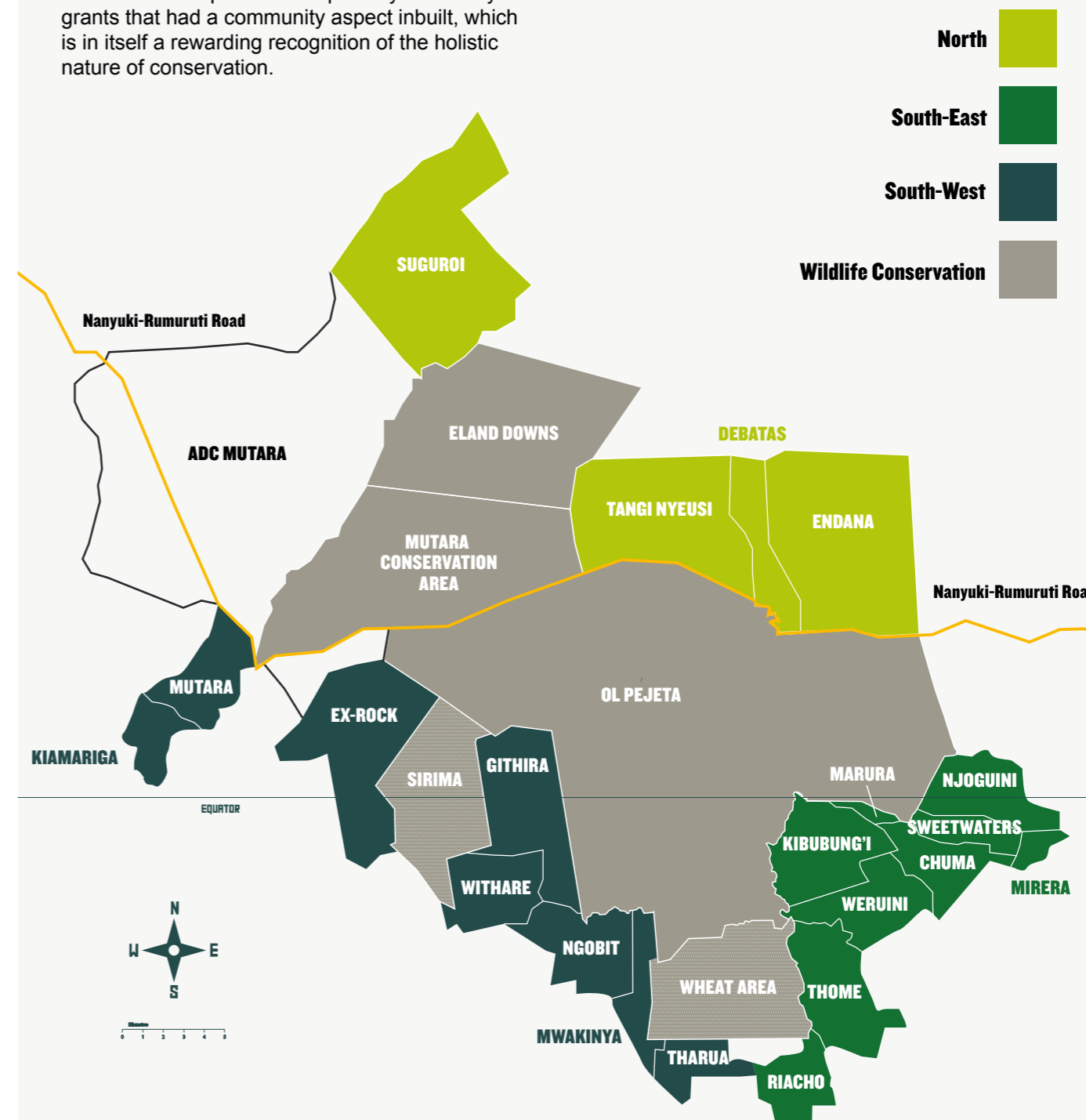


Benjamin Mugo

COMMUNITY GOVERNANCE

Our area of operation across our boundaries increased by 10% - we are proud to have added two more communities to our roster, and leaders for each have been included in the Community Representative Council. This is on top of the 12 members of the Community Conservation Association, who will assist the community leaders in their day to day operations. Finance for these developments was partially funded by grants that had a community aspect inbuilt, which is in itself a rewarding recognition of the holistic nature of conservation.

MAP OF OI PEJETA'S COMMUNITIES



INFRASTRUCTURE AND WATER

Something that often strikes overseas visitors when they visit local schools is the pupils' thirst for knowledge. Though many of them have to travel miles, by foot, to reach school, they turn up every day to learn. A lot of the time, the classrooms are sparse, the equipment and facilities minimal. We are very lucky to work with a number of partners who help us make a difference on this front.

The Yard D.E.B and Matanya Primary Schools in the Marura Community, received a much needed refurbishment. HPF put up six new classrooms and renovated all the old ones. They also provided furnishing and are working on more support for the schools. Then Nobility foundation added two preschool classes to Yard D.E.B as well. These upgrades have massively enhanced the appeal of the school, and admissions are already up by 30%, with numbers expected to grow in the coming year. Further improvements continue, with funds set aside for loos and a kitchen. Matanya Primary School, which is in the

Maragua community, was also renovated, with two new classrooms, and a new face for the entire school, including staff room and library. Around US\$ 170,000 were spent on both of the schools.

The Nobility Foundation also built four new classrooms in Chuma, broke ground on four more classrooms (including two pre-school classes), and erected a fence for Tangi Nyeusi Primary School. The latter were also supported by Well Aware, who work to provide clean water as a way to empower communities in Africa, with a new borehole. Chuma and Tangi Nyeusi Primary Schools were two of the least well performing schools in the area, with deficient infrastructure leading to low attendance, high levels of drop-outs and inconsistent performance. Now, with the framework in which to do it, the children attending these schools will have a better chance of getting the education they deserve.



EDUCATION PROGRAMME

We were extremely pleased to report a 21% increase in high school scholarships since 2021 - going from 124 to 150, at a cost of Ksh 7,420,527. The transition between primary and high school is where many high-achieving students fail to achieve their potential. By providing scholarships, we ensure that those students are able to fulfill their potential, and later carry on to college. These were funded by PA-MOJA, Tina Tower Foundation, Australia Zoo and Oi Pejeta through other individual and institutional donors. For 2023, we're aiming to get up to 200 students.

Last year, 26 students graduated, eight joined university, eight joined colleges and nine went to technical and vocational education and training (TVET) institutions. In April, we held a one week mentorship workshop for girls, which covered identity, confidence building, personal management and sex education - in the future, we'd like to do this for both girls and boys.

Daraja Academy is an inspirational institution that provides an education for girls from marginalised

communities, teaching them leadership skills as well as providing a scrupulous academic education. What sets it apart from every other high school is its culture of peace - teaching its students, who come from 49 different counties, the importance of unity and inclusivity, thereby producing strong, courageous future leaders capable of positive change. We were honoured to partner with them for a mentorship programme in seven schools that started in April, and we aim to reach 5,000 students in five years.

Twenty five community trainees were brought in to apprentice the Ecological Monitoring Unit, again building local foundations in grassroots conservation and ecological awareness. We also started planting 20,000 trees in community schools and in the exclusion zones of the main Conservancy - this project is ongoing. These, as well as our improved scholarship reach and the increased number of student/community visits, were made possible by Australia Zoo, the US Fish and Wildlife Service, Disney and ATCF (Adventure Travel Conservation Fund).



ENERGY AND ENTERPRISE

The Energy Saving Stove project produced 200 stoves in 2022, in partnership with community youths together with Nanyuki and Tigithi Technical and Vocational Training Colleges. Hamara Ltd., through microfinancing, provided LPG gas units and pressure cookers to over 500 families. So far, they've been paid back an impressive 76% already.

Further promoting the move away from deadly household fumes is the Smokeless Kitchen Foundation, who are on a mission to save the

many people, especially women, whose health is jeopardised by indoor smoke as they cook for their families. We partnered with them in 2022 and recruited 22 women from Endana for a project based on value addition of local produce such as tomatoes and chillies. They have already established a manufacturing area, and procured a KEBS permit to produce jams and chutneys, which the Foundation will sell on their behalf.



Rio the Photographer

COMMUNITY LIVELIHOODS

For most of our neighbours, livestock and agriculture are their entire livelihoods. We are able to help them on this front through a number of different channels, and last year, we vaccinated 5,000 cattle against foot and mouth disease and 6,500 sheep against sheep and goats' pox. 1,176 farmers were engaged through differing services from training to disease control, and we made 384 farm visits to train, advise and treat. For 2023, we aim to improve our reach by at least 10-15%.

Approximately 350 dairy cows received improved genetics through the artificial insemination programme - even in spite of the severe drought that will have considerably slowed down that operation.

Our poultry programme aims to diversify livelihoods and increase opportunities for entrepreneurship, and last year we were able to buy two new incubators for community groups. So far, more than 3,500 chicks have been hatched and distributed among farmers on a cost-sharing basis.

83 kitchen gardens were established - up from 272 in 2021. 369 bags of potatoes were planted, and eventually yielded 1,200 potatoes at harvest. One farmer did so well on his potatoes he was very happy to be able to purchase a cow worth Ksh 30,000. We also planted over 1,500 fruit trees!

OI Pejeta runs outreach programmes for local farmers to improve sustainability and yields.

TOURISM

VISITOR NUMBERS SINCE 2021:



Citizens: 19.9% increase



Non-residents: 60% increase

ACTIVITIES:

MEET THE NORTHERN WHITE RHINOS | DOG TRACKING | LION TRACKING | NIGHT GAME DRIVE | BUSH AND BIRD WALKS | RIDE WITH THE NORTHERN WHITE RHINOS | CYCLING SAFARI | LIVESTOCK-WILDLIFE INTEGRATION | MEET THE NEIGHBOURS | IMMERSIVE CONSERVATION EXPERIENCES PROGRAMME

TOURISM INTRODUCTION

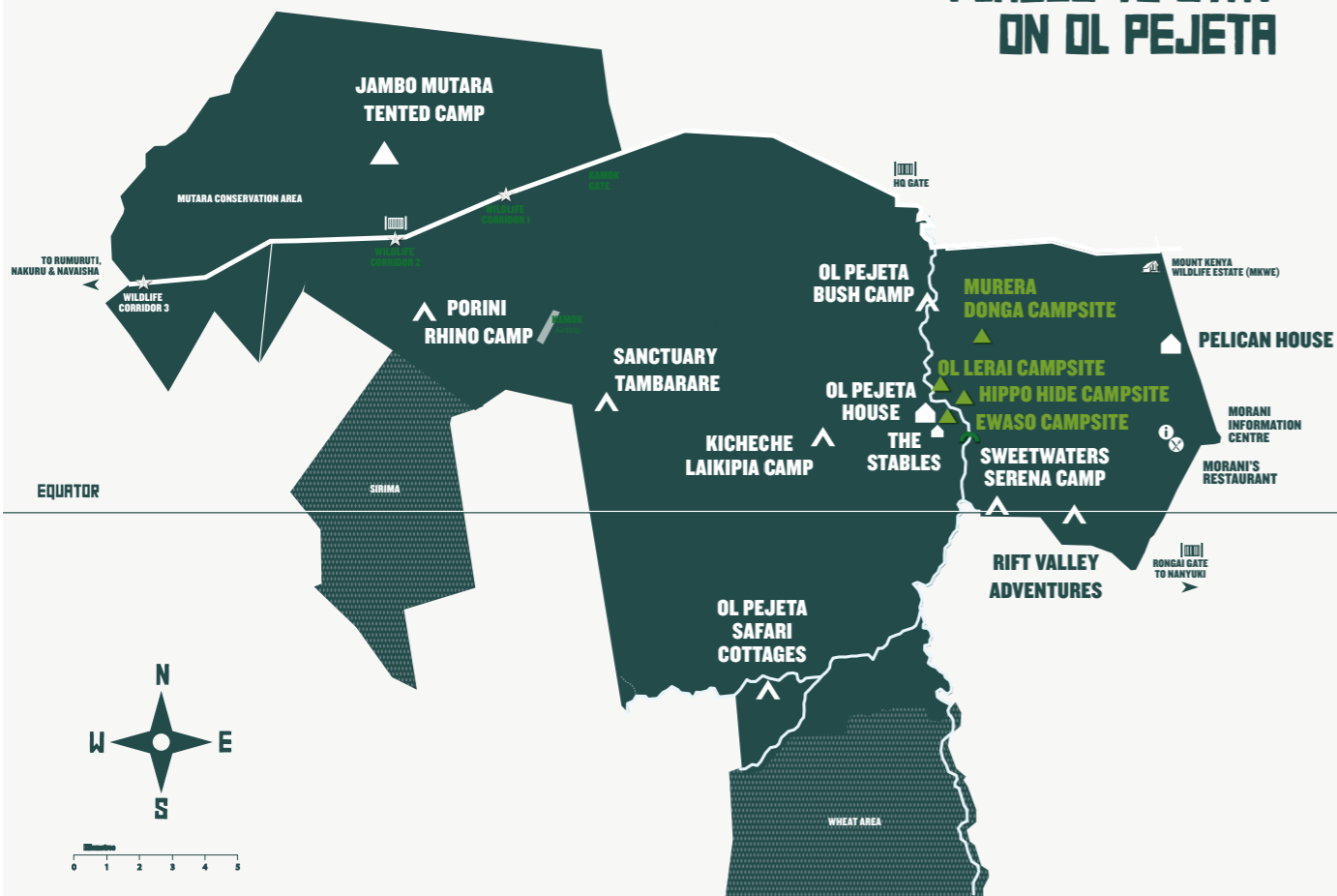
In 2022, OI Pejeta Conservancy experienced a significant increase in the number of visitors (49% on 2021 numbers), which is a testament to the exceptional experiences and conservation efforts we offer. Tourism is a vital component of OI Pejeta's operations, as it generates revenue that is reinvested in conservation programmes, community outreach, and sustainable development initiatives.

At OI Pejeta, we believe in the power of tourism to positively impact wildlife conservation, local communities, and the economy. We work tirelessly to offer our visitors an unforgettable experience that combines wildlife encounters, educational programmes, and cultural immersion. Our tourism activities aim to create a deep appreciation and understanding of the importance of wildlife conservation, while also supporting the development of the local community.

Last year, we made significant progress in our tourism profile through the introduction and opening of a new luxury camp, Sanctuary Tambarare. It is the perfect blend of boutique-meets-bush style, operated by Sanctuary Retreats for Abercrombie and Kent.

Looking ahead, we will continue to focus on sustainable tourism that promotes conservation and community development. We are investing in new programmes and initiatives that will enhance the visitor experience, including expanding our educational programmes, developing new eco-friendly accommodation, and increasing the scope of our community outreach efforts. We remain committed to protecting and preserving the wildlife and natural habitats of OI Pejeta, and we look forward to sharing our passion and commitment with visitors from around the world.

PLACES TO STAY ON OI PEJETA



Horse riding on OI Pejeta

Sanctuary Tambarare

SANCTUARY TAMBARARE

A thrilling addition to the OI Pejeta tourism collection was made in 2022, with the opening of Sanctuary Tambarare. The ten luxurious tents, sleeping 22 people, boast a boutique-meets-bush style with teak floors, contemporary finishings and touches of local culture. Large and airy, they all have private verandahs looking out on the plains - after which the camp is named; Tambarare means plains in Swahili.

The camp has already welcomed over 2,000 guests, all of whom enjoyed the Sanctuary's tranquil surroundings, five star service and lavish accommodation - and of course, OI Pejeta's phenomenal wilderness!



Sanctuary Tambarare

THE LAST MALE STANDING RHINO CUP

The Last Male Standing Rhino Cup made it back to the OI Pejeta plains, on Friday the 17th June, with 16 teams travelling from around Kenya to take part. We were pleased to have an OI Pejeta team taking part too, made up with members of OI Pejeta staff! Overall, US\$ 8,800 was raised.

All the tournaments were 'live scored' through the Last Man Stands global cricket website (www.lastmandstands.com), with all the results, stats and player rankings also available on the site. It was a well-contested battle, and at the end of the weekend, the The East Africa Character Development Trust (EACDT) beat Meru Cricket

Club for the Last Male Standing Rhino Cup, while the Sudan Smash was won by Ndovu Cement, who were victorious over last year's winners, Foundation for Youth Cricket and Education in Kenya (FYCEK). The Sudan Memorial Cup, awarded to the best fundraisers, was taken home by Sankhesh Dedhia and his Mario Tours team.



Rio the Photographer

OI Pejeta's rangelands are kept healthy and productive through carefully managed livestock grazing, which also creates critical revenue for conservation and community development.

LIVESTOCK AND AGRICULTURE

Rio the Photographer



LIVESTOCK INTRODUCTION

2022 was a tough year for the Livestock Department. By December, we had 5,500 animals in the herd - down from 6,014 at the end of 2021 - numbers were hit hard by a combination of COVID-19 emergency sales in 2021, and disease, drought and low birth rates in 2022. Loss of grazing around the Conservancy as a result of so little rain meant that we had to supplement with feed, and disease treatment at a

huge expense. For a period of time, the herd was run with an interim manager, as OI Pejeta went through major human resource changes with the appointment of a new CEO. In mid 2022, the new manager, Adil Butt, arrived, who has since set about building up the Livestock Department for a stronger future, driving up business and establishing new systems.

BEEF PRODUCTION

OI Pejeta Beef, the brand created around our award-winning conservation beef, has always been enormously popular for its consistent quality and flavour. In order to meet demand, we have to ensure we have a supply of well-finished cattle ready every month for our various customers. This requires meticulous planning, and a very good supply of natural pasture. Obviously, this isn't always easy, especially in a pretty dry year, which means supplementing some of the cattle with our own home-grown fodder. Thankfully, the Boran breed is a superb animal for the climate we live in, and is able to maintain condition much better than other breeds. With a steady supply of food and minerals, we are proud to carry on producing our excellent beef year round.

We were excited to develop a new product this coming year, the 'Beef Box', which will sell as a selection of mixed premium beef cuts to individual buyers. This is a great way for people to fill their freezers with our delicious beef while supporting the integrated livestock model that contributes to OI Pejeta's conservation efforts. We are also going to be expanding our premium beef supply with a small percentage of Boran - Aberdeen Angus and Wagyu crosses to fill in a niche market for super premium beef at premium prices.



LIVESTOCK MANAGEMENT

We made major changes in the Livestock Department revolving around animal husbandry and herd management. The herd sizes, which had been built up to 300-400 head per herd, have been cut down to 100-150 head per herd and distributed evenly in order to decrease grazing competition, and reduce degradation of the rangeland as seen earlier in dry years.

To enhance a steady supply of premium quality beef to the market the animals are receiving improved mineral supplements, as well as supplemented on home grown nutritious fodder. The calves are now weaned at a later age of nine months than previously done at six months of age. The breeding herd has moved back to year round breeding to increase calving rates as opposed to seasonal breeding due to uncertainty in the weather patterns. A new breeding

programme has been developed for our stud herd to produce top quality stud cattle OI Pejeta has always been known for. A good line breeding programme, along with enhanced techniques by using artificial insemination, synchronization and embryo transplanting, will be practiced to speed up the process and create uniformity and consistency.

A Norwegian company, Findmy, with support from the Swedish University of Agriculture Sciences (SLU), collaborated with OI Pejeta and donated live satellite tracking collars for most of our herds, giving us real time data to assist the department in making better informed decisions on livestock and range management.



Adil Butt

FODDER

Our fodder production programme is essential for maintaining cattle and wildlife condition throughout the year, but also serves further purposes - first, to increase our revenue streams through sales, second, as a drought reserve for our endangered species (including the northern white rhinos), cattle and wildlife, whenever the grazing is particularly bad - something that happens increasingly often these days - and third, to reduce grazing pressure in the Conservancy.

We are currently cultivating different types of fodder on 350Ha, with an additional 50Ha of arable land that has been set aside for planting

in 2023. In the past, storage of excess quality fodder has been an issue but with recent developments any excess fodder will be turned into highly nutritious silage in underground silage pits, and set aside to be used during the dry season to maintain herd conditions. Under the future CAPEX allocation for 2023, new storage barns will be constructed to assist storage capacity. To increase profitability there are plans to incorporate new, higher yielding, longer lasting forage varieties, so we can further grow our income streams and benefit the communities around us by offering access to good quality fodder for their livestock.



Adil Butt

HONEY

OI Pejeta has been producing honey for years, and while it took a pause over the last few years, we are delighted to be bringing it back.

50 new hives are planned for 2023, bringing our delectable, conservation-supporting honey back onto tables by the end of the year.

GENETICS AND RESEARCH

Our Boran stud has produced some of the finest bulls and heifers in Africa, whose genetics have travelled as far as South Africa, Zambia and Mauritius. Towards the end of last year we initiated a new stud breeding programme to maximise outputs, working with Embryo Plus to export new genetics both inside and outside of the country.

We are also going to be developing a new wildlife/livestock research laboratory at Site, which will allow us to better monitor disease, particularly with regard to the interactions between cattle and wild animals. On that front, we continue to work with the International Livestock Research Institute (ILRI) to produce cattle that have proved to be tolerant to East Coast Fever (ECF), a tick-borne disease that

is very prevalent in Laikipia, but which some species (such as Ankole cattle) but also buffalo, are immune to.

In 2022, we suffered tremendously from various illnesses within the cattle, most notably Contagious Bovine Pleuropneumonia (CBPP). We are now working closely with Kenya Agriculture and Livestock Research Institute (KALRO), Kenya Ministry of Agriculture, Livestock and Fisheries (GOK) and the Director of Veterinary Services (DVS), to create new protocols and government policy on controlling the disease in Kenya. The last spread has had such devastating consequences, having the majority of Laikipia and Northern Kenya lose most of their cattle herds.



Adil Butt

FINANCIALS OVERVIEW

In FY 2022, OI Pejeta experienced a notable recovery in the business environment, resulting in significant improvements in our financial performance. We are pleased to report a consolidated net profit after tax of Ksh 161.9m (US\$ 1.328m) compared to a loss of Ksh 77.0m (US\$ 0.689m) reported in the year 2021. This positive outcome has substantially strengthened our liquidity, reducing our dependence on banking facilities for financing working capital and operational needs.

We attribute this success primarily to the increased volumes of business in the tourism industry. We saw a 49% growth in visitor numbers, particularly from our international markets, into the conservancy. Additionally, two new tourism partner facilities commenced operations, positively impacting entry fees and bed night income. Throughout the financial year, our tourism business achieved pre-COVID levels and remained robust.

Unfortunately, the Livestock and Agribusiness sector faced challenges due to severe drought and animal disease outbreaks nationwide. This resulted in increased production costs for supplementary livestock and wildlife feeding, as well as animal disease management during the year.

On a positive note, our project and donor-funded programmes continued to receive significant support from our partners and donors. We experienced upward movement in funding receipts for both restricted and unrestricted categories.

We observed a shift in donor funding preferences, with greater emphasis on engaging in restricted project funding. While unrestricted funding remains important, as it provides flexibility to address areas of greatest need, we appreciate the focus on restricted funding to drive specific projects forward.

FY 2023 started on a positive trajectory, with the business environment, especially in tourism, remaining strong and relatively positive. We have witnessed strong results in the tourism sector during the first four months of the year, and we anticipate continued growth and a promising outlook for the remainder of the period. Although the Agribusiness sector's recovery is expected to continue in the current financial year, sustained growth is not anticipated over the next 12-18 months.

Donor receipts and support for our core operating costs have maintained an upward trend. We anticipate reasonable growth in the current financial year, which will significantly contribute to our conservation and related programmes.

During this period, OI Pejeta underwent a change in leadership, with the appointment of Justin Heath as the Chief Executive Officer in April 2022. Additionally, Tim Hobbs and Daniel Karuga joined the Board of Directors as board members. We are confident that their vast and diverse experience will positively contribute to our continued growth, improved performance, and impact in the ensuing periods.

NOTE TO THE FINANCIALS – RESTATEMENT OF FY 2021 FIGURES

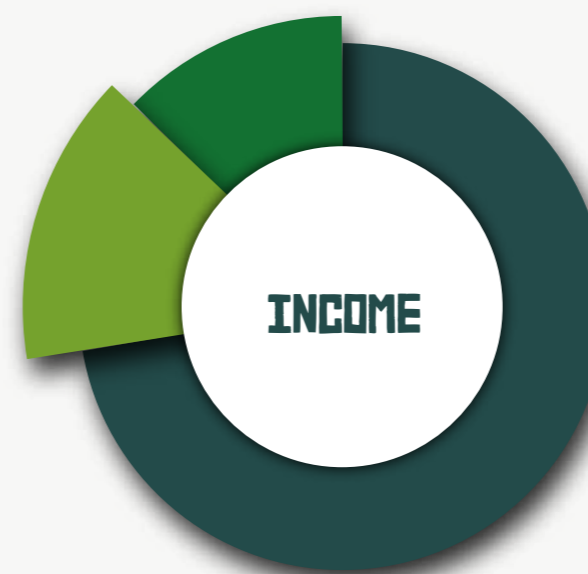
The figures in the comparative column for FY 2021 have been restated to reflect the consolidated audited financials hence will differ from those in the 2021 annual report. The revision is explained below:

- Included in the 2021 Annual report Donor income is Ksh 58.8m (US\$ 525.8K) of unexpended grants as at 31st December 2021. The restated comparative figures in the financial year 2022 report excludes the unexpended grants of Kshs 48.8m (US\$ 400.5K).
- Trading income of Ksh 11.1m (US\$ 99.6K) realised in OPC UK was reported under Donor incomes category in the 2021 report. In the reinstated comparative financials this has been reported under Other Income category in the table on the next page.
- Unrealised gains on biological assets revaluation amounting to Ksh 52.9m (US\$ 473K) is included in other income for FY 2021 whilst the actual FY 2021 report did not carry these gains under income. The amount included in FY 2022 other income in respect of unrealised gains is Ksh 63.2m (US\$ 518.5m).
- Adjustment to the rate of exchange applied in translating the income and expenditures in FY 2021 from Ksh 109.4 to Ksh 111.9 to the US Dollar to align to the closing bank rates as opposed to the average rate over the accounting period.

The summarised financial statement extracted from the consolidated financial statements for the period to 31st December 2022 which have been audited by RSM Eastern Africa LLC, Certified Public Accountants are set out below:

Revenue and Expenditure by Source		Financial Year 2022 USD 000s	Financial Year 2021 USD 000s
INCOME	Trading activities	6,217	4,027
	Donations	1,249	2,508
	Other income	1,081	739
	Total Income	8,547	7,275
EXPENDITURE	Programmes	5,225	6,276
	Fundraising	138	334
	Admin support	1,856	1,354
	Total Expenditure	7,219	7,963
NET INCOME / (LOSS)		1,328	(689)

The numbers on the table have been rounded to the nearest whole number



Trading activities - 72.7%

Donations - 14.6%

Other income - 12.6%

Programmes - 72.4%

Fundraising - 1.9%

Admin support - 25.7%

FUNDRAISING



WE RAISED US\$ 2.9M

Dear Esteemed Donors, Partners and Supporters,

I am writing to express my heartfelt gratitude for your unwavering support during an extraordinarily challenging year. As we reflect on the global economic crisis and the soaring cost of living, we recognize the immense impact it has had on organizations like ours. It is through your continued commitment and belief in our mission to conserve wildlife and protect habitats that we have been able to persevere through these trying times.

Your generous contributions in 2022 have been truly remarkable, as we were able to raise a total of US\$ 2.9 million. This significant achievement has allowed us to make substantial progress in our conservation and community projects. Out of this total, US\$ 1.5 million was allocated to specific projects, providing the means to execute targeted initiatives achieving tangible impact on conservation, species protection and community development.

Equally important is the recognition of the US\$ 1.4 million in unrestricted funds that you, our supportive community, have graciously provided. These funds demonstrate a level of trust that is both humbling and empowering. Your willingness

to contribute unrestricted funds speaks volumes about your faith in our organization. It shows that you trust us to allocate these funds where they are needed most, and we take this responsibility very seriously.

It's important to emphasise the significance of both, restricted project funding and unrestricted giving, in helping us achieve our conservation goals and community impact. We extend our deepest thanks for your dedication to our mission and, most importantly, for your unwavering trust. Your support has been instrumental in our ability to make a difference in the world of wildlife conservation and habitat protection.

As we continue on this journey, we look forward to forging ahead with you as our valued partners, donors, and supporters.

Thank you once again for your generosity and commitment.

Sincerely,

Hetal Ganatra

	31 st December 2022	31 st December 2021
Unrestricted	US\$ 1,443,764	US\$ 2,508,409
Restricted	US\$ 1,461,076	US\$ 739,687
TOTAL FUNDRAISING INCOME	US\$ 2,904,840	US\$ 3,248,096

*See notes to financials on page 58 for restatement of 2021 figures.

Our Ambassadors

It was another year of tireless work for OI Pejeta's Ambassadors as they strive to promote our conservation and community efforts.

Ami Vitale used her platform to advocate for the northern white rhino and held a print sale in support of OI Pejeta via her non-profit Vital Impacts.

James Mwenda continued to be a vocal advocate for OI Pejeta and nature. He traveled to Austria to speak about wildlife conservation, and was featured on the BBC Travel Show episode 'how does a blind girl go on safari' with Lucy Edwards filmed on OI Pejeta.

Our Young Ambassador, Anay Shah, continued to spread the message on conservation to the younger generation through talks and

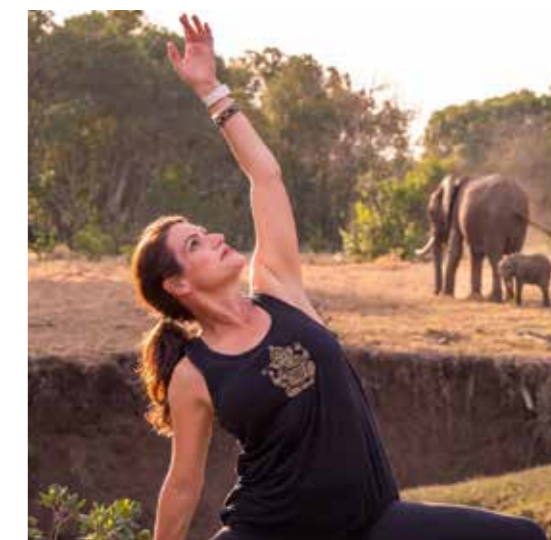
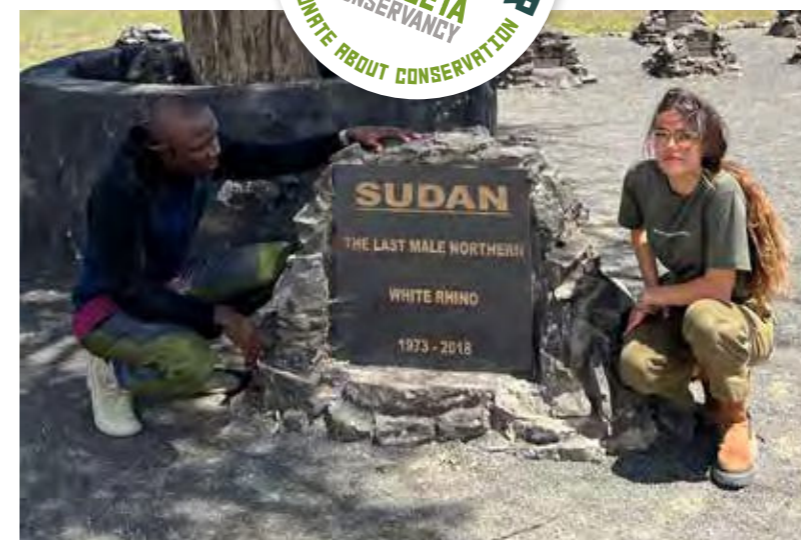
representation at events, creation of wildlife inspired bandanas, and the launch of a WildChild behind the scenes programme to experience OI Pejeta hands-on.

Other highlights

The Global Gala for Rhinos in partnership with Helping Rhinos celebrated a 10 year partnership and raised over US\$ 120,000 to protect our rhino strongholds.

Influencer Carlota Bruna facilitated a fundraiser with resulted in a donation from Meta for our crucial work. She is a strong advocate for wildlife conservation

The Yoga For The Wild Retreat brought together a community of people passionate about mindfulness and wildlife conservation.

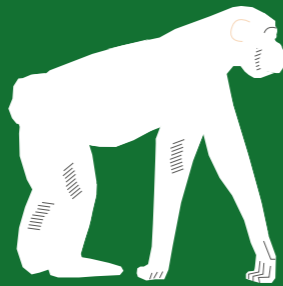


HOW TO SUPPORT US

DONATE

Become a monthly supporter

Rajvir Soin



Symbolically adopt an endangered animal

Name a rhino in someone's honour

Remember OI Pejeta in your will or living trust

Register to give back through Amazon Smile (UK)



VISIT

Volunteer and get a truly behind-the-scenes experience on our Immersive Conservation Experience



Lara Jackson

Visit our online shop



Support via your company

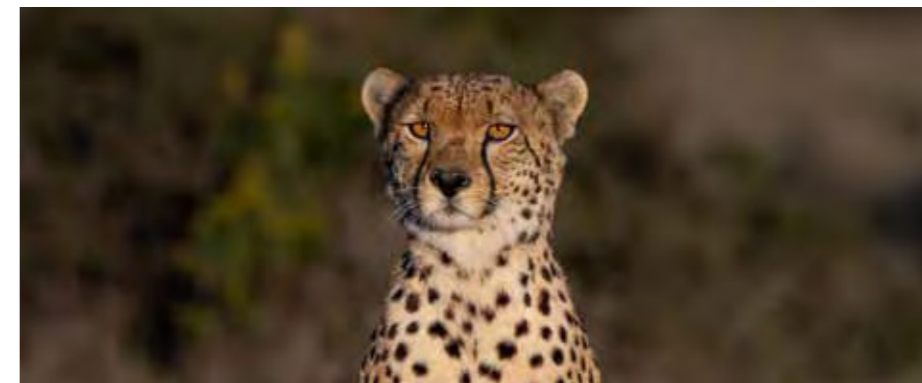
LEARN MORE

Sign up for our updates



Create your fundraiser for a birthday or occasion

Make a charitable gift of stocks or shares



Lara Jackson



Follow us on social media

Contact us

Your support, either as an individual, team or organisation, can help us to protect the wildlife and people at OI Pejeta. Please follow the link or get in touch today: support@olpejetaconservancy.org



OL PEJETA CONSERVANCY

**PRIVATE BAG
NANYUKI, 10400
KENYA**

+254 (0) 707 187 141

+254 (0) 705 911 021

info@olpejetaconservancy.org

www.olpejetaconservancy.org



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/OlPejetaConservancy



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