







A LETTER FROM THE CEO

Dear Friends and Supporters,

I am thrilled to share with you the successes of Loisaba in 2022. This year, we have made significant strides in realising our strategic goals, and we owe much of this success to the outstanding performance of our tourism partner, Elewana. With revenue from visitors to the Conservancy covering half of our operating costs, we are well on our way to achieving a sustainable business model.

Our commitment to protecting ecological diversity remains unwavering, as evidenced by the absence of poaching incidents for the fifth year in a row. Additionally, we have a solid plan in place to control the invasive opuntia and are continuing our targeted efforts to improve the wellbeing of communities neighbouring Loisaba.

Unfortunately, Laikipia is currently facing the worst drought in 40 years, which is impacting both wildlife and the surrounding community. However, thanks to the generosity of our donors and in partnership with Team Pankaj Foundation, we were able to deliver 240 tonnes of food supplies to over 30,000 community members across an area of more than 400 square miles around Loisaba. This critical aid is helping to mitigate the effects of the drought and the subsequent loss of livestock. Furthermore, we supported a feeding programme in three local schools, providing over 1,300 students with lunch and incentivising attendance.

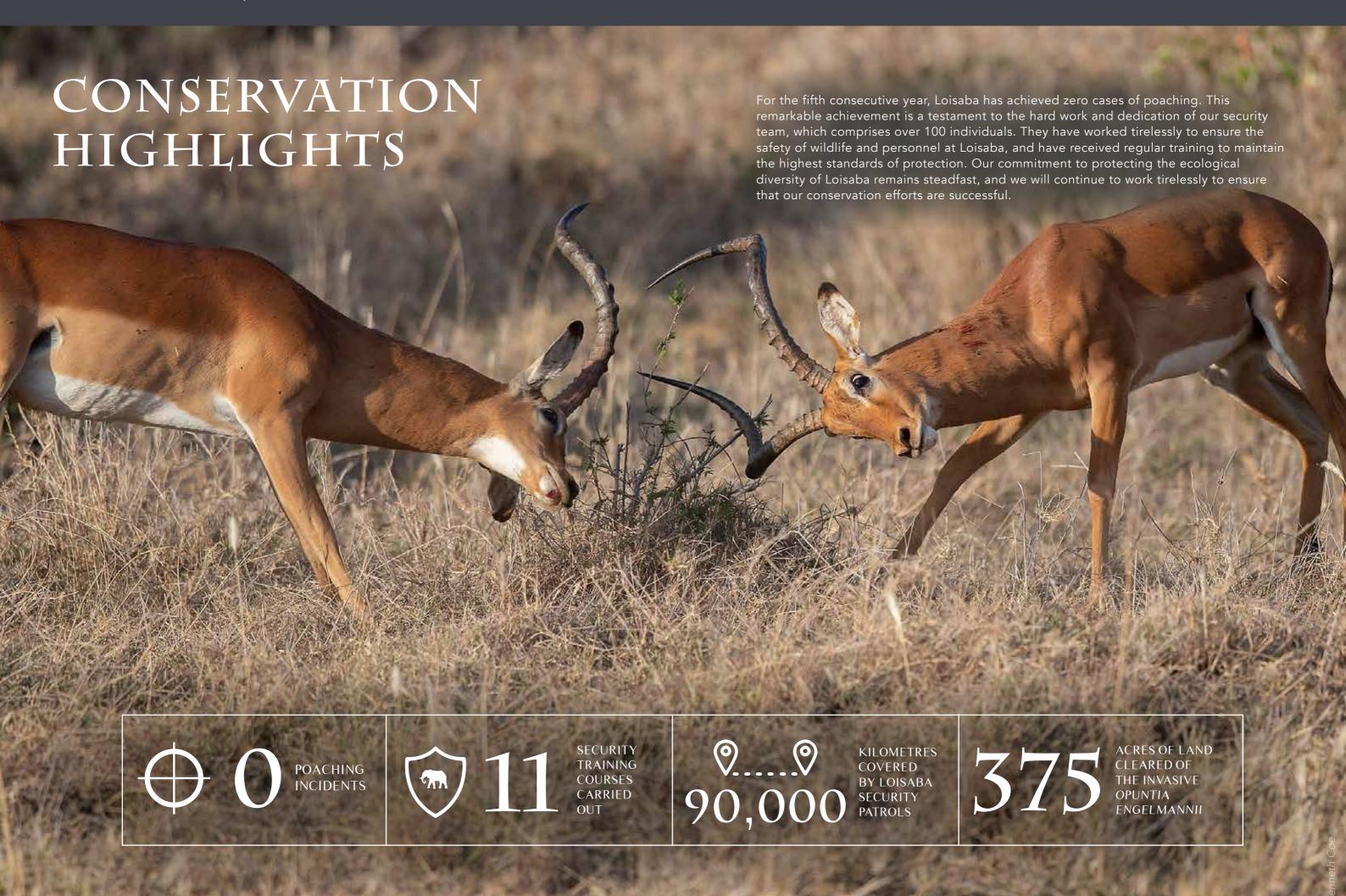
As we continue to address the effects of the drought, we remain committed to working with our surrounding communities to identify their immediate needs. We believe that conservation creates benefits for the people living around protected areas and will continue to demonstrate this belief in our work.

We extend our gratitude to our generous supporters, committed partners, and the dedicated Loisaba staff who have enabled us to make such successful progress.

Yours sincerely,

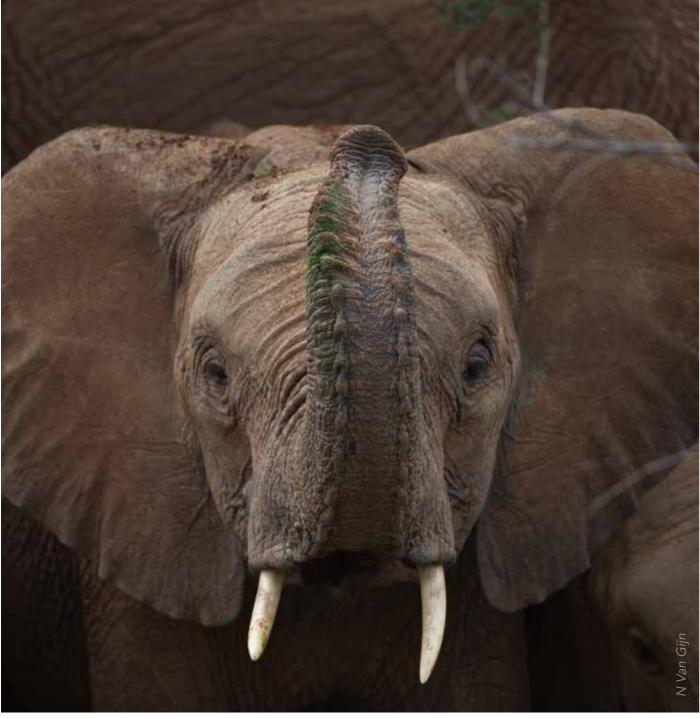
Tom Silvester CEO, Loisaba Conservancy





ELEPHANT MONITORING

In 2021, African Savanna Elephants were listed as Endangered on the IUCN Red List, as over 60% of the population is estimated to have been lost since 1965 (two generations). The principal threat has been poaching for ivory, but increasingly, development of agriculture, coupled with associated human-elephant conflict as suitable elephant habitat is gradually reduced, is resulting in ever-greater pressure on African elephants across much of their range. Loisaba is situated on the western edge of one of Kenya's most important elephant movement corridors, with hundreds of elephants sighted daily. Loisaba's security team carries out regular patrols, and works closely with KWS to ensure the elephant population is safe and treated when necessary.



ELEPHANT RESCUE OPERATIONS

12TH JANUARY 2022: Injured (suspected hyena) elephant calf approximately three years old sighted near OP1. KWS was notified and the calf was monitored until 22nd January when the vet came to treat the calf. The calf was taken to Sheldrick Elephant Orphanage.

14TH JANUARY 2022: Elephant calf of approximately two years old sighted alone at Elephant Rock. It was monitored until 18th January and then taken to Sheldrick Elephant Orphanage.

19TH JANUARY 2022: Elephant calf of approx three years sighted at Lorok with a swollen stomach. KWS vets were informed, and the calf was taken to Sheldrick Elephant Orphanage the following day.

21ST JANUARY 2022: Elephant and calf stuck at Ltingi dam in Tale. Loisaba tractor was deployed to rescue the elephants in partnership with NRT. Both elephants were successfully pulled out.

17TH APRIL 2022: Adult male elephant with a deep cut underfoot found at Kiboko Dam and could not walk. KWS vets were contacted and arrived on the 19th to treat the elephant. The elephant was monitored and reported to have healed.

4TH JUNE 2022: Adult female elephant was reported stuck in Ltingi Dam. 10 NPRs were deployed to the area with the Loisaba tractor. The team worked with teams from KWS, OI Donyiro Conservancy and OI Malo to remove the elephant where she joined a herd of four other elephants in good condition.

17TH AUGUST 2022: Adult male elephant treated for a gunshot wound in the leg (injured during Sabuk attack). Elephant is being monitored.

24TH OCTOBER 2022: An adult female elephant was found at Colcheccio Dam with a walking problem. The elephant could barely lift her limbs and couldn't walk, but had no physical injuries. The elephant is being monitored and the case reported to KWS.

29TH OCTOBER 2022: A male elephant calf (2-3 years) with a swollen right forelimb was reported at Lodge Dam. The calf was with his mother and another sub-adult male. A KWS vet came to treat the elephant on 3rd November (upper joint dislocation). The calf is being monitored and is improving.

12TH DECEMBER 2022: An adult female elephant was found with a serious spear injury on the right shoulder. The KWS Vet was called and arrived on the 14th to treat the elephant. She is being monitored.

EASTERN BLACK RHINO

In 2022, Loisaba underwent significant preparations to become a rhino sanctuary, including the development of necessary infrastructure and capacity. We're collaborating closely with the Kenya Wildlife Service (KWS) on the translocation process, and anticipate the arrival of 21 rhinos to Loisaba in 2023. This marks a major milestone, as it will be the first time in over 50 years that rhinos will roam on the land of Loisaba again!

RETICULATED GIRAFFES

The Twiga Walinzi ('Giraffe Guards') initiative has continued to develop and expand over the past year. The San Diego Zoo Wildlife Alliance led project operates throughout Laikipia, Samburu and Baringo Counties, working closely with partners to align project goals with national strategies to ensure efficient conservation efforts.

Over the past year, the team has continued to maintain camera-trap grids, conduct routine photomonitoring surveys, and conduct surveys to understand how large-scale infrastructure projects may impact giraffe populations. Community engagement work lies at the centre of the project. The teams frequently organise community meetings in the landscape, aimed at sharing project results and plans while providing community members an opportunity to discuss issues relating to human-wildlife coexistence and conservation. These discussions allow the team to understand and address the highest priority threats in communities.





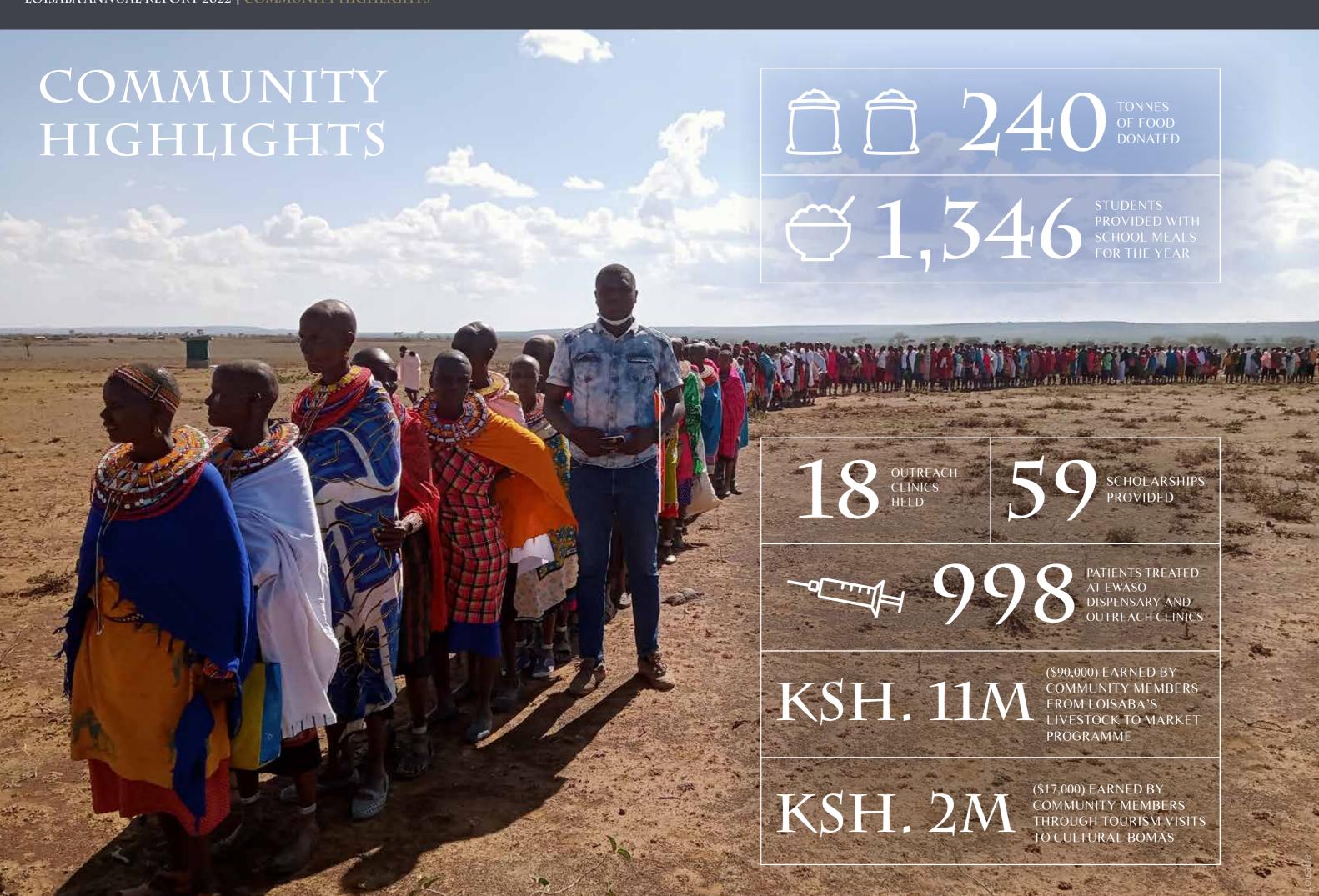
INVASIVE SPECIES REMOVAL

The invasive *Opuntia engelmannii*, commonly known as prickly pear, was first introduced to the Conservancy in the 1970s as an ornamental plant, when the negative impacts were unknown. Since then, it has unfortunately spread to cover nearly a fifth of the Conservancy. In an effort to control the spread, mechanical removal and biological control methods are ongoing at Loisaba.

Mechanical removal of cactus is carried out using a JCB excavator-loader, which uproots the cactus plants using a grabber mounted on the front part of the loader. The uprooted cactus plants are loaded into a trailer which is pulled by a tractor to a pre-dug pit where the cactus plants are emptied. The plants are later compressed using the JCB excavator and the pit covered with soil. Covering the plants in the pit with soil significantly cuts down the supply of sunlight and air, hence cutting down the growth and propagation of *Opuntia engelmannii*.

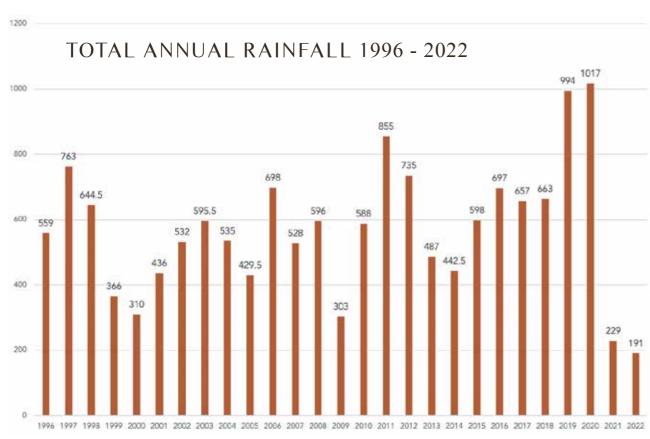
A biological control agent - the cochineal beetle - is also being released at Loisaba and its progress monitored. This is a more effective solution long term, with mechanical removal being vital in the early stages to keep on top of the spread. Currently we have two teams working on mechanical removal, with 375 acres cleared in 2022.



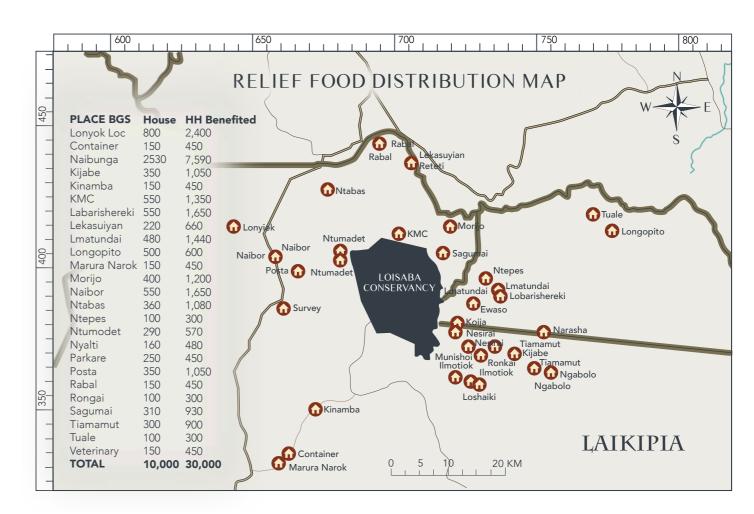


DROUGHT SUPPORT

During 2022, we recorded the lowest rainfall at Loisaba since records began in 1996, with 2021 the second lowest. As a result of the drought, many families lost their livestock which they depended on for both food and income. Food prices have also doubled, and any remaining livestock is in poor condition, resulting in low sale prices.



In partnership with Team Pankaj Foundation and generous donors, Loisaba has distributed 10,000 2-kg food hampers containing maize, rice, beans, flour, oil and salt. They have been donated to community members in Naibunga, Kirimon, Louniek and Ol Donyiro.





HEALTH OUTREACH

There are very few clinics available to many of Loisaba's neighbouring communities, meaning most people have limited access to health care. Loisaba's Community Health Programme aims to improve the medical services offered to the communities by holding monthly outreach clinics to adequately respond to the health needs of the community. In 2022, 18 outreach clinics were conducted and 998 patients treated. In 2023, the department aims to carry out two per month in three locations around Loisaba.







ANTI FGM

Female Genital Mutilation (FGM) is a procedure of partial or total removal of the female genitalia. In the local communities, this is done as a rite of passage for women. This is a procedure that endangers the lives of many girls in the community.

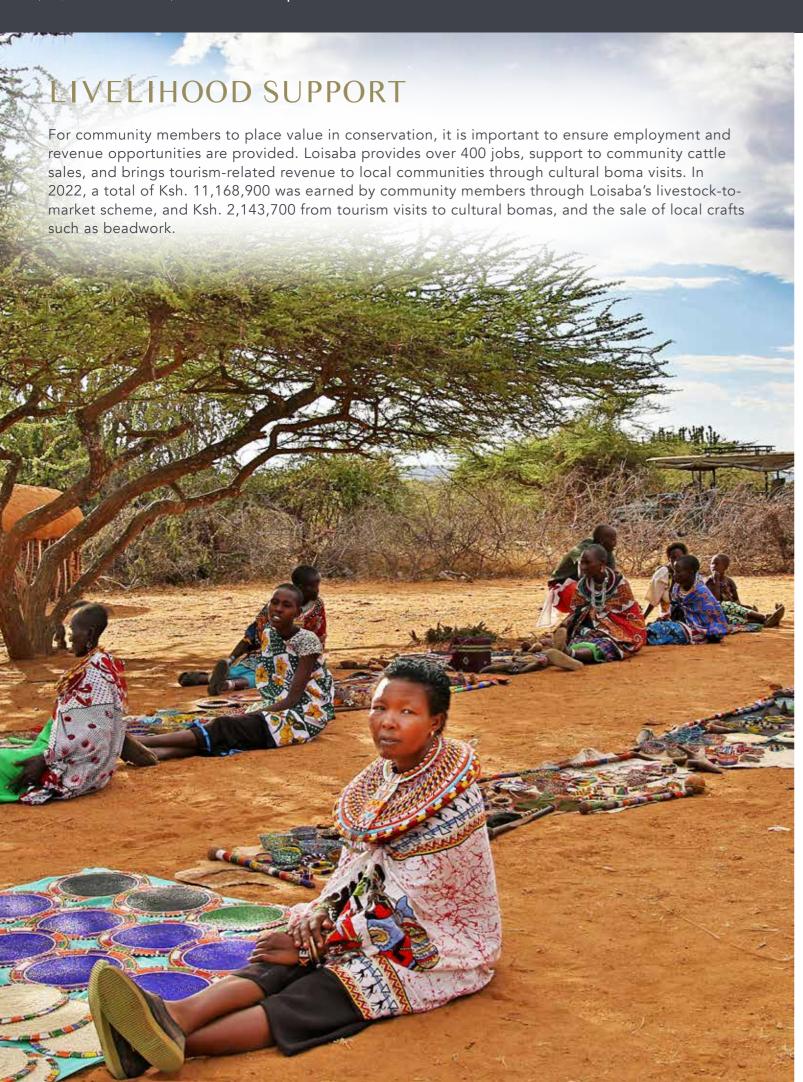
Loisaba aims to increase awareness and understanding of the dangers of the practice by running training programmes for community members, and an alternative rite of passage (ARP) ceremony for the girls.

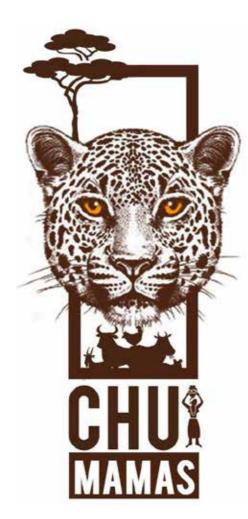
Loisaba also supports girls who have gone through the ARP ceremony by enrolling them in a practical skills programme (e.g. dress making, food and beverage service, and housekeeping) at Laikipia North Technical and Vocational College to equip them with the skills necessary to support themselves. The British High Commissioner to Kenya visited the school and the resulting publicity increased donation pledges for further support.

Benefits:

- Fewer girls are being forced into early marriages
- Teenage pregnancies have significantly reduced
- The number of girls enrolled in education has significantly increased
- Girls have received education on personal hygiene and have access to sanitary towels







CHUI MAMAS

The 'Chui Mamas' is a Community Based Organization (CBO) located in Koija Group Ranch, whose main objective is to empower women from pastoralist communities (with a focus on widows, those living with disabilities and single mothers) through wildlife conservation while improving their livelihoods. To achieve this, they participate in activities such as tailoring, beekeeping, soap making, and health education. It currently has a membership of 600 women from various groups from Laikipia and Samburu counties.





EDUCATION

SCHOLARSHIPS

In 2022, Loisaba supported 59 students through a scholarship programme, which provides school fees, mentoring services and other education-related support such as the purchase of school uniform and stationery.

A big thank you to Loisaba Conservancy scholarship program which has made me who I am today, a professional ICT consultant and practitioner for four years now. A proud productive alumnus of Jomo Kenyatta University of Agriculture and Technology. If we conserve we shall educate many and vice versa is an undisputable fact. Thank you LCT. 9 9

Amos Peles



SCHOOL FEEDING PROGRAMME

During 2022, Loisaba supplied food to 1,300 children at three schools. The school feeding programme has been of great benefit to the communities and the schools. It has contributed to a higher enrolment and increased attendance record by 10%. The parents' feedback is also positive.

AMANI SCHOOL

Amani School is located in Suguta, Naibor - a cosmopolitan community comprising Turkana, Pokot and Samburu.

Led by Laikipia North MP, Sarah Lokerere, the school began construction in 2019 with support from LCT. Sarah is a huge supporter of education, especially for girls. She sees it as a critical part to the fight against retroactive cultural practices such as FGM, early marriage, cattle rustling and banditry, which create strife and chaos in communities.

The school was constructed with a vision of bringing peace for these communities, which have had tribal and ethnic conflicts in the past. It is close to the site of two ethnic massacres in the 1990's: the Kanampio Massacre, where nearly 40 Samburu men, women and children were slaughtered by Pokot; and the Ol Moran Massacre, where Samburu clashed with Kikuyu. The school will be an avenue to help break down ethnic barriers, promote peace and bring communities together.

In 2022, Amani School was expanded in partnership with TNC with the addition of three classrooms, an early years department, boarding houses for the children, teacher accommodation, a multipurpose dining hall and a playing field.

The construction of Amani School has provided easy access to a proper education facility in the area, reducing the distance students need to travel. In addition, construction of boarding facilities at the school discourages student absenteeism due to pastoralist migration and gives students more time with teachers. The building work has also created jobs for community members.











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COMMUNITY CONSERVATION

RHINO OUTREACH

Loisaba Conservancy is currently working with KWS and other partners to reintroduce rhinos to the landscape. An important part of the reintroduction is ensuring that Loisaba's surrounding communities are fully aware and engaged in our reintroduction plans. Community outreach tours were planned to visit conservancies with existing rhino populations in order to empower the community members with knowledge on rhino conservation and the benefits associated with having them in the area. Ol Choro Oiroua Community Conservancy in the Maasai Mara was chosen as the destination for these trips.

Ol Choro Oiroua Community Conservancy is one of the 18 rhino conservation areas in Kenya. It is in Narok County, close to the Masaai Mara National Reserve. Founded in 1992, it was among the first community conservancies to be established in Kenya and the first community-owned rhino area in Kenya.

The first trip (23rd – 25th March 2022) targeted 36 community leaders from the neighbouring Naibunga, Oldonyiro and Kirimon Conservancies and P&D. Leaders were chosen in the hope they would positively influence other community members. The group comprised administrative leaders, conservancy chairpersons, conservancy managers, women's group chairpersons, church leaders and youth group leaders. The second trip (20th – 22nd April 2022) comprised 48 community youths from the same areas. This age group are often tasked with herding livestock, and are rarely exposed to the benefits of conservation.

Both groups were given a tour of the conservancy including the rhino sanctuary, and received information about rhino behaviour and ecology, security (including collaboration from KWS) and benefits gained from conservation. It was highlighted that the income from tourism has helped to improve the standard of living with regards to water provision, health services, education, security, wildlife conservation and grazing management.



Community members also witnessed how the local community at OI Choro plays a vital role in the conservation of rhinos and other wildlife in the conservancy, particularly in terms of grazing and rangeland management and in providing intelligence needed for the security of the rhinos. The feedback from both exposure tours was incredibly positive, with community members recognising the benefits of conservation and associated positive effects on communities. Some of the participants gave their views and comments:

CHIEF LESONKOI: "Here conservation is real, and I can see it is because of love for one another, unity, and commitment from everyone. Once we have all this in our area, we shall have a successful conservation for the rhinos."

MATHEW NAIPTARI: "The reintroduction of rhinos to Loisaba Conservancy means a lot to us because as community we own ecolodges, therefore there will be an increase in visitors to our properties hence more income translating to improved community livelihoods."

MARY LENGALA: "We thank Loisaba for bringing all these community members together so that we can appreciate one another and by doing so we shall be together, and we can better control some bad behaviours within our own children such as cattle theft."

MBOTELA MANYAS: "Thank you to Loisaba Conservancy management for facilitating us this exposure tour to learn about rhino conservation. We will spread knowledge to those who couldn't come. Information is power and I am sure it will enlighten all our youth."

LANTARE LEARPANAI: "We have learnt a lot about conservation in this trip and if we don't commit ourselves in conservation, we may not achieve what people have achieved here. Respect is paramount for us to achieve our goals."

DORCAS LENGERDED: "If it wasn't for Loisaba I would have never been able to visit the Mara to learn about conservation, especially for the rhinos. Once again thanks and I will educate others with this knowledge that I have acquired"

DANIEL SIMPIRI: "We as youth we are the leaders of tomorrow in conservation, so let us be ready to learn so as to be worth by our time."

OPUNTIA REMOVAL

Two groups from Naibung'a and Kirimon communities were hosted at Loisaba to learn about the biological and mechanical control methods of the invasive prickly pear cactus (*Opuntia engelmannii*), and the use of the cactus in biogas production. With support from Loisaba, Koija community have installed a biodigester to convert opuntia into biogas to use for fuel.



CONSERVATION EDUCATION DAYS

Four conservation education days were held in 2022 at the Loisaba Conservation Centre for community members and students.



SECURITY SUPPORT

Loisaba provides security support to neighbouring communities in the form of aerial patrols, stock theft recoveries and support from the rapid response team for other security incidences such as theft and banditry. In 2022, Loisaba supported 19 community security operations.





TOURISM

Guests from all over the world are able to experience the wilderness and wildlife of Loisaba by staying at one of the three Elewana Collection tourism properties: Loisaba Lodo Springs, Loisaba Tented Camp and Loisaba Star Beds. Not only does the experience of visiting Loisaba educate tourists in our various conservation efforts, the conservation fee that guests pay to stay at the Conservancy and other revenue from tourism makes up almost half of our operating budget.

If you would like to book a stay at Loisaba, please email enquiries@loisaba.com.

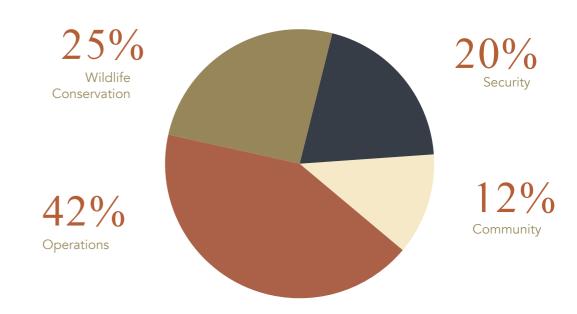






WHERE YOUR CONSERVANCY FEES GO

Conservation fees that guests pay when staying at Loisaba contribute towards security (both at Loisaba and in the surrounding communities), community support, wildlife conservation, and other conservancy operating expenses.





AN INTERVIEW WITH KARIM WISSANJI GROUP CHAIRMAN & CEO, ELEWANA

WHY DID YOU PICK LOISABA AS ONE OF YOUR MAIN TOURISM PARTNERS?

Primarily, because the ethos of our respective organisations is highly aligned.

We stand on the belief that the broader conservation and sustainability challenges we face cannot be meaningfully solved without the fundamental collaboration of both tourism and conservation partners.

The Elewana brand and its principles, coupled with the fact that Loisaba is topographically stunning and a unique haven for wildlife, is extremely well managed by Tom Silvester and his team and is supported by key conservation partners such as The Nature Conservancy, Space for Giants and San Diego Zoo Wildlife Alliance – well, collectively, it made perfect partnership sense.

WHAT DOES THE PARTNERSHIP WITH LOISABA MEAN TO YOU?

Loisaba is a model conservancy in the Laikipia region and has proven itself as a value driver on a number of key fronts which it has realised in a relatively short space of time. The regeneration of a key wildlife area such that it has strategic relevance in Kenya's tourism sphere, its community partnerships and community impact objectives and its financial track record all serve to epitomise the value creation possible between tourism and conservation partners.

WHAT DO YOU ENVISION FOR THE FUTURE?

There are and there will be numerous challenges that come with operating vast open conservancy spaces and delivering proven conservation and community solutions in an ever-changing environment, and I believe the potential future for Loisaba lies in this wider strategic role - one that acknowledges its current success as a platform and a model for scale and for innovation across the region and beyond.

We're very proud to be part of its growing success and recognition.



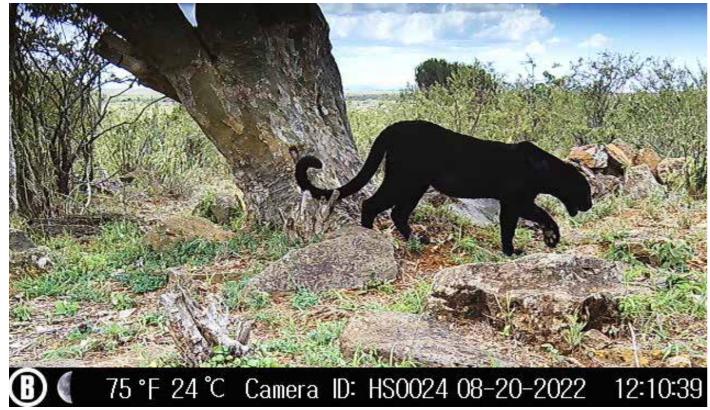
LOISABA'S BLACK LEOPARD

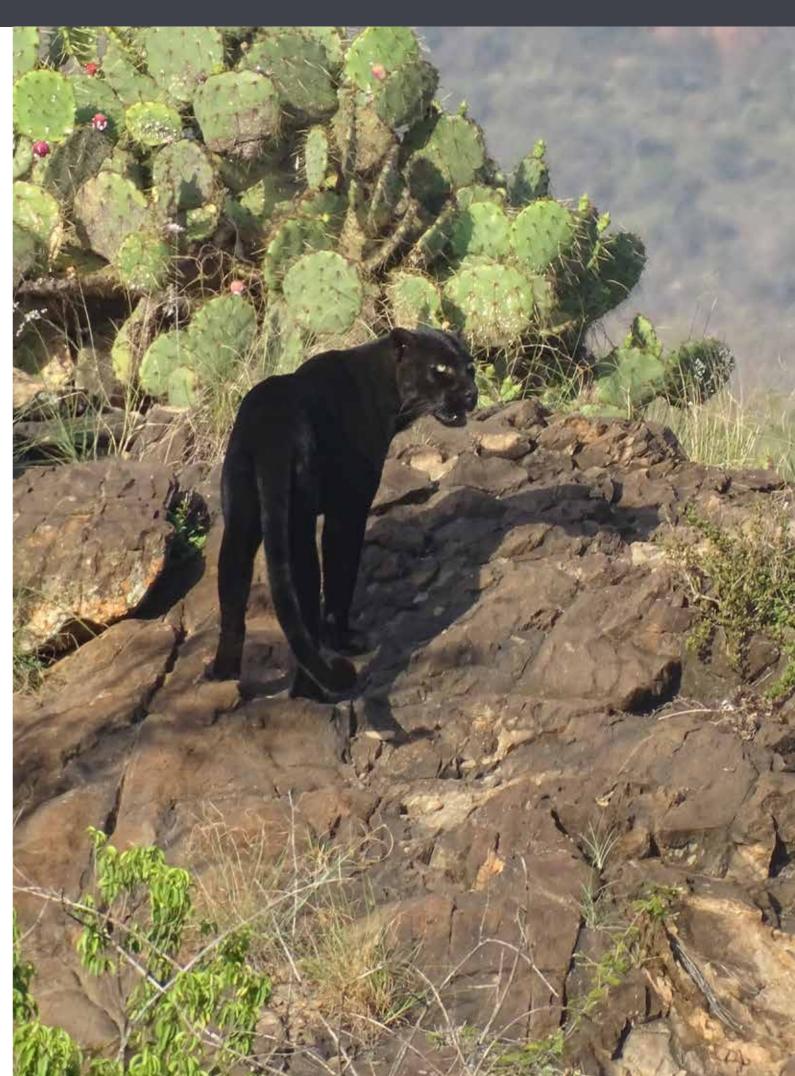
The African leopard (Panthera pardus) is shy, elusive and territorial, and listed as vulnerable by the IUCN Species Red List. In Kenya, leopard population abundance remains unknown, and thus difficult to inform conservation measures.

However, using camera traps at Loisaba Conservancy, the San Diego Zoo Wildlife Alliance researchers confirm the existence of 38 known individual leopards tracked over the past five years. This population includes two known rare melanistic leopards, and in the larger Laikipia landscape, currently totaling seven since the first confirmation of melanistic leopard in 2018 by the San Diego Zoo researchers. In Loisaba, the Uhifadhi wa Chui (Leopard Conservation) continue to track the adult male and sub-adult female melanistic leopards using camera traps and photographic records.

Melanism remains vaguely known, and in leopards it is associated with a mutation to the Agouti Signalling Protein gene, responsible for the distribution of melanin pigment. The adaptive significance of melanism is not clearly understood, but many argue that dense vegetation could be the driver of melanism, or response to disease, or even solar radiation.

Melanism is common in the cat family. Of all the feline species, 13 carry the recessive gene, although it never reaches a wide-range phenotype in any given species and remains a polymorphism. Of all the felids, the leopard has the highest occurrence, with four of the nine subspecies confirmed with melanism. Globally, the occurrence of melanism in leopards is estimated at 11% with most of it occurring in the Asian moist forest and is significantly very low in savannah/ scrublands such as Loisaba. With the recent reports from the Leopard Conservation Program that many regular (golden) leopards carry the recessive gene in the population more, research is needed to understand the proportion of melanism in the region.







THANK YOU

We would like to thank all our partners for contributing to another successful year at Loisaba Conservancy.



The Nature Conservancy (TNC)

TNC is a global environmental nonprofit, working to create a world where people and nature can thrive. Founded in the U.S. through grassroots action in 1951, The Nature Conservancy has grown to become one of the most effective and wide-reaching environmental organizations in the world. Thanks to more than a million members and the dedicated efforts of our diverse staff and over 400 scientists, we impact conservation in 76 countries and territories: 37 by direct conservation impact and 39 through partners.



Space for Giants (SFG)

SFG is an international conservation organisation that protects the great wildlife landscapes that Africa's remaining wildlife needs to survive and thrive.



San Diego Zoo Wildlife Alliance (SDZWA)

SDZWA is an international, nonprofit conservation organization with two front doors: the San Diego Zoo and the San Diego Zoo Safari Park. We integrate wildlife health and care, science, and education to develop sustainable conservation solutions. SDZWA is committed to saving species worldwide by uniting our expertise in animal care and conservation science with our dedication to inspiring passion for nature.



Elewana Collection

The Elewana Collection is our tourism partner, and is known for its unique accommodations in iconic locations across Kenya and Tanzania. Elewana crafts authentic and memorable safari experiences, providing the highest quality of luxury and comfort. Warm and genuine East African hospitality characterises a safari with Elewana, where guests are indulged with a luxurious and personalised stay.



TOP CARNIVORES &

Lion Landscapes

environment.

Northern Rangelands Trust (NRT)

Lion Landscapes is a registered UK Charity, affiliated with the University of Oxford, which works to ensure peaceful coexistence between lions and people.

NRT is a membership organisation owned and led by the 43

NRT was established as a shared resource to help build and develop community conservancies, which are best positioned to enhance people's lives, build peace and conserve the natural

community conservancies it serves in northern and coastal Kenya.



Kenya Wildlife Conservancies Association (KWCA)

The KWCA mission is to work with landowners and communities to sustainably conserve and manage wildlife and their habitat outside formal protected areas for the benefit of the people of Kenya. Since the emergence of the first conservancies in the 1970s, they have grown in number and their impact has broadened belong wildlife conservation and tourism. While wildlife conservation is a key objective, conservancies have the unique power to transform communities while safeguarding our iconic wildlife by uniting communities, promoting peace and security and improving livelihoods. As the national umbrella body uniting the dynamic and diverse voices of wildlife conservancies in the country, we exist to harness this power.



Laikipia Conservancies Association (LCA)

A regional association of the KWCA, The Laikipia Conservancies Association is a member-led organisation established in 2019, with the goal of bringing together conservancies in Laikipia to address common challenges and amplify our individual impacts. As one of the most important wildlife areas in Kenya, the future of Laikipia as a conservation landscape depends on conservancies. These institutions form a diverse mosaic - with different land tenure, governance and management models - yet are aligned through a common recognition that a collaborative vision and management approach is critical to the future of conservancies as the core of a broader conservation landscape that supports people and wildlife.

