



# BORANA CONSERVANCY NEWSLETTER NO VII







With the Mt. Kenya ecosystem to the south, national reserves and 39 community conservancies supported by the Northern Rangelands Trust to the north and west, the Lewa-Borana Landscape lies at the very centre of a region hosting 46% of Kenya's black rhino population, 90% of the global population of the endangered Grevy's zebra, over 7,000 elephants and a plethora of other wildlife species.

#### BORANA FACTS

- 30,000 acres - 13,000 hectares
- ALTITUDE: 6,300ft - 1,900m
- LOCATION: Laikipia
- TIME ZONE: GMT +3
- CLIMATE: moderate high altitude equatorial climate, with sunny days and chilly evenings.
- Average rainfall 500mm per annum spread over two seasons.
- 26 km North of the equator.

## ARIJJU, BORANA LODGE & RANCH, LARAGAI, LENGISHU AND SIRAI ARE THE INVESTOR PARTNERS WHO UNDERWRITE THE BULK OF THE CORE CONSERVATION COSTS OF THE BORANA CONSERVANCY.

**W**ildlife – and specifically our rhino – which we consider across the Lewa Borana Landscape saw total numbers increase from 247 to 255 during 2022. There are more details on page 6 of this newsletter. The rhino sanctuaries in this landscape find themselves in an extraordinary situation where more space is urgently required to accommodate the increasing numbers of rhino, or we will need to export around 30 rhino annually. This challenge will be met through a local rangeland expansion plan already in advanced stages of research and development in partnership with our Kenya Wildlife Service (KWS). In early 2023 the KWS team successfully ear-notched 84 rhino bringing these individuals into the national *Kifaru* data base with a unique ID.

**W**e are into our 2<sup>nd</sup> year of partnership with True Range Ltd (TRL) who manage rangeland ecology along with all the livestock. TLR have established 32 grazing blocks all with short- and long-term ecological outcome verification plots using methodology developed and tested by the Savoury Institute. We presumed that the Borana Rangeland was in good condition but established methodology in creating a baseline that will help guide future management decisions. Together and in partnership with Lolldaiga Hills and supported by Lion Landscapes we have established a larger pilot Rangeland Rehabilitation Demonstration Plot on Mayanatt (formerly Mukurian). The Mayanatt community have set aside 200 acres for this pilot project. Richie Van Aardt, Wilfrid Mejoile and Llewellyn Dyer are leading on this, with Natural State managing verification and data collection. Our data collection will of course continue to become both more consistent and easier to collect and extrapolate and we are very grateful to Grant Burden and the Earth Ranger Team along with 51 Degrees for their support in building templates and drop-down menus specifically for our needs.

**B**orana along with Lewa, Lolldaiga Hills and the Mukogodo Forest is a pilot project for Natural State, a not-for-profit company working to develop and scale sustainable financing mechanisms for conservation landscapes. Natural State aims to undertake pilot projects to test and launch carbon and biodiversity credits that can be scaled across the Laikipia landscape (within two years). The project is being developed using the latest technology and methods to make impact monitoring robust and cost effective, and to generate a premium for biodiversity, resulting in more funding for conservation.

**W**e have received support to begin a substantial reforestation project on Borana – the first phase of which will focus around Ngare Ndare. We have received \$39,000 from USFWS (US Fish & Wildlife) to upgrade part of the existing perimeter fence to predator proof specifications, and will establish a 111ha project site which is due to be planted with 220,000 seedlings. Four additional ecologically diverse sites have been identified for future reforestation efforts.

**F**undraising - Save the Rhino continue to be instrumental in helping the Conservancy with the management of donations and especially with fundraising for the Mazingira Yetu Programme. We have received funds from a wide array of donors including a new relationship with the Suzuki Foundation. Through SRI we applied to USFWS and we are now in our second year of a two-year grant totalling \$164,410 towards rhino monitor salaries, camera traps, repairs to Gaitumu and Sieku dams. Our INL grant continues to cover ranger training from 51 Degrees, our monthly Intel, and our LoRa Wan coverage. We have received further funding from the Anna Merz Foundation, ForRangers and Tusk Trust to improve the ranger accommodation across the conservancy. A new accommodation block has been built at HQ; work has started on a new gate house at Bravo Golf and a six-man accommodation block at Ngare Ndare. We have also fenced our football pitch and the rangers have continued to receive bi-weekly crossfit training sessions throughout the year with support from ForRangers.

**I**n October 2021 members of our team lead by Abdi Sora (Our Borana GM) under a recently established conservation management company 'Africa Nature Investors' started to manage The Lolldaiga Hills. This important property was secured through support from Wyss Foundation and TNC (The Nature Conservancy). This project to date has been a resounding success, the land was ecologically distressed with key wildlife species in decline and social capital completely depleted. Our team have done an incredible job of restoring biodiversity, stopping illegal activities, developing strong lines of communication with surrounding neighbourhoods and implementing solutions to mitigate security threats. This management team continues to build strong relationships with all partners including local and national Government and in just under 24 months the picture is much more positive.

**E**nvironmental degradation and eco system collapse across much of Northern Kenya remains a significant but solvable challenge to us all. We plan to continue building on already strong partnerships between Community Lands, Private Sector, Conservation partners and Government to implement lasting solutions that protect land, connect people and preserve ancient cultural values. Key players in securing the future of this diverse landscape are the Laikipia Conservancies Association and all of the conservancies represented by this body.

*Our conservation partners and our guests are very much part of this restorative journey.*

**MICHAEL DYER - MANAGING DIRECTOR BORANA CONSERVANCY**





James Lewin



## TWO CONSERVANCIES, ONE LANDSCAPE

Lewa Wildlife Conservancy and Borana Conservancy are wildlife sanctuaries based at the foothills of Mt Kenya. Conservation efforts on Lewa began in the early 1980s to protect the last of northern Kenya's black rhinos from extinction. In 2013, a founding population of 21 black rhinos was introduced to Borana Conservancy. Once they were settled and had established territories, the fence between Borana and Lewa Wildlife Conservancy was dropped forming one landscape; allowing the wildlife free rein over 90,000 acres of unspoilt African wilderness. Together with Lewa, this ecosystem hosts a thriving community of over 247 rhino (both black and white), making this one of East Africa's largest continuous rhino habitats. Although Lewa and Borana remain independent entities, we approach conservation efforts jointly and work in collaboration to implement livelihood programmes.

Borana is dedicated to the sustainable conservation of land and wildlife. Our holistic approach commits tourism, ranching, and other enterprises to building local livelihoods and enhancing ecosystem integrity.

THE SUCCESS OF BORANA WOULD NOT BE POSSIBLE WITHOUT SUPPORT FROM:

Anna Merz Rhino Trust, Bentley Foundation, Borana Conservancy Trust, CHK Trust, Cotswold Wildlife Park, Elephant Foundation, Findlay Trust, ForRangers, Holtzman Wildlife Foundation, Human Practice Foundation, Kenya Markets Trust, Kenya Wildlife Service, Laikipia Conservancies Association, Laikipia Forum, Lewa Wildlife Conservancy, Lion Landscapes, Mamujee Brothers Foundation, Mount Kenya Trust, Ngare Ndare Forest Trust, Northern Rangelands Trust, Save The Rhino International, Sporting Rifle, Suzuki Rhino Club, Tusk Trust, Untamed Planet, US Fish & Wildlife Services, Wildlife Conservation Network, WildAid, Wild Ark, Wild Philanthropy and all our rhino sponsors.





# CONSERVATION

## RHINO:

2022 was another great year for the rhino population which saw the eighth consecutive year of zero poaching on Borana and the population continuing to grow across the LBL from 247 to 255 individuals by the end of the year.

The black rhino population increased from 131 to 133 individuals with the average growth rate in the 2020-22 window declining to 7%, compared to 10.5% in the 2019-21 period, however this was to be expected given the peak calving rate in 2021. On Borana there is a very respectable birth rate of 40% per adult female ie 40% of females have calves every year and mortality rate is also very low. The usual calving patterns indicate we could expect six black rhino calves during 2023!

The white rhino continue to move fluidly across the old boundary fence between Lewa and Borana and 2022 saw the population increase from 116 to 122 with 30 breeding white rhino females across the landscape.



## FEEDING SITES:

Throughout the year the rhino monitors conducted body-condition assessments every month to check the health of each animal. Due to the prevailing dry conditions the decision was made by management to begin a supplementary feeding programme for large herbivores that were struggling, particularly the white rhino and buffalo. Two main feeding sites were established, one by the Kongo River and one by the Borana Lodge lugga. A mix of lucerne and Rhodes grass was fed helping keep these large herbivore populations alive and healthy.



## CONSERVATION TECHNOLOGY:

In June 2022, Borana Conservancy began using EarthRanger (ER) and has built a mini Joint Operations Command Centre with new screens and computers at the Conservancy's National Police Reservist (NPR) base and a LoRa WAN network has been installed to cover Borana and Lewa. All of Borana's rhino monitors and field rangers are now using ER. ER is extremely useful for tracking wildlife populations, particularly black rhino, but also allows management to track all Conservancy assets and informs on all activities and events. This cutting edge technology allows management to track wildlife movement in real time and combined with basic interventions has helped prevent a number of incidences of human wildlife conflict and given a greater understanding of animal migratory routes.

Now we need to implement sensors that can monitor and geofence more or less anything we would like, to enable oversight of livestock movement, water reticulation, rain gauges, river flow and vehicle movements. We are also working with developers to integrate Agriweb and our ecological out come verification (EOV) sites into ER.

In 2023, Borana will work with 51Degrees to develop a monthly reporting template using a system called Tableau which will help generate data on wildlife distribution; invasive species; patrol distances and inform management generally of the monthly activities on the conservancy in a concise format.



## William Kiupe Kingara - HEAD OF ANTI-POACHING

Born in Arijju Village to the north-west of Borana – Kiupe now lives in Chumvi which is to the south-west of Borana. Kiupe started to work on the ranch in 1990 as a herdsman but moved swiftly into security work.

Will Powys – grandfather to Michael Dyer first met Kiupe’s grandfather (Kingara) up on his boma at the top of the Samangua ridge. Will Powys had recently bought Borana and was getting to know the property. They became firm friends – initially cemented by a gift to Kingara of two head of cattle – they were named Borana and Mako. Apparently, they always exchanged Christmas gifts and Will and Elizabeth were always generous in times of drought.

Kiupe met Michael in November 1989 – it was a very wet day and Kiupe had encountered an angry buffalo walking through Borana on his way home. He broke three ribs, his collarbone and his shoulder blade and had been gashed by the horns in five different places. Bernard – Kiupe’s brother ran into the headquarters early the following morning in desperation for help. Due to the state of the roads Michael took a tractor out to their manyatta on the northern boundary and drove Kiupe’s very wounded body all the way to the Ngare Ndare airstrip where Martin Dyer was waiting with a plane to fly him into the Catholic Mission Hospital at Wamba – about 100 kms north of Borana. Three months later Kiupe was released from hospital and Michael flew up to collect him. He then rested at home until August 1990 when he arrived in Michael’s office needing a job.

Having worked here for so many years Kiupe has just so many amazing memories on Borana. From chasing cattle-rustlers to being charged by elephants, from hunting lion in the early days when Borana was a livestock ranch and we lost many many sheep to predators, to getting stuck in a far-flung corner of the conservancy and trudging back in the mud and the rain. He says his favorite memory is the arrival of the first rhino in August 2013.

Kiupe also spent many hours with our good friend Giles Thornton who helped out on the ranch, and they did many security patrols together. His favorite spot on the Conservancy is Giles’ Hill where we cremated Giles after he was killed in an armed robbery on the coast. He loves walking out there to contemplate life and how changed the conservancy is.

Kiupe was very excited and supportive of the ranch becoming a conservancy and the introduction of rhinos. The reasons are many but the more meaningful connection with the community is the greatest. Most of our security team come from our local neighborhoods. The cattle rustlers and sheep stealers of old are now employed looking after the wildlife here and so they have a much greater connection with the working of the conservancy and through that a greater connection to nature and the importance of wilderness. The area surrounding Borana is more peaceful now with access to security through our operations room.

He also remembers the old days when herders carried bow and arrows and ‘shot for the pot’ – seeing a couple of impalas or African hares was an event. Now the conservancy is inhabited by all wildlife living in peace, the elephants arrived in 1993 and stayed rather than running through. The wildlife numbers have increased massively from the days of sheep ranching up until today.

Kiupe has a few members of his family working on the conservancy – Wilson our head rhino monitor, Kamoiro works in the workshop and Johnson works as a ranger.



### RANGERS:

Law enforcement and collaboration remain the strongest pillars for success in security and wildlife monitoring. The need to maintain and enhance law-enforcement capacity remains essential, whilst Borana continues to focus on developing capacity for rangeland expansion and biological management.

We have continued to receive support from an incredible charity “For Rangers” who along with support from USFWS through an INL grant all managed through Save The rhino International have provided enormous support to our rangers and wildlife monitors. It has enabled us to provide recurrent training to our rangers, critical equipment, new accommodation and life insurance policies to all of our rangers in the field.



Borana's armed Rangers undergo a combination of tactical refresher and scenario training twice a year to help maintain their safety and keep them fit and ready for all types of field operations that may arise. Working as a Ranger is unpredictable at the best of times working 24 hours a day. With their knowledge of the bush and the specialised skills that they learn, they are always ready to respond to any situation. They are often asked to support wildlife rescues, veterinary interventions and provide the surrounding communities with support.

During their 10 day tactical refresher training with 51 Degrees they focus on medical, navigation, human rights, scenes of crime training and other skills. They are also tested physically on an annual basis with a basic fitness test and combat fitness test to ensure physical fitness levels are maintained at all times.

The second round of training from 51 Degrees is scenario based. Putting all the skills they are taught into practical scenarios. This is done by simulating different types of poaching incidents by day and night, during these activities they will also have the support of many different assets. The Borana aerial unit is always on standby ready to support along with a helicopter and K-9 unit from supporting partners.

Borana's armed Rangers are a dedicated team, ready to adapt and meet the current threats and challenges posed today and in the future. They remain committed to maintaining zero rhino poaching on Borana and supporting anti-poaching efforts throughout Laikipia.



### LBL ANNUAL 2022 GAME COUNT

The annual wildlife aerial count took place in February with the Lewa-Borana landscape divided into eight ground counting blocks and eight aerial counting blocks. All wildlife sightings were recorded using Cybertracker and despite the two years of dry conditions the count saw a notable increase in buffalo, eland and Thompson's gazelle. Unfortunately, the count saw a decrease in giraffe numbers for fourth year running with lion preferentially targeting young giraffe. However additional data indicates that numbers of giraffe have increased across our boundary on both Il'Ngwesi and Ol Jogi. In general, the wildlife on Borana is thriving with hundreds of elephants, large buffalo herds and strong carnivore populations. A single female cheetah has successfully raised 4 out of an initial 5 cubs to adulthood and we also have a coalition of two males. Our lion prides remain strong and we are working closely with KWS and Lion Landscapes to monitor the lion population and have been successfully trialling contraception methods to manage growth rates. We have had a number of sightings of a 13 strong African Wild Dog pack known as the Pheonix pack and all of our guests continue to experience wonderful unique wildlife sightings.

### WATERING POINTS

2022 was another year with below average rainfall putting enormous pressure on current water resources across the conservancy. Fortunately, we received some very generous funding for water reticulation over the past year which we have put towards work on existing dams, to date completing Gaitumu dam; Sieku dam and Gabiens dam. The water points that the Holtzman Foundation funding supported have also been critical during this period.





## LIONS LOOKING FOR WATER

During the drought when all the puddles had dried up and dams were turning to mud the lions were finding it difficult to find water on the conservancy. A lodge guide spotted a pride scaling the water tank at the windmill. Management was called and a pool was then hastily built for them next to this tank.



## CULTURE

### MUKOGODO FOREST

Borana Conservancy continues to engage and support the Ilmamusi Mukogodo Forest Association. The Mukogodo Forest is Kenya's largest national forest reserve, covering over 30,000 hectares and one of Kenya's few remaining dry forests found to the North of the conservancy. Early in the year the BCL community department took part in a forest restoration project, planting over 3,000 indigenous tree seedlings within the forest. During 2022, a total of 11,130 indigenous tree seedlings and 1000 fruit trees were planted within the Mukogodo forest landscape.

### WALK WILD EVENT

In November 2022, Il Mamusi Community Forest Association organized a 10-kilometer 'Walk Wild Experience' to raise awareness and solicit local support for landscape restoration in the Mukogodo Forest. Close to 400 people participated in the walk and afterwards 1,500 indigenous seedlings were planted at Lokuseru secondary school by the participants.











## BORANA CONSERVANCY

30,000 acres within  
the 90,000 acre LBL  
of protected rhino habitat  
in partnership with  
Lewa Wildlife Conservancy

Incorporating  
the 4Cs  
Commerce  
Community  
Conservation  
Culture

# ALL FOR CONSERVATION

Secure habitat for wildlife, birds,  
reptiles, insects and plants

**3,283 TRAVELLERS VISITED BORANA IN 2022**

connecting with  
wilderness and  
enjoying abundant  
wildlife

**TOURISM  
GENERATED  
USD \$1,023,930  
68% OF THE  
BUDGET  
IN 2022**

100% is reinvested into  
CONSERVATION AND THE COMMUNITIES.  
Sustaining the conservancy and  
ensuring the environment,  
wildlife and local people benefit  
from conservation

### HEALTH

19,953  
TREATMENTS

### EDUCATION

55 CHILDREN  
13 TEACHERS

### TRAINING

114 RANGERS

### PROTECTION

28 ENDANGERED  
SPECIES

### WATER DISTRIBUTION

TO 7  
NEIGHBOURHOODS



# COMMUNITY

## BORANA MOBILE CLINIC

The Borana Mobile Clinic continues to visit ten communities on a 2-week rotation, treating more than 650 patients and travelling over 1,600km each month. The team is made up of our two nurses Pauline and Davis, their assistant Julia Lobolia and their driver Jeremiah Naula. The team provide healthcare and treatments as well as providing support and counselling to students at schools, along with important health education to members of the community, focusing on hygiene and nutrition. Through generous funding in 2022, we were able to re-equip the mobile clinic with portable chairs; a table; tent and other equipment to assist with their day to day work. The tent has helped enormously by improving the privacy of patients and enabling physical examinations which are a key component of health assessment, leading to better diagnosis and treatments. We are working on funding solutions to replace our ageing, hard working Land Rover that has covered many miles. The MOH have also advised us to build a new clinic at our HQ, we are currently using a repurposed building which does not meet standards required.



### TETI KODEI:

A 20-year-old woman from the Sanga community, suffered a severe motorbike accident while travelling to Ngare Ndare through Borana Conservancy. Fortunately, she was found by Fuzz Dyer who airlifted her to Nanyuki Cottage Hospital. The injuries to her right leg and Achilles' tendon were extensive and combined with significant blood loss she was in a critical situation. This quick action certainly saved her leg if not her life.

After two weeks of hospitalisation Teti was discharged and brought back to Borana by the Mobile clinic. Given the nature of her injuries Teti needed daily visits from a nurse so it was decided that she would remain at Borana HQ during her recovery and rehabilitation period. This allowed for regular dressing changes from the nurses and ensured that she was able to visit her doctor for check-ups every two weeks. After three months at Borana HQ, Teti made a full recovery and we were very happy to see her return home to be reunited with her family and friends.





## Pauline Kawap - Chief Nurse - Borana Mobile Clinic

*Where were you born and where do you live?*

I was born in Marala, Samburu county. My parents moved from Baragoi to work at Mpala Ranch when I was young due to conflict. I lived with my uncle whilst at school and attended Baragoi Primary and then joined St Theresa's girls in Wamba in Samburu East. After school I attended nursing school for 3 and a half years and from there joined my parents at Mpala where I volunteered with their mobile clinic for six months. I was then employed at a nursing home in Kericho for two years, gaining experience. I worked with Shanni Wreford Smith the founder of CHAT - Communities Health Africa Trust learning about family planning and she then introduced me to Nicky Dyer in 2005 who offered me a job at the Borana mobile clinic.



*How has the mobile clinic evolved over the years?*

I started working for Borana in 2005 when the mobile clinic began. Back then there were no government dispensaries, so we were the only people providing health care. Fortunately, in 2015, the government started to build dispensaries and we now have Chumvi; Lokuseru and Arjuju and we work very closely with all of these new clinics.

When we started the clinic's main focus was family planning, but in order to attract the women to the clinic we needed to offer curative treatments as well. Over the last 17 years we have seen an increased acceptance of family planning; initially from women but now men from the Mukogodo community are bringing their wives to the clinic for family planning and mothers bring their daughters for long term contraceptive measures.

The immunisation programme is now hugely appreciated. Previously there was no understanding about immunisations, however with time, increased awareness and education, the community now sees the advantages for the children who have received immunisations compared to the ones that haven't.

Similarly, the value of the anti-natal clinics is now understood. People now see the need for a woman to be supported from her first gestational period to the last one. Before, women would carry their pregnancies with no check-ups at all and this could result in preventative complications. Now there is an understanding that the clinic can identify problems such as anaemia and correct them before delivery. This has meant we have seen a big decrease in the number of miscarriages and an improved health of mothers and babies.

*A question around HIV?*

Traditionally HIV was always thought of as a curse but after many sessions of counselling and health lectures we have also seen a decrease in the number of people being infected. This is in large part due to increased education, with Morans (young warriors) being better informed meaning people are now getting tested, using preventative measures and if positive now accept the drugs.

*Do you have any particular causes you are passionate about?*

Nursing is my passion, I love it. I am passionate about planned parenthood; I see how population growth is affecting people and how through family planning one can obtain a better quality of life; I enjoy improving access to education and improved health in particular for women and children.

I love working with rural communities, especially with people from the north, even those who do not know Kiswahili – I love this work.

*Do you know how many children have been named after you?!*

When children are brought to the clinic for their first immunisations, they often do not have a name. When we ask the parents for their name to put on the 'Mother to Child Booklet' they often ask what we are called and name their children after us. This has meant there are many Paulines, Julias and Davises out there. Some children are even called Luis after my son! There are also a lot of young girls called Nicky, the oldest patient of mine called Nicky is now 12 yrs. old.



## BESP

The Borana Education Programme (BESP) aims to provide holistic conservation education and awareness to schools and communities in Borana's immediate neighborhood. During 2022, the BESP continued to provide bursaries to 55 students and support the salaries of 13 teachers totaling \$57,845 whilst also continuing to support infrastructure at the BESP supported schools. Most recently we have installed gutters and water storage tanks at Lokuseru Primary school to increase rainwater harvesting, built an ablution block and bought three new energy saving jikos for the school kitchen. The next phase will be to build a secure fence around the school to begin a permaculture garden. Our educators continue to meet regularly after each semester with students and parents to mentor and support kids on their educational journey.

## MAZINGIRA YETU

Conservation education and sustainable development initiatives for communities living adjacent to Protected Areas are essential for the long term conservation of wildlife and landscapes. Many young people are now growing up in degraded landscapes and very often environmental science is taught theoretically in schools, offering no exposure to natural functioning ecosystems. The concern is that living in a degraded landscape could become the new normal for many. In January 2022, with support from Save the Rhino, the Borana Conservancy team put together a concept which has evolved into the Mazingira Yetu programme and centre. This programme offers the opportunity for students and adults alike to visit Borana Conservancy and learn about the importance of natural ecosystems. This is taught together with the importance of understanding the role of soil; hydrology; grasslands; forests and how these elements contribute to sustaining all life. The programme aims to engage with neighbours to broaden, deepen and inspire people's understanding of conservation and its importance for the health of all those that inhabit the landscape. This is particularly important given that we live in a landscape which has marginal rainfall with the seasonality of rainfall becoming increasingly erratic.

The project named 'Mazingira Yetu' which means 'our environment' in Kiswahili was launched in April 2022. It began with the employment of a conservation education officer and an education assistant as well as the procurement of a school bus aptly named the 'Mazingira Express'. The old Borana HQ sheering shed was converted to become the 'Mazingira Yetu centre' and provides the perfect setting for day trips as well as a central place for meetings to take place.

The first school group's visit was held on 29 July 2022 with 28 Grade 6 students from Ol Kinyei Primary school. Thereafter, Mazingira Yetu launched a regular programme of Conservancy trips, where the Mazingira Express began collecting groups of schoolchildren or adults, from the conservancies, villages and forests surrounding Borana for an interactive day of learning. During 2022, a total of 465 beneficiaries visited Borana and the programme has been a great success. In 2023, we look forward to working on Phase 2 of the project which will be to create accommodation within the MY centre that will be comprised of six double en-suite rooms and a common area. This will allow Borana to host students attending courses, educators running courses, or students researching for PhDs or Masters.







*I promise to work with nature, for nature as nature!*



This programme would not have been possible without the support of Save the Rhino and the many donors who helped this idea become a reality for which we remain hugely thankful for.

- *“The Programme has been eye-opening, especially for the children here, as it has exposed them to various wildlife and activities in Borana.”* Peter Gituma, Teacher Chumvi Primary School
- *“I got to learn a lot from the trip and my favourite part was getting to interact with a pilot where we learnt a few things about the airplanes and my students were very inspired by this interaction.”* Caroline Kendi, Teacher Ngare Ndare Primary School
- *“Thank you Borana for the programme, I got to see for the first time a Rhino and learnt that we have two species of Rhinos. I also got to experience and see, touch, and ride a horse for the first time.”* Jane Pasiante, Grade 6 Pupil
- *“The trip was very exciting, I got see elephants and learn how I can help my conserve my environment.”* Moses Mirinyo, Enakishomi Grade 6 Pupil
- *“The programme comes at a timely time when we look to strengthen our ties with Borana. We got to learn a lot and discuss issues affecting our community and explore ways to mitigate them as well. Overall, it was a good engagement and fruitful day.”* Susan Salaon, Lokusero Community Group



## DROUGHT RELIEF

In July 2022, a US medical student Kevin McCawley spent a month with our Mobile Clinic (BMC) during its usual outreach programme. Together with our BMC team, they encountered a concerning number of patients who presented diseases associated with malnutrition within our immediate neighbourhoods. The BMC team requested for immediate intervention with food aid to address this issue. Borana Conservancy partnered with Team Pankaj Foundation in putting together food hampers. The combined effect of the prolonged drought and the Russian/Ukraine war had meant the price of flour increased by ~50% and people had taken to milling their own flours or eating insufficient quantities of the fortified flours. Many of the vitamins and nutrients people lacked are also found in leafy greens, however the drought has also made these less attainable.

Consequently, with support from the Borana Conservation Trust, an initial 1000 food hampers were ordered from Team Pankaj Foundation with the BMC and Community Health volunteers helping to identify the vulnerable individuals in the communities.

Team Pankaj committed that for every two parcels purchased by the conservancy, they would match it with one parcel. Over 3,500 food parcels were distributed in total directly benefiting over 15,000 people. With the arrival of the rains and stabilisation of flour prices this aid was stopped towards the end of 2022. We remain extremely thankful for the support we received for this from our Conservancy partners and friends along with Team Pankaj. This quick intervention reduced distress and significantly reduced risks of disease linked to malnutrition.



## TEAM TALK

Borana were happy to host the Team Talk project again this year with volunteers from Kenya and the charity Future Health Africa visiting Ethi Primary school, who also hosted children from Enaikashomi School. Team Talk is a project that uses sport in this case touch rugby to break down social and gender barriers to enable cultural changes, the charity only visits communities who have requested their support in making cultural adaptations to their patriarchal society. It encourages positive relationships between boys and girls which enables more in-depth discussions on health and social messages. These include: encouraging girls to stay in school; preventing young marriages; improving self esteem; gender equality and mutual respect and alternative rites of passage for girls. A very successful four-day inter-school tag-rugby competition was held with 96 students participating from Ethi and Enaikishomi primary schools. This year Maro Etoji (UK national rugby team) and Ken Mijue (Kenya Sevens star) joined the kids for the final coaching days and the tournament.





# COMMERCE



## CORPORATE & SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITY FACTS 2022

VALUE OF PURCHASES WITHIN LAIKIPIA  
- \$2,818,373 = 78%

VALUE OF PURCHASES IN KENYA,  
OUTSIDE OF LAIKIPIA - \$707,324 = 20%

VALUE OF PURCHASES OUTSIDE KENYA  
- \$71,157 = 2%

### LIVESTOCK TO MARKET

The community livestock to market programme continued throughout 2022 and despite the dry conditions was able to sell 194 steers and 23 cull cows generating (KES 8,428,690/-) US\$61,975 for the participants.



### AGROVET

During 2022, there was an outbreak of a highly contagious disease which spread rapidly through the pastoralist community cattle herds. Under the Oramat Lenaboisho Cooperative Society, a decision was made to establish an Agrovet which is a supply store for the community. The Agrovet provides veterinary drugs at a good affordable price to pastoralists, it has two employees Eloit and James who received their training from Mediciel Ltd Kenya and to date has been a great success. It is located at the northern conservancy gate ensuring convenient access for the community and frequent visits are made to the farmers to discuss the proper use of the drugs.



# SUSTAINABILITY

## THE LONG RUN & THE GER® STANDARD

The Long Run is one of the world's most influential sustainable development initiatives, a collective of nature based businesses who follow the highest standards of sustainability, encompassing Conservation, Community, Culture and Commerce – the 4Cs. Their collective vision is that of a world in which business, nature and people work harmoniously for a sustainable future.

Borana Conservancy has been a member of the The Long Run since 2015 and achieved GER status in 2020. The Global Ecosphere Retreat standard is recognised by the Global Sustainability Tourism Council as a leading sustainability standard and is considered to be 'one of the world's best standards for privately protected areas'. We believe that collectively we can show the world that business, particularly tourism, can be a force for good and inspire others to take up best practices to make the world a better place. The members of The Long Run continuously demonstrate that profit can and should go hand in hand with productive ecosystems and prosperous communities.



## THE LONG RUN GLOBAL AGM

Each year, The Long Run community comes together to celebrate its shared mission to protect ecosystems for the benefit of all. In October 2022, after a three year pause due to Covid-19, Borana Lodge and Lengishu House hosted over 40 Long Run members from all over the world.

The theme of the Meeting was 'Accelerating Change in your Organisation, Landscape, Community, and Beyond'. It demonstrated that sharing experiences, expertise, and knowledge helps members to push boundaries and enables The Long Run community to drive change for the well-being of the planet and people globally.

Borana Lodge, Arijuju House and Lengishu House are now all proud members of the Long Run.









# HOW TOURISM SUPPORTS CONSERVATION

The engine fuelling the Conservancy is tourism. Sharing this piece of wilderness we protect with our guests is essential to our financial resilience.

Between the six tourism properties on Borana Conservancy and the three commercial entities **760** people are employed, 67% of whom are from the local area. **USD\$1,023,930** was generated through 2022 conservation fees which is an invaluable contribution to core operating costs on the Conservancy. This includes the support of the mobile health clinic, the education support programme, a water distribution programme along with the training and welfare of over one hundred wildlife rangers. Staying on Borana acts as a direct contribution to safeguarding habitat for critically endangered species as well as building local livelihoods.

## THE BORANA CONSERVANCY SAFARI EXPERIENCE

Borana offers some of the most thrilling, authentic and unique ways to encounter Kenya's wildlife and wilderness thanks to our conservation efforts. The conservancy strives to retain this land as pristine wilderness that guests are able to enjoy first hand, be it walking through the bush, riding on ranch horses or mountain bikes and E-bikes, driving in the open-top safari vehicles, or lounging at infinity pools and enjoying the view. The Conservancy is privately managed, making every aspect of the safari experience personal, peaceful and uninterrupted - giving guests the rare opportunity to be totally immersed in nature.

## CONSERVATION ACTIVITIES

Many guests would like to get more involved with the conservation on the Conservancy so we have put together some activities to ensure this can happen. These include: a morning run with the armed rangers, evening deployments and morning collections for the night rangers, track and sight rhinos with their scouts and report on their locations, monitor rhino and lion with Wilson or Kiloko with the telemetry set and identify lions by using the whisker spot cards.



Arijiu House [www.arijiu.com](http://www.arijiu.com)



Fuzz's Camp [www.sckenya.com](http://www.sckenya.com)



Laragai House [www.laragaihouse.com](http://www.laragaihouse.com)



Borana Lodge [www.borana.com](http://www.borana.com)

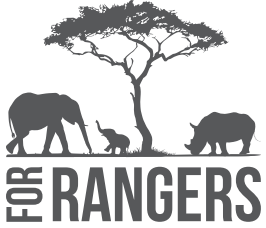


Sirai House [www.siraihouse.com](http://www.siraihouse.com)



Lengishu House [www.lengishu.com](http://www.lengishu.com)





Founded by Sam Taylor and Pete Newland; For Rangers has stayed true to its mission to support rangers by taking on some of the toughest adventures the world has to offer. The founders, now supported by many friends, are dedicated to supporting the welfare and improving the lives of wildlife rangers in critical landscapes across Africa.

The belief is that by investing in rangers' welfare, the rangers will feel both valued and invested in their work. With better equipment to do their job, and secure in the knowledge their families will be looked after, rangers continue to deliver extraordinary results often under harsh, dangerous conditions in remote areas far from their loved ones and medical help.

Most of us are aware of the plight of African wildlife and the pressure on habitat. However, not all of us realise the human toll of protecting that wildlife. More than 1,000 rangers have been killed in the line of duty during the last 15 years, many more have been left injured and unable to work, leaving orphans and destitute ranger families as collateral damage in the battle to save our wilderness.

Since its inception in 2015, For Rangers has contributed more than US\$2,000,000 worth of kit, equipment and training, supporting over 2,500 rangers across sub-Saharan Africa. They are currently supporting rangers in 14 African countries and provided life insurance policies to 1,200 rangers including the Borana rangers and over US\$200,000 worth of training to rangers across Africa. We remain extremely grateful for all of their support.



SRI is a UK-based charity who have worked closely with Borana for many years developing grant applications and managing the resulting grants and reporting. SRI have been instrumental in securing and reporting on funding but importantly have also played a pivotal supportive role over many years across Africa in guiding policy and strategy on Rhino Conservation. With over 20 years of experience, the SRI team work with expert partners and use tested technologies and relevant scientific research to ensure their investments in rhino conservation have the greatest impact. 100% funds donated through SRI are restricted to the beneficiary field programme concerned.







James Lewin

## GET INVOLVED

\$10 - A MENSTRUAL KIT   \$25 - A DESK   \$50 - SCHOOL UNIFORM FOR A PUPIL

\$80 - FUEL FOR THE MOBILE CLINIC FOR ONE MONTH   \$190 - FULL RANGER UNIFORM INCLUDING BOOTS

\$400 - SECONDARY SCHOOL FEES FOR ONE TERM   \$650 - NURSE'S SALARY FOR ONE MONTH

\$800 - SECONDARY SCHOOL TEACHER'S SALARY FOR ONE MONTH   \$2,200 - PRIMARY SCHOOL TEACHER'S SALARY FOR ONE YEAR

\$10,000 - SPONSOR AND NAME A BLACK RHINO



# CONSERVATION PARTNERSHIPS WORKING TOWARDS A CONTIGUOUS ECOSYSTEM

**BORANA CONSERVANCY** FIRMLY BELIEVES IN COLLABORATION, AND HAS FORGED LONG-LASTING AND BENEFICIAL RELATIONSHIPS WITH VARIOUS OTHER CONSERVATION AGENCIES AND INITIATIVES WITHIN LAIKIPIA AND ACROSS THE KENYAN LANDSCAPE. HERE ARE A FEW OF OUR KEY CONSERVATION PARTNERSHIPS:



The **KWS** is the government agency tasked to protect and manage the fauna, flora and eco-systems of Kenya. The KWS 'Kenya Black Rhino Action Plan 2017-2020' underlines a long term target 'to have a meta-population of at least 2,000 black rhinos of the eastern African subspecies (*Diceros bicornis michaeli*) in Kenya, and in suitable habitats as a global heritage'. The overall goal for the next five years is 'to achieve a meta-population of 830 black rhinos by the end of 2021; a net growth of at least 5% per annum maintained in at least six established populations; positive net growth achieved in all recovering populations'.



The **LWC** works as a catalyst for the conservation of wildlife and its habitat. This is achieved through the protection and management of species, the initiation and support of community conservation and development programmes, and the education of neighbouring areas in the value of wildlife. LWC borders Borana to the east and was one of the first rhino conservancies in Kenya. Borana and Lewa have become one large contiguous ecosystem, giving rhino additional secure habitat.



**KENYA WILDLIFE CONSERVANCIES ASSOCIATION** - Since the emergence of the first conservancies in the 1970s, conservancies have grown in number and their impact has broadened beyond wildlife conservation and tourism. Whilst 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 county, KWCA exist to harness this power.



The **LCA** is a membership led organisation of 28 conservancies covering 789,391 acres in Laikipia. It was established in 2019 with the goal of bringing together conservancies in Laikipia to address common challenges and to amplify our individual impacts. These institutions form a diverse mosaic, with different land tenure, governance, and management models, yet are aligned through 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.



**THE ASSOCIATION OF PRIVATE AND COMMUNITY LAND RHINO SANCTUARIES** is an umbrella association whose membership includes all private and community lands in Kenya that host rhinos. It was established on the 17th January 1990 as a mechanism for rhino sanctuary managers to share ideas about the management of their rhinos. Subsequently, the APLRS has evolved to be an integral part of the Kenya Black Rhino Action Plan and the association works closely with the national rhino office to accomplish mutual objectives.



**THE NGARE NDARE FOREST TRUST** is run entirely by the Ngare Ndare community in partnership with the Kenya Forest Service, their aim being to protect the forest and its vital water-catchment for future generations. The Ngare Ndare Forest Trust emphasises the community ownership of the forest, thus fostering a sense of responsibility for this vital resource and ecosystem. Borana supports this community as well as the Trust's conservation efforts by sending guests on forest visits.



The members of Il Ngwesi, Makurian, Mukogodo and Seiku joined together to form **IL MAMUSI MUKOGODO FOREST ASSOCIATION** to oversee the safeguarding and responsible administration of the forest reserve, as stipulated by the Forestry Conservation and Management Act of 2016. Our mission is to ensure the perpetual preservation of Mukogodo Forest's ecological, biological, environmental and socio-cultural significance. This commitment extends to the protection of natural forest areas and water catchments while enhancing the quality of life for the neighbouring communities.



**IL NGWESI** is a not-for-profit community owned and managed Group Ranch, which owns land on behalf of the Maasai community in Laikipia. The community practices wildlife conservation and eco-tourism. Revenue from these enterprises is used to support the community in the form of education bursaries, health care facilities, improving access roads in the area and supporting small scale enterprises. Il Ngwesi is the only community conservancy in Kenya with an up market tourist facility (Il Ngwesi Lodge) that is genuinely owned and managed by the local community.



Embracing the Principles of the 4Cs - Community - Conservation - Culture - Commerce

# ALL FOR CONSERVATION



James Lewin