

Community Development

A publication of the Ol Pejeta Conservancy



Programme News 2013

The Ol Pejeta Conservancy works to conserve wildlife, provide a sanctuary for great apes and to generate income through wildlife tourism and complementary enterprises for re-investment in conservation and community development.

opening remarks

Measuring OI Pejeta's Social Impact

By Phil Franks, Senior Researcher, International Institute of Environment and Development

Kenya has protected areas of many different types ranging from national parks such as Tsavo and reserves such as Masai Mara, to privately-owned protected areas such as the OI Pejeta Conservancy, and community-owned protected areas such as the group ranches. Although, all of these are important for wildlife conservation, all types of protected areas impact the communities who live around them. Communities benefit in various different ways (positive impact) but may also face significant costs (negative impact). This impact, which is generally known as social impact, manifests differently. They include benefits and costs that directly affect people's livelihoods (e.g. income from employment, support for local schools and clinics, crop damage by wildlife) as well as indirect benefits (e.g. improved security and roads, and in some places better water supplies, and more rainfall).

It is important that the managers of protected areas and the neighbouring communities have a good understanding of this social impact, including how this impact affects different communities, and different members of these communities – wealthier people, poorer people, men, women and children. This will help them and the neighbouring communities to work

together to minimise any negative impact and increase the positive social impact.

Getting a full picture of the social impact of a protected area such as OI Pejeta is not an easy task. However with the help of a new international programme called the Social Assessment of Protected Areas (SAPA) Initiative, OI Pejeta will be doing this over the next nine months. The SAPA Initiative is supported by a group of international environmental and development organisations. OI Pejeta will be one of the very first sites! Other sites that will be using SAPA in 2014 include protected areas in Gabon in Central Africa, Liberia and Gambia in West Africa.

A SAPA “facilitation team” has recently been established – three representatives of local communities and three members of OI Pejeta staff – and discussions with local communities will start in mid March. Through this newsletter we will keep you updated on the progress of this work and the results as they come out. We believe that this work will enable OI Pejeta to reach poorer people and get the best out of its social impact hence achieving more in its role as an engine for development in this part of Laikipia County.



SAPA meeting with representatives from the community

education

OI Pejeta's Education Programme

By *Emily Lerosion, PKSS Coordinator*



You probably could not find two environments more different from each other than Kenya and Canada. And yet, this unlikely friendship took several different forms last year, benefitting hundreds of primary and secondary school children in the schools surrounding OI Pejeta.

Project Kenya Sister Schools (PKSS) is a North American charitable organization that helps Kenyan children to attend school while supporting the conservation efforts of OI Pejeta. Part of their programme is to connect schools in Kenya with schools in Canada, a project which is underway in nine (9) primary and secondary schools around OI Pejeta. Students find pen pals; send videos to each other demonstrating cultural practices and routines, and share ideas on an online platform. The Canadian schools also fundraise for their Kenyan sister schools, as well as other schools in the area. One beneficiary of the fundraising is Steven Karanja. An enthusiastic student keen to complete his education, Steven was devastated when he could not afford to continue on to secondary school with his classmates. Thanks to PKSS, he was fully sponsored to board at Endana Secondary School. His books, uniform, stationery and even a mattress for his dorm bed where all taken care of, enabling this bright student to work towards finishing high school. Steven was one of 36 students who received a full bursary from PKSS last year. You might remember that last year, PKSS donated two dairy cows for Thome Boys School which the students used for milk and biogas. Sadly, one of those cows died from East Coast Fever; but thankfully PKSS were able to fund another one so the boys could continue to save on food and fuel costs.



The students at Malek Girls Secondary School send a message to their sister school

Generous Canadians!

A big thank you to **Ji Ai Cho**, a teacher in Canada who donated 252,450 Ksh (USD 3,000) to contribute to school fees for poorer students in the OI Pejeta communities.

Yet another big thank you to **Dianna Oliver** and **Bonnie Sutherland** – also from Canada, who visited OI Pejeta and bought 7,000 Ksh (USD 200) worth of Kenyan curriculum textbooks, notepads, and equipment necessary for Standard Eights to take their final year exams.



Afrettech

The Afrettech Aid Society in collaboration with OI Pejeta hopes to transform struggling schools into true institutions of learning. They continued their support of OI Pejeta community schools last year by donating ten (10) computers complete with educational programmes installed to Endana Secondary School. They also donated books and shelving material for the school library. Two other schools - St. Augustine School and Sweetwaters Secondary School - also received PCs and books from Afrettech.



community news

From Nepal to Ol Pejeta; New Stoves Paving the Way for Healthier Communities

The German NGO Ofenmacher (www.ofenmacher.org) is distributing a fuel-efficient stove, which provides a healthier, more environmentally friendly alternative to the traditional open charcoal burners. The stoves were successfully tried out in remote communities in Nepal before being introduced in Kenya.

The Ofenmacher stove has three main benefits:

1. It is efficient, as less wood is needed to fuel it. This lessens the pressure on surrounding forests for firewood by about 50% and reduces carbon emissions.
2. It emits no smoke as it comes with an in-built chimney. This has major long-term health benefits over the traditional stand-alone jikos usually used in rural Kenyan households.
3. It provides employment. Ofenmacher has been training members of the communities here to make the stoves, with the vision that they can ultimately earn an income from doing so.



Beatrice Ekomwa from Debatas and Katharina Dworschak from "Die Ofenmacher e.V.". The stove is in Beatrice's home. It is also the first one she built after the training.

Similar training in Nepal has resulted in the production of 17,000 stoves. So far 10 people, six women and four men, have been trained to build these stoves in the communities around Ol Pejeta. Ofenmacher aims to have at least 100 stoves built in the communities surrounding Ol Pejeta by March 2014.

Their goal is to provide stoves for the communities first and later expand this project exponentially across other parts of Kenya and Africa. Ol Pejeta communities have embraced the stoves and are already remarking on the benefits.

Community Water Fence



Nanyuki is situated on the leeward side of Mount Kenya in the semi-arid Laikipia District. As such communities neighbouring Ol Pejeta face regular water shortage problems. The Kenyan government assisted the Sweetwaters community by building a communal borehole to ease access to water. However, the borehole did not have a fence and was subject to misuse by people bringing in their livestock to drink from the troughs. Local community leaders appealed to Ol Pejeta for assistance in erecting a fence and the Conservancy donated posts and wire mesh worth 39,510 Ksh. Ol Pejeta also bought and donated tree seedlings for community members to start a tree nursery in the area, advancing economic development and environmental conservation.

community news

OI Pejeta Renews Its Commitment to Schools

The OI Pejeta Conservancy is committed to promoting environmental and conservation education to children and offers highly discounted rates to school groups. The number of students visiting the Conservancy has tripled over the years, and in 2013, 25,000 children came through the gates.

The Conservancy has plenty to offer. Not only do children enjoy game drives around the Conservancy, but also the Morani Information Centre and the Sweetwaters Chimpanzee Sanctuary provide a huge opportunity for school children to learn more about current conservation efforts as well as gain a deep knowledge of the wildlife species found on OI Pejeta Conservancy.



Students on a game drive on the OI Pejeta Conservancy stop at the Morani Information Center to listen to a talk from one of our rangers

By constantly improving on education initiatives, OI Pejeta demonstrates a commitment to promoting behaviour changes in conservation through the education of the youth.

“The long-term success of conservation lies with educating children on the importance of the natural world. Our goal is to create a unique learning experience for them, so that their visit to OI Pejeta is unforgettable and truly inspiring. To show our continued commitment to encouraging school groups to visit OI Pejeta Conservancy, we have come up with some exciting incentives, including a school bus discount offer and complimentary entrance for teachers accompanying groups. Further to this, we are working on an in-house curriculum and are developing a series of lesson plans to support our education initiatives and improve our conservation education delivery and experience to the school children,” said the Tourism Manager, Annick Mitchell.

Launch of Sino-African Education Hope Programme in Beijing, China



Ambrose Njagi (far left) at the Launch of Njoguini Primary school Fundraising Project

In November 2013, OI Pejeta's Fundraising and Grants Administrator, Ambrose Njagi, attended the launch of the Sino-African Education Hope Program in Beijing, China in a ceremony attended by officials of the Kenyan Embassy in Beijing as well as the CEO and Chairman of Woodpecker International Education Consulting. This is a multi-year programme that will focus on infrastructure support to local schools starting with Njoguini Primary School in 2014. Towards this, Woodpecker International Education Consulting has pledged USD 100,000 for the first phase.

community news

Indestructible Footballs for Tigithi Secondary School

Football is one of the most popular sports in Kenya with a massive following among the young and old alike. In schools neighbouring the OI Pejeta Conservancy, football is taken very seriously as teams have the opportunity to play in the international school leagues. Unfortunately, due to the rough terrain, the schools have to keep buying new balls or practice on worn-out, deflated balls. Thanks to One World Futbol Project (www.oneworldfutbol.com), one local school got five new nearly-indestructible balls in February last year.

The OneWorld Futbol Project, whose mission is to create a meaningful impact on the lives of youth all over the world, visited the OI Pejeta Conservancy and donated the virtually indestructible balls to students in Tigithi Secondary School. The balls are made of PopFoam, a rubbery material that is flexible yet strong and very durable. The balls can be left in sunlight or water without wrinkling, cracking or becoming heavy. The material also makes the balls Perfect for the rough, rock-filled pitches in Kenya.

Mr. John Muchiri, Tigithi school principal, expressed his gratitude for the one-of-a-kind footballs to the school saying they would go a long way in encouraging teamwork and physical fitness among his students.



The happy students receive their indestructible footballs

A New Toilet Block for Njoguini Primary School

The 130 boys at Njoguini Primary School had been using a run-down toilet facility. It had not only filled up but also lacked running water both of which posed a major health risk.

In early 2013, Harry and Diana Acland visited the school during their stay at OI Pejeta. They donated 1,000 pounds to put up a decent toilet at the school. The facility was completed in record time and the boys now have a new toilet block.



agriculture

From Food Poverty to Food Security

By Benard Kariuki, Agriculture Extension Officer



Mr. Mbugua had been a businessman in Kisumu city for most of his adult life. That all changed with the 2007/2008 post election violence when his family of four became one of the many Internally Displaced Persons (IDPs) in Kenya. He sought refuge at Karai, in Lamuria Division where he was given a piece of land in a semi-arid area to practice agriculture. This was an uphill task in every imaginable way. He planted crops but there was no harvest as they all died due to drought.

Both he and his family walked for 12km to Lengetia to beg for food, and it was then that he was introduced to Conservation Agriculture by Mr. Sessions and the OI Pejeta agricultural extension services. He received intensive training on minimum or no tillage agriculture, including mulching for permanent cover and crop rotation. He then adopted these conservation principles for the next season. In the first season he harvested twice the usual amount of maize and beans. By the second season, production had gone up significantly. He now has enough to sustain his family plus a surplus to sell.

This signaled a change in his fortunes and has reduced income poverty through substitution, allowing his family to start saving money to buy a piece of land, build their own house, buy a local cow, two sheep, plant an orange tree and grow passion fruits.

"We are living a good life, in the past I was always moody and sick, I used to beg, but nowadays I can get what I want from my farm thanks to Mr. Sessions and OI Pejeta extension staff" says Mr. Mbugua.



Conservation Agriculture has changed many lives and has clear potential to change more. To support this programme you can contact our Grants and Fundraising Administrator, Ambrose Njagi, on ambrose.njagi@olpejetaconservancy.org.

agriculture

Ol Pejeta's Agricultural Extension Programme

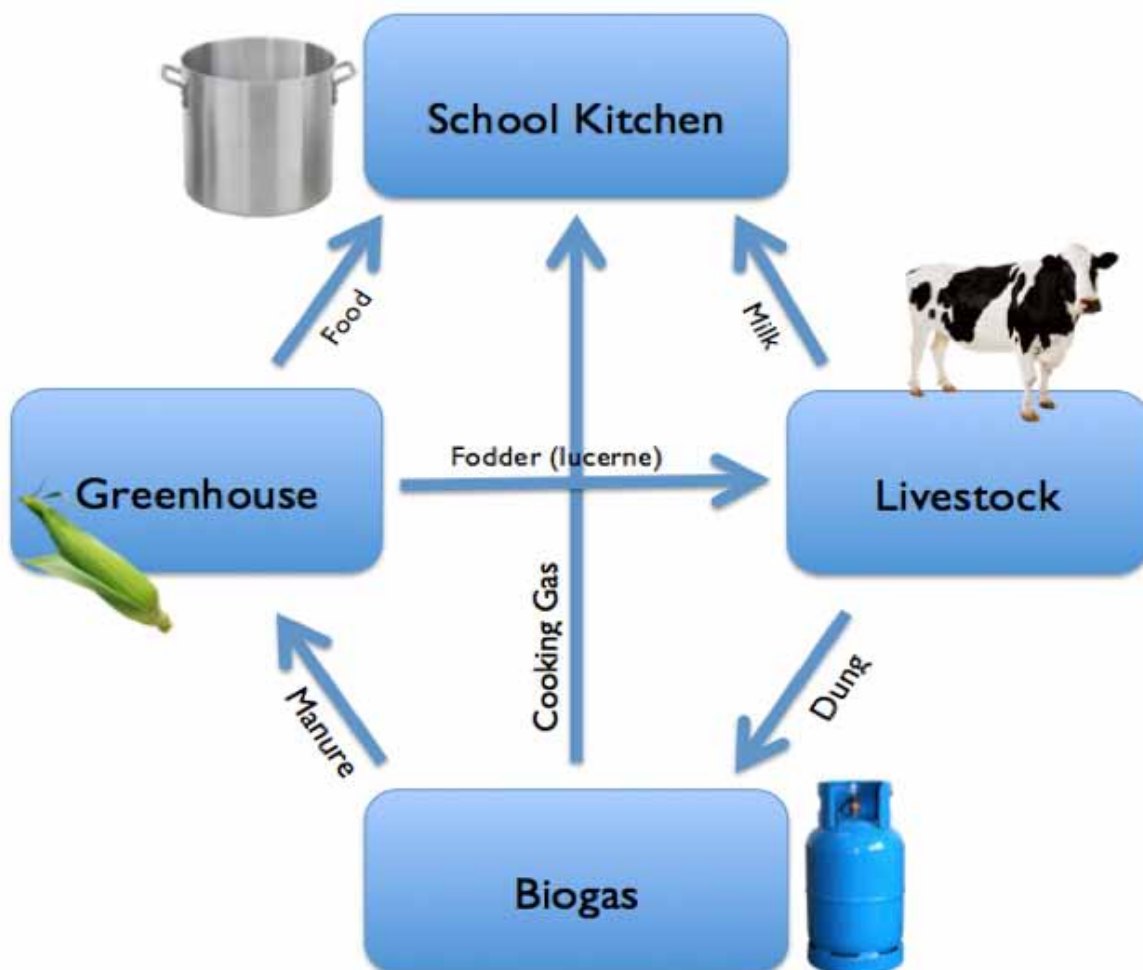
By John Kiama, Deputy Manager Livelihoods Office

Most communities neighbouring Ol Pejeta rely on subsistence farming for their livelihood. As such we seek to train them on improved farming techniques that improve their productivity while at the same time conserving the environment. Our agricultural extension officer, Josphat Kiama, trains the farmers on techniques such as drip irrigation, water harvesting and intercropping.

Beyond crop cultivation he also teaches them how to manage livestock so as to get the most out of their herds. The resultant management systems have also been replicated by PKSS in neighbouring schools.

Fodder for the livestock is derived from the farms and in turn the cows provide milk for the home. The dung from the cows is used to produce biogas hence saving on the costs of fuel for cooking, and producing high quality manure as a by-product for application to farm lands

Using these integrated systems, not only have lives been changed by increased farm yields, but the costs of milk and fuel purchase have also been reduced. One of the farmers Beatrice Nyaruai in Weruini village used the money saved to enrol one of her children at the Sweetwaters Secondary School.



health



Ol Pejeta's Healthcare Strategy Implementation plan

By Nancy Ingutia, Community Programme Assistant

Ol Pejeta aims to improve the quality of healthcare in the local communities. To this end, last year we brought together nurses and clinical officers from neighbouring dispensaries in Marura, Withare, Matanya, Sweetwaters, Lamuria, Ol Pejeta and Mwituria to formulate a comprehensive healthcare strategy.



Stakeholders meet to formulate strategy

They categorised the current gaps in healthcare delivery into six key areas. It was agreed that these six must be tackled to ensure an integrated approach to ensuring healthcare for neighbouring communities.

The first of these was health care infrastructural development. There is a great need to enhance the capacity of the dispensaries around Ol Pejeta Conservancy to provide quality healthcare services through infrastructural development and the provision of essential equipment. Initially this will be achieved by the refurbishment of two delivery units at Marura and Withare dispensaries, as well as the refurbishment of five laboratories

in Marura, Withare, Matanya, Sweetwaters and Mwituria dispensaries. Another area identified for improvement is healthcare service delivery. This is about ensuring reliable access to essential, safe and affordable medicines and medical supplies. Ol Pejeta also aims to purchase an ambulance as a shared resource for all eight facilities.

Under the category of human resources development, we aim to build adequate capacity for leadership and management of the health facilities neighbouring the Ol Pejeta Conservancy, so as to optimize health services delivery. This shall be achieved by organising quarterly training workshops on management and leadership for healthcare workers and committees, as well as by training and equipping the community health workers with medical kits and bikes.

Yet another key area to be addressed is the improvement of healthcare support services. Thus Ol Pejeta aims to install electricity, provide portable water, improve health information systems and improve environmental health and sanitation through the construction of eco-toilets and training on hand washing.

To address the area of Community empowerment on health issues, Ol Pejeta plans to organise outreach programmes on hygiene, sanitation and reproductive health, initiate nutrition programmes targeting vulnerable groups in the community on food utilisation, provide condom dispensers in collaboration with the government and organise training for psychosocial support groups for People Living with HIV/AIDS and the mentally challenged.

To find out more on this strategy and get involved contact nancy.ingutia@olpejetaconservancy.org. The implementation is also dependent on the availability of funding. To support us please contact Ambrose Njagi on ambrose.njagi@olpejetaconservancy.org.

looking forward

Community Projects To Be Supported in 2014

Project Name	Project Site	Collaborating Partner	Estimated / Proposed Value of Support
Construction of five new classrooms, library, staffroom with headmasters office, kitchen and ablutions. Solar power to schools.	Njoguini Primary School Mwituria Secondary School	Woodpecker International Education Consulting, China	USD 100,000
Promoting greenhouse farming, rainwater harvesting and drip line irrigation technologies in Laikipia County.	Lamuria and Tigithi divisions	Gorta - Ireland	UKP 100,000
Healthcare services and equipment support	Lamuria, Withare, Matanya, Marura, Mwituria, Kamok and Sweetwaters dispensaries.	Rotary International	USD 42,000
Construction of ablutions, dining hall and staff houses at Endana Secondary School.	Endana Secondary School	Equitix, Zeitz Foundation	UKP 30,000
Supply and delivery of water tanks to women groups	Weruini Women Group, Elimu Upendo Women Group, Bidii Young Ladies SHG and Home Improvement SHG.	Afretch / Lisa Young	USD 2,000
Promoting greenhouse farming, rainwater harvesting and drip line irrigation technologies in Laikipia County.	Lamuria and Tigithi divisions	FFI / Martin Laing Foundation	USD 50,000
Provision of bursaries to poor students and development of targeted infrastructure in schools	46 poor students and Irura Primary School	Project Kenya Sister Schools (PKSS)	USD 45,000
Sheep genetics improvement project	Tigithi, Segera and Lamuria divisions.	Lengetia Ltd	Technical advice and support
Energy saving stoves project	Tigithi, Segera and Lamuria divisions.	Die Ofenbach. e.v - Germany	USD 10,000
Subsidized community grazing	Segera division	OI Pejeta/Northern Approaches communities	USD 7,100
Operating and resourcing the Community Development Department	Tigithi, Segera, Central and Lamuria divisions.	OI Pejeta and its partners	USD 70,000
Operating and resourcing the Kenya Police Reservists (KPR) security team community response	Tigithi, Segera, Central and Lamuria divisions.	Kenya Police Service and Kenya Wildlife Service	USD 50,000
Road maintenance Rongai gate to Nanyuki	Sweetwaters division	OI Pejeta	USD 20,000
Human Wildlife Conflict (HWC) – hiring of wild pig and baboon scarers.	Tigithi, Segera, Thingithu and Lamuria divisions.	OI Pejeta	USD 18,000
Supply of heifer, desks, and teacher employment as well as fence construction.	Chuma, Ndururi, Matanya and Kibungu Primary Schools.	Max Planck Institute	USD 2000
GRAND TOTAL			Approx. USD 550,000

financial support

Financial Support for Communities in 2013

Direct Social Support in 2013

Amount (Ksh)

PKSS donations for education	3,649,630.13
Hugh Crossley / Equitix	1,133,158.00
Other Donors (Ji A. Cho, Harry Acland)	349,450.00

Total Donations for Education

5,132,238.13

Agricultural Support - GORTA	37,400.00
Community Training - Arcus Foundation	1,543,803.03
Roads by Ol Pejeta Conservancy	1,500,000.00
Water Projects (Lisa Young)	79,000.00
Community Department Operating Cost	6,344,238.60

Total Social Support

14,636,679.73

Direct Enterprise Support in 2013

Livestock purchased from communities	656,225.00
Food supplies from communities for the chimpanzees and tame rhino	1,500,000.00

Total Direct Enterprise Support

2,156,225.00

GRAND TOTAL

16,792,904.73



acknowledgements

In appreciation of the support given to its community development programmes, the OI Pejeta Conservancy Management would like to wholeheartedly thank the following donors and partners:

Afiretech Aid Society	Ministry of Education
Constituency Development Fund (CDF)	Ministry of Health
Laikipia East	Northern Rangelands Trust (NRT)w
Equitix/Hugh Crossley	Project Kenya Sister Schools (PKSS)
Gorta - Ireland	Rotary International
Kenya Rural Roads Authority – Laikipia	Segeera Ranch
Kenya Police Service	Water Resources Management Authority
Laikipia Wildlife Forum (LWF)	Woodpecker International Education Consulting, China
Lengetia Farm	Zeitz Foundation
Lewa Wildlife Conservancy	
Ministry of Agriculture	



want to help?

The OI Pejeta Community Development Programme is highly dependent on the generous support of individuals, foundations and organisations. If you would like to become a donor or if you simply want additional information, please visit www.olpejetaconservancy.org. You will be able to make a much needed online donation.

For other support or information, please contact:
OI Pejeta Conservancy, Private Bag, Nanyuki 10400
tel: +254 (0) 62 32408
email: info@olpejetaconservancy.org.