

**OL PEJETA  
CONSERVANCY**

Will Fortescue

# **INTERNAL EXCELLENCE EXTERNAL IMPACT**

## **2023 ANNUAL REPORT**



[www.olpejetaconservancy.org](http://www.olpejetaconservancy.org)

Justin Mott

## OUR VISION

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

## OUR MISSION

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



### BOARD OF DIRECTORS (KENYA)

- Philip Coulson, Chairman
- Joanna Elliott (*Fauna & Flora International*)
- Dr. Annette Lanjouw (*Arcus Foundation*)
- Alison Ngibuini
- Hon. Francis Ole Kaparo
- Michael Gichangi
- Dr. Helen Gichohi
- Vijay Gidoomal
- Tim Hobbs
- Daniel Karuga

### BOARD OF TRUSTEES (UK)

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

## A LETTER FROM OUR CEO, JUSTIN HEATH

Dear Friends, Supporters, Partners, and Colleagues,

As we reflect on our progress and accomplishments achieved during 2023 at OI Pejeta Conservancy, it is my pleasure to share with you our key developments and successes from the last year.

On the conservation front, a historic milestone was reached with confirmation of the world's first rhino pregnancy from an embryo transfer on our Conservancy, offering renewed hope for the future of this critically endangered species. Our black rhino population continued to grow, allowing us to translocate six animals to one of our nearby conservancies, Loisaba. We have also begun exploring opportunities to protect other vulnerable species, such as the Roan antelope, in the coming year.

Alongside our wildlife conservation efforts, our attention has been on building internal excellence by refining our processes and structures to achieve external impact.

Our commitment to enhancing our infrastructure has seen us successfully re-construct 137 kilometres of roads, significantly improving accessibility across the conservancy. Sustainability has been a key focus, with our solarisation project now well underway. Moreover, we brought power to our staff accommodation, which is a critical step towards improving the quality of housing for our dedicated team. Additionally, we have made substantial investments in fencing and water boreholes, both essential to managing wildlife and ensuring a stable water supply.

Our team has been integral to our success this year. We conducted a comprehensive business review and wrote 157 new job descriptions to better align roles with our strategic goals. We made several key hires, including a Human Capital Business Partner, a Legal Coordinator, a Supply Chain Manager, and a Business Analyst. These additions have strengthened our leadership team and enhanced our operational efficiency. We have also introduced a Balanced Score Card (BSC) system, updated our Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs), and Service Level Agreements (SLAs), streamlining our operations and setting a new standard for excellence.

While this year brought its share of challenges, we have emerged stronger with a renewed commitment to our mission. 2023 has been a year of tremendous growth, resilience and transformation, and I am proud of what we have achieved together. As we look ahead, I am excited about the opportunities that lie before us. I am deeply grateful to our dedicated supporters for your unwavering commitment and support – you are truly an integral part of this journey. Here's to many more years of positive change and remarkable achievements.

Sincerely,

Justin Heath



# 2023

Was a year of transformation at OI Pejeta, focused on internal excellence to drive greater external impact. By refining our internal processes, enhancing team capabilities, and optimising resources, we strengthened the foundation for our conservation and community initiatives. These improvements are already leading to more effective outcomes, ensuring OI Pejeta's continued role as a leader in conservation and sustainable development.



# HUMAN CAPITAL



## NORTHERN WHITE RHINO ENCLOSURE

The fencing team successfully fenced the Northern White Rhino enclosure, enhancing protection for this critically endangered species.

## ROADS RECONSTRUCTED

137 km of roads reconstructed, enhancing accessibility and the tourism experience.



## WATER TANK

Supervised repairs of the Ngobit reservoirs and completed a 100,000-litre water storage tank at Scott's to ensure reliable water supply during shortages.



## ACCOMMODATION

Construction of 12 new accommodation rooms across the conservancy (Oscar 3 ranger camp and Mutara Conservation Area).



## THE TEAM

608 employees by year-end, with 52 new hires and 17 interns trained across various departments, 3 of whom were absorbed permanently.



## TRAINING & TEAM BUILDING

Conducted specialised training in paramilitary, health and safety, financial management, and tourism, along with hosting team-building events to boost teamwork and engagement.



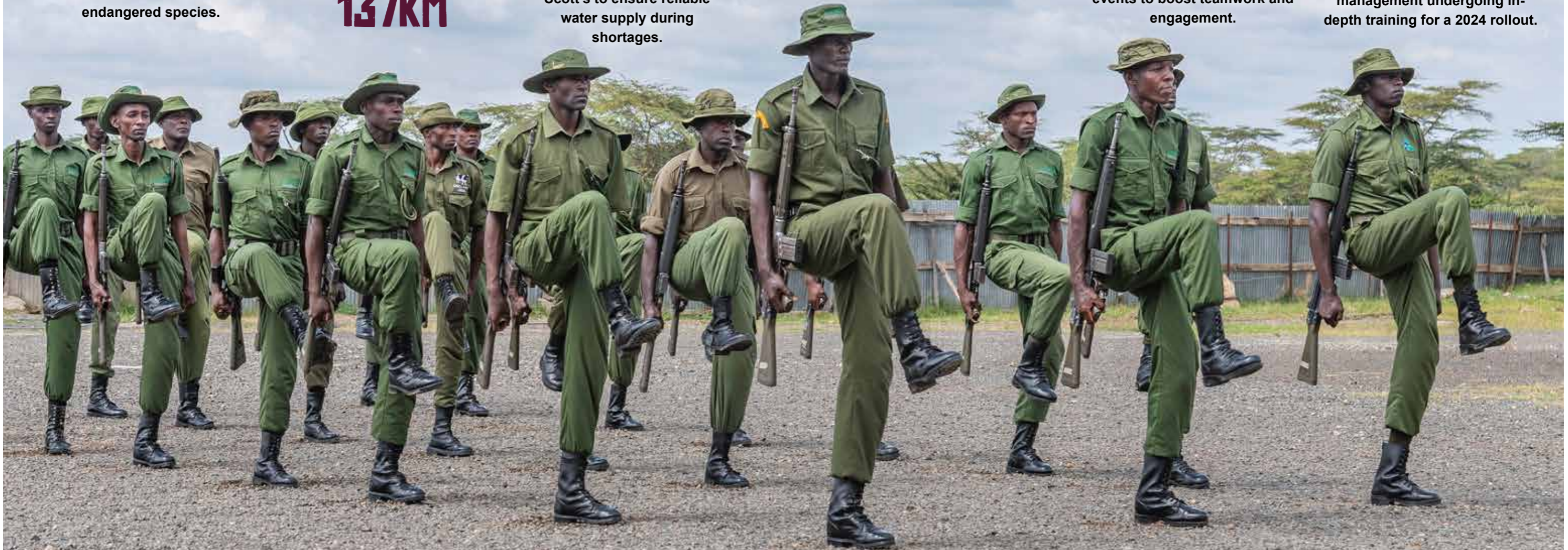
## SPORTS

The OI Pejeta Football Team participated in the Football Kenya Federation Regional Championships, and the Cricket Team competed in the Rhino Cup Cricket Tournament.



## BALANCED SCORECARD

Introduced the Balanced Scorecard performance management system, with management undergoing in-depth training for a 2024 rollout.



# DRIVING SUCCESS THROUGH DEDICATION AND TEAMWORK

**LEADING THE WAY:**

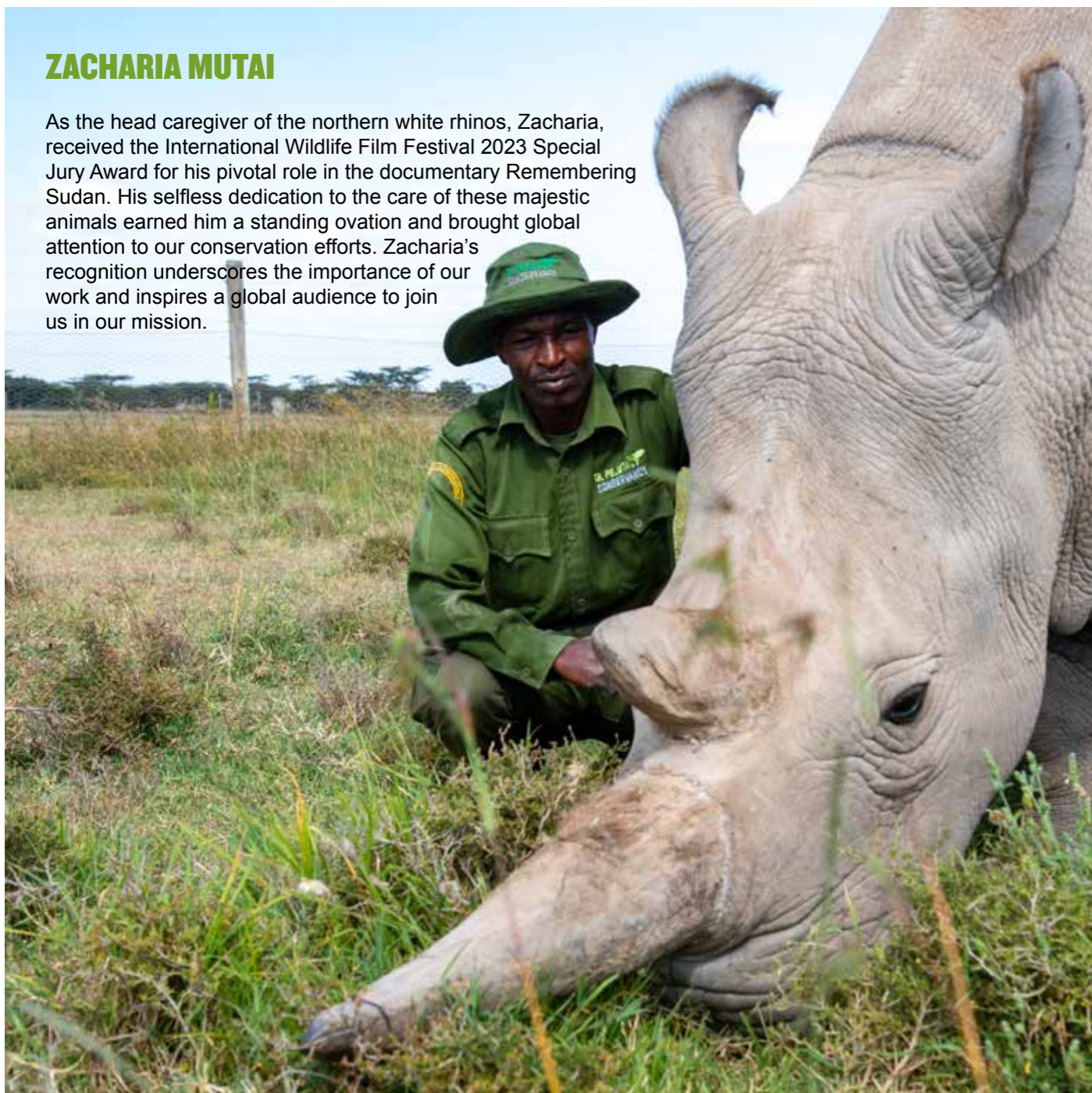
**THE INSPIRING ACHIEVEMENTS OF OLPEJETA'S TEAM MEMBERS**

At OI Pejeta Conservancy, our success extends beyond wildlife conservation—it thrives on the passion, dedication, and exceptional achievements of our team members. Throughout 2023, several of our colleagues have been celebrated for their extraordinary contributions, reflecting the calibre of talent that drives our mission forward. Their accolades not only bring honour to the conservancy but also enhance our capacity to protect wildlife and empower communities.

Dylan Habil

**ZACHARIA MUTAI**

As the head caregiver of the northern white rhinos, Zacharia, received the International Wildlife Film Festival 2023 Special Jury Award for his pivotal role in the documentary Remembering Sudan. His selfless dedication to the care of these majestic animals earned him a standing ovation and brought global attention to our conservation efforts. Zacharia's recognition underscores the importance of our work and inspires a global audience to join us in our mission.



**DYLAN HABIL**

As OI Pejeta's audio-visual content creator and filmmaker, Dylan Habil's talent was acknowledged on multiple platforms in 2023. He was selected for the Vital Impacts Mentorship Program under the Environmental Photography Grants, recognized as one of the Top 30 Next-Gen African Creatives and Visionaries by TRACE and Johnnie Walker Africa, and named a fellow in the Sundance Institute x Adobe Class of 2023. Dylan's creative storytelling elevates our conservation message, engaging audiences worldwide and highlighting the innovative spirit within OI Pejeta.



NEWNOISE

Ami Vitale



**MARVIN MWARANGU**

Our in-house photographer and content creator was selected for the Vital Impacts Mentorship Program under the Environmental Photography Grants. His enhanced skills in environmental photography provide a unique and localised perspective on our conservation work, ensuring that the voices and stories of our local community resonate with global audiences.

**ABRAHAM NJENGA**

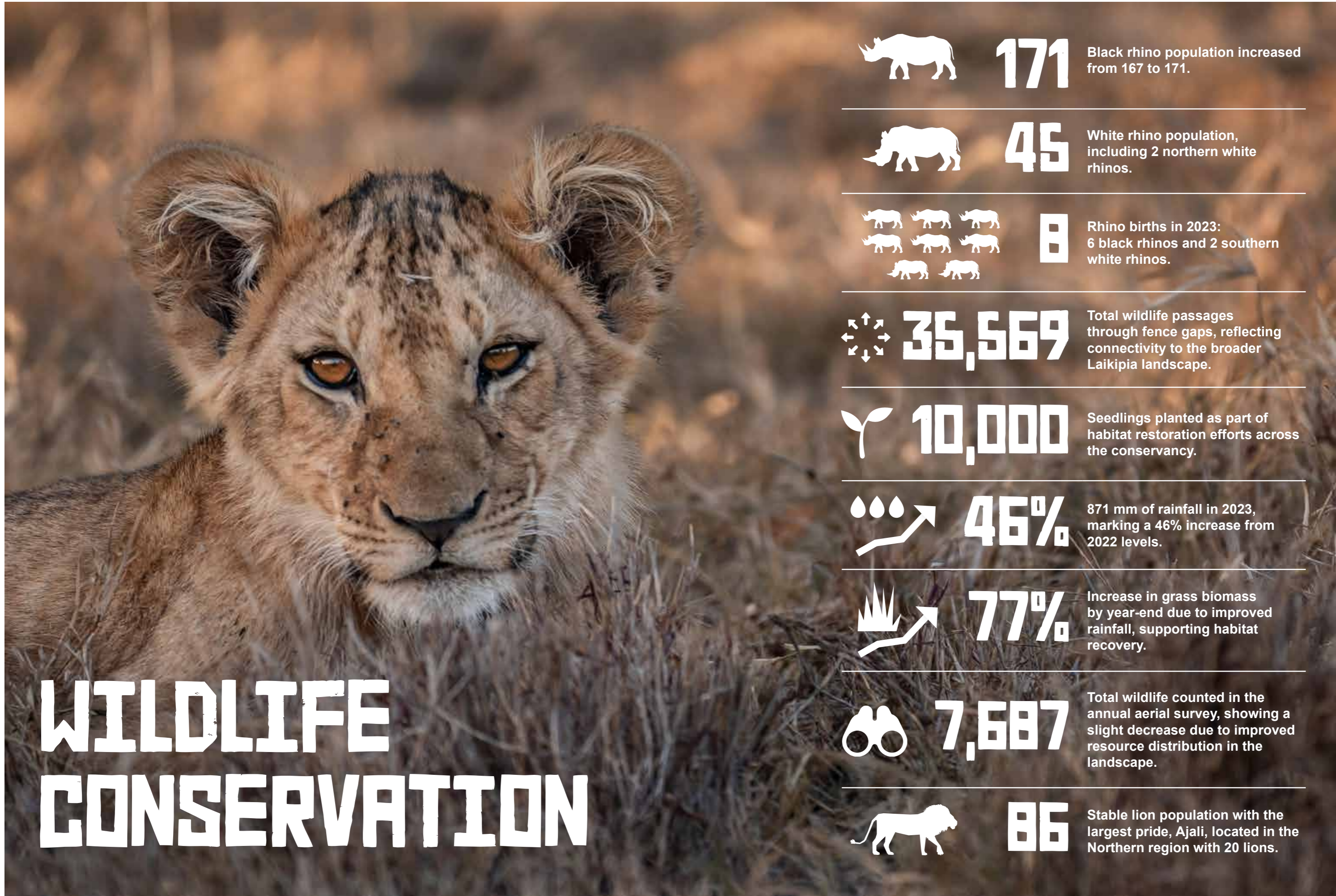
As the Wildlife Operations and Armed Security Coordinator, Abraham distinguished himself by being selected for the inaugural **African Wildlife Foundation Charles R. Wall Conservation Leadership and Management Fellowship Program** and participating in the **Brave Heart Rangers Leadership Course**. These programs equipped him with the leadership and management skills necessary to drive systemic change in conservation, ensuring that OI Pejeta remains at the forefront of conservation efforts across Africa.



Rio the photographer

The achievements of Zacharia, Dylan, Marvin, and Abraham are a testament to the exceptional talent and dedication within OI Pejeta Conservancy. By investing in our staff's growth and celebrating their accomplishments, we strengthen our ability to lead in conservation and inspire both local and global communities. Their stories are not just personal triumphs; they are the foundation of our collective efforts in preserving wildlife and uplifting the communities we serve.





# WILDLIFE CONSERVATION



171

Black rhino population increased from 167 to 171.



45

White rhino population, including 2 northern white rhinos.



8

Rhino births in 2023: 6 black rhinos and 2 southern white rhinos.



35,569

Total wildlife passages through fence gaps, reflecting connectivity to the broader Laikipia landscape.



10,000

Seedlings planted as part of habitat restoration efforts across the conservancy.



46%

871 mm of rainfall in 2023, marking a 46% increase from 2022 levels.



77%

Increase in grass biomass by year-end due to improved rainfall, supporting habitat recovery.



7,687

Total wildlife counted in the annual aerial survey, showing a slight decrease due to improved resource distribution in the landscape.



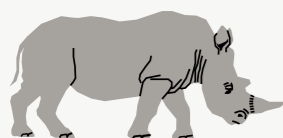
86

Stable lion population with the largest pride, Ajali, located in the Northern region with 20 lions.

 **SPECIES OF CONCERN**

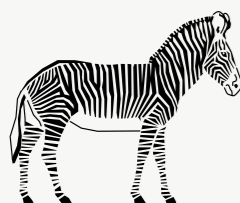
OI Pejeta places a strong emphasis on the conservation of endangered and threatened species, both locally and globally. Continued monitoring of these populations is crucial in understanding their demographics, detecting trends, and informing targeted conservation actions. The data gathered from these efforts guides resource allocation to ensure the survival of these vulnerable species.

**RHINOS**



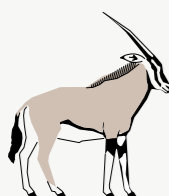
OI Pejeta’s rhino population reached 216 in 2023, including 171 black rhinos, 43 southern white rhinos, and the last two northern white females. This slight increase from 2022 reflects ongoing conservation success. The sanctuary recorded 8 rhino births (6 black and 2 southern white) and 5 deaths (2 black and 3 southern white). Overall, rhino body conditions remained robust, with average sighting frequencies and inter-calving intervals within desired thresholds.

**GREVY’S ZEBRA**



Once numbering around 15,000 in the 1970s, the global Grevy’s zebra population has dwindled to approximately 2,350 due to factors like predation. On OI Pejeta, only 8 individuals remain, including 4 adult females, 2 adult males, a sub-adult male, and a male juvenile. Enhancing breeding at the Mt. Kenya Wildlife Estate (MKWE) is crucial to support population growth and eventual restocking efforts across the broader range.

**BEISA ORYX**



The Beisa oryx population at OI Pejeta stands at just 6 individuals. Listed as near threatened, their numbers have been declining except in protected areas. Plans are in place to restock with additional individuals to bolster genetic diversity and modify habitats within the MKWE to create a more suitable environment for growth.

**JACKSON’S HARTEBEEST**

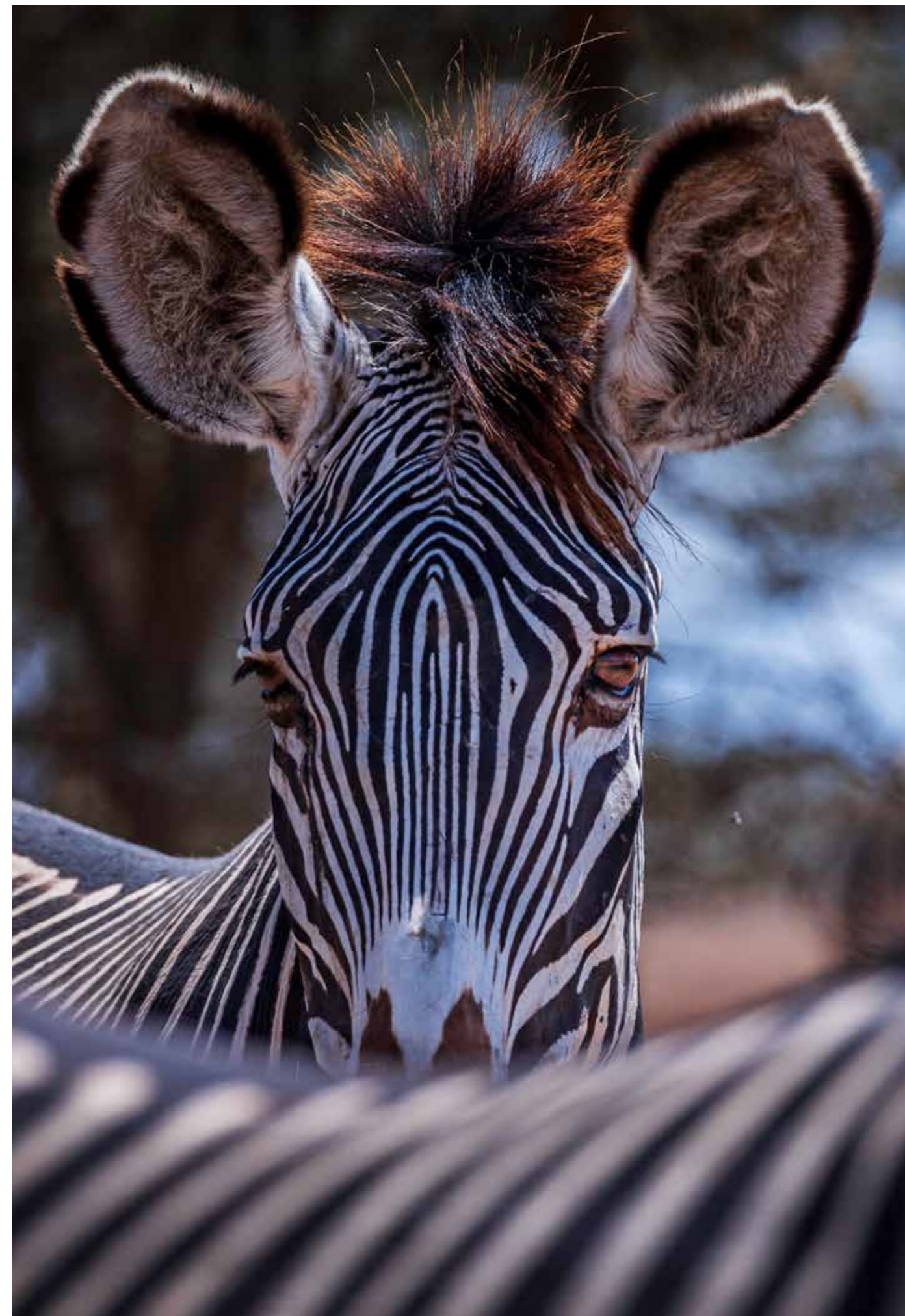


Jackson’s hartebeest has seen a decline, largely attributed to increased predation following lion recovery in Laikipia. Although boosted in 2009 with introductions from Solio Game Reserve, the current population is down to 58. Further investigation is required to determine other factors impacting their survival beyond predation.

**OSTRICH**



The Masai ostrich population on OI Pejeta remains critically low at 8 individuals. However, a nucleus breeding population comprising 3 ostriches (1 male and 2 females) was established in the NWR Boma in 2019, the chicks born of these (6) are now nearing sexual maturity and are expected to start contributing to the population growth.



Rio the Photographer

# SECURITY

In 2023, OI Pejeta's security team made significant strides in enhancing its operational capacity and responding to incidents both internally and in the surrounding communities.

In February, 12 dog handlers and 7 dogs from the K9 unit were certified by the Kenya Police K9 Academy, strengthening the team's capability to ensure evidence is admissible in court. Additionally, a collaboration with WWF resulted in a 3-day training that equipped 70 rangers with vital skills in combating wildlife trafficking, ensuring that OI Pejeta remains at the forefront of wildlife protection efforts.

June saw 15 staff members undergo an intensive three-month law enforcement training at KWS Manyani, further bolstering the team's ability to address wildlife crime and other illegal activities. Later in the year, a 10-day refresher course led by 51 Degrees enhanced the preparedness of the anti-poaching unit, keeping the team agile in tackling emerging security threats.

OI Pejeta's security team also played a crucial role in responding to 108 cases of insecurity, particularly livestock theft. Working closely with the Kenya Police, the team successfully recovered 33% of the stolen livestock, highlighting the effectiveness of the combined efforts in protecting both the conservancy and local communities.



12 dog handlers and 7 dogs certified by Kenya Police K9 Academy.



70 rangers trained in wildlife trafficking countermeasures by WWF.

**KWS**

15 staff members completed a 3-month law enforcement training at KWS Manyani.



10-day anti-poaching refresher training conducted by 51 Degrees.

**108**

108 security cases responded to, both within OI Pejeta and surrounding communities.

**33%**

749 livestock stolen, with 237 recovered by the team (33% recovery rate).



**RESEARCH AND ECOLOGICAL MONITORING UNIT (REMU)**

**AERIAL SURVEY**

OI Pejeta’s vast landscape remains a vital sanctuary for thousands of animals. The 2023 annual aerial survey recorded 7,687 animals on OI Pejeta and 1,360 on Mutara, marking a 23.8% and 7.5% decrease, respectively, compared to 2022. Significant declines were observed in plains zebras, buffaloes, and elephants, attributed to natural dispersal due to improved rainfall across the landscape. This shift allowed wildlife to access resources beyond the conservancy’s boundaries, supporting habitat recovery from overuse and demonstrating the need for habitat connectivity.

**PREDATOR MONITORING**



With some of the highest predator densities in Laikipia, OI Pejeta continues to be home to a robust population of lions, cheetahs, hyenas, and wild dogs. In 2023, the lion population stabilized at 86 individuals across six main prides, with GPS collars placed on select lionesses for ongoing monitoring. The Ajali Pride in the northern region held the largest group with

20 lions. Out of 170 reported wildlife deaths, 108 (64%) were due to predation, primarily by lions, which were responsible for 100 kills, with buffaloes making up 47% of these losses. The observed predation pressure underscores the need for continued monitoring to manage the impact on prey species effectively.

**ACACIA WOODLAND MONITORING**



OI Pejeta’s acacia woodlands are vital habitats under constant threat from factors such as herbivory by elephants and rhinos and prolonged drought conditions. Monitoring efforts expanded in 2023 to the western parts of the conservancy, revealing a higher density of young *A. drepanolobium* seedlings in newly sampled sections. However, excessive herbivory and drought have led to high mortality in taller trees, underscoring the need for continued habitat restoration efforts. Approximately 10,000 seedlings were planted in excluded zones to support the recovery of this critical ecosystem, promoting resilience against environmental pressures.

**PASTURE ASSESSMENT**

Consistent monitoring of OI Pejeta’s grasslands showed a significant increase in biomass from 1,085 kg/ha in the first quarter to 2,298 kg/ha by the fourth quarter of 2023. This improvement was driven by better rainfall towards the end of the year, marking a 77% increase compared to 2022. Despite these gains, long-term assessments indicate a gradual annual decline due to climate change, highlighting the ongoing need for adaptive management of grazing regimes to maintain a balance between livestock and wildlife grazing impacts.

**CONNECTIVITY AND WILDLIFE MOVEMENT**



OI Pejeta’s strategic fence gaps along the northern boundary play a crucial role in maintaining connectivity with the broader Laikipia ecosystem, allowing wildlife to move freely between the conservancy and surrounding landscapes. In 2023, a total of 34,569 passages were recorded through these gaps, with 17,662

exits and 16,907 entries. Carnivores accounted for 7,222 movements, while herbivores totaled 27,286 movements.

There was significant wildlife dispersal in the year 2023 compared to previous years, likely due to improved resource availability outside the conservancy following widespread rains. This suggests that during the rainy season, when resources such as pasture and water are abundant across the landscape, wildlife disperses to take advantage of improved conditions elsewhere. This movement underscores the effectiveness of the fence gaps in connecting OI Pejeta to the larger Laikipia ecosystem, providing a vital link that supports genetic diversity and species resilience, especially during extreme times.

Looking ahead, there is a need to investigate where and how far animals range beyond the conservancy and assess which resources are driving this movement. Future efforts may involve collaring select individuals to track and better understand their ranging behaviour, ultimately informing management strategies that enhance connectivity and conservation outcomes in the landscape.

**RAINFALL UPDATES**

Rainfall in 2023 totaled 871mm, marking a significant 46% increase compared to 2022. This rise in precipitation contributed to improved conditions across the conservancy, supporting pasture regeneration and enhancing habitat quality for wildlife. However, it’s notable that despite the overall increase, the months of July and August in 2023 were drier compared to the same period in 2022, highlighting the variability in rainfall distribution throughout the year. This uneven pattern underscores the ongoing challenges posed by climate change and the need for adaptive management to optimize water use and habitat resilience.

Rio the Photographer

Rio the Photographer

 **VETERINARY UPDATES**



Rio the Photographer

A total of 123 veterinary interventions were conducted in 2023, with 118 on wildlife and 5 on the K9 unit.

**123**



**18**

Interventions were conducted on 18 different wildlife species throughout the year.

There were 8 external interventions carried out at Mpala, Mutara, and Mt Kenya Wildlife Conservancy.

**8**



Biosecurity at chimps was enhanced with the installation of footbaths and vehicle baths across the sanctuary.

Rhinos, including southern white, black, and northern white, accounted for 49 interventions, the most of any species.

**49**



Southern white rhinos were the most frequently attended species.

In 2023, the veterinary unit faced a diverse range of cases, showcasing their dedication to wildlife care. Among the most notable interventions were several unique cases, such as the de-snaring of a striped hyena in a nearby community, which was safely relocated into the conservancy. A male cheetah was also treated for a leg wound sustained during a failed hunting attempt. Each case presented its own challenges, but the team managed them with precision and care.

Beyond the conservancy, the team's expertise was sought by the Kenya Wildlife Service (KWS), leading to eight external interventions. These included the treatment of a sick lioness at Mpala, several elephant treatments, and GPS collar placements at Mutara. Additionally, at Mount Kenya Wildlife Conservancy, the team treated a Mountain Bongo for an abscess, and the animal has since made a full recovery.

Meanwhile, at the chimpanzee sanctuary, biosecurity was further improved with the installation of footbaths and vehicle baths. Enrichment efforts for the chimpanzees also saw the installation of three new termite mounds, aimed at enhancing their welfare and natural behaviors within the enclosures.



Dylan Habil



## CHIMPANZEE UPDATES

### ARCUS FOUNDATION GRANT 2023

The Sweetwaters Chimpanzee Sanctuary continues to thrive thanks to the unwavering support of the Arcus Foundation. This year's grant was directed towards operational and capacity-building initiatives, enhancing the sanctuary's ability to provide the highest standard of care for its residents. The grant bolstered daily operations, allowing for the purchase of essential supplies such as rations, cleaning materials, PPE, staff uniforms, and vehicle fuel, all critical to maintaining the smooth running of the sanctuary.

### STRENGTHENING CAPACITY AND BIOSECURITY

A key focus this year was on training and upskilling the sanctuary staff. Collaborative training sessions with the Pan African Sanctuary Alliance equipped our team with updated skills essential for chimpanzee care. Additionally, our newly appointed resident veterinarian actively participated in chimpanzee health assessments at Chimfunshi Sanctuary in Zambia, ensuring cross-learning and the enhancement of health protocols.

To further safeguard the health of the chimpanzees, biosecurity measures were significantly enhanced with the installation of footbaths and vehicle baths across the sanctuary. These steps are crucial in minimising the risk of disease transmission, particularly given the sanctuary's commitment to protecting its vulnerable residents.

### IMPROVING WELFARE AND ENRICHMENT

Sweetwaters has remained steadfast in its mission to provide an enriched environment for the chimpanzees. With support from the grant, welfare improvements included the installation of 14 night-time water drinking points, ensuring easy access to water at all times. Three new termite mounds were also constructed and placed within the sanctuary as part of an enrichment program designed to stimulate natural behaviours and improve the animals' quality of life.

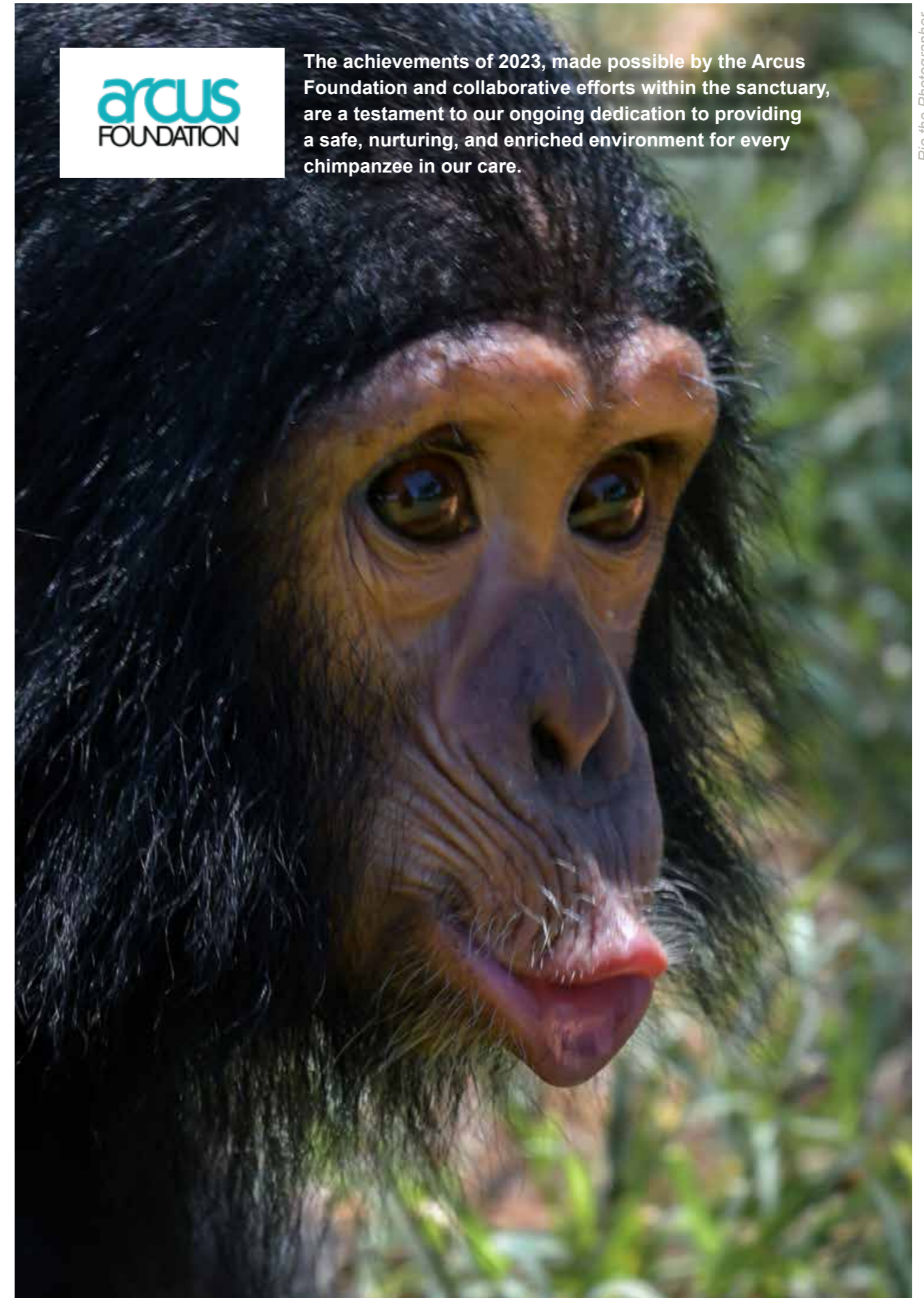
Investments in upgraded storage facilities for food, complete with improved shelving, have streamlined operations, making daily care routines more efficient and ensuring that the chimpanzees receive the nutritious food and minerals they need for ongoing health.

### LOOKING AHEAD

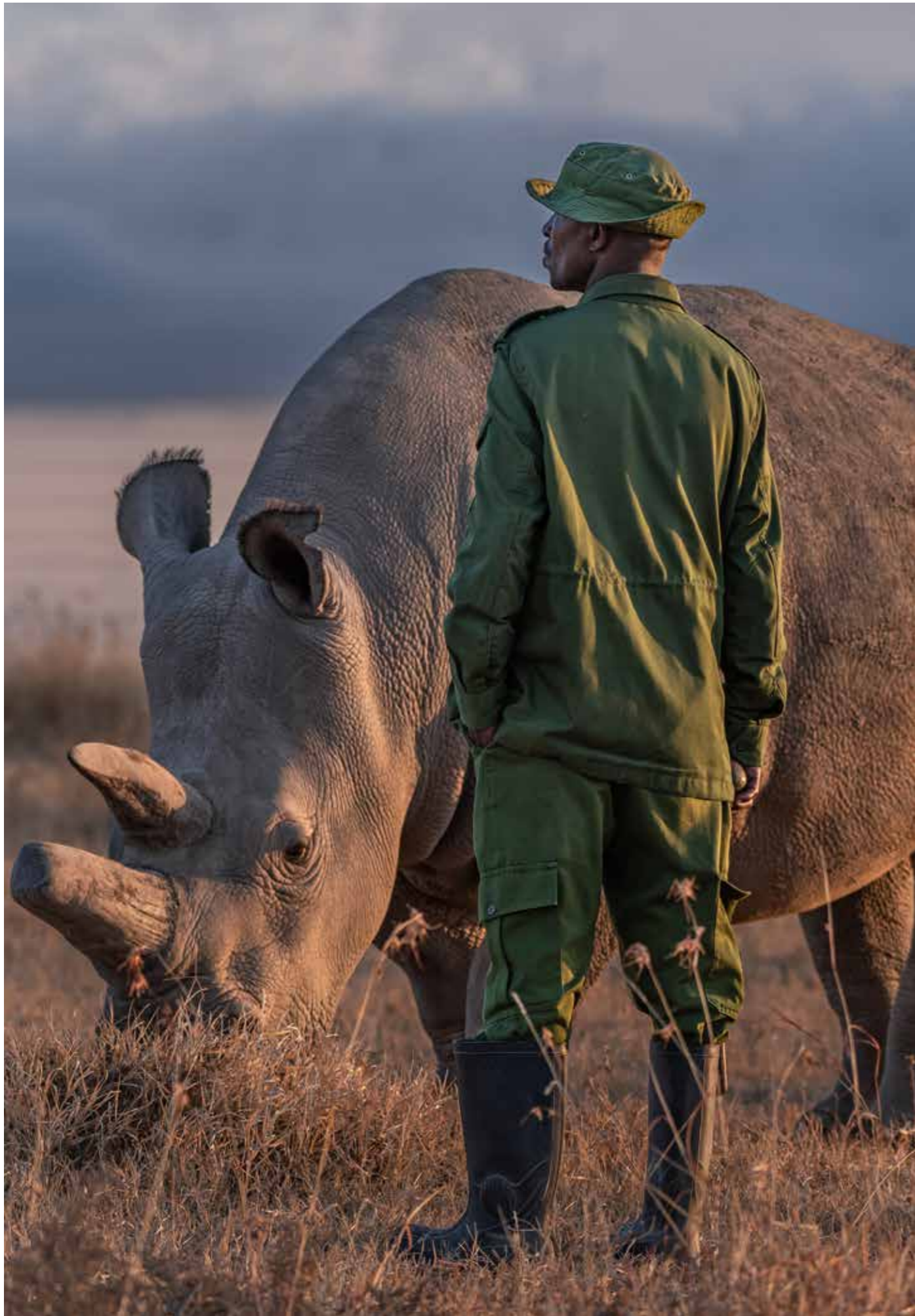
Sweetwaters Chimpanzee Sanctuary remains committed to continuously improving the lives of its residents. The achievements of 2023, made possible by the Arcus Foundation and collaborative efforts within the sanctuary, are a testament to our ongoing dedication to providing a safe, nurturing, and enriched environment for every chimpanzee in our care. As we move forward, we will continue to build on these successes, ensuring that Sweetwaters remains a sanctuary of hope and recovery for these incredible animals.



The achievements of 2023, made possible by the Arcus Foundation and collaborative efforts within the sanctuary, are a testament to our ongoing dedication to providing a safe, nurturing, and enriched environment for every chimpanzee in our care.



Rio the Photographer



## NORTHERN WHITE RHINO UPDATES

The year 2023 presented both notable achievements and significant challenges for the northern white rhino recovery efforts. The BioRescue consortium successfully conducted three ovum pick-up (OPU) procedures from Fatu, resulting in the development of five new embryos, bringing the total number of embryos to 29. Additionally, a groundbreaking milestone was achieved with the successful implantation of an IVF-fertilised southern white rhino embryo, marking the first-ever recorded IVF pregnancy in rhinos.

However, towards the end of the year, heavy rains led to flooding in the surrogacy enclosure, creating conditions favorable for the proliferation of clostridial bacteria. Tragically, this resulted in the sudden deaths of the teaser bull, Ouwan, and one of the surrogates, Curra, who was pregnant at the time.

In response, OI Pejeta, in collaboration with the Kenya Wildlife Service, swiftly implemented measures to protect the remaining rhinos. These actions included the immediate relocation of the surviving surrogate, restructuring of the enclosures, vaccinating all rhinos in the area, and introducing enhanced biosecurity protocols. Additionally, upcoming OPU procedures were temporarily suspended to mitigate further risk. These swift interventions successfully contained the outbreak, and no further losses were reported.

Following this incident, OI Pejeta, together with the BioRescue consortium, revised their strategy to address the challenges faced and ensure the continued progress of the recovery program.



# OUR NEIGHBOURS



Dylan Habil



**4**

4 secondary schools added to the ARES project, equipping 785 students with ICT skills.



**20**

20 laptops and an ARES server donated to Nanyuki Library and 14 mesh systems installed.



**223**

223 scholarship beneficiaries in 2023, surpassing the target with a 48.6% increase from 2022, including 152 full scholarships and 71 part scholarships. This was done at Kes 10.5M.



3 classrooms, a library, and 2 pre-school classes built at Chuma Primary School, with additional classrooms built at Tangi Nyeusi.



**12,000**

12,000 trees planted in community schools and the conservancy to support local ecosystems and combat climate change.



**1,521**

1,521 students and 425 community members participated in complimentary game drives worth 1.7 million Kes, offering experiential learning about conservation.



**16**

16 pupils participated in the Annual Rhino Competition and Camp, deepening their understanding of rhino conservation.



**576**

576 kitchen gardens established, 200 m<sup>3</sup> of water warvested, and 2,186 farmers received certified seeds through donor support.



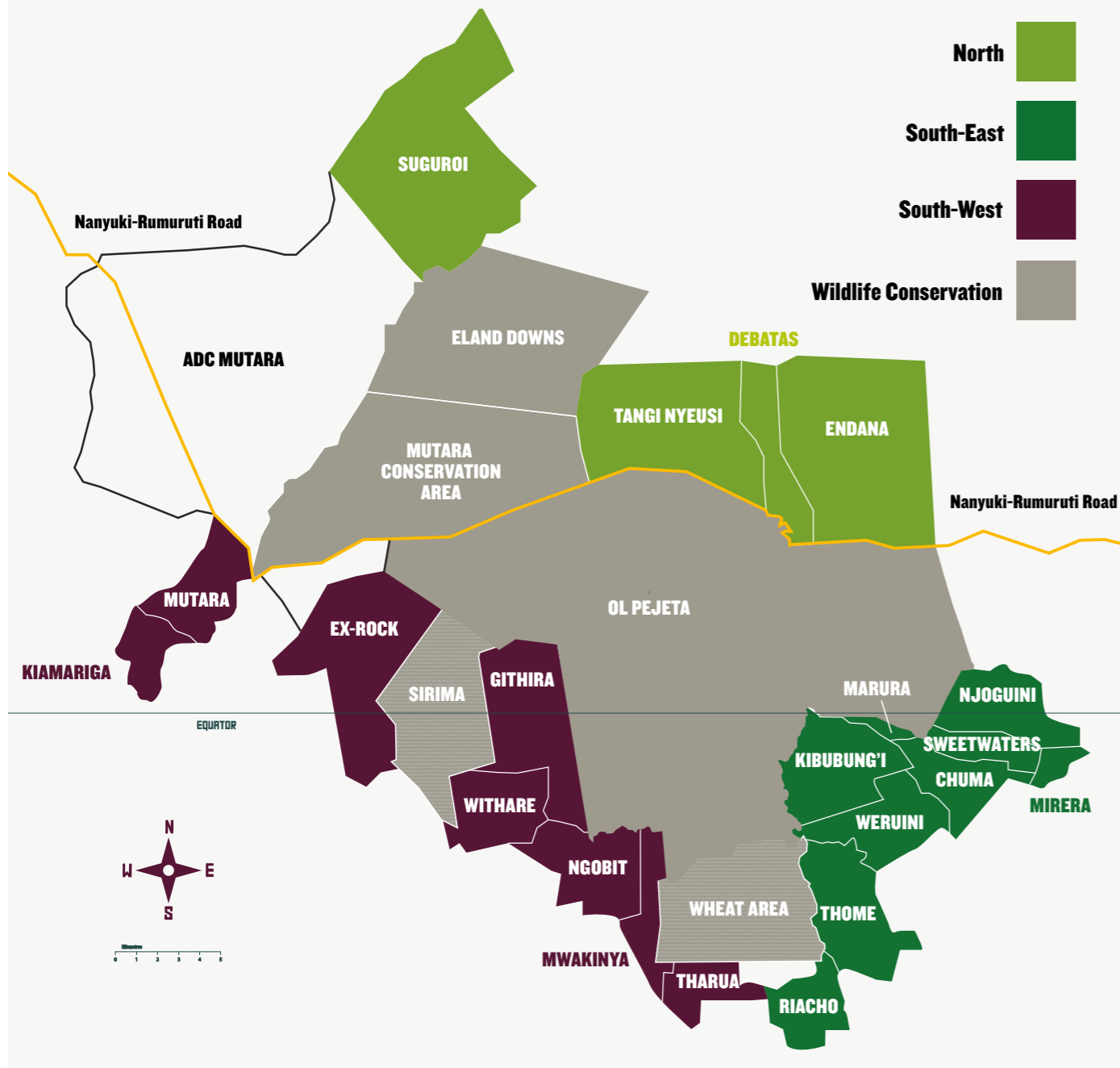
**10,843**

10,843 chicks distributed and 12,205 cattle and sheep vaccinated to improve livestock health and productivity.

## COMMUNITY INTRODUCTION

At OI Pejeta, we believe that conservation is only sustainable when it benefits both people and wildlife. In 2023, our commitment to our neighbouring communities remained as strong as ever, with significant advancements across several key initiatives. From expanding our education programmes to improving infrastructure and supporting local agriculture, we continued to build on the relationships that are fundamental to our success. This year saw new projects, enhanced partnerships, and an unwavering dedication to empowering those who live alongside us.

### MAP OF OI PEJETA'S COMMUNITIES



## ARES PROJECT

ARES is an education system designed to operate in rugged environments, without internet or reliable power. It contains an enormous range of educational content and administrative tools ranging from science simulations, training videos, classroom notes over 10000 books free to access.

The ARES (African Ruggedised Education System) Project is OI Pejeta Conservancy's initiative to promote digital literacy by providing computers and education systems to schools in laikipia county. In 2023 the project continued to make substantial progress, furthering our mission to equip students with essential ICT skills. Four additional secondary schools—Muramati, Nyakio, Likii Mixed, and Lechugu Day—were brought

into the project, each receiving 20 notebooks, an ARES server, a projector, and computer speakers. Thanks to a generous donation from Sean Hogan, the Nanyuki Library also received 20 laptops and an ARES server, broadening access to digital resources.

In total, these efforts have equipped 785 students with valuable ICT skills by the end of 2023. To ensure effective use of these resources, teachers and library staff underwent comprehensive training sessions, learning to integrate digital content into their classrooms. Additionally, to address connectivity challenges identified in 2022, we installed 14 mesh systems across participating schools, greatly enhancing their digital capabilities.

## EDUCATION PROGRAMME

In 2023, OI Pejeta Conservancy made significant strides in improving educational infrastructure and supporting student development in our neighbouring communities. Our efforts focused not only on building and upgrading school facilities but also on expanding access to education through scholarships, mentorship, and conservation education programmes.



Dylan Haybil

**Infrastructure Developments:** Together with the Give Power Foundation, we installed solar systems at Mwituria and Lechugu Mixed Secondary Schools, ensuring these institutions have reliable and sustainable energy. In partnership with the Nobility Project, we also constructed three classrooms, a library, and two pre-school classes at Chuma Primary School, alongside two additional classrooms at Tangi Nyeusi. These improvements have created more conducive learning environments, helping students reach their full potential.



**Scholarship Programme:** Our scholarship programme experienced remarkable growth in 2023. We provided scholarships to a total of 223 beneficiaries, surpassing our target of 200. Of these, 152 were full scholarships and 71 were part scholarships, with 130 female and 93 male students benefiting. This represents a 48.6% increase from 2022. In 2023, we invested KES 10,516,073 in scholarships, making a substantial impact on students' ability to continue their education. This was courtesy to our donors Black Apple, PA-MOJA and the Tina Tower foundation.



**Mentorship:** In collaboration with Daraja Academy, we held mentorship sessions from December 2nd to 15th, 2023, aimed at providing holistic support to our students. These sessions focused on building life skills, covering topics such as communication, identity, hygiene, sex education, confidence building, and conflict resolution. The mentorship programme is designed to empower students, helping them become confident and well-rounded individuals.

**Conservation Education Programmes:** Our Conservation Education Programmes in 2023 were pivotal in raising awareness about environmental conservation and promoting sustainable practices. Notable achievements include:

- **Tree Planting:** Over 12,000 trees were planted in community schools and within the conservancy to enhance local ecosystems, encourage biodiversity, and combat climate change.
- **Experiential Learning:** We offered complimentary game drives worth KES 1.7 million to 1,521 students and 425 community members, providing hands-on learning experiences that highlighted the importance of conservation.
- **Annual Rhino Competition and Camp:** Sixteen primary school pupils (8 boys and 8 girls) who excelled in the Rhino Conservation competition were invited to spend a week camping at OI Pejeta Bush Camp.
- **Tree Nurseries:** Four community locations were identified and developed as tree nurseries, with community members operating these nurseries supported by OI Pejeta's Community Department. We also bought back 10,000 seedlings from these nurseries.
- **Educational Tools:** The Nexus Dicey Game, a conservation education tool, was distributed to 35 community schools, providing a unique way to deliver conservation content to learners. Additionally, two conservation education films were developed using local resources, targeting learners from nearby communities to increase their awareness of environmental protection.

Through these diverse initiatives, OI Pejeta continues to demonstrate its commitment to enhancing education and supporting the next generation of conservationists. Our work in 2023 laid a strong foundation for future efforts, ensuring that education and conservation go hand in hand in our community.



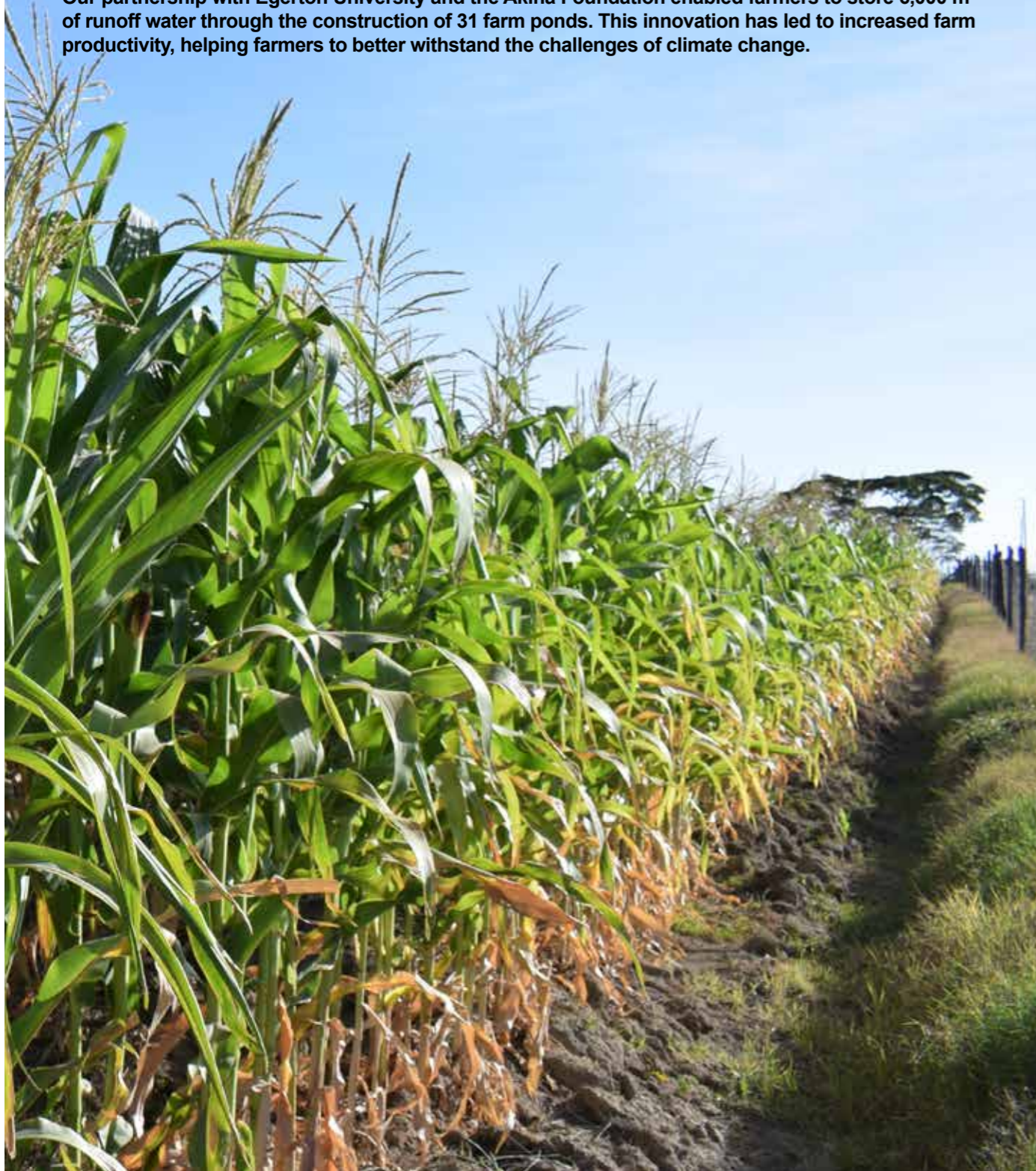
All photos by Dylan Haybil



**✋ AGRICULTURE**

Supporting sustainable agriculture remained a key focus for OI Pejeta in 2023. Through collaboration with various donors, we provided significant resources to local farmers. With the help of Guardian Rita and Jeff, 576 kitchen gardens were established, and roof water harvesting systems were installed for 30 farmers, resulting in the collection of 200 m<sup>3</sup> of water. Additionally, 2,186 farmers received certified seeds, including potato, sweet potato, Rhodes grass, super Napier, sorghum, millet, and assorted vegetables, enhancing food security and resilience.

Our partnership with Egerton University and the Akina Foundation enabled farmers to store 6,000 m<sup>3</sup> of runoff water through the construction of 31 farm ponds. This innovation has led to increased farm productivity, helping farmers to better withstand the challenges of climate change.



Rio the Photographer

**✋ LIVESTOCK**

The health and productivity of livestock are vital to the livelihoods of our neighbouring communities. In 2023, OI Pejeta, in collaboration with FFI and Guardian Rita and Jeff, supported local farmers by providing 10,843 chicks, helping to diversify their income streams. We also continued our vaccination program, reaching 7,205 cattle and 4,900 sheep, protecting them against diseases such as CBPP, FMD, CCPP, and sheep and goat pox.

Our outreach extended to over 2,120 farmers, with farm visits offering tailored advice and support. Through our artificial insemination program, 459 cows were serviced, leading to 127 successful calvings, which contributed to increased milk production. These initiatives are part of our ongoing commitment to improving the resilience and prosperity of our neighbouring communities.



Rio the Photographer

# TOURISM

Rio the Photographer



**15%**

Increase in citizen entries, reflecting growing local interest.



**WORLD TRAVEL AWARDS**

World Travel Awards 2023: OI Pejeta won the Leading Conservation Company Award for the second consecutive year, reinforcing its global conservation leadership.



Accommodation Growth: Tambarare saw a 38.3% increase in usage, while Camping and MKWE grew by 25.5% and 30.7%, reflecting diverse visitor preferences.



**28%**

Increase in non-resident entries highlights OI Pejeta's expanding international appeal and recognition.



New Lodge. In April 2023, the sustainability-built River Camp opened with a bed capacity of 20.



Stables Gold Rating: The Stables earned a Gold rating for outstanding service and hospitality.



**26%**

Increase in day trippers. Showing the growing popularity of OI Pejeta as a day destination.



Magical Kenya Signature Experience: The Northern White Rhino visit was added to the list by the Kenya Tourism Board.



Positive Feedback on Immersive Conservation Experiences (ICE): The programme received excellent feedback, reinforcing its effectiveness in engaging and educating visitors on conservation.

**A YEAR OF DISCOVERY:**

**EXPANDING HORIZONS IN OI PEJETA'S TOURISM**

Last year, we made significant strides in our tourism sector, thanks to the dedication of our 65 staff members, who make up 10% of the entire workforce. Their efforts successfully attracted a diverse range of visitors to the Conservancy.

In 2023, OI Pejeta saw a notable increase in visitor numbers across different categories. Citizen entries rose by 15.3%, reflecting growing local interest, while East African resident entries increased by 5.9%, indicating our regional appeal. The most significant surge was in non-resident entries, with a remarkable 28.2% increase, highlighting the Conservancy's growing international recognition. Additionally, day trippers surged by 26.4%, underscoring the attractiveness of OI Pejeta as a preferred destination for day excursions.

An analysis of accommodation numbers shows positive growth, with some variation across different facilities. Tambarare saw a substantial 38.3% increase, indicating its growing popularity. Similarly, Camping and MKWE witnessed significant growth rates of 25.5% and 30.7% respectively, reflecting the diverse preferences of our visitors. However, declines in certain facilities like Kicheche and RVA highlight the need for targeted strategies to address specific challenges.

The ICE (Immersive Conservation Experiences) programme received overwhelmingly positive feedback from participants, highlighting its effectiveness in engaging and educating visitors. Participants praised the well-structured itinerary, flexibility, and immersive nature of the experiences. Our guides, particularly Manu and David, were commended for their exceptional knowledge and hospitality, reinforcing OI Pejeta's commitment to delivering high-quality educational experiences.

In April 2023, we introduced the River Camp, a sustainably built accommodation option designed to offer an intimate safari experience. With a capacity of 20 beds, the camp allows guests to immerse themselves in conservation-oriented adventures, aligning with our mission to promote sustainable tourism.

Our tourism efforts garnered significant recognition in 2023. The Northern white Rhino visit was added to the Magical Kenya Signature Experience list by the Kenya Tourism Board, further enhancing OI Pejeta's reputation as a premier wildlife destination. The Stables received a Gold rating for quality service and performance, affirming our commitment to excellence in hospitality. Moreover, OI Pejeta was honoured with the Leading Conservation Company Award at the World Travel Award 2023, for the second consecutive year, underscoring our global impact and leadership in conservation initiatives.

In conclusion, 2023 was a year of remarkable progress for OI Pejeta's tourism sector. With increasing visitor numbers, positive programme feedback, innovative guest experiences, and notable accolades, we continue to solidify our position as a frontrunner in wildlife conservation and sustainable tourism. Moving forward, we remain committed to providing exceptional experiences while advancing our mission of wildlife species conservation and community development.

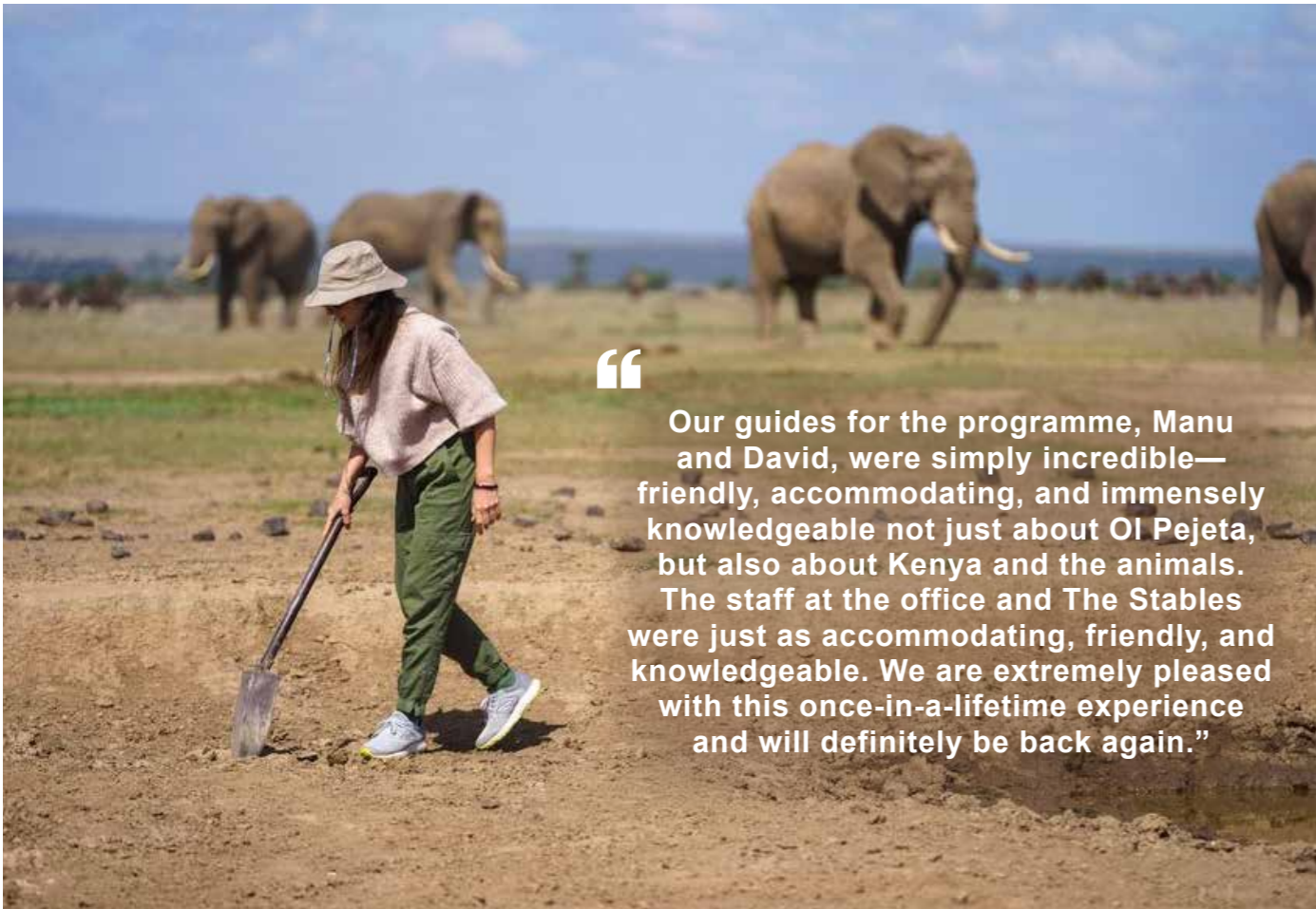
**Participant Feedback on Immersive Conservation Experiences (ICE) Program:**

“ I just left a positive review of my time at OI Pejeta on TripAdvisor. I had an amazing time and would like to express a huge thank you to everyone at OI Pejeta for making the experience so enjoyable. In particular, our guide Manu (Emmanuel Lochavar) was an asset to the conservancy and made the experience incredibly special for us. The team at The Stables was also incredible—Kenneth, Jackie, Henry, Wesley, Monica, Lydia—and also David (Guide) and Chris (EMU). Every single person we met was so welcoming, knowledgeable, and kind.”



Ali Argun

Ali Argun



“

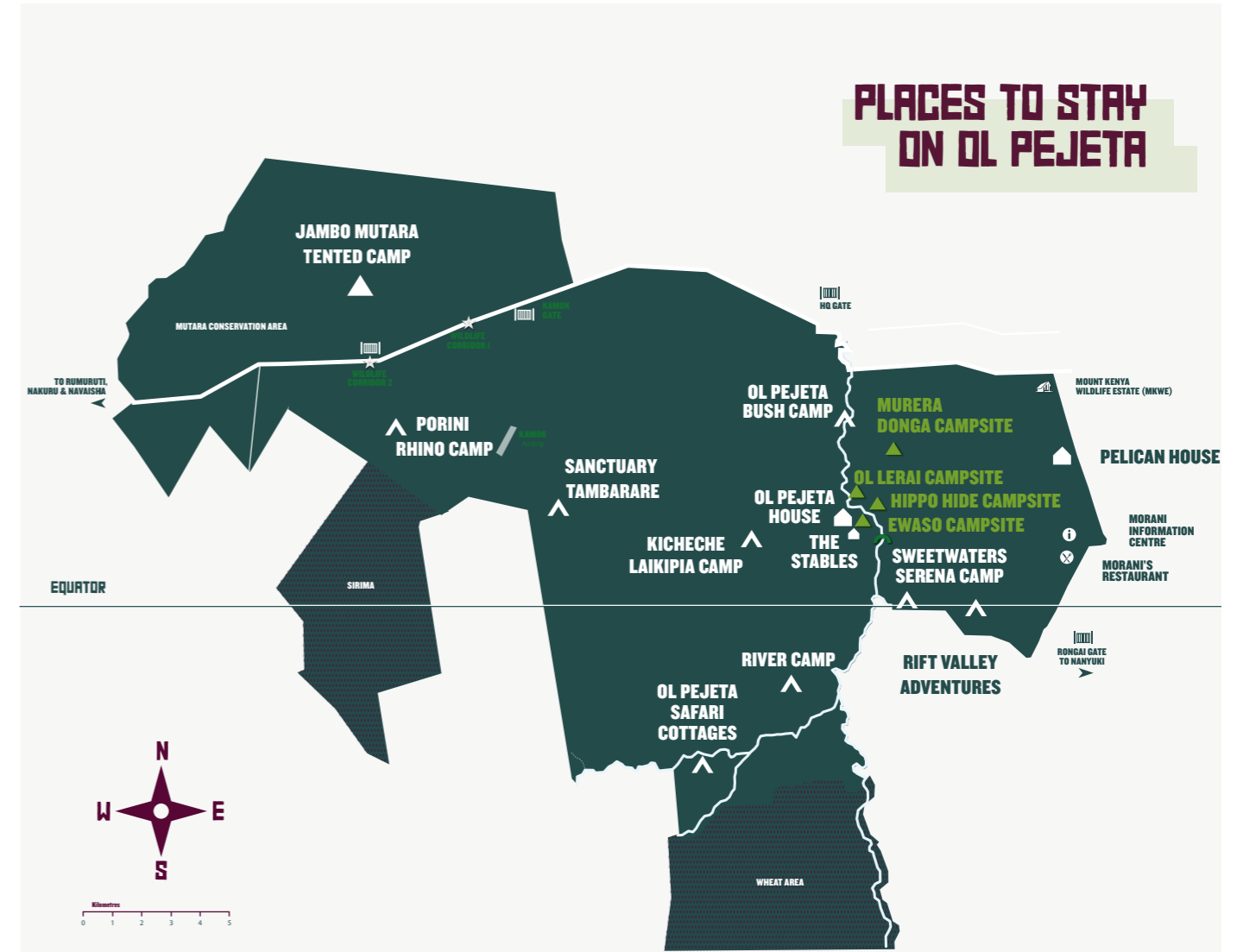
Our guides for the programme, Manu and David, were simply incredible—friendly, accommodating, and immensely knowledgeable not just about OI Pejeta, but also about Kenya and the animals. The staff at the office and The Stables were just as accommodating, friendly, and knowledgeable. We are extremely pleased with this once-in-a-lifetime experience and will definitely be back again.”

Kinging it



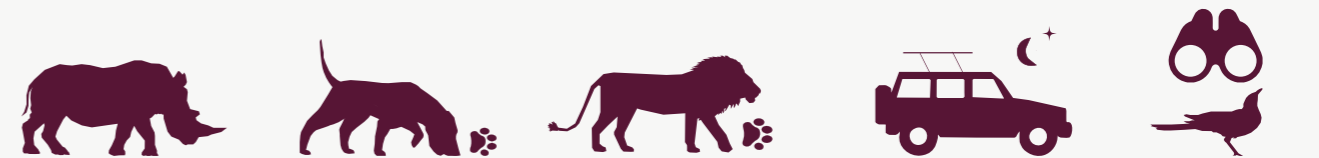
“

I was very content with the overall programme! It was organised in a way that allowed us to participate in all activities, with the flexibility to adjust a few to fit our needs and preferences. I am thrilled with everything. I saw more than I could have ever asked for and had unbelievable experiences that I still can't believe I lived. My body is still absorbing the incredible moments and experiences I had in Kenya with all of you. Thank you so much for this life-changing opportunity.”



## PLACES TO STAY ON OI PEJETA

## CONSERVATION ACTIVITIES ON OI PEJETA



MEET THE NORTHERN WHITE RHINOS    DOG TRACKING    LION TRACKING    NIGHT GAME DRIVE    BUSH AND BIRD WALKS



RIDE WITH NORTHERN WHITE RHINOS    CYCLING SAFARI    LIVESTOCK-WILDLIFE INTEGRATION    MEET THE NEIGHBOURS    ICE PROGRAMMES

# OPENING OF THE RIVER CAMP BY WILDER GROUP

In April 2023, OI Pejeta Conservancy proudly introduced The River Camp, a sustainable and thoughtfully crafted addition to our range of accommodations. Nestled on the tranquil banks of the Ngobit River, The River Camp offers an intimate safari experience with a bed capacity of 20 spread across eight luxurious tents.

Imagine embarking on a family safari that becomes one of your most cherished memories, enhanced by the unique opportunity to engage in conservation-oriented adventures in one of Kenya's most pristine areas. At The River Camp, your home in East Africa, you'll awaken to the soothing sounds of birdsong and watch as wildlife gathers at the river, right from the comfort of your private deck.

For those who seek the extraordinary, The River Camp offers an immersive experience that brings you closer to Kenya's conservation efforts. Whether you're delving deep into the intricacies of wildlife protection or enjoying a more personal safari, The River Camp is the perfect retreat for the discerning traveller who values both luxury and sustainability.



The River Camp

## THE LAST MALE STANDING RHINO CUP

Building on the success of its return in 2022, the Last Male Standing Rhino Cup continued its momentum on the OI Pejeta plains from Friday, 16th June, to Sunday, 18th June 2023. The annual cricket tournament brought together cricket enthusiasts and conservation supporters from across Kenya, with 16 teams competing in two categories: the competitive Rhino Cup and the socially focused Sudan Smash.

With around 330 participants and spectators attending, the event once again demonstrated strong community engagement. Notably, the OI Pejeta cricket team also took part, underscoring the growing internal enthusiasm for this annual celebration.

This year's Rhino Cup reached a new milestone, raising US\$9,668 —an increase from the US\$8,800 raised in 2022. These funds play a crucial role in supporting our ongoing conservation and community initiatives.

We extend our sincere gratitude to the teams, players, staff, sponsors, and supporters who contributed to the success of the 2023 Rhino Cup. We look forward to welcoming everyone back to OI Pejeta next June for another exciting event filled with sport, community spirit, and conservation.

OI Pejeta Conservancy next June for another celebration of sport, community, and conservation.



Dylan Haybul



Rio the photographer

# TOURNAMENT WINNERS



**Mario Tours triumphed in a closely contested final against Meru Cricket Club.**



**Ndovu Cement secured victory over Pirates Cricket Club in a spirited match.**

Rio the Photographer

# LIVESTOCK AND AGRICULTURE

  
**500T**

Largest Feed Bank Established, with 500T of silage, 500T of grain, and tonnes of hay stored.



**E.C.F**

East Coast Fever Tolerant Borans project launched in collaboration with ILRI.



**66%**

reduction in cattle supplementation costs through home-grown fodder.



**440**

cows added to the breeding herd, expanding from 1,950 to 2,390 cows, in addition 115 cows of new Boran bloodline purchased from Loldia for the stud herd.



**85%**

conception rate achieved, up from 45%, through hybrid breeding techniques that include synchronisation, artificial insemination, and natural breeding.



**2,950**

Boran and Ankole embryos exported to South Africa – the largest bovine embryo export in a single shipment globally.

**↓ 36 ↓**

Beef production time reduced from 48 to 36 months.

**16%**

revenue increase per carcass and 250 tonnes of beef supplied to the local market.



**55%**

Arable revenues increased by 55%, with an additional 70ha cultivated for fodder production.

Rio the Photographer

# ADVANCEMENTS AND ACHIEVEMENTS IN OI PEJETA'S LIVESTOCK SECTOR:



# REFLECTIONS ON 2023

The year 2023 presented significant challenges for the Livestock Department at OI Pejeta, largely due to the lingering effects of drought and disease from the previous year. Despite these hurdles, the department demonstrated resilience, focusing on innovation and strategic management to achieve substantial progress across multiple areas.



## LIVESTOCK MANAGEMENT AND HEALTH

In 2023, OI Pejeta continued to enhance the quality of its breeding herd through a combination of natural and artificial breeding techniques. The breeding herd expanded from 1,750 cows to 2,390 cows, with conception rates improving significantly from 45% to an outstanding 85%. These efforts reflect our commitment to maintaining the high standards for which OI Pejeta's livestock operation is known.

Our work extended beyond herd expansion. We collaborated with the Directory of Veterinary Services (GOK) to combat and eradicate a devastating bovine disease outbreak in the region. Additionally, we initiated a pilot project aimed at developing Boran cattle tolerant to East Coast Fever (ECF), demonstrating our ongoing commitment to advancing veterinary practices and supporting community welfare.



## MARKET EXPANSION AND PREMIUM BEEF PRODUCTION

OI Pejeta's strategic focus on ethical, holistic, and sustainable beef production fostered stronger partnerships with clients and led to heightened demand for our premium beef. We produced and delivered 250 tonnes of premium beef to the local market, yet the overwhelming demand highlighted the need for further expansion and optimization. OI Pejeta plans to be a significant producer for beef production in the country.

Leveraging our marketing initiatives and renowned Boran genetics, we successfully exported 2,950 Boran and Ankole embryos to South Africa, marking a historic milestone in global bovine embryo exports. This achievement not only solidified OI Pejeta's global reputation but also strengthened our ties within the international bovine breeding community.



Dylan Haybil

## TECHNOLOGICAL INTEGRATION AND ENVIRONMENTAL STEWARDSHIP

In a transformative move towards technological integration, OI Pejeta collaborated with the Swedish University of Agriculture (SLU) and deployed live satellite tracking collars on its herds. This innovative approach, facilitated by the EarthRanger software, revolutionised herd management by providing real-time data on

movement, grazing patterns, predation, and rangeland health. Consequently, we witnessed a remarkable doubling of rangeland biomass within a span of 1.5 years, showcasing the symbiotic relationship between livestock management and environmental stewardship.

## FODDER PRODUCTION AND SUSTAINABILITY

Recognising the importance of self-sufficiency, OI Pejeta invested in fodder production to mitigate external feed dependencies and reduce costs. The successful production of quality fodder resulted in a significant reduction in feed purchase reliance, down to 15%, while

simultaneously establishing the largest feed bank in OI Pejeta's history. This strategic endeavour ensures year-round supplementary feed supply, safeguarding the herd against future droughts and reinforcing OI Pejeta's commitment to sustainability.

**"WE WITNESSED A REMARKABLE DOUBLING OF RANGELAND BIOMASS WITHIN A SPAN OF 1.5 YEARS".**

Rio the Photographer



## CONCLUSION

In summary, 2023 marked a year of overcoming challenges and transformation for OI Pejeta's Livestock Department Through strategic planning, technological integration and strong partnerships, we have reinforced our position as a leader in sustainable livestock management

and agricultural innovation. As look ahead we remain focused on building upon these successes, ensuring that our practices continue to benefit both the environment and the communities we serve.

# AGRICULTURAL ADVANCEMENTS AND REVENUE GROWTH

In parallel, OI Pejeta's arable farming partners, Lengetia Ltd, are pioneers at precision technology and data-driven farming techniques, yielding record-high revenues and expanding arable land. These efforts contribute not only to OI Pejeta's financial stability but also to Kenya's broader food security goals.



Rio the Photographer

# TECHNOLOGY

Maureen Gathoni



50

50 FindMy Sensors deployed to track cattle using satellite technology and EarthRanger integration.



25

25 JVA zm1 Monitors installed, covering 120.5 km of fence for real-time monitoring and faster responses.



12

12 masts and exclusion fences installed for the Solio Thermal Imaging solution for anti-poaching



1

NatGeo Grant awarded for the Early Warning Fence Monitoring System using LoRaWan technology.



1

Observation Tower built to monitor northern white rhinos, contributing to the northern white rhino recovery programme.



## TECHNICAL SUPPORT TO SOLIO GAME RESERVE FLIR SYSTEM

As part of our continued commitment to supporting our neighbouring conservancies, OI Pejeta partnered with WWF to assist Solio Game Reserve in implementing a FLIR (Forward-Looking Infrared) surveillance system. This state-of-the-art thermal imaging technology is designed to detect heat signatures, allowing real-time monitoring of wildlife and human activity, even in complete darkness.

Our team conducted thorough site surveys to determine the optimal locations for cameras and equipment, managed the installation process, and provided training to both the Kenya Wildlife Service and Solio staff. By sharing our expertise, we're enhancing security for Solio's rhino population, helping to safeguard against the threat of poaching through improved surveillance and monitoring.



## FINDMY SENSOR DEPLOYMENT

OI Pejeta advanced its sustainable land management efforts by deploying 23 cutting-edge sensors, donated by FindMy, to track cattle movement and grazing patterns across the conservancy. These sensors, attached to one cow in each herd, transmit real-time satellite data through EarthRanger, a powerful platform used for wildlife and land management. By analysing precise movement patterns, we can assess

the impact of grazing on rangeland health, ensuring that our livestock and wildlife coexist harmoniously. This technology is revolutionising our approach to herd management and land use, showcasing our commitment to innovative solutions in conservation.



## NATGEO GRANT: EARLY WARNING FENCE MONITORING SYSTEM

OI Pejeta was awarded a prestigious NatGeo Grant to implement an innovative Early Warning Fence Monitoring System along our perimeter. This grant represents a major step forward in enhancing security and protecting both wildlife and local communities. By utilising LoRaWan network technology, integrated with existing sensors, we are developing a cost-effective system to quickly detect and address faults

along the fence line. This real-time monitoring will significantly improve our ability to prevent breakages, respond swiftly to threats, and reduce Human-Wildlife Conflict (HWC). Beyond bolstering wildlife security, this initiative aims to protect community livelihoods, foster stronger local support for conservation, and reduce incidents of wildlife entering surrounding areas.



Dylan Haybil

## STRENGTHENING IT SECURITY: INFRASTRUCTURE AUDIT

OI Pejeta conducted a thorough security audit to enhance the protection of our IT systems, networks, and data. The assessment identified key vulnerabilities across our applications, databases, servers, and network infrastructure,

ensuring alignment with top industry standards. Our technology team has already implemented critical upgrades, with further improvements in progress, reinforcing our systems against potential threats and ensuring continued operational security.

## SMART FENCE MONITORING SYSTEM FOR ENHANCED SECURITY

We installed 25 JVA ZM1 monitors across 120.5 km of fence line, linked to a cloud-based platform for centralised management. This innovative system provides real-time data, enabling our ground teams to respond swiftly to potential issues. By automating fault detection and remote status checks, we've streamlined maintenance

and reduced false alarms. The programmable features of the system enhance sensitivity to both human and animal activity while minimising seasonal disruptions. This precise monitoring improves decision-making and ensures proactive fence maintenance, contributing to the security of our wildlife and surrounding communities.



Dylan Haybil x 2

## SUDAN TOWER: A WATCHFUL EYE ON RHINO CONSERVATION

In a concerted effort to harness technological advancements to prevent the extinction of northern white rhinos (NWRs), OI Pejeta, in collaboration with key donors including the African Wildlife Foundation (AWF), the Council of Contributors, and Amip Patel, along with partners from the BioRescue project, launched an initiative to closely monitor the NWRs and their southern white rhino surrogates. Central to this effort is a purpose-built observation tower,

outfitted with state-of-the-art cameras, screens, and essential monitoring equipment. The tower provides a panoramic view of the enclosure, with advanced camera capabilities allowing for detailed observation of rhino behaviour. Continuous monitoring of interactions between the teaser bull and surrogate females is vital for planning future embryo transfers and other crucial conservation interventions.



Rio The Photographer

## FINANCIALS OVERVIEW

In FY 2023, OI Pejeta continued to experience a recovery in the business environment, following on from the improvements seen in FY 2022. This resulted in further enhanced financial performance for the organisation. We are pleased to report a consolidated net profit after tax of Ksh 267.371m (US\$ 1.746m), reflecting a 31% increase compared to FY 2022's profit of Ksh 161.91m (US\$ 1.328m). This growth has strengthened the organisation's cash position, allowing us to reduce our reliance on banking facilities for financing working capital and daily operations.

The tourism sector saw a 20% growth in visitor numbers compared to FY 2022. Notably, citizen entries rose by 15%, with day trippers increasing by 26.4%, highlighting OI Pejeta's growing appeal as a day excursion destination. East African resident entries also increased by 6%, while non-resident entries recorded a remarkable 28% growth, showcasing the conservancy's expanding international recognition. Overall, our tourism business returned to pre-COVID levels and remained robust throughout the year.

Despite challenges in the agribusiness sector, caused by the lingering effects of drought and disease, significant strides were made. Investments

in fodder production helped reduce reliance on external feed purchases by 15%, ensuring year-round supplementary feed supply and enhancing the sustainability of our operations. These measures safeguard our herds against future droughts and align with OI Pejeta's commitment to sustainable agricultural practices.

Our project and donor-funded programmes continued to thrive, with significant support from our partners and donors. Both restricted and unrestricted funding categories reported growth, with donors increasingly preferring restricted project funding. However, unrestricted funding remains vital as it allows flexibility in addressing the greatest needs and supporting core operational activities.

FY 2024 has started positively, with strong performance in both the tourism and agribusiness sectors during the first half of the year. We anticipate further growth and a promising outlook for the remainder of the year.

*The summarised financial statement extracted from the consolidated financial statements for the period to 31st December 2023 which have been audited by RSM Eastern Africa LLC, Certified Public Accountants are set out below*

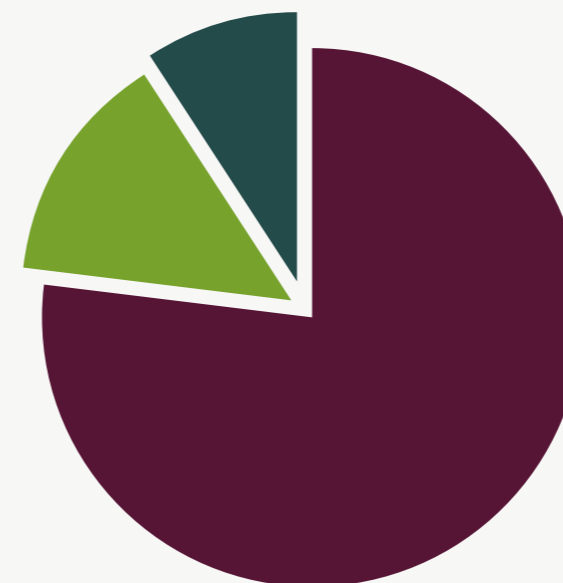


Rio the Photographer

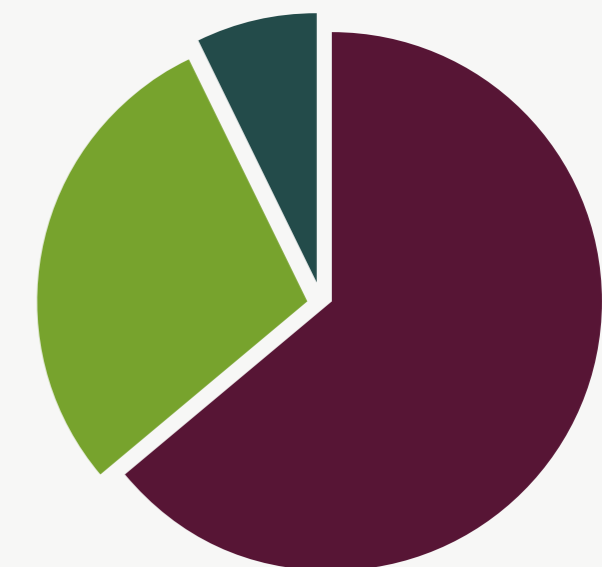
### Revenue and Expenditure by Source

		Financial Year 2023 USD 000s	Financial Year 2022 USD 000s
INCOME	Trading activities	6,728	6,217
	Donations	1,187	1,249
	Other income	773	1,081
	<b>Total Income</b>	<b>8,609</b>	<b>8,547</b>
EXPENDITURE	Programmes	4,456	5,225
	Fundraising	478	138
	Admin support	2,008	1,856
	<b>Total Expenditure</b>	<b>6,863</b>	<b>7,219</b>
<b>NET INCOME / (LOSS)</b>		<b>1,746</b>	<b>1,328</b>

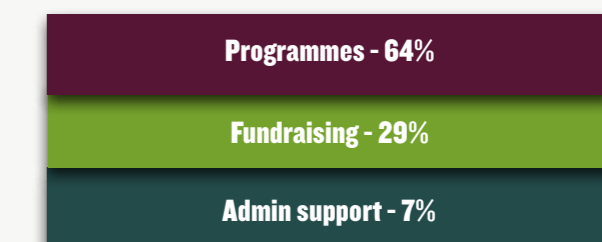
*The numbers on the table have been rounded to the nearest whole number*



#### INCOME



#### EXPENDITURE



 **JOIN OUR COMMUNITY AND GET INVOLVED**

# YOU RAISED \$2.9M FOR COMMUNITIES AND WILDLIFE IN 2023



Dear Donors, Partners and all those who support OI Pejeta's mission,

As we reflect on another challenging yet momentous year, we are immensely grateful for our loyal and generous supporters who have helped our team, our communities and our wildlife be resilient. Despite a challenging outlook, with international conflicts, instability in economic markets and higher costs of living dampening the focus on charitable giving, we have also faced a year of climate havoc. We began 2023 by navigating the deadly grip of the worst drought for 40 years. Towards the end of the year, the Conservancy found itself managing a landscape littered with destroyed roads, broken dams and flooding.

Fundraising is a vital source of income for the Conservancy and in 2023 specifically, has supported some substantial key infrastructure projects to enable our teams to get back up and running after the extreme weather. Your generosity raised US\$2.9 million, matching our 2022 fundraising income. Out of this total, US\$1.9 million was used for specific projects, such as road and water pipeline repairs and upgrades, de-silting of dams and borehole drilling, fence upgrades and patrol housing. Alongside this, you have supported us with US\$950 thousand of flexible funds which enable us to respond quickly to pressing needs on the Conservancy and fund maintenance and staff costs that would otherwise be difficult to cover.

The importance of both funding types for OI Pejeta cannot be overstated. Our sustainability model has focused on generating commercial revenues to support our conservation and community work. Fundraising is now a key pillar of income generation for the Conservancy, representing 30% of total income in 2023, providing a vital level of security and resilience.

Now in 2024 and reaching a milestone of 20 years of rhino recovery, conservation innovation and community development efforts, we look forward to commemorating this landmark occasion with you as our valued partners, donors, and supporters.

From the entire team, thank you once again for your passion and generosity to the work at OI Pejeta and the wider conservation community. We couldn't do it without you.

Sincerely,

Philippa Beach  
Chief Fundraising Officer

	Unrestricted	Restricted	TOTAL
<b>2023</b>	US\$ 952,330	US\$ 1,917,344	US\$ 2,869,674
<b>2022</b>	US\$ 1,443,764	US\$ 1,461,076	US\$ 2,904,640

 **EVENTS ACROSS THE YEAR**

The fifth anniversary of Sudan's death, the last known male northern white rhino, offered a chance to celebrate his legacy and remind us of everything we are working for. He was a symbol of what we are at risk of losing, of what extinction means for our planet and what we so desperately need to protect. In celebration of his life, our Global Ambassador Ami Vitale launched a [short film 'Remembering Sudan'](#). This award-winning film documents the heart-breaking crisis facing the northern white rhinos and shares the stories of caregivers like Zacharia Mutai who sacrifice so much to protect them. As the star of the film, Zacharia received the 2023 Special Jury Award and a standing ovation at the International Wildlife Film Festival for the incredible work he is doing to save the northern white rhinos.



Dylan Habil

Rio the Photographer



The 'Sudan Tower' was unveiled in February in the presence of scientists from across the globe, KWS, donors and other partners. The tower looks out over the northern white rhino enclosure and is equipped with cameras that allow our team to carefully monitor the rhinos and record critical data for the BioRescue Project.

Our partnership with Helping Rhinos raised over US\$120,000 and the 2023 Global Gala for Rhinos was a standout success with guest speakers including OI Pejeta's Head of Conservation Samuel Mutisya visiting London for the occasion.

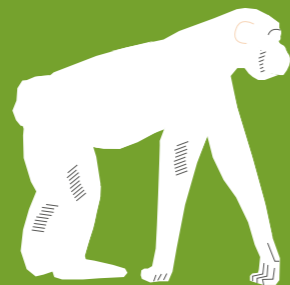
Eva Kimani, OI Pejeta's Project Development Liaison, visited Westonbirt School and York House School in the UK to build awareness and promote the importance of preserving biodiversity. With vivid descriptions, engaging stories and interactive presentations, Eva brought the distant world of Kenya's wildlife and the conservation challenges to schools in the UK. We are grateful to both schools for the opportunity and the team looks forward to strengthening these and other relationships in 2024.



Eva Kimani

# HOW TO SUPPORT US

## DONATE



Symbolically adopt an endangered animal

Become a monthly supporter



## VISIT

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



Rio the Photographer

Visit our online shop



Name a rhino in someone's honour



Create your fundraiser for a birthday or occasion

Make a charitable gift of stocks or shares



Will Fatescue

## LEARN MORE



Follow us on social media

Remember OI Pejeta in your will or living trust

Register to give back through Amazon Smile (UK)



Sign up for our updates

### Contact us

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



# OL PEJETA CONSERVANCY

[www.olpejetaconservancy.org](http://www.olpejetaconservancy.org)

**PRIVATE BAG**

**NANYUKI, 10400**

**KENYA**

**+254 (0) 707 187 141**

**+254 (0) 705 911 021**

**[info@olpejetaconservancy.org](mailto:info@olpejetaconservancy.org)**



**Stay in touch on Facebook**  
[/OlPejetaConservancy](https://www.facebook.com/OlPejetaConservancy)



**Follow us on Twitter**  
[/olpejeta](https://twitter.com/olpejeta)



**Join us on Instagram**  
[@olpejeta](https://www.instagram.com/olpejeta)



**Watch videos on YouTube**  
[/OlPejetaConservancy](https://www.youtube.com/OlPejetaConservancy)



**Connect with us on LinkedIn**  
[/OlPejetaConservancy](https://www.linkedin.com/OlPejetaConservancy)