

MONTHLY UPDATE – FEBRUARY 2018

Wildlife Conservation

Wildlife

- The Conservation and Wildlife department in collaboration with other Lewa departments, conducted a Rhino notching exercise; 25 animals (11 white and 14 black) notched successfully

Security

- 22 rangers took part in an NPR refresher training on basic drill
- Nigerian National Park Director and team visited the Conservancy on benchmarking mission, focussing on anti-Poaching issues; they were hosted by the Lewa NPR team
- Presiding Judge from and two Chief Magistrates from the Meru Law Court paid a courtesy call to JOCC to understand the technology and its capabilities in generating concrete evidence that can be admissible in a court of law
- The COO and Head of Anti-Poaching Unit attended the launch and subsequent briefing on the planned Elephant translocation at Solio Ranch; the event was presided by Tourism Cabinet Secretary, Hon. Najib Balala

Research

- Research and monitoring sent a representative, Edwin Kisio, to a USAID and RCMRD organized QGIS training workshop in Naro Moru
- Timothy Kaaria attended a course on Statistics for Conservation Biology organized by the Smithsonian Institute in Washington DC
- Hosted Marc Dupuis-Desormeaux and Suzanne MacDonald from Lewa Canada on a technology exchange and evaluation meeting
- Carried out lion and hyena collaring exercise, successfully collaring 3 target hyena
- In collaboration with Lewa Canada, Lewa Community and Monitoring and Evaluation departments, conducted a Human-Wildlife Conflict survey on communities around Lewa
- Total rainfall through February was 4.9mm
- Lewa hosted 437 head of cattle under the NRTT Livestock to Market programme
- The CEP hosted 4 primary schools, 3 tertiary institutions and a conservation group from Mount Kenya region (Nyeri County). Of the 8 groups, 3 overnighted at the dormitory
- Joined Mt. Kenya Trust's outreach programme to a primary school in Meru County to borrow ideas on how to successfully implement CEP's outreach programme when it kicks off
- Continued with the environmental assessment of Lewa supported schools to collect baseline information on the status of environment in the schools in preparation for the CEP planned outreach programme
- Under the auspices of Northern Rangelands Trust, participated in a football tournament held in Marsabit County to enhance peace and unity. The platform created an opportunity to highlight conservation issues to schools neighbouring 3 community conservancies in the County. 3 boys and 3 girls teams from 4 primary schools participated in the tournament that brought together over 600 pupils

Community Development

Community

- In partnership with Anglican Development Services (ADS), held a meeting in Leparua to discuss issues affecting girl-child education in the area. In attendance were the pupils and students from Leparua primary and secondary schools together with members of the community
- Attended the inauguration ceremony of the Mutethia water project funded by Lewa and the National Government through the Constituency Development Fund (CDF). The project is estimated serve more than 1000 households of Ntumburi community
- The Northern Community Liaison Officer attended a workshop organized by Kenya Market Trust (KMT) partnering with PRISE (Pathway to Resilience in Semi-arid Economy). The workshop focused on climate change and the appropriate strategies for improving performance on the agricultural sector
- Attended two Chief Barazas in Ntumburi and Ntirimiti communities where issues of strengthening the Nyumba Kumi initiative and reforestation were discussed
- Meru County government, initiated a contractual farming program, for production of lentils and potatoes for improved food security within the Meru County, with Lewa's agriculture extension officer also engaged
- The Manyangalo, Ngare Ndare, Matunda, Mutunyi, Ntumburi, Sang'a and Ntalabany community development committees participated in an exercise to nominate security recruits, the process lead to employment of 6 rangers from respective communities
- In partnership with Laikipia County, repair of the Ngare Ndare main road and the roads connecting the Ngare Ndare health centre and the Chief's office was completed and inaugurated
- **On-going projects:** Community tree nurseries, Ntumburi grazers' bee keeping project, levelling of roads by a bulldozer, micro enterprise loan collections and data collection on human wildlife conflicts in communities
- 2556 patients were seen at the Lewa, Leparua, Ngare Ndare and Ntirimiti clinics; 484 patients accessed laboratory services with 1031 tests carried out at the Lewa, Ngare Ndare and Leparua clinic laboratories
- In partnership with Medcan Naweza doctors from Canada, together with community department conducted medical outreach to sensitize the community on prevention of chronic illnesses at Ntumburi. 210 patients received free treatment for various ailments which included childhood cardiovascular, eye diseases and gynaecological problems
- Dental mission doctors recently visited Lewa and joined the on-going school health outreach programme at Subuiga, Mutunyi and Munanda schools where a total of 831 school children received tooth brushes, tooth pastes and benefited from a health talk on dental hygiene and prevention of tooth decay. 142 patients received free dental treatment including tooth extraction
- The clinic staff was trained on various health topics by Medcan Naweza team of doctors

Education

- A meeting for high school principals supported by Lewa & Borana was held to discuss progress in their respective schools.
- Guidance and counselling sessions undertaken by a consultant targeting a majority of the 2017 Form 4 candidates. The students also benefited from a career choice talk
- **On-going projects:** Ngare Ndare teachers' house and Sanga boys' dormitory by Mishcon de Reya, Enaikishomi classroom by Sandy & Edward Elgar, Lokusero primary teachers' toilet by Safaricom Marathon 2017 (SM17), Ntalabany primary teachers' toilet by SM17, Ntugi secondary admin building materials procured and delivered through SM17, Ngare Ndare Secondary teachers' house materials procured & delivered through SM17, JPP school building materials procured and delivered through SM17
- Completed projects: Ntumburi Primary classes by anonymous, Mutunyi computer lab furniture by Lewa UK

Welfare and Works / Logistics

- Health and Safety committee 1st quarterly meeting held
- Pension Scheme Board of Trustees' quarterly meeting held
- Commenced construction of Kisima Gate guard house
- 31 Lewa vehicles were serviced/repared and 51 NRT vehicles were serviced/repared
- Fabricated a new land cruiser for Reteti Elephant Orphanage
- The roads team has been opening drainage ditches along various roads in the conservancy as well as cutting fire breaks along our boundaries

Sustainability

Conservation Marketing

- In conjunction with Lewa Wilderness, the team hosted CNN celebrity TV Chef, author and presenter Anthony Bourdain, alongside Emmy-Award winning comedian Kamau Bell, on Lewa for their upcoming programme titled [Parts Unknown: Kenya](#). The team interacted with the Lewa team and were filmed discussing conservation efforts in northern Kenya, importance of education, anti-poaching, tourism, and communities, featuring Il Ngwesi. The programme that features Lewa will air in about 5 months-time
- The Marathon Coordinator's effort in establishing an online platform for marathon registration was hugely successful. The Team attended the marathon launch on the 28th of February, and the online registration platform opened the following day, where it closed in just under 4 hours
- The Lewa Communications Strategy developed by consultant and new team member Beatrice Karanja, is close to completion, awaiting input from Lewa International, and a final review by the Kenya Team
- Provided technical support for the Lewa-Il Ngwesi talk held at the RGS in London, via preparation of presentations, key talking points, social media posting and more
- Continued work on the creation of Lewa's new website is on-going

Thank you!