

**NATIONAL INVENTORY OF ECOTOURISM PROJECTS IN  
KENYA.**

**A Project of the Ecotourism Society of Kenya (ESOK) ©**

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## NATIONAL INVENTORY OF ECOTOURISM PROJECTS IN KENYA

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## Acronyms

A.F.E.W.-The African Fund for Endangered Wildlife

ACC- African Conservation Centre

AWF- African Wildlife Foundation

BCP-Biodiversity Conservation Programme

BHEA-Bush Homes of East Africa

CARD- Community Action for Rural Development

CDTF - Community Development Trust Fund

CORE- Conservation of Resources through Enterprise

DAN- Development Alternative Network

EAWLS- East African Wildlife Society

EDF- Enterprise Development Fund

EU- European Union

FONI- Friends of Nomads International

GEF- Global Environmental Facility

GTZ- German Development Corporation

KEEP- Kakamega Environmental Education Programme

KENVO- Kikuyu Environmental Volunteers

KFWG- Kenya Forest Working Group

KWS- Kenya Wildlife Service

LNRA- Lake Naivasha Riparian Association

LWF- Laikipia Wildlife Forum

MITE- Maa Integrated Ecotourism enterprises

MWF- Machakos Wildlife Forum

NRM- Natural Resource Management

OCA- Organizational Capacity Assessment

PCEDO- Pastoral Community Environment and development

## Organization

SACCO- Savings and Credit Cooperation

SAMED- Small and Micro enterprises development

SARDEP- Semi- arid Rural Development Programme  
SITE- Strengthening Informal Sector Training & Enterprise  
SWF- Samburu Wildlife Forum  
SWM- Samburu Wings of Mercy  
TDP- Transmara Development Programme  
TNA- Training Needs Assessment  
UNDP- United Nations Development Programme  
UNEP- United Nations Environmental Programme  
WCU- World Conservation Union

## Introduction

The ecotourism phenomenon is currently entering a crucial phase of its development in Kenya. In the past five years, ecotourism has attracted significant attention from consumers, conservationists, economic development specialists and others. However, we are entering a period during, which ecotourism will undergo more careful scrutiny to determine whether it provides as many benefits as its proponents suggest it should. For this to be done, information has to be made available on nature, performance and characteristics of ventures operating under the ecotourism label. Ecotourism Society of Kenya is presently working on a project to develop a national inventory of all existing ecotourism projects in the Kenya, with a view to establishing the extent to which ecotourism has contributed to improved livelihoods for local people and aided conservation

The first phase of this project involved reviewing existing literature on ecotourism enterprises in Kenya, both for existing and potential ventures. The second phase will involve a questionnaire survey of the listed projects and others that may be discovered during such visits. This will help to, among other things, to verify facts, get local people views, and fill-in gaps of information missing from written literature.

## Defining Ecotourism

Ecotourism is a relatively new word. It was first used in Central America and was defined as: "environmentally responsible travel and visitation to relatively undisturbed natural areas, in order to enjoy and appreciate nature (and any accompanying cultural features- both past and present) that promotes conservation, has low negative

visitor impact, and provides for beneficiary active socio-economic involvement of local populations, Hector Ceballos-Lascurian (1983). In 1991, the US based Ecotourism Society (now The International Ecotourism Society) defined it as "responsible travel to natural areas that conserves the environment and sustains the well being of local people". Both these definitions include the elements of environmental conservation, community development and responsible travel, a concept that forces us to consider modes of transport as relevant to ecotourism. Interestingly, no mention is made in either definition of sustainability. But it is becoming increasingly accepted that the ecotourism experience should be sustainable, in terms of the activities, as well as financially.

American academic Martha Honey in her comprehensive new book, "Ecotourism and Sustainable Development, who owns paradise?" argues that 'real ecotourism' must involve seven vital and interrelated characteristics; travel to nature destinations; minimizing negative environmental impact; building environmental awareness; direct financial benefits for conservation; financial benefits and empowerment for local people; the respect of local culture; and the support of human rights and democracy.

There are still endless arguments about the appropriate definition of ecotourism and how it compares with other types of tourism including adventure tourism, nature tourism, rural tourism and agricultural tourism.

In general, ecotourism is a term that refers to various forms of tourism perceived to be sensitive and responsible in as far as their resource utilization, benefits generation and distribution and quality of experience to tourists is concerned. Due to sensitivity in the

quality of attractions desired, tourists involved in ecotourism visit relatively undisturbed places, are sensitive to their environmental impacts and take an active approach in utilizing these attractions sustainably. They are conscious of the host community and seek to interact more with the people not only for cultural appreciation but to ensure that the communities maximally benefit from their visits.

Ecotourism activities should therefore aim to:

- Promote communication and education about Ecotourism issues.
- Provide an information and resource network for visitor's residents, tour operators, resource managers, planners, educators, government agencies and other professionals.
- Promote a visitor industry that is environmentally and culturally sensitive.
- Promote community- based, sustainable economic development that benefits local residents.
- Enhance visitors' experiences through effective interpretation.
- Promote resource conservation.
- Encourage repeat visitations, and longer stays.
- Provide continuing education and professional development opportunities.

### Forms of Tourism Practiced by Communities in Kenya

- i. **Nature Tourism**: This is tourism primarily supported by natural attractions. Thus it is visit to destinations featuring attractions such as wildlife, flora and fauna, beautiful

landscape, geographical features among others. This type of tourism characterizes Kenya's tourism industry.

- ii. **Rural Tourism** : This is visit and stay in places or destination areas perceived to be un influenced by urbanization and its impacts. Such places would be characterized by, low industrialization, low population density, subsistence and primary economic activities and unsophisticated community life styles. Tourists visit such places to experience and participate in rural life styles stay in rustic accommodation such as farmhouses and inns, among other activities. Adventure tourist such as backpackers and specialist tourists favor this type of tourism. In Kenya, Kisii highlands, and the Western tourist destination areas have rich potential for this sort of activities.
- iii. **Agricultural Tourism** : This is visit to destination areas offering agriculture- based attractions such as plantations, farms, and estates. Tourists to these places enjoy the climatic conditions of the destination, learn its agricultural practices, and examples of the agricultural tourism include Kericho, and Mau Escarpment for pyrethrum and Nandi tea growing regions of the Rift Valley.
- iv. **Cultural Tourism** : This is tourism characterized by visits to local communities perceived to still maintain and practice their ancestral traditions and cultural ways. Visitors to these destination are attracted by, the peoples' lifestyles, their cultural practices such as rite of passage and ceremonies, their economic activities among other aspects of community living. Activities undertaken here include participation in dance and music, festivals, buying souvenirs and artifacts and photography. The Maa speaking of Masai and Samburu are important in Kenya's cultural tourism product.

Most of these tourism types have adopted ethical/normative approaches similar to ecotourism. It is important to note that sustainable tourism denotes all types of tourism, whether based on natural or human resources that contribute to sustainable development.

## Focal Areas of Ecotourism in Kenya

The focus of this survey is on the five focal areas with potential for eco-tourism development in Kenya.

These focal areas include: -

- I. Taita- Taveta.
- II. Laikipia- Samburu.
- III. Greater Amboseli.
- IV. South Coast.
- V. Maasai Mara.
- VI. \*Any other area/project with potential for development of community/ private ecotourism.

## TAITA- TAVETA FOCAL AREA

### **Lumo Community Wildlife Sanctuary**

**KEY FEATURES**

Location : Taita- Taveta district

Current status: existing

Ongoing activities: campsite; wildlife sanctuary

Potential activities: rhino sanctuary

Development partners: EAWLS; Peace Corps; ACC; CDTF/BCP; CORE; SAMED

Business partners: Voi Wildlife Lodge

The Lumo community wildlife sanctuary is located in Mwatate division of Taita- Taveta district. The sanctuary borders the Tsavo

West national park, the Hilton Taita hills sanctuary and the Mwakitau community. The sanctuary is located on the Voi -Taveta road off the main Mombasa- Nairobi highway. Lumo lies within a recognized wildlife migratory corridor from and to Tsavo East and West as well as to the Shimba hills area.

It comprises the Lualenyi, Mramba and Oza group ranches and covers some 45,788 ha and has 2,425 members who are the owners the Lumo Community Wildlife Sanctuary. The Sanctuary is managed by a trust whose board consists of 5 members from the respective ranch- governing committees with a provision for stakeholders.

There are plans to build a lodge on the sanctuary and funds for construction of the lodge will be provided by USAID through its CORE program. It is further envisaged that the lodge will be leased to private company for management and promotion. Agreements will be drawn on how benefits are going to be shared with community members. Key activity here will be game viewing.

#### **Lualenyi camp**

Lualenyi camp is in Lualenyi group ranch, which has 50 members. The camp has been leased to a private investor for development and marketing. The group ranch has set aside some of its land for a wildlife sanctuary to promote peaceful co-existence between people and wildlife. Wildlife present in the sanctuary includes large mammals like carnivores, elephants and some 600 species of birds. Lualenyi camp pays a monthly rental fee to the ranch and offers employment to local people. The major economic activity of members of Lualenyi ranch is livestock production. The group's wish list includes starting a Rhino sanctuary to enhance the areas tourist appeal and to partially mitigate the rampant human/wildlife conflict in the area

#### **Mramba wildlife sanctuary**

This is in Mramba group ranch, which has 1,250 members. Members of Mramba group ranch have proposed to build a 30 persons tented camp at Mwashoti Hill. They are presently looking for a development partner

#### **Oza wildlife sanctuary**

The sanctuary is in Oza group ranch and has 1,125 members. Members of Oza group ranch are keen to be supported to engage in tourism related activities. They presently rely on livestock farming but are heavily indebted to the local farmers financing company

having received loans, which they have been unable to pay for many years. The interest accruing from these loans has made the lives of many farmers from this community miserable. They now want to try an alternative source of livelihood to compliment their livestock farming. There is a lot of wildlife present on their land and the scenery is exquisite.

### **Kasigau**

**KEY FEATURES**

Location: Taita- Taveta district

Current status: existing

Ongoing activities: student Bandas, conservation

Potential activities: apiculture project

Development partners: SAMED,AWF, EAWLS, EDF, and site, USAID

Business partners: savannah camps and lodges

Kasigau is a ranch that is situated in Taita Taveta district and has 1,032 members. It is under the Taita- Taveta trustland. The group has set aside a portion of their land for conservation and tourism activities. Through partnerships they have built bandas that are normally used by students and a discovery centre for wildlife research and education. They have a proposal for an apiculture project.

### **Rukinga**

**KEY FEATURES**

Location: Voi

Current status: existing

Ongoing activities: wildlife sanctuary & an eco- friendly clothing factory

Potential activities: eco- lodge, indigenous tree nursery, and

Development partners: private

Business partners:

Rukinga ranch, located near Voi, is a private ranch with a wildlife sanctuary. It is involved in livestock rearing, tourism activities and has recently introduced a garment industry that is changing the lives of the local people by offering salaried employment. They have plans to put up an an eco- lodge.

## LAIKIPIA- SAMBURU FOCAL AREA

### **Il'ngwesi**

**KEY FEATURES**

Location: Laikipia district

Current status: existing

Ongoing activities: eco- lodge, il-laikipiak cultural manyatta, bush walks, game drives, bird watching, camel trek safari

Development partners: LEWA, AWF, KWS, EAWLS, CDTF/BCP, SARDEP.

Business partners: LEWA wildlife conservancy lets go travel

Il'Ngwesi Group ranch lies north of Mt. Kenya in Laikipia district. It was opened in 1996 and is situated on 16, 500 hectare group ranch. The ranch is owned by local Maasai of Mukogodo, and Ilngwesi lodge is said to be the a role model for community conservation and ecotourism in Kenya. It initially opened as a wilderness experience with little or no wildlife around it. But with the continuous isolation of the conservation area from human activities, wildlife has now returned to the area, and the neighboring sanctuary has helped in translocation of Rhinos to Ilngwesi. While traditional land use and Masai nomadic life has been maintained, income from tourism means has reduced over-dependence on livestock. The lodge provides direct employment for 35 members of the ranch. It is expected that the income generated will be utilized for community development and personal savings. For this community, the lodge (ecotourism) has not only brought revenue, there has been improved security for livestock, people and wildlife because of a well-networked communication system and the presence of game scouts. Ilngwesi has received a lot of support from several conservation agencies, donors and its neighbor Lewa Wildlife Conservancy. Its success has been partially attributed to continued support from 'big brother' Lewa, who have been directly involved management of the company established to manage the lodge. Other support has been received from BCP/CDTF, KWS, AWF etc. Il N'gwesi has plans for growth including expanding its cultural centre and building offices. Ilngwesi has been winner of World legacy Award, BA Tourism for Tomorrow award and has received several other accolades internationally.

## **Namunyak Wildlife Conservation Trust**

### **KEY FEATURES**

Location: Samburu

Current status: Existing

Development: Sarara tented camp

Development partners: ACC, LWF

Business partners: Lewa Wildlife Conservancy

Namunyak wildlife conservation trust is in the remote Mathews range, 100 kilometers north of Lewa in the lower slopes of Wamba and is situated on 75,000 acres. The local Samburu community owns Namunyak wildlife conservation trust. They are entirely responsible for running the Trust, and elect the community trustees directly at public meetings from each of the settlements. They have a tented camp as their tourist facility. Sarara tented camp has 5 superior tents. Activities and adventure include: walks and game drives, camel rides, bush breakfasts and dinners, overnight fly camping, sundowners, visits to the seasonal 'singing' wells where Samburu water their cattle, day trips into Samburu or Shaba Game Reserves, climbs up the sacred Lolokwe mountain on the plateau. The local people previously lived as subsistence cattle herders often dependent on famine relief during the dry season. One of the benefits of this project is that it has given the local people, an alternative source of livelihood. Namunyak has shown how quickly attitudes among traditional African communities towards their environment and its wild inhabitants can change through long-term prospects of employment and prosperity. Local have been employed as community game guards, and the Trust now owns its own tourist camp. The trained scouts, radio links with neighbouring ranches, a fledging furniture business, a new road, two schools and a beautiful 10-bed camp have opened a new world to the local Samburu. For the local Samburu these are signs of progress.

As a result of improved security and good management wildlife numbers in Namunyak are increasing. Elephants are now resident all year-round after having deserted the area several years ago because of insecurity that led to rampant poaching. The globally endangered African dogs are now seen regularly.

## **Lekurruki**

### **KEY FEATURES**

Location: Northern Frontier (Laikipia district)

Current status: Existing

Ongoing activities: Tassia eco-lodge

Development partners: LWF

Business partners: Lets go travel

Tassia Lodge is the latest of the "community eco- lodges" of Northern Kenya. The Lodge looks out over the Northern Frontier District towards Samburu, Shaba and the sacred Lolokwe Mountain. It is owned and managed by the Lekurruki Community Conservation Group Ranch. Alongside game drives, walking is a special activity in the area with Local Morans acting as guides. Ecotourism has provided an alternative livelihood for this pastoralist community thus reducing their dependence on livestock. Profits from the lodge are divided amongst the local community and help to support the local households, schools, water supplies and other group ranch operations. Like in Ilngwesi and Namunyak, wildlife is rapidly returning to Lekurruki area. Sarara and Tassia lodges have been propelled by the success of ilngwesi.

### **Lewa Downs Wildlife Conservancy**

**KEY FEATURES**

Location: Meru

Current status: Existing

Ongoing activities: Lewa tented camp, wildlife sanctuary, wilderness trails, ancient archaeological sites, day & night game drives and walking

Development partners: IWF

Lewa Wildlife Conservancy is located on Lewa Downs, a 45,000 acre of private wildlife reserve on the northern slopes of Mount Kenya north of the equator. The Lewa wildlife conservancy is a unique experiment in wildlife conservation and community development. It started as a cattle ranch; became a heavily guarded black rhino sanctuary and is now the headquarters of private wildlife conservancy in Kenya.

Lewa is one of the very few places in the world where there is a remarkable variety of animals interacting with their peers in their natural habitat. The success of Lewa Conservancy is challenging those who believe in the protected area concept where people are locked out and wildlife locked in. Lewa has changed the perception of its neighbouring communities towards conservation by supporting them to start ecotourism initiatives and by extending to them the benefits of tourism and conservation. Lewa has its own

camp and offers visitors game viewing, bird watching, visits to prehistoric sites, cultural visits with local communities, farm and craft tours and conservation education. On Lewa's southern and eastern boundaries, there are arable farmers while to the north its neighbours are cattle and camel herders accustomed to living with wildlife. There should have been an upsurge in claims of deaths and damages of property from human/wildlife conflict but while the conflicts are real, the local people can live with it because they share in the benefits of Lewa's conservation efforts. They get employment, schools and clinics and dividends from the community eco- lodges.

### **Borana Kisima**

**KEY FEATURES**

Location: Laikipia

Current status: Existing

Product: Borana lodge/six designer cottages,

Development partners: LWF

Business partners: Private

Borana Kisima is a private ranch in Nanyuki. The family have been cattle ranchers for a long time until recently when they built a lodge and got involved with tourism. Borana lodge is made up of six designer cottages each unique by design and location. In designing the lodge care has been taken not to alter the environment, but to incorporate the natural architecture into the design. The outcome is a set piece of an eco-lodge, providing the best in comfort and relaxation while retaining the ruggedness of a wild area. All employees of the lodge are from local area and a chance has been given to most of the employees to enhance their skills in their work areas. Borana provides marketing support to IIngwesi, Tassia and Sarara as part of its contribution to local community development.

### **Ol Pejeta Ranch**

**KEY FEATURES**

Location: Laikipia

Current status: Existing

Ongoing activities: Lodge, wildlife sanctuary, chimpanzee sanctuary,

Potential activities: Laikipia Conservation Centre

Development partners: LWF, CDTF/BCP

Business partners:

Ol Pejeta is a private ranch in Laikipia district covering 20,000 acres of wilderness in the heart of Laikipia district. The ranch is noted for its black rhino and elephant, hippo, lion, giraffe, zebra, eland, warthog, oryx, impala and gazelles. It reminisces the rich history of the early merchants in Kenya associated with slave trade. The tourism facilities found in the Ol Pejeta are a tented camp, wildlife sanctuary, and chimpanzee sanctuary. Activities include day and night game drives, bird watching, walking, camel trek, horse riding. Ol pajeta has strong commitment to conservation and supports Laikipia Wildlife Forum to provide conservation education and research in the area. Its Chimpanzee sanctuary is not coincidental; it has something to do with the unending wars in Africa and the devastating effects it has had on the environment in general including wildlife.

### **Solio Ranch**

**KEY FEATURES**

**LOCATION:** Laikipia district

**CURRENT STATUS:** Existing

**PRODUCT & ACTIVITIES:** Solio camp, rhino sanctuary

**DEVELOPMENT PARTNERS:** LWF

**BUSINESS PARTNERS:**

Solio is a private ranch situated between Mt. Kenya and the Aberdare mountain range in Laikipia district. Solio camp is seasonal, and is designed and built to ensure minimal impact on the natural environment. It has a rhino sanctuary, which is now home to over 120 black and white rhino along with leopard, cheetah and plains game species. Game drives and picnics in the sanctuary provide excellent game viewing, but there are opportunities for walking on the ranch. Solio camp guests, through traveller's philanthropy, contribute to the continued protection of rhino and conservation of the land by simply staying at the camp. A percentage of every bed night at Solio Camp goes towards the management of the Rhino sanctuary. Some of the benefits shared with the local community have been creation of job opportunities and reducing their dependence on extractive land use patterns

## **Ol Malo**

### **KEY FEATURES**

**LOCATION:** Northern Laikipia

**CURRENT STATUS:** Existing

**ONGOING ACTIVITIES:** Guest house

**DEVELOPMENT PARTNERS:** LWF

**BUSINESS PARTNERS:** BHEA

Ol Malo, meaning "the place of the Greater Kudu" is located on the edge of Laikipia district and it occupies 5,000 acres of a private game sanctuary.

It is a working cattle and game ranch. The local inhabitants are traditional pastoralists who receive income from selling their beaded jewelry to tourists. Ol Malo provides an insight into an area where people, livestock and wildlife have coexisted for generations. It is marketed as one of the Bush homes of East Africa. Some of the activities offered to visitors include day and night game drives, as well as game walks, camel treks, horse rides and visits to the neighbouring Samburu manyattas.

## **El Karama/Kimangandura**

### **KEY FEATURES**

**LOCATION:** Laikipia district

**CURRENT STATUS:** Existing

**ONGOING ACTIVITIES:** El Karama camp, bird watching, walking, fishing

**DEVELOPMENT PARTNERS:** LWF

**BUSINESS PARTNERS:**

El Karama is a ranch in Laikipia district and has a self-service camp with ten cottages. The ecotourism activities include bird watching, walking and fishing. The nature of its ownership was not known at time of publishing this document

## **Il' Pinguani**

### **KEY FEATURES**

**LOCATION:** Laikipia district

**CURRENT STATUS:** Existing

**ONGOING ACTIVITIES:** Ecolodge with four- bandas/traditional cottage.

**DEVELOPMENT PARTNERS:** LWF

Il' Pinguani is a private farm ranch in Rumuruti, Laikipia district. It has a ranch house that consists of three guest cottages. The activities that take place are like bird watching, horse riding, walking, playing tennis, and swimming.

## **Il' Polei**

### **KEY FEATURES**

**LOCATION:** Laikipia district

**CURRENT STATUS:** Existing

**ONGOING ACTIVITIES:** Ecolodge, campsite, bird watching, and walking and cultural center

**DEVELOPMENT PARTNERS:** LWF, ACC

**BUSINESS PARTNERS:** Lets go travel

then wildlife. The ranch has a campsite and it offers guided walks through the open bush and nature viewing of Mt. Kenya from the hilltop. Some of the wildlife that one may see, which are encouraged to come in for water at the dam, include elephant, lion, greater kudu, leopard, gerunuk, grevy zebra and other animals typical of the dry bush country. Birdlife is also abundant.

On the ranch there is a cultural manyatta, where one can experience first hand the lifestyle and customs of the local people. The main economic activity of the local inhabitants is livestock keeping. All income from the campsite is shared among ranch members while and part of it set aside for schools and clinic.

The ranch is looking for funds to build a small lodge. With support from ACC the cultural manyatta is being renovated with a view to enabling guests to enjoy comfortable accommodation whilst experiencing the richness of Masai culture. Il' Polei has some problems. The dilapidated cultural manyatta coupled with poor marketing and management of the enterprise means few visitors. Incomes are therefore generally low

## **Kitich Camp**

### **KEY FEATURES**

**LOCATION:** Laikipia

**PRODUCTS & ACTIVITIES:** Tented safari camp, bird watching, walking, cultural visits, and pools

**DEVELOPMENT PARTNERS:** LWF

**BUSINESS PARTNERS:** information not available

Kitich means the place of happiness and is an oasis amid arid surrounding. Kitich camp lies on the Ngeng River in southern part of the Mathews range, a remote mountain range that rises from northern frontier district.

Elephant, lion, leopard, greater kudu, waterbuck, forest hog and buffalo are among the species to be found here together with many species of birds.

The activities in this camp include game walks and stalking, forest hikes and picnics, bird watching, butterflies and botanical interest.

## **Loisaba Wilderness**

### **KEY FEATURES**

**LOCATION:** Laikipia district

**CURRENT STATUS:** Existing

**PRODUCTS & ACTIVITIES:** Cottages, Game sanctuary, river rafting, day and night game drives

**DEVELOPMENT PARTNERS:** LWF

**BUSINESS PARTNERS:** information not available

game sanctuary.

The activities found in Loisaba wildernesses are like river rafting, day and night game drives.

## **Pasanarua Tented Camp**

### **KEY FEATURES**

**LOCATION:** Laikipia district

**CURRENT STATUS:** Existing

**PRODUCTS & ACTIVITIES:** Tented Camp, walking, camel trek, and cultural visits

**DEVELOPMENT PARTNERS:** LWF

**BUSINESS PARTNERS:**

Pasanarua tented camp is situated in Laikipia district. It is a community run ecolodge. It consists of five tents and has the following activities; nature walks, camel treks and cultural visits.

### **Sangara Camp**

**KEY FEATURES**

**LOCATION:** Mweiga

**CURRENT STATUS:** Existing

**PRODUCTS & ACTIVITIES:** Tented camp, horse riding, zebroid mule safaris, bird watching and walking.

**DEVELOPMENT PARTNERS:** LWF

**BUSINESS PARTNERS:** information not available

Sangara is a tented camp in Mweiga. It is involved in zebroid mule safaris, bird watching, walking and horse riding.

### **Koiya Group Ranch**

**LOCATION:** Laikipia

**CURRENT STATUS:** Existing

**ONGOING ACTIVITIES:**

**DEVELOPMENT PARTNERS:** AWF, PACT, and the Wilderness Guardian Co.

**BUSINESS PARTNERS:** Loisaba

Koiya is a group ranch that is located in laikipia district and consists of 1500 members. The Koiya star beds are sophisticated community owned tree houses built for the community by USAID through the CORE program. The starbed concept is an innovative addition to the Laikipia tourism scene, and to Kenya in general. Loisaba is private partner who undertakes marketing and management of Koiya.

### **Samburu Intrepids**

**LOCATION:** Samburu National Reserve

**CURRENT STATUS:** Existing

**PRODUCTS & ACTIVITIES:** Game drives, camel and walking safaris, rafting trips, bush breakfasts and dinners, sundowners and cultural visits

**DEVELOPMENT PARTNERS:**

**BUSINESS PARTNERS:**

Samburu Intrepids is located deep inside Samburu National Reserve. It offers close encounters with the region's shier wildlife, including elephant, lion, leopard and Samburu's famous 'unique five'- the rare reticulated giraffe, long necked gerenuk antelope, Somali ostrich, Grevy's zebra, and majestic Beisa oryx.

The tented lodge offers 27 modern tents with a private view over the wildlife- rich riverbanks. The activities at Samburu Intrepids include game drives, camel and walking safaris outside the reserve, seasonal rafting trips on the Uaso Nyiro River, bush breakfasts and dinners under the stars, sundowners, visits to Samburu communities and traditional dances by local warriors and maidens.

The camp enjoys close relations with the local Samburu community, from which at least 40% of its employees hail. A percentage of the fees paid when one stays at Samburu Intrepids go to the Community Development Fund, which has financed the development of the local primary school at Kiltamany, bee- keeping training from the area.

### **Segera Ranch House**

LOCATION: Laikipia- Nanyuki  
 CURRENT STATUS: Existing  
 ONGOING ACTIVITIES: Game drives, guided walks, horse riding, sundowners,  
 DEVELOPMENT PARTNERS:  
 BUSINESS PARTNERS:

Segera Ranch House is located in Nanyuki and is set on 50,000 acres. It is privately owned. It offers guided walks, game drives, sundowners and horse riding.

## **GREATER AMBOSELI FOCAL AREA**

### **Kitengela Olerai Campings**

KEY FEATURES  
 LOCATION: Kitengela  
 CURRENT STATUS: Existing  
 ONGOING ACTIVITIES: Olerai swamp campsite, Olerai river, campsite, within the community area, bird watching, photography, maasai traditional dancing, game conservancy, visit to Nairobi national park if necessary.  
 DEVELOPMENT PARTNERS: PCEDO, Lets go travel, MITE, Nairobi Park Services Limited

Kitengela Olerai Campings is in Kitengela, 31 kilometers from Nairobi. It is a community project affiliated to pastoral community environment and development organization, which was established in 1999. The group was brought together by desire to tap into the tourism potential of the Kitengela wildlife corridor, an area adjacent to a national park and characterized by human/wildlife conflicts. There was anticipated support from KWS but this did not come to fruition. The group continues to struggle to meet its objectives of raising income through tourism and promoting conservation education.

They have campsites (Olerai swamp campsite, Olerai river campsites I and II) designed to attract overnight campers from Nairobi and its environs. Guests are offered guided nature walks within the community area, bird watching, photography and visit to Nairobi National Park. A local tour company, Lets go travel, provides marketing support to the groups campsite. It also supported the designing and printing of the first batch of brochures for promoting the campsite. Here lies an example of a community ecotourism initiative that has struggled to survive and continues to struggle because no development partner has come their way.

### **Elelai Conservation Project**

**KEY FEATURES**

**LOCATION:** Kajiado

**CURRENT STATUS:** Existing

**ONGOING ACTIVITIES:** Eco-lodge facility, conservation project

**DEVELOPMENT PARTNERS:** AWF, CORE, and Ol Tome Safaris

**BUSINESS PARTNERS:**

Elelai is located in Kajiado district. It is an initiative that was started after private landowners set aside land for a wildlife sanctuary. Ol Tome safaris is will manage the community lodge for an initial ten years. The area is important for wildlife migration between Amboseli and Nairobi National Park

### **Eselenkei**

**KEY FEATURES**

**LOCATION:** Loitokitok

**CURRENT STATUS:** Existing

**ONGOING ACTIVITIES:** Conservation area management, Porini tented camp, game drives, walks, Maasai traditional dancing,

**DEVELOPMENT PARTNER/S:** Porini Resources

**BUSINESS PARTNERS:** Game Watchers Safaris

The Eselenkei conservation Area is a private game reserve that lies in the heart of Maasailand north of Amboseli National Park in Loitokitok division. The Eselenkei conservation area is an ecotourism project that has acreage of 15,000 hectares. The group ranch has 1327 registered members. The local Maasai community has set aside the area as a reserve for wildlife so that the habitat can be protected and wildlife conserve while they earn revenue from tourism activities undertaken in the conservation area. The creation of the conservancy has seen the return of wildlife to the area, some having disappeared for more than fifteen years. There is now a wide range of wildlife species such as African wildcat civet, genenuk, lesser kudu, striped hyena, lion, elephant, cheetah, giraffe and zebra. Five years after creating the conservancy, changes in local weather have been reported with the conservancy remaining relatively green, sometimes even receiving rain when the entire area is dry. Tourism activities offered by the camp include; morning and evening game drives, night game drives, escorted walks with Maasai trackers and guide, sundowner on Olosinkiran Hill and full morning game drive in Amboseli National Park. The community is receiving rent from Porini resources for the lease of the reserve plus an entry fee for each tourist visitor. Additionally they earn a share of the total bed nights by tourists staying at the camp. Other benefits associated with the project include direct employment, acquisition of skills through informal training, education through support for school and better health resulting from availability of clean water.

### **Shompole Group Ranch**

**KEY FEATURES**

**LOCATION:** Kajiado district

**CURRENT STATUS:** Existing

**PRODUCTS & ACTIVITIES:** Eco- lodge

**POTENTIAL ACTIVITIES:** Bee Keeping

**DEVELOPMENT PARTNERS:** EU/BCP, ACC, Art of Ventures

**BUSINESS PARTNERS:**

Shompole is a group ranch that was registered in 1979. It is located in Magadi division, Kajiado district. It has acreage of 150,000 acres and 1,404 members. The group ranch registered a wildlife trust,

which entered into a partnership with Art of Ventures, a private company, and together they formed a company called Maa O'Leng Ltd., which they call "a partnership in community conservation and commerce". The conservancy covers 35,000 acres of land, which the community has carved out as 'protected area' from its 150,000- acre ranch. The lodge is made up of 8 suites and a mobile camp to enable the ranch maximise its occupancy during peak season. Benefits accruing to the community from this activity include employment and a steady flow of revenue from tourist visits. Part of the profit is channeled into a trustfund that will finance an array of local initiatives, from piped water, roads, and clinics, improve livestock practices, establish woodlands from fast-growing trees, a fish farming project and small- scale vegetable farming.

Already, 25 local rangers have been trained by the KWS. The local people have started a furniture making enterprise and are planning to start a bee-keeping project. Their furniture and beadwork from the women are receiving locally and abroad

### **Olgulului/Ololarrashi**

#### **KEY FEATURES**

**LOCATION:** Kajiado district

**CURRENT STATUS:** Existing

**PRODUCTS & ACTIVITIES:** Olgulului Public Campsite

**POTENTIAL ACTIVITIES:** conservation area

**DEVELOPMENT PARTNERS:** Community, AWF, EDF, KWS, and CORE

**BUSINESS PARTNERS:**

Olgulului is located along the Amboseli- Kilimanjaro elephant migration corridor. This ranch has 3,600 registered members mainly male heads of households. They have a campsite that they lease to safari companies at a fee. CORE is assisting with the upgrading of the campsite at a cost of Ksh. 4 million to make it more appealing to safari companies thus increase the lease fees. Negotiations are underway with a private investor to build a twenty- bed mobile-tented camp at Lemomo Hill.

### **Ngong Forest**

#### **KEY FEATURES**

**LOCATION:** Ngong

**CURRENT STATUS:** Existing

**ONGOING ACTIVITIES:** Ngong Forest Sanctuary

**DEVELOPMENT PARTNERS:** CDTF/BCP

**BUSINESS PARTNERS:**

Ngong forest sanctuary trust is in Ngong town. It has an aim of promoting the conservation of the forest by offering to the public activities that will generate income. It is an initiative of private citizens incorporating residents of the neighbouring Kibera Slums. Kibera slum is the largest slum dwelling in Africa. This slum poses the greatest threat to Ngong forest as residents collect wood fuel from this forest. Others use it for garbage disposal not to mention its propensity for crime. By involving the residents of Kibera those behind the trust are confident of the survival of the forest. But the forest has to generate revenue to support some of the slum dwellers needs like water, alternative energy, sewage, toilets, etc. The trust is struggling to raise funds to establish a secretariat, develop picnic sites, cut nature trails through the forest, train guides, train and employ scouts for security and introduce many more recreation activities for residents of Nairobi.

### **Ol Kanjau**

KEY FEATURES  
 LOCATION: Slopes of Mt. Kilimanjaro  
 CURRENT STATUS: Existing  
 ONGOING ACTIVITIES: Game viewing  
 DEVELOPMENT PARTNERS:  
 BUSINESS PARTNERS:

Ol Kanjau is a traditional safari style tented camp, situated just outside Amboseli National park. The Kisongo Maasai resident in the area own it. They continue their pastoralist lifestyle but benefit directly from the camp through bed night and lease fees

### **Campi Ya Kanzi**

KEY FEATURES  
 LOCATION: Amboseli  
 CURRENT STATUS: Existing  
 ONGOING ACTIVITIES: Nature viewing  
 DEVELOPMENT PARTNERS:  
 BUSINESS PARTNERS:

Campi ya Kanzi lies in a 400 square mile group ranch and is owned by local Maasai. The Maasai living around the ranch continue their pastoralist lifestyle while a private investor manages the camp. The partnership agreement makes it possible for local Maasai to have an

assured alternative source of income. Visitors to the camp pay a conservation fee of \$20 per person per day. This fee is used to compensate Masai who have lost their livestock to wild animals, help the poor and educate best students and to provide the community with basic health services. The management of the camp has helped the local people to register a wildlife trust. The trust raises funds to support conservation education, support security in the conservation area and support the community's alternative economic activities.

## **SOUTH COAST FOCAL AREA**

### **Mwaluganje Elephant Sanctuary**

**KEY FEATURES**

**LOCATION:** Kwale

**CURRENT STATUS:** Existing

**ONGOING ACTIVITIES:** Elephant sanctuary

**POTENTIAL ACTIVITIES:** Reforestation

**DEVELOPMENT PARTNERS:** ACC, KWS, CDTF/BCP, PACT, EAWLS,

USAID Peace Corps Volunteer

**BUSINESS PARTNERS:**

Mwaluganje Elephant Sanctuary covers an area of 60,000 acres, an area with dramatic cliffs and forested hills as well as bushland. More than 200 families have voluntarily contributed land to the reserve. They live in and manage the sanctuary. The activities that take place in Mwaluganje include elephant safari, scenic drive through farm and forested hill, hikes to the sacred kisanze falls and local folk tales. The local people are farmers and they earn more from tourism than from farming, a critical factor for them in ensuring the survival of these elephants. The sanctuary has enabled the community to build school classrooms and enjoy steady water supply and better roads. Mwaluganje is currently receiving support from Eden Wildlife Trust, Born Free Foundation, EAWLS, Pact (through USAID) to build the community's capacity to run the sanctuary sustainably for the benefit of present and future generations. The sanctuary plans to undertake a reforestation project.

**KEY FEATURES**

**LOCATION:** Lamu Island

**CURRENT STATUS:** Existing

**ONGOING ACTIVITIES:** snorkeling, diving, windsurfing, deep sea game fishing, sailing, bird walks, cultural visits and day trips

**DEVELOPMENT PARTNERS:**

**BUSINESS PARTNERS:** Heritage Hotels, Safari Intrepid Safari

Kipungani Explorer overlooks a deserted 14-kilometer beach on the southwestern tip of Lamu Island. It has 14 spacious and secluded chalets above the soft white sands of Kipungani Bay. The activities found in Kipungani Explorer are; snorkeling and diving on the reefs off Kinyika Rock and Manda Toto (November- March), windsurfing in sheltered Lamu channel, creek or deep sea game fishing, sailing aboard an Arab dhow, bird walks in around the property, visits to Lamu historic mosques, markets and museum, day trips to the ancient ruined forts of Manda Island and visits to their neighbours Kipungani village. The people of Kipungani are known to be a traditional fishing community.

Kipungani Explorer enjoys a harmonious relationship with the residents of neighbouring Kipungani village. Twelve of the twenty-five staff come from the village. Kipungani buys seafood and supports a local primary school through a charitable 'twinning' project with the London nursery school, paint pots. The lodge is also involved in projects to replant indigenous trees and protect the nesting sites of Lamu's endangered sea turtles.

### **Kizingo Lodge**

## **MARA FOCAL AREA**

### **Koyaki- Lemek**

**KEY FEATURES**

**LOCATION:** Narok

**CURRENT STATUS:** Existing

**ONGOING ACTIVITIES:** Wildlife viewing

**POTENTIAL ACTIVITIES:** Wilderness camp, field internship

**DEVELOPMENT PARTNERS:**

**BUSINESS PARTNERS:**

The Koyaki is a vast wilderness area stretching alongside the Maasai Mara Reserve. The local Maasai people have formed a trust for easy management of the group ranch. Koyaki has acreage of 89,000

hectares while Lemek has acreage of 44,500 hectares. This is prime wildlife country and the Maasai community allows a number of safari operators to use their area for camping and wildlife viewing. They charge camping fees and entry fees to viewing areas. The revenue earned is shared among group ranch members as dividends. Koyaki-Lemek plans to put up a wilderness camp and to offer the opportunity for field internship in conservation area management.

### **Olkirreruki Dupoto**

**KEY FEATURES**

**LOCATION:** Trans Mara district

**CURRENT STATUS:** Existing

**ONGOING ACTIVITIES:** Olare nature trails, game watching, bird watching, relaxing experience

**DEVELOPMENT PARTNERS:** ESOK, TDP- GTZ

**BUSINESS PARTNERS:** Nkoirero- River Mara Nature Trails

fees for wildlife viewing. Its key attractions are a nature trail, wildlife, bird watching and the wilderness

### **Nkoirero/Nyakweri Forest**

**KEY FEATURES**

**LOCATION:** Trans Mara

**CURRENT STATUS:** Existing

**ONGOING ACTIVITIES:** Nature trails (Olpul trail, river mara walk), game watching, bird watching, cultural boma

**DEVELOPMENT PARTNERS:** ESOK, TDP- GTZ

**BUSINESS PARTNERS:**

Nkoirero/Nyakweri Forest is largest remaining forest of Trans Mara and is of high ecological and socio- cultural importance to the region and its population. Dupoto Forest and Wildlife Association, a community based organization is in charge of tourism activities in the forest. More than 200 species of birds are found in this forest. The CBO offers guided walks through the nature trails and visits to traditional places where Maasai warriors prepare for their initiation ceremony. Other activities include river a walk along Mara river, game watching, bird watching, camping and a cultural visit to Maasai manyatta. This group is looking for a partner to put up a camp in the forest

### **Kormoto**

**KEY FEATURES**

**LOCATION:** Narok

**CURRENT STATUS:** Existing

**ONGOING ACTIVITIES:** game viewing

**DEVELOPMENT PARTNERS:**

**BUSINESS PARTNERS:**

Kormoto group ranch is found in the outskirts of Maasai Mara reserve. The group has formed a wildlife association to manage tourism activities that take place in their land. They have leased their land to private investors who have put up tourist camps. The group earns revenue from lease fees and game viewing by visitors from other camps

### **Rekero**

#### **KEY FEATURES**

**LOCATION:** Masai Mara

**CURRENT STATUS:** Existing

**ONGOING ACTIVITIES:** Game viewing, cultural visits, bush walks, bird watching, picnics and sundowners

**DEVELOPMENT PARTNERS:**

**BUSINESS PARTNERS:**

around the Mara Reserve that have been sub-divided and sold to individuals. There are various activities that are found in Rokero including day and night game viewing, cultural visits with Masai and IL Dorobo communities, bush walks, bird watching, picnics and sundowners.

### **Siana Springs Intrepids**

#### **KEY FEATURES**

**LOCATION:** Ngama hills, Masai Mara National Reserve

**CURRENT STATUS:** Existing

**ONGOING ACTIVITIES:** Game drives, walking safaris, hot air balloon safaris, fishing trips, bush breakfasts, traditional dances and lectures and sundowners

**DEVELOPMENT PARTNERS:** AWF

**BUSINESS PARTNERS:**

Siana Springs is situated at the base of the Ngama hills, on the eastern edge of the Masai Mara National Reserve. Siana Intrepids occupies a lush indigenous forest watered by the largest natural springs in the Mara ecosystem. The camp is run and managed by Heritage hotels. The camp's location in the heart of the Siana group

ranch offers guests opportunities for private bush walks and drives on the game-rich plains and along the seasonal streams beneath the Ngama hills. The local people remain pastoralists. The camp enjoys very close ties with Masai landlords, who make up more than 60% of its workforce. The local Nkoilale primary school was built with support from Siana, which continues to fund the school's development. The camp is also supporting an initiative to develop a local conservation area, which will protect the area's rich game and limit degradation by livestock grazing.

### **Dream Camp (Base Camp)**

LOCATION: Masai Mara  
 STATUS: Existing  
 ONGOING ACTIVITIES: game drives, walking safaris, sundowner  
 DEVELOPMENT PARTNERS:  
 BUSINESS PARTNERS:

Basecamp is located at the banks of the Talek River on community owned land. This tented camp is a leading example of community participation in tourism as well as a leader in sustainable management of resources. It has a partnership agreement with the local Maasai for sharing of profits. Working together with their Masai neighbours, researchers and environmental organisations, the Camp offers professional lectures on wildlife and culture and supports research in the Maasai Mara. The camp has a good environment management program that also details its social responsibility. The Camp aims to protect and learn from the African wilderness, to cooperate with the local villages and to provide the ultimate in pleasure and safari adventure to its guests. Basecamp is a recipient of the ESOK Eco-rating Award for exemplary environmental, economic and social performance.

## **ECOTOURISM PROJECTS OUTSIDE FOCAL AREAS**

### **Arabuko Sokoke**

KEY FEATURES  
 LOCATION: Coast province (Malindi)  
 CURRENT STATUS: Existing  
 ONGOING ACTIVITIES: Kipepeo Project (Butterfly Project)  
 DEVELOPMENT PARTNERS: Nature Kenya, EAWLS, KWS, ACC,  
 CDTF/BCP  
 BUSINESS PARTNERS:

The Arabuko Sokoke is found in Kenya's North Coast nestled behind the beaches of Watamu. It is a four hundred square kilometer (400 sq. km) reserve that boast a wide variety of butterflies and birds, monkeys and smaller mammals. The forest stretches to the headwaters of Sabaki River where herds of elephant pass through the forest en route to the river occasionally. The forest has been under serious threat of degradation by local people as it provides wood fuel energy, poles for construction and furniture making, honey harvesting, poaching for game meat and land for settlement and agriculture. Already a large portion of it has been lost but the trend has been reserved in the recent past. The first step was to have to have the forest gazetted as a reserve. Then local people were involved in developing a strategic plan for its management. In the plan provision was made for introduction of activities that would bring revenue to local people and manog them was the Kipepeo project.

The Kipepeo project involves breeding and harvesting of butterfly larva for export. The local people provide the necessary environment for breeding on their private land. They collect and sell the larva to an established collection centre and are paid cash upon delivery. Disposable incomes among the poor of Gede in Watamu, has improved so has their appreciation of the forest.

**Kigio Wildlife Conservancy / Malewa River Lodge**

<p><b>KEY FEATURES</b>  <b>LOCATION:</b> Naivasha  <b>CURRENT STATUS:</b> Existing  <b>ONGOING ACTIVITIES:</b> Malewa river lodge, Two camp sites (Kingfisher, bee eater), bird watching, trout fishing, horse riding, abseiling, canoeing, rafting, mountain biking, photography  <b>POTENTIAL ACTIVITIES:</b> Biodiversity conservation/ poverty alleviation  <b>DEVELOPMENT PARTNERS:</b> CDTF/BCP</p>
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Kigio is located beside the Malewa River on 3,500 acres about 30 miles north of Lake Naivasha. The expansive conservancy is privately owned by a group of citizens from around the area. In the past, the Kigio operated as livestock ranch and has only recently embraced

ecotourism after entering into a partnership with private tourism developer. The private company pushed for the conversion of the land into a Wildlife conservancy to attract tourists. The conservancy has an eco-lodge, Malewa river lodge and campsite to provide accommodation to visitors. Visitors to Kigio can engage in bird watching, trout fishing, horse riding, abseiling, canoeing, rafting, mountain biking, and hiking. The private company pays share of revenue to members of Kigio Company based on an agreement.

Since the establishment of the conservation, the vegetation has regenerated, local schools and health services have benefited from travelers philanthropy, more wildlife are now resident in the conservancy, there has been wildlife translocation to re-introduce some species lost to poaching and increased disposable income for local people from employment opportunities.

Malewa River Lodge is a recipient of the ESOK Eco-rating award for exemplary performance in environment management as well as economic and social performance.

### **Bamburi Nature Trail / Haller Park**

**KEY FEATURES**

LOCATION: Mombasa

CURRENT STATUS: Existing

ONGOING ACTIVITIES: Reclamation of quarry into a Nature trail

DEVELOPMENT PARTNERS: Bamburi Quarry

BUSINESS PARTNERS:

Bamburi Quarry is situated in Mombasa. The park was opened in 1984 and is a piece of wasteland, saved from hazards of modern industrial development through reclamation process. Following years of reconstruction, many species of mammals, reptiles, insects, fungi, trees and plants have found their way into the quarry both introduced and uninvited to make up an incredibly rich and complex ecosystem that is more diverse than the original coastal forest. The mining company, Bamburi Cement Company, provided support for reclamation of the quarry but it was one Dr Haller who worked tirelessly to see the wasteland reclaimed into an environment rich in flora and fauna for the enjoyment of visitors. Haller Park, as it is now known, is a leading tourist attraction in Kenya's coast employing many local people.

Other than offering a tourist product for relaxation, the park produces more than 40 tones of fish per year from the parks aquaculture, exports crocodile skins, raises butterflies, provides game meat to local hotels, and harvests and sells impressive quantities of timber, fruits, vegetables, all grown using ecologically sound principles that the park was founded on.

### **Lokitela Farm**

**KEY FEATURES**

**LOCATION:** Mt. Kenya

**CURRENT STATUS:** Existing

**ONGOING ACTIVITIES:** Farm activities, bird watching, nature walks, visits to Saiwa swamp and Cherengani hills, trips to Mt. Elgon National Park

**DEVELOPMENT PARTNERS:**

**BUSINESS PARTNERS:**

Lokitela farm is situated on the foothills of Mt. Elgon. It is a privately owned farm. Conservation is a high priority and Lokitela is home 350 different species of birds and many small animals. Lokitela farm offers the opportunity for Bird watching, nature walks, visits to Saiwa swamp and Cherengani hills, and trips to Mt. Elgon National Park. Intensive mixed farming is practiced where milk and maize production are the main enterprise.

### **Mundui Estate**

**KEY FEATURES**

**LOCATION:** Naivasha

**CURRENT STATUS:** Existing

**ONGOING ACTIVITIES:** Game viewing, boating, bird watching, visit to Nakuru National Park, escorted walks

**DEVELOPMENT PARTNERS:**

**BUSINESS PARTNERS:**

Mundui's 1,200 acres are set within the boundaries of protected wetland of Lake Naivasha and is owned by a private company. The farm has different species of wildlife ranging from small to large and with over 250 species of birds. Tourists to the farm pay entry fees and are exposed to a variety of activities like escorted walks on the estate, boating on Lake Naivasha, game viewing, bird watching, visit to Nakuru National Park.

### **Elsamere Field Study Centre**

LOCATION: Naivasha  
CURRENT STATUS: Existing  
ONGOING ACTIVITIES: Conducted walks round the nature trails, boating, bird watching  
DEVELOPMENT PARTNERS:  
BUSINESS PARTNERS:

Elsamere is located in an acacia forest on the shore of Lake Naivasha. There are conducted walks round the nature trails, bird watching of around 235 species of birds, leisure boat ride around the adjacent papyrus beds to Hippo Point passing a resident pod of the hippo way. A resident troop of black and white colobus monkeys is an interesting feature of Elsamere. Funds raised help finance the adjacent field study center operated by the Elsa Trust through which thousands of Kenyan schools children visit every year (over 7,000 in the year 2001 alone). This center has been essential in helping teach the value of Kenya's fauna and flora and the need to save it for future posterity.

### **Kilalinda Camp**

LOCATION: Banks of Athi River  
CURRENT STATUS: Existing  
ONGOING ACTIVITIES: sundowners, sunrise breakfast, moonlit star baths, fishing, river trips, bush drives, walking excursions  
DEVELOPMENT PARTNERS:  
BUSINESS PARTNERS:

Kilalinda camp is found in south-eastern Kenya, on the border of Tsavo East National Park, on the banks of the Athi River. It is located on 5000- acre privately owned sanctuary. Kilalinda charges a \$20 per person conservation fee, which is used for the conservation and management of the game sanctuary. In addition, the Lodge assists the local school with materials, and provides for the education of six local children; recruits and trains local staff from the neighbouring community; is working to reintroduce indigenous wildlife and plants to the sanctuary.

## Conclusion

The literary review of existing ecotourism projects in Kenya done by Ecotourism Society of Kenya reveals that Kenya's ground breaking experiments in community conservation, the pioneering of ecotourism practices in parks, ranches, reserves and farms has increased over the last few years, not only in the focal areas, but also in other areas in the republic. There is now need to undertake field surveys of these identified areas to come up with fuller and more accurate information on the growth of ecotourism in Kenya. The survey will be an on-going activity with updates of the inventory being done every few years to include upcoming ecotourism ventures.

At a time when solutions for alleviation of rural poverty are being sought and pro-poor interventions being proposed, a detailed survey will help to shed light on the impacts ecotourism has had on local community livelihoods and conservation in Kenya. It might provide an impetus for development of ecotourism policy in Kenya, a tool that is urgently needed to guide the growth of this sector and to provide regulations, guidelines and incentives for its development.

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