



AFRICA

STRENGTHENING VOICE, CHOICE, AND ACTION FOR COMMUNITY-LED CONSERVATION

Indigenous peoples and local communities (IPLC) are vital leaders in the pursuit of lasting solutions to the world's most pressing conservation and development challenges. Eighteen percent of the world's land is owned by or designated for IPLC, and at least double that is claimed but not legally recognized. The relationship people have with lands and waters, and their longstanding knowledge of natural systems and resources, make them critical and inspirational allies for building a healthy and sustainable future.

However, IPLC face complex challenges as growing economies and human populations put pressure on their native lands. This is especially true in Africa, where many communities rely almost exclusively on the grasslands, forests, and fisheries that also host some of the continent's most iconic wildlife. They often have no legal rights to land, and lack the institutional framework to sustainably manage and market these natural resources in the face of ever-changing political, environmental, and economic conditions.

OUR APPROACH

Around the world, The Nature Conservancy is working to transform the way land and water decisions are made by strengthening the voice, choice, and action of indigenous peoples and local communities to shape and manage natural territory in ways that improve lives and drive conservation. Our focus in Africa is to bring together IPLC, governments, and business leaders, academics, NGOs and others to:

- Secure resource ownership for IPLC
- Strengthen IPLC leadership and management capacity
- Creating income-generation opportunities that reinforce conservation and cultural values.

For 70 years, TNC has been working hand in hand with communities to marry traditional wisdom with cutting-edge science, tools, and models. Science has proven that when people have greater ownership and power to determine how their resources are managed, the benefits are real and lasting — for families, nations, and the world.

ABOUT TNC

The mission of The Nature Conservancy is to conserve the lands and waters on which all life depends.

- Global non-governmental organization
- 72 countries
- Established in 1951
- 1 million members
- 50 million hectares conserved globally
- 3,700 staff, 400 scientists

TNC IN AFRICA

We focus on sharing science, expertise, tools, and resources with communities and leaders in the public and private sector to implement solutions that preserve nature while improving people's lives.

Impact in Africa since 2007:

- 100+ local partners
- 1.4 million people benefiting under conservation management
- 10 million terrestrial hectares
- 20,600 freshwater hectares
- 41.5 million marine hectares

PRIORITIES IN AFRICA

TNC works in **nine** countries in Africa, and our IPLC work is currently focused on Kenya, Tanzania, and Zambia.

We prioritize aligning with local NGOs that have a proven track record of excellence and respect for indigenous peoples and local communities.

We support these partners with science, tools, technical skills, new models, and resources they need to implement community-led solutions to some of the biggest environmental challenges.

This includes building strong governance, resilient natural resource management structures, and developing sustainable enterprises linked to conservation.

To drive replication and scaling, we work to increase enabling policies and to mobilize transformational funding.

WHERE TNC WORKS



IMPACT IN TANZANIA

Northern Tanzania Rangelands Initiative (NTRI)

NTRI is a partnership between TNC and nine other NGOs. Through NTRI, we aim to secure livestock and wildlife movement and dispersal areas in Tanzania's northern rangelands while enhancing an ecologically and economically thriving landscape that supports people and wildlife and is resilient to future stress.

Impact

- Helped create road maps to turn Randilen and Makame Wildlife Management Areas (WMAs) into models of strong conservation and community management that other WMAs can follow
- Supported the sale of carbon offsets for the Hadzabe tribe, which has generated more than **\$400,000** in revenue for health, education, and land protection
- Helped secure legal rights for more than **680,600 hectares** of traditional homelands for hunter-gatherers and pastoralists

Tuongane Project

The Tuongane Project is a collaboration between TNC and Pathfinder International designed to create integrated solutions for healthier families, fisheries, and forests in the Greater Mahale Ecosystem.

Impact

- Trained **56** forest scouts to monitor the **216,000 hectares** earmarked as **forest and carbon reserves**
- Supported **demarcation of 16,080 hectares** of fish reserves
- Improved **voluntary reproductive health care access** for more than **78,000 people**



IMPACT IN KENYA

Over the past 14 years, we have helped strengthen community-led conservation models and scale up successes through advancing supportive policies at the national level and mobilizing transformational resources.

Northern Rangelands Trust (NRT)

NRT aims to develop resilient community conservancies that transform lives, secure peace, and conserve natural resources. NRT also has a for-profit social enterprise, NRT Trading, whose mission is to grow sustainable, conservation-linked businesses. TNC has been a partner of NRT since 2007, supporting core operations and providing scientific expertise in key areas such as wildlife and grasslands.

Impact

- Support for 39 member community conservancies
- Improved management of 4.4 million hectares
- Increased benefits for 404,050 people

Kenya Wildlife Conservancies Association (KWCA)

KWCA aims to create an enabling environment for private and community conservancies in Kenya to deliver environmental and livelihood benefits. TNC partnered with the Kenya Wildlife Service to establish KWCA in 2013.

Impact

- Networked more than 6.3 million hectares of private and community conservancies
- Supported 150,000 landowners to respond to the challenges of poaching, human/wildlife conflict, land degradation, and poverty

Maasai Mara Wildlife Conservancies Association (MMWCA)

MMWCA was established as a membership body for the landowners in the areas surrounding the Maasai Mara Game Reserve. TNC supported MMWCA to develop a conservation action plan and helped secure a USD\$4.1 million grant from USAID for MMWCA in 2015.

Impact

- Networked 140,400 hectares of conservancies
- Enhanced income for 14,500 landowners
- Employed 280 community wildlife rangers

IMPACT IN ZAMBIA

We are working with the Zambian government to develop legal frameworks that empower communities living around the Kafue National Park to lead sustainable natural resource management in game management areas, as well as improving security and fire management.

Impact

- Supported two communities to secure rights to more than 60,500 hectares for communal management
- Supported Western Region Community Resources Board Association, enabling 33 communities to have a stronger voice in natural resources management
- Helped the community of Mulobezi secure a 2,000-hectare concession for sustainable forest management



“We are all learning as the pressures are changing. We continue to see a transition from the traditional protectionist conservation into a more holistic social development process aligning people’s needs with environmental challenges.”

—TOM LALAMPAA, TNC Africa Council member and CEO of the Northern Rangelands Trust