

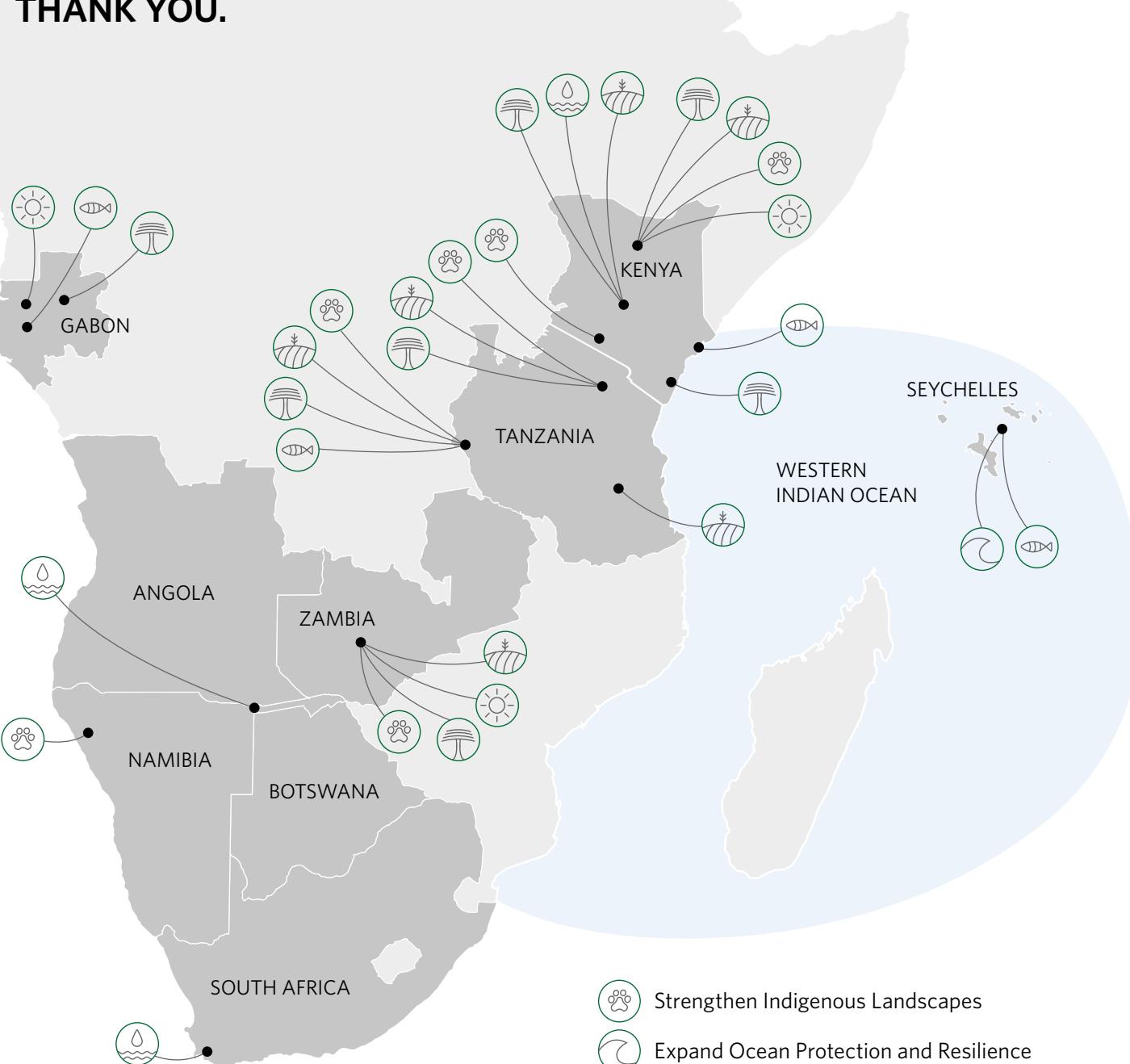


AFRICA | 2019



Our strength comes from you.

THANK YOU.



- Strengthen Indigenous Landscapes
- Expand Ocean Protection and Resilience
- Protect Source Waters
- Power Africa Sustainably
- Sustainably Intensify Agriculture
- Improve Fishery Health
- Conserve and Restore Forests

LETTER FROM OUR DIRECTOR | MATT BROWN

As I drove out of Selela village in northern Tanzania, the sun was beginning to paint the grass a warm copper orange. The horizon seemed infinite.

The community had recently been granted a Certificate of Customary Right of Occupancy (CCRO), a type of land tenure recognized by the government that empowers community members to own and steward their natural resources together.

I often get discouraged — as I am sure you do, too — when I hear news of nature's slow demise: another forest cut down, another species lost, another climate setback. But here in Selela, we have pressed the stop button.

With guidance from TNC and partners, the community has set aside 60,000 acres to be used as a "grass bank" that excludes farming, fencing, and settlements. Community members are embracing new ways to improve their pastoral economy and protect wildlife that needs to migrate through this ancient corridor.

Gazing across the landscape that day, I felt an immense sense of pride for the work you are making possible. This is one view of what "permanent" looks like in Africa — grasslands that are properly managed to provide for both wildlife and people.

But what is working in Selela might not work somewhere else. The world is more complex than ever before, so we have to act strategically and creatively to tailor solutions for each place we set foot.

Our work centers on the seven strategies featured on the left. **In every unique geography, we pull from our toolbox of strategies to tackle modern pressures in innovative ways.**

The holistic solutions you will see highlighted on the following pages include things like educating girls, building local leaders, and generating sustainable financing.

We are able to accomplish all of this by combining our site-based work with those cross-cutting strategies, drawing on a global network of scientists and experts, and listening to our local partners and communities. Thanks to your continued support, together we can create strong and lasting conservation solutions.



Indigenous Lands | The Busy Wild

Most of Africa's wildlife lives outside parks in indigenous and communal lands. As growing populations pursue greater access to food, water, energy, education, health care, and better livelihoods, an ancient balance is tipping.

We are working with partners to create strong networks of conserved lands — indigenous, communal, private, and government — that will enable both people and nature to thrive.

These landscapes, including the vast grasslands of northern Kenya and Tanzania where our work started on the continent more than a decade ago, are also where a number of our seven strategies touch down.

MILESTONES | NORTHERN TANZANIA

The Hadzabe, a hunter-gatherer tribe that has been squeezed into a small portion of their traditional lands, are finding new ways to thrive.

First, with support from Northern Tanzania Rangelands Initiative partners, including Ujamaa Community Resource Team (UCRT), Dorobo Fund, and TNC, they secured formal land tenure for 57,000 acres. That gave the Hadzabe the means to earn sustainable income through the sale of carbon credits with partner Carbon Tanzania.

The \$300,000 they have earned so far has sent children to school, expanded medical services, and is keeping the forest protection program running. This year, the Hadzabe were awarded the U.N.'s prestigious Equator Prize, which honors community efforts to reduce poverty through conservation.

This work with Carbon Tanzania is part of our emerging Conserve and Restore Forests strategy, and includes an expansion into the Tuungane Project, where carbon sales recently provided the first payment to village scouts trained to protect the home of Tanzania's endangered chimpanzees.

MILESTONES | NORTHERN KENYA

Samburu has become the first county in Kenya to approve a bill that funds community conservancies, a strong vote of confidence for community-led conservation. Starting with \$1.1 million this fiscal year, this funding will boost conservation, create jobs, and generate more revenue to the county through wildlife tourism.

More than 1,000 women in the Northern Rangelands Trust-Trading's BeadWORKS program together earned over \$47,000 last year. This was achieved in part thanks to the business expertise of two TNC volunteer leaders who increased the outlets that carry the handicrafts in the U.S., Canada, and Europe from five to 65 in four years.



"Now that BeadWORKS is in U.S. markets, the products must meet the highest standards because we're competing with the rest of the world. It's one big step from where we were a few years ago to where we are going."

—BEATRICE LEMPAILRA, Production Manager

BY THE NUMBERS | Progress in the Grasslands of Northern Kenya and Tanzania



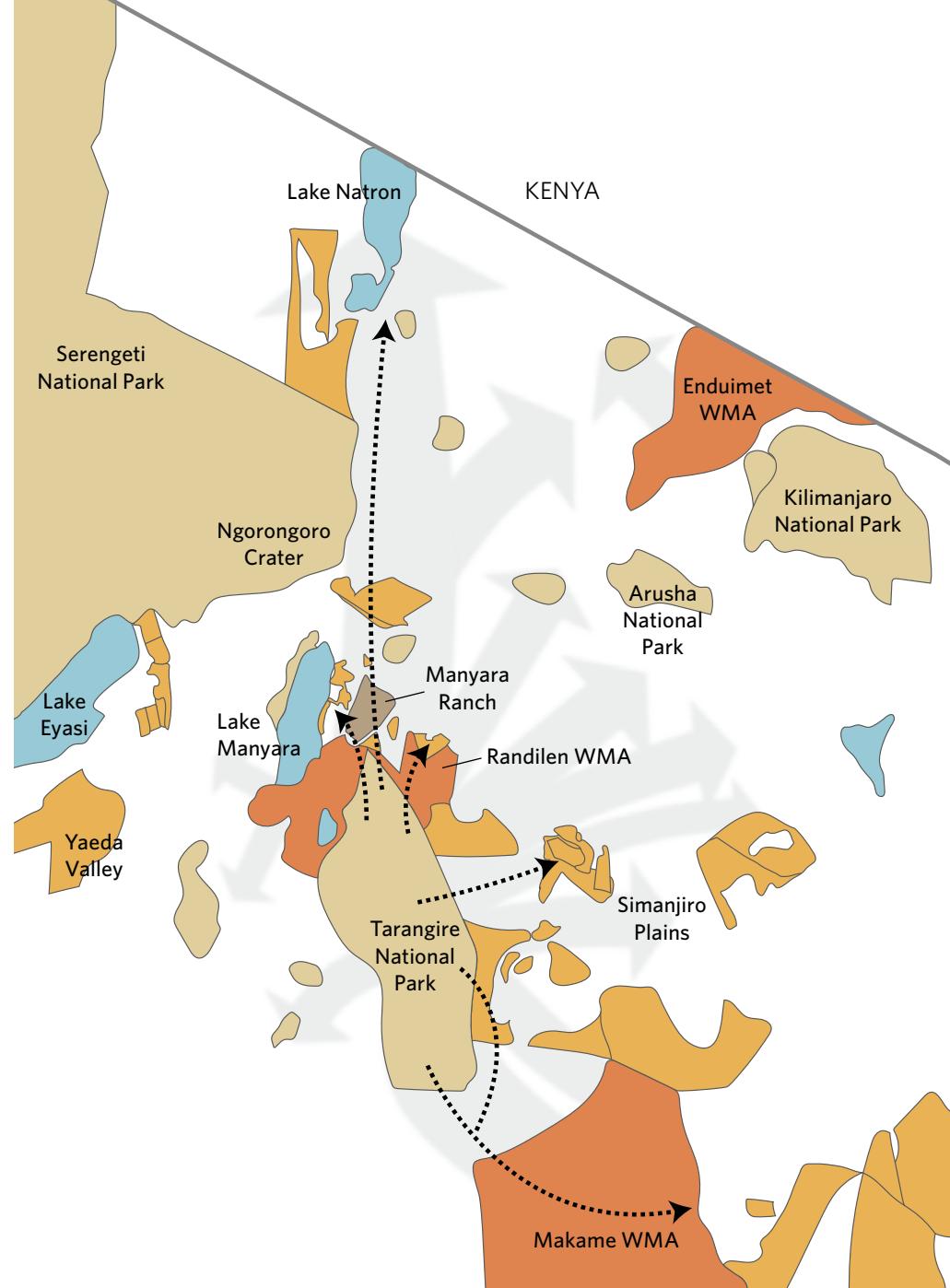
15,776,800

acres with improved land management



680,600

people with formal land or resource rights



NORTHERN TANZANIA RANGELANDS INITIATIVE

Wildlife Movement in the 1960s

→ Current Wildlife Movement

National Park or Forest Reserve

Wildlife Management Area

Certificate of Customary Right of Occupancy,
Easement, or Livestock Grazing Area

*Map is for illustrative purposes only and not to scale. Source: NTRI 2019



Indigenous Lands | Free to Move

In the long dry season, Tarangire National Park is crowded with wildlife drawn to the river that winds through it. When rain transforms Tanzania's northern rangelands into a sea of green, tens of thousands of animals fan out into community lands to feast on fresh grass. Elephants march ancient routes to favored grazing lands, and herds of zebra and wildebeest disperse east to the Simanjiro Plains for the nutrient-rich grasses they need while pregnant and nursing.

This cycle has played out on a grand scale here for millennia. But these migration pathways and dispersal areas are being blocked and erased by farms, fences, roads, settlements, and other development.

With the pace of growth quickening in this landscape of 8.7 million acres, we are focused on five key areas where necessary migration pathways and calving grounds are at urgent risk of being lost forever.

Hungry elephants, enticed by the rows of maize spreading across the landscape, can wipe out an entire farm in a night, triggering deadly conflict. Unscrupulous leaders carve up shared grazing lands and allocate parcels to individuals. Legal loopholes and well-intentioned government subsidies for agriculture are spurring an influx of outsiders from urban centers looking to farm "empty" grasslands or bring in big herds of livestock.

Here, we are teaming up with local people who, like wildlife, are dependent on wide open healthy landscapes — pastoralists and hunter-gatherers whose livelihoods and traditions are just as threatened.

PHOTOS

TOP | TNC supports Randilen WMA, which borders Tarangire. This year, the WMA opened a new airstrip and this watering hole "hide," built by partner Honeyguide, that offers visitors a rare, close-up view of wildlife. © Maximilian Msack

With our nine partners in the Northern Tanzania Rangelands Initiative (NTRI), we are supporting communities to secure communal land rights and manage their lands well.

We are taking existing conservation models — like Wildlife Management Areas (WMAs) — and boosting enterprises that bring jobs and revenue for local people. And we are pioneering new models — like the communal Certificate of Customary Right of Occupancy (CCRO) developed by partner UCRT — that enable communities to keep their lands open for shared use.

Working together, we are blending indigenous traditions and new tools to make conservation a viable choice in which people and wildlife win. After all, if more communities choose conservation because it meets their needs, our job will be done.

So far in 2019, we have worked with our partners to support the creation of six new CCROs, bringing the tally to 51, with each one helping keep wildlife pathways open for good.



370,000 ACRES

secured in 2019 through the establishment of new CCROs

MIDDLE | Through a TNC-supported exercise, villagers in the Selela CCRO mapped out grazing zones and rotation plans to ensure enough grass for both cattle and wildlife. © Roshni Lodhia

BOTTOM | Thousands of zebras and wildebeest move out of Tarangire into community lands for calving. © Miguel Cuenca / Alamy Stock Photo



Indigenous Lands | Making Room for People and Wildlife

When we think about lions, we need to think big: big habitat needs, big appetites, and big population declines — **a drop of more than 50 percent in the last 25 years**. So when it comes to protecting them, we have to take big actions. Not only do lions, which are now squeezed into just 8 percent of their historic range, need large swaths of habitat in which to thrive, they also need new strategies to navigate a landscape that is changing around them.

Agriculture, infrastructure, human settlements, and other wildlife are all vying for space. More people and animals in a smaller area means increased conflict between them.

From equipping community volunteers with fireworks and chili powder to fend off crop-raiding elephants to studying livestock attacks by leopards, we are working with partners on innovative solutions to protect wildlife and people's livelihoods.

At Loisaba Conservancy — a 56,000-acre property in northern Kenya that TNC supporters helped protect from development — we are providing partner Lion Landscapes with critical funding to give lions a fighting chance.



"In the past, the lions killed many livestock because they were clever enough to avoid the night guard and attack from the opposite side of the boma. We retaliated by poisoning the lions when they killed our cattle. Now the lions cannot surprise us, because we always know when they are near our bomas."

—JOHN LEBASHA, Laikipia County pastoralist

PHOTOS BY AMI VITALE

TOP | Tracking collars tell us where lions are going so that we can protect the habitat they need most. If lions are doing well, the entire ecosystem is likely doing well.

MIDDLE RIGHT | New technology is reducing the number of livestock killed by lions, thereby reducing the number of lions that are killed in return. A mobile phone app developed by Save the Elephants and Vulcan Inc. warns herders when lions move into community areas, giving them time to scare away the lions with lights and noise or to call a nearby ranger team.

BOTTOM LEFT | TNC-supported Loisaba Conservancy rangers have been trained and equipped by Lion Landscapes and The Peregrine Fund to become lion rangers. These rangers shadow lions when they move into areas with a high risk of conflict, work with livestock owners on protection measures, and serve as ambassadors for wildlife. Shown here: Ranger Boniface Ekiru Lowoi meets with pastoralist Aterlo Leputunoi.

BOTTOM RIGHT | Lion rangers educate local schoolchildren, like these at Ewaso Primary School, about lions and why they are important to the ecosystem. Ensuring that local communities benefit from and understand conservation efforts is critical for having a lasting impact.

ELSEWHERE IN AFRICA | Wildlife Successes



0

rhinos poached in
Namibia's Kunene
region since 2017



0

elephants killed in
Tanzania's Randilen
WMA since 2015





Indigenous Lands | Adapting to a Changing Climate

Climate change is not a distant threat to Africa – it is happening now. So in addition to helping stem the tide of rising temperatures through natural climate solutions, such as reforestation, we must help nature and people prepare for the inevitable changes that are already beginning.

MILESTONES | ZAMBIA

Our work in Zambia revolves around Kafue National Park, which is home to elephants, lions, crocodiles, and one of the world's most diverse populations of antelope.

Kafue's enormity – it is roughly the size of New Jersey – makes it an important climate-resilient stronghold, providing refuge to species that are running out of space. Protecting it now is critical for Zambia's future.

Bush fires have always been a natural phenomenon in Zambia. The burning off of dry grass, undergrowth, and fallen tree branches allows new grass to shoot up when the rains fall.

But climate change is altering rain patterns and driving hotter dry seasons. This means that fires – which are often started by poachers moving around at night – now burn fiercer and later in the year.

They are destroying much more vegetation than before, leaving wildlife struggling to find food.

TNC has a solution: Set “controlled burns” earlier in the year to trigger nutritious new growth and stop the buildup of dry grass that fuels ferocious fires later in the dry season.

A team of fire experts from TNC's Arkansas Chapter, with support from Zambia's Department of National Parks and Wildlife, has been visiting for the last seven years to train rangers, scientists, local people, and lodge staff to do exactly that.

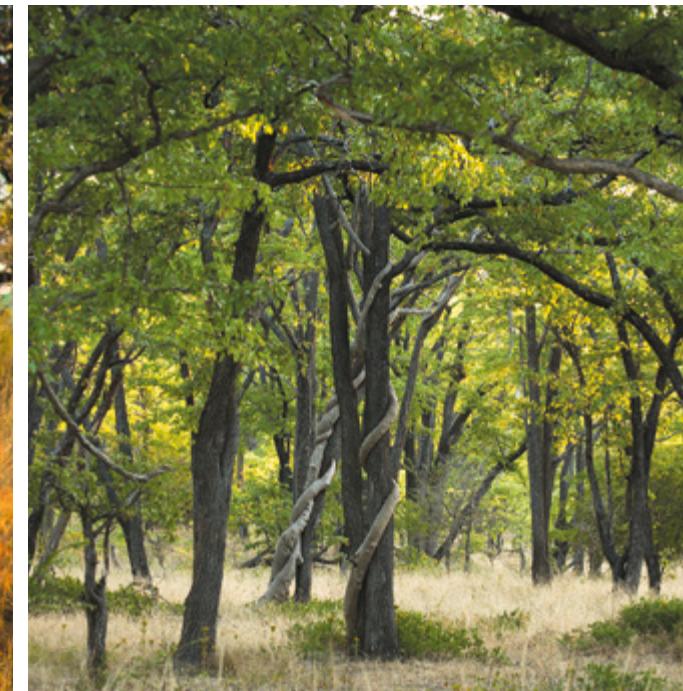
New data this year indicate that the training is making a significant difference. Late-season fires have been halved thanks in great part to the surge in early controlled burns.



1 MILLION FEWER ACRES

faced destructive late-season fires in 2018 as compared with 2017

WATCH A VIDEO at nature.org/KafueFires



TOP PHOTO | Beyond the borders of Kafue National Park, climate change is already affecting community agriculture. This is especially dangerous in Mulobezi, a remote area southwest of the park.

Although we initially came to explore how to make forestry more sustainable, our science team identified food insecurity as a key threat to conservation and human well-being.

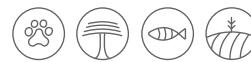
To combat this, TNC funded the placement of an agriculture extension officer – Brian Chungu – in this area for the first time since 1957. Now we can help people grow more food without converting forests to cropland, as well as find a mix of more drought-resistant crops.

WATCH A VIDEO at nature.org/CharityFarm

“Since my husband passed away, I have been farming to provide for my family. I grow maize, ground nuts, and sunflowers using skills we were taught by Brian, such as using mulch to retain moisture in the soil.

This year is difficult because of the drought, but I started planting my garden early. We are fortunate that TNC taught us how to grow different vegetables so that we can still have food for our children.”

—CHARITY SIANKUKU (pictured above), farmer in Mulobezi © Gareth Bentley



Spotlight | The Long Road to an Education

The road from Teresia Gabriel's house to school is long, often muddy, and sometimes dangerous. But Teresia, like so many other young women, persisted, spending up to eight hours a day walking in the pursuit of education.

Teresia was determined to beat the odds: About 90 percent of girls in this area drop out before finishing secondary school due to pregnancies, the time spent getting to school, or other challenges. **But thanks to a new dormitory funded by TNC supporters, Teresia got a big break for her future.**

The Tuungane Project, a partnership with Pathfinder International with support from local government and other groups, is addressing the interconnected challenges of population, health, and environment in western Tanzania.

Isolation, poverty, and one of the world's highest birthrates have led to overuse of natural resources, as well as to destructive practices that are threatening people's livelihoods, key chimpanzee habitat, and more than 250 species of endemic fish in Lake Tanganyika.

So in addition to working with local communities to improve fisheries management and establish forest reserves, the Tuungane Project helps families get access to family planning, health care, and now educational opportunities.

By staying in school, these girls will likely marry and start having children later. Further, education provides women more opportunities to become employed, earn an income, and reduce their overall reliance on natural resources.

Education can also make a difference on a global scale: Project Drawdown lists educating girls as the sixth most important solution to climate change.

"Supporting the education of these young women impacts community health, economic opportunity, and conservation together, building a future where people and nature thrive."

—AMY BATCHELOR, member of TNC's Global Board and the Africa Affinity Group for Women and Girls, donors supporting gender-focused work in Africa



4,640

model households demonstrating sustainable behaviors



533,740

acres of Village Land Forest Reserves designated



5,900

acres of fish breeding sites protected by community groups

PHOTOS BY ROSHNI LODHIA

TOP | Teresia Gabriel is one of 67 girls who now have a safe place to sleep, two hot meals a day, time to study, and an opportunity to succeed.

BOTTOM LEFT | After walking 8 miles home and helping with chores, Teresia had little time to study.

BOTTOM RIGHT | "Being in this dorm will help me to succeed, achieve my goals, become self-sufficient and teach my peers the importance of conserving our environment," Teresia said.

WATCH A VIDEO at nature.org/EducatingTeresia



Spotlight | A Beacon of Hope in Kenya

When the yellow mobile clinics come to a stop under a lone acacia tree, word spreads quickly. **Mamas and papas stop their chores, hoist babies onto their backs and gather scattered children, and join the growing crowd waiting to receive medical services.**

The staff of Communities Health Africa Trust (CHAT) operates like a well-oiled machine. They can have a tent set up and filled with neatly organized gloves, remedies, and other equipment in 15 minutes flat.

This scene repeats itself over and over across 13 counties in rural Kenya where CHAT provides both basic health care and family planning services that empower women to maximize their family's health.

Here, we are doing what TNC often does best: Finding groups like CHAT that are already doing great work and giving them what they need to do it even better, whether that is expertise from staff, access to new partners, or funding.

This year, we continued our funding partnership with CHAT, which has allowed it to reach 67,900 people with population, health, and environment (PHE) information, provide 11,800 women with

their preferred family planning method, and treat 5,600 patients with basic curatives.

This work creates healthier communities that can enact positive social and environmental change and reduce the pressure on Kenya's natural resources. And with affordable health care as one of Kenya's Big 4 agenda programs, CHAT's collaboration with county governments ensures the viability of its work for years to come.

PHOTOS BY ROSHNI LODHIA

LEFT | CHAT uses a network of grassroots partners who are trusted within their community — people like Susan Lantare, left — to educate women and men and dispel myths about family planning.

TOP RIGHT | "I love working for CHAT because I'm reaching the unreachable," says Rose Kimanzi, CHAT Projects Officer (center, in yellow). "We come to the rescue when no one else will."

BOTTOM RIGHT | CHAT mobile clinics are often a child's first medical checkup, and TNC funding has already provided 1,000 children's immunizations.

A Network of Learning

The African Conservation Leadership Network (ACLN), founded and co-led by TNC and partner Maliasili, is amplifying conservation impacts by building strong, local leaders.

But it is more than just developing individuals and their organizations: The ACLN is creating opportunities for collaboration between the participants.

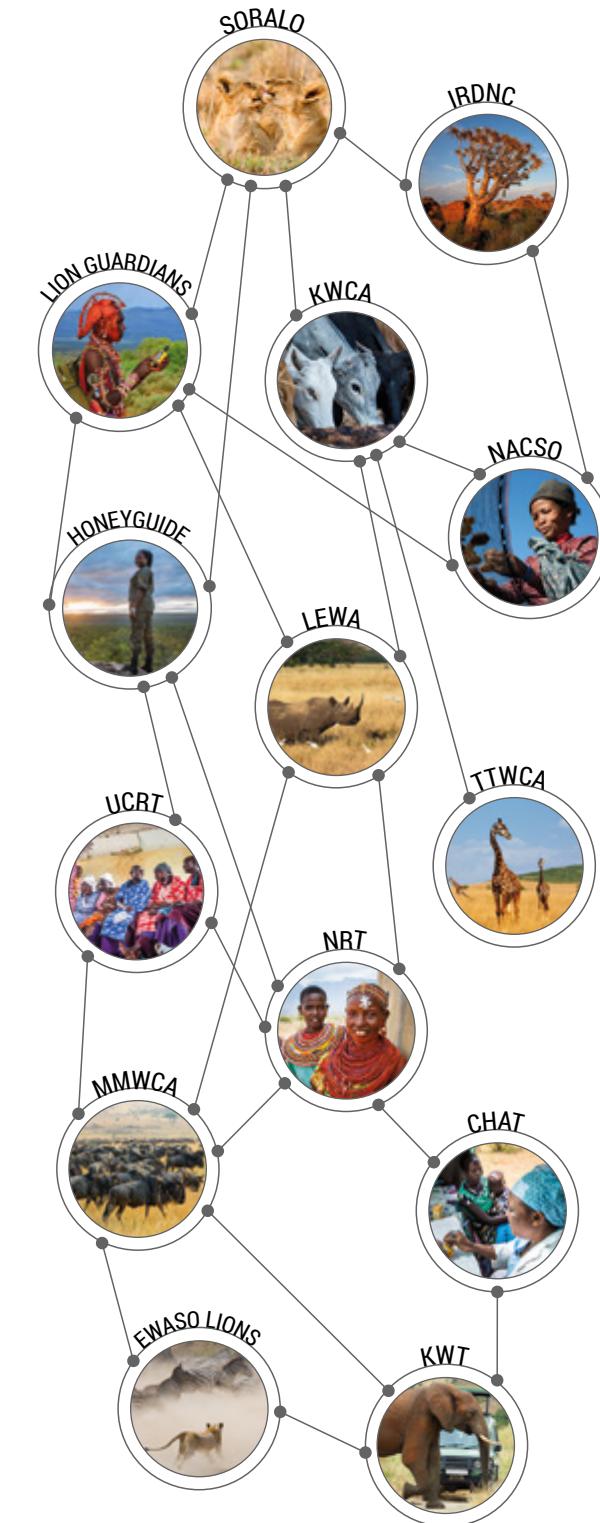
For example, Ujamaa Community Resource Team and Honeyguide from Tanzania visited Northern Rangelands Trust and Maasai Mara Wildlife Conservancies Association in Kenya to learn about their efforts to integrate livestock operations with community conservation programs.

The graphic to the right is just a snapshot of the extensive sharing, learning, and communicating that has taken place outside the ACLN classroom.

"We began the ACLN with TNC because we both wanted to support dynamic leaders who are running high-performing organizations and providing a genuinely African vision of conservation. By giving them a platform to learn from each other, we're seeing a web of collaboration that is bringing that vision closer to reality."

—FRED NELSON, Executive Director, Maliasili

PARTICIPANTS | Acadir | Amboseli Ecosystem Trust BioCarbon Partners | Communities Health Africa Trust Ewaso Lions | Game Rangers International | Grevy's Zebra Trust | Honeyguide | Integrated Rural Development and Nature Conservation | Kenya Wildlife Conservancies Association | Kenya Wildlife Trust | Lewa Wildlife Conservancy | Lion Guardians | Maasai Mara Wildlife Conservancies Association | Mozambique CBNRM Network Mpingo Conservation & Development Initiative | Namibia Nature Foundation | Namibian Association of CBNRM Support Organisations | Northern Rangelands Trust | Save the Rhino Trust | Southern Rift Association of Landowners Taita Taveta Wildlife Conservancies Association | Ujamaa Community Resource Team | Zambia CBNRM Forum Zambia National CRB Association





Fisheries | Communities in the Lead

More than 400 million Africans depend on fish as an essential source of food, so we are helping communities take a balanced approach to protecting this resource for the long-term.

MILESTONE | KENYA COAST

With support from TNC and NRT, women in Pate Marine Community Conservancy started a program that closes octopus harvesting areas, allowing them to breed and grow. When they opened the zone for four days after the second four-month closure, 70 women caught 1,913 pounds of octopuses, up from 410 pounds after the first closure.

MILESTONE | GABON

On a lake in central Gabon, outsiders using illegal fishing methods threaten the health of fish stocks. With partner Organisation Ecotouristique du Lac Oguemoué (OELO), we have helped locals create a fishing group that sets rules with the backing of local authorities. While **fishers say they are already seeing results**, data from our baseline-setting sampling expeditions can provide the proof needed to spread the concept.

MILESTONE | WESTERN TANZANIA

Community-based fisheries management groups from the Tuungane Project hosted delegates from four villages bordering Zambia's Nsumbu National Park on the other side of Lake Tanganyika who want to replicate their success.



"I feel happy and proud that our community-based fisheries management practices will be replicated in Zambia, as it is proof that what we are doing is the right thing."

—ELMAS KIDOLE, BMU Chairman from Buhingu Village, host to the delegation from Zambia

Agriculture | Leaving Space for Nature

With business as usual, increasing farm productivity is projected to meet only 12 percent of Africa's anticipated food demand in 2030. To make up the difference, farmers will have to expand outward. In order to reduce impact on nature, we have to enable farmers to grow more food on less land.

MILESTONES | TANZANIA

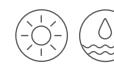
TNC-led Conservation Smart Agriculture training increased maize yields for farmers in the Tuungane Project villages by 106 percent. In the country's Southern Agricultural Growth Corridor, new tools being built by TNC will provide user-friendly mapping apps, data, and guidance, simplifying the job of agriculture, water, and conservation experts.

With better, timelier information on how to maximize their yields, farmers are less likely to convert the area's natural habitat needed by wildlife.

MILESTONE | KENYA'S UPPER TANA

We are working with new partners to test low-cost, infrared technology that instantly provides a snapshot of soil health so experts can advise farmers on ways to improve it. For the 600 farmers involved in the project, this could mean higher crop yields and profits.

For Kenya, it could mean improved water quality, richer biodiversity, more food security, and increased carbon sequestration.



Powering Africa | Reducing Impacts on Nature

Energy development is coming to Africa — and fast. TNC is bringing science to the table to support governments and decision-makers in guiding development to minimize the impact on nature.

MILESTONE | GABON

Gabon remains one of the world's last truly wild places. About 80 percent of its 2 million citizens live in cities, leaving acres upon acres of untamed rivers and dense forests.

But monumental change is on the horizon: Up to 30 new dams are being considered, with the aim to nearly double the country's hydroelectricity generation. If not planned well, however, fisheries, livelihoods, and river health could all suffer.

To demonstrate the benefits of smart planning, TNC analyzed the energy potential and the social, environmental, and financial trade-offs of several dam configuration options being considered in the three river basins that power the capital, Libreville.

We presented this information to the ministries of energy and environment, showing how good data and a basinwide perspective make it possible to get the most of what the government wants (energy) with the fewest drawbacks (costs and negative impacts to people and nature).

Impressed with this capability, the government wants TNC to expand this analysis to encompass all the country's rivers.

Of course, **good results hinge on having good data**, and Gabon's rivers have not been systematically monitored for decades. To address this gap, TNC and partners installed and tested two river gauge stations, setting the foundation for expanding the system to other rivers in the next five years.

PHOTOS

TOP | Gabon has the only beach in the world where you can see elephants on the sand and hippos in the surf. © Carlton Ward / Alamy Stock Photo

"Now, thanks to TNC, we have up-to-date data that will guide decisions on the design and siting of infrastructure in Gabon so it operates at the maximum efficiency while having the least damage on our ecologies."

—ARISTIDE NGARI, Director General of Energy

BY THE NUMBERS | What's at Stake in Gabon



99,000

western lowland gorillas



50%

of the world's forest elephants



22 MILLION

hectares of forest

MILESTONE | OKAVANGO BASIN

As developing countries look to increase renewable energy, they must consider their most suitable natural resources. While Gabon's best energy option is its powerful rivers, Angola has vast flat, sunbathed areas perfect for solar power.

By supporting Angola's government in moving away from hydropower, we can reduce the negative impacts on the world-renowned Okavango Delta downstream in Botswana.

Our scientists have identified the two potentially most damaging of 28 proposed dams, and we are using our financial acumen to find solar investors. The result could be first-time energy access for rural communities and less stress on the water system that sustains the seasonal desert oasis.

BOTTOM | The Okavango Delta doubles in size to 5,000 square miles during the annual flood season. © Ingrid Heres / Shutterstock



Water | From Source to Taps

With Africa's population expected to double in the next 30 years, can we ensure that people have the water they need *and* conserve nature?

Our science has shown that for many cities in Africa, **conservation action to restore and maintain watersheds can pay for itself** by reducing or even avoiding the need for costly man-made efforts, such as new reservoirs or desalination plants.

Watershed conservation not only is cheaper, but it also offers myriad other benefits, such as increased food security, improved livelihoods, and greater protection for millions of acres of nature. Water funds can create strong, lasting solutions – even in water-challenged cities as different as Nairobi and Cape Town – because they use strong science, bring together diverse partners, and attract sustainable funding.

A strategic plan completed in 2019 targets more than a dozen cities for replication. We are taking the lead in places with the highest conservation value and providing training and support to a growing number of eager partners in others.

PHOTOS

ABOVE | Already, 25,000 farmers are applying soil conservation and water-saving methods in Kenya's Upper Tana watershed. © Roshni Lodhia

RIGHT | Removing invasive plants allows native fynbos to rebound in Cape Town's watershed, supporting wildlife like this southern double-collared sunbird. © Gareth Jones / TNC Photo Contest 2019

WATCH VIDEOS at nature.org/NairobiWaterFund and nature.org/Cape-Town-Water

● UPPER TANA-NAIROBI WATER FUND

In Kenya's Upper Tana watershed, soil erosion from 300,000 small-scale farms is disrupting the water supply, reducing crop yields, and hurting freshwater species. Here, we are fixing farms and forests in order to achieve clean, reliable water, conserved and restored nature, and improved community benefits.

MILESTONE | TNC provided critical IT and scientific support for new river flow monitoring stations that transmit data to Ndakaini Dam officials every two hours. This replaces twice-a-day manual data collection, saving time and money.

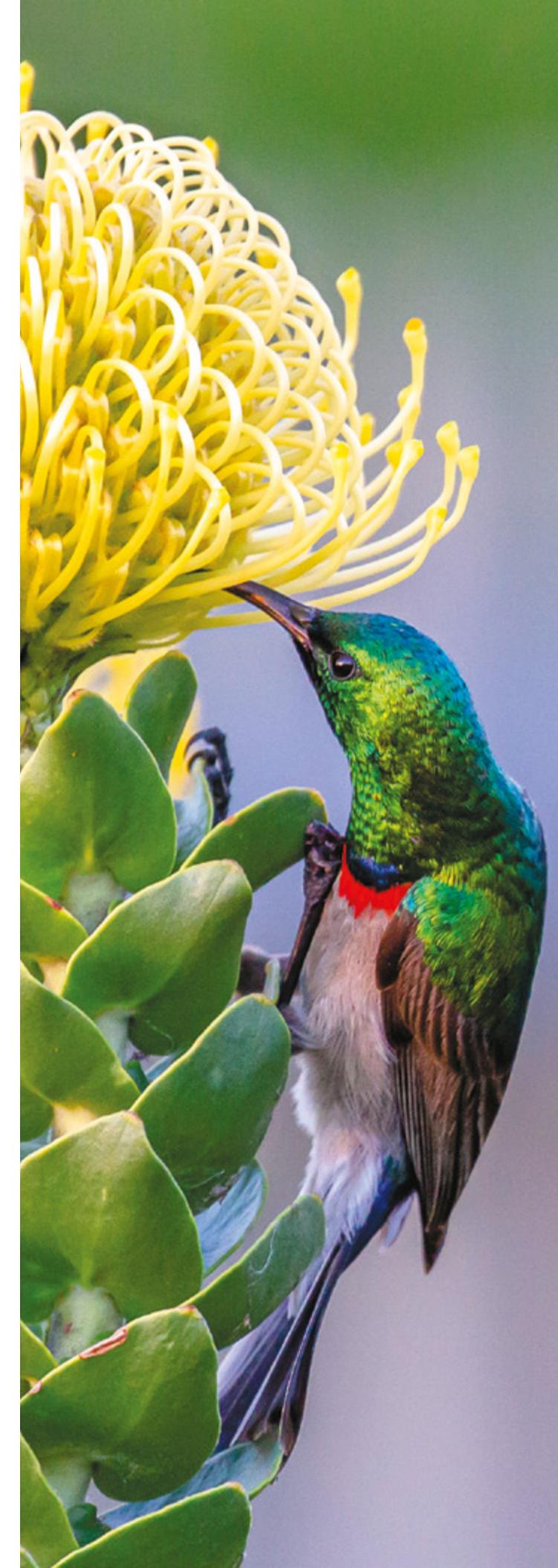
● GREATER CAPE TOWN WATER FUND

In Cape Town's watershed, invasive plants are “stealing” the region's water. Our science has shown us where removing them will have the biggest impact, and it is already adding 1 billion liters of water to the Atlantis Aquifer each year.

MILESTONE | A team of 10 people has been trained in Wilderness Rope Access and is now working to address the proliferation of invasive plants in remote, high-altitude areas.

● WATER FUND EXPANSION

MILESTONES | In the last year, we have trained 85 people from 18 countries to create new water funds. Cities that came on board in 2019: Freetown, Sierra Leone, and Eldoret, Kenya.





Ocean | Balancing Conservation and Growth

MILESTONE | SEYCHELLES

Aldabra Atoll is one of the most untouched places on Earth. Its isolation in the Seychelles has protected its biodiversity, including the world's largest population of giant tortoises. But the surrounding turquoise waters that teem with blacktip reef sharks, green turtles, and manta rays have not been so lucky – until now.

This year, Seychelles completed its second conservation milestone, which includes the designation of a large section of Aldabra (Marine) National Park in a high biodiversity protection status category, with planned closures for all commercial extraction, harvest, and seabed alteration.

Through commitments made as part of the TNC-designed debt-for-conservation swap, 135,489 square miles – an area larger than New Mexico – have new protections, a total just shy of the goal of 30 percent of its waters protected by the end of 2020. The evidence from Seychelles that debt

conversion models can create lasting conservation outcomes and support a country's "blue economy" is now being taken to scale across TNC globally.

TNC's **"Blue Bonds for Ocean Conservation"** was named a 2019 TED Audacious project.

While the Blue Bonds project is indeed audacious, it reflects the "get it done" spirit that has been at the heart of TNC since its inception. In 1954, TNC worked with a group of neighbors to New York's Mianus River Gorge who pledged their life insurance policies to save the forest from development.

Now, TNC is committed to helping 20 countries translate national debt into investments for marine protection and sustainability.

And, as always, science and planning are key to conservation. Our expertise in marine spatial planning will support identifying the best areas for protecting corals, mangroves, and other biodiversity, or for conducting sustainable economic activities and improving ocean management.



You Make the Difference

"There comes a time when humanity is called to shift to a new level of consciousness ... that time is now." Nobel Prize-winning Kenyan environmentalist Wangari Maathai understood the urgency of the challenge before us. She knew that the time is now. So do we. So do you.

In Africa, it is a time of unprecedented opportunity and solemn responsibility, a time that demands a new way forward – a "new level of consciousness." With your help, we can ensure that as Africa rises, nature also endures.

TWO EASY WAYS TO MAKE A BIG IMPACT

JOIN THE LEGACY CLUB | Protect the lands and waters you love for generations to come by designating TNC Africa as an account beneficiary or leaving a gift in your will or trust.

DONATE STOCK GIFTS | Donating appreciated stocks, bonds, or mutual funds is a simple way to support conservation in Africa, and it may provide you with tax benefits.

Which way forward? What legacy will we leave? Our answers to these questions will define the future of Africa – and this planet we all share. Thank you for your partnership and for your conviction that conservation is, quite simply, the best investment we can make.

For more information, please contact Cori Messinger at cmessinger@tnc.org.

"I'm proud to be part of a team so committed to the future of Africa — more than half of our Africa Council has made a commitment through their wills or other legacy instruments. Together, we are making a meaningful difference in our increasingly vulnerable world."

—FRED WAKEMAN, TNC Africa Council



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

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1,410,500
PEOPLE
BENEFITTING IN 2019



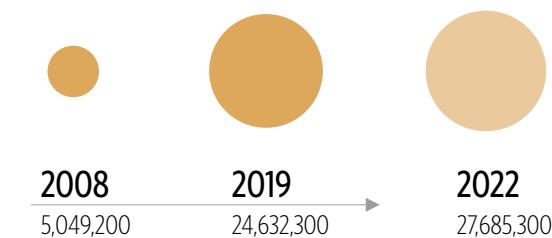
\$46M
IN PUBLIC FUNDING
UNLOCKED
by \$4M in private matches
over the last five years



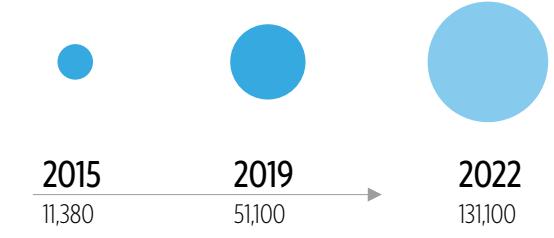
137
PARTNERS
with 30 receiving direct TNC
investment to improve
organizational effectiveness

ACRES UNDER CONSERVATION MANAGEMENT*

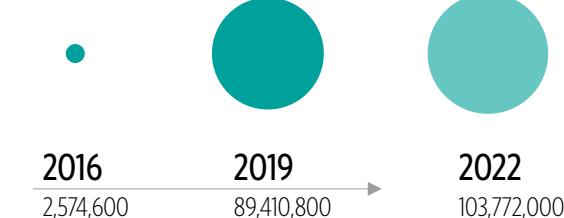
TERRESTRIAL ACRES



FRESHWATER ACRES



MARINE ACRES



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*These numbers will fluctuate over time as monitoring protocols evolve.