

1<sup>st</sup> January 2021



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## **1.0 EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

LUMO is a community wildlife conservancy situated in Taita Taveta County along the Voi-Taveta Road at Latika.

The conservancy is managed by a 9-member Board of trustees drawn from the three mother ranches namely; Lualenyi, Mramba and Oza who contributed their own land for the creation of the conservancy.

LUMO has been receiving some funding from USAID through African Wildlife foundation to enhance organizational management capacity.

Additional during the year LUMO received support from KWCA to support its operations against the COVID-19 pandemic

The year has seen significant drop in revenues brought about by the COVID-19 pandemic reported on March 2019 which totally affected the tourism investment within the conservancy leading to the closure of the Lodge.

The effects has been the laying out of lodge staff and eventually the exit of the Investor, who negotiated for a sale of the remaining lease years to Sun world Safaris (CHOVU LTD).

Negotiations were done and concluded in November 2020 and the new investor settled to start operations.

There was a target to mark the lodge land area as LUMO enters into a new agreement with a new investor. This activity was done and involved the LUMO board of trustees, Mramba ranch board where the lodge is situated, the secretariat and ranger staff. A surveyor was involved in the process. This activity was conducted in the presence of AWF

Renovations works has been ongoing mostly targeting the campsite to host guests who had previously booked for the Christmas and New year festivities.

During the year Financial Audit for the lodge was done and concluded. This activity was supported by AWF.

During the year the conservancy was privileged to host the Deputy president in two occasions. This created an opportunity for future high delegation meetings.

2020 was not a normal year in many aspects. It was expected to be a year of good business. The Corona Virus pandemic came at a point of near full bookings within the lodge. This led to cancellation of bookings due to the escalating effects of the virus across the world which led to travel bans to mitigate against the spread of the virus.

Rampant wildfires were experienced than never before, LUMO being no exception. It took the support of every partner working within the Tsavo landscape to quell the fires, this coupled by many partners and government meetings to address the root causes of the fires.

Weather condition has changed considerably during the year. The beginning of the year saw abnormal dry conditions which increased cases of conflicts between the conservancy and illegal grazers and community in search of water and pasture for their livestock. This had an adverse effect to guests visiting the conservancy.

The year has seen reduction in rainfall patterns. However, for the better of the year, livestock and wildlife has had plenty of pasture until the last three months

of the year where livestock owners were allowed to access a specified area for their livestock.

Short rains were experienced during this period and grass vegetation rejuvenated and grazers retreated back to their grazing areas.

During the year a better part of the conservancy was covered by invasive weeds. Part of the areas under the weed was cleared through the AWF grant.

## 2.0 Planned Activities for 2020 and their Progress

ACTIVITY	AWARDED TO	TARGET	PROGRESS	STATUS
Road Maintance	Partnership with Sarova Taita hills( A 5 km section, from the main road to the Sarova boundary was done through partnership with Taita Hills sanctuary who provided the machinery and LUMO took care of fuel.	5 KM Stretch from the Lodge to the start of hill to Sarova boundary	Complete	Due to rains, some part of the road needs grading and drainage
Steel Hay barn	Master Cat		Complete	Operational
Lualenyi Outpost	Harrison Deya	Construction of 4 rooms and pit latrine	Complete	Occupied
Office Desktop	Donated by AWF	Office	Complete/Delivered	Good condition
Office roof renovation	Casuals	Office Building	Complete	Overhaul of whole roof needed soon
Main Gate renovations	Master cat	Main gate	Complete	To fix signage
Office Borehole	Mwabili	Fishing and Installation of Pump	Completed	Operational

## 3.0 CONSERVANCY OPERATIONS

### 3.1 Staff Recruitment and Staff Realignment

During the year interviews for the position of accounts clerk were done and concluded. However, the best candidate could not take up the position. The board, after consultation agreed to engage the candidate who was number three for a probational period of three months.

To enhance the chain of command among rangers, two cadres were created and filled as follows;

- Sergeant-Ludovika Malemba
- Corporal 1-Elvis Kiriga
- Corporal 2-Dontillah saru

3 Casuals rangers were recruited to stand in for the rangers who were attending a refresher training within the conservancy and boost numbers arising from the dismissal of four rangers within the year namely;

- Albert Gidari
- Paul Mwakilimbiti
- Pamphil Mwazumbi
- Jackson Dali.

### **3.2 Rangers Promotional course**

Seven rangers applied for considerations for the position of Sergeant and corporal respectively Assessment was done on the 26<sup>th</sup> November 2019. Five candidates were shortlisted and invited for an interview. The following were the recommendations

1. Ludovika Malemba-Sergeant
2. Elvis Kirigha-Corporal
3. Dontilla Saru-Corporal

Due to the COVID 19 Pandemic, the three together with the other rangers were taken through a refresher training conducted within the conservancy from the 20<sup>th</sup> July 2020 to 10<sup>th</sup> August 2020.

### **3.3 Volunteer Programme**

The number of volunteers visiting the conservancy went down through the cancellation of bookings by volunteer agents due to the COVID-19 pandemic. A number of previous volunteers, a friend of LUMO and the current investor assisted rangers by donating food rations and sanitary towels to school girls.

### **3.4 Rangers activities**

Rangers have continued to conduct their daily normal activities which included;

- i. Wildlife patrols

Normal security patrols have been conducted twice a day to ensure that the wildlife is secured. Through these patrols, rangers have been able to discover and arrests people engaged in illegal charcoal burning, logging and discovered some areas where poaching activities are suspected to take place. During the year LUMO has seen expansion of its rangers' activities by stationing its rangers in outposts. This has helped improve surveillance of the whole conservancy.

- ii. **Morning parades**

From the refresher training, emphasis was put in this activity as it instills discipline among the rangers.

This activity has since been fully mainstreamed in the daily activity programme.



**Daily morning parades by Rangers**

### iii. Foot Patrols

Rangers conduct this activity alternating with vehicle patrols. From this activity rangers have managed to identify and locate wildlife movements based on foot prints. Additionally they have managed to locate and remove snares.



**Rangers foot patrols**



#### **iv. Joint patrols**

During the year, rangers participated in a joint patrol with KWS and David Sheldrick Wildlife Trust.

These patrols were conducted within and outside the conservancy. Through these patrols incidences of illegal charcoal burning and logging were identified and arrests made.

Cases of illegal grazing were also noticed.



#### **v. Human Wildlife conflicts**

During the year, cases of illegal grazing were noticed and confrontations between livestock owners and the conservancy rangers were rampant.



Rangers managed to arrest several herds and penalized the livestock owners. It was also observed that some livestock were lost through predation.



#### vi. Supplies (PPE and Food rations)

The year has seen the procurement of food rations for all the staff and their immediate families residing within the camp and in the outposts.

In order to protect staff and visitors coming to LUMO against COVID-19 and in a bid to comply to the government regulations in combating the Corona pandemic, KWCA procured and delivered personal protective supplies which included; hand sanitizers, Face masks, water and sanitizers dispensers, thermo guns and handwashing soap.

The current investor and volunteers also supported rangers with food rations during the year





## **vi. Fire management**

The year has seen a lot of wildfires within and outside the conservancy affecting over 10,000 acres. Through the support of various partners and stakeholders our rangers managed to successfully contain the fires. The result being competition and conflicts between the project and livestock owners fighting for any available grass for their livestock. This greatly reduced grass covers available for baling.

OZA section of the conservancy which is being encroached and prone to fires due to its nearness to homesteads was also earmarked for marking. The residents within the ranch were sensitized before the marking activity was conducted. This activity was done within the last quarter of the year

In order to secure campsite and office structures, LUMO through the KWCA grant procured some 10 fire extinguishers and 10 fire blankets to safeguard the campsite and office in the eventuality of fire outbreaks. Additionally, 3 first aid kits were procured.



## 4.0 CONSERVANCY INFRASTRUCTURE

### 4.1 Water Pan Desilting

Through the support of AWF, two water pans within Lualenyi side of the Conservancy were desilted.

### 4.2 Conservancy Boreholes

The campsite borehole was fished and installed. It became operational within the last quarter of the year.

Piping works were done with one line connecting the gate where English toilets were installed in the guest's washrooms.

Additionally, plumbing works were done within the office and a toilet installed.

After surveys done by a consultant hired by the current investor, it was discovered that the lions bluff borehole had insufficient water levels and needed more depth to reach the water level. The investor is currently working on that.



### 4.3 Procurement

Items donated by AWF during the year included;

1. 1 Dell Desktop computer
2. 1 UPS
3. 1 steel Hay barn



Protective gears to assist and ensure safety of the operator and assistants during baling were procured as listed;

- 4 overalls
- 4 pairs protective boots
- 1 first aid box
- 4 pairs heavy duty gloves
- 4 helmets



#### 4.4 Lualenyi/Borehole Outpost

Preparations have been underway to move rangers to the outpost located in Lualenyi side of the conservancy and a post at the current borehole side. Rangers have managed to secure the post by putting a fence around awaiting solar installation for lighting. The outpost is currently operational and occupied by rangers who alternate every two weeks.



#### 4.5 Lumo Main Gate

Before



After



#### 4.6 Steel Hay Barn

AWF engaged a contractor for the construction of a steel hay barn to create more storage space. The barn is currently complete



### 5.0 CAPACITY BUILDING

#### 5.1 Trainings, Meetings attended

Several staff trainings were conducted during the year. They included;

1. A three weeks refresher training conducted within the conservancy from 20<sup>th</sup> July 2020 to 10<sup>th</sup> August 2020.

The leadership induction/ refresher training was conducted for 3 weeks (21 days) and the methodology used during the training consisted of: i. Presentations and lectures ii. Interactive sessions/ panel discussions iii. Practical/ field Sessions iv. Walk-talk through Modules covered • Drill and Discipline • Bush craft /Anti-poaching techniques • Wildlife Conservation and Management Act, 2013 • First aid & Response • Radio communication & Signals • Conservancy Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs) • Crime scene management for first respondents 5 • Human Rights and Gender in Conservation • Human Wildlife Conflicts Mitigation (HWC) • Leadership skills and management • Court Decorum • Wildlife Investigation and prosecution & Intelligence skills Lectures on; ✓ HIV&AIDS, Drug and substance abuse ✓ Wildlife education ✓ Administration and entry books ✓ Stress and personal Financial management ✓ Counter Terrorism ✓ Anti-corruption The training was conducted within the LUMO conservation area by NAWI trainers. A total of 16 rangers participated during the training.



### *Training Field activities*



### *Rangers Graduation*



### **2.SMART DATA Training.**

Several trainings were done targeting rangers on the use of cyber trackers during patrols.

SMART Data management has been useful in identifying patrol areas by rangers keeping track of their movement and possibly identifying hardworking rangers. It has now become easy for rangers to locate wildlife as the system analysis all wildlife sightings based on their location

### **3.Guest relation training**

4. Governance training organized by KWCA from--- to---- at Vacani Resort
5. Pangolin project meeting organized by Pangolin project on 17<sup>th</sup> Sept 2020(A project affiliated to AWF)
6. GEF-UNDP inception meeting organized by KWS on 1<sup>st</sup> October 2020-KWS Academy
7. WWF inception meeting held at Tsavo Wildlife Lodge on----to-----
8. Snake bite awareness meeting on 19/09/2020 at –Hall;Mwatate
9. KCB Foundation meeting held in Vacani resort on

## 6.0. FUNDRAISING

### 6.1 Proposals and Donation

During the year five proposals were done to mitigate against the effects of the COVID-19 Pandemic;

- Lions share project
- Best ranger award
- AWF-Hay enterprise support
- AWF-Ranger salary support
- KWCA-Conservancy support

### 6.2 Partner Support

#### 6.21 AWF

LUMO received a grant of Ksh **340,002** to support rangers salary for one month during this period of Corona pandemic to motivate them to continue the work of wildlife conservation despite the existing challenges caused by the pandemic also has been supporting fuel costs that has ensured that normal ranger patrols continue.

Additional AWF approved a grant of Ksh.600,000 out of which Ksh.332,200 was disbursed to support the hay enterprise. Specifically, the grant was to conduct the following;

- Invasive Species clearing
- Tractor Operator Payment
- Operator Assistants payments
- Hay Cutting Fuel & Lubricants
- Hay baling Supplies
- Hay baling Operating Gears

#### 6.22 KWCA

LUMO implemented a six months (July to December 2020) project grant from Flora and Fauna Crisis Fund through KWCA of **Ksh. 5,122,427(Read Kenya shillings Five Million, One hundred twenty-two thousand four hundred twenty-seven Only)**. The grant supported rangers' salaries during this period of Corona pandemic to motivate them to continue the work of wildlife conservation despite the existing challenges caused by the pandemic. Additionally, it supported operational expenses and infrastructure developments within the conservancy to mitigate against the effects of COVID-19.

## 6.23 Potential Projects

### a. IFAW

IFAW did a fact-finding meeting on 5<sup>th</sup> November 2020 in the presence of the executive and TTWCA in order to find areas of collaborations with the conservancy. IFAW is currently operating withing the Kilimanjaro, Amboseli Landscape focusing mostly on elephants and intending to expand their operations within the Tsavo Landscape.

### b. EXPLORER KENYA

Loon-Explorer Kenya paid a courtesy visit to LUMO on 10<sup>th</sup> November 2020 on the possibility of partnership in landing site for communication balloons. The Executive gave a go ahead and a sample agreement sent for inputs and possibility of signing. Agreed landing fee per ballon was agreed at \$200 exclusive of rangers' fees of Ksh.2000 per ranger.



### c. WWF

WWF are currently working within the Tsavo Landscape on a 4 months pilot project to support conservancies and ranches infrastructure and tools to effectively conserve wildlife. They have identified 10 ranches/conservancies for this pilot Project, LUMO being one of them. They proposed to put 2 water pans within the conservancy to help mitigate against the effects of human wildlife conflicts.

## 6.3 Hay baling

During the same time, a total of 485 bales were produced and sold at a selling price of Ksh.300 per bale.

The cost of production for 1 bale is at Ksh.185.

Through the fire incidences the enterprise lost 55 bales as is seen in the picture





## 7.0 Partnerships & Collaboration

- i. During the period LUMO Hosted AWF communication team accompanied by Kenya media personalities for a tour within the conservancy where they made a couple of interviews and short videos for the purpose of advertising LUMO as a tourist destination.



### OTHER MEDIA HOUSES/Documentaries Done in LUMO during the year and aired

- ***Dutch TV***
- ***VICE media***





- ***Citizen tv***
- ***Nation TV***

## **8.0 Challenges & Recommendation**

- i. Firefighting challenges-Lack of proper knowledge in fighting fires was noted. Rangers relied on traditional methods of quelling fire which had a lot of shortcomings. This made the exercise take a considerable long time. Coordination during these incidences lacked both within and outside the conservancy. This made it more difficult to contain most of the fires efficiently.

### ***Recommendations***

- LUMO proposes a fire training session to equip all staff with firefighting and management knowledge
- Acquire proper firefighting gadgets

- ii. Patrol vehicle

The period has seen a lot of fire incidence and cattle encroachment and illegal grazing. Movement of rangers has been limited to the one patrol car hampering their efforts to respond to the situations.

### ***Recommendations***

- The board and partners to acquire additional patrol vehicle

- iii. Ranger numbers

The current ranger numbers is low compared to the acreage and the present wildlife risks. LUMO has been forced to prioritize the incidences based on the available rangers.

### ***Recommendations***

- Recruitment of additional rangers

## 9.0 ANNEX

### i. Staff During the Year

NO.	NAME	POSITION	GENDER
1.	ELVIS KIRIGHA	CORPORAL	M
2.	JAMES MGHANGA	RANGER-DRIVER	M
3.	DENNIS KIRONGE	RANGER-DRIVER	M
4.	SIMON NYAMBU	RANGER	M
5.	PHILBERT MWASI	RANGER	M
6.	AGNES MWAVULA	RANGER	F
7.	MSINGA MWANDOE	RANGER	M
8.	VENANT MUNGAI	RANGER	M
9.	JAMES MBOGHOLI	RANGER	M
10.	ERNEST RIGHA	RANGER	M
11.	DONTILLA SARU	CORPORAL	F
12.	LAURENT KILONGOLA	RANGER	M
13.	ANTHONY MGHANGA	RANGER	M
14.	BIBIANA MATUNDA	RANGER	F
15.	ALBERT NGIDARI	RANGER	M
16.	JACKSON DALI	RANGER	M
17.	PAMPHIL MWAZUMBI	RANGER	M
18.	PAUL MWAKILIMBITI	RANGER	M
19.	ANDREW MWADILO	RANGER	M
20.	LUDOVICA MALEMBA	SERGEANT	F
21.	CLEMENTINAH KAMBE	LIAISON OFFICER	F
22.	MARGARET WAKIO	GUEST RELATIONS	F
23.	NOEL MWASHIGHADI	CASUAL RANGER	M
24.	MARY WUGHANGA	GUEST RELATIONS	F
25.	SAMSON GANDI	CASUAL RANGER	M
26.	ANGELINA MZEE	ACCOUNTS CLERK	F
27.	FREDRICK M THUVA	MANAGER	M
<b>TOTAL M</b>			<b>19</b>
<b>TOTAL F</b>			<b>8</b>
<b>TOTAL</b>			<b>27</b>

### ii. Staff Left During the Year

	NAME	POSITION
a.	ALBERT NGIDARI	RANGER
b.	JACKSON DALI	RANGER
c.	PAMPHIL MWAZUMBI	RANGER
d.	PAUL MWAKILIMBITI	RANGER

### iii. BOT During 2020

	NAME	POSITION
1	JOHN ILUME	CHAIRMAN
2	FLORA KALA	VICE CHAIRMAN
3	DAVIS MAGIRI	SECRETARY
4	NICHOLAS KALELA	TREASURER
5	EMMANUEL MZAME	MEMBER
6	JOHN KORI	MEMBER
7	HILLARY MWANGETI	MEMBER
8	CONSTANCE MSHAI	MEMBER
9	SAMUEL KIRANGU	MEMBER

### iv. Planned Activities to June 2021

		2021					
	ACTIVITY	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	June
1	Full Board Meetings						
2	AGM						
3	Staff appraisals						
4	Volunteer Activities						
5	Security patrols						
6	Joint Patrols with KWS,Sarova						
7	Drills						
8	Games/Sports						
9	School activities						
10	Exchange visits/Learning tours						
11	Monthly staff meetings						
13	Monthly Board						
15	Financial Audit						
16	Networking and Partnerships meetings: KWS, County Government, NGOs						
17	Mapping of Historical sites, cultural sites, orphanages						
18	Family Day						
19	Trainings/Capacity building						
20	Proposal writing						
21	Enterprises-Hay, tourism						
22	Marketing-Social media, physical, website						

## Other Photo Galleries











