

QUARTERLY Newsletter

April 2025 Edition

IDENTIFYING CLIMATE SOLUTIONS TOGETHER

LUMO Conservancy kicked off the year with a Participatory Vulnerability and Capacity Assessment (PVCA) under the Adaptation for Africa and Amazon (AAA) Project. This critical process brought together our management team, community members, The Nature Conservancy (TNC), ELNAR Group, and TTWCA. The sessions focused on identifying climate adaptation priorities relevant to our local context. It was a hands-on, inclusive process that placed local knowledge at the heart of climate resilience planning. The AAA project emphasizes sustainable adaptation built on partnerships and community voice. These first sessions mark a strong start toward climate-smart conservation in LUMO. [Read more...](#)



BUILDING BRIDGES WITH PHILANTHROPIC ALLIES

LUMO Conservancy proudly hosted a high-level visit by a team from the Emeritus Philanthropic Foundation, a key step in exploring meaningful partnerships for conservation impact. The meeting provided an opportunity to discuss shared goals in supporting community-led conservation, enhancing anti-poaching efforts, and identifying projects that uplift both people and wildlife. Discussions centered around areas where investment could drive lasting impact, including wildlife safety, youth empowerment, and community development. The Emeritus team expressed a keen interest in co-developing initiatives that are locally grounded and globally relevant. A potential sponsorship agreement was also proposed to provide structure and clarity for ongoing engagement. The visit was not just strategic—it was also deeply personal, rooted in storytelling and a shared desire to “complete the story” of conservation success in LUMO.



LUMO MANAGEMENT PLAN 2024–2029 GAZETTED!

We are proud to announce that the LUMO Conservancy Management Plan for 2024–2029 has been officially gazetted. This is a major milestone that legitimizes our conservation roadmap and guides all strategic activities over the next five years. The plan outlines key priorities in governance, tourism, community benefit sharing, and biodiversity protection. It also signals the government’s recognition of LUMO’s conservation model. The gazettement enhances accountability and provides a basis for attracting investment and technical support. This is a win for the community and our partners alike.

INSPIRING YOUNG MINDS

As part of our ongoing conservation education program, LUMO’s team visited Mwaktau Secondary School for an engaging and interactive learning session. The visit was enriched by one of our international volunteers, a guest expert in neurology, who introduced students to practical, brain-based study techniques to enhance their learning outcomes. Through lively storytelling sessions, students explored the contrasts and similarities between biodiversity in the USA and East Africa, broadening their global perspective. These school outreach initiatives are crucial in cultivating future environmental stewards and building conservation consciousness at the grassroots.



VOCATIONAL SKILLS THAT EMPOWER ALL

Our team visited Bura Vocational Training Institute, a transformative center empowering people with disabilities through hands-on skills. We learned about their diverse programs, including tailoring, sign language, carpentry, hairdressing, and life skills development. The institute’s mission aligns with LUMO’s vision of inclusive community development. We believe in empowering every member of the community—including those often overlooked—through skills that lead to independence. The visit inspired new thinking around inclusion in conservation and community empowerment. LUMO is exploring how to support and learn from such models.

STRENGTHENING ROOTS: OZA COMMUNITY LAND ELECTIONS

The Oza Community held elections for its Community Land Committee, reinforcing grassroots governance for sustainable land and wildlife management. Oza, a registered community land, has dedicated 10,000 acres out of its 28,000 acres to wildlife conservation under the management of LUMO Conservancy. These newly elected 15 committee members, who will serve a three-year term, play an essential role in guiding how this land is managed—ensuring that community voices are reflected in every decision. For LUMO, this leadership structure is foundational; it provides local oversight and legitimacy to our operations and conservation priorities. Strong community governance like this is the backbone of successful and sustainable conservation. We applaud Oza's commitment to shared responsibility and transparent leadership.

YOUTH CLEAN-UP WALK FOR WILDLIFE DAY

In celebration of World Wildlife Day 2025, members of the LUMO Conservancy Youth Forum took part in a remarkable 9km clean-up walk from Mwaktau to the LUMO Conservancy headquarters. The event was not only a powerful statement of commitment to conservation but also an investment in the future of both people and the planet. By focusing on creating cleaner spaces, the youth highlighted the importance of protecting both human and wildlife habitats. This initiative underlined LUMO's ongoing efforts to engage young people in hands-on conservation and environmental stewardship, while fostering a sense of responsibility and pride in their local environment. [Read more...](#)



CROSS-BORDER LEARNING WITH TANZANIAN WMAS



Delegates from Uyumbu and Waga Wildlife Management Areas (WMAs) in Tanzania visited LUMO Conservancy for a knowledge exchange, led by the Honeyguide Foundation. The team came to learn about the implementation of SAGE recommendations through the BIOPAMA project. The exchange included field sessions and interactive learning, allowing the delegates to understand how LUMO addressed governance and equity challenges via SAGE and its community-led model. The WMAs, which also participated in SAGE, are now applying similar actions, and they were eager to gain insights into the effectiveness of these measures for improved conservation outcomes. This visit reinforced the importance of peer learning between conservancies, with both LUMO and the visiting delegates benefiting from shared experiences.

SMART SHIFT: LUMO MIGRATES TO SMART CONNECT

LUMO successfully migrated to SMART Connect in January this year, a cutting-edge data platform designed to enhance our conservation operations. With its offline capabilities, field teams can collect crucial data on wildlife sightings, illegal activities, and patrol routes even in remote areas with limited connectivity. Once a connection is available, data syncs automatically, ensuring real-time updates. The platform's user-friendly mobile interface, incident reporting features, and the ability to integrate multiple data types improve coordination, streamline reporting, and enable better decision-making. This transition marks a significant leap forward in our efforts to manage conservation challenges more efficiently and respond faster to emerging threats, reinforcing our commitment to data-driven conservation.

STRENGTHENING SECURITY: RANGERS OPERATIONS ROOM UNDERWAY

Construction of the long-awaited Rangers Operations Room began this March, marking a key investment in conservation security and coordination. This milestone is made possible through the generous support of the Emeritus Philanthropic Foundation, whose contribution is enabling us to enhance ranger effectiveness. Once complete, the facility will serve as a central hub for patrol planning, surveillance, data analysis, and emergency response. This development will not only improve ranger welfare but also strengthen overall security in the conservancy. We extend our sincere thanks to our partners for believing in the frontline defenders of conservation.



BOOSTING RANGER WELFARE: NEW QUARTERS UNDER CONSTRUCTION

In a continued effort to improve ranger welfare and living standards, construction of new rangers' quarters commenced in February. These modern housing facilities will offer a more comfortable and dignified space for our dedicated team, who spend long hours in the field protecting wildlife and community resources. The initiative reflects our commitment to ensuring the well-being of those on the frontline of conservation. By enhancing accommodation, we aim to boost morale, improve efficiency, and foster a greater sense of security and belonging. This development goes hand in hand with the construction of the new Rangers Operations Room, marking a transformative phase for ranger infrastructure at LUMO.