

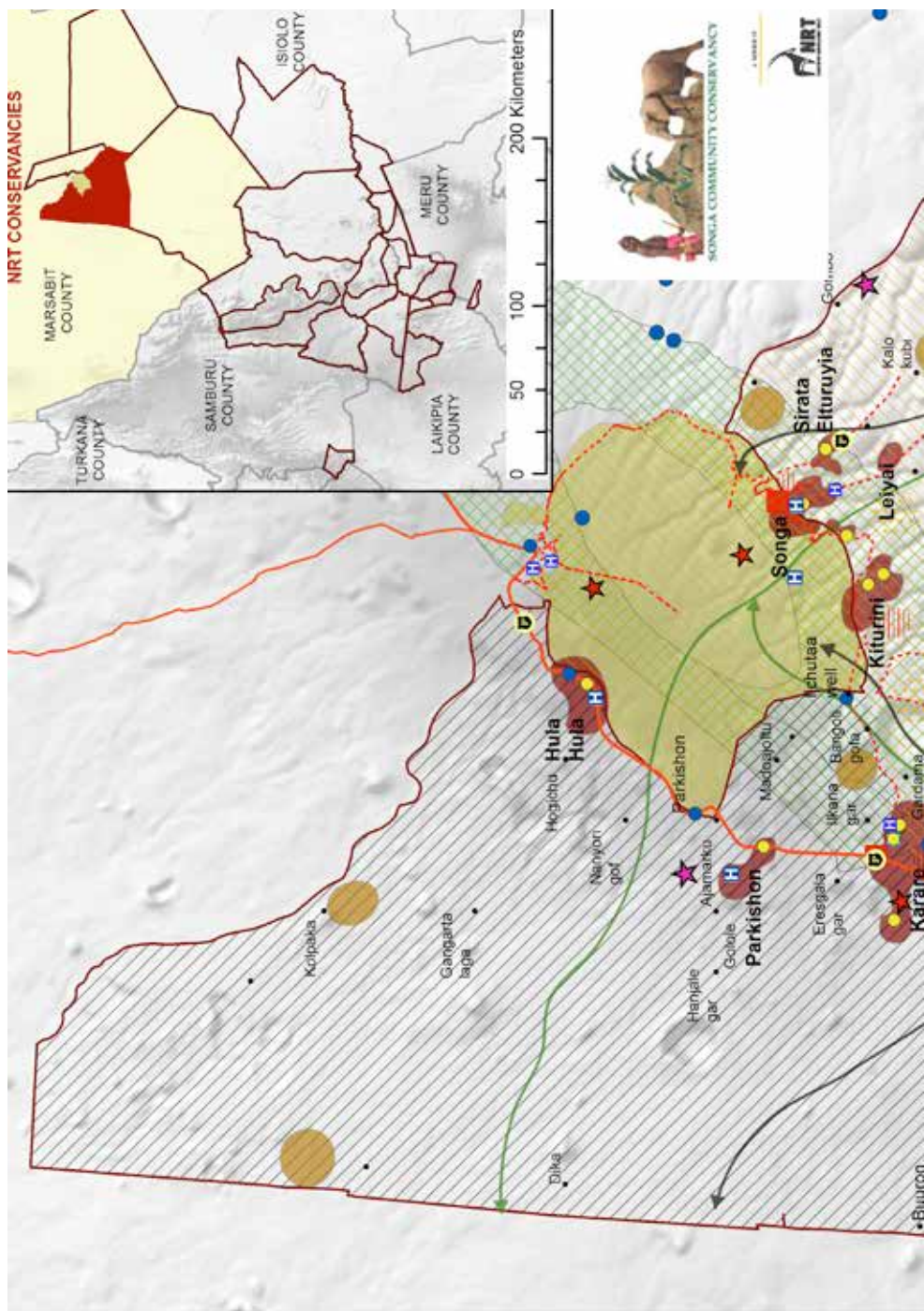


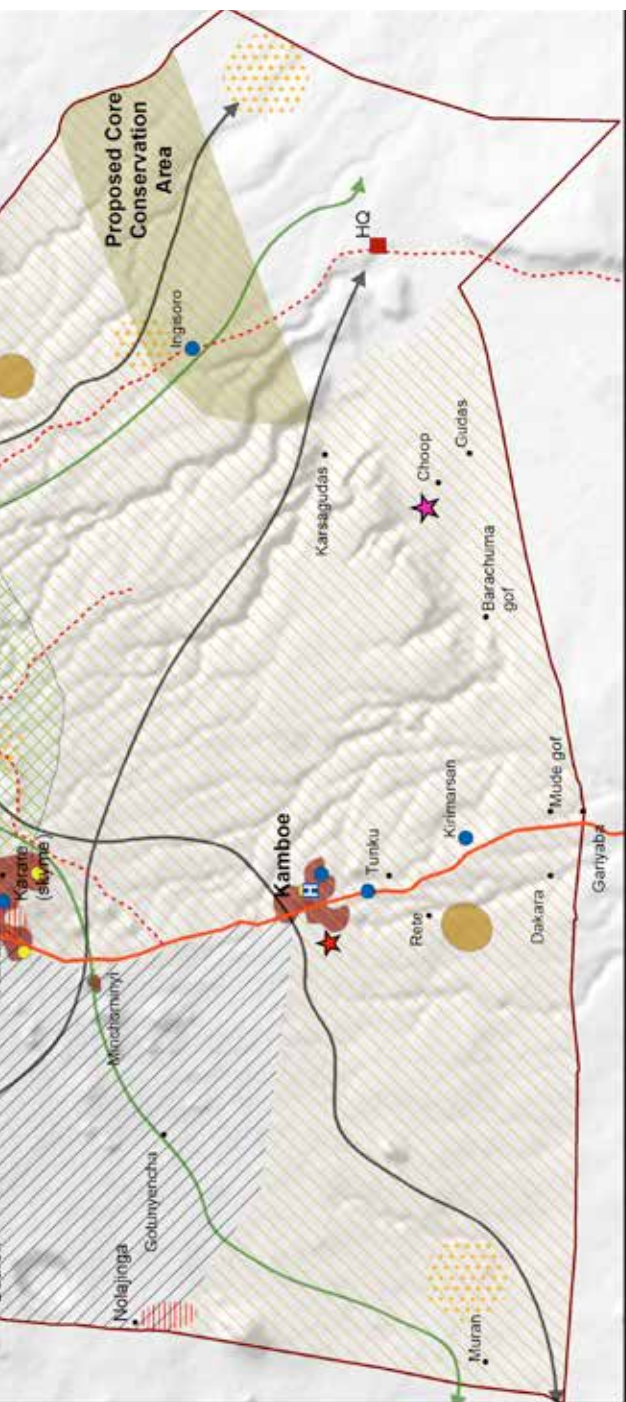
SONGA COMMUNITY CONSERVANCY

MANAGEMENT AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT PLAN
(2016 - 2020)

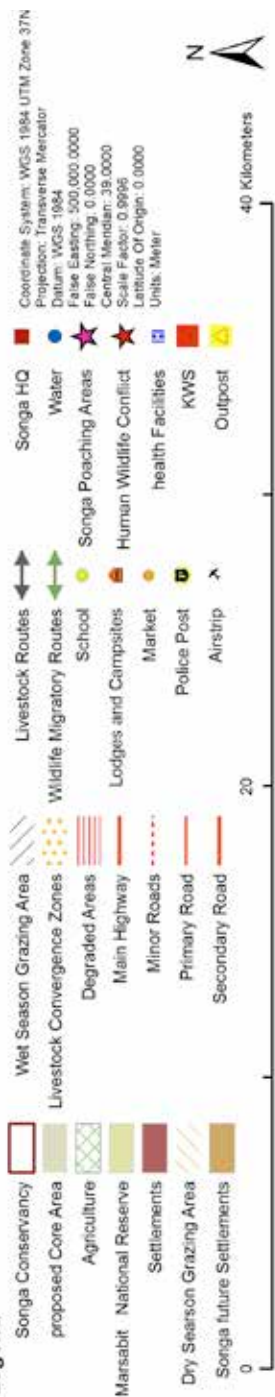


SONGA COMMUNITY CONSERVANCY





Legend



SECTION 1.

THE SONGA CONSERVANCY COMMUNITY

Marsabit County – Karare and Logo Logo Wards

WARD	LOCATION	SUB-LOCATION	SETTLEMENT	POPULATION (2009)
Karare	Songa	Leyai	Leyai, Ndonyo eenkishu, Lgig	364
		Songa	Milimani, Loriu, Lesukul, Lturiya, Sirata, Lkalanga'a	1,447
		Kituruni	Kiwanja, Lkume, Centre, Lpus, Nkaang'eentim	1,268
Karare	Karare	Scheme	Nasigakwe, Scheme, Naamba, Nesirai, Nong'orio, Loruko, Ltirim, Nakwasunyan, Lchamba Lolkume	1,246
		Karare	Karare Centre, Ldaraja, Lkume, Ndamata, Maramu, Lmanariye, Noolong'oi, Mincho minyi, Lakartinya, Loilei, Kulapesa, Lorora Musana, Nkaang'ee rokor, Loisuus, Nalkariya, Nkaang'olmetili	2,119
Hula Hula	Hula Hula	Ogisho-Parkishon	Lesasuyan, Namunyak, Rokor, Chief Centre, Dub Sahai, Nelerai, Necklace Loika	1,045
		Hula Hula	Milimani, Kibera Centre, Silango, Geryo, Karantina, Kofia Mbaya, Nkutoto, Manyata chini, Kambinye	2,880
Logo Logo	Kamboe	Kamboe	Rongai, Nayagari, Loigeruno, Lorora, Loilei, Manyatta chief, Manyata shule, Loruko, Kalifonia.	1,061
TOTAL				11,430

The community

- Ethnicity:** The semi-nomadic Rendille, whose livestock consists of goats, cattle and camels, still uphold many of their ancient beliefs and practices. As well as pastoralism, the Rendille communities in Songa are able to grow maize and beans, and other crops on the foothills of Mt. Marsabit.
- Land area and ownership:** Community Land. Total area 103,868 hectares.

Natural assets

- Water resources:** The main water sources in Songa Conservancy are natural springs, dams, boreholes, hand pumps, pans and shallow wells. In Songa location natural springs are in Mugur, Nolmotonyi, Ndonyo and Samachale; boreholes in Lenkusoro and Ndonyo and check dams

in Ewaso nyiro, Lbaa Lolrian, Nong'orio and Nkong'u. In Karare location, natural springs are in Ltirim and Choop; wells in Lchuta and Lng'urus and water pans in Achuka, Lturoto and Burgacha. In Hula Hula there are wells around Hadaf, Siripa and Matete, natural springs in Tumulanteyo and dams in Ogicho, Nkutoto, Geryo and Nanyori. In Parkishon there is a dam in Nelerai, wells in Lokine, Lngurus and a non-functioning borehole in Loroito. In Kamboe location, there are natural water pans in Nayambere, Nolororoi, Namirmiryana, Nankapune and Mugur Omworuo, wells in Reete and Mugur-ee-ntare and the Midrock borehole.

- **Trees and forest products:** Songa Conservancy is characterized by diverse landscape with thick grasslands and bushy savannah with numerous acacia trees to the south and thick forest vegetation to the north, close to Marsabit National Park. Vegetation bordering the Marsabit forest includes *Olea sp* (Lgeriyoi) *Croton sp.*, wild coffee *Coffea arabica* (Marsabit forest is the only place where wild coffee is found in Kenya) and *Teclea sp.* (Ltudupia and Ljenikeri). Various *Acacia sp. e.g. Accacia reficien* (Lchurai), *Accacia tortilis* (Ltepes), *Accacia nubica* (Ildepe), *Accacia elatior* (Sesiai) are also found across all areas of the conservancy. Sandalwood (Loseisai) and trees with medicinal value like Learoni and *Clerodendrum myricoides* (Lmakutikuti) are also found in most areas of the conservancy. Planted fruit trees include mangoes, avocado, oranges, miraa is also grown in some areas.
- **Wildlife:** Bordered on all sides by conservancies and National Park, Songa acts as an important wildlife corridor and dispersal area for elephant and buffalo during the rains. Key wildlife species include Elephants, Buffaloes, Beisa Oryx, Lions, Grevy's Zebras, Lesser and Greater Kudus, Leopards, among others.
- **Grassland:** During the wet season community members graze their livestock near their settlement areas around Soit, Lopuke, Saala, Nalajing'a, Buuron, Burgacha, Nalmarag and Nyoor. In the dry season livestock move to areas around Lpus Werikoi, Ltudupei, Ltirim, Hanjalle, Ndonyo ee nkishu, Nkusoro, Gudas, Choop, Mugur omworo, Soriadi Rumacha and adjacent and within Marsabit forest.

Physical assets

- **Roads:** The main Isiolo-Moyale road passes through Kamboe, Karare, Parkishon and Hula Hula. Other roads within Songa are Leyai-Matalama,

Marsabit-Badasa-Songa-Karare, Songa-Nkusoro-Gudas-Logologo, Kamboe-Ndonyo kini and Hula Hula-Kargi. All these roads are murram/earth roads which are sometimes impassible during rains.

- **Airstrips:** There is one airstrip in Nkisero area within the Conservancy.
- **Infrastructure:** Songa Conservancy has five small shopping centres in Kamboe, Karare, Parkishon, Hula Hula and Songa. There are schools and health clinics in all these settlements. There is also a water bottling company in Songa and a police post in Leyai.

Human assets

- **Health:** Diseases prevalent in the area include malaria, brucellosis, typhoid, pneumonia, eye Infections, tuberculosis, and amoebiosis. There are also isolated cases of HIV/AIDS. Health clinics, Traditional birth attendants, traditional medicine men and community health workers provide medical attention at village level.
- **Nutrition:** Maize and beans is the staple food around Songa Conservancy. Some community members grow fruits and vegetables around Songa; meat and milk supplement the staple food. The areas around Parkishon and Hula Hula are nutritionally challenged because no farming is practiced in these areas.
- **Education:** There are Nursery and Primary schools in Songa, Leyai, Lpus, Kituruni, Kamboe, Hula Hula, Parkishon, Karare and Scheme. There is a mixed day secondary school and Bishop Cavallera girls boarding secondary school in Karare. The literacy levels are relatively high (compared with the rest of the County) and with a better girl child school enrolment.

Social assets

- **Institutions:** There are a number of NGOs that operate within Songa Conservancy carrying out various livelihood support interventions. Informal women/youth groups also exist and are mainly involved in small scale businesses and agroforestry. Customary institutions mainly elders forums like Loip Lapayian which sits during the day and Naabo which sits at night still exist, with important decisions in the community made mainly by elders during community meetings.

Livelihoods ¹

- **Livestock:** 75% of the community members earn their living through sales of livestock and livestock products. The majority of community members own cattle and goats (76-85%), a few own camels (6%). Sale of milk and livestock is the most important source of income to the community.
- **Farming:** 27% of the community members are engaged in farming and earn income through sales of vegetables and fruit. Farming in Songa started in 1972; some vegetables are now grown in green houses with support from NGOs and Ministry of Agriculture.
- **Small business:** 16% of community members are engaged in small businesses like running small shops.
- **Employment:** 35% of the community members are employed through the Conservancy, NGOs and some do casual work.

Conflict

- Conflict occurs mainly with the neighbouring Borana community as a result of cattle raids, retaliatory attacks and competition over water and pasture during drought. The conservancy leadership, Finn Church Aid, Marsabit County Government through Administrative Chiefs help to mitigate whenever conflict occurs.

Drought and vulnerability

- Unpredictable rains, pests, wildlife conflict and lack of good quality seeds are a challenge for farming. Drought, cattle rustling and livestock diseases are a challenge for livestock keeping. There is a hunger safety net program supported by CARE international. The government occasionally gives out relief food to the most vulnerable. Most community members do not depend on food aid.

1 Figures based on Social-CoMMS survey 2016

SECTION 2. COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT AND CONSERVATION PRIORITIES

Top ranked priorities for development in Songa Community Conservancy

- Water
- Education
- Health
- Security
- Wildlife Conservation
- Forest Conservation
- Rangelands Management
- Livestock Development
- Diversified Enterprises

**COMMUNITY VISION FOR THE FUTURE "20 YEARS"
TO DEVELOP A RESILIENT COMMUNITY THAT PEACEFULLY
CO-EXISTS WITH WILDLIFE AND
SIGNIFICANTLY BENEFITS FROM CONSERVATION**



GOALS

Goal One: Improving Access to Water, Health & Education

Goal Two: Building Peace & Security

Goal Three: Conserving Natural Resources (Wildlife, Forests & Grasslands)

Goal Four: Growing & Diversifying our Economy (Livestock, Farming, Tourism & Enterprise)

IMPACT IN 5 YEARS

- Water available for livestock and people with improved sanitation and hygiene
- Improved access to good quality health care
- Improved access to good quality education
- Conversion of morans within Songa Conservancy to peace keepers
- No incidents of cattle rustling and highway banditry
- Peaceful coexistence between communities
- Reduced wildlife poaching
- Reduced incidents of human wildlife conflict
- Increase in wildlife numbers
- Improved forest cover through re-forestation and better forest protection
- Core conservation area identified and well managed
- Degraded rangelands rehabilitated
- Wet and dry season grazing plans and grazing by laws in place and adhered to.
- Improved income from the sale of livestock and livestock products
- Improved access to livestock markets
- Improved income from the sale of farm produce
- Tourism established and generating income
- Youth & women's enterprise programs established and generating income



SECTION 3.

ACTION PLAN AND KEY PARTNERSHIPS

GOAL	ACTION	PARTNERS
1: Improving Access to Water, Health & Education		
Water	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Rehabilitate existing, non-functioning boreholes ● Construct rock catchments and check dams ● Protect water pans, wells and springs ● Improve water infrastructure in all settlements ● Construct toilets in all settlements 	Marsabit County Government CDF NRT Livelihood Fund
Health	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Upgrade Karare health centre to include maternity wing and laboratory ● Equip Songa health centre laboratory ● Provide ambulances for Songa and Karare ● Adequately equip and staff all the health facilities 	Marsabit County Government AMREF CDF NRT Livelihood Fund
Education	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Upgrade Karare mixed secondary school to boarding school ● Improve teacher to student ratio ● Equip all schools ● Awareness meetings to increase school enrolment and retention ● Initiate “Lchekuti” (adult education) for youth/herders to promote literacy to all ● Increase number of bursaries available to students 	Marsabit County Government CDF Child Fund NRT Livelihood Fund

GOAL	ACTION	PARTNERS
2: Building Peace and Security		
Peace and Security within and around Songa Conservancy	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Include morans in peace committees and train them as peace ambassadors ● Joint patrols between rangers from Songa, Shurr and Jaldesa Conservanciesmanagement committees ● Hold peace sports events ● Strengthen existing community policing (Nyumba kumi) and communication ● Develop cutline roads to increase response and surveillance ● Construct security outposts along conflict hot spots ● Equip conservancy rangers with security vehicles, firearms and communication equipment 	<p>NRT KWS National Police Service Neighbouring Conservancies Marsabit County Government</p>
3: Conserving Natural Resources (Wildlife, Forests & Grasslands)		
Reducing poaching, increasing wildlife numbers & diversity of species	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Reduce human-wildlife conflict through settlement planning, predator proof bomas and conservation awareness ● Carry out effective anti-poaching community awareness meetings ● Reintroduction of wildlife ● Establish a core conservation area with effective management ● Anti-poaching training for rangers ● Effective wildlife monitoring system established 	<p>NRT KWS Lewa Wildlife Conservancy Marsabit County Government</p>
Improved forest conservation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Establish tree nurseries and woodlots in all villages ● Protect Marsabit forest by reducing encroachment through awareness creation and community by-laws ● Awareness creation on the use of energy saving jikos 	<p>NRT Marsabit County Government KFS KWS</p>

GOAL	ACTION	PARTNERS
Rangeland management	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Identify and rehabilitate degraded areas by clearing invasive species, gully healing and grass planting ● Develop and support wet and dry season grazing plans for all settlement areas ● Develop and enforce grazing by-laws ● Create awareness of grazing plans among neighbouring communities 	NRT Marsabit County Government
4. Growing and Diversifying our Economy (Livestock, Farming, Tourism & Enterprise)		
Livestock sales & productivity	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Improve access to livestock markets by constructing a livestock market in Karare ● Establish veterinary stores & veterinary support in Karare, Kamboe, Songa, Parkishon and Hula Hula ● Improve livestock genetic stock through selection and breeding 	NRT CDF Marsabit County Government FHI NDMA KARLO
Tourism income	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Identify, develop and market diverse tourism products ● Build tourism facilities around Ltirim crater and Choop natural springs 	NRT KWS Marsabit County Government
Diverse jobs and enterprises	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Train morans on alternative sources of livelihood development like farming ● Plant mango, orange, avocado and lemon trees in all villages ● Provide youth and women groups with micro enterprise loans ● Help morans to form cooperative societies in order to encourage savings and investment 	NRT Youth Fund Marsabit County Government UWEZO Fund CDF BOMA project



SECTION 4.

IMPLEMENTING THE PLAN

The Songa Community Conservancy

- The Songa Community Conservancy was registered as a community based organization (CBO) in 2013.
- The Conservancy will be responsible for implementing this plan, which has been developed through a participatory process involving all members of the conservancy or their representatives.
- The Conservancy has an elected Board of 12 members, representing 12 zones. The Board appoints and oversees work force of 13 employees who include a Manager and 12 Conservancy rangers.
- Songa Conservancy lies to the West of Marsabit National Park and is bordered by Jaldesa Conservancy to the north east and Shurr Conservancy to the south east. It forms a critical part of the wildlife range and migration routes in this landscape.
- Through this plan, Songa Conservancy will address sustainable natural resource management to benefit people, wildlife and livestock. Conservancy rangers will be key to creating awareness about conservation, enforcing grazing and forest by-laws agreed by the community as well as carrying out regular anti-poaching patrols and monitoring of wildlife and illegal activities.

Partnerships

As the Songa Conservancy community, we are not able to fully implement this vision and plan on our own. We will rely on close partnership with Marsabit County Government, NRT, KWS, KFS and other NGOs, as well as on investments by commercial partners and entrepreneurs. These partnerships, identified in the Action Plan above, will bring mentoring support, grant funding, technical expertise, training and investment.

As relationships with key partners develop, detailed operational plans, budgets and timetables will be developed with each partner. The Conservancy management will lead in developing funding proposals, partnerships and investments.

Benefit-sharing amongst members of Melako Conservancy

- **Employment:** All conservancy employees are recruited from the local community, except where special technical expertise or qualifications are

required, in a transparent process.

- **Communication:** The AGM remains the most important event for community-wide communication; the Board, sub committees and Conservancy staff also play an important role in raising awareness, and informing our community about decisions made.

Measuring impacts and creating sustainability

- **Measuring success:** With the support of other partners the Songa Conservancy has established or is setting up a range of monitoring tools for measuring the status of wildlife, rangelands and community livelihoods and perceptions. These are Conservancy-led monitoring systems which will be used to measure the impacts of this plan.
- **Sustaining progress:** With clear plans, effective partners, and increasing commercial activities in Songa Conservancy, we expect to sustain the progress of this plan in future.



Table of Community Development and Conservation Priority Areas:

GOAL	AREA	PRIORITY
Goal 1: Improving Access to Water, Health & Education		
Water	Kiranjili, Nong'orio, Lchuta	Construct check dam
	Loisusu	Building of rock catchment
	Lpus-Kitiruni-Lenkuroro; Kamboe-Karare; Midrock-Kamboe	Piping
	Lpus Lenkarao	Construct a dam
	Ltirim Crater	Borehole
	Hula Hula	Repair Parkishon borehole and pipe to Hula Hula
Health	Karare	Maternity, Laboratory, Ambulance
	Songa	Equip Laboratory, Ambulance
Education	Karare, Karantina	Nursery School
	Kituruni	Fencing and connecting electricity
	Lpus	Upgrade from Class 3 to 8
	Leyai	Construct Secondary School
Goal 2: Building Peace & Security		
Security Outposts	Kamboe, Matalama, Parkishon	Conservancy Outpost
	Gudas, Kituruni, Hula Hula	Admin. Police Outpost
Security Access Roads	Songa-Gudas	Improve existing roads
	Leyai Matalamai	
	Marsabit Lodge-Karare	
	Ndonyokini-Mugur ee ntare	
	Kamboe-Korokora	
	Ltudupei-Gudas	
Kamboe-Simiti		

GOAL	AREA	PRIORITY
Goal 3: Conserving Natural Resources (Wildlife, Forests & Grasslands)		
Human Wildlife Conflict Areas	Songa, Karare, Lpus, Kituruni, Hula Hula, Karantina, Kamboe	Reduce human-wildlife conflict through settlement planning, predator proof bomas and conservation awareness
Wildlife Population	Nkusoro	Core conservation area
Degraded Areas	Nalajing'a, Loyapasai, Ltulelei, Lchurai, Karare, Kituruni, Songa	Rangeland rehabilitation, clear invasive species
Wet Season Grazing Areas	Soit, Lopuke, Saala, Nalajing'a, Buuron, Burgacha, Nalmarag, Nyoor	Improve planned grazing
Dry Season Grazing Areas	Lpus Werkoi, Marsabit Forest, Ltudupei, Ltirim, Hanjalle, Ndonyo ee nkishu, Nkusoro, Gudas, Choop, Mugur omworwo, Soriadi, Rumacha	Improve planned grazing
Settlement Planning	Matalama, Nkusoro, Ndonyo ee nkishu, Kampinye, Kholbakha, Ltirim, Rete	Restrict settlement and agriculture along major wildlife corridors and into forests; ensure careful settlement planning adjacent to core conservation area





ACKNOWLEDGMENTS





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