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**SERA WILDLIFE CONSERVANCY  
MANAGEMENT AND COMMUNITY  
DEVELOPMENT PLAN**

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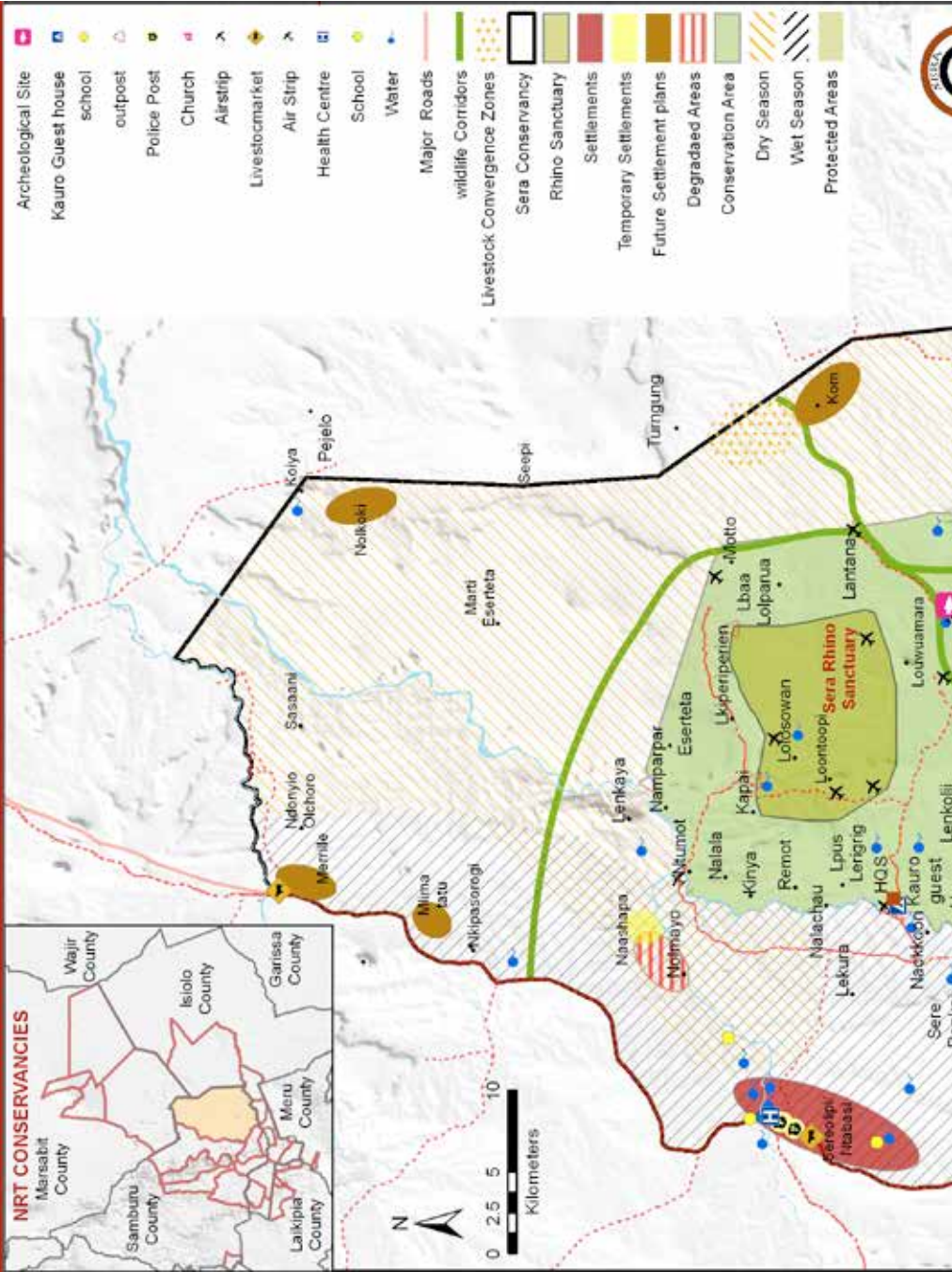
**(2015-2019)**





# SERA RESOURCE MAPPING 2015

## SERA COMMUNITY CONSERVANCY





# SECTION 1. THE SERA CONSERVANCY COMMUNITY

## Samburu County – Waso Ward

| WARD         | LOCATION  | SUB-LOCATION | SETTLEMENT  | POPULATION<br>(2009) |
|--------------|-----------|--------------|---|----------------------|
| Waso         | Waso East | Archers Post | Lempedera, Lesurwa,<br>Nashamunye, Nomuleli   | 6,275                |
|              |           | Laresoro     | Lokanchau, Laresoro,<br>Nakwamoru, Naasuran   | 1,327                |
|              |           | Lerata       | Nendandapo, Lablab,<br>Lerata, Kirish, Chapulo  | 907                  |
|              |           | Losesia      | Ngaritamani, Mpirish,<br>Kutoto Edepe   | 1,044                |
|              | Sereolipi | Sereolipi    | Sererongai, Ntabasi,<br>Lbaalotepes, Lpusakini,<br>Sereolipi town, Kinya,<br>Kauro, Nkaing'us | 3,542                |
| <b>TOTAL</b> |           |              |   | <b>13,095</b>        |

### THE COMMUNITY

- **Ethnicity:** Our people are predominantly Samburu with Rendile and Turkana; our communities are semi-nomadic pastoralists, owning herds of cattle, sheep, goats and camels. Our communities have lived in peace for many years and even intermarried.
- **Land area and ownership:** Losesia and Sereolipi Group Ranches: total area 340,450 hectares within which there is a Conservation Area of 51,740 hectares and fenced Rhino Sanctuary of 10,700 hectares.

### NATURAL ASSETS

- **Water resources:** Sera Conservancy has many permanent springs which are a unique feature of the landscape that has drawn wildlife and people to this area for thousands of years. These include Kisima Hamsini, Lenkolii, Lerigrig, Lontopi and Lchoro losowan. Other water sources include boreholes, hand pumps and shallow wells at Kapai, Chapulo, Lesura, Losesia, Laresoro, Lbaa Lolparuai, Sereolipi lugga, Kauro, Naitolai, Lenkaya, Lantana and Turgung. Within Losesia group ranch the main water source is the semi-permanent Waso Nyiro River.

- **Trees and Forest Products:** Sera conservancy is a mix of bush and grassland with diverse plant species. The main tree species found in the conservancy include various *Acacia* (e.g. Lchurai, Ltepes, Ildepe), *Commiphora* (Lcheningiro, Lmaim, Agar), *Cordia spp.* (Lgweita, Silapani) and Doum palms (Lparwai) which line the many dry luggas. Invasive, non-indigenous *Prosopis juliflora* (Mathenge) is also present.
- **Wildlife:** key wildlife include Elephants, Reticulated Giraffes, Beisa Oryx, Lions, Grevy's Zebras, Elands, Lesser and Greater Kudus, Leopard, Cheetah among others, and a diversity of bird species including sandgrouse which gather in large concentrations at water points in the dry season. A small population of critically endangered Black Rhinos were reintroduced to Sera in July 2015.
- **Grassland:** During the wet season community members graze their livestock close to settlement areas and in the dry season they move with their livestock to graze in the east and north-eastern parts of the conservancy. The Conservancy Grazing Committee governs community grazing patterns.
- **Archaeological sites:** The discovery of a Rock Gong and Rock Painting at Kisima Hamsini, which are several thousand years old, highlights the archaeological importance of this site.

## PHYSICAL ASSETS

- **Roads:** The main Isiolo-Moyale tarmac road passes through Lerata and Sereolipi settlements. All other roads are murrum/earth roads which are sometimes impassible during rains, particularly at lugga crossings.
- **Airstrips:** There are many small airstrips most of which were constructed to support security and anti-poaching operations around the conservancy. Airstrips are at Lesura, Tilaal, Lokanchau, Kom, Lowamara, Sereolipi, Lontopi, Kauro, Ntumot, Lchoro Losowan and Moto.
- **Infrastructure:** Sera Conservancy has one secondary school and a primary school in Sereolipi town, and a mobile primary school in Laesoru, as well as 12 nursery schools. Churches, and varied business premises are found around Lerata and Sereolipi town centers and other settlement areas.

## HUMAN ASSETS

- **Health:** Malaria, typhoid, urinary and respiratory tract Infections, pneumonia, tuberculosis and amoebiasis are prevalent because of low awareness of health and sanitation issues. HIV AIDS is also present. Community members seek

treatment using herbal remedies, visit health centres in Sereolipi and Archers Post, as well as mobile clinics provided by various religious organizations and the British Army.

- **Nutrition:** Maize and beans is the staple food and is supplemented by meat, milk and sorghums.
- **Education:** Primary and Secondary government and/or mission schools exist in Sereolipi and Archers Post. The literacy level is still low.

## **SOCIAL ASSETS**

- **Institutions:** Informal women’s groups exist in Sereolipi, Laresoro, Losesia and Lerata. These groups are engaged in various small business including bead craft and livestock sales. Customary institutions still exist with important decisions in the community made mainly by elders during community meetings.

## **LIVELIHOODS**

- **Livestock:** The majority of community members earn their living through sales of livestock.
- **Small business:** A few are engaged in small businesses like running shops and bead work.
- **Employment:** employment through the Conservancy, NGOs and casual work at the British Army camps.
- **Finance:** Livestock in this community remains the main form of saving. Formal banking is not popular because of distance to towns where banks exist as well as low levels of literacy and poor knowledge of banking.

## **CONFLICT**

- Conflict occurs mainly at the boundaries of the conservancy, with Borana, Rendile and Turkana communities. Conflict hotspots include Kom, Losesia and Naishamunye.
- The main causes of conflict are cattle rustling, retaliatory attacks as a result of livestock raids, competition for water and pasture during drought.

## **DROUGHT AND VULNERABILITY**

- **Indicators:** Dry winds, delayed rains, certain stars and “Lekiema” which is periodic. Rainfall patterns and drought are becoming increasingly variable and uncertain.
- **Gender:** Women (especially pregnant and lactating mothers), children and elderly have a higher vulnerability to drought especially when men and the male youth are away from settlement areas with the livestock for long periods of time in search of grazing.



## SECTION 2. COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT AND CONSERVATION PRIORITIES

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Top ranked priorities for development in Sera Wildlife Conservancy:

- Water
- Health
- Education
- Security
- Wildlife Conservation
- Tourism
- Livestock Marketing
- Grazing Management

**COMMUNITY VISION FOR THE FUTURE “20 YEARS”**  
ENHANCED COMMUNITY SELF-RELIANCE THROUGH  
SERA WILDLIFE CONSERVANCY BY BALANCING WILDLIFE  
CONSERVATION, NATURAL RESOURCE MANAGEMENT AND  
COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT



Sera Conservancy landscape

## GOALS

Goal One: **Improving services for community development**

Goal Two: **Building peace and security**

Goal Three: **Conserving wildlife**

Goal Four: **Growing and diversifying our economy**

Goal Five: **Improving the condition of our rangelands**

## IMPACT IN FIVE YEARS

- Water available for livestock, people and wildlife
- Improved sanitation and hygiene for people
- Improved health and access to health care
- Improved access to education

- Peaceful co-existence between communities within Sera Conservancy and with our neighbours

- Reduced poaching of wildlife
- Increased wildlife numbers and diversity of species
- Black rhino reintroduced and a growing population in Sera

- Increased income from tourism
- Increased income from livestock sales
- More productive livestock
- More diverse jobs and enterprises

- Degraded areas rehabilitated
- Wet and dry season grazing planning improved
- Community settlement planning improved



Sandgrouse at Kisima Hamsini



## SECTION 3. ACTION PLAN AND KEY PARTNERSHIPS

| GOAL   | ACTION   | PARTNER   |
|--|--|---|
| <b>1. Improving services for community development</b> |  |   |
| Water and sanitation                                   | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Improve governance and management of water projects</li> <li>● Increase access to clean water at all settlements</li> <li>● Construct toilets/pit latrines in all settlements</li> </ul>  | Samburu County Government<br>SIDEP<br>CDF<br>Samburu Project<br>Red Cross               |
| Health   | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Upgrade/construct health facilities in all settlements</li> <li>● Establish a mobile clinic &amp; ambulance</li> <li>● Develop community health workers (TBA, CHWs)</li> </ul>  | Samburu County Government<br>AMREF<br>CDF<br>Red Cross<br>COFARD<br>SENET               |
| Access to education                                    | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Lobby on importance of sending children to school, and to curb early marriages</li> <li>● Improve staff and pupil retention</li> <li>● Initiate adult education for youth/herders to promote literacy to all</li> <li>● Construct/upgrade Pre-schools and Primary schools in all community settlement areas</li> <li>● Construct Boarding Secondary Schools and Tertiary institution (training college) in Sereolipi</li> <li>● Increase number of bursaries available to students</li> </ul> | Samburu County Government<br>SENET<br>CDF<br>UNICEF<br>Child Fund<br>Kind Fund<br>SIDEP |
| <b>2. Building peace and security</b>                  |  |   |
| Peace and Security within and around Sera Conservancy  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Peace meetings to curb cattle-rustling</li> <li>● Start income generating activities for morans to offer alternative livelihood options</li> <li>● Hold peace sports events</li> <li>● Strengthen existing community policing and communication</li> <li>● Develop cutline roads to increase response and surveillance</li> </ul>   | NRT<br>KWS<br>National Police Service<br>Neighbouring Conservancies<br>ACTED            |

| <b>GOAL</b>   | <b>ACTION</b>  | <b>PARTNER</b>  |
|---|--|---|
|   | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Construct security outposts at conflict hot spots</li> <li>● Equip conservancy rangers with security vehicles, firearms and equipment</li> </ul>  |   |
| <b>3. Conserving wildlife</b>   |  |   |
| Reducing poaching, increasing wildlife numbers and diversity of species | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Strengthen security teams (train and equip)</li> <li>● Carry out effective anti-poaching community awareness meetings</li> <li>● Re-introduce wildlife species through translocation (Impala, Buffalo, Eland, Oryx)</li> <li>● Establish Sera rhino sanctuary as first community-owned and managed Black rhino sanctuary</li> </ul> | NRT<br>KWS<br>Lewa<br>Samburu County<br>Government                |
| <b>4. Growing and diversifying our economy</b>                          |  |   |
| Tourism income  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Diversify tourism products and expand or develop new partnerships (e.g. cultural tourism, camel safaris, rock climbing, camp sites, training centre)</li> <li>● Increase tourism income through Rhino Sanctuary entry fees</li> </ul>   | NRT<br>Mobile Expeditions<br>Samburu County<br>Government         |
| Livestock sales   | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Improve livestock market access and infrastructure at strategic locations</li> </ul>  | NRT<br>Samburu County<br>Government                               |
| Livestock productivity  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Increase qualified veterinary support</li> <li>● Improve access to genuine veterinary drugs and input suppliers in Losesia and Sereolipi group ranches.</li> </ul>  | NRT<br>Samburu County<br>Government                               |
| Diverse jobs and enterprises  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Support women and youth in livestock and natural resource-based cottage industries</li> </ul>   | NRT<br>Techno Serve<br>Samburu County<br>Government<br>UWEZO Fund |

**GOAL****ACTION****PARTNER****5. Improving the condition of our rangelands**

Rangeland rehabilitation, settlement and grazing planning

- Identify degraded areas for rangeland rehabilitation (clearing of *Acacia reficiens* - Lchurai, gully healing, bare ground)
- 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
- Develop community settlement plans, endorsed by county government

NRT  
Samburu County Government



Samburu herders and conservancy ranger



# SECTION 4. IMPLEMENTING THE PLAN

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## THE SERA WILDLIFE CONSERVANCY

- The Sera Wildlife Conservancy was registered as a Trust in 2002 and not-for-profit company in June 2012 (Registration Number CPR/2012/75105).
- 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 within Losesia and Sereolipi group ranches which make up the Sera Conservancy. The board appoints and oversees a work force of 92 employees which includes a security force of over 60 rangers/radio operators/gate keepers/drivers, other staff are administrative, rangeland management, sanctuary management and maintenance.
- Prior to the establishment of the Conservancy our area was a hotspot for elephant poaching and insecurity, our communities lived in fear for their lives, however since the Conservancy was established security has improved for people, and elephants have returned to the area in large numbers.
- Security is critical for our development, and the Conservancy rangers are on daily patrol within and around Sera Conservancy. Conflict over livestock and natural resources is a large part of the history of our communities so cooperating with our neighbouring communities is vital to maintaining security.
- Sera Conservancy actively supports peace-building through its Board, peace committee and engagement of youth in various activities including an annual Sport for Peace event. The approach is to build trust through dialogue and shared experiences, and create a forum for peace and conflict resolution.

## BUILDING CLIMATE RESILIENCE

The Sera Conservancy, through this plan, will build greater resilience to climate change impacts and reduce vulnerability to drought, in our community and in our environment. Building social capacity and better governance through the conservancy institutions, and investing in our people (health, water and education). Maintaining peace and security, growing income with stronger business in tourism, livestock markets and other investments, and improving the productivity of our rangelands and wildlife. All of these things together will help Sera increase resilience.

## **PARTNERSHIPS**

As the Sera Conservancy community, we are not able to fully implement this vision and plan on our own. We will rely on close partnership with Samburu County Government, NRT, KWS and other NGOs, as well as on investments by commercial partners. 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.

## **BENEFITS-SHARING AMONGST MEMBERS OF SERA CONSERVANCY**

- **Community Funds:** The community holds a community social fund, generated from tourism revenue, NRT's livestock programme revenue and donations for other community projects. The decisions on the spending priorities are made at the AGM with all conservancy/community members present. The community account is audited on an annual basis and expenditure of funds declared at the AGM.
- **Employment:** All conservancy employees are recruited from the local community, except where special technical expertise or qualifications are required, in a transparent process, equitably shared between Losesia and Sereolipi Group Ranches and settlement areas.
- **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 Sera 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 Sera Conservancy, we expect to sustain the progress of this plan in future.



Sera Conservancy Chairlady interviewed during the translocation of black rhinos to Sera



# COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT AND CONSERVATION PRIORITY AREAS AND ACTIONS

| GOAL  | AREA                 | PRIORITY  |
|---|----------------------|---|
| <b>Goal 1. Improving services for community development</b> |                      |   |
| ● Water   | Lerata B             | Wind Mill/ Borehole/ Hand pump                                  |
|   | Chapulo              | Borehole  |
|   | Naishamunye          | Borehole  |
|   | Ntilaal              | Borehole  |
|   | Kom                  | Borehole  |
|   | Losesia              | Borehole  |
|   | Sererongai/Sereolipi | Borehole & improved governance of Sereolipi water project       |
|   | Ntabasi              | Borehole  |
| ● Health  | Lbaa Loltepes        | Borehole  |
|   | Kinya                | Borehole  |
|   | Lerata B             | Dispensary, Sanitation blocks, Ambulance                        |
|   | Sereolipi            | Elevate Dispensary to health centre                             |
|   | Nasashapa            | Dispensary, Sanitation blocks                                   |
| ● Education   | Sererongai           | Dispensary, Sanitation blocks                                   |
|   | Sereolipi            | Establish mixed secondary school & Polytechnic/training college |
|   | Sererongai           | Nursery School  |
|   | Kirish               | Nursery/Primary School  |
|   | Losesia              | Nursery/Primary School, teachers payment & bursary funds        |
|   | Lesurua              | Nursery School  |
|   | Kauro                | Primary School  |
|   | Naashapa             | Nursery School  |
|   | Omar                 | Primary School  |
|   | Kinya                | Nursery School  |

| <b>GOAL</b>                                  | <b>AREA</b>   | <b>PRIORITY</b>  |
|--|---|--|
| <b>Goal 2. Building peace &amp; security</b> |   |  |
| ● Communication Challenge Areas              | Lpusi, Naishamunye, Kapai   | Improve communication network  |
| ● Security Outposts                          | Kom<br>Losesia<br>Mlima tatu, Kirish, Nasingakwe, Kuotoelekurtut  | Police Post (ASTU/ Administration Police)<br>Police Post, Conservancy/ County Rangers<br>Conservancy/ County Rangers |
| ● Security Access Roads                      | Ntumot-Lantaana-Kom<br>Lesurua-Ngartama<br>Merile-Nokunono<br>Lekiperien-Losesia-Kom                        | Improve existing/ establish new roads  |
| <b>Goal 3. Conserving Wildlife</b>           |   |  |
| ● Human Wildlife Conflict Areas              | Lependera, Kamanga, Ntabas, Sereolipi, Lbaa Loltepes  | Reduce human-wildlife conflict through mitigation measures and awareness   |
| ● Key Wildlife Areas                         | Sera, Kom, Losesia, Lerigrig, Lowamara, Naishamunye, Kutotoelekurtut, Kisima Hamsini, Lontopi, Kapai, Kauro | Ensure security of wildlife through effective anti-poaching patrols  |
| ● Wildlife Translocation                     | Sera rhino sanctuary  | Translocate rhino and other wildlife into the sanctuary  |

| <b>GOAL</b>  | <b>AREA</b>   | <b>PRIORITY</b>   |
|--|---|---|
| <b>Goal 4. Growing and Diversifying Our Economy</b>      |   |   |
| ● Increase & diversify tourism                           | Lerigrig, Lontopi, Kapai, Lenkaya, Ntumot<br>Kauro, Chapulo<br>Nkadorumurto, Kisima Hamsini, Namparpar<br>Ntumot<br>Sereolipi                                   | Bird watching areas<br><br>Rock Climbing/Camel Safaris Campsites<br><br>Cultural Centre/campsite<br>Cultural Centre   |
| ● Livestock infrastructure                               | Lolian, Losesia, Chapulo<br>Sereolipi   | Upgrade/construct livestock holding facilities, crushes   |
| <b>Goal 5. Improving the Condition of Our Rangelands</b> |   |   |
| ● Degraded Areas   | Ntilaal, Lbaanyokie, Lbaa Loltepes, Ntabas Ekaingus, Marti Nalala   | Rangeland rehabilitation  |
| ● Wet Season Grazing Areas                               | Laresoro, Tilaal, Lesura, Mpasion, Sererongai, Ntabasi, Lbaa loltepes   | Improve planned grazing; establish grazing plans and by-laws, increase awareness and widespread consensus on grazing plans in Sera community and neighbouring communities |
| ● Dry Season Grazing Areas                               | Losesia, Lokanchau, Dekapoor, Naishamunye, Kisima Hamsini, Sererongai, Ntabasi, Lbaa Loltepes, Kusoroni, Kinya, Motto, Lantaana, Marti esereseta, Lkiperiperian |   |

## SETTLEMENT PLANNING

### FUTURE SETTLEMENT AREAS

|             |   |  |
|-------------|---|--|
| ● Sereolipi | Nolkoke, Mlima tatu, Merille(Samburu Side),Lekaundan, Soit Noltinga and Kom | Construct a school, health centre, Police post/outpost and water |
| ● Losesia   | Losesia and Laresoro  | Construct a school, health centre, Police post/outpost and water |

### TEMPORARY SETTLEMENT AREAS (DRY SEASON GRAZING AREAS)

|             |                                      |                       |
|-------------|--------------------------------------|-----------------------|
| ● Sereolipi | Lpus Lerinkweny, Nashapa and Kaingus | Temporary settlements |
| ● Losesia   | Naishamunye and Lesurua              | Temporary settlements |





One of the tranlocated black rhinos in Sera Rhino Sanctuary

# ACKNOWLEDGMENTS



Samburu County Government



Protecting nature. Preserving life.™



**USAID**  
FROM THE AMERICAN PEOPLE



Kingdom of the Netherlands



MOBILE EXPEDITIONS





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