



# NRT NEWSLETTER

JANUARY 2022





# NRT Newsletter

## January 2022 Issue

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Dear NRT Partners,

It seems like just yesterday we were ringing in the new year. And now, January is in our rear mirror. We sincerely hope this first month of 2022 has been exceedingly kind to you.

At NRT, we began the year with renewed vigor, doing what we do best—working hand in hand with NRT member conservancies across Northern and Coastal Kenya, supporting them in their conservation efforts, strengthening their resilience against climate change, building peace in the landscape, and transforming conservancy community members' lives.

Read on to get a glimpse of some of the memorable moments from an unforgettable January 2022.

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### European Commission Vice President Praises Communities for Promoting Environmental and Natural Resource Protection

The High Representative and Vice President of the European Commission, H.E. Josep Borrell Fontelles—who is in charge of foreign affairs and security policy, H.E. Henriette Geiger, the European Union (EU) Ambassador to Kenya, and Carla Mucavi, the Representative of the Food and Agricultural Organization (FAO) to Kenya, visited three development partners on January 29th, including NRT. We showcased our resilience, livelihoods, and climate change programs during this visit.



The EU delegation learned about wildlife protection and interacted with communities working at the intersection of environment conservation, peacebuilding, and human development.

H.E. Borrell lauded indigenous communities for their efforts in conserving the environment and natural resources. The European Union backs NRT's community engagement initiatives and efforts in curbing human-wildlife conflict and trafficking.

## USAID Kenya & East Africa Mission Director Visits NRT Trading, Meets Ujuzi Manyattani Trainees

NRT Trading hosted a delegation from USAID, led by Mark Andrew Meassick, the USAID Kenya and East Africa Mission Director, at a program exchange visit with other USAID-supported partners in Isiolo County.

During his first day in Kiwanja, in Nakuprat Gotu Community Conservancy, the USAID Director met with trainees from the NRT Trading-led Ujuzi Manyattani Program, which is funded by USAID through the Local Works and People-to-People (P2P) Programs.

Ujuzi Manyattani is a vocational training program that partners with polytechnic institutions to provide mobile, village-based training to people in community conservancies. It is part of a larger effort by community conservancies to diversify indigenous livelihoods and encourage entrepreneurship among women and young morans.



## Community Land Title Deeds Issued to Six Samburu Communities

We're thrilled to report that six communities recently received their community title deeds, a process that was facilitated by the Food and Agricultural Organization (FAO) and NRT.

The ceremony was presided over by H.E. Josep Borrell Fontelles, the European Commission's High Representative and Vice President, who had recently visited NRT. Among these groups are:

- Ngutuk Ongiron community land (Westgate Community Conservancy)
- Girgir community land (Kalama Community Conservancy)
- Ltrimin community land (Meibae Community Conservancy)
- Sere Olipi community land (Sera Community Conservancy)
- Ngilai Central community land (Ngilai Community Conservancy)
- Ngilai West community land (Ngilai Community Conservancy)

NRT, FAO, and other development partners are committed to assisting and enabling local communities to secure land rights and title deeds, facilitating the communities' development.



## USAID Kenya & East Africa Mission Director Meets the Women Peace Council and Peace Ambassadors

On January 29<sup>th</sup>, the USAID Kenya and East Africa Mission Director, Mark Meassick, and other USAID-supported partners met with NRT officials, peace ambassadors, the regional women peace council, and peace and government teams from Isiolo, Marsabit, Laikipia, and Samburu Counties in Nakuprat Gotu Community Conservancy in Isiolo, to discuss peace and ways to best support the peacebuilding process in Northern Kenya and create stability in the region.



NRT and its member conservancies collaborate with communities, national and county governments, the National Cohesion and Integration Commission (NCIC), and other peacemakers in the region to promote peace and peaceful coexistence among communities.

NRT is implementing a three-year USAID-funded People-to-People (P2P) Program in Marsabit, Isiolo, Samburu, Baringo, and West Pokot Counties to support societies and individuals in addressing conflict through community-led grassroots structures.

## Samburu County Rangelands Policy

NRT's rangelands and governance teams participated in a validation exercise for the Samburu County Rangelands Policy, designed to guide rangelands activities and other aspects such as livestock movement, pasture sharing, and peaceful relations among communities within the County.

We are collaborating with the County Government of Samburu, which is actively supporting conservancies in the region to build community resilience and promote conservation. Additionally, the County is facilitating the development of county legislation to allow support for conservancies.



## Saving Elephants: Two Stuck Elephants Rescued in Nannapa Conservancy

On Monday, the 21<sup>st</sup> of January, two female elephants became stuck in the mud at Nannapa Conservancy and were successfully rescued. Unfortunately, after 36 hours of being trapped, they couldn't stand.

In a joint effort with community members, we made every attempt to help them get on their feet. Eventually, we moved them to a slope, where gravity worked its magic. After 15 minutes of slowly regaining their wits and removing the pins and needles from lying down for so long, they were off to rejoin their herd.



## Meet Nashaki, the Phenomenal ‘Fighter’ from BeadWORKS

If courage had a name, it would be Nashaki.

Nashaki is a beader at NRT Trading’s BeadWORKS. She has four lovely daughters.

Her story is one of sheer bravery. She is a warrior at heart. After performing her daily chores, she makes beaded patches for BeadWORKS’ lovely tote bag, one of her favorite products.

We found her at her home in Archers Post, working on the patch. She squinted as she tried to see the needle she was using to poke holes in the sack. Within minutes, she touched her left eye and wiped it repeatedly with her shuka.

Why? Her left eye wasn’t hurting, but the bright light outside had made it teary, so she wiped it again.

Nashaki lived to tell the terrifying tale of surviving a violent crocodile attack while washing clothes by the Ewaso Ng’iro River, which provides water for both human and livestock use.

She struggles while working, but that has never stopped her from expressing herself through her artistic ability, which she relishes and uses to earn money to feed, educate, and provide for her family’s necessities.



## Review of New Ujuzi Manyattani Courses

NRT Trading's Ujuzi Manyattani Program team led partners drawn from vocational training institutions, trainers, and NRT Trading staff in a review of the new courses introduced last year (including hairdressing and salon, catering, tailoring, and dressmaking), in synchronizing the curriculum, and in reviewing the cost and types of training materials. This exercise also allowed participants to share their experiences and lessons learned from the new courses.



## NRT Participates in Inter-County Conflict Prevention Meeting

This month, the NRT peace team participated in an inter-county conflict prevention meeting convened by county administration officials from Meru and Isiolo Counties.

The meeting converged grassroots-level leaders from the Ameru, Borana, Turkana, and Somali communities to discuss and address pasture-related issues, cattle theft, de-escalate tensions following recent attacks and killings between the Ameru and Somali communities, revitalize grazing committees, and prevent political incitement.



Leaders from the Ameru, Borana, Turkana, and Somali communities converged

## Borana Council of Elders (BCE) Grazing Dialogue

The NRT Peace team worked with elders from the Borana community in Isiolo South Constituency to plan and coordinate grazing among herders from neighboring counties who had migrated to various areas within Garbatulla, Sericho, and Kinna Wards in search of pasture.

## SIDA-IMARA Year 3 Review

This month, three consortium partners (NRT, World Vision and the Stockholm Environment Institute (SEI)) of the SIDA-funded Integrated Management of Natural Resources for Resilience in ASALs (IMARA) Program met to review and develop an implementation plan for IMARA's Year 3 (2022-2025) program.

Deliberations before the Program's implementation focused on the IMARA grant implementation approaches and methodologies, NRT implementation approaches, conflict-sensitive programming, previous successes and challenges, outcomes, outputs, gender, and youth components, reporting timelines, and program monitoring.

## Livestock Feeding and Breeding Module 1 Training



NRT Trading's livestock team trained 30 herders from Naibunga Lower Conservancy in Laikipia County on feeding and breeding as part of USAID's Local Works Program to increase their capacity on livestock production.



## Livestock Influx Causing Insecurity in Isiolo

On January 13<sup>th</sup>, at least 40 elders from Leparua and Nasuulu Conservancies were selected to facilitate reconciliation talks between herders from Samburu and Laikipia Counties. For two weeks, the elders engaged with morans to mitigate the tension caused by an influx of livestock along the Leparua-Nasuulu corridor. Four people have been killed along the pasture corridor in the last two months.



40

elders selected

to facilitate

reconciliation talks

## Internal Ujuzi Manyattani Assessment in Songa

Evaluators from Laikipia North Polytechnic last month assessed 38 Ujuzi Manyattani trainees from Songa Community Conservancy to determine their level of skill uptake and learning progress. This is a requirement for all Ujuzi Manyattani trainees before graduation.







## Video of the Month

[Planned Grazing:  
A Solution to Pasture  
Related Conflict](#)



## In the Media



[World Sports Safaris, Samburu county unveil tournament](#)



[Inaugural Samburu Rugby Sevens launched](#)



[Inaugural Samburu Sevens Aims To Nurture Talents At The Grassroots](#)



[Samburu County launches inaugural rugby 7's international tournament](#)



[Sixty teams expected for inaugural Samburu Sevens in July](#)



[Two communities celebrate a year of peace](#)



[Laikipia - Isiolo Peace Declaration \(min 4.35-7.52\)](#)



[Six communities in Samburu receive group title deeds](#)



[Six communities in Samburu county issued with community land title deeds](#)



[Ranches receive title deeds](#)

[Uratibu Wa Malisho: Kaunti ya Samburu imeanza shughuli ya kuratibu malisho Hatua hiyo kupunguza mizozo inayobabishwa na uhaba wa malisho](#)



[Formation Of New Law To Improve Rangeland Management In Samburu](#)



## Newsbytes from the Conservancies



Nasuulu Community Conservancy hosted Samburu County government officials on a rangeland exposure tour.

Two motorbikes loaded with bush meat were seized by Nasuulu Conservancy rangers.



The Garbatulla Community Conservancy vetted its newly hired rangers.



Ltungai Community Conservancy, through NRT Trading's livestock department, trained 30 herders in new livestock production.



Kinna Community Conservancy recruited rangers.



Kalama Conservancy, an NRT member to host Rugby tournament in July.

Kalama Community Conservancy successfully conducted a two-day capacity building workshop for Nyumba Kumi, Boda Boda Association, and Sand Group Youth.

In January 2022, a lot was accomplished. However, there is still much left to be done, and we look forward to continuing the work in February. We are delighted to bring you along for the ride and share every step of our journey with you throughout 2022. Thank you for your continued support and for going above and beyond for our NRT member conservancies.

## ASANTENI SANA

The Northern Rangelands Trust would like to thank the following principal donors, partners and investors (with many more listed on our website) for their invaluable support.

