Baringo County Conservancies Association









Baringo County Conservancies Profile Report 2020

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Acronymns

BCCA	Baringo County Conservancies Association
BCG	Baringo County Government
CBD	Convention on Biological Diversity
CFA	Community Forest Associations
CIDP	County Integrated Development Plan
CLA	Community Land Act
GEF	Global Environment Facility
KFS	Kenya Forest Service
KOAN	Kenya Organic Agriculture Network
KWCA	Kenya Wildlife Conservancies Association
KWS	Kenya Wildlife Service
M&E	Monitoring and Evaluation
NRT	Northern Rangelands Trust
SGP	Small grants Programme
SWOT	Strengths, Weaknesses, Opportunities and Threats
UNDP	United Nations Development Programme
UNESCO	United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization
WCMA	Wildlife Conservation and Management Act

Foreword

Message from the chairperson

Baringo County Conservancies Association (BCCA) is pleased to share with you the first Baringo County Conservancies Profile. This is a significant step towards building the dwindling glory of the County' diminished wildlife populations through a network of communally owned and managed conservancies. The communities in the county recognize conservancies as the holistic solution that will restore the degraded landscapes, facilitate peaceful co-existence among warring communities, promote equitable benefit sharing of natural resources.

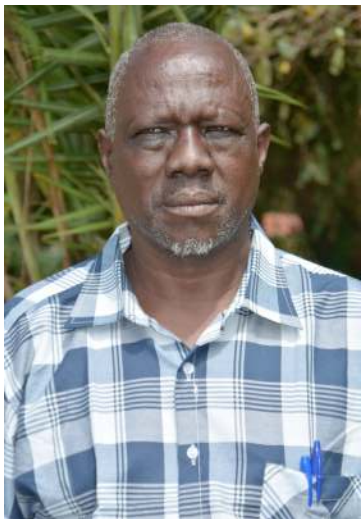
Baringo's conservancy model is unique owing to the diverse landscapes of wetlands, highlands and wooded rangelands, thus multiple opportunities for community's socio-economic development.

BCCA was established in 2017 as a landscape level membership association for community conservancies in Baringo County. The association is working towards harnessing coordinated growth of conservancies now at the nascent stage of growth.

The Conservancies Profile Report serves as a baseline for measuring achievements in the past and coming years and demonstrates the current status of community conservancies in Baringo. The report highlights significant gaps and opportunities to develop the conservancy movement through which ecosystems services will be enhanced and local livelihoods supported. The profile also provides an opportunity for BCCA to support and scale-up the developments so far made by the conservancies, promote their voice and build their visibility at the landscape, national and international levels.

On behalf of Baringo community conservancies, I wish to thank UNDP-GEF Small Grants Program for their financial support which has made this first Conservancies Profile Report possible. We also wish to thank the Baringo County Government for being a champion of conservation and through their financial and technical support to conservancies. We are indebted by the technical input and support we have received from the Kenya Wildlife Conservancies Association (KWCA) in the development of this profile and not forgetting our conservancy members who were available to give information when needed.

We hope you will find this report interesting and informative.



Peter C. Kandagor
Chair, Baringo County Conservancies Association

Facts and Figures



3
Landscapes, Lake Bogoria Ecosystem, Kamnarok-Lake Baringo Ecosystem and Western Highlands



8
Community Wildlife Conservancies



10
Proposed Conservancies



3
Community Forests Associations actively involved in wildlife management



7630
Registered conservancy members



75,100
conservancy beneficiaries



38
community conservancy rangers



6
Tourism/camping facilities in conservancies



8
Endangered Rothschild giraffe



163,700.35 Ha
Total Area under Conservancies



Ksh 81, 673,500
Total grant amount under UNDP GEF SGP Lake Bogoria Landscape



11,015 KM²

Total area under Baringo County



6

Sub counties in Baringo County



165 KM²

covered by surface of water lake Baringo, Lake Bogoria and Lake Kamnarok National Reserves



6,000KM

total length of great Rift Valley, earth's most prominent geological feature running through Baringo County.



85%

wildlife loss in Baringo County between 1977 and 2016



2016

Baringo County adopts finance regulations to support conservancies



Ksh 19 million

Total amount allocated to conservancies between 2015-2019 by Baringo County Government



500

No. of bird species in Baringo county



200

No. of hot springs in Baringo County



50

migratory bird species



18, 542

No. of foreign tourists visiting Baringo County between 2016-2017



52.2%

Baringo Poverty Index



Conservation Key Milestones

1974	Lake Bogoria National Reserves gazetted and listed as a Ramsar site
2001	Lake Baringo listed as an Important Bird Area and a Ramsar site
2002	First conservancy established (Ngenyin and Kaptuya)
2013	WWF wetland project promoted adoption of conservancies
2014	Baringo county government Finance Regulation on conservancies passed by county assembly opening funding opportunities for conservancies
2015	First conservancy receives first grant from Baringo County government
2015	Baringo conservancies was originally part of Rift Lakes Conservancies Association.
2016	Knowledge building on conservancies concept, and laws supporting conservancies carried out by KWCA
2017	BCCA registered as an Association
2018	BCCA secures 1st grant from GEF UNDP SGP, through KWCA to support governance capacity development
2019	UNDP SGP phase VI launches the Lake Bogoria landscape project fund benefiting ,BCCA, 3 Lake Bogoria landscape conservancies, among others.
2019	BCCA holds its first AGM
2019	MOU between Baringo County Government and Northern Rangelands Trust to support conservancy development
2020	BCCA First strategic plan developed

Wildlife Conservancies in Kenya

Section 4 of the Wildlife Conservation and Management Act 2013 recognizes conservation as a land use on community and private owned lands. The Act further promotes adoption of conservancies as a strategy to conserve habitats and wildlife, and further devolves management of wildlife to community and private landowners where wildlife occurs. Subsequently, devolved structures of strengthening community conservation efforts are developed by the Wildlife Act, through recognition of community wildlife associations, wildlife managers and community wildlife scouts. In the realization that community and private landowners bear the costs of managing wildlife on their lands, the Act encourages for benefits to be derived from wildlife conservation efforts to offset related costs. The Wildlife Act encourages an ecosystem-based management approach of wildlife and its habitats through ecosystem plans, which embraces multiple land types and land uses. Conservancies are also required to manage their conservancies through approved and gazetted management plans which align to the ecosystem plan. In Kenya, there are 160 conservancies spread across 28 counties, with 76 of them being community owned and managed.



Conservancy Definition by Wildlife Act 2013: land set aside by individual owner, group of landowners, body corporate or community for purposes of wildlife conservation. In practice, a community conservancy is a community-based organization created to support the management of community-owned land for the benefit of livelihoods, like pastoralism, agriculture, fishing or tourism. They are legally registered entities, governed by a locally elected community members and run by a conservancy management team.

In practice, a community conservancy is independent, sustainable, well governed and well managed by a local institution, with genuine community-led decision-making, widely understood and approved by the community at large. Community conservancies should also have clear rights, benefits and responsibilities for achieving livelihoods, development, sustainable natural resource management on community land and maintain peace and security. Conservancies work to improve governance and representation for their members by building traditional cultural structures, and empowering women, people with disabilities and youth in particular to become agents of change. Good governance enables livelihoods and development projects to be owned, driven and maintained by local people, as well as providing a link for potential partners.

Baringo Biodiversity

Baringo County, located in the central Rift Valley, covers an area of 11,015 km2, and is divided into three diverse landscapes; the highlands in the south, the larger eastern and northern wooded rangelands and lakes system comprising of Lake Baringo, Lake Bogoria, which are listed as Ramsar Sites, Lake Kamnarok National Reserve. Historically, Baringo County, neighboring Laikipia County to the east had large populations of wildlife with anecdotal indigenous knowledge recording presence of elephants, lions, greater kudus, rhinos, among others. The county, lying on the floor of the Rift Valley, is rich with geysers and pre-historic rocks formation, which are key tourism attractions. The county government endeavors to manage the diverse landscapes and natural resources in a manner that supports healthy environment for economic growth and sustainable development.

With a population of 666,763 people, small scale agriculture and livestock keeping are the key economic activities for the local communities. Majority of the land in the county, is communally owned, with approximately 5,700 km2 of the land un-arable and 4,435km2 arable. Habitat and water catchments degradation, conflict over natural resource use, unsustainable land use practices and over exploitation of natural resources present serious conservation and livelihood challenges. Baringo County, identified as a marginalized area, has high poverty index estimated at 52.2%, thus the need for nature-based opportunities that restore the landscapes and support livelihoods[1].

Baringo county government adopts a wider conservancy model that includes wildlife conservancies, fossil sites, geo parks, and community forest areas. The conservancy model is one of the key opportunities to restore the high biodiversity and wildlife loss estimated at 85% in the past 3 decades[2].

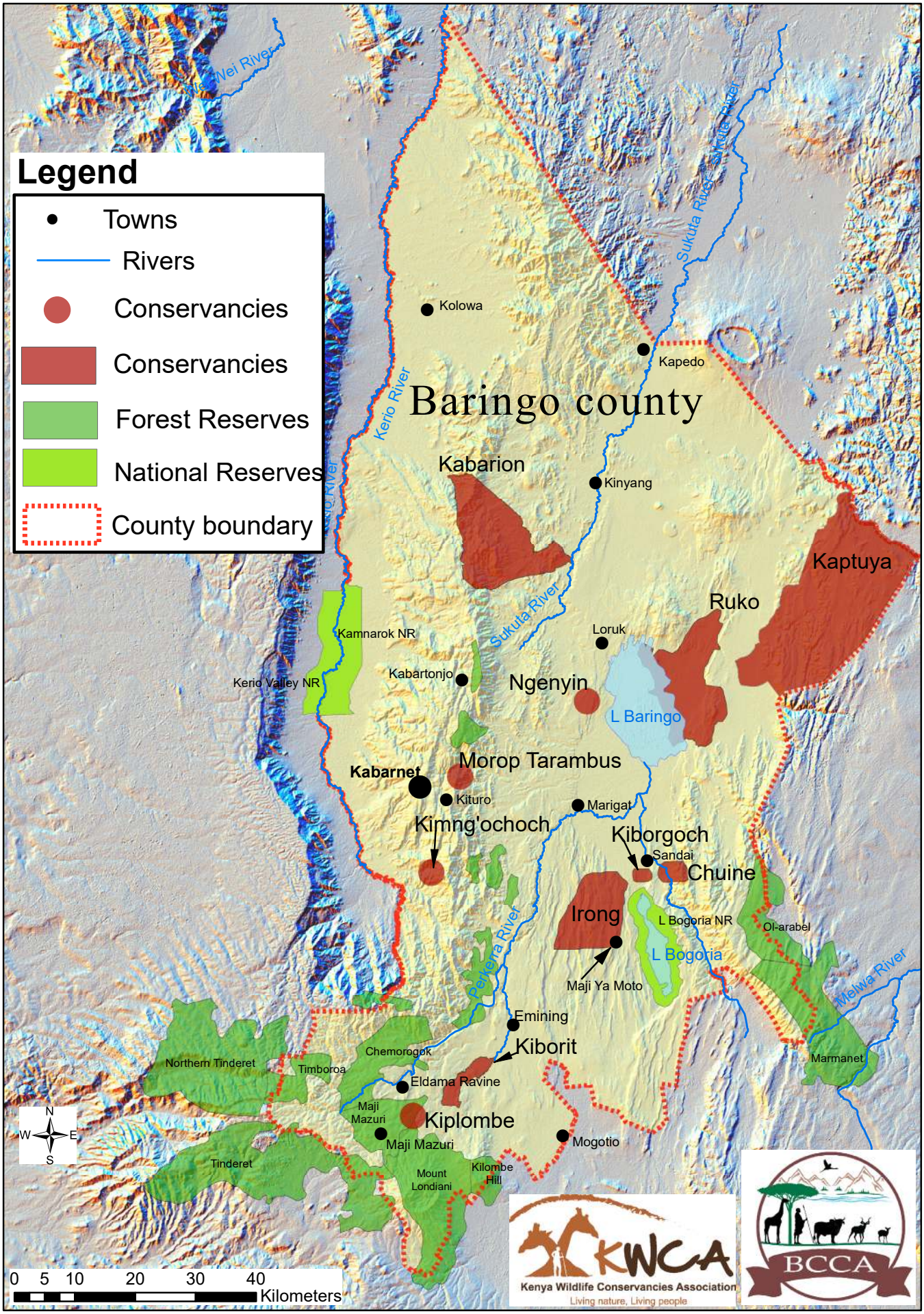


"Baringo County Government works to sustainably exploit the diverse natural resources ranging from minerals, forests, wildlife and the enormous tourism potential for the benefit of the people of Baringo County."

H.E. Stanley Kiptis
Governor Baringo County

1 Baringo County Integrated Development Plan 2018-2022

2 Richard Damaina et al, "When Good Conservation becomes Good Economics" World Bank Group 2019


Legend
Towns
Rivers
Conservancies
Conservancies
Forest Reserves
National Reserves
County boundary
Kerio Wei River
Sukuta River
Kolowa
Kapedo
Baringo county
Kerio River
Kabarion
Kinyang
Kaptuya
Ruko
Kamnarok NR
Sukuta River
Loruk
Kerio Valley NR
Kabartonjo
Ngenyin
L Baringo
Morop Tarambus
Kabarnet
Kituro
Marigat
Kimng'ochoch
Kiborgoch
Sandai
Chuine
Irong
L Bogoria NR
Ol-arabel
Perkerra River
L Bogoria
Maji Ya Moto
Melwa River
Emining
Kiborit
Chemorogok
Northern Tinderet
Timboroa
Marmanet
Eldama Ravine
Maji Mazuri
Kiplombe
Maji Mazuri
Mogotio
Tinderet
Mount Londiani
Kilombe Hill
N
W
E
S
0 5 10 20 30 40
Kilometers
KWCA
Kenya Wildlife Conservancies Association
Living nature, Living people
BCCA

Baringo County Conservancies Association

Baringo County Conservancies Association (BCCA) is a landscape institution that brings together community owned wildlife conservancies in Baringo County, registered under Societies Act cap 108 (Registration number: SOC/75373) in February 2017.

BCCA has a current membership of 11 conservancies: 5 being fully operational, 3 at proposed stage and 3 at the formative stage. The conservancies are spread within the three landscapes, the highlands in the south, the larger eastern and northern wooded rangelands and lakes system comprising of Lake Baringo and Lake Bogoria.

BCCA evolved from the Rift Lakes Conservancies Association, which was established to bring together conservancies in 2 counties, Nakuru which is comprised of private conservancies, and Baringo comprising of community conservancies. Conservancies in Baringo identified the need to have their own association that represents community concerns, structures of governance and interests and management that are quite distinct from private conservancies, thus the initiative by the conservancies to develop their own institution. BCCA is governed by 13 members being elected representatives of conservancies equally drawn from the three landscapes. Under a new governance structure that seeks to improve the capacity of BCCA, the management committee (board) will be led by an independent skilled chair, responsible to drive strategic development of the association. The Baringo conservancy model includes community managed lands and adopts community forest associations, which have a component on wildlife conservation. BCCA is one of the eleven conservancies landscape regional associations of Kenya Wildlife Conservancies Association.



Mission

To facilitate the growth of Baringo conservancies that support wildlife conservation and sustainable livelihoods.

Vision

Community conservancies promoting healthy ecosystems, thriving wildlife and sustainable livelihoods.

Strategic Objectives

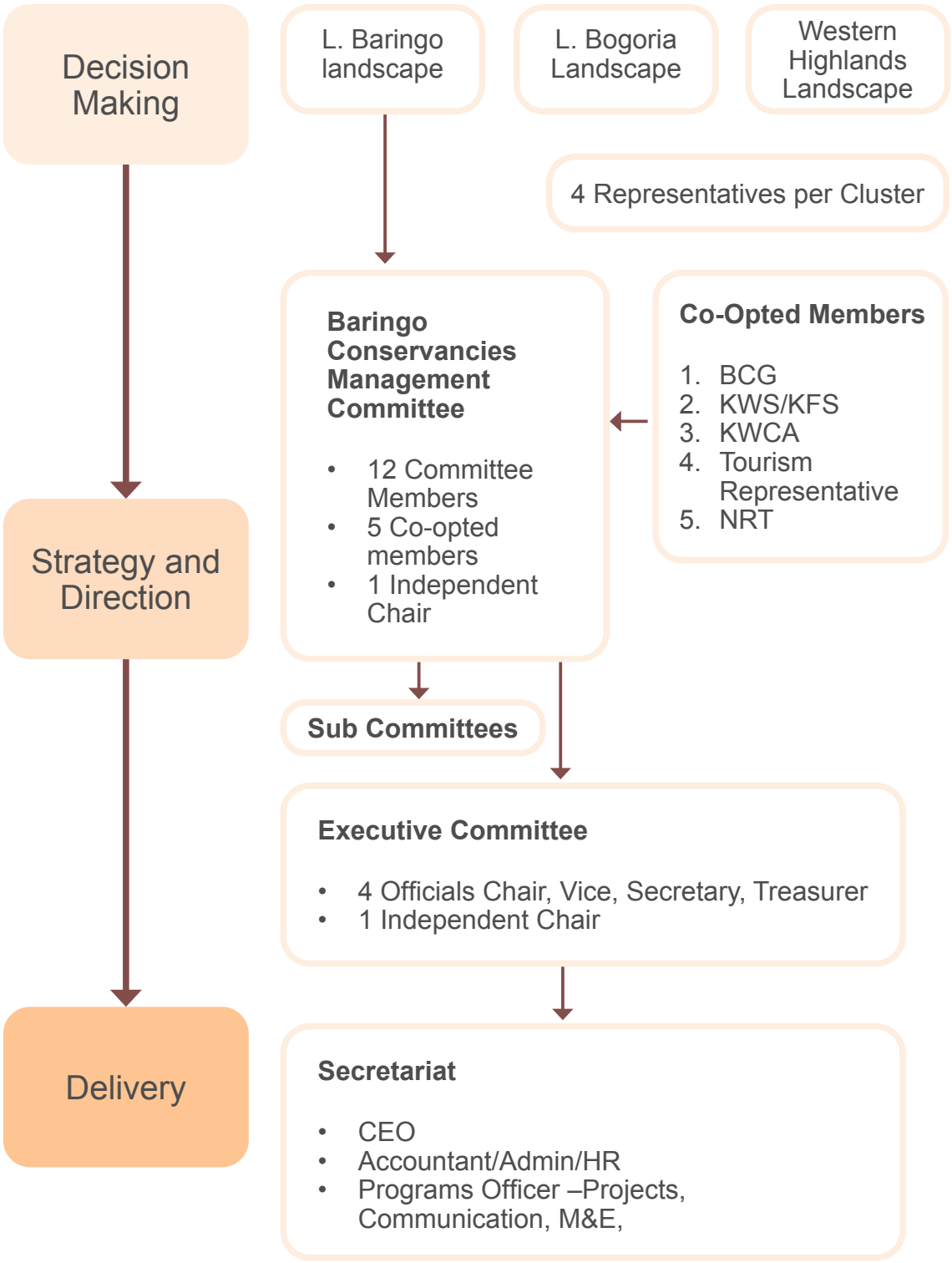
BCCA aims to give community conservancies the framework, incentives and links to partnerships they need to:

- Build the collective voice of Baringo conservancies to champion for conservancies development
- Promote social economic development and sustainable livelihoods
- Promote compatible land use for biodiversity conservation
- Champion and foster peace and security initiatives between ethnic communities.
- Facilitate networking and collaboration amongst conservancy members and conservation stakeholders.

Priority growth needs for Conservancies & BCCA:

- Transition into community lands as provided by Community Land Act 2016 to strengthen landownership, governance, inclusion of youth and women, clarity of land boundaries.
- Mobilizing community members to increase ownership and support of conservancies
- Train conservancy boards on leadership and good governance
- Put in place conservancy offices, infrastructure and office systems
- Support recruitment and training of conservancy staff
- Develop conservancies management plan
- Develop diversified nature-based enterprises for the community conservancies
- Rehabilitate degraded landscapes of the conservancies and develop programs to restore wildlife populations
- Promote co-existence among communities in dispute over land and natural resources

BCCA governance Structure



Status of Baringo Conservancies

Alongside national wildlife reserves and forest reserves, wildlife conservancies are among conservation areas recognized by Baringo County government[3]. Conservancies confer opportunity to improve governance, security, better land management, economic growth, food security, employment, and support to community projects. The conservancies are also seen as one of the effective means to manage community lands, which form the largest portion of tenure in the County. The enactment of the Community Land 2016 presents opportunity to improve land and natural resource management by the communities, thus a safeguard to the development and sustainability of conservancies.

There are 11 community conservancies (8 community conservancies and 3 CFAs) under Baringo County Conservancies Association, covering an estimated area of 163,700.35 Ha (1,637km^2) with 10 upcoming conservancies. The conservancies governance is largely comprised of management committees elected every three years at respective annual general meetings. Only two conservancies-Ruko and Kaptuya have permanent operational and management structures.

Community Conservancy	Year Est.	Legal Registration	Est. Area (Ha)	Land Tenure System	Management Plan	No. of Permanent Employees	No. of Community Rangers			
							Total	Trained	Not Trained	Female
Ruko	2006	Limited Company limited by guarantee	19000	Community	0	20	20	20	0	3
Kaptuya	2003	CBO	8093	Community	0	7	5	0	5	1
Chuine	2010	CBO	1800	Community	0	0	0	0	0	0
Kiborgoch	2015	CBO	2690	Community	0	0	0	0	0	0
Irong	2009	CBO	61450	Community	0	0	11	0	11	1
Kiplombe	2017	CBO	251.1		0	1(Temporary Ranger)	1	1	0	0
Kiborit	2016	CBO	101.25	Community	0	0	0	0	0	0
Kimng'ochoch	2016	CBO	575	Community	0	0	0	0	0	0
Morop – Tarambas	2010	CBO	2100	Community	0	0	0	0	0	0
Kabarion	2011	CBO	67600	Community	0	0	0	0	0	0
Ngenyin	2002	CBO	49	Community	0	1 (Temporary Ranger)	1	0	0	0

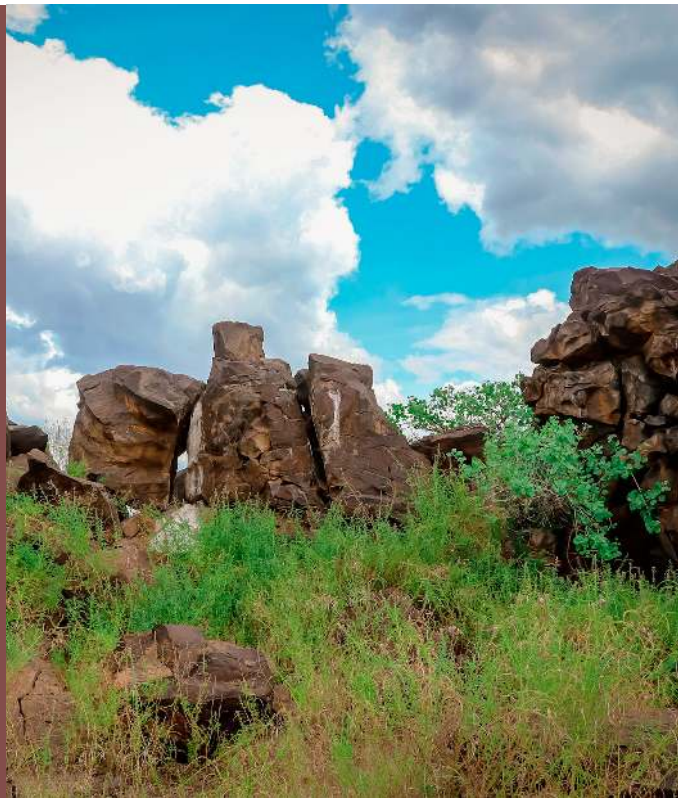
3 Baringo County Government- County Integrated Development Plan 2018-2022

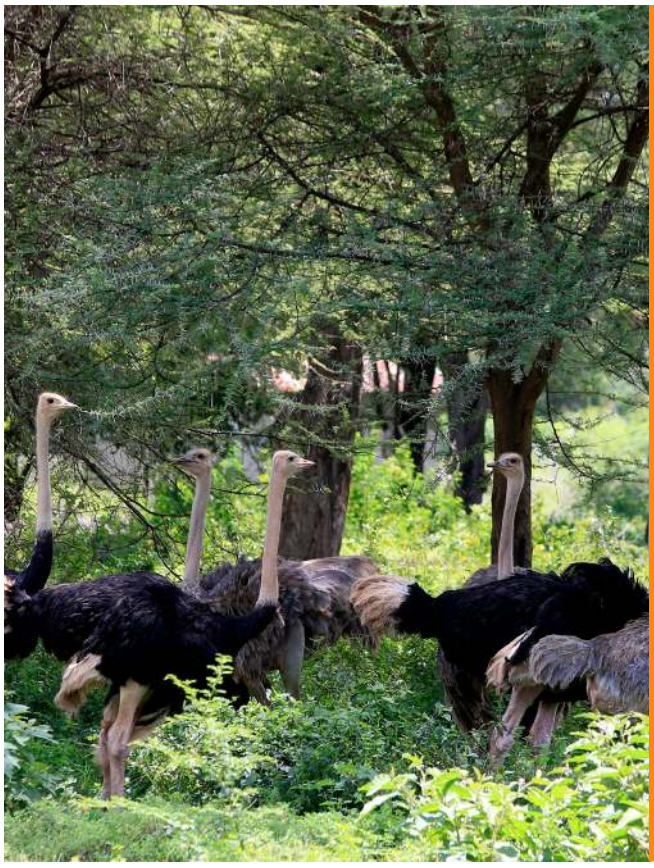
Lake Bogoria Ecosystem Landscape

Irong Community Conservancy

Sub County; Baringo South
Landscape; Lake Bogoria
Conservancy Size; 61450 Ha
Main Livelihoods; Agriculture & Pastoralism

Unique features:
newly discovered as an archaeological site, it is a breeding site and migratory corridor for the greater Kudu, abundance of nectar tree species e.g. Acacia Meilifera

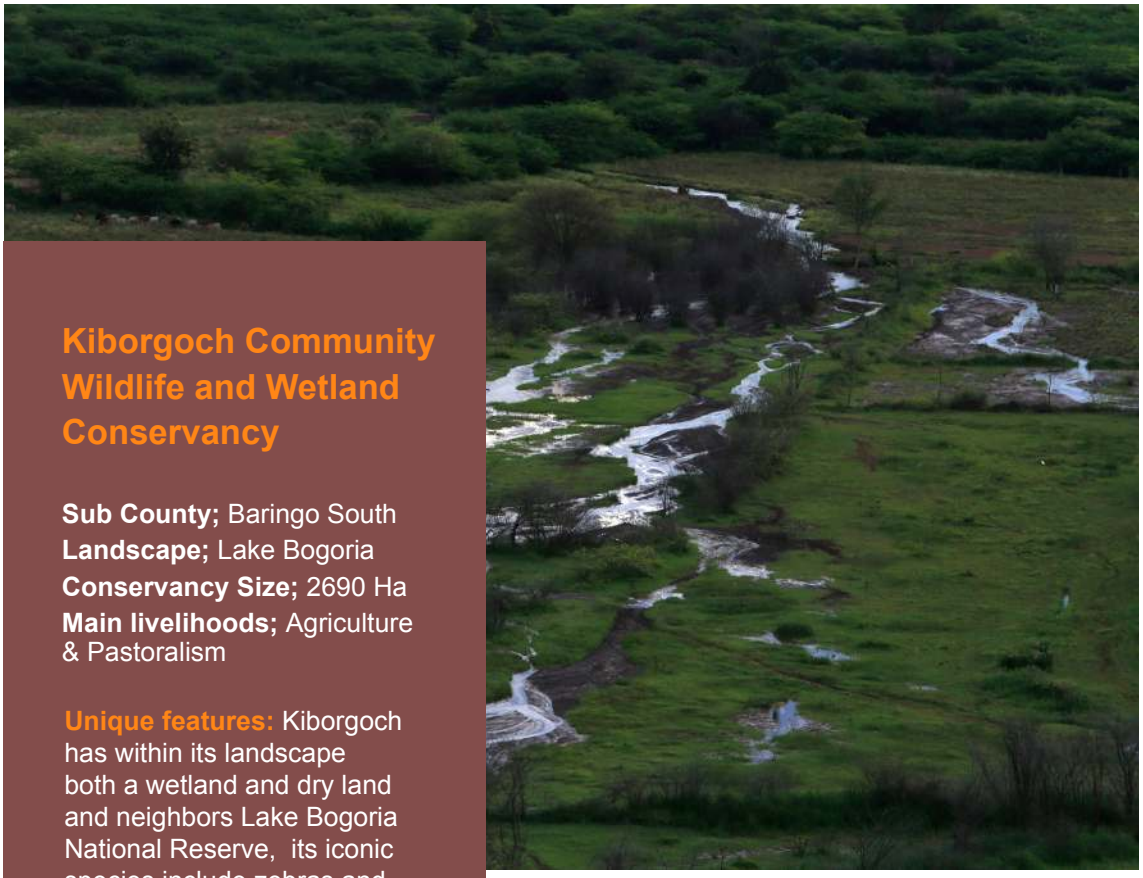




Chuine Community Conservancy

Sub County; Baringo South
Landscape; Lake Bogoria
Conservancy Size; 1800 Ha
Main Livelihoods; Agriculture & Pastoralism

Unique features: a haven for biodiversity research, breeding site fpr the greater Kudu, a migratory corridor for wildlife from Laikipia to Lake Bogoria National Reserve



Kiborgoch Community Wildlife and Wetland Conservancy

Sub County; Baringo South
Landscape; Lake Bogoria
Conservancy Size; 2690 Ha
Main livelihoods; Agriculture & Pastoralism

Unique features: Kiborgoch has within its landscape both a wetland and dry land and neighbors Lake Bogoria National Reserve, its iconic species include zebras and ostriches; economic activities include irrigation agriculture, biodiversity research and livestock keeping;



Kamnarok-Lake Baringo Landscape

Ruko Community Wildlife Conservancy

Sub County; Baringo South/ Tiaty East
Landscape; Lake Baringo
Distance from main town: 60Kms
Conservancy size; 19000 Ha
Main livelihoods; Agriculture, Pastoralism &Fishing

Unique features: has a Rothschild Giraffe sanctuary, a wet-and dryland landscape neighboring Lake Baringo to the West, a breeding area for birds, crocodiles and fish, a peaceful co-existence model with two warring communities, other wildlife species- greater kudus on highlands and lesser kudus on the lower, ostriches, waterbucks and buffaloes.





Kaptuya Community Wildlife Conservancy

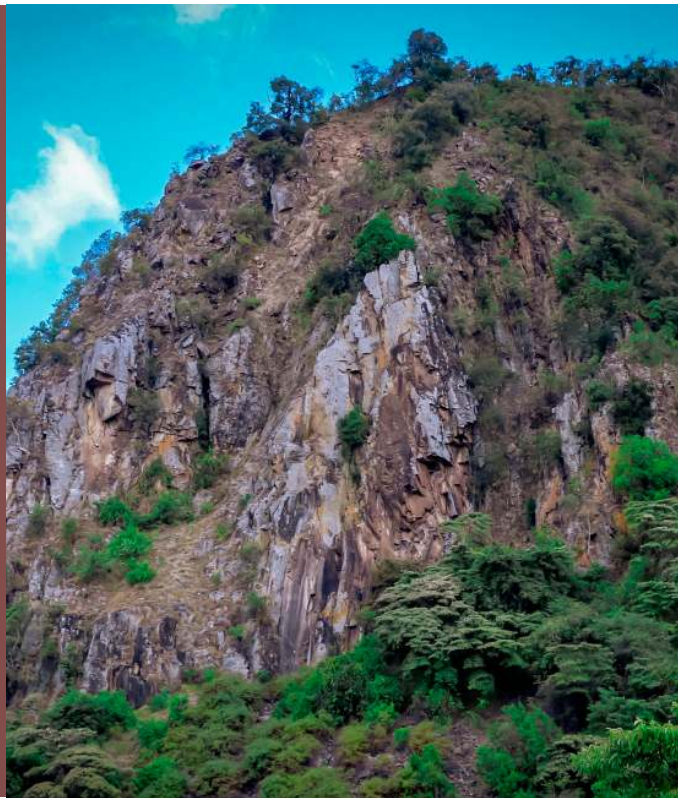
Sub County; Tiaty East
Landscape; Lake Baringo
Distance from main town; 116Kms
Conservancy size; 8093 Ha
Main livelihoods; Agriculture & Pastoralism

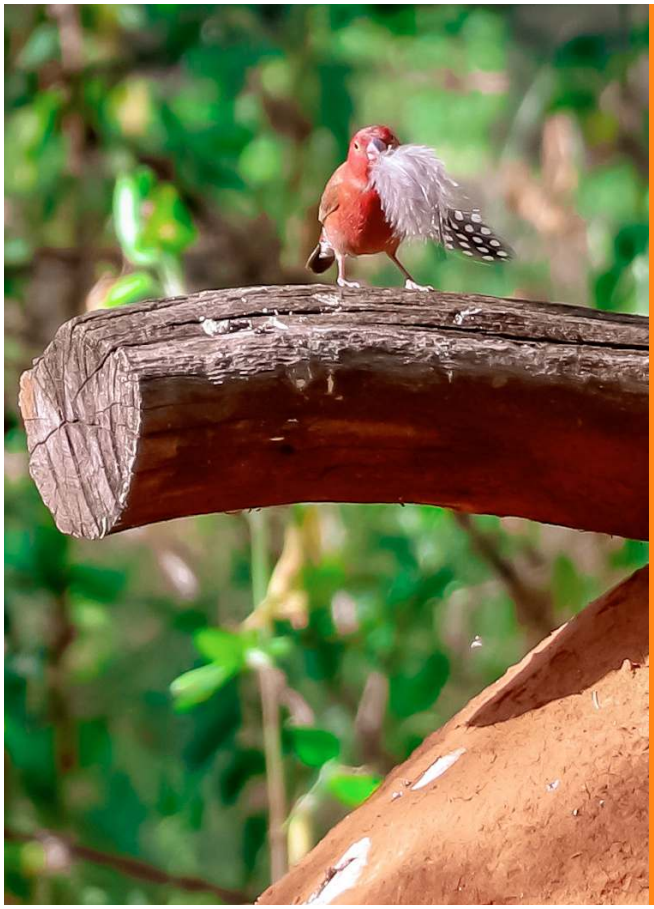
Unique Features: a habitat for hippo during wet season, presence of an artificial dam called Cherubo in the conservancy, wild pigs

Kabarion Community Conservancy

Sub County; Baringo North
Landscape; Highlands
Distance from main town; 60kms
Conservancy size; 67,600 Ha
Main livelihoods; Agriculture & Pastoralism

Unique features: rich in minerals e..g red rubies, garnets and fluorspar, Wildlife species such as Leopards, greater Kudu, Warthogs, klipspringer, Impala, rock Hyrax





Ngenyin Community Conservation Area

Sub County; Baringo South
Landscape; Lake Baringo
Distance from main town; 20kms
Conservancy Size: 49 Ha
Main Livelihoods; Agriculture & Fishing

Unique features: cattle fattening, boat ride activities , nature trails, bird hub for different bird species, neighbours Lake Baringo to the west, has a tourism facility & a grass reseeding program,

Western Highlands Landscape

Kimng'ochoch Community Conservancy

Sub County; Baringo Central
Landscape; Highlands
Distance from main town; 12 Kms
Conservancy Size; 575 Ha
Main Livelihoods; Agriculture

Unique features: Indigenous species of red cider, white Colombus Monekey, they have a camping site used for religious rituals and research activities. Plans to establish a research facility





Morop Tarambus Wildlife Conservancy

Sub County; Baringo central
Landscape; Highlands
Distance from main town; 13.5 Kms
Conservancy Size; 2100 Ha
Main livelihoods; Agriculture

Unique features: Flat Morop hill used as a religious shrine and for cultural rites. It is a forested area with threatened tree species such as the endangered sandalwood and red cedar, has an artificial dam used for fishing and supplies fresh water to Kabarnet town. Wildlife species include a Honey Barger, Guinea Fowls and Hornbills.

Kiplombe Community Conservancy

Conservancy Size: 620 acres
No: of beneficiaries: 2,800
Registered members: 300
Volunteer ranger: 1

Unique Features: Have a history of black rhino which were translocated to lake Nakuru National Park, rich in bird species and historical caves.





Kiborit Community Conservancy

Sub County; Koibatek
Landscape; Highlands
Distance from main town; 10 Kms
Conservancy size; 101.25 Ha
Main livelihoods; Agriculture & pastoralism

Unique features: Upcoming tourism facilities e.g. golf course, Nature trails, bird species and butterflies species

Proposed Conservancies

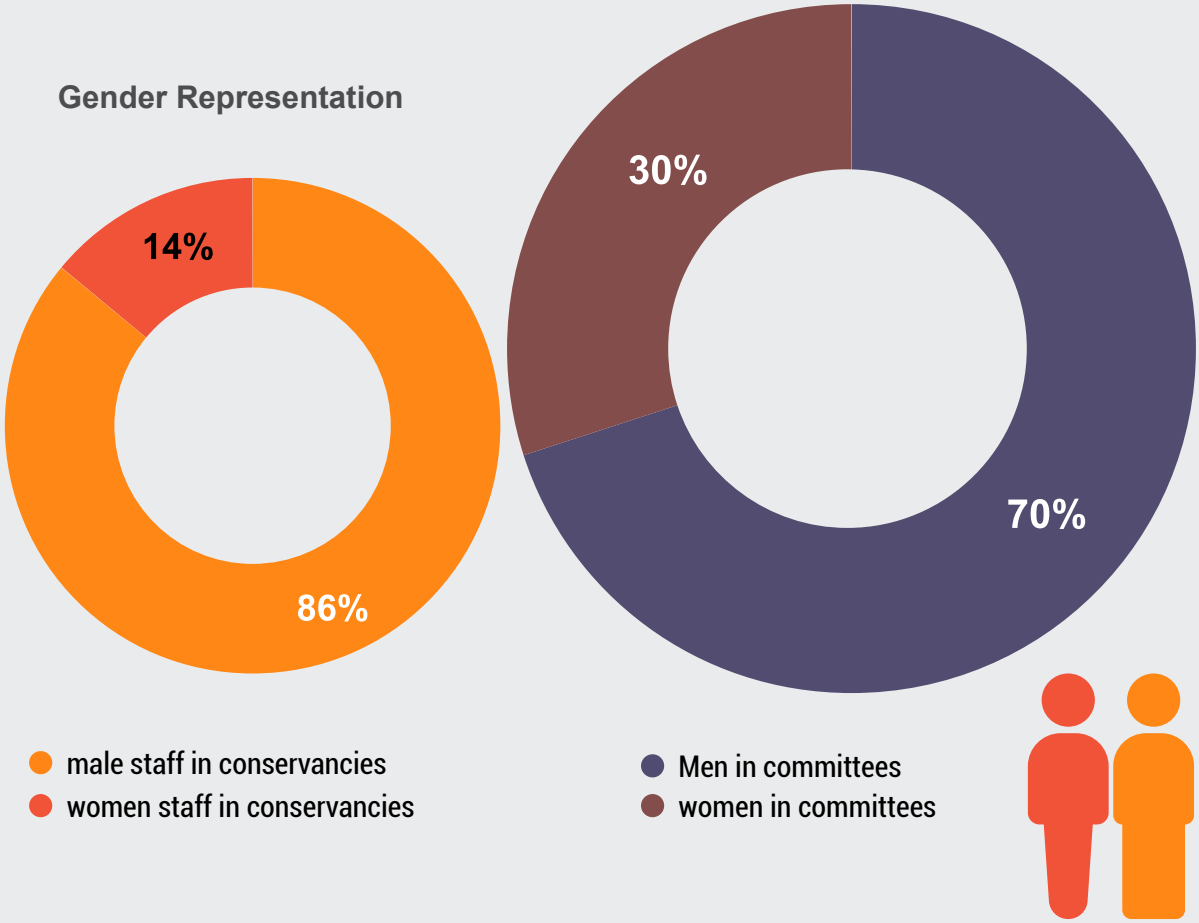
1. Chepkirong Conservancy
2. Simot Conservancy
3. Sinipo Conservancy
4. Lelbatai Conservancy
5. Emsos conservancy
6. Arabal Conservancy
7. Lokis (Kolowa), Conservancy
8. Tomolokwo, Conservancy
9. Mt. Tiaty
10. Silale transboundary

Conservancy Governance and Management

BCCA is seeking to expand its support to community conservancies by improving governance capacity, creating an enabling environment and promoting best land management practices.

- Conservancies place communities at the center of wildlife conservation by putting governance, management, decision making, and benefits accrued from conservation in the hands of those who live with wildlife.
- Out of 11 conservancies all except Ruko conservancy are registered as community-based organizations while the latter is registered as a Not for Profit Company. The governance structures do not have the same common standards, the management committees' numbers vary from 12-18.
- There are now 11 conservancies in Baringo County fully managed by the local communities.
- Conservancies are beginning to win political support as they are now legally recognized as a land use under the Kenya's Wildlife Act, 2013 and Community Land Act 2016, increasingly viewed as a sustainable way to achieve rural development and attain better land use and management standards.
- All have constitutions however all are outdated and need review.

Community Conservancy	Number of Registered Members	Total Number of Beneficiaries	Number of Committee Members	Number of Women Committee Members	Total number of Employed Conservancy Staff (Permanent)	Total Number of Female Staff (Permanent)
Kiborgoch	486	8500	15	3	0	0
Kiplombe	300	2800	11	3	1	0
Kiborit	-	5000	9	2	0	0
Kaptuya	345	9000	18	6	7	1
Ngenyin	150	4600	11	3	1	0
Ruko	4200	4200	12	2	20	4
Irong	415	13000	17	7	0	0
Chuine	304	3000	13	4	0	0
Kimng'ochoch	450	10000	13	5	0	0
Morop-Tarambas	450	15000	15	5	0	0
Kabarion	530	6000	15	4	0	0
Total No.	7630	75,100	149	44	29	4



Reasons for prevailing gender disparities

Most of the communities in the conservancies are pastoralists, whose ways of life are highly differentiated along gender and generational lines. Key assets and natural resources, such as livestock, land, water and cash are generally controlled by men due to cultural norms and traditional value systems.

Factors contributing to the prevailing gender disparities include;

- **Existing cultural norms and traditional value systems** hinder women from participating in natural resource management and leadership- conservancies owing to the land management structure generally exclude women and youth in decision making and benefit sharing. for example, women are not allowed to address a meeting while standing.
- **Gender stereotypes in natural resource management-** women are perceived not to be leaders. Due to social and cultural norms women's maternal roles often prevent them from having the time to perform their duties as potential leaders and often assume lower leadership positions.
- **Lack of self-confidence**- Most of the women attribute this due to existing conditions that for a long time has perpetually lowered the position of women and elevated men. Women's education is lower compared to men, men spend most of their time in public spheres and women also believe leadership is for the physically strong and those who are energetic to protect the community resources from potential threats.

Rangers

Rangers play a crucial role in monitoring wildlife populations, conducting anti-poaching patrols, raising conservation awareness in their local communities and acting as community wildlife ambassadors. With exception of Ruko and Kaptuya Community Conservancies, the others have either temporal or no rangers. This greatly hinders conservation efforts. The table below gives a highlight on number of rangers in the 11 conservancies in Baringo County.

Ranger Numbers

Community Conservancy	Number of Rangers			
	Total	Trained	Not trained	Female
Kaptuya	5	0	5	1
Ruko	20	20	0	3
Irong	11	0	11	1
Chuine	0	0	0	0
Kimng'ochoch	0	0	0	0
Morop-Tarambas	0	0	0	0
Kabarion	0	0	0	0
Kiborgoch	0	0	0	0
Kiplombe	1	1	0	0
Kiborit	0	0	0	0
Ngenyin	1	0	0	0



Natural resources: Rangelands, Wildlife and Mineral resources

Rangelands

Conservancies in Baringo are intended to promote healthy ecosystems that support wildlife, livestock and human needs, including improvement of the conditions of degraded areas by putting in place appropriate mitigation and rehabilitation strategies which ensure regeneration and healing of degraded areas.



Rangelands Health

Baringo rangelands, primarily covered by natural vegetation, provide grazing and forage for livestock and wildlife. It also supports crop cultivation due to availability of fertile soils in some areas. The condition of these rangelands highly varies from one conservancy to another as determined by climatic conditions, human activities, and wildlife and livestock populations. BCCA, therefore, seeks to conserve and improve these areas by championing and supporting sustainable land management practices.

The conservancies that have active grazing committees and grazing plans include Kaptuya, Ruko and Irong while Ngenyin, Chuine and Kiborgoch are involved in active restoration of rangelands by management of the invasive species Prosopis juliflora.



Conservancies and Livestock Grazing Plans

Planning is critical to achieve sustainable grazing and avoid overgrazing. Not only does good planning enhance management, but also provides a greater sense of control over one's livelihood. Conservancies retain grass banks during the dry season and provide opportunities for pastoralists to access good quality pasture. This greatly reduces the risk of pasture depletion and subsequent livestock losses and environmental degradation.

Wildlife

The community conservancies in Baringo County are historically home to diverse array of wildlife which form part of the major tourist attractions. The extensive habitat destruction, land degradation, invasion by invasive species, unpredictable rainfall pattern, bushmeat dealing and poaching have resulted to unprecedented rates of wildlife loss, estimated at 85% over the past three decades.

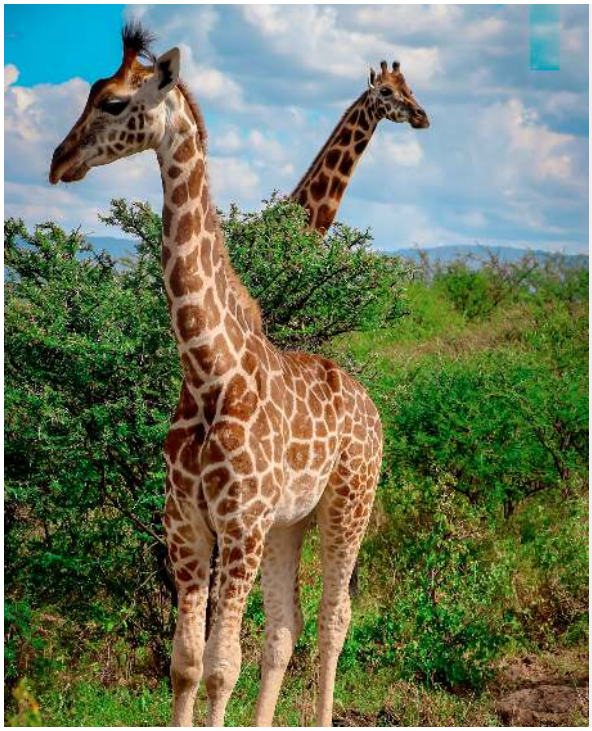
The recorded wildlife species within the conservancies are described in the table below, with their numbers not well recorded due to limitation in monitoring resources and structures.

Community Conservancy	Key species	
	Fauna	Flora
Kaptuya	Elephants, Buffaloes, Water buck, Hippos, Wild pigs, Zebra, Leopards	*Carissa edulis, Pappea capensis, Euclea divinorum, Rhus natalensis, Terminalia brownii, Dodonea viscosa*
Kiplombe	Zebras, Baboons, Monkeys, Stripped Hyena, Rock Hyrax, Porcupines, Warthogs, Wild pigs	*Waburgia ugandensis,* Red cedar, *Olea africana,* Acacia spp,
Kiborit	Rock Hyrax, Tortoise, Fox, Porcupines	*Olea africana, Acacia spp, Terminalia brownii*
Kiborgoch	Greater Kudu, Lesser Kudu, Waterbucks, Crocodiles, Zebras, Ostrich, African Rock Python, Puff adder, Honey Batcher, Sitatunga Antelope	Acacia spp, Papyrus reeds, *Balanites aegyptiaca ,Prosopis juliflora*
Ngenyin	Hippos, Crocodiles, Tortoise, Ostrich, Rock Hyrax, Vervet Monkey, Baboons	*Acacia Spp, Terminalia spp, Boschia coriacea, Acacia spp, Prosopis*
Irong	Greater Kudu, Rock Hyrax, Cliff Springer	Acacia spp, Salvadora, *Croton dichogamus,* Desert Rose
Chuine	Zebra, Greater Kudu, Cliff Springer, Buffaloes, Wild pigs	*Balanites aegyptiaca,* Acacia spp, Boschia spp, Salvadora spp.
Kimng'ochoch	White And Black Columbus Monkey, Rock Hyrax, Warthog, Honey Batcher, Bush Baby, Hyena, Baboons	*Olea africana, Acacia nilotica* , Red cedar, Podocarpus, Prunus Africana
Morop –Tarambas	Antelopes, Leopards, Warthogs, Monkeys, Mongoose, Rock Hyrax, Honey Batcher, Cliff Springer	Sandal wood, *Waburgia ugandensis,* Red cedar, Podocarpus, *Croton megalocarpus, Olea africana,* Fig tree
Kabarion	Leopards, Baboons, Hyenas, Greater Kudu, Rock Hyrax, Monkeys, Warthog, Tortoise, Cliff Springer	*Tamarindus indica, Olea africana,* Acacia spp
Ruko	Rothschild giraffe, greater and lesser Kudu, water bucks, Buffaloes, ostrich, leopard and migratory lions	*Terminalia brownii,* Acacia spp, Desert rose, *Opuntia spp, Prosopis juliflora*

Impact of Community Conservancies on Wildlife and Wildlife Populations

Community conservancies in Baringo County have great potential to support wildlife conservation, maintain healthy wildlife populations and ensure there is increase in their numbers and species diversity. Therefore, supporting the growth and development of community conservancies is key to protecting, preserving and recovering wildlife in the face of growing threats to wildlife.Among the iconic species that traditionally inhabited Baringo include; Rotschild Giraffe, Black Rhinos, Elephants, Wild dogs and Leopards. Ruko community conservancy has demonstrated the impact to recovery of wildlife species as well as protection of endangered species.

Rothschild Giraffe: This is endemic to Baringo County and was reintroduced to Ruko Community Wildlife Conservancy in 2011 from Soysambu conservancy in Nakuru county, with sole aim of repopulating the surrounding areas. Currently, there are 6 healthy adults and two calves. These elegant animals serve as visual symbol of conservation and a unifying factor between the two ethnic groups in Ruko.



Baby giraffe at Ruko

Key Challenges Facing wildlife

- Human-wildlife conflicts
- Environmental degradation/ habitat loss
- Encroachment to conservation areas
- Prolonged droughts.
- Hunting of small animals for subsistence/consumption

Mineral Resources

Conservancies in Baringo county are rich in mineral resources including diatomite, red rubies, diatomite, among others. The exploration of the minerals is largely carried out by external investors. The community is remotely involved in the exploration, while they rarely benefit from the minerals. The involvement of the community in mining exploration is governed by the Community Land Act 2016 and the Mining Act 2016. Unfortunately, the community has not yet registered under the Community Land Act, thus limiting their opportunities to effectively participate in decision making on mining exploration or access to benefits.

Livelihoods and Enterprise Development

The potential of growing compatible sustainable livelihoods in community conservancies is huge, since each conservancy has its own unique products, physical attractions and niche. However, the conservancies are under developed with limited exploitation of these existing opportunities. The conservancies are endowed with gum and resin from native tress, local goat which is adopted to natural vegetation and highly resistant to tropical diseases, honey from different bee species, unique terrains that range from lowlands, lakes system, and highlands, archaeological sites, geoparks, geysers, large bird population with historical migration from Europe, and agro forestry, among others. The capacity to produce and maximize on this potential need to be enhanced through, value addition, skills training, marketing and investors engagement.

Existing Opportunities:

- Baringo County has the largest annual goat auction which attracts about Kshs 20 million
- Tourism is a key revenue generator for Baringo county which approximately attracts over 200,000 tourists and accounting for about Kshs 8 million annually mainly through Lake Bogoria National Reserve
- Conservancies provide opportunity to diversify the County's tourism product
- Baringo is known for producing quality honey in the country due to its tree species. Conservancies can exploit this opportunity by offering large scale honey production
- Lake Bogoria and Lake Baringo are protected sites under UNESCO, thus opportunity to maintain ecological integrity of the surrounding landscapes
- The Geoparks in Baringo county present opportunity to expand tourism opportunities for the conservancies and county.
- Baringo County offers an opportunity to explore nature based sporting activities such as boat riding competitions, cycling marathons and athletics.

Community Conservancy	No. of Tourism facilities	No. of Tourism beds	Annual Income from Tourism	Annual income from non-tourism sources	Annual Operating Budget (KES)	Annual Income Allocation to Communities
Ruko	Camp site		300,000 (from nature trail walks)	0	7,000,000	3,000,000
Kaptuya	camp site under development		-	0	5,900,000	3,000,000
Ngenyin	1 (Tumbili camp)		100,000	0	80,000	70,000
Kiborgoch			-	0	-	-
Kiplombe			-	0	-	-
Kiborit			-	0	-	-
Irong	1 (camp site under development)		-	0	-	-
Chuine			-	0	-	-
Kimng'ochoch	Camp site		-	0	-	-
Morop-Tarambas	Camp site		-	0	-	-
Kabarion			-	100,000 (members contribution)	80,000	-

SWOT Analysis

This SWOT analysis presents the current capacity status of the conservancies under BCCA. The SWOT result will enable inform the strategic growth priorities of conservancies through BCCA.

Community Conservancy	Strengths	Opportunities	Weaknesses	Threats
Irong	• Unity among members • strategic location for tourism due to its close proximity to Lake Bogoria Spa Resort and National Reserve • Rich and diverse culture • A vibrant board • Availability of conservancy website	• Archeological sites and nature trails • A breeding site and migratory corridor for the Greater Kudu • Honey production due to abundance of nectar trees species e.g. Acacia mellifera • Close proximity to Lake .Bogoria Spa Resort and National Reserve is an incentive for tourism • Camp site under development	• Limited financial resources to fully operationalize management structures and conservancy programmes • Inadequate awareness of community members on importance of conservation • Poor road network • Poor communication network • Gender and youth imbalance in the committee	• Unsustainable charcoal burning • Unpredictable rainfall patterns • Water scarcity • Hunting of wild animals for subsistence • Persistent drought
Chuine	• Support from the local administration • Support from the local community • Deeply rooted and rich culture for the Eldorois community	• Vast land for conservation • Bee keeping activities producing quality honey • A beautiful landscape with wildlife • Sustainable natural resources for women's beading and weaving • Research opportunities due to its richness in biodiversity; breeding sites for Greater Kudu, • A migratory corridor between Laikipia and Lake Bogoria National Reserve	• Poor road network • Gender and youth imbalance in the committee • Drought • Limited financial resources to fully operationalize management structures and conservancy programmes • Inadequate knowledge on conservation matters • Undeveloped conservancy management structures	• Unsustainable charcoal burning • Encroachment to the core conservation area. • Climate change as depicted by frequently changing weather patterns • Water shortages especially during dry seasons (November-April) • Human-Wildlife conflict • Overgrazing • Persistent drought and famine. • Invasive plant species-proposopis juliflora.

Morop-Tarambas	• Beautiful landscape- Morop Hill • Rich cultural and religious beliefs attributed to Morop hill. • Unity among committee members • Good relationship with the County government	• Ecotourism • Fish and fishing activities. • Availability of natural water for water bottling • Sporting activities • Game farming • Proposed Research and Cultural Centre • Agro-farming	• Undeveloped management structures to fully operationalize management structures and conservancy programmes • Inaccessibility due to poor road network • Limited financial resources • Gender and youth imbalance in the committee.	• Environmental degradation due to charcoal burning and deforestation • Fire outbreaks during dry seasons • Encroachment to the core conservation area • Some tree species under threat due to traditional herbalists. • Occurrence of landslides.
Kabarion	• A vibrant board • Acceptance and support from the local community • Support from the local administration e.g. chiefs and the county government.	• Richness in mineral deposits diatomite • Vast land to be utilized for conservation • Tourism opportunities due to availability of beautiful sceneries and abundance of wildlife • Opportunities for honey production • -Opportunities for employment as the conservancy establishes.	• High levels of poverty in the area • High rate of illiteracy • High rates of unemployment • Poor road network • Gender and youth imbalance in the committee	• Area is prone to insecurity • Prolonged periods of drought and famine • Human-Wildlife conflicts • Food insecurity • Human and animal diseases (Zoonotic)
Kimng'ochoch	• Unity of purpose among the committee and the local community • Support from the local leadership • Favorable road network • Peace and security	• Beautiful landscapes which favors tourism • Strong cultural attachment to the area • Strategic location and close proximity to tarmac road • Bee keeping due to availability of nectar trees	• Limited financial resources • Weak information on community conservation by the local community • Gender and youth imbalance in the committee • Undeveloped conservancy management structures	• Fire outbreaks during dry spells (artificial/induced fires) • Unregulated commercialization of herbal medicine • Illegal logging especially to the threatened red cedar and sandal wood.

Ruko	• Operational office • Availability of security vehicle for daily patrols • Free, fair and open rotational board election • Peaceful co-existence with tow historical warring communities with share governance, management and benefit sharing structures	• Established management team • Beadwork programme for women • Potential areas for tourism facilities • A developing airstrip • Iconic threatened Rothschild giraffe sanctuary promoting tourism	• Lack of adequate ranger equipment • Inadequate funding due to lack of a permanent donor • Inadequate vehicles for administration and security patrols	• Encroachment to the core conservation area • Small scale hunting for subsistence • Lake swelling • Cattle rustling • Prolonged periods of dry spell • Induced bush fires • Unregulated sand harvesting
Kaptuya	• A vibrant board • Operational office • Willingness and support from the local administration • Rich biodiversity. • Vehicle to support operations and ranger patrols	• Youth and women empowerment through micro-credit activities • Bee keeping • Opportunities for hide and leather business • Beautiful sceneries for tourism development • Rich Pokot culture • Educational improvement through bursaries and scholarships. • Pasture production (hay bailing)	• Limited resources to support management structures and conservancy programs • Insecurity due to trespass from cattle rustlers • Low awareness on conservation among community members • Poor road network • Poor communication network connectivity. • Water shortage	• Charcoal burning • Encroachment to core conservation area by herders • Human-wildlife conflicts • Invasive/alien tree species e.g. Dodonea viscosa
Kiplombe	• Good accessible road • Operational physical office • Vast land for conservation • Support from the local administration and the county government • Support from the local community	• Bee keeping • Potential camp sites • Hiking sites • Education and research • Opportunities for beadworks and craftsmanship	• Inadequate resources to fully operationalize management and conservancy programs • Inadequate awareness on the importance of conservation to the local community • High levels of poverty	• Water scarcity/ shortage • Illegal cutting of trees for charcoal burning • Drought and famine • Environmental degradation through soil erosion

Kiborit	• Unity of purpose among the board members • Strategic location to Nakuru-Eldama Ravine highway • Electricity connectivity • Political good will	• Tourism and sport enhancement e.g. golf • Nature trails • Recreational facilities	• Financial constraints • Inadequate awareness on conservancy matters to the local community • Lack of physical office • Inaccessibility due to poor state of feeder roads	• Charcoal burning • Hunting for subsistence • Deforestation • Encroachment to the conserved area by settlements
Kiborgoch	• An inclusive board • Conservancy occurs on both dry and wetland • Co-operation and support from local and opinion leaders • Support from the county government • Support from the local community	• Papyrus reed from the swamp provides women a business opportunity for weaving • Opportunity for research • Adjacent to Lake Bogoria National Reserve • Irrigation to support crop production as an alternative livelihood	• Inadequate funding • Underdeveloped management and operational structures • Gender and youth imbalance in the committee	• Encroachment from agricultural activities • Drought and famine • Invasive tree species e.g. Prosopis juliflora • Illegal charcoal burning and logging
Ngenyin	• A vibrant board • Strategic location to Lake Baringo which is a tourist destination • An existing tourism facility • Support from local community and county government	• Opportunities for honey production • Beautiful landscapes and scenery • Crocodile farming • Camping sites • Grass reseeding program	• Absence of a management and operational office • Limited resources to implement conservancy programmes • Little awareness by the local community on the need for conservation • Poor access roads	• Illegal logging • Encroachment by settlements to the core conservation area • Trespass by livestock causing environmental degradation • Long dry spells affecting both livestock and wildlife • Human-wildlife conflicts.

Key Issues Affecting Conservancies Development

Communities co-existence

Co-existence among the different ethnic communities within the conservancies is key to successful and stable conservancies. Inter-communal conflicts have been rampant within conservancies especially in the lowlands during drought seasons. Some of the conservancies in Baringo county including Ruko and Kapyuya community conservancies were established to promote co-existence among the different communities, facilitate equitable sharing of natural resources including grazing and watering sites, among others. Extending the co-existence program to other conservancies is key for conservation success, which is achieved through conservation activities that facilitate adequacy of the natural resources for all communities as well as equitable sharing of resources and decision-making processes. A key conservancy model that has demonstrated success in fostering co-existence if Ruko community conservancy.

> Ruko Community Wildlife Conservancy was established in 2007 to foster peace amongst the Pokot and Njemps and also to curtail human-wildlife conflicts that were prone in the area. Through this avenue, Baringo giraffe, also known as Rothschild giraffe, was introduced to one of the islands in L. Baringo in order to repopulate in its endemic environment.

Human-Wildlife Conflict

Population growth and livelihood pressures in the community conservancies have led to the creation and expansion of informal settlements along wildlife migration corridors and seasonal wildlife dispersal areas. Among the most common conflicts are presented by venomous snake bites which in many instances lead to human and wildlife death and destruction of crops. The growth in community owned conservancies could be an appropriate response to the challenge of human-wildlife conflicts, as it offers a model of wildlife management outside the reserves and also offers substantive economic benefits to the locals. Further, opportunities to develop response mechanisms for human-wildlife conflict that improve local livelihoods such as development of snake anti-venom, could promote co-existence among the communities and wildlife.



Unsustainable Livelihoods

Majority of the communities in Baringo county rely on pastoralism and small-scale agriculture for livelihoods. The sustainability of these activities is challenged by the degraded landscapes, which are poorly managed and whose poor performance is demonstrated by the high poverty rates of communities in the county. Conservancies development present opportunity to create local structures and institutions that facilitate good management of land and natural resources in an inclusive manner that recognizes the diverse needs and land uses of its members.



Resource-Based Conflicts

Conflict over natural resources is common across the community conservancies in Baringo county. This is exacerbated by disputes over unclear land boundaries of the community lands, majority of them still under Trusts lands, water and pasture scarcity, absence of grazing plans, and undeveloped conservancies. As a result, communities are exposed to vehement food insecurity, poverty and limited sustainable land developments.

The Monitoring and Evaluation of these Community conservancies will be guided by the following annexed documents:

1. Conservancies compliance checklist
2. W3 Feedback Questionnaire



Education Awareness

Education awareness is a vital element if we are to succeed in conservation and protection of natural environment in Baringo County by the local communities, as they are the greatest contributors to degradation and subsequently, highly vulnerable. Without interest or proper understanding, conservation work cannot be self-sustaining. The level of awareness and capacity by BCCA member conservancies on effective conservation measures, is quite low, despite the interest to develop conservancies.



Monitoring and Evaluation

There is limited monitoring and evaluation measures of the well-being of the conservancies' landscapes and its biodiversity within Baringo county. Majority of the conservancies have not yet developed their management structures as well as programs. Limited number of conservancy rangers among the conservancy, with some having none, also contribute to low monitoring. BCCA has also not yet defined the indicators that inform the growth status of the conservancies in the region. Setting up of practical, long-term monitoring programs to gauge the success of the conservation initiatives by the community conservancies in Baringo County, is a priority for BCCA.

Annex 1

Conservancies Development Checklist

Conservancy Name.....

NO.	Details	Status	YES	NO
Registration status				
1.		The Conservancy has a registration Certificate		
		Is the Conservancy registered as a Company or CBO		
		CBOS Certificate of Registration Renewal done		
		PIN Certificate in place		
Conservancy visibility				
2.		Does the Conservancy have a Logo?		
3.		Letter head		
4.		Business cards		
5.		Website		
6.		Official telephone contacts		
7.		Official Email address		
8.		HQs and projects cleared marked and branded		
9.		Reports shared with partners and county governments		
Conservancy strategy				
10.		Has vision		
11.		Has mission		
12.		Has a strategic plan/ management plan		
13.		Has an operational plan		
Management and governance				
14.		Conservancy has a constitution		
15.		All Board members are trained		
16.		All Committees are functional		
17.		All meeting minutes and copies available		
18.		Action points from minutes followed up and implemented		
Donor relations				
19.		Conservancy has a list of all donors		
20.		Conservancy has all copies of donor proposals		
21.		Conservancy has all copies of donor SOPs		
22.		Conservancy has all copies of donor reports		
23.		List of all beneficiaries from programs		

Finance management				
24.		There is a finance policy in place		
25.		Conservancy has audits done and completed		
26.		Recommendations from the audit implemented		
27.		Quarterly reports submitted quarterly		
Human Resource Management				
28.		HR policy in place		
29.		All employees have contracts		
30.		All employees have NSSF, NHIF PIN		
31.		All employee are paid through the bank		
32.		All employees are registered and contributing pension		
33.		Employees get pay slips		
34.		Conservancy registered and paying levy to DIT		
35.		All staff have Job Descriptions		
36.		Performance appraisal is carried out		
37.		Workplace registered with DOSH		
Procurement and logistics				
38.		Procurement and disposal policy is in place		
39.		Procurement committee is in place		
40.		Asset register in place		
41.		List of prequalified service providers is in place		
42.		There is a system of issuing assets/ stores to staff		
43.		There is a policy on use of conservancy fleet		
Office management / communication				
44.		Proper files in place, governance, programs infrastructure etc.		
45.		Managers/ conservancies data is backed up		
46.		Notice board in place with all relevant conservancy information and pictures displayed (inform yourself)		
47.		Conservancy map displayed		
48.		Wildlife monitoring data and maps displayed		
Infrastructure				
49.		Construction drawings and BOQs in place		
50.		Environmental Impact Assessments done		
51.		Letters of no objection for projects		
52.		NEMA audits done		
53.		Implementation of NEMA audits done		
54.		Hydrological surveys done		
55.		Tendering processes well documented		
56.		Certificates of completion for projects in place		
57.		Commissioning reports done		

Security				
58.		All rangers have uniform that is in good condition		
59.		All rangers understand the SOPs		
60.		Copy of SOP displayed in the Wardens office		
61.		OB book present and data well captured and occurrences well recorded		
62.		Armory present		
63.		Radio equipment sufficient		
64.		Radio equipment in good working condition		
65.		Rangers have a clear reporting structure		
66.		Regular meetings are held to address any security and welfare issues		
67.		Refresher courses for the rangers conducted		
68.		Differentiation of ranks done		
69.		Security disciplinary committee constituted and functioning		
70.		Radio operators knowledgeable and skilled		
71.		All rangers have valid certificate of good conduct		
72.		Rangers have equipment for multi days patrols		
73.		Ranger housing provided		
Wildlife monitoring				
74.		All rangers trained on data collection		
75.		All rangers trained on basic computer skills for data entry		
76.		All rangers knowledgeable on use of GPS		
77.		All areas of the conservancy reached out for patrols and monitoring		
78.		Consistent data collection on security incidences, carcasses, conflict and patrol effort		
79.		Data backups done monthly		
80.		Rangers have GPS, binoculars', for patrols and monitoring		
Enterprise Development				
81.		Information on all women/youth groups in the conservancy is available		
82.		Data on beneficiaries is available		
83.		Information on other sources and income available.		
Grazing management				
84.		Information on number of acreages, households involved, herds of cattle etc under planned grazing is available		
85.		Grazing by laws in force		
86.		Information on degraded areas and rehabilitated areas		

Annex 2

BCCA Conservancy W3 Feedback Questionnaire 2020

Conservancy Name.....

Goal	Theme	What works	What does not work	What to do differently	Strategic or operational
1. Governance & Gender	Awareness, communication and understanding of CCYs				
	Equity & Accountability				
	Land ownership				
	Women and youth				
	CCY boundaries				
	inclusivity				
2. Livelihoods	Education				
	Health				
	Water				
	Jobs				
3. Security & Peace	Liaison with government security agencies				
	Conservancy rangers				
	Peacebuilding				
4. Rangelands	Rangelands health				
	Planned grazing				
5. Wildlife	Wildlife populations				
	Endangered species				
	Biodiversity priorities				
6. Enterprise	Tourism				
	Alternative economies				
	Livestock				
7. Sustainability	Growth				
	Investment in CCYs				
	Financial model of CCY				
	M&E systems				
	Partnerships				
	Communications				
	County and National Government				

Acknowledgement

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