



The Kasigau Corridor REDD+ Project

Bringing the potential of REDD+ to its highest expression

What makes this project special: Creating prosperity through conservation

The Kasigau Corridor REDD+ Project has transformed the paradigm of conflict between humans and nature. Through a comprehensive, community-governed benefit sharing model, the project has directly touched the lives of 120,000 people living in the area through investments in health, education, water and other infrastructure, income-generating enterprise, and direct job creation.

Humans, wildlife, and the forest are prospering together.

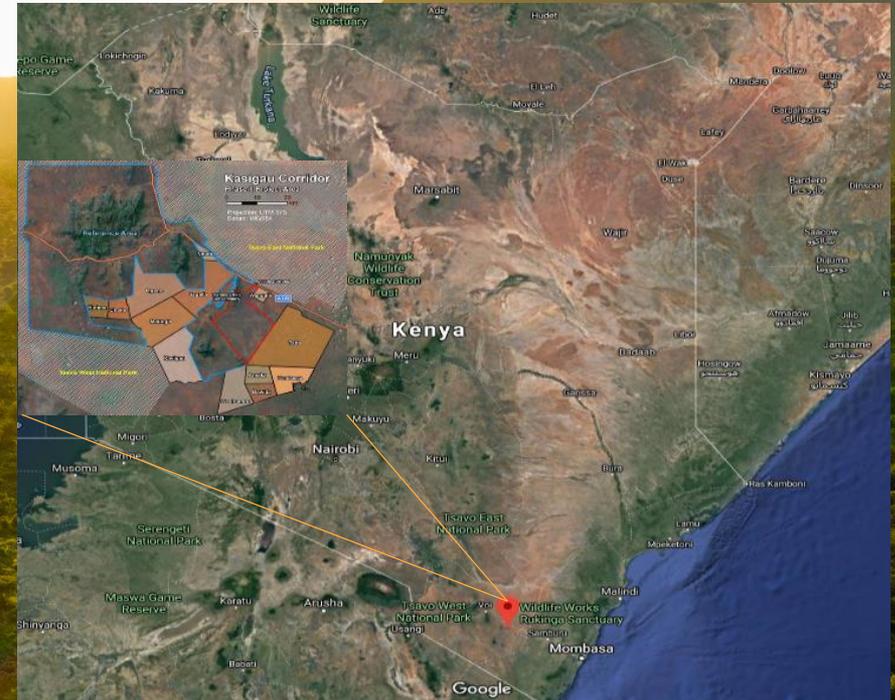


Project Summary

The Kasigau Corridor REDD+ Project, a pioneer in wildlife conservation, protects over 200,000 hectares of dryland forest with over 11,000 wild elephants that live in this ecosystem (2000+ of those elephants call Rukinga their permanent home).

The project provides social programs that impact 120,000 people and provides the local community of the Kasigau Corridor region with long-term jobs that replace unsustainable sources of income such as poaching, subsistence agriculture and illegal tree harvesting.

In an area where wildlife and human survival were at odds, the project has created a market-driven solution to wildlife conservation through an expansive community-led, community-based conservation model, with profound and lasting impact.



Key Facts

Location	Kenya
Developer	Wildlife Works
Key Partners	Local landowners
Hectares of forest protected	200,000
Verified CO2 emissions avoided to date	13,900,000 tonnes
Annual CO2 emissions avoided	1,650,000 tonnes / year

Key species Over 50 species of large mammals, 300 species of birds and key populations of IUCN Red List species, including African Elephants, African Wild Dog, Cheetah, and Grevy's Zebra.

People impacted 120,000

Start date 2005



Origin and Threats

- Community and wildlife were at odds when Wildlife Works first encountered Rukinga over 20 years ago. For many years, the land between Tsavo East and Tsavo West National Parks served as both the main migration corridor for local wildlife and a home to a slowly failing cattle ranch.
- Rukinga had become a bruised, balding and barren land with fields grazed to dust, poachers easily accessing the ranch and trees vanishing along a critical rainwater basin.
- Wildlife Works engaged the community and made the case in 1998 for establishing the Rukinga Wildlife Sanctuary, covering approximately 32,300 acres of forest. A community works project was established providing the local community with an alternative income stream to replace the need to poach wildlife and clear the forests. Locally hired rangers were hired and trained to be guardians of the wilderness and cattle owners agreed to remove the cattle to reduce conflict over resources on the land.



Intervention model

The foundation of the project is job creation.

Through carbon sales, Wildlife Works provides the local community of the Kasigau Corridor region in Southeast Kenya with long-term jobs that replace unsustainable sources of income such as poaching, subsistence agriculture and illegal tree harvesting.

This includes jobs supporting education, making eco-friendly products, protecting wildlife, managing the project, helping farmers and growing trees.



Impact Highlights



Over 200,000 hectares of dryland forest protected



Over 11,000 wild elephants live in the ecosystem



Over 300 direct jobs created – project is second largest employer in the county





The Need

Sustained investment for durable results and expanded impact



Appendix

Additional Key Results in Summary



Forest

- Protects over 200,00 hectares of dryland forest
- 13,936,339 million tonnes of avoided GHG emissions avoided to date



Wildlife

- 11,000 wild elephants live in this ecosystem (2000+ of those elephants call the project area home)
- Home to more than 20 species of bats, over 50 species of large mammals, over 300 species of birds and important populations of IUCN Red List species, including African Elephants, African Wild Dog, Cheetah, and Grevy's Zebra.
- Over 8,500 vehicle and walking patrols undertaken since 2012 by the Wildlife Works' rangers in six Base Stations.
- Rangers have completed over 1,000 flight days since 2015, covering nearly 231,000km over the entire Project Area and surrounding areas



Community

- More than 25,000 people now have access to portable water
- 310 locally hired employees, 2nd largest employer in the county
- 28 classrooms have been built and over 11,000 students have been awarded scholarships from the project, totaling over \$530,000
- Project works with over 1,200 women across 42 women's groups.



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