BOARD OF DIRECTORS

KENYA BOARD
Chairman – Jeremey Block
Martin Dyer
Levi Wendo
Major General Waweru
William Woodley
Susie Weeks

UK BOARD
Chairman – Peter Gibbon
Alice Owen
Hugh Sloane
Kailesh Patel

KENYA MANAGEMENT TEAM
Susie Weeks – Executive Director
Becky Summers – Grants & Communications
Humphrey Munene – Field Coordinator
Lillian Wanjiku – Administration
Enock Ochieng – Programmes
Delphin Mukira – Community Health
Charlene Wandera – Forestry & Education
Joseph Ngarira – Forestry
Edwin Kinyanjui – Senior Ranger
Jimmy Mugisha – Northern Sector Supervisor

OUR VISION
Mount Kenya Trust envisions a naturally thriving mountain, rich in biodiversity and sustainable in economic development where the integrity of the ecosystem is protected for the welfare of all who depend on it.
FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR:

2017 was a very active year for the Trust, developing new projects and expanding our geographical reach around Mt Kenya.

Three new bases were built to improve living conditions for our dedicated rangers. This includes Ruthumbi Forest Station, long used by our Joint Wildlife Protection Team who have been living in tents for many years. We were also able to begin our first projects in the Imenti Forest Reserve (IFR), an area that has been steadily destroyed over decades of neglect. Securing funding support is reinforced by the 2016 Mt Kenya Elephant Survey, confirming that the highest densities of elephants and logging activities occur in the IFR and predictably, the highest levels of human-elephant conflict as a result. Being able to start projects in the region finally became viable once progress of the Rhino Ark led Mount Kenya Comprehensive Fence project, which began in Kirinyaga County on the south side of the mountain in 2012, reached the IFR in 2017.

It has been evident for a long time that a lack of inter-agency cooperation is one of the biggest problems that threaten Mt Kenya’s habitat and wildlife. Management plans are often at odds with each other and large scale development planning, in and around protected areas, tend to ignore ecological processes and the scale of our dependence on them, such as flowing rivers.

In addition, good management goals are not backed up by appropriate allocation of resources. This ties the hands of those tasked with overseeing these areas. Many dedicated men and women are grounded on a daily basis, often by the lack of the most basic resources such as fuel. As a nation, we cannot continue to be complacent about these facts. It leaves our natural resources open to abuse, increasing vulnerability and insecurity at both a social and economic level.

Our community projects continue to thrive and indigenous tree planting efforts have grown exponentially. This benefits communities financially, while we turn degraded land and scrub back into forests, one tree at a time.

On behalf of the Mount Kenya Trust team and the Board of Directors, I’d like to extend a huge thank you to all our partners and supporters, from near and far, for your help and trust in us.

Susie Weeks
"Never doubt that a small group of thoughtful, committed, citizens can change the world. Indeed, it is the only thing that ever has." MARGARET MEAD

MEET THE TEAM

Kenya sees droughts, critical water shortage, famine and loss of life then heavy down pours and raging floods. The only way to mitigate these challenges is to plant trees on a massive scale.”
JOSEPH NGARIRA, Forestry Officer

My family has been a supportive pillar in my line of duty and they understand that despite the challenges, I am making them proud. I attribute my success to the endless support I receive from MKT. I started with minimal knowledge about conservation but through the years at the Trust I have learnt much more. I am proud to have received KWS Honorary Warden status and was recently awarded the Disney Conservation Hero’s Award 2017.”
EDWIN KINYANJUI, Head Ranger Ruthumbi

I am most proud when I see our projects having such a positive influence within the communities, especially when human-wildlife conflict has been reduced.”
HUMPHREY MUNENE, Field Coordinator

Coming from Embu County my work has enabled me to interact with different communities surrounding the National Reserve. I have gained necessary skills when it comes to de-snaring, rescuing and identifying different animal species and vegetation.”
CHARLES NYAGA, Head Ranger Imenti

“Our projects make an impact at the grassroots and national level and we can see the difference day in, day out. My job is to show to our many donors and supporters that every shilling is put to good use”.
BECKY SUMMERS, Grants & Communications

My daily duties include maintaining the fence line, clearing any undergrowth on the fence line by spraying or slashing, repairing the fence when it has been damaged especially by fallen trees, also ensuring that the fence line is free of any hanging branches. What I don’t like about my job is when one day you complete repairing a fence destroyed by humans and the next day you find it damaged again.”
Fredrick Nyamu, Fencer

We’ve improved and intensified our patrols deeper into the forest thanks to enhanced vehicle capacity for our ranger teams.”
ENOCK OCHIENG, Programmes Officer
THE MOUNTAIN RANGERS

JOINT WILDLIFE PROTECTION TEAM
BASE: RUTHUMBI
Rangers: 5 + 3 Kenya Wildlife Service

Imenti Patrol Team
Base: Imenti Forest
Team members: 6

Horse Patrol Team
Base: Kisima Farm
Team members: 6 men plus 10 ponies

PATROL RESULTS
CAMPING PATROLS 28 DAYS.

461 snares & traps destroyed including wire, string, cable, pit, nail & others.
Almost 120 signs of human activity & 223 illegal people evicted inside the forest.
15 illegal shelters.
Over 4,100 domestic animals removed from the Reserve.
Over 175kg of bush meat & 40 animal carcasses found.
Arrests for poaching, logging & other illegal activities: 44.

MARANIA WILDLIFE GUARDS
Base: Marania Forest & Elephant Corridor
Team members: 6

LOGGING
247 charcoal kilns
Over 300 bags of Charcoal
Almost 300 firewood bundles & 2000 fence posts.
Tree stumps: 382

Tree species logged:
CAMPHOR, CEDAR, OLIVE, PODO
PLUS MORE.
As one of MKT’s flagship projects and a true conservation success story, the 14km traditional elephant corridor between Mt Kenya and Ngare Ndare Forest Reserve, reconnects an ancient migratory pathway and serves both people and wildlife.

• REVAMPS
Keeping the corridor intact from determined elephants, traffic accidents or illegal access is the work of seven full-time fencers.

Major overdue housing renovations and improvements have been carried out to the elephant corridor housing for the fence rangers. Kitchens, extensions, bathrooms and solar lighting have been provided, along with general repairs to the four houses based at the top, middle and bottom of the corridor.

• A SECOND UNDERPASS!
Construction of another road crossing on the Kisima-Kibirichia tarmac road is almost complete, similar to the Nanyuki-Meru road, constructed by the KERRA road contractors. After spreading dung beneath the new culvert, it took less than 24 hours for the first elephant to pass through. Camera traps have captured multiple species now using the safe passage.

2017 UPDATE:
Road traffic accidents continue to plague the original underpass site, with many lorries and vehicles veering off the road. In a single night alone, one truck crashed into the fence and the fencers had to create a path through another section to ease removal and then a second truck veered off the road and damaged another fence section.

In addition to human tampering, storm damage and heavy downpours later on in the year brought down several sections of the fence.

Human-elephant conflict increased towards the end of the year. Tony and friends were found frequently moving between the mountain and Lewa Wildlife Conservancy, opening Kisima gates to move out of the corridor, breaking fences and stepping over electric outriggers. Through December, the rogue elephants were breaking out of a fully powered fence to destroy water pipes and access farm land on a nightly basis.

WILDLIFE JOURNEYS THIS YEAR

- Plains Zebra: 6,412
- Spotted hyena: 1,315
- Elephant: 1,034
- Bushbuck: 892
- Reedbuck: 459
- Wild dog: 185
- Waterbuck: 87
- Leopard: 48
- Duiker: 18
- Serval: 10
- Caracal: 2
- Cheetah: 2

Data: Lewa Wildlife Conservancy
CASE STUDY

Waithera found out she was pregnant when she was 16 and dropped out of school. Young and confused with the fear of stigmatization and rebuke from her relatives, Waithera married her 28-year-old partner. Just a year later, Waithera was pregnant again. At 18 years old and with looming financial instability, she knew if she got pregnant with a third child, it would put her family in a worse situation. She asked a few of her friends how they planned their family and they recommended the pill. With that, Waithera went to buy some pills from the chemist.

Due to misinformation that led to misuse of the pill, at 23 Waithera was pregnant again. At 23 Waithera was pregnant again. At 18 years old and with looming financial instability, she knew if she got pregnant with a third child, it would put her family in a worse situation. She asked a few of her friends how they planned their family and they recommended the pill. With that, Waithera went to buy some pills from the chemist.

Just a year later, Waithera was pregnant again. At 18 years old and with looming financial instability, she knew if she got pregnant with a third child, it would put her family in a worse situation. She asked a few of her friends how they planned their family and they recommended the pill. With that, Waithera went to buy some pills from the chemist.

In 2017, MKT conducted 88 medical camps in Meru, Embu and Kirinyaga counties, as well as offering door-to-door services. Over 26,379 people received health care services during the year ranging from HIV testing and counselling, curative services, family planning, diabetes care and cancer screening.
Conservation is key for the supply of environmental goods and services to energy, agriculture, tourism and water, in addition to climate change mitigation. Over 80 per cent of Kenya's land is arid or semi-arid and Kenya would be little more than a desert without water towers. By holding the rainwater in a living sponge, the forest ensures that water is released gradually into rivers and streams all year round.

According to Kenyan Constitution, land mass must have at least 10 per cent tree cover. Kenyans rely heavily on these mountain forest ecosystems for social and economic wellbeing and preservation is one of the cornerstones of Vision 2030 – Kenya's development blueprint for achieving greater prosperity. However, within the past century, relentless deforestation nationwide has seen the limited forest cover decline alarmingly – to little more than two per cent of the country's land area. Just in the past decade, between 2000 and 2010, deforestation has led to an annual reduction in water availability of approximately 62 million cubic meters.

Forests are being over exploited by selective logging. Research shows cedar (Juniperus procera), podo (Podocarpus falcatus/tatifoliis) and olive (Olea africana) species are being increasingly targeted for timber, posts and charcoal. Since the 1990s, it is estimated that up to 95 per cent of camphor (Ocotea usambarensis) has been removed, Camphor is very difficult to propagate and it will be a challenge to ever restore this species to its past levels. We are working to reverse this with a pilot project of over 2,000 rare camphor seedlings to be planted in October 2018.

Invasive plants are perceived to slow recovery of degraded forest sites. The Lower Imenti Forest Reserve, where the vast majority of it has been taken over by the fierce Lantana camara over several decades, prevents any natural regeneration. MKT are working with partners to remove this species and aim to rehabilitate 1,600ha with indigenous species such as croton (Croton megalocarpus), Markhamia lutea, Cordia africana and olive (Olea africana).

**KEEP CALM AND PLANT A TREE**

Sustainable forest management is critical to Kenya's future. Collaborative public/private sector partnerships are crucial. Our major partners include the Kenya Forest Service, the Kenya Wildlife Service, Rhino Ark Charitable Trust and the local communities. Together we are making progressive strides to regenerate and protect these vital ecosystems.

The Trees Establishment Livelihood Improvement Scheme (TELIS) is a cost-effective, mutually beneficial system that regenerates Indigenous forest whilst helping the community that live around it. TELIS allows forest-adjacent communities the right to cultivate agricultural crops during early stages of forest establishment (4-5 years) in areas that have previously been degraded. Each farmer is allocated a 1-acre plot and as part of the contract they are allowed to grow crops (mainly potatoes or peas) alongside tree seedlings. By maintaining and protecting their crop, they also protect the trees, thereby practicing agroforestry.

Most of the seedling stock is obtained from women's groups or self-help tree nurseries, already active around the mountain. These groups often use micro financing, with the income from the seedlings then loaned out within the group.

**WHY FENCE A FOREST?**

Since 2012, work on an electrified conservation fence around the Mt Kenya Forest has been under way. When it is complete, sometime in the 2020s, the fence will be roughly 500km long and will enclose 2,700km2 or more of prime catchment forest.

A similar fence, 400km long, was built around the Aberdare range between 1989 and 2009. In 2010, Rhino Ark commissioned an independent study on the environmental, social and economic assessment of the
The study’s economic analysis highlights the importance of the environmental services protected by the fence. More specifically, these included a 20.6 per cent increase in forest cover between 2005 and 2010, a 54 per cent decrease in open areas and grassland cultivation inside the fence and a 47 per cent increase in exotic plantations outside the fence.

Theresa is 28 years old. Before moving into Karuri, she used to work on other people’s farms doing general farm work, with very little pay. Since being part of MKT’s project and with the profits made from the sale of her crops, she is able to comfortably provide food for her family of four and has even bought a piece of land and cows.
Our community and school outreach programmes are helping to reduce pressure on the indigenous forest and are teaching the next generation why our mountain is important.

The conservation education project is designed to encourage and inspire people (both old and young) to do things differently and positively in regard to the environment.

In 2017, our school outreach programmes were concentrated in Meru, North Imenti, Tigania West and Buuri counties and sub-counties. All schools border the forest. A total of 38 schools were visited and an estimated 8,560 pupils from primary to secondary were reached with a conservation message.

The pupils engaged during the outreach discussed how the actions of their communities contributed to the degradation of the Imenti Forest Reserve, which led to the drying out of rivers and streams from the forest. Pipes that used to carry water to homes are now dry and children must go looking for water in the few remaining wells.

By watching the film ‘Running Dry’, the pupils properly understood the connection between rainfall, forests and Mt Kenya and afterwards, they took part in tree planting sessions. Woodlots and exotic trees were planted in many of the schools, to introduce the concept of renewable energy sources that can be grown close to home, reducing the impact on Mt Kenya’s forests.

With heightened awareness, we hope an attitude change will occur amongst the communities around the forest, as they benefit directly from the forest resources and should not be the cause of its degradation.
Fire and water are intricately linked. Each year, more water is being drained from the forest and moorland through illegal water extraction. This increases fire risk and threatens water supplies downstream.

Fires in the forest are often started on purpose – as many wrongly believe that the smoke will bring the rain clouds in dry times. Fires are also caused by honey harvesters, charcoal burners or illegal grazers, leaving fires unattended.

Illegal water extraction can be found almost at the Mount Kenya peaks – over 4,000m!

Burn scars from high-severity wildfires take decades to recover and cause severe erosion and flooding, clogging up rivers and dams and impacting drinking water. Logged and fragile forest ecosystems lead to high-risk wildlife fires that are difficult to manage.

Fires response must be quick and involves teamwork with many partners. Fire beaters and rations are provided to the fire responders.

Downstream communities depend on reliable water flow originating from the mountain.

Kenya is water wealthy. Water needs to be managed and the water catchment areas such as the forest and moorlands must be left to do their job.

Conflicts over water for upstream and downstream users must be addressed.

Healthy forests support healthy rivers. New projects by MKT are identifying the major issues encountered by communities using mountain water and how to find more sustainable solutions.
ACTIVITY SUMMARY

REVENUE

57,139,284 KSH
(100% donations & MKT fundraising)

EXPENSES

Breakdown KSh

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Breakdown</th>
<th>KSh</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Project Costs</td>
<td>42,479,114</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Operational Costs</td>
<td>11,663,146</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Depreciation</td>
<td>2,997,024</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

57,139,284

WAYS OF GIVING

MKT offers a range of options to support our mountain conservation work. To learn more, visit our website at

www.mountkenyatrust.org
E: info@mountkenyatrust.org
T: +254 718 235 936

MKT is registered under the UK Charity Commission number 1175321. Contributions may qualify for Gift Aid. Please go to VirginGivingMoney to support MKT in the UK or contact the uk@mountkenyatrust.org
YOUR HELP, IN ACTION

Help further MKT’s mission to protect the mountain ecosystem.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Amount</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>$65,000</td>
<td>One 4x4 off road vehicle capable to deal with mountain terrain.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$10,000</td>
<td>Cover the annual salaries for five rangers.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$2,000</td>
<td>Equipment for one fire season (fire beaters, rations).</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$500</td>
<td>Pay for a large water tank guttering and fittings for rain water collection.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$200</td>
<td>Buy a camera to help our rangers record illegal activities out in the field.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$50</td>
<td>Buy a tent for mobile patrols.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$10</td>
<td>Plants 20 indigenous trees or one fence post for the elephant corridor.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$30,000</td>
<td>Support a full ranger team for 365 days.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$5,000</td>
<td>Support a water community group to manage mountain rivers.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$1,000</td>
<td>A motorbike for our tree planting monitors.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$250</td>
<td>Uniform for one ranger including boots and waterproofs.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$100</td>
<td>Buy a GPS for our field teams to document patrols.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$25</td>
<td>Buy a basic phone for community informants.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Mount Kenya Trust Festival
August 2019
Climb and/or join us for all mountain related events around Nanyuki.
www.mtkenyafestival.org

10to4 Mountain Bike Challenge
February 2019
Race, run or hike down Mt Kenya and raise funds for our work!
www.10to4.org
THANK YOU DONORS

BATIAN ($50,000+)
Friends of Nairobi Sailing and Sub Aqua Club
United States Fish and Wildlife Service
International Tree Foundation
CHASE Africa
African Fund for Endangered Wildlife
Timaflor

NELION ($10,000+)
Friends of Environment Conservation Trust
Tropic Air (10to4 Title Sponsor)
Anonymous
Disney: Reverse the Decline.
Eden Wildlife Trust
Lewa Wildlife Conservancy
Tusk Trust
Hugh Sloane
The Rufford Foundation
The Elephant Cooperation
European Outdoor Conservation Association
Thin Green Line
International Elephant Foundation
Safarilink
Zurich Zoo
The Featherbys

LENANA (<$10,000)
David Sheldrick Wildlife Trust
Kisima Farm
Marania Farm

Bunson Travel
SES group
Mountain Clubs of Kenya
Maggie and Tim Hobbs

EVENT SPONSORS
British Army Training Unit Kenya
Safarilink
Bayer
Dormans
KFC
CBA
Rift Valley Adventures
Agventure
Gundua
Sirai House
Ol Pejeta
The Dip Station
Della’s Ice Cream
Tambuzi
Raka Cheese
Hampton School
Highlands
Shimano
Borana Conservancy
BAOA
BornFree
Ngare Ndaare Forest Trust
Pelican Signs
Express Auto

DONATIONS IN KIND
Greystones Ltd
Cookswell Jikos
The Nancy Ellen Crooks Foundation
The Equine Dentists
Morten Jensen
Daniel Nicole
Hilde VanLeeuwe
Olly Keeble
Martin Dyer
Annick Mitchell
Steve Strong
Emily Marston
Tracey White
Delulu Upson

PARTNERS
Kenya Wildlife Service
Kenya Forest Service
Rhino Ark
Kisima Farm
Marania Farm
Tropic Air
Greystone Ltd
Borana Conservancy
African Ascents
Lewa Wildlife Conservancy
Tambuzi Farm
One Stop
Ol Donyo Farm
The founding Trustees decide to set up ‘The Bill Woodley Mount Kenya Trust’ following the publication of a report on the destruction of the Mt Kenya forests.

2000

The Trust employs a Field Coordinator and Executive Officer to manage the Trust's projects. In the same year, the first two strand elephant fence and the first of the Trust’s team, the Marania Wildlife Guards, was established.

2005

The Trust conducted its first conservation education outreach with partners and has continued to do these ever since.

2008

The Trust purchased its very first car, a Suzuki Jimny, still going today!

2010

On New Year’s Day, Tony the first elephant walks through the corridor underpass, East Africa’s first, just a day after the fences and underpass beneath the highway are connected.

2012

The Trust’s second major forest rehabilitation project begins in the Karuri area.

2014

A Community Health Service Project begins with a one-year pilot project. The project has grown ever since.

2017

The Trust begins new projects in the Imeni Forest Reserve and the Imeni Patrol Team is formed.