

Conservation and Management Strategy for the Elephant in Kenya

2012-2021

Compiled by:

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Plate 4: Winds 2 Family crossing the Ewaso Ng'iro River,
Samburu National Reserve - Lucy King, Save the Elephants



NOAH SITATI

NEAP Review Stakeholders Workshop

6th – 8th April,

2016

KWS HQs

Introduction

- ❑ Elephants are 'key stone' & 'flagship' species
- ❑ However, face many threats – poaching & illegal trade, HEC, habitat & range loss & fragmentation
- ❑ Kenya's elephant population was reduced from 167,000 in 1973 to 20,000 individuals in 1989

Introduction

- ❑ As a result, it is placed on 'Vulnerable' status by IUCN Red List Category – risks extinction in the wild
- ❑ Ad hoc approaches to elephant conservation & management may not mitigate the threats
- ❑ Hence, the need for strategy to guide the approaches for its conservation & management

- ✓ 11 consultative meetings & a national conference were held to ensure consultative process as required by the constitution
- ✓ In line with KWS 2008 – 2012 Strategic Plan
- ✓ Considered relevant laws and policies
- ✓ *“The highly threatened elephant is Kenya’s national treasure and KWS will continue to support all stakeholders in its conservation” –*

Hon David Mwiraria

✓ *“We cannot conserve elephants alone as a nation; regional cooperation is an important factor in the conservation of the African elephant to increase the numbers, secure more space and minimise human elephant conflict. We will work closely with other elephant Range States on CITES matters and also diplomatically engage with consumer countries” – Julius Kipng’etich*

✓ *“This new Strategy is a statement of the country’s continuing efforts to secure a safe and lasting future for this widely-celebrated national treasure in an atmosphere of growing threats and ever-more challenging circumstances; most notably the growth of human population and the concomitant loss of habitat as more and more land is converted to human-dominated landscapes” – Holly Dublin*

Vision

- ✓ A secure future for elephants and their habitats, based on peaceful and beneficial co-existence with people, now and for generations yet to come

Goal

- ✓ Maintain and expand elephant distribution and numbers in suitable areas, enhance security to elephants, reduce human - elephant conflict and increase value of elephants to people and habitat

Seven Strategic Objectives

1. Protection
2. Population expansion & habitat maintenance
3. Research & monitoring for management
4. Human-elephant conflict
5. Incentives
6. Capacity
7. Coordination and support

Targets : 31

Actions : 138

Indicators : Numerous

LONG TERM VISION

VISION
A secure future for elephants and their habitats, based on peaceful and beneficial co-existence with people, now and for generations yet to come

GOAL FOR THE NEXT TEN YEARS

OVERALL GOAL
Maintain and expand elephant distribution and numbers in suitable areas, enhance security to elephants, reduce human-elephant conflict and increase value of elephants to people and habitat

STRATEGIC OBJECTIVES
Result to be achieved within 10 years which contributes towards achieving the overall goal

KEY STRATEGIC OBJECTIVES

That are essential to achieve overall goal

Objective 1

Protection

Protect elephant populations by minimising poaching through effective law enforcement measures and stakeholder collaboration

Targets

1.1 - 1.4

Actions

1.1.1 - 1.1.11
1.2.1 - 1.2.8
1.3.1 - 1.3.6
1.4.1 - 1.4.4

Objective 2
Population Expansion & Habitat Maintenance

Maintain and expand elephant distribution and numbers in suitable habitat where appropriate

Targets

2.1 - 2.5

Actions

2.1.1 - 2.1.5
2.2.1 - 2.2.4
2.3.1 - 2.3.3
2.4.1 - 2.4.5
2.5.1 - 2.5.3

Objective 3
Research & Monitoring for Management

Strengthen existing monitoring systems and conduct priority research to provide information for adaptive management and protection of elephants and critical habitats

Targets

3.1 - 3.4

Actions

3.1.1 - 3.1.4
3.2.1 - 3.2.5
3.3.1 - 3.3.13
3.4.1 - 3.4.4

Objective 4
Human Elephant Conflict (HEC)

Enhance HEC mitigation by involving stakeholders at all levels in the use of appropriate site-specific methods

Targets

4.1 - 4.5

Actions

4.1.1 - 4.1.8
4.2.1 - 4.2.7
4.3.1
4.4.1 - 4.4.5
4.5.1 - 4.5.4

Objective 5

Incentives

Provide meaningful benefits that will encourage landowners and local communities to tolerate, protect and accommodate elephants

Targets

5.1 - 5.6

Actions

5.1.1 - 5.1.2
5.2.1 - 5.2.3
5.3.1 - 5.3.4
5.4.1 - 5.4.6
5.5.1 - 5.5.4
5.6.1 - 5.6.2

Objective 6

Capacity

Strengthen effective resource capacity through collaborative efforts among stakeholders with a strategic focus on priority areas

Targets

6.1 - 6.5

Actions

6.1.1 - 6.1.8
6.2.1 - 6.2.2
6.3.1 - 6.3.3
6.4.1 - 6.4.5
6.5.1

Objective 7

Coordination & Support

Implement an effective coordination framework to support stakeholders and enhance decision making and action

Targets

7.1 - 7.2

Actions

7.1.1 - 7.1.14
7.2.1 - 7.2.7

MEASURABLE TARGETS

Required to meet strategic objectives

ACTIONS

Required to achieve targets

Targets

Target 1.1: *Proportion of illegal killed elephants per annum reduced to less than 1%*

Target 1.2: *Strengthened legislation and enforcement*

Target 1.3: *Improved community engagement by security force*

Target 1.4: *Improved cross border protection of elephants*

Targets

Target 2.1: *National elephant distribution increased by at least 30% by 2020*

Target 2.2 *Elephant numbers increasing by at least 2% per annum where suitable habitat for recovery exists*

Target 2.3: *Systems in place and implemented to improve altered habitats in elephant range by 2021*

Target 2.4: *At least 10 corridors, including cross-border ranges, & buffer zones established & maintained, along with existing buffer zones & corridors*

Targets

Target 2.5: *Principle of elephant management that allows natural pop regulation accepted nationally & internationally*

Target 3.1: *Effective & sustained systems for monitoring elephant numbers in key forest & rangeland populations carried out every four years*

Target 3.2: *Standardised ranger / scout based monitoring implemented by 2013 in four priority areas to provide information for management and TRAFFIC/CITES*

Targets

Target 3.3: *Data from research and monitoring used in elephant management and policy formulation throughout strategic plan period*

Target 3.4: *Information on ivory movements collected and effectively used to control illegal trade throughout the strategic plan period*

Target 4.1: *Conservation compatible land use in areas of exisisting potention HEC*

Target 4.2: *Protection from elephant damage of crops & property*

Targets

Target 4.3: *Corridors secured in areas of existing or potential HEC by 2021*

Target 4.4: *Management of HEC informed by sound data collection and analysis*

Target 4.5: *Capacity of KWS in HEC resolution and mitigation enhanced by 2015*

Target 5.1: *Enabling policy environment in place to encourage landowners and communities to accommodate wildlife*

Targets

Target 5.2: *Increased income generation from tourism in elephant conservation areas across Kenya*

Target 5.3: *More sustainable compensation, consolation and insurance mechanisms against losses from elephant damage trialled and if successful implemented*

Target 5.4: *At least 30% of existing unprotected elephant range in arid or semi-arid lands is protected under community conservation governance structures*

Targets

Target 5.5: *Improved livestock management, grazing systems, optimal cattle densities and market penetration among pastoralist occupied parts of Kenya's elephant range*

Target 5.6: *Potential for elephant compatible enterprise options understood and supported*

Target 6.1: *Human capacity for effective strategy implementation*

Target 6.2: *Necessary tools for effective security, research, monitoring mgt, HEC resolution & community engagement*

Targets

Target 6.3: *Appropriate and adequate infrastructure for strategy implementation*

Target 6.4: *At least 25% of the cost of elephant conservation is covered by new sources of conservation finance by 2021*

Target 6.5: *Innovative approaches for raising funds for elephant conservation and management Implemented by 2021*

Targets

Target 7.1: *A well coordinated and managed framework supporting stakeholders & enhancing decisions*

Target 7.2: *Conservation and Management Strategy for Elephants implemented nationally*

The need to conduct a mid-term review of the status of implementation





Asante Sana