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*Wildebeest move across a swathe of farmed land in Terrat village.  
Photo Credit: Roshni Lodhia*

## TANZANIA

# ENDANGERED ECOSYSTEMS OF NORTHERN TANZANIA (EENT)

The Tarangire/Maasai Steppe ecosystem is critical to pastoralist communities, large migratory wildlife populations, and Tanzania's economic future. EENT contributes to securing the health and connectivity of this ecosystem at a scale that matches current threats of climate change and growing demands for resources.

USAID is supporting the Northern Tanzania Rangelands Initiative (NTRI) and its partners, established in 2012, to improve coordination, communication, and collaboration between organizations, government, and communities. Together they work towards a joint vision of resilient, healthy, and connected rangelands across the Northern Tanzania landscape. Key steps that partners take to realize this vision include:

- Securing land use planning and communal land rights to promote connectivity for wildlife and livestock,
- Supporting management and governance that addresses drivers of habitat quality and fragmentation,
- Adding economic value to livestock and wildlife enterprises in a way that incentivizes sustainable land use and promotes equitable sharing of benefits.

EENT focuses on two strategies:

**Strategy I - Multi-stakeholder engagement** - Conservation of this landscape is more effective if those who effect change in the rangelands collaborate. NTRI is facilitating a process of collaborative learning to implement and learn from practical solutions for healthy, connected rangelands. NTRI is convening a forum of government, community, and non-government actors who have a stake in the Northern Rangelands to improve communication and to ensure that work to protect rangelands and communities is smart and efficient. Both the collaborative learning and the forum are centered around two themes: (1) multi-village land use planning and tenure and (2) rangeland management, restoration, and monitoring.

**Strategy II - Coordination of the NTRI partnership** – The NTRI partnership includes 10 organizations that collaborate to secure the wellbeing of the rangelands and those who depend upon them. EENT is supporting NTRI partners to enhance their collaboration. This includes reviewing and refining the partnership, updating its business plan and other guiding documents, and strengthening internal and external communications.

## RESULTS<sup>1</sup>

### Wildlife

- 2 Wildlife Management Areas (WMA) and 25 villages with demonstrated improved natural resource management.
- Stable or increasing numbers of elephant, zebra, wildebeest, giraffe, Grant's gazelle, and impala<sup>2</sup>
- Nearly 1,400 households adopted human-wildlife conflict mitigation measures. 334 living walls constructed to reduce conflicts between humans and predators.

### Natural resources management and governance

- 44 climate change and/or biodiversity conservation related local regulations finalized. These include village level grazing calendars, multi-village reciprocal grazing agreements, village by-laws, a land use plan, WMA resource zone management plans and user rights, a conservation action plan for the Makame WMA, and a carbon project contract.
- Over 585,000 hectares of biologically significant areas with improved natural resource management.
- Over 9,300 community leaders engaged in training<sup>3</sup>. 52,000 person-hours of training in natural resources management and/or biodiversity conservation delivered.
- Groundwork for developing two district-level geodatabases for land use planning in Monduli and Simanjiro. These will provide lessons for a national geodatabase with the aim of improving the accessibility of geospatial information for decision-making on planning the use of land and natural resources.
- 6 areas have SMART (cell-phone based) wildlife protection systems with 77 Village Game Scouts/rangeland monitors.

### Social empowerment

- 585 model households adopted positive Population Health and Environment behaviors.
- Women's Rights and Leadership forums enhance women's voice and choice within their communities. 317 community leaders and resource persons are promoting gender equity and women and youth empowerment within their spheres of influence.
- Over 15,000 people enjoy increased economic benefits derived from sustainable natural resource management and conservation.
- More than 4,200 participants (82% women) enrolled in programs generating direct economic benefit, including leather tanning, beekeeping, Community Cooperative Banks, micro-enterprises, Village Game Scouts, Human Wildlife Conflict officers, and rangeland monitors.

**BUDGET** \$10 million

### DURATION

September 2015 – September 2020

### ACTIVITY LOCATIONS

Northern Tanzania Rangelands including Tarangire and Manyara National Parks and the Maasai Steppe, Simanjiro Plains, West Kilimanjaro, Yaeda Valley, and areas surrounding Lake Natron and Lake Eyasi,

The area stretches over two administrative regions (Arusha and Manyara), districts including Arusha, Babati, Karatu, Kiteto, Longido, Mbulu, Meru, Monduli, Ngorongoro, and Simanjiro.

### IMPLEMENTING PARTNER

The Nature Conservancy (TNC)

### OTHER PARTNERS

Carbon Tanzania, Dorobo Fund Tanzania, Honeyguide, Maliasili Initiatives, Oikos East Africa, Pathfinder International, Tanzania People & Wildlife, Ujamaa Community Resource Team, and The Wildlife Conservation Society

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### FOR MORE INFORMATION

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<sup>1</sup> All figures are updated as of March 2019, unless otherwise stated.

<sup>2</sup> This outcome is attributed to multiple actors and supporters, including USAID. The data are based on vehicle ground count indices and corroborated by other surveys such as the 2016 dry-season aerial survey and other local level wildlife data.

<sup>3</sup> A person could be counted multiple times, once per training event