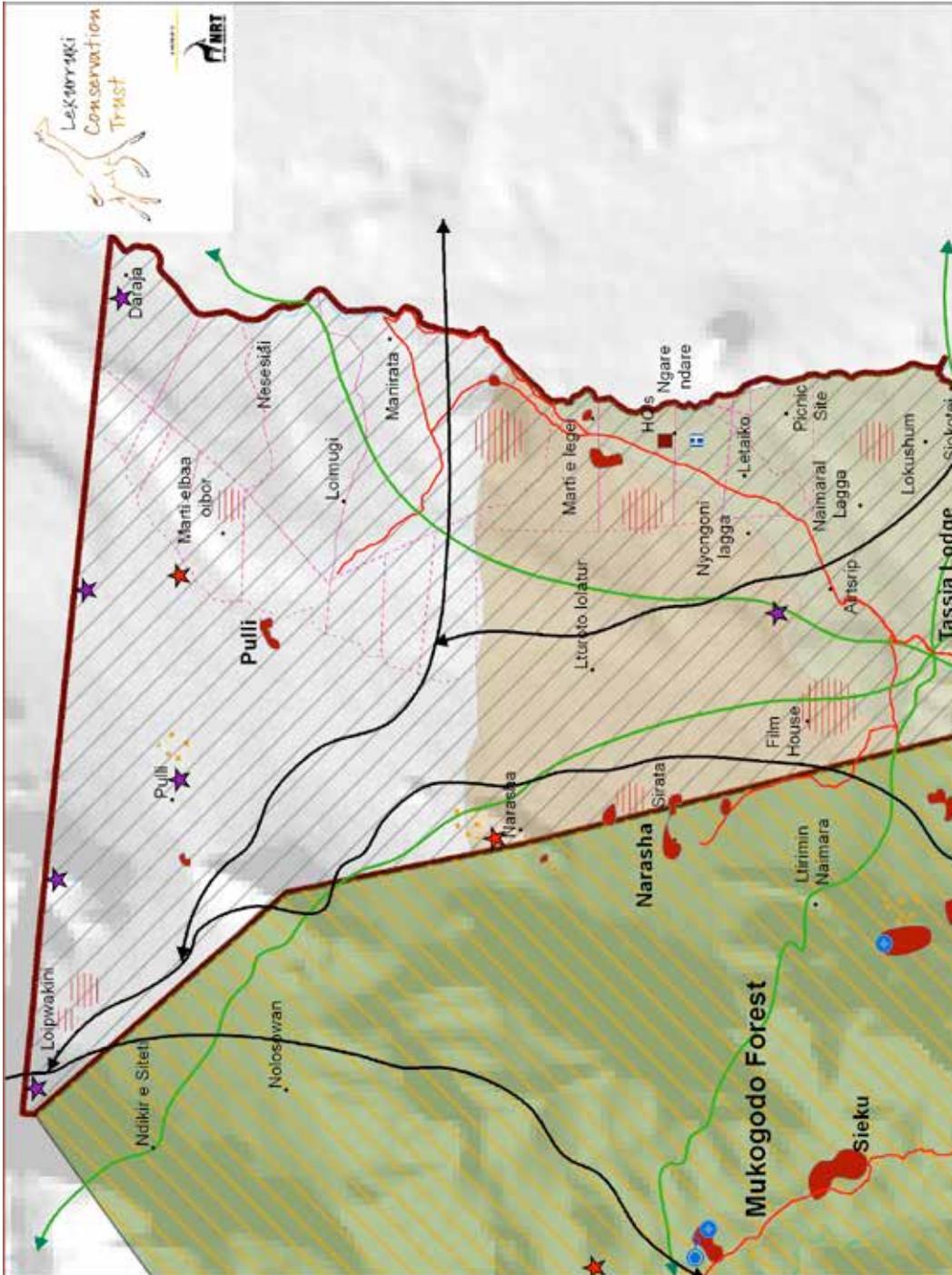


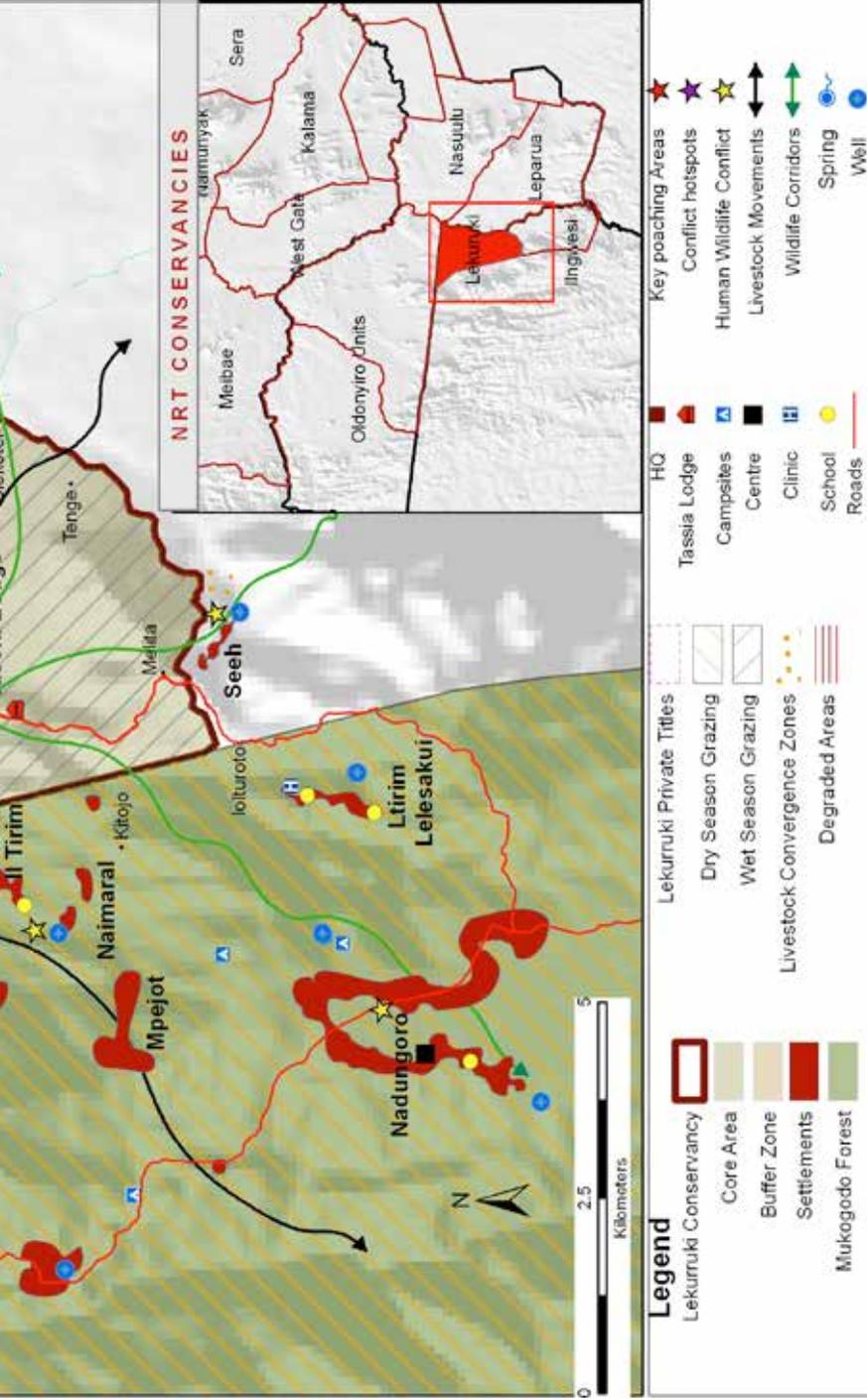


## **LEKURRUKI COMMUNITY CONSERVANCY**

**MANAGEMENT AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT PLAN  
(2016 - 2020)**







# SECTION 1.

## THE LEKURRUKI CONSERVANCY COMMUNITY

Laikipia County – Mukogodo East Ward

WARD	LOCATION	SUB-LOCATION	SETTLEMENT	POPULATION (2009)
Mukogodo East	Sieku	Sieku	Nadung'oru, Naimarlal, Sieku, Marti, Narasha, Ltirim Lesakui, Seeh, Porowet, Lalaa, Rere, Pejeto, Ildorot	1,682
<b>TOTAL</b>				<b>1,682</b>

### The community

- **Ethnicity:** Our people are predominantly Mukogodo Maasai who were historically hunter gatherers and bee keepers, but assimilation with the neighboring pastoralist tribes have meant that our community have now adopted the pastoralist way of life.
- **Land area and ownership:** Lekurruki Group Ranch, Community Land. Total area 15,872 hectares, core conservation area 2,135 hectares and adjacent buffer zone 2,064 hectares.

### Natural assets

- **Water resources:** The main water sources are springs, shallow wells and sand dams. The springs are found around Rere, Ltirim Lesakui, Nadung'oru, Makilisia, Losikiria, Lotana, Lolera, Tereikwe, Tapapo, Losos, Shuta and Siati. The shallow wells are found along the Ngare Ndare River, Sieku, Murkuta, Nolauri Mutal and Nolgweita. The sand dams are in Ngare ndare lugga (Nyongoni, Old Picnic and Nesoit) Naimarlal lugga (New Picnic, Keremo, Nolasurai and road crossing).
- **Trees and forest products:** The lush indigenous forest of Mukogodo borders the vast plains of Nadung'oru, dotted with *Acacia* and *Newtonia* trees. The conservancy encompasses portions of the forest, giving it a unique diversity of habitats and species. The main tree species in the lowland areas include Ltepes (*Acacia tortilis*), Lchurai (*Acacia reficiens*) and in the forested areas Lmarguat (*Croton megalocarpus*), Ltarakuai (*Juniperas procera*), Losesiai (Sandal wood), Lorien (*Olea Africana*), Loimugi (*Newtonia buchananii*), Olbilii (*Leonotis sp.*) and Lauo (*Dombeya sp.*).

- **Wildlife:** Lekurruki is also surrounded by three other community conservancies Ol Donyiro, Leparua and Il Ngwesi making it an important wildlife corridor. Key wildlife species include elephants, giraffes, lions, Grevy's zebras, common zebras, elands, lesser and greater kudu, leopard, cheetah, wild dogs, buffaloes, warthogs among others, and a diversity of bird species.
- **Grassland:** During the dry season Lekurruki community members graze their livestock around Melita, Nasikor, Lolbangi, Ltirim Lesakui, Porowet, Rere, Losos and Pejeto and during the wet season community members graze their livestock around the settlement areas of Naimarlal, Sieku and the Nadung'oru plains adjacent to the Mukogogo forest. The Conservancy Grazing Committee governs community grazing patterns though these are highly disrupted by encroachment by livestock from the neighboring community.

### Physical assets

- **Roads:** All the roads within Lekurruki Conservancy are murrum/earth roads which are sometimes impassible during rains, particularly at lugga crossings. The main roads are from Nadung'oru plains through Mukogodo forest to Tassia Lodge; to Isiolo from Tassia lodge after crossing Ngare Ndare River; from Nadung'oru plains to Sieku; and from Tassia lodge through Lba oibor to Kipsing.
- **Airstrips:** Lekurruki Conservancy has one airstrip 3kms from Tassia lodge. There is also a flat surface on top of Losos hill that helicopters land on.
- **Infrastructure:** this includes Tassia lodge, Lekurruki Conservancy Headquarters, Lekurruki Dispensary and Sieku Primary school/churches/shops within Nadung'oru.

### Human assets

- **Health:** Malaria, typhoid, pneumonia, tuberculosis, asthma, diabetes and dysentery are prevalent because of low awareness of health and sanitation issues. Cases of HIV AIDS and cancer have also been reported. Community members seek treatment using herbal remedies, or visit health centres in Timau and Isiolo as well as mobile clinics provided by Borana Conservancy.
- **Nutrition:** The main food items consumed are maize and beans, milk, vegetables, honey and wild fruits.
- **Education:** Lekurruki has Sieku Primary school and Sieku Nursery school

within Nadung'oru plains and two other nursery schools in Naimarlal and Il Dorot. School enrolment and literacy level is still low.

### Social assets

- **Institutions:** Lekurruki conservancy hosts four informal women's groups. Seiku Choir women group based in Nadung'oru is involved in beadwork, retail business and small scale farming. Nalepo, Natoip and Ltrimin women groups are mainly involved in beadwork.

### Livelihoods

- **Livestock / small business:** Lekurruki community members earn their living through sales of livestock, beekeeping, beadwork and small scale retail business/farming.
- **Employment:** employment through the Conservancy, Tassia lodge and occasional casual work.

### Conflict

- Conflict occurs mainly over pasture because of livestock encroachment by neighbouring communities from Kipsing, and disputes over claims of land ownership.

### Drought and vulnerability

- **Indicators:** Drought has been characterized by dry winds and delayed rains. Lekurruki has a historical timeline that outlines the different kinds of dry spells experienced and the mitigating measures during such periods. The main ones being *Riai Ekaseeka* and *Riai Olpurana* that was experienced in the 1960s and 1992 respectively when members used *Olea africana* to feed their livestock while others migrated elsewhere in search of pasture.



## SECTION 2. COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT AND CONSERVATION PRIORITIES

Top ranked priorities for development in Lekurruki Community Conservancy

- Water
- Education
- Health
- Rangelands Management
- Security
- Wildlife Conservation
- Enterprise Development
- Livestock Market
- Transport and Communication
- Agriculture

**COMMUNITY VISION FOR THE FUTURE "20 YEARS"  
TO RAISE THE LIVING STANDARDS OF MEMBERS  
THROUGH WILDLIFE PROTECTION,  
ENVIRONMENTAL CONSERVATION,  
GOOD GOVERNANCE AND SECURITY**



## GOALS

## IMPACT IN 5 YEARS

**Goal One:** Improving services for community development

- Adequate water available for livestock, people and wildlife
- Improved health and access to quality health care
- Improved access to quality education

**Goal Two:** Building peace and security

- Peaceful co-existence between communities within Lekurruki Conservancy and the neighbouring communities
- No incidences of cattle rustling

**Goal Three:** Conserving wildlife

- Reduced poaching of wildlife
- Increased wildlife numbers and diversity of species

**Goal Four:** Growing and diversifying our economy

- Increased income from tourism
- Increased income from livestock sales
- Improved access to livestock markets
- Improved communication network
- Increased income from agriculture

**Goal Five:** Improving the condition of our rangelands

- Reduced area of land covered by invasive species
- Degraded areas rehabilitated
- Wet and dry season grazing planning improved and grass production increased



## SECTION 3.

# ACTION PLAN AND KEY PARTNERSHIPS

GOAL	ACTION	PARTNERS
<b>1: Improving access to health care, education and water</b>		
Water	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>● Construction of a dam, sand dams, rock catchments and storage tanks</li><li>● Expand piped water to settlements</li></ul>	NRT Laikipia County Government CDF LWF
Health	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>● Construct toilets/pit latrines in all settlements</li><li>● Construct and equip health facilities</li><li>● Establish a mobile clinic &amp; ambulance</li><li>● Develop community health workers (TBA, CHWs)</li></ul>	Excellent Development African Sand Dams Foundation Rural Focus WARMA/WRUA Red Cross Borana Conservancy Lewa Wildlife Conservancy
Education	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>● Create awareness on importance of sending children to school, and to curb early marriages</li><li>● Improve staff and pupil retention</li><li>● Initiate “Ngumbaru” (adult education) for youth/herders</li><li>● Construct/upgrade Pre-Schools and Primary schools</li><li>● Construct teacher’s houses</li><li>● Increase number of bursaries available to students</li><li>● Construct a day secondary school</li></ul>	
<b>2: Building Peace and Security</b>		
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>● Dedicated conservancy security vehicle</li><li>● Support rangeland management in neighbouring Oldonyiro Conservancy</li><li>● Strengthen community policing and communication</li><li>● Develop additional security access roads</li><li>● Construct security outposts</li></ul>	NRT KWS National Police Service Neighbouring Conservancies Lewa Wildlife Conservancy

**GOAL****ACTION****PARTNERS****3: Conserving Wildlife**

- |  |   |
|--|---|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Increase ranger’s numbers and coverage</li> <li>● Carry out community awareness meetings on anti-poaching</li> <li>● Plan human settlement to create space for wildlife and reduce conflict</li> <li>● Implement grazing plans to promote coexistence of wildlife and livestock</li> <li>● Secure the core conservation area</li> <li>● Work closely with KWS and CWCCC to address compensation and reduce human wildlife conflict</li> </ul> | <p>NRT<br/>KWS<br/>Lewa Wildlife Conservancy<br/>Laikipia County Government<br/>LWF<br/>STE<br/>Space for Giants<br/>CWCCC<br/>Borana Conservancy</p> |
|--|---|

**4: Growing and Diversifying Our Economy**

## Agriculture

- |  |   |
|--|---|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Create community awareness on agriculture</li> <li>● Establish seed banks and promote use of drought resistance crops</li> <li>● Plan areas for agriculture and establish irrigation farming along Ngare Ndare River</li> <li>● Promote bee keeping with modern bee hives</li> <li>● Establish agroforestry and Kitchen gardens at Nadung’oru.</li> </ul> | <p>NRT<br/>Excellent Development<br/>CARITAS Nyeri<br/>Laikipia County Government<br/>NDMA<br/>World Vision<br/>Ministry of Agriculture<br/>ASDF-African Sanddams<br/>Dev.Foundation.</p> |
|--|---|

## Livestock Market and Production

- |   |   |
|---|---|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Improve livestock market access and infrastructure at Nadung’oru.</li> <li>● Increase qualified veterinary support</li> <li>● Improve livestock genetic stock</li> </ul> | <p>NRT<br/>Laikipia County Government<br/>OI Pejeta Conservancy<br/>Borana Conservancy<br/>Lewa Wildlife Conservancy<br/>NDMA</p> |
|---|---|

GOAL	ACTION	PARTNERS
Transport and Communication	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Construct additional roads and upgrade existing roads</li> <li>● Lobby Safaricom and Airtel to install boosters for network coverage</li> <li>● Procure a vehicle for community transport support</li> <li>● Increase handheld radios in community settlement areas</li> </ul>	NRT Laikipia County Government Safaricom Airtel CDF LWF Rural Roads Authority Borana Conservancy KWS SFG Lewa Wildlife Conservancy
Enterprise Development	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Establish a honey refinery to package and market branded Lekurruki honey</li> <li>● Establish a curio shop at the cultural boma to boost beadwork sales</li> <li>● Establish campsites</li> </ul>	NRTT LWF Northern Frontier Conservation Borana Conservancy Laikipia County Government Lewa Wildlife Conservancy Caritas Nyeri

### 5. Improving the condition of our rangelands

- |   |   |
|---|---|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Reseeding bare land</li> <li>● Clearing of invasive species e.g. <i>Opuntia</i> and <i>Accacia Reficiens</i></li> <li>● Develop and enforce grazing by-laws</li> <li>● Create awareness of grazing plans among neighbouring communities</li> <li>● Gulley healing to rehabilitate land</li> <li>● Develop and implement dry and wet season grazing plans annually</li> <li>● Hold inter conservancy meetings to discuss rangeland management</li> <li>● Plant and harvest grass and construct grass storage</li> <li>● Have clear and well-arranged settlements</li> </ul> | NRT<br>Laikipia County Government<br>World Vision<br>LWF<br>Excellent Development<br>NDMA |
|---|---|



## SECTION 4.

# IMPLEMENTING THE PLAN

### Lekurruki Community Conservancy

The Lekurruki community had for a long time depended on hunting and honey gathering within the larger Mukogodo forest but later acquired livestock. However, as overgrazing led to degradation of the rangeland, the community recognized something had to be done to more sustainably manage their pastures to secure the future for their cattle, their wildlife and their livelihoods. In order to alleviate the poverty levels within the community, the members agreed to create a community conservancy both as a venture to protect the eco-system as well as generate income and this is where the spectacular Tassia Lodge is located. Tassia lodge is owned by the community but run by an investment partner (Northern Frontier Conservation) on behalf of the community through a well laid-out proceeds-sharing arrangement.

The Lekurruki Community Conservancy was registered in 1999 as a Trust and not-for-profit company in 2011 (Registration Number CPR/2011/615242). The Conservancy will be responsible for implementing this plan, which has been developed through a participatory process involving all members of the conservancy or their representatives. The Conservancy has an elected Board of 12 members representing 3 zones within Lekurruki group ranch. The board appoints and oversees a work force of 40 employees which includes a security force of 31 rangers.

### Partnerships

As the Lekurruki Conservancy community, we are not able to fully implement this vision and plan on our own. We will rely on close partnership with Laikipia County Government, National government, NRT, KWS and other NGOs, as well as on investments by commercial partners and entrepreneurs. These partnerships, identified in the Action Plan above, will bring mentoring support, grant funding, technical expertise, training and investment.

As relationships with key partners develop, detailed operational plans, budgets and timetables will be developed with each partner. The Conservancy management will lead in developing funding proposals, partnerships and investments.

## Benefit-sharing amongst members of Lekurruki Conservancy

- **Community Funds:** The community holds a community social fund, generated from tourism revenue, NRT's livestock programme revenue and other community projects. The decisions on the spending priorities are made at the AGM with all conservancy/community members present.
- **Employment:** All conservancy employees are recruited from the local community, except where special technical expertise or qualifications are required, in a transparent process, equitably shared between the settlement areas.
- **Communication:** The AGM remains the most important event for community-wide communication; the Board, sub committees and Conservancy staff also play an important role in raising awareness, and informing our community about decisions made.

## Measuring impacts and creating sustainability

- **Measuring success:** With the support of other partners the Lekurruki Conservancy has established or is setting up a range of monitoring tools for measuring the status of wildlife, rangelands and community livelihoods and perceptions. These are Conservancy-led monitoring systems which will be used to measure the impacts of this plan.
- **Sustaining progress:** With clear plans, effective partners, and increasing commercial activities in Lekurruki Conservancy, we expect to sustain the progress of this plan in future.



## Table of Community Development and Conservation Priority Areas:

GOAL	AREA	PRIORITY
<b>Goal 1: Improving Services for Community Development</b>		
Water	Nadung'oru	Construct a dam
	Naimarlal	Rock catchment
	Lontana	Piping to Nadung'oru
	Sesai, Nesoit, Letaiko	Construction of storage tanks
	Sesai, Keremo, Nesoit, Picnic, Lbaa Oibor, Nyongoni, Nolasurai, Shuta, Ngaboli	Sand dams
Health	Ldorot in Sieku and Marti in Ltirim Zone	Construct and equip health centre
	Nadung'oru, Naimarlal, Sieku	Sanitation blocks
Education	Naimarlal, Ldorot, Nadung'oru	Construct Nursery schools
	Nadung'oru	Construct teachers housing, administration blocks, boarding facility and secondary school
<b>Goal 2: Building Peace &amp; Security</b>		
Communication Challenge Areas	Ldorot, Porowet, Munanda, Rere, Narasha, Puli, Sieku lugga	Improve communication network
Security Outposts	Narasha, Kuri Kuri, Lokushum	Conservancy rangers outpost
Security Access Roads	Nadung'oru - Sieku - Lorgweita - Ndikir esiteti; Puli - Lbaa Oibor - Kipsing; Marti- Manirata-Isiolo; Lowargasi - Lolturdei - Marti- Headquarters	Improve existing/ establish new roads

<b>GOAL</b>	<b>AREA</b>	<b>PRIORITY</b>
<b>Goal 3: Conserving Wildlife</b>		
Human Wildlife Conflict Areas	Nadung'oru hills, Sie, Ltrim Lesakui, Nasikor, Ldorot	Reduce human-wildlife conflict through mitigation measures and awareness
Wildlife Corridors	Wandiki – Uwan - Sieku - Conservation area; Nadung'oru - Ltrim Lesakui - Melita - Core Area; Ndikir Esiteti - Lowargasi-Tassia	Protect corridors by settlement & land use planning
Key Wildlife Areas	Tapopo, Ltrim Lesakui, Lowargasi, Narasha	Ensure security of wildlife through effective anti-poaching patrols
<b>Goal 4: Growing and Diversifying Our Economy</b>		
Increase & Diversify tourism	Narasha	Potential for a lodge
	Soit en kijabe view point, Loglweita, Memi, Lolpuakini	Campsite
	Losos	Paragliding
Livestock infrastructure	Nadung'oru	Upgrade/construct livestock holding facility/market
<b>Goal 5: Improving the Condition of Our Rangelands</b>		
Degraded Areas	Nyongoni, Soit e moile, Lokushum, Shordika, Marti e legei	Rangeland rehabilitation
Wet Season Grazing Areas	Naimarlal, Sieku, Nadung'oru	Improve planned grazing
Dry Season Grazing Areas	Melita, Nasikor, Lolbangi, Ltrim le sakui, Porowet, Rere, Tapopo, Losos, Kitejo, Pejeto	Improve planned grazing
Proposed Future Settlement Areas	Sieku Zone-Ldorot, Ljakwai, Njimishon, Nadungoru, Ltrimin Zone-Narasha, Nouwargasi	Reduce settlement pressure on Nadung'oru and areas near Tassia lodge



# ACKNOWLEDGMENTS





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