

P2 / HOW MANY LIONS DID WASIMA SAVE?

The number of lions “saved” during the WASIMA campaign between 2011 and 2016 was between 29 and 38 individuals.

P3 / YOUTH AND THE ENVIRONMENT

Over 5000 youth have been reached with our various VIMA activities, both in school and out of school.

P4 / A DAY IN THE PARK

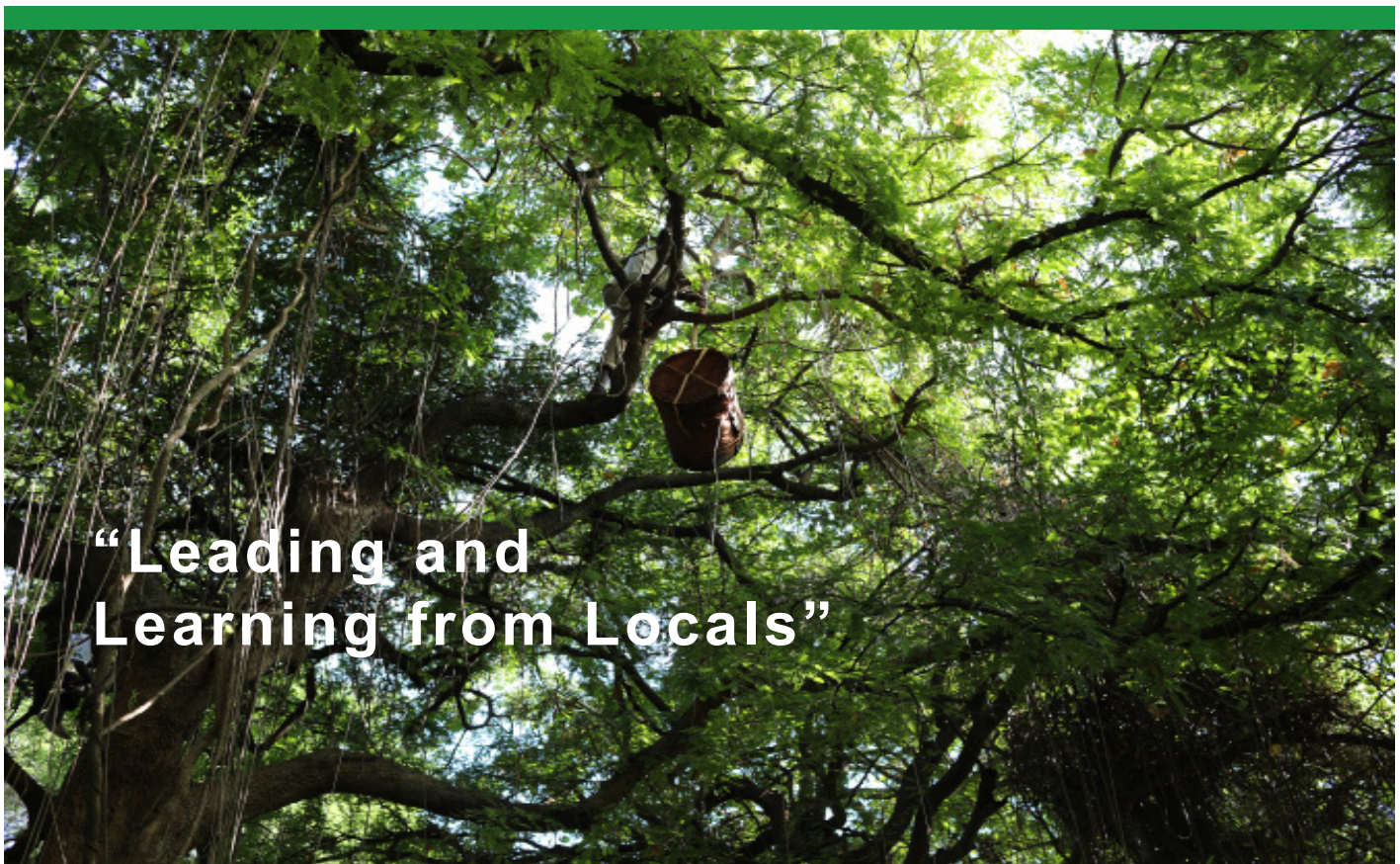
In 2017, we have taken 180 youth, 30 former lion killers, 50 community leaders, and 90 traditional medical practitioners to visit Katavi National Park.

P4 / THE GREENING MPIMBWE CAMPAIGN

A total of 7087 trees were planted by communities through our program, out of which 3923 are surviving to date.



Landscape and Conservation Mentors Organisation / Newsletter / IS001 / February 2018



“Leading and Learning from Locals”

The Landscape and Conservation Mentors Organization (LCMO) is an environmental Non-Governmental Organization (NGO) legally registered under the NGO Act of 2002 (Registration No. ooNGO 08464). LCMO’s mission is to promote nature conservation and improve community livelihood through environmental conservation, conservation education, community-based conservation initiatives, ecotourism, wildlife and cultural activities. It aims to mitigate human wildlife conflict and enhance nature-related research. Currently, LCMO has two main environmental programs: WASIMA (Watu, Simba na Mazingira, or People, Lions and the Environment) and VIMA (Vijana na Mazingira, or Youth and the Environment). Other programs include: A Day in the Park, The Greening Mpimbwe Campaign and our Student Support Program.

Watu, Simba na Mazingira - WASIMA

People, Lions and the Environment

WASIMA EXPANSION

Following the success in Mpimbwe, we plan to expand to other areas, especially those settled by the agro-pastoral Sukuma communities around reserves where lions are at risk. In 2017, our new scope is to reach remote adjacent areas around Mahale NP, Rukwa-Luafi, Ugalla, Moyowosi-Kigosi Game Reserves,, Inyonga-Mlele Forest Reserve (FR) and more villages around Katavi National Park (KNP). With the support from Rufford Small Grant, we were able to start expansion initiatives in Tabora, Rukwa and other districts of north of Katavi. With one old vehicle, limited human and other resources, funding is needed to support the WASIMA campaign to stop illegal lion killings and enhance human-wildlife coexistence in Western Tanzania.



Jonathan interviewing household members during WASIMA expansion survey.



Map showing areas that WASIMA will be expanding to



Lion dancers (killers) at Usevya village

How many lions did WASIMA “save”?

According to a 2017 evaluation conducted in Mpimbwe, we found that 42-55 lions were killed in KNP between 2005 and 2010,, but only 13-17 lions between 2011 and 2016, after WASIMA was launched. This represents a decline of 59-69%. Another way of expressing this is that the number of lions “saved” during the WASIMA campaign between 2011 and 2016 is between 29 and 38 individuals, (or 4.8 to 6.3 lions per year over 6 years). Our village representatives no longer see new lion killers nor new lion dancers in Mpimbwe – none since February 2016. Lion dancing is illegal in more than 18 villages bordering KNP now.

These villages have ratified by-laws to stop non-retaliatory lion killings within village boundaries.



Jonathan giving a public speech before showing a lion conservation film to Ikuba village community.

Student Support Program (SSP)

The Student Support Program (SSP) supports students from families of former lion dancers (killers), lion dancers’ supporters and marginalized families relying heavily on natural resources. By providing uniforms and class materials to these target families, we reduce the needs to harvest charcoal, bush meat, timber and fuelwood so as to raise the cash they would otherwise need to purchase these items. In this program, we aim to reduce the burden to parents and guardians whose families live close to reserve boundaries, and to encourage conservation values. A total of 92 pupils benefited from the SSP for the first time in 2017. The support included school uniforms and class equipment (shirts and trousers or skirts, pen and exercise books). Next year, we will support 200 primary and secondary pupils in Mpimbwe extending support to other school requirements like sustainable water reservoirs, classrooms, furniture and books to create a conducive environment to retain children in school as well as motivate them towards a hopeful future.



Former lion killers students and their parents

Vijana na Mazingira - VIMA

The Youth and Environment

Over 5000 in school and out of school youth were reached with various VIMA project activities. About 20 youths have benefited financially through our alternative livelihood program



Conservation film class with primary school students



Youth using binoculars donated by UC Davis during the outdoor learning activities.

Educating young generation is the key for future conservation success.

VIMA education activities have been tailored to equip youth with both theoretical and practical conservation experience. We conducted indoor environmental classes and show conservation films which are followed by outdoor practical activities (e.g. bird watching and surveying different anthropogenic activities that threaten the environment) for the older students. In addition,

youth organize outreach events in public in order to spread conservation messages through singing, drama, and dancing. Our last event was conducted on March 10, 2017 when more than 2000 community members attended. The project has been working with 5 schools so far and established 3 registered village youth environment clubs.



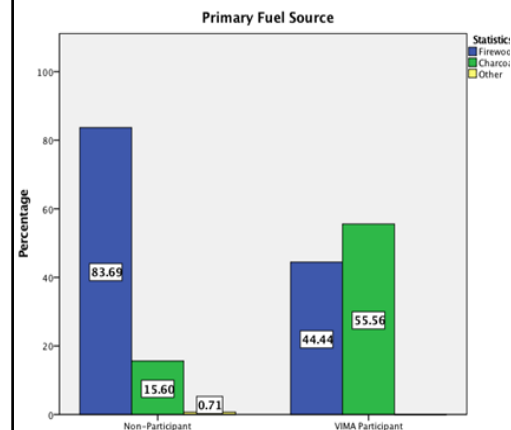
Youth performing ngoma dance during our outreach event

VIMA supports different club alternative livelihood projects, like soap-making, tree planting, and beekeeping. With such projects, the income generated has enabled youths to establish microfinance loans that helps them support their individual income-generating projects.

Does it work?

VIMA EVALUATION:

In collaboration with the Interdisciplinary Center for Conservation Science (ICCS) at the University of Oxford, and Imperial College of London, we have evaluated the success of our projects. Some of the findings show that youth participating in VIMA activities still use charcoal and firewood because they cannot afford other alternative sources of fuel. We are now exploring and designing other possible solutions for alternative energy sources in the community, specifically the use of biogas.



Our team member Mr. Hans Cosmas Ngoteya was selected to be among 12 National Geographic explorers all around the world to be part of their first class for their new program called Explorer leadership and development program at Washington DC. read more in <http://www.hanscosmasngoteya.com/conservation>



The full result of VIMA evaluation report will soon be available for download on our organisation's website (<http://www.lcmo.or.tz>).

A Day in the Park

Despite living on its doorstep, few local community members have ever visited Katavi National Park. Each year, we support and organize community members from villages bordering KNP to visit the Park through a “Day in the Park” program. The goal of the program is to give locals a chance to learn about wildlife and develop positive interactions with park staff. In 2017, we were able to take 180 youths, 30 former lion killers, 60 community leaders and 60 traditional medicinal practitioners



Local community in Katavi National Park

from Mpimbwe to visit the park and interact with the park authorities, where they got a chance to discuss the importance of national parks and different ways that they can collaborate to protect the wildlife in it. During the “Day in the Park”, participants visit many of Katavi’s finest sites, including Lake Chada where the Mpimbwe god ‘Katabi’ is thought to herd his hippopotami. They are also given presentations by Tanzania National Park staff sergeants and rangers in which they learn about the benefits of national parks.



Youth watching Hippos from the bus during the Day in the Park.

Supporting LCMO

LCMO relies on the generosity and kindness of our supporters. We give a million thanks to our supporters and are indebted to them for backing us in such achievements. Please consider supporting us by visiting our support link in our website www.lcmo.or.tz or contact us directly through lcmo.tanzania@gmail.com.

OUR SUPPORTERS:



The Greening Mpimbwe Campaign:

The Greening Mpimbwe Campaign has been spreading environmental conservation messages in Mpimbwe by supporting tree planting since 2015. The campaign has been responsible for the planting of 8734 trees and 11 kinds of timber and non-timber trees. Together with Tanzania National Parks and the District Forest Office, in 2017, we purchased 22 kgs of tree seeds and 25 kgs of polythene tubes for the upcoming rain season.



LCMO Kibaoni village tree nursery



P.O.Box 285, Mpanda TANZANIA
lcmo.tanzania@gmail.com | www.lcmo.or.tz