

LCMO'S QUARTERLY NEWSLETTER

THE LETTER FROM OUR EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Dear friends, partners, and supporters,

The 2023 has been a successful year for LCMO in terms of internal development, stakeholder engagement, and implementation of new activities as per our new strategic plan.

In this last quarter, LCMO continued to give our full support to communities bordering wildlife areas with a full focus on education and outreach, livestock loss mitigation through the construction of predator-proof bomas, and training on natural resource management and governance to improve community-based natural resource management and governance at the grassroots level. So far, we have received immeasurable support and commitment from our local, national and international stakeholders.

Looking forward, we are excited to announce that towards the start of the year 2024, we will be changing our name from LCMO to WASIMA (Watu Simba na Mazingira) which translates to People Lions and the Environment. This comes to fully reflect our new strategic plan which is expected to be launched at the end of the first quarter in 2024.

Special thanks to the LCMO board members who worked remotely behind the scenes to ensure we are doing our best. Our office and field team has worked tirelessly and shown an enormous commitment to achieve the immense work implemented throughout the year. This year we have observed negative human-lion interactions. We offer special thanks to all community members in our landscape for their increased resilience towards negative human-wildlife interactions.

We give a million thanks to our donors and partners for trusting us with resources to promote human-wildlife coexistence in southern western Tanzania.

Best wishes to you and your family in the coming year!!

Jonathan Kwiyege, Executive Director, WASIMA.

HUMAN WILDLIFE CONFLICTS, AND LOUDSPEAKERS EARLY WARNING SYSTEM

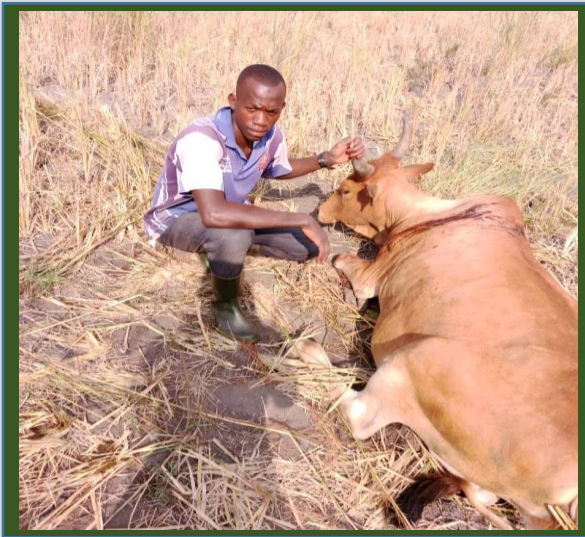
In our relentless commitment to fostering peaceful coexistence between humans and wildlife, our Loudspeaker Early Warning systems (LEWS) continue to have a significant effect.

In this quarterly, three Human-Wildlife conflicts were reported by our Lion Conservation Ambassadors (LCAs). A lion injured a calf at Lumbe village in Kaliua District, In Sikonge District, and a hyena killed a goat in Idekamiso village, all those incidents were promptly reported by our LCAs to our local partners Luganzo Tongwe Game Reserve, Ugalla River National Park, and Kaliua District Game Officer, ensuring coordinated responses.

In continuation of conservation Efforts and to foster village communication public education, security, and harmony, our stations have aired 10 adverts related to conservation, and 23 were social-related adverts. We will continue the installation of HLC LEWS alongside Lion-proof bomas in villages facing high risks of human-wildlife conflicts.

LCMO FORMALIZES COLLABORATION TO UYUMBU WILDLIFE MANAGEMENT AREA SOCIETY

In a momentous achievement for conservation, November 2023 marked the officialization of a crucial collaboration between LCMO and the Uyumbu Wildlife Management Area (WMA) Society. The collaboration involves LCMO building the capacity of the Uyumbu WMA Society as part of our strategic goal of improving community participation in conservation and maximizing benefits through a community-based conservation approach. With the blessing and support from the Urambo District, LCMO and Uyumbu WMA society signed an MOU. The collaboration will improve conservation benefits to WMA member villages and promote lion existence and a healthy Ugalla ecosystem. Uyumbu WMA (870 km²) borders Ugalla National Park, Ugalla Game Reserve, Walla River, and North Ugalla Forest Reserves. It is an important lion and other wildlife habitat buffering reserve with three member villages.



The cow injured by a lion in Lumbe Village (Photo credit by Abubakar Juma.LCA)

NATURAL RESOURCE MANAGEMENT AND GOVERNANCE TRAINING

In the continuation of improving village-level capacity and competence to manage local natural resources within villages and involving the community to take part in natural resources governance, we have managed to reach a total of six villages, where four (4) villages in Mpimbwe and two villages in Tabora region (Lumbe and Ukumbisiganga). The training brings together a variety of over 50 local community and government leaders and representatives: village government committee, youth representative, beekeepers, entrepreneurs, women, influential leaders, elders, religious leaders, political leaders, and technical expertise (District Game, Livestock and Ward Executive Officers) and Tanzania Wildlife Authority, political leaders, leaders of traditional healers, women, traditional policemen (Sungusungu) and WMA societies; Village Game Scout (VGS), School headmasters, environmental teachers, and famous elders to identify and to discuss the status of their natural resources status and threat drivers.



Participants in groups mapping the natural resources available in the village at Ilalangulu village. during the NRM and governance training



Representatives from LCMO, Uyumbu WMA, and Urambo District Council signing MoU.

PROTECTING LIVESTOCK THROUGH LION-PROOF BOMAS

This quarter experienced endless efforts towards reducing Human-Lion and other carnivores Conflicts as we managed to install more four-lion proof Bomas at Situbwike and Kabenga sub-villages in Sitalike village making a total of ten bomas in Sitalike and install one more in Lumbe and making a total of thirteen Bomas.

The seasonal bomas are installed by using strong chain-link and wooden poles locally collected by the beneficiaries. Bomas are also meant to fertilize the soil and maximize crop production for our beneficiaries whose land is least fertile, and they depend on livestock manure and former kraals to maximize crop harvests (food security).



Mr. Mashaka Kija from LCMO (third from right) and the household members posing to the installed Bomas after being constructed.

HEALTH PROGRAM

LCMO in collaboration with Nomad Tanzania and Plaster House Center (Kafika House) have continued to improve livelihood through our health program. In this quarter we identified and organized treatment for 17 children with physical disabilities such as deformed limbs from Mpimbwe and Nsimbo DC.

We visited Majimoto Primary School, (a center for disabled children) and had a short meeting about challenges facing children with special needs and managed to hand over the sun screening oils to the school head.



Ms. Prisca Patroba with a child with physical disabilities when visited Majimoto Primary school.

PUBLIC OUTREACH EDUCATION AND EXTENSION

In the last quarter of 2023, LCMOs employed a great medium of conservation outreach and film shows to extend impact to community by purposely elevating awareness of environmental conservation. We managed to reach over 2,040 people across twelve sub-villages within Nsimbo, Urambo and Kaliua DCs. Our education outreaches were strategically designed to highlight the intricate issues surrounding wildlife species and habitat destruction. With the intention of instilling a sense of conservational awareness among villagers and maximizing community participation in conservation of natural resources, the films compelling narratives.



Join us on our social media platforms; Facebook, Twitter, YouTube, Instagram, and LinkedIn for more updates. Don't hesitate to visit our website; <http://www.lcmo.or.tz>

GREENING CAMPAIGN

This quarter have experienced the preparation of our tree nurseries and we managed to soil fill polythene tubes, to have 85000 trees in our nurseries. In the continuous effort to promote environmental conservation and improve livelihoods, we have managed to distribute polythene tubes and tree seeds to Jikwamue Youth Group in Nkasi District Council and participated in planting 1000 trees seedlings at Majengo Primary School in Nkasi DC. This is a continuation of conserving the environment to stay healthy, fresh air, and pollution-free environment. Our greening campaign intends to establish alternative energy sources thereby reducing pressure of extracting fuel wood and timber in our endowed natural habitats.



Women group and our tree nursery assistant planting G. sepium seeds.

A DAY IN THE PARK.

In collaborative efforts with Katavi National Park (KANAPA), we have successfully organized three enriching park trips, extending an invaluable opportunity to the community members residing in villages bordering KANAPA. These immersive experiences, attended by Sitalike Students, and village leaders from Tumaini and Matandalani villages, engaged a total of 110 participants.

The trips intended to foster a deeper understanding of wildlife and environmental conservation, inspiring local communities to actively partake in conservation efforts. Through these enlightening encounters within the park, we aim to instill a profound appreciation for nature, emphasizing the critical role of protection in their lives.

Special thanks to our partners for their endless support of our organization and special projects.

