

Turning the Page

New Horizons for Wildlife & People

2024 Impact Report



GRUMETI
FUND

A full-page background image of a giraffe in a savanna. The giraffe is in the lower-left foreground, looking up towards a tree on the right. The background is a soft-focus landscape of trees and grass under warm, golden light.

Grumeti Fund

The Grumeti Fund is a wildlife conservation and community development organisation operating in the western corridor of the Serengeti.

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Hope & Change |

A message from our leaders

Each year at the Grumeti Fund reminds us that we live in a constantly changing world. In 2024, we found new challenges to overcome, new ways to understand this ecosystem, and new lessons gathered from our experiences, stories, successes, and critically, our failures. While so much feels new and changing, we also find that some things never change – for us, that is in our connection to this landscape, our gratitude for its people, our admiration of the teams safeguarding it, the mission set before us by visionaries 21 years ago, and the tenacity of those who carried it forth all along.

As we reflect on the past year at Grumeti Fund, we are immensely proud of the strides we have made in our mission to help protect one of the planet's greatest ecosystems in harmony with its people. This year, we enhanced our technical capacity to protect wildlife and their habitats, relied on scientific research to understand the threats facing this evolving landscape, and invested in the

long-term social and economic resilience of our neighbouring communities through sustainable livelihood, entrepreneurship, empowerment, and education programs. This year, we were also confronted with new challenges, reminding us that, for all we can celebrate, our work here is not done.

Looking forward, we are driven to enrich our organisational strength and our program impacts, embrace innovation, mobilise key resources, and reaffirm our belief that meaningful conservation efforts hinge on strong, robust partnerships, especially with the Tanzanian government, local communities, and diverse private stakeholders.

Confronting complexity is inextricably linked to our mandate in balancing people and wildlife wellbeing in the Serengeti landscape, but as a collective with our key partners and collaborators, we know we can continue to build a promising future for all in the iconic, Serengeti landscape.

We work toward a future in which people and wildlife live together sustainably, forever.



MATT PERRY
GENERAL MANAGER |
Anti-Poaching and Conservation Management



NOEL MBIYE
GENERAL MANAGER |
Research, Monitoring and Community Outreach

Amos, a Grumeti Fund Anti-Poaching Scout from a nearby community, looks over the protected area. | *Tara Shupe*

Our Year | *In Numbers*

Our Team

- 143 total Grumeti Fund staff
- 2% staff are international
- 98% staff are Tanzanian
 - 72% from areas bordering the Grumeti concessions

Wildlife Protection

- 47% increase in size of the Anti-Poaching Unit
- 2 new technologies integrated into security operations
- 38% of arrests involved the Canine Unit
- 535 snares removed from the western Serengeti

Community Outreach

- +45% average business turnover for all entrepreneurship trainees
- 54 new jobs created by Village Guiding graduates
- 6k secondary students attended girls' empowerment events
- 100% of scholarship recipients graduated their academic levels
- 18k students benefited from Grumeti's Teaching Support Program (TSP)
 - 16% reduction in average student-teacher ratios from 2023 to 2024

- 187 community conservation awareness sessions hosted
- 40k community members reached about key conservation issues
- 18 awards and recognitions given to GF by stakeholders for outstanding work
- 4x more students educated about conservation in 2024 than 2023
- 9k people attended awareness through traditional dances and soccer tournaments

Stakeholders


- 6 surveys on critical wildlife, habitats, and vegetation
- 21 collaborations with global institutions and organisations
- 94k GPS points collected from elephant collaring program
- 91 trainees and practitioners attended research and conservation trainings
 - 55% trainees were women
 - 62% trainees were Tanzanian


Research & Training

- 1 new rhino re-wilding facility constructed
- 98% of planned prescribed burns successfully completed
- 5 year fire management plan developed
- 18% more invasive plant removals in 2024 than 2023
- 18 animals rescued from snares


Restoration

Anti-Poaching


 **5,373** | **Kgs of bushmeat** confiscated from poachers

 **535** | **Snares** removed from the ecosystem

 **38%** | **Arrests** relied on **Canine Unit**

 **37** | **New scouts** added to the Anti-Poaching Unit

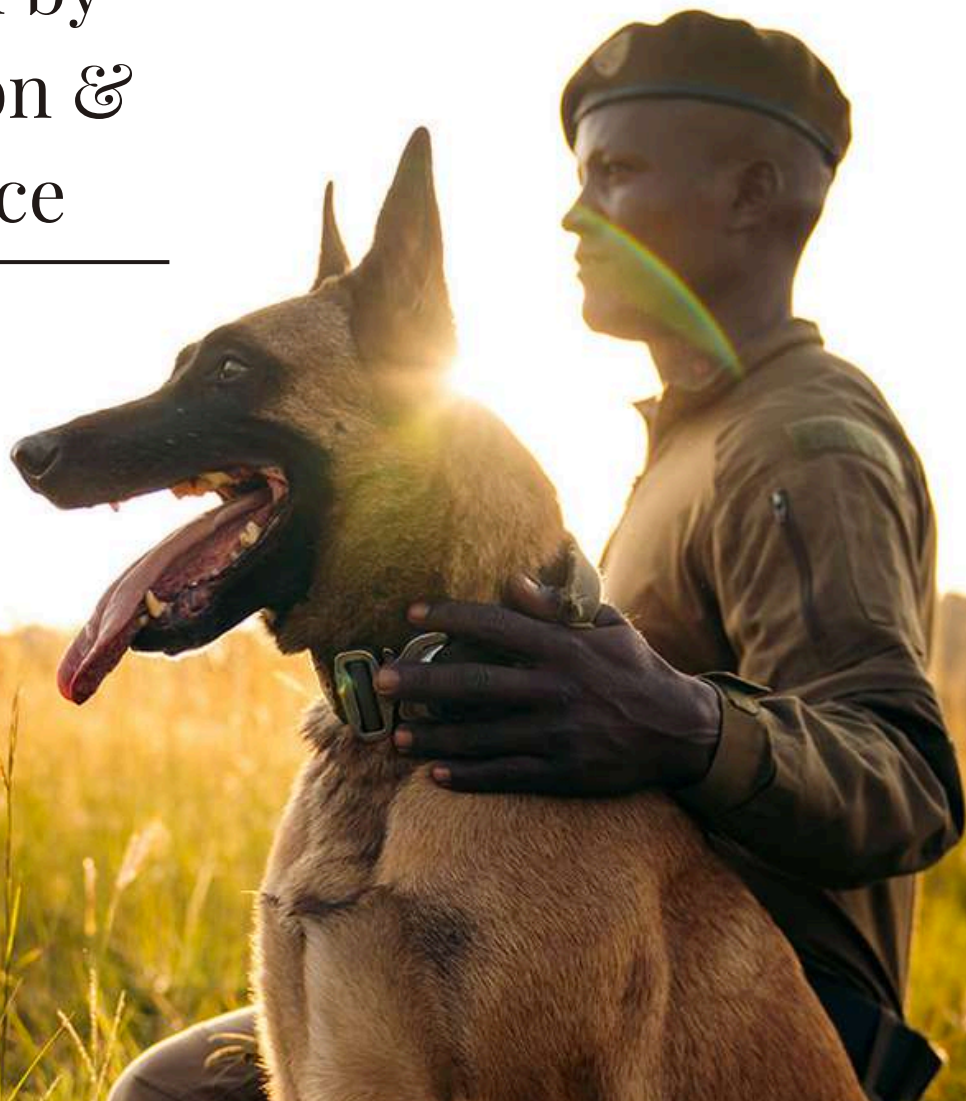
 **4** | **Trainings** for our APU's effectiveness in the field

 **0** | **Elephants or rhinos** poached



Anti-Poaching scouts at an Observation Post. | *Tara Shupe*

Protection Informed by Innovation & Experience



The Anti-Poaching Unit stands ready to confront the threats we face today and those we expect in the future.

With poaching posing a constant threat in the western Serengeti, the survival of this landscape and its critically endangered species hinges on a strong wildlife protection force. Grumeti Fund's Anti-Poaching Unit combines 24/7 ground surveillance, quick-responding field teams and intelligence units with the super-human capabilities of dogs and innovative technologies

to safeguard this landscape's invaluable wildlife. In 2024, the Anti-Poaching Unit enriched their strategies by understanding ecosystem-specific poaching trends, intensifying their operations, expanding their coverage, and enhancing their teams' size and skillsets.

Steven and Oke - two members of the Canine Unit. | Dany Samwel

Comparing 2024

In **2024**, the Anti-Poaching Unit (APU) expanded patrols, surveillance, deployments, and integrated new technologies to enhance their effectiveness, leading to:

36% more arrests

3.5x more bushmeat
confiscated

27% more snares
found

2.6x more poached
animals found and
confiscated

Compared to respective statistics in 2023



An Observation Post at sunset. | Dany Samwel

Enriching the APU

Training

Every day, our scouts take on the dangerous and unpredictable mandate of protecting wildlife and facing any scenario or perpetrator in the field. Threats of poaching are constantly growing, and therefore, so must our teams.

In **2024**, the APU expanded their **skillsets** in:



Field Tracking



Weaponry handling, shooting and safety



Canine Handling



Physical Fitness

Technology

Integrating technology in 2024 highlighted gaps in our anti-poaching coverage and helped us tailor our strategies to the unique dynamics of this ecosystem.



1

Thermal drone integrated for surveillance



9

AI Camera Traps to detect poaching activities

Deploying a drone. | Dany Samwel

What does it take to be a scout?

In 2024, we recruited 37 new scouts to protect this vital ecosystem.

95 members of nearby communities were invited to Grumeti Fund's 2024 scout selection. They underwent a series of mental and physical tests designed to identify those ready to take on the dangerous and unpredictable role as scouts in the western Serengeti. Recruits underwent an intense week-long anti-poaching selection course in the bush, lead by our experienced scouts.

Recruits had to pass a series of physical and mental tests, including:

- **15km run in 90 minutes**
- **Hill sprint holding 20kgs overhead**
- **60 pushups in 2 minutes**
- **10km run carrying 20 kilograms**
- **4.8km run in 24 minutes**
- **200m run in 2 minutes while carrying another recruit**

Only 40% of recruits passed.

They were invited to basic training, joining Grumeti Fund's elite network of wildlife protectors fortifying this landscape.


A recruit runs during scout selection. | Dany Samwel


Conservation Management

 **18** | **Animals** rescued from snares

 **97%** | Concession benefitted from **invasive alien plant removal**

 **120** | **Emergency responses** to arson burns

 **70%** | Concession area **burned**

 **3** | Conservation management **teams** based in the bush



Removing a snare from a giraffe. | *Dany Samwel*



Looking at the field. | Dany Samwel

Restoring the Integrity of the Western Serengeti

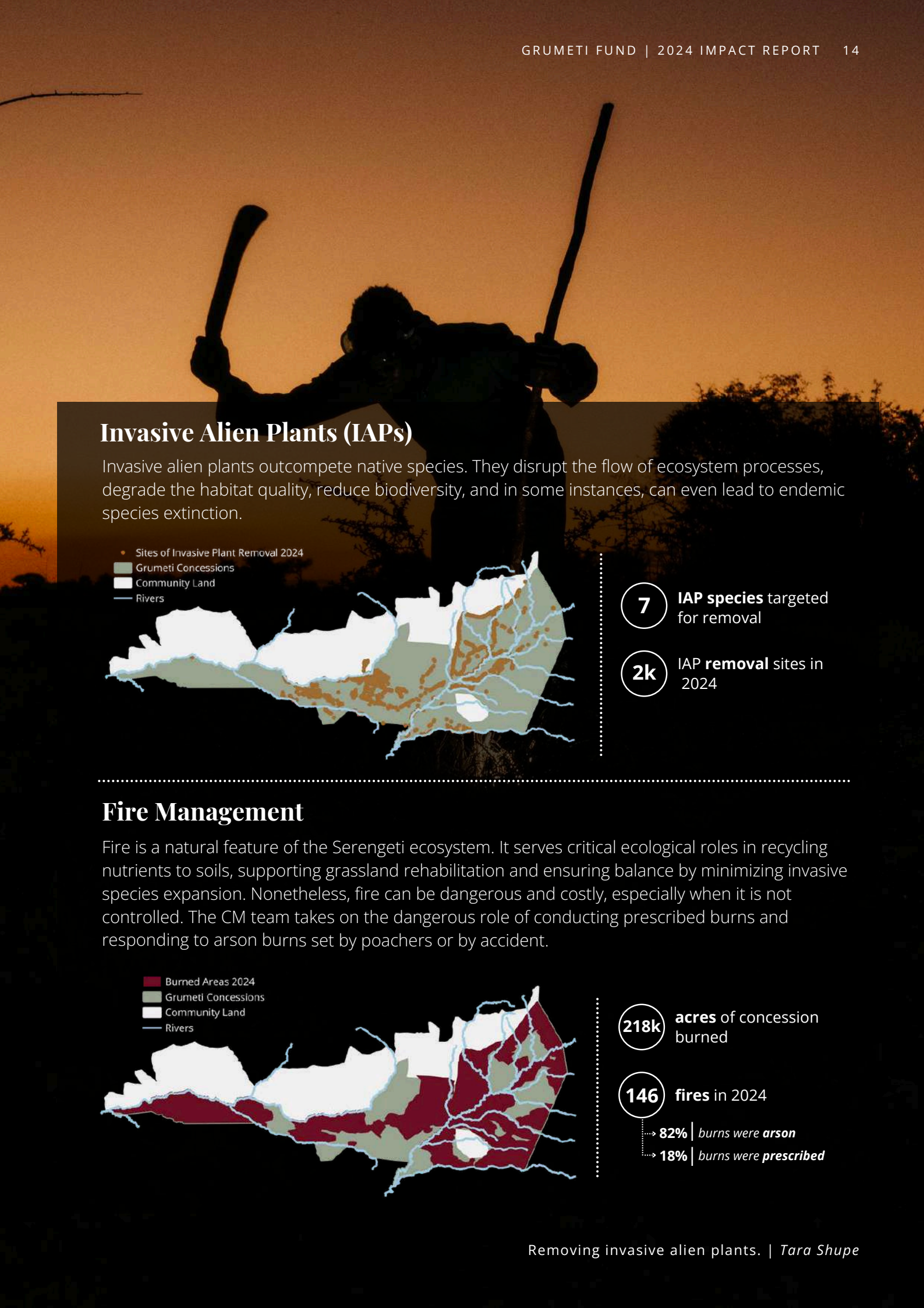
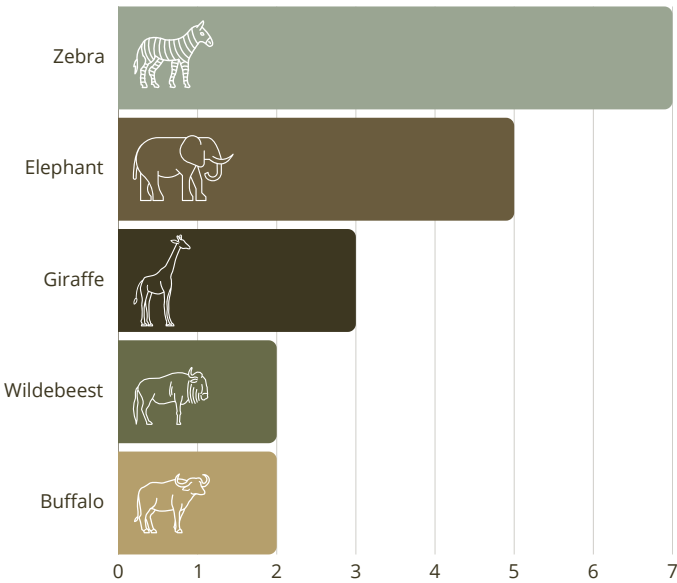
Conservation Field Force

The Conservation Management (CM) team is our **habitat management** and **restoration** field force. Permanently based in the bush, CM ensures that this iconic wilderness thrives with its former ecological vibrancy today and long into the future.

In **2024**, they controlled dangerous invasive alien species, managed fires, maintained critical conservation infrastructure, and rescued injured wildlife.

Wildlife Rescue

The Conservation Management team collaborates with government veterinarians to **rescue injured wildlife**, especially animals that have been caught in poachers' snares.



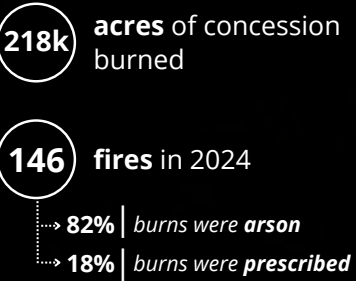
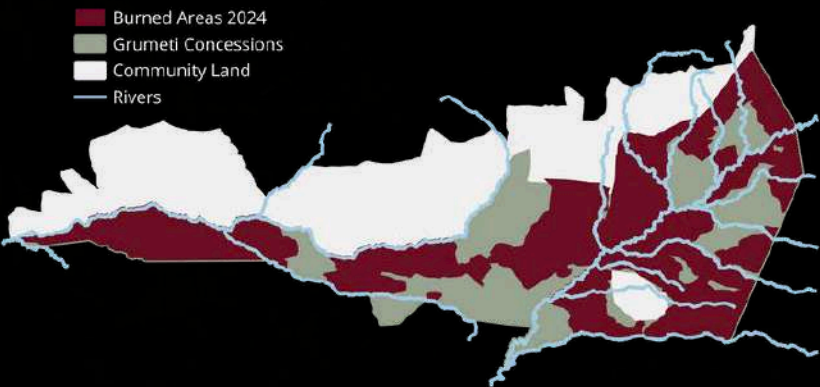
Invasive Alien Plants (IAPs)

Invasive alien plants outcompete native species. They disrupt the flow of ecosystem processes, degrade the habitat quality, reduce biodiversity, and in some instances, can even lead to endemic species extinction.



Fire Management

Fire is a natural feature of the Serengeti ecosystem. It serves critical ecological roles in recycling nutrients to soils, supporting grassland rehabilitation and ensuring balance by minimizing invasive species expansion. Nonetheless, fire can be dangerous and costly, especially when it is not controlled. The CM team takes on the dangerous role of conducting prescribed burns and responding to arson burns set by poachers or by accident.



Removing invasive alien plants. | Tara Shupe

On Saving a Species |

Black Rhino Re-Establishment

We work with the Tanzanian government to protect, preserve, and strengthen one of Serengeti's most iconic species — the eastern black rhino.

Black rhinos once roamed landscapes throughout Africa in abundance. That was until the 1960s when they became the target of intense poaching for their coveted horn. In just a few decades, the poaching crisis reduced the global black rhino population by more than **95%**, from an estimated 100,000 individuals in the 1960s to just 2,400 by 2005. The eastern black rhino, the subspecies native to the Serengeti, was particularly affected, reduced to only **400 individuals** globally and poached out of its former home range here in the western Serengeti.

Today, the eastern black rhino is the most **critically endangered** of all black rhino subspecies. Conservation efforts have helped the species rebound slightly, nonetheless, their total population is estimated at only around 1,500 today. Without long-term, tailored conservation, the species could be lost forever – driven to extinction from habitat degradation and intense poaching pressures.

Rejecting a future without the iconic black rhino, we set out to reunite the locally extinct species with the very landscape they are so vital to. Together, the Grumeti Fund with the Tanzanian government and key institutional partners have begun **reintroducing eastern black rhinos** to the western Serengeti. Translocating individuals from both wild and captive environments, we are slowly creating a founder population with enough genetic diversity to establish a healthy and sustainable rhino population in their native home range.


Despite immense challenges, our rhino re-establishment project has seen multiple successes – advancing us toward a future where this iconic species thrives abundantly once again in the western Serengeti.


17 *Years of the rhino re-establishment project*


1 *New rhino **re-wilding** facility constructed in 2024*


10+ *Rhinos to be **translocated** to Grumeti in the next few years*


Research & Monitoring

 **2,000+** | **Kms flown** for surveys in 2024

 **600** | **Samples** taken to estimate herbaceous **biomass** availability

 **3** | **Surveys** conducted to understand **wildlife** and critical **habitats**

 **2** | **Surveys** conducted on local **plant** communities

 **6** | Elephant **satellite GPS collars** replaced

 **13** | **Elephants** tracked

A helicopter pilot flies during an aerial survey. | *Tara Shupe*

Studying Our Past to Better Our Future

Our long-term understanding of this ecosystem and how it has changed over time hinges on thorough research and monitoring (RM). The RM team studies this landscape's dimensional **ecology** – from its rain patterns and plant communities to the interactions between its wildlife or its ability to support key ecological processes, migrating and resident herbivores, as well as critically endangered species.



Omary, a RM field technician, collects biomass measurements. | Dany Samwel

Large Carnivore Call-In Survey

In **2024**, RM in collaboration with TAWIRI researchers launched their first ever **large carnivore call-in survey** to establish a baseline of lion and hyena populations in the Grumeti concessions.

As keystone species, large carnivores have vital ecological roles in the Serengeti. They balance the ecosystem by controlling prey and other carnivore populations, reduce the spread of diseases, catalyze nutrient cycling, and prevent overgrazing.

The data collected this year will help us understand changes in carnivore populations and their use of habitats over time, especially in response to land-use changes or human activities. Understanding predator density and spatial distribution will also help inform human-carnivore conflict mitigation strategies.

Survey Procedure



The RM team marked **20 survey sites** throughout the concession.



Over **five weeks**, each site was visited **five times** between **7pm** and **3am**.



At each site, a **call** attracting lions and hyenas was broadcasted for **70 minutes**. The calls included:



Weak female lion



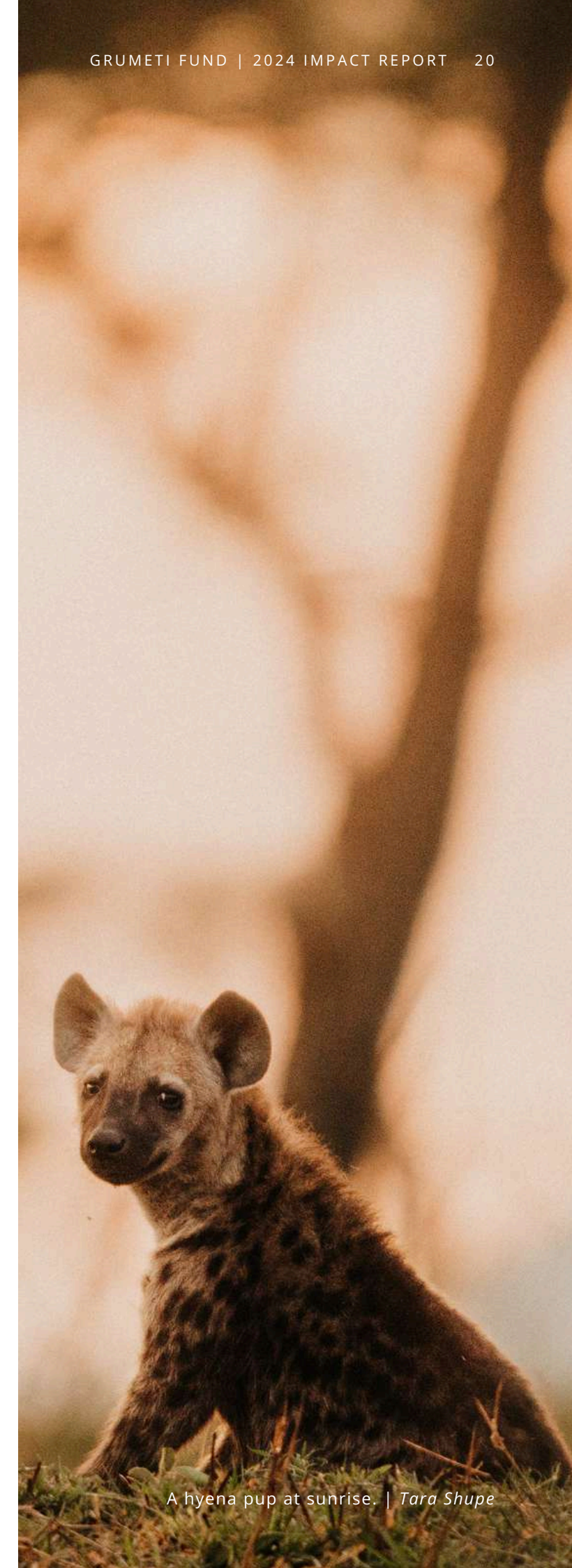
Hyena whooping after a kill



Distress calls from prey species



The **number** of **lions** and **hyenas** that arrived at the site was recorded to **estimate species abundance**.



A hyena pup at sunrise. | Tara Shupe

Aerial Surveys |

Getting a Bird's-Eye View

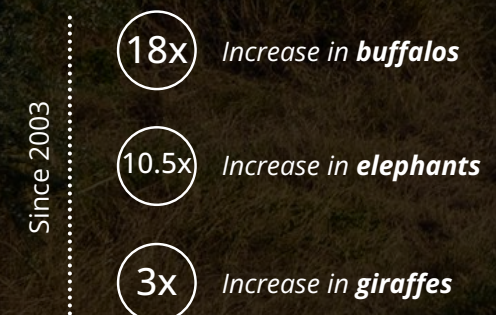
Grumeti Fund uses helicopters to conduct *two* types of aerial surveys: the aerial **game** survey and the aerial **riparian** survey.

Aerial Game Survey

Grumeti Fund conducts an Aerial Game Survey every two years. It allows us to **estimate resident wildlife populations** living in the Grumeti concessions, and critically, helps us identify notable trends or changes in populations over time.

During the survey, a team consisting of a helicopter pilot, data collector, and two observers come together. They divide the protected area into **74 transects**, each spaced one kilometre apart. A helicopter is fitted with measurement bars that allow observers to estimate how far away each wildlife species is from the transect line. Together, the team flies 91 metres above each transect line, logging the species they see, their location, quantity, and distance.

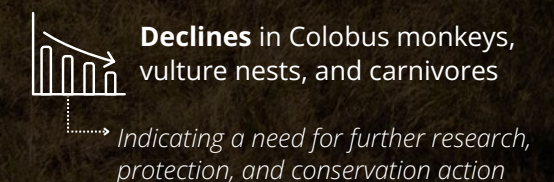
In **2024**, they flew **1,539 kilometres** during **32 hours**, finding:



Aerial Riparian Survey

The Riparian Survey helps Grumeti Fund identify trends in critical, highly productive **riparian zones** and their wildlife communities. The team flies the courses of key rivers and tributaries, logging the location and number of key riparian species, nesting birds, and invasive alien plants.

In **2024**, they flew **463 kilometres** in **17 hours**, finding:



RISE



12

Seminars united audiences around conservation science and management



11

New **collaborations** with global institutions and NGOs



13

Elephants tracked with **GPS collars**



3

Programs focused on **Tanzanian women** in conservation and research



3

New **training** programs introduced



1.9 million

Camera trap images classified for analysis

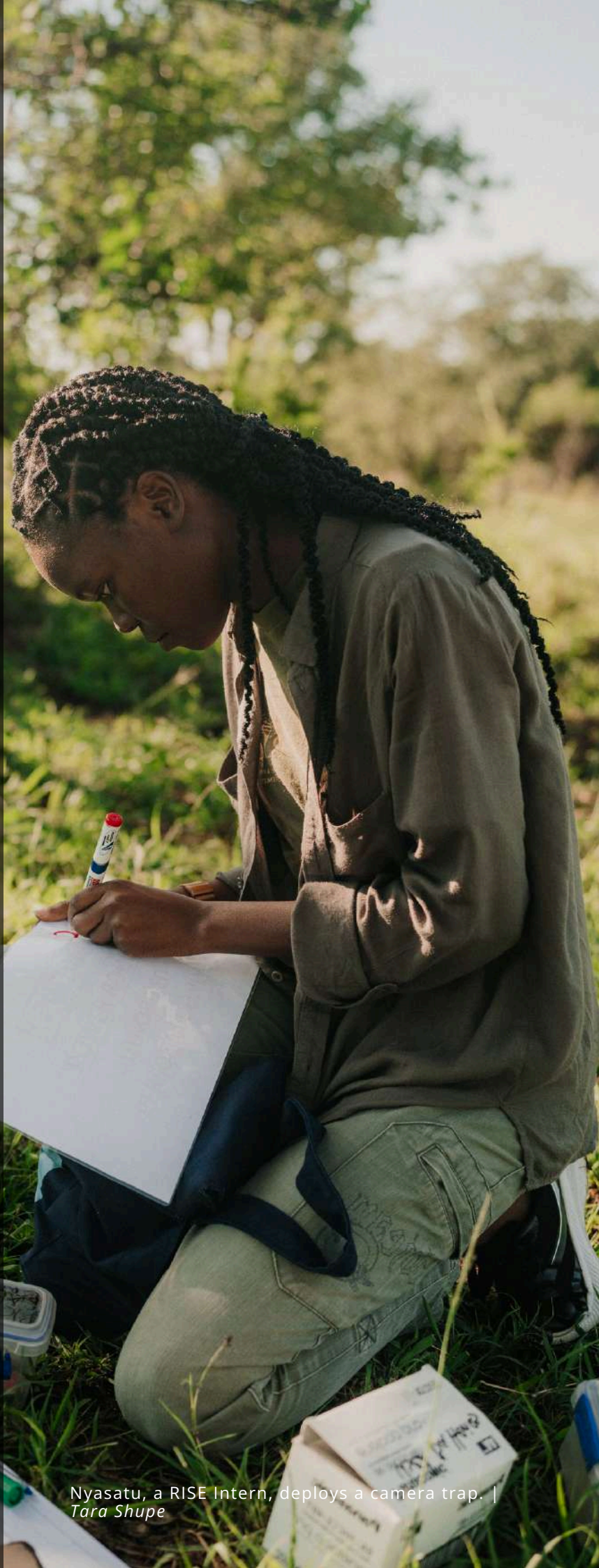
Advancing the Serengeti's Conservation Network

RISE | *Research & Innovation for the Serengeti Ecosystem*

RISE uplifts the quality of conservation research on the Serengeti as well as the aspiring researchers conducting it.

In **2024**, RISE focused on:

-  **Communicating scientific research** to diverse audiences
-  **Producing scientific publications** on key issues facing the Serengeti
-  **Mentoring graduate student researchers**
-  **Hosting trainings** for Tanzanian and global conservationists and researchers




Nyasatu, a RISE Intern, deploys a camera trap. | Tara Shupe



Women in the Field classroom session. | Tara Shupe


Training with RISE

Through training programs, RISE brings together conservationists, researchers, students, and government representatives throughout the Serengeti and beyond. Doing so advances the skillsets of those working in this ecosystem and ensures that **high-quality science** informs our understanding and management of this iconic landscape.




Advanced GIS

- **41** trainees
- **11** countries represented
- **1st** hybrid-style training program




Camera Trap Data Analysis

- **11** trainees learning to utilize camera trap data for conservation science




Early Conservation Education

- **1** new program introducing conservation books to primary school curriculums
- **15** primary school teachers trained
- **8** primary schools using conservation books



Women in Conservation Tech

- **10** Tanzanian women graduated in 2024
- **6** month training and mentorship program to use technology in conservation careers



Women in the Field (WIF)

- **3** week training program for early career women in conservation and research
- **5th** year of RISE's WIF Program
- **14** Tanzanian women participated in 2024
- **11%** acceptance rate
- **2** alumnae returned to RISE as WIF instructors

Applied Research

Lollian looking at elephants in the field. | Tara Shupe

Research Scholars | *Supporting the Serengeti's Next Generation of Researchers*

Lollian Kosyndo is a former WIF participant who is currently pursuing her master's at the University of Glasgow. In 2024, Lollian returned to RISE to investigate elephant behaviors in grazing areas as part of her studies. She hopes to expand her research into a PhD, providing insights about elephant crop raiding behaviors and grazing land management decisions for HEC mitigation.



Edward Swai is the recipient of the Invertebrate Scavenger Fellowship, a program co-funded and hosted by Grumeti Fund, North Carolina Zoo, and Texas A&M University. He is pursuing a Masters in Biodiversity Conservation from Nelson Mandela African Institute of Science and Technology. In 2024, he arrived at Grumeti to gather data for his research focused on the role scavenger fly communities play in recycling nutrients in the Serengeti Ecosystem, an important topic in conservation biology and disease ecology.

Research Publications | *Expanding Understanding through Applied Research*



Sexual dimorphisms in body proportions of Masai giraffe and the evolution of the giraffe's neck | Dr. George Lohay and his team challenged the hypothesis that male giraffes have longer necks than females for reproductive competition. They found that females have proportionally longer necks, likely a result of nutrition, not sex.




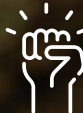
Crop use structures resource selection strategies for African elephants in a human-dominated landscape | Dr. Kristen Snyder and her team found that agriculture density and forest fragmentation influence how, where, and to what extent elephants travel to raid crops. They found that elephants travel further outside protected areas in areas with fragmented agriculture and large forests compared to those with intense agriculture, where they travel shorter distances more frequently.



EarthRanger: An open-source platform for ecosystem monitoring, research and management | Grumeti Fund has relied on Ai2's EarthRanger software since 2017 to collect and aggregate data that informs conservation decision-making. Dr. Kristen Snyder's paper examines the tool scientifically and demonstrates the value it has provided conservation projects across Africa.


Community Outreach


 226 | Scholarships awarded in 2024


 3,372 | Girls attended **empowerment events** and received **reusable menstrual pads**

 2,540 | Boys participated in **Girls Empowerment Through Boys**

 275 | **Entrepreneurs** graduated entrepreneurship trainings

 54% | **Jobs** created by Guiding graduates were permanent positions

 40 | **Teaching fellows** placed into critically under-staffed local primary schools

 2,775 | **Seedlings** planted by EEC students at their schools

Uplifting the Serengeti through Its People

Grumeti Fund's **Community Outreach Program (COP)** aims to uplift the people of the western Serengeti, ensuring they are given opportunities to thrive symbiotically with the landscape they are so central to.

In **2024**, COP focused on:



Developing aspiring **entrepreneurs** and local enterprises



Empowering **women** and girls



Building **climate resilient livelihoods**



Increasing **education access** and quality



Providing **environmental education** to the next generation

Rural enterprise development beneficiary selling produce. | *Dany Samwel*



A teaching fellow starts their class. | *Tara Shupe*

Teaching Support Program (TSP)

In 2024, TSP fellows reduced the average student-teacher ratio by more than 16%, from 91:1 to 76:1.

Schools in rural Tanzania often struggle with extreme teacher shortages, leaving teachers overworked and unable to provide quality education to their pupils. Shortages are especially concerning in primary schools, where students are setting foundations for all future education.

The TSP aims to reduce student-teacher ratios by placing graduate teaching fellows in critically under resourced primary schools. In effect, the TSP alleviates pressures on teachers, enhances the quality of education they can deliver to their students, and allows students to learn in smaller group settings.

40 Graduate teaching fellows placed into 24 primary schools

1 New subject on climate change added to TSP curriculums

93% Students in TSP classes scored A-C grades on national exams

18k Students benefitted from TSP in 2024

While the TSP has helped to alleviate teacher shortages, there is still much more to be done.

The standard student-teacher ratio for public primary schools in Tanzania is 40:1, which is still significantly lower than the 76:1 TSP schools experience, highlighting the importance of continuing and expanding the TSP in the future.








EEC students learn about soil conservation. | Tara Shupe

Environmental Education Centre

Every week, 16 secondary students and their teachers arrive at COP's Environmental Education Centre (EEC) for a week-long residential program on conservation and environmental stewardship practices.

In 2024:

- 512 **Students** attended the EEC in 2024
- 32 **Teachers** attended the EEC in 2024
- 16 **Schools** participate in EEC programs
- 97% **Students** report having a more **positive attitude** toward the environment post-course
- 100% **Schools** engaged in post-EEC conservation projects
 -  | Environmental awareness
 -  | Waste management
 -  | Soil conservation
 -  | Tree nurseries
 -  | Beekeeping



Village Guiding mentee at her retail shop. | Dany Samwel

Rural Enterprise Development

Supporting the ingenuity and aspirations of entrepreneurs, COP enriches the success of local businesses through **entrepreneurship training** and **mentorship**:

Village Learning

12-week training program covering topics in business growth, marketing, income generation, finance accessibility and product development.

- 192 **Sessions** hosted in 12 different villages
- 46% Average increase in **business turnover**
- 261 **Trainees** graduated in 2024
- 120 **Trainees** opened **bank accounts**

Village Guiding

Year-long, 1-on-1 business development and mentorship program covering entrepreneurship and business growth skills.

- 100% **Entrepreneurs** graduated in 2024
- 55% Average increase in **business turnover**
- 5 **Business types** owned by the 2024 cohort
 - 43% | businesses are retail
 - 29% | businesses are food related
- 100% **Mentees** secured bank accounts and business licenses

Climate Resilient Livelihood Program (CLIP)

In 2024, COP initiated a new project, CLIP, focused on enhancing food security, empowering new economies, and building community resilience to climate change.

The effects of climate change are being increasingly felt around the world, especially in areas where people rely on land for their livelihoods and their food security. Land is a finite resource, but in the western Serengeti, the pressure on it is mounting every year. With land becoming increasingly scarce and climate conditions becoming less predictable, there is a greater need for low-impact, high-yield and nutrition-sensitive livelihood options than ever before.

In response, the COP team launched CLIP as a pilot project in 2024. CLIP aims to diversify climate-smart livelihood options and increase locally produced food sources by introducing community members to zero-grazing, sustainable dairy production, one of the most profitable agribusinesses in rural Tanzania.

The Community Outreach team hopes that CLIP will expand into more villages in 2025.

15 Community members received healthy, better breed, vaccinated **dairy cows**

100% **Beneficiaries** trained in livestock keeping, zero-grazing, artificial insemination and record keeping

6 **Calves** born and will be distributed to new CLIP beneficiaries

100% **Beneficiaries** built cow sheds and fodder farms

CLIP beneficiary with her new cow. | Dany Samwel

Proscovia's Story | Finding Dignity in Dairy Farming

At 57, Proscovia has many titles: she is a mother of six children, a wife to a livestock keeper, and a community member in Nyichoka village. In February 2024, she earned another title when she was selected to join the CLIP Program as an aspiring **dairy farmer**.

Through the program, she received her cow and completed CLIP livestock keeping training, in the process learning about sustainable dairy farming practices, cow nutrition and the use of supplements to support cow health and milk production.

"I had always dreamed of having a better breed cow to help provide for my family, but I didn't know how to make it happen. When I received the cow, I knew it was a new beginning for me and my family."

Quickly, Proscovia began seeing the benefits of her new livelihood. When she was previously only getting 1-litre of milk a day from her traditional cows, she was now collecting **12-litres of milk** a day from her new cow. With newfound excitement and confidence, she began selling her milk to her neighbors, earning TSH 10,000 per day.

"It's not just about the money. It's about the independence and dignity it has brought me. I can provide food, medical care, and a better life for my children. This income allows me to invest in my community's savings fund."


According to Proscovia, the program's benefits are far reaching: "I feel like I am part of something bigger now," she reflects. "The training I received isn't just benefiting me it's benefiting my entire community. I can share what I've learned, and together, we are building something stronger."


Proscovia plans to expand her dairy farm by acquiring two more cows and improving her cow shed. She claims that the project has expanded her expectations of what is possible for her:


"I now know that I can achieve even more with hard work and the right support. I am dreaming bigger than ever."


Relationships


 **8** | **Exhibitions** showcasing our work to **64,500 people**

 **100%** | **Response rate** to HWC hotline calls

 **25** | **Traditional dances** hosted in bordering communities

 **20k** | **Students** engaged in conservation awareness

 **6** | **Focus areas** covered in conservation awareness campaigns

 **21** | **Movie screenings** about HWC

A traditional dance during an awareness session. | *Tara Shupe*

Connecting the Serengeti's Stakeholders



The Relationships department is driven by a belief that unity is strength.

The Relationships department ensures that the Grumeti Fund works closely with our community, government, and institutional stakeholders. They share information with our partners, engage with our stakeholders, host awareness campaigns, and

work to identify solutions to the most pressing issues facing the people and wildlife of the western Serengeti. Through Relationships, the Grumeti Fund connects with our stakeholders and stays attuned to the issues that matter to them.

Lasting conservation impacts can only be achieved in partnership and collaboration with the diverse stakeholders of the Serengeti.

Laughing after demonstrating the use of fireworks for HWC mitigation . | Tara Shupe

Education & Collaboration

Awareness Campaigns

Awareness campaigns are a key tool for uniting stakeholders in the western Serengeti. Campaigns give the Relationships team an opportunity to educate wide audiences about the issues affecting the Serengeti and to engage with stakeholders about the challenges they face.

In **2024**, the Relationships team hosted **awareness campaigns** about:



Invasive Alien Plants (IAPs)

→ **3** | villages learned IAP prevention



Human-Wildlife Conflict and Mitigation

→ **18** | HWC mitigation trainings



Environmental Stewardship

→ **45** | schools participated in stewardship trainings



Wildlife Crime Law

→ **4,283** | community members and students attended sessions



Climate Resilience

→ **29** | villages hosted climate sessions
→ **6,431** | trees planted in nearby communities



Domina hosts an awareness session. | Tara Shupe

Pursuing Coexistence |

Mitigating Human-Wildlife Conflict

Human-wildlife conflict (HWC) is one of the most pressing conservation challenges we face in the western Serengeti. As animal populations have rebounded over the past two decades, the people living along the protected area boundary and the wildlife living within it have come into closer and more frequent contact, threatening the wellbeing and the safety of both.

HWC is a complicated and pressing issue that requires long- and short-term strategies. To reduce the severity of HWC, the Relationship department aims to equip communities with the education and skills they need to safely mitigate HWC, to offer resources and emergency response to support those facing conflict and to prevent conflict from occurring in the future.

In 2024, 87% of the calls to the Relationship's Department's HWC MU were for elephants.
The remaining 13% were for predators, being lions, hyenas, leopards, and crocodiles.

Mitigating HWC in 2024

Awareness Campaigns

The Relationships team hosted widespread HWC Awareness Campaigns in the villages surrounding the Grumeti concessions.

- 5 **Sessions** on human-elephant mitigation **fencing pilot project**
- 6,340 **Community members** attended HWC **movie screenings**

Mitigation Trainings

In 2024, members of nearby communities learned how to safely read elephant behaviour, implement HWC mitigating strategies, and use HWC mitigating tools.

- 18 **HWC Mitigation Trainings** hosted with **340 attendees**
- 37 **Community elephant task groups** trained and equipped to respond to HWC safely

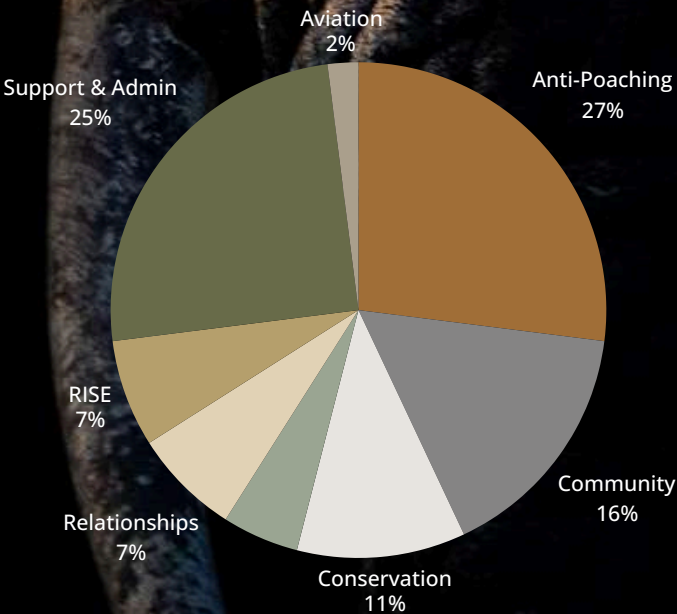
Emergency Response

The Relationships team has a Human Wildlife Conflict Mitigation Unit (HWC MU) based in the community area. Their mandate is to intervene in active instances of HWC, safely protecting people and wildlife.

- 1 **24/7 toll-free HWC hotline** to request HWC intervention
- 1 **Human-Wildlife Conflict Mitigation Unit** based in a neighbouring village
- 157 **HWC MU responses** during active HWC incidents

Financials

| | |
|---------------------------------------|-----|
| Anti-Poaching | 27% |
| Community Outreach | 16% |
| Conservation Management | 11% |
| Research & Monitoring | 5% |
| RISE | 7% |
| Relationships | 7% |
| Aviation | 2% |
| Support Services, Admin & Comms | 25% |



An elephant stare. | Dany Samwel

Our Sponsors

Thank you for your collaboration, commitment, and trust. You are part of the Grumeti Fund team, and your steadfast commitment to people and planet unlocked the lasting impacts we celebrate this year.

The Grumeti Fund is a fiscally sponsored project of the **African Community and Conservation Foundation (ACCF)**, a US-registered 501(c)(3) non-profit organisation.

To get involved or support our work, see:



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A lady dancer's joyful moment after a traditional dance. | Tara Shupe

Our Partners

The Grumeti Fund is deeply grateful for the hard work and collaboration of our key partners, especially the Ministry of Natural Resources and Tourism and the Tanzanian Wildlife Management Authority. Thank you for another year of successful collaboration - we look forward to the many more achievements to come.



A lilac-breasted roller sits. | *Tara Shupe*



A male lions at sunset. | *Dany Samwel*

