



GOVERNORS' CAMP COLLECTION

COMMUNITY SUPPORT DURING COVID-19

April to October 2020

Due to the coronavirus **pandemic**, global tourism has been severely impacted – therefore we have been facilitating **emergency food drives** to those most **vulnerable** within our neighbouring communities.

We would like to extend our **deepest gratitude** to the **Mara Rianda Charitable Trust**, the **Chairman's Foundation** via the **Wilderness Trust**, all our valued guests, travel partners, our brilliant team of staff and our many benefactors for all your kind **support**.



Community support:
April to October 2020



Over
3,000 food packages
delivered.



Positively impacting
15,000 people
directly.



From over
12 communities



In four locations
Masai Mara, Great Rift Valley,
Laikipia and Kinigi.



One food parcel feeds a
family of 5 people
for 1 month in Kenya.



Whilst we are all suffering the unprecedented losses of revenue, unfortunately things have been extremely difficult for many of our **community neighbours**. Most of these people relied directly on revenue channels from **tourism**. For example, our Masai neighbours were making small incomes from selling their beaded wares or charging entrance fees to tourists who wished to visit their traditional homesteads (Manyattas). Others earned monthly rentals from safari camps which operate in the conservancies.

The camps of the Mara struggled to pay these rents since they didn't have any guests in camp to cover the nightly conservancy fees. Thousands of people were of course employed in the safari camps themselves or provided services such as transport or sold basic supplies to many of the families who relied on these **tourism revenues**.

The Masai are traditionally pastoralists who sell their cattle at weekly markets. With government enforced restrictions, they were not allowed to sell their cows thus crippling their only other potential source of income. Nobody was left unaffected. Early on we recognised that this situation was a recipe for disaster.

Without an income to feed their families, many people have been forced to turn to **illegal activities** such as setting wire snares to capture wild animals (the bushmeat as it is known can be sold at a fraction of the price of conventional sources of meat) or felling indigenous hardwood trees for timber or charcoal production. The threat of poaching for ivory and rhino horn also increased. All of these activities are extremely detrimental to the workings of a healthy ecosystem.

Overall, our aim was to raise funds in order to facilitate large-scale community food drives, thereby providing basic food and hygiene supplies to some of the most vulnerable families in our neighbouring communities in both Kenya and Rwanda.

So far, we have provided these supplies to between 80 - 200 in the Masai Mara each month since June, between 40 - 50 families near to Loldia House since July and between 60 - 80 families in Laikipia since August this year.

In Rwanda we have been facilitating food drives since April, with a total of 24 weekly donations; we support a number of unmarried mothers from the Turengeubuzima Women's Sewing Group and their dependents in the immediate area of Sabyinyo Silverback Lodge. In addition to this, we have rebuilt Mama Speciose's house which has spawned additional community-driven groups to achieve five further similar home rebuilds within the area.

A big thank you to our good friend Margot Ragget who arranged a huge amount of the Rwanda donations.

HOW TO HELP US CONTINUE WITH THIS INITIATIVE:

If you would like to help us continue with the food drives, please do make a donation (however big or small), through our **secure online payment link**, please click **HERE**.



KENYA



1,080 food parcels
distributed to date



11 communities
have received support



More than
41 tonnes
of food distributed



5,000 people
positively impacted





*“On behalf of the Kasarani community I wish to recognise your good job towards this community. It's not easy and not everyone can do that kind of act. It was good. May God bless all your endeavours, not only now but also forever. God bless the **Stone Foundation** by **Wilderness Trust** and **Governors' Camp Collection** and **Loldia House**. Ahsanteni sana”*

SAM ~ LOLDIA PRIMARY SCHOOL TEACHER

and respected member of the community.

*“We look forward to facilitating further handovers and assisting more families in need. Thank you to everyone who has supported these efforts so far; the impact it has had on these families during these difficult times is hard to overstate. We would also like to express our heartfelt thanks to the **Mara Rianda Charitable Trust**, and the **Chairman's Foundation** via the **Wilderness Trust**, for providing these much needed funds”.*

ALISA KARSTAD ~ COMMUNITY & CONSERVATION MANAGER
for Governors' Camp Collection.



RWANDA



1 house built
for a family of seven



2,000 food parcels
distributed to date



1,000 people
positively impacted



A total of 24
weekly donations




*“Life had become so difficult and is even more so, especially during this hard time of the pandemic. So, to me it’s like a dream come true having been approached by **Sabyinyo Silverback Lodge** staff members with an idea of supporting me to reconstruct my house. We had been living in a shanty single room with open walls and leaking roofs for many years. I would like to say thank you, thank you, Murakoze, Murakoze to everyone who showed interest in supporting me, I am really humbled”.*

NYIRAKAZINDU SPECIOSE - 49 year old widow, mother of
six children. KINIGI Sector, Rwanda.

*“Having grown up as a beneficiary of a community project myself,
it feels good to be able to help by **giving back**”*

WILLIAM KAROKI - Operations Manager
SABYINYO SILVERBACK LODGE



To find out more about our
community and conservation
initiatives please click **HERE**.

Governors' Camp Collection
K E N Y A R W A N D A