

COMMUNITY CONSERVATION BANKS

Balancing conservation and mitigating poverty is a challenge. FZS is helping to establish Community Conservation Banks (COCOBAs), a community savings and banking loans model that aims to reduce pressure on natural resources.

Villagers who participate in COCOBAs access loans to establish conservation-friendly micro-businesses,

such as beekeeping, honey production, chicken farming and tree planting. COCOBAs provide an alternative economic opportunity to villagers who may otherwise turn to illegal hunting or other environmentally harmful activities. FZS supports and facilitates the marketing and business development for COCOBA members across several districts surrounding Serengeti National Park.

TOGETHER, WE CAN WORK TO CONSERVE BIOLOGICAL DIVERSITY WHILE SUPPORTING SUSTAINABLE LIVELIHOODS

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SERENGETI ECOSYSTEM MANAGEMENT

PROMOTING CONSERVATION
EMPOWERING PEOPLE



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THE ECOSYSTEM APPROACH

The Serengeti ecosystem consists of a unique mosaic of protected areas and community land. Migratory wildlife traverses each of these areas throughout the year.

Communities within the Serengeti ecosystem play an important role in the conservation of the ecosystem. Local people rely on natural resources and ecosystem services but also incur costs of living with wildlife. On the other hand unsustainable resource use is contributing to loss of biodiversity and habitat of Serengeti's wildlife. FZS works to empower local communities to

become actively engaged in conservation, through promoting conservation-compatible livelihoods.

FZS promotes alternative ways for communities to earn income and improve their livelihoods that simultaneously promote the conservation of the Serengeti ecosystem. FZS is also promoting conservation-compatible development within the ecosystem for the long-term benefit of both conservation and communities.



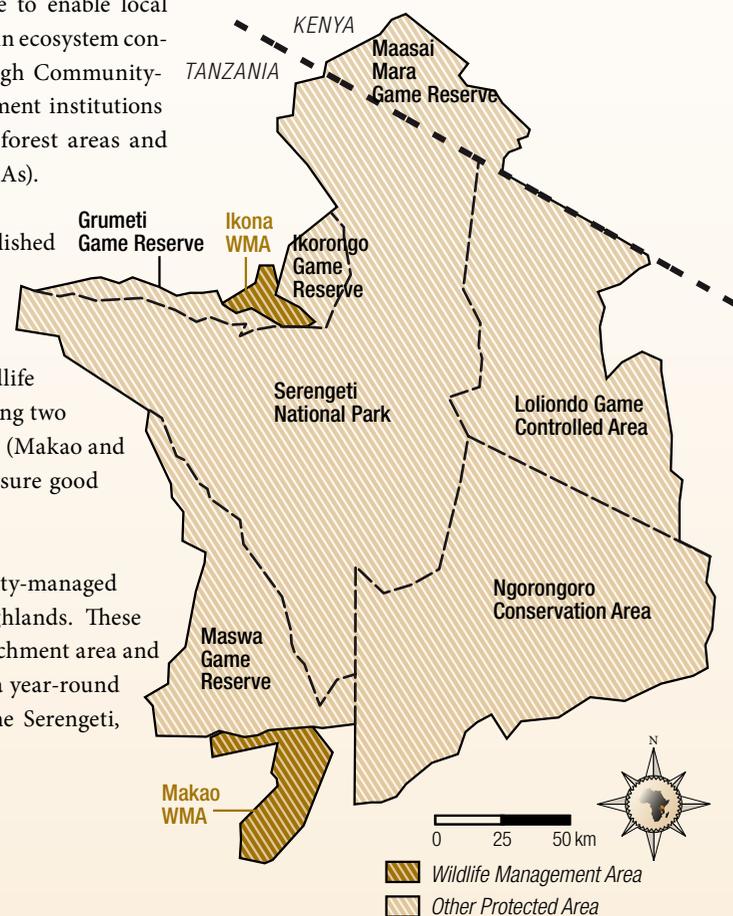
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COMMUNITY-BASED NATURAL RESOURCE MANAGEMENT

FZS provides technical assistance to enable local communities to play a crucial role in ecosystem conservation and management through Community-Based Natural Resource Management institutions including community-managed forest areas and Wildlife Management Areas (WMAs).

WMAs are protected areas established by communities on village lands. By sustainably managing the WMA, communities are able to generate revenues through wildlife tourism. FZS assisted in establishing two WMAs in the Serengeti ecosystem (Makao and Ikona), and is now working to ensure good governance and build capacity.

FZS is also facilitating community-managed forest areas in the Loliondo highlands. These forests are an important water catchment area and the source of the Grumeti River, a year-round source of water for wildlife in the Serengeti, and a tributary of Lake Victoria.



SERENGETI CONSERVATION FOR DEVELOPMENT CHALLENGE

FZS is working with the Serengeti National Park to develop mechanisms for improving benefit-sharing. The "Serengeti Conservation for Development Challenge" is proposed as a way to improve the equitability and transparency of the allocation of benefits to communities from the park. This is envisioned to be a competitive program to reward villages that are demonstrating commitment to conservation.

PARTICIPATORY VILLAGE LAND-USE PLANS

Participatory land-use planning can address multiple socio-economic and conservation objectives. It can also help reduce the potentially adverse impacts of unplanned development within communities by strengthening their property rights and increasing benefits from natural resources, as well as reducing conflict. FZS works with villages adjacent to protected areas to develop scientifically informed participatory land-use plans and develop incentives for their implementation.

STAKEHOLDER COLLABORATION

FZS helped establish the Serengeti Ecosystem Community Conservation Forum (SECCF) to foster collaboration and communication among the variety of stakeholders working within the Serengeti ecosystem. FZS is an active member of SECCF and provides technical support for the Forum.



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