



Ujamaa
Community
Resource
Team

EMPOWERMENT JUSTICE STEWARDSHIP

IMPACT REPORT



2022



"UCRT strives to transform the landscape in a way that enables the thriving of both the livelihoods of indigenous communities and the environment."

- Paine Mako, Director

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FROM THE DIRECTOR

It is with great pleasure that I present to you the 2022 Annual Report for the Ujamaa Community Resource Team (UCRT). Over the past year, we have witnessed remarkable achievements in our commitment to land rights, natural resource management, governance and social empowerment. However, it is important to acknowledge the challenges that communities have been facing in their pursuit to protect, manage and benefit from land and natural resources which they steward. Land rights, natural resource management, governance and social empowerment are at the core of UCRT's mission, as we believe that local communities are not only custodians of their natural resources but also essential partners in achieving sustainable and resilient ecosystems.

Our work focuses on empowering these communities, supporting their initiatives, and fostering collaboration to protect and preserve our precious natural heritage.

One of the significant challenges we have encountered is the increasing pressure on land resources. Many communities are grappling with encroachment, large-scale farming and eviction in the name of 'conservation' threatening their traditional lands and livelihoods. These encroachments not only disrupt the delicate balance of ecosystems but also undermine the authority and decision-making power of local communities.

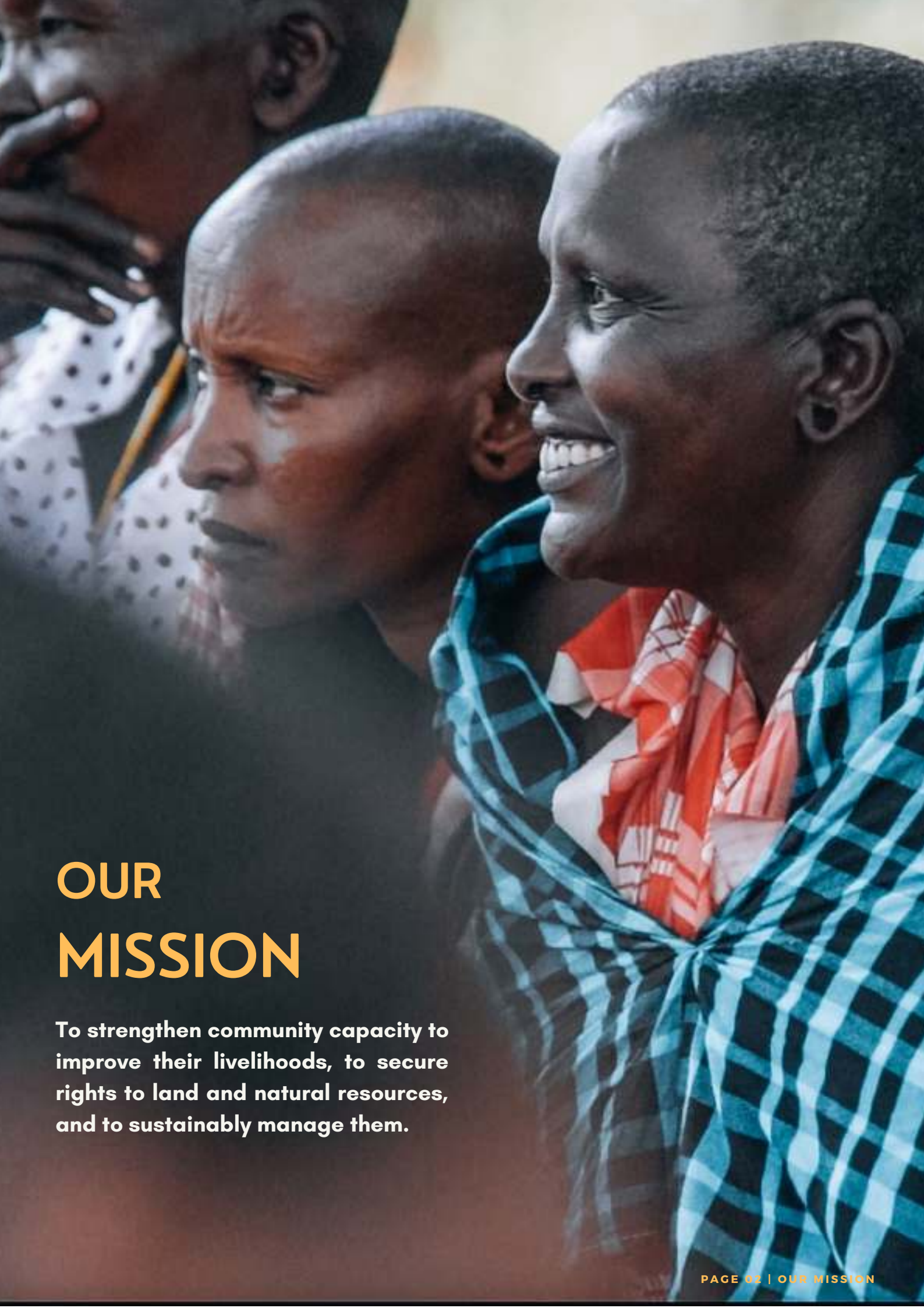
Moreover, climate change exacerbates the vulnerability of these communities, further complicating their efforts. Extreme weather events, rising temperatures, and changing precipitation patterns pose significant risks to both biodiversity and human well-being. Communities are forced to adapt to these changes, often with limited resources and inadequate support systems.

Despite these challenges, we remain steadfast in our commitment to supporting communities in their conservation endeavours. UCRT has been actively working on several fronts to address these obstacles by increasing the size of community land under legal protection, Promoting effective and accountable governing structures, Supporting communities to enhance natural resource management and ensuring inclusivity through social empowerment.

In conclusion, the challenges surrounding land and natural resources are multifaceted and complex. However, they only strengthen our resolve to work alongside communities, supporting their efforts to protect and preserve their natural heritage. Together, we can overcome these challenges, ensuring that future generations inherit a world that is rich in biodiversity, sustainable in its practices, and inclusive in its environmental protection efforts. I sincerely hope you enjoy reading our 2022 annual report.

Thank you for your continued support and belief in the vision of UCRT.

Paine Mako



OUR MISSION

To strengthen community capacity to improve their livelihoods, to secure rights to land and natural resources, and to sustainably manage them.

IMPACT



**5 CCROS WITH A TOTAL
AREA OF 82,239.43 HA**

THIS GIVES COMMUNITIES THE RIGHT TO OWN AND MANAGE THEIR RESOURCES AND LAND SUSTAINABLY.

**964,465 HECTARES
GAZETTED**

THIS ADDITIONAL LAYER OF TENURE SECURITY ENSURES THAT THESE COMMUNITIES CAN LIVE PEACEFULLY WITHOUT THE THREAT OF LAND LOSS.



\$588,672 USD

EARNED BY COMMUNITIES FOR THE CONTINUED PROTECTION, AND MANAGEMENT OF LAND AND NATURAL RESOURCES

27 GRAZING PLANS

ACROSS 9 VILLAGES PLUS DRY SEASON PLANS WERE DEVELOPED AS A CLIMATE CHANGE ADAPTATION STRATEGY SUPPORTING BOTH PEOPLE AND WILDLIFE.



**\$72,678 USD
ACCUMULATED**

FROM WOMEN PARTICIPATING IN OUR VICOBA BANKING INITIATIVE

**1,580
WOMEN EMPOWERED**

THROUGH TRAINING ON LAND RIGHTS, CIVIC RIGHTS, GOVERNANCE, VICOBA SKILLS, NATURAL RESOURCE MANAGEMENT, AND LAND USE PLAN PROCESSES.



ADVOCACY & RECOGNITION IN 2022

In 2022, we witnessed remarkable accomplishments within our organization. One of our dedicated members, Dismas Partalala, who spearheads the Yaeda-Lake Eyasi program, was honored as a finalist for the Tusk Conservation in Africa Award. Over the past two decades, Dismas has devoted his life and career to empowering the Hadzabe hunter-gatherers and Datoga pastoralists, leading to the establishment of more than 100,500 hectares of community-managed conservation areas.


We take immense pride in Dismas's achievements, as he exemplifies an exceptional field-level facilitator who prioritises the rights of these communities and places them at the heart of conservation efforts. We firmly believe that this approach, championed by Dismas, holds the key to the long-term sustainability and success of numerous conservation initiatives, not just in Africa but globally. His unwavering commitment and embodiment of these values make him an exceptional advocate for the cause.



Neema Michael raising gender rights issues in climate change strategies at COP27 in 2022.

TENURE RIGHTS



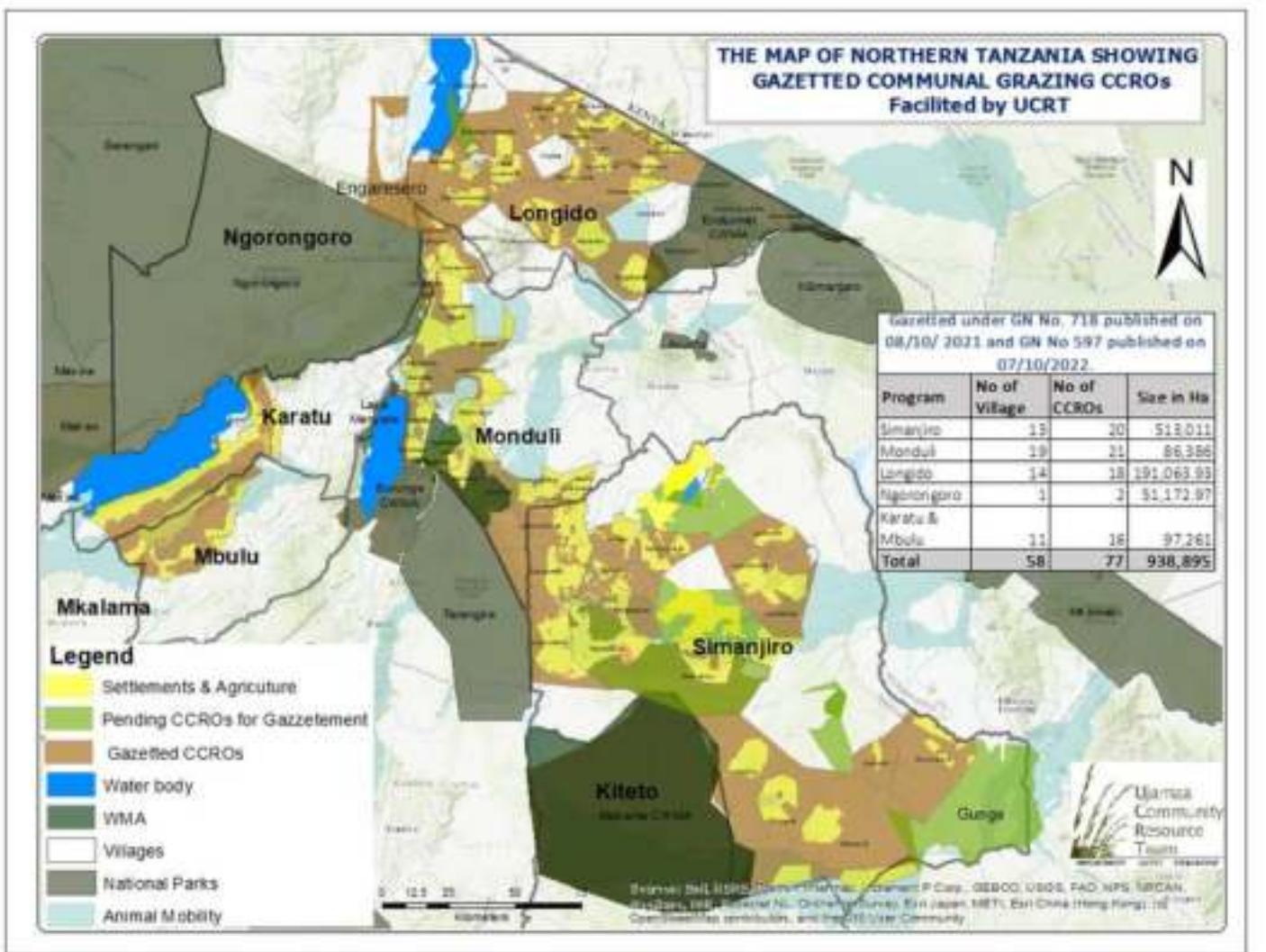


Indigenous communities in Tanzania have been living in harmony with their environment for centuries, using traditional knowledge and practices to maintain a healthy ecosystem. The preservation of these valuable traditions for future generations can be ensured by protecting their land and resource rights. UCRT plays a crucial role in this by facilitating the issuance of Certificates of Village Land (CVLs) and strengthening community tenure through Certificates of Customary Right of Occupancy (CCROs). In 2022, UCRT took significant steps to enhance tenure security by adding an additional layer through the gazettelement of 77 communal CCROs.

**Since UCRT was founded,
we've helped communities secure over
1,500,000 hectares of communal land.**

GAZETTEMET; SECURING MORE COMMUNAL CCROS

The future of the northern Tanzanian landscape hinges on the robust legal recognition of the rights of pastoralists, agro-pastoralists, and hunter-gatherers to own and sustainably manage the land. In a significant achievement in late 2022, we were able to secure strong land tenure for these communities in Tanzania, which will have a profound impact on shaping the region's future. Despite the challenges faced by many community members throughout the year, we express our gratitude to the Tanzanian Government for their support in officially gazetting over 938,895 hectares of our Certificate of Customary Rights of Occupancy (CCROs). This added layer of tenure security ensures that these communities can live peacefully and continue to protect the land without the threat of losing their land.



84,144 HECTARES SECURED THROUGH LAND USE PLANS

We have made significant progress towards our long-term goal of securing land to protect the rights of indigenous communities in Tanzania. Combined with the achievements of 2022, we have successfully secured over 2,677,824 hectares, through the implementation of land use plans. This legal recognition and protection have helped prevent conflicts, allowing communities to practice sustainable land use based on their cultural practices and knowledge. In addition to preserving cultural heritage, securing land has also enabled indigenous communities to derive economic benefits from their natural resources. This progress has empowered indigenous communities to participate in decision-making processes related to their lands and resources, having a positive impact on the lives and livelihoods of indigenous peoples in Tanzania.

GOVERNANCE



The sustainability of our work depends on robust and inclusive governance structures that are accountable and transparent. Each year, we focus on reducing and preventing conflicts, promoting gender equality and inclusivity, and merging traditional and modern governance approaches. We engage with local communities and stakeholders to foster collaboration, respect traditional values, and integrate modern practices. Our efforts aim to contribute to a more peaceful, stable, and prosperous society. Throughout 2022, we remained committed to reinforcing community-based institutions that prioritize effective, equitable, and accountable governance across various levels.





Preventing Conflict and Increasing Security: Addressing Climate Change in the Yaeda Valley

Increasing pressures from climate change places more strain on the need to share land and natural resources. This was particularly evident in 2022 in the Yaeda Valley, where rising conflict over grazing land access became a major concern. In response to this challenge, traditional leaders, village council and community members from eight villages came together to discuss how the Hadzabe could improve the security of land and natural resources and reduce conflicts between pastoralists and Hadzabe groups.

During the meeting, UCRT mediated negotiations to identify areas of common ground and potential solutions to the challenges they faced. The key to reducing tensions was to find ways for pastoralists and Hadzabe groups to share common grazing areas during periods of drought, when resources are scarce.

By working collaboratively, the village authority members were able to negotiate an agreement that met the needs of both groups. The agreement set out clear guidelines for how the grazing land would be shared, including rules and bylaws around the use of water sources and the duration of grazing during dry and wet periods. These proactive measures have averted conflicts and fostered transparency in the management of Hadzabe lands.

"We all know climate change is a serious issue affecting everyone. The outcome of this meeting has provided us with an opportunity to work together to manage our land, protect our natural resources, and prevent encroachment. We're grateful to UCRT for helping us come to an agreement on the best way to manage our communal CCRO area."

Hadzabe Traditional Leader

Resolving a Border Dispute in Kiteto with Assistance from Local Authorities

In 2022, UCRT made a significant achievement in resolving a long-standing dispute over the boundary of Laangai and Narosoito. This political dispute was preventing the Akie from obtaining legal security over their lands and had significant implications for their food security. The resolution of the issue required the collaborative efforts of UCRT and local authorities to mediate and prevent the dispute from continuing to deprive the Akie of access to foraging land.

With the support of an influential political leader, UCRT was able to successfully resolve the boundary dispute, allowing the Akie to proceed with the process of obtaining legal security over their lands, which will not only ensure their right to access foraging areas but also enable them to engage in sustainable land use practices that will preserve their traditional way of life.

Often we find ourselves addressing the complex issues of competing individual, political, and business interests that often impede the realisation of land and resource rights. UCRT's efforts in resolving this dispute demonstrate the importance of collaborative and inclusive approaches in addressing conflicts that arise around land and resource use. By promoting dialogue and mediation between conflicting parties, UCRT was able to find a solution that ensures the protection of indigenous communities' land and resource rights.



COMMUNITY ACTION PLANS FOR EFFECTIVE CCRO MANAGEMENT IN MONDLI

As part of our strategy to ensure the long-term sustainability of land tenure, in 2022 we facilitated training different communities on the management of CCRO areas. In Selela and Eluwai, village councils, CCRO committees and land councils came together to develop community action plans. UCRT facilitated training in these villages aimed at improving governance and the protection of natural resources in the region.

Through capacity building training, the stakeholders identified various challenges and opportunities in managing communal CCRO areas. These discussions also centred on the roles and responsibilities of different stakeholders in ensuring effective management of the area.

From the training, plans were created to include strategies for monitoring and enforcing land use regulations, promoting sustainable land use practices and involving minority groups in decision-making processes.

Developing these community action plans is a significant milestone towards promoting sustainable land use practices and the protection of natural resources in Selela and Eluwai. It also underscores the importance of collaborative efforts between different stakeholders to ensure effective management of communal CCRO areas and the sustainable use of natural resources, with the additional benefit of helping prevent land and natural-resource related conflicts

NATURAL RESOURCE MANAGEMENT





In Tanzania, where the effects of climate change, land fragmentation, agricultural expansion, and population growth continue to pose significant challenges to nature-dependent livelihoods, it is more crucial than ever to strengthen the ability of communities to manage the land and natural resources they have secured. This is done by facilitating the development of land-use plans, ensuring by-laws are developed and approved to manage these plans, promoting connectivity between different areas, and building management capacity by linking scientific and traditional knowledge and sharing information related to climate change impacts and population growth.

In 2022, several initiatives addressed these issues, with more emphasis on climate change adaptation and mitigation. These initiatives aimed to assist communities in benefiting from natural resource conservation and improving the management of their surroundings to safeguard and enhance their livelihoods.



Removing invasive species in Monduli

Rangelands in Tanzania face a significant threat from invasive species that could potentially cause extensive harm. The presence of invasive plants such as *Calotropis procera* (dead sea fruit), *Solanum incanum* (sodom apple), *Datura stramonium* (jimsonweed) and *Parthenium hysterophorus* (famine weed) is a major factor that drives environmental changes and leads to losses in biodiversity. However, in the Monduli region, members of the pastoralist community are taking proactive measures to manage and prevent the spread of harmful species that could pose a risk to traditional land use practices and the overall health of the ecosystem on which they rely.



Holistic Rangeland Management

UCRT adopted the approach of Holistic Rangeland Management as a means of decision-making and planning processes in order to achieve a management system for grasslands that is ecologically regenerative, economically viable, and socially responsible. Since the rangeland management inception, 35 villages now practice the program. In 2022, significant successes were seen in protecting livestock numbers during an extended drought period. In Kitwai B for example, communities reported zero cattle deaths through successfully managing their grazing areas, so there was enough grazing land for everyone throughout the year.



Communities fostering coexistence in Simanjiro

Each year, the Simanjiro easement's plains are monitored by locally appointed community facilitators who are essential to the community's efforts to combat poaching and ensure the sustainable use of natural resources. These game scouts are tasked with patrolling the vast expanse of the Simanjiro easement and reporting any illegal activities that deviate from the community's land use plans.

The community facilitators are a dedicated team of individuals who are passionate about protecting the unique natural heritage of Simanjiro. They work tirelessly to safeguard the wildlife and their habitats for future generations. However, their job can be challenging as the vast size of the easement makes it difficult to cover all areas on foot.

In 2022, the team received a much-needed boost with the donation of five new motorbikes. These motorbikes have greatly assisted the game scouts in getting around the vast expanse of the Simanjiro easement and carrying out their crucial role in protecting the area's natural resources. With the help of the motorbikes, the game scouts can now cover more ground, respond to incidents more quickly, and conduct their patrols more efficiently.



SOCIAL EMPOWERMENT



In 2022, our social empowerment initiatives were guided by a commitment to making a tangible difference in people's lives. We prioritised the revival of our education program, which had been impacted by funding gaps caused by Covid-19 over the past two years. Additionally, we increased our efforts to improve women's rights, leadership, and economic position, while continuing to advocate for social norm change within the pastoralist communities we support. By raising the stakes in these areas, we aimed to create lasting, positive impacts for those we serve.



410,914 PEOPLE

Benefit from secure rights to their land and natural resources.

WOMEN

974 WOMEN Engaged in VICOBA economic empowerment activities in Monduli, Simanjiro, Kiteto, and Ngorongoro

33 CCROS Issued to individual vulnerable women in Monduli District.

4 WRLFS established helping build strong female leaders in each of the 4 villages.



SOCIAL CHANGE

65 MEN Received our 'Secure your families future training' in 4 districts with the goal of promoting women and girls' access to land and property.



EDUCATION

120 STUDENTS from the Akie community received an education.

60 DESKS Delivered to Napilukunya Primary school in Kiteto District.

Vialeth's leadership story

“

My motivation to become a female leader stems from my desire to address the gender-based discrimination prevalent in my community. Within Maasai societies, patriarchal systems often marginalise women, leaving them unaware of their rights and excluded from decision-making and governance. As a result, women face violations of their rights, lack access to education, land ownership, inheritance, and civic participation, and are unable to contribute to the community meaningfully. Wealthy and powerful men often make decisions that impact the entire community, leaving women voiceless and powerless.

In 2016, I joined the Women's Rights and Leadership Forum initiative (WRLF), which equipped me with the knowledge and skills necessary to understand my rights as a woman. The WRLF is a platform where women can mobilise to discuss their rights issues and engage with customary leaders who influence culture and norms. It empowers women to engage in the community, influences perceptions and practices that marginalise them, and access productive resources, leadership, and community development opportunities.

After joining my local WRLF, I ran for the village chairperson position in the 2019 local government elections and won, becoming the first woman to hold the position. My victory has garnered considerable support from women in my community and UCRT, who continue to support me. Through the Tuhifadhi maliasili seed capital program, I received 7 million tsh in 2022, which I invested in a crop near Morogoro since the areas I live in are unsuitable for farming as we live in a rich wildlife area. I have used the capital generated to continue contesting for leadership and am saving to build my modern house.

As a Maasai woman, I recognise the importance of coexisting with nature and preserving our natural resources. I actively demonstrate the need to prevent environmental destruction and promote sustainable practices, such as using gas stoves instead of cutting down trees for firewood.

As the village chairperson, I have faced numerous challenges, including men doubting my ability to hold a decision-making position due to my gender and even being offered bribes to step down. However, I remain steadfast in my commitment to inspiring other women to break free from the cycle of oppression and discrimination that plagues my community”.



Vialeth started building her own home in 2022.

NATURE-BASED LIVELIHOODS

A photograph of two young boys sitting on a large, light-colored rock in a natural, outdoor setting. The boy on the left is wearing a red t-shirt and blue and green plaid shorts. The boy on the right is wearing a dark, long-sleeved shirt and dark shorts. They are both looking towards the camera. The background is filled with lush green foliage and trees, with sunlight filtering through the leaves, creating a bright and natural atmosphere.

The accumulated efforts in gaining secure rights to land and natural resources mean communities can then enter into agreements with ethical investors to benefit from conserving their environment. UCRT's role is to ensure tourism and carbon traders factor in land use plans where appropriate and desired by the communities and help negotiate and facilitate agreements. UCRT supports villages across northern Tanzania in protecting and managing their natural resources in exchange for monetary earnings. Through activities such as tourism and carbon trading, communities earn money to protect their resources.



**\$51,993 USD
EARNED FROM
ECOTOURISM**

**HADZABE AND DATOGA COMMUNITIES
FAIRLY DISTRIBUTED THIS MONEY
BETWEEN PARTICIPATING VILLAGES IN
THE LAKE EYASI AREA.**

**\$534,179 USD
GENERATED FROM
CARBON OFFSETS**

**IMPROVING FOOD SECURITY, HEALTH
AND CHILDREN'S EDUCATION IN EACH
COMMUNITY.**



Tourism Fee Transparency

In 2022, with UCRT's support Lake Eyasi cultural tourism stakeholders agreed upon a new payment structure of \$25 USD per person from the beginning of 2023. The new payment structure will bring substantial benefits to the 11 Hadzabe and Datoga communities involved in the Lake Eyasi cultural tourism industry. With a fair and equal distribution of revenue generated from tourism activities, these communities will be able to access greater economic opportunities and financial resources, leading to improved living standards and quality of life. Additionally, this revenue can be used to fund important community development initiatives, such as improving access to education, healthcare, and infrastructure. By enabling these communities to become more financially independent and self-sufficient, this development represents a significant step towards promoting sustainability and equity within the tourism industry. Overall, the revenue generated from cultural tourism in Lake Eyasi will play a crucial role in empowering these communities and fostering their long-term prosperity.





Carbon Revenue

It has been 10 years since we helped to facilitate an agreement between the Hadzabe and Datoga communities in Lake Eyasi and Yaeda Valley, which allowed them to benefit from carbon revenue generated by preserving and managing their forested areas. In 2022, these villages earned \$535,088 USD in just 12 months from the sale of carbon credits. This substantial revenue stream is a testament to their hard work and dedication to protecting their local ecosystems, highlighting the positive outcomes that can result from environmental stewardship.

FINANCIALS



Statement of Financial Position as at 31 December 2022

	2022	2021
	TSH	TSH
ASSETS		
Property, Plant and equipment	834,436,536	655,543,655
Intangible assets	31,728,010	6,000,000
Account receivables	80,482,538	89,552,433
Cash and bank balances	461,315,711	716,642,348
Total Assets	1,407,962,795	1,467,938,437
RESERVES AND LIABILITIES		
RESERVES		
Revaluation reserves	534,791,000	534,791,000
Deferred income	735,737,353	832,582,228
	1,270,528,353	1,367,373,228
LIABILITIES		
Account payables	137,434,441	100,565,209
Total funds and Liabilities	1,407,962,795	1,467,938,437

Statement of Financial Performance for the year ended 31 December 2022

	2022	2021
	TSH	TSH
REVENUE		
Funds received from donors	4,108,372,379	3,621,457,273
Deferred revenue brought forward	832,572,228	405,117,074
Total revenue	4,940,944,607	4,026,574,348
EXPENSES		

THANK YOU TO OUR PARTNERS AND DONORS


Trias-VZW
The Nature Conservancy
Andrew - Endamaghan school
APT - UK
Brightlight Foundation
Darwin Project
Dorobo Fund
Kisimangeda
PWC - Kellog
LCAOF
LPZ
Masai Coservation Fund -Maliasili
Mulago Fellowship Program
Oikos-Kisima Project
PINGOS
Tush Awards
UNDP
University of York
USAID
The Open Society Initiative for Eastern
Africa
Wellspring
University of York
ICCA
IUCN


**WITHOUT YOU, WE
WOULD NOT BE ABLE TO
ACHIEVE OUR MISSION OF
CREATING A MORE JUST
AND SUSTAINABLE SOCIETY
IN TANZANIA.**





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