



TANAPA TODAY

A QUARTERLY PUBLICATION OF TANZANIA NATIONAL PARKS JULY - SEPTEMBER, 2020 ISSUE 015



- TANAPA honors Tourism Stakeholders
- Nyerere Memorial House a new tourist attraction under TANAPA
- Mahale now accessible by road

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ARUSHA MANIFESTO



"The survival of our wildlife is a matter of grave concern to all of us in Africa.

These wild creatures amid the wild places they inhabit are not only important as a source of wonder and inspiration but are an integral part of our natural resources and our future livelihood and well being.

In accepting the trusteeship of our wildlife we solemnly declare that we will do everything in our power to make sure that our children's grand-children will be able to enjoy this rich and precious inheritance.

The conservation of wildlife and wild places calls for specialist knowledge, trained manpower and money. And we look to other nations to co-operate with us in this important task the success or failure of which not only affects the continent of Africa but the rest of the world as well"

Mwalimu Julius K. Nyerere - 1961





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Message from the Conservation Commissioner

Dear readers,

This year the entire World has been hit by one of the biggest health crises in modern history. This is none other of COVID 19 pandemic, which has paralyzed the world, with consequential impacts on conservation than all as well. Tanzania National Parks, which is a custodian of all the 22 National Parks with the size of 104,578 square kilometers pleased to share with you some of the updates on Corporate affairs during these challenge times, expecting that you will patronize our efforts to support various initiatives being undertaken by the organization.

Among the initiatives taken to cope with the current situation is to develop a COVID 19 Health and Safety Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs). The procedures which have been customized to TANAPA from those of the World Health Organization (WHO), and the Government of Tanzania, will guide service provisions in the national parks. The procedures provide a framework for protecting the safety of our staff and customers from the COVID – 19 pandemic. There are also specific SOPs, for protecting primates which are among our conservation targets. These guidelines will be updated from time to time as the COVID -19 situation dictates. The updates will be in conformity with the measures provided by the Government of Tanzania and other relevant authorities. The purpose is to make sure that the spread of COVID-19 pandemic is controlled by providing a safe working environment that protects staff, tourists and wildlife.

Despite the interruptions that will result in enforcing implementation of COVID – 19 procedures, we assure our customers that, we will remain focused on delivering best services.

COVID – 19 pandemic is also having an impact on conservation due to the significant decline in the number of tourists, thus causing significant budget deficits, but we wish to assure that our conservation will continue to remain intact. The strong support provided by both the Government, and the private sector has been instrumental in coping up with the situation. We are committed to instituting creative solutions with a myriad of partners and dedicated conservation supporters to ensure our National Parks thrive.

Finally, I wish to reiterate these are challenging times, and each of you might have been affected in one way or other. Let us keep united to take all the necessary precautions to make sure that the pandemic is eliminated. We in Tanzania National Parks feel honoured to be part of such efforts. I appeal to you to be part of the initiatives, and be part of our patrons in supporting conservation and reviving tourism.

Regards,



Dr. Allan Kijazi
Conservation Commissioner



From TANAPA Communications Desk



Pascal Shelutete

Dear Our Esteemed Readers,

I hope all is well with all of you. Of recent, we, as others elsewhere in the world, have experienced unprecedented hard times in our tourism industry.

Covid-19 is arguably one of the biggest disasters humankind has had to contend with in recent history, bringing about most damaging disruptions to human health, economies and all facets of life our socio-economic existences.

There is no denying the fact that our conservation and tourism sectors have been among the worst hit by the pandemic.

But, as the adage goes, in every cloud, there is a silver lining. In the midst of the global crisis, Tanzania, through its unique approach to confront the novel coronavirus, we have managed to, somewhat, weather the storm, perhaps better than many of our competitors elsewhere in Africa and the world at large.

Several measures being undertaken now will enable our tourism industry and conservation efforts to thrive and shine, notwithstanding the challenges wrought upon us by Covid-19 scourge.

Having said that, let us hasten to note that this edition of 'TANAPA Today' brings to you a variety fresh and educative information on the sector for the period of July to September 2020.

I hope you will enjoy reading about the newly renovated Mwalimu Julius Nyerere Memorial House, now under the care of Tanzania National Parks and many other attractive news and feature articles.

We welcome you to read, enjoy and learn about what TANAPA has to offer in its endeavour to make Tanzania home to the world's most alluring tourist destination.

Yours,

Pascal Shelutete
Senior Assistant Conservation
Commissioner - Communications





Nyerere Memorial House a new tourist attraction under TANAPA

By TT correspondent

The Nyerere Memorial House located at Magomeni in Dar es Salaam is a new tourist attraction that will be managed by the Tanzania National Parks. The house was one that Father of the Nation Mwalimu Julius Nyerere built.

Mwalimu Nyerere and his family lived in this modest house in the 1950s when he was at the helm of the nationalist struggle leading to the independence of Tanganyika (now Tanzania Mainland). Most of anti-colonial effort strategy meetings were held in this house where Mwalimu Nyerere would hold discussions with fellow nationalists to chart out the modalities that would in due course see Tanganyika freed from the colonial rule.

After the independence of Tanganyika in 1961, it was decided that this house be assigned the status of a national monument given its historical significance and would be protected by the Antiquities Department under the Ministry of Natural Resources and Tourism under The Antiquities Act (CAP. 333).

Currently, the house is under the supervision of TANAPA as delegated by the same Act, Section 28 and published in the Government Notice No. 631 of 2020 that mandates the authority to supervise, improve and manage the historical house.

The decision to assign TANAPA the duty to supervise this property was based on the Antiquities Act whereby the Director of

Continues on Page 8 ►



The newly renovated Mwalimu Julius Nyerere Memorial House located at Magomeni, Dar es Salaam.



▶ Antiquities, by virtue of powers conferred to upon him under Section 25 of the Act, appointed Tanzania National Parks the Honorary Antiquities Warden, a title that grants it the mandate to conserve and manage antiquity site.

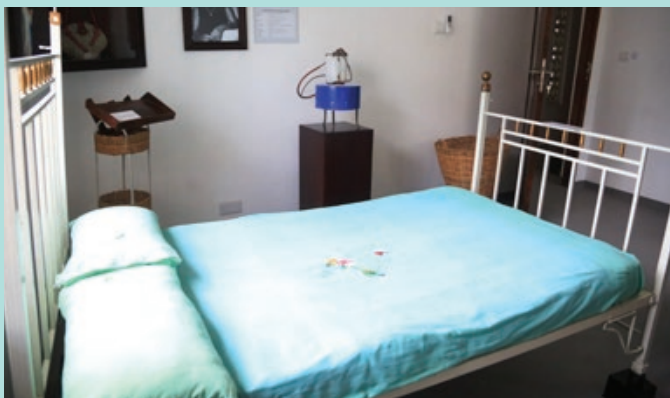
Five other historical sites are now delegated to TANAPA and these are: Dr. Livingstone Memorial Site in Ujiji; Caravan Serai Slave Museum; Isimila Stone Age Site; Chifu Mkwawa Memorial Site in Kalenga and Mwalimu Nyerere Memorial Museum at Magomeni.

Mwalimu Nyerere Memorial House offers a number of tourism activities. Here visitors can view the house that Mwalimu Nyerere lived and, more significantly, know the place where the country's leading nationalist used to receive colleagues and strategise the way forward for the Tanzania Mainland's pursuit of independence.

At this centre, visitors can also get insights into the history of Mwalimu Julius Nyerere's family.

A number of domestic items, including furniture, can also be viewed at the centre, including the bed and a radio set from which Mwalimu would get information from various corners of the world.

A visitor can also view kitchen utensils, a dining table, a sofa set, a sewing machine; iron box and various other items which tell so many things about the life and times of Mwalimu Nyerere in his early days as leader of Tanzania Mainland's independence struggle. ●



A bed and iron box used by Mwalimu Nyerere are some of the historical stuffs at the memorial house.



Minister for Natural Resources and Tourism Hon. Dr. Hamisi Kigwangalla (seated fourth from right) in a group picture with the Management of TANAPA during the awarding event. Others in the picture include Ms. Zainab Ansell from Zara Tours; TANAPA's Board Chairman Gen (rtd) George Waitara; PS MNRT Dr. Aloyce Nzuki; TANAPA CC Dr. Allan Kijazi and representatives from Leopard Tours company.

TANAPA honors stakeholders for great contribution in tourism

By TT correspondent

It was glitz and glamour as the Tanzania National Parks honoured its stakeholders for their outstanding contribution to the sector.

The ceremony, which took place at the authority's headquarters recently, saw a numerous companies excel and be feted in different categories during the gala that recognised and motivated key players in the multi-million dollar industry, setting a benchmark for service delivery and sustainable tourism development.

Arusha-based Leopard Tours emerged the overall winner in the second edition of the awards. The 35-year-old Safari outfit outshone Ranger Safaris and Zara Tanzania Adventures to wrap up the award.

Receiving the gong on behalf of the company, Leopard Tours Marketing Consultant Andrew Kimolo described the feat as a pleasant surprise

to the firm which boasts a plethora of safari vehicles fleet.

"This has come as a shock to us, especially after what the sector has been going through recently...all in all, it is worth celebrating this honour," he said.

Kimolo expressed gratitude to the Government for staying by the tour operators' side at a time when Covid-19 took its toll on the \$2 billion industry.

In other categories, Nomad Tanzania Limited was feted as the best tour operator in Night Game Drive Activities while Makoa Farm scooped the Best Tour Operating Company in Horse riding.

Wayo Africa bagged the Best Tour Operator in Canoeing while the Four Seasons Safari Lodge walked away with the award of the best Tour Operator in Bush Meal Activities. ▶



TANAPA Board of Trustees Chairman Gen. George Waitara (Rtd) speaking during the event.

- There was, for the first time, the Mawenzi Peak Technical Challenge Climbing category, in which Ahsante Tours clinched the trophy.

A documentary dubbed 'Serengeti Show Live' was also honoured on the big stage for its unwavering support in promoting tourism during the Covid-19 pandemic while Serengeti Simba Safari Limited was recognised for supporting the wildlife during the Pandemic.

Abercrombie & Kent, an award-winning luxury travel company, received an award for the best tour operator in canopy walkway while Abdallah Hassan Noah was honoured by TANAPA as the Best Safari Guide.

In his remarks, Natural Resources and Tourism Minister Dr. Hamisi Kigwangalla saluted the winners of different categories, further challenging them to be even more focused in efforts to elevate the industry.

"Psychology dictates that anyone who does well deserves positive reinforcement, your achievement, hence with, should motivate you to do even better," he said.

For his part, TANAPA Conservation Commissioner Dr. Allan Kijazi said the awards gala symbolised the strong cooperation the authority had with its stakeholders.

Dr Kijazi who is also the Deputy Permanent Secretary in the Natural Resources and Tourism Ministry, further rooted for the rescheduling of the subsequent awards, to be marked on World Tourism Day.

"This should no longer be a TANAPA affair, we want all agencies under the Tourism Ministry to own the award," he offered.

The TANAPA boss also revealed that the authority was mulling over plans of hosting a dialogue with its stakeholders later this year.

TANAPA Board Chairperson, General (Rtd) George Marwa Waitara, heaped praise on the stakeholders for their contribution, despite the threat of the coronavirus disease which had threatened the jobs of 477,000 people and affect the sector's revenue by a whopping 77 per cent.

He commended the players for banking their hopes on the 4Rs theory, namely Respond, Reset, Restart and Recover.

The number of tourists arriving in Tanzania rose from 1.3 million in 2017 to 1.5 million in 2018, whereas this increment made the sector to garner \$2.4 billion (7.2 per cent increase) compared to 2.3 billion in 2017. •





MV Rubondo to Promote Rubondo Chimps

By TT Correspondent

The commissioning of the state-of-the-art ferry slip on the shores of Lake Victoria will now spare tourists and other visitors to the 456.8 square kilometer park the hustle of hiring small boats to make it to the alluring wilderness.

The move, according to the Chief Secretary Ambassador Eng. John Kijazi who officiated the launching of MV Rubondo is yet another zeal demonstrated by the fifth phase government of wooing in more tourists to the country.

“Our target of attaining 2.5 million tourists by 2025 is well within our reach...the commissioning of

this ferry is just the beginning of our mission,” said Ambassador Kijazi during the launch.

He also singled out the purchase of new commercial planes as an important step in bolstering the 4.6 trillion industry.

According to Dr. Kijazi, TANAPA’s Conservation Commissioner, the commissioning of the new ferry would make rare species of Tanzanian chimpanzees found in Rubondo National Park attract more tourists since it will also provide link with other national parks in the lake zone.

He adds that the ferry will be yet another pull factor, with the construction of Chato Airport well underway.

“It is without a doubt that the ferry could also bring more tourists here from as far as Rwanda, Burundi, Kenya and even Uganda”

“It is without a doubt that the ferry could also bring more tourists here from as far as Rwanda, Burundi, Kenya and even Uganda,” asserts the Chief Secretary.

Deputy Minister in the Natural Resources and Tourism Ministry Mr. Constantine Kanyasu ▶



Chief Secretary of the Government of Tanzania Ambassador Eng. John Kijazi clapping hands after he officially inaugurates MV. Rubondo recently in Geita.

- hints that the ferry operation could revitalize Chimpanzees Tourism, which is a spectacle to behold in Rubondo National Park.

“It wasn’t easy to get to see the Chimps because there was no convenient means of transport,” he explains.

Assembled and built by a local contractor, the ferry costs around 2.3bn/- and has capacity of carrying 50 passengers and six vehicles at a time.

Before its commissioning, visitors to the park had to sail on a hired small boat which was only authorized to carry 16 passengers without their vehicles.

This would limit tourists to drive through the park to catch glimpses of the rare species found in Rubondo. On his part, the TANAPA Board Chairman General (Rtd) George Waitara lauds the government’s initiatives of making the country a tourism haven through the establishment of new national parks and improving of infrastructure. •



MV Rubondo sailing in Lake Victoria.

TANAPA Initiate Plans to boost Tourism in Western Lake Zone

By TT Correspondent

Tanzania National Parks has launched a Strategic Plan Projects with a focus to boost tourism activities in the Western Lake Zone. The plan is expected to increase a number of tourists visiting the tourist attraction in the Rubondo Island, Burigi- Chato, Ibanda-Kyerwa and Rumanyika Karagwe.

The plan includes the ongoing construction of the Three Star Tourist Hotel at Rubambagwe, Chato Geita. The hotel is located along the shores of Lake Victoria. The hotel is located strategically for accessibility and is within proximity of tourist attractions of Rubondo Island and Burigi-Chato National Parks. Once completed the hotel will be 21 kms from Chato Airport, 31 kms from Kasenda Gate at Rubondo National Park, and about 45 kms from anticipated Burigi-Chato entry gate at Katete. The hotel will comprise of bandas, conference facilities, administrative blocks and staff houses.

TANAPA has also embarked on the project for the expansion of Kasenda – Mganza Gate area at Rubondo National Park in order to enable tourists visiting Rubondo National Park to be hosted and served properly before entering the park. In order to meet this requirement, Chato District Council has approved TANAPA's request for additional land of 7.1 Hectares. The Council will conduct valuation of all community properties in the area needed for expansion and all people who will be relocated will be compensated accordingly.

Procurement of 25-tone Ferry and expansion of Kasenda – Mganza Jetties at Rubondo National Park is another strategy adopted by TANAPA In order to ensure a reliable and safer transport of tourists, employees and organization properties to Rubondo Island National Park. The MV Rubondo weighing 25-tone ferry will carry a minimum of four motor vehicles and 100 passengers at a go. The ferry offers an opportunity of linking Rubondo and the newly established Burigi-Chato National Park. ●



Architectural drawings of the newly planned three-star hotel to be owned by TANAPA for tourism activities in Geita.

Mahale road trip becoming a reality at last

By TT Correspondent

The dream for an up-and-close encounter with chimpanzees is soon to become a reality following collaboration between the Tanzania National Parks (TANAPA) and the Uvinza District Council to construct a 38km road from Rukoma Village to Mahale Mountains National Park.

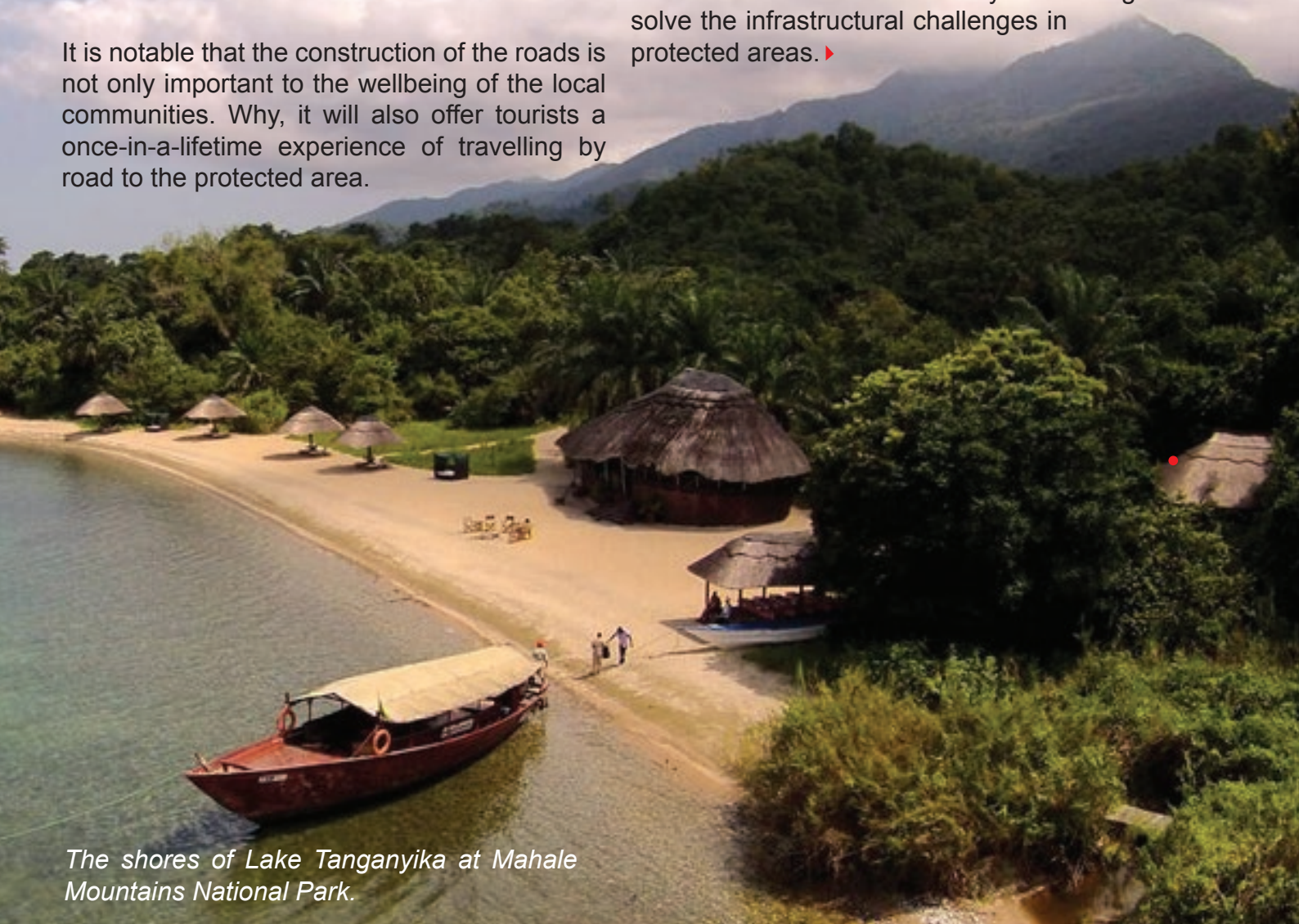
The partnership involves the construction of a 180km road from Kigoma to the same park which is a sanctuary the chimps. The completion of the roads will enable visitors to easily access the national park by road and spare them the burden of the high cost of taking boats or aircraft.

It is notable that the construction of the roads is not only important to the wellbeing of the local communities. Why, it will also offer tourists a once-in-a-lifetime experience of travelling by road to the protected area.

“We have already built two bridges in Rukoma and Lagosa, as well as three box culverts at Nkonkwa, Katato and Kabezi, as part of TANAPA’s contribution to the road project,” says Assistant Commissioner Susuma Kusekwa of the Mahale Mountains.

“The importance of road transport cannot be overemphasized in tourism business for it links visitors with various touristic destinations,” says Kusekwa.

Echoing similar sentiments, the TANAPA Deputy Conservation Commissioner Business Development William Mwakilema says the TANAPA, which is mandated to manage 22 National Parks in the country is striving to solve the infrastructural challenges in protected areas. ▶



The shores of Lake Tanganyika at Mahale Mountains National Park.



A relaxed chimp at Mahale Mountains National Park.

“Through that, we aim to spare tourists any hustles whenever they seek to access national parks...we want to guarantee them pleasant stay in the country,” Commissioner Mwakilema explains.

Domestic tourists have also taken advantage of the park’s accessibility since the construction of the road got underway.

According to Susuma Kusekwa, domestic tourists have been visiting the Mahale Mountains National Park in droves to catch a glimpse of the chimpanzees and enjoy the breathtaking beauty found inside the park.

“Local tourists hire vehicles at Kigoma Town and ride through this road to Mgambo Village, before hiring a fibre boat that takes 40 minutes to the national park,” explains the Chief Park Warden.

Since Mahale Mountain National Park formation was published in a Government Gazette, tourists have been using boats and aircraft to reach the park. An ordinary wooden boat takes nine-hours sailing from Kigoma Town to the national park, while a speed boat takes 4 hours. However, there are chartered planes that tourists can take and land a point closer to Mahale, from where they use a boat that takes only 10 minutes to the park headquarters.

Mahale Mountains National Park is home to large groups of chimpanzees and is famous for chimpanzee tracking, beautiful beaches of Lake Tanganyika, not to mention the wide variety of flora and fauna.

Referred as Tanzania’s most remote and one of the country’s most alluring park, Mahale is the first and principal a chimpanzee safe haven. About 1,700 chimpanzees are said to inhabit the area, however, one group of habituated chimpanzees is for tourism activities. ●

Mahale Mountains National Park can now be easily accessed by road.



SERENGETI

The most instagrammed park in East Africa

By TT Correspondent

The US-based Travel and Leisure Company has named Serengeti National Park as the only most Instagrammed national park in East Africa and the 12th in the world out of 30 National Parks that were rated according to the number of hashtags each park got during the covid 19 lock down period.

Serengeti National Park got a total number of 511,640 posts and was the only one coming out of East Africa and it was the second in Africa after Kruger of South Africa who scored 567,909 posts.

The Travel and Leisure Company Website pointed out that now that lockdown measures are being lifted around the world, it is a great time to get back to our National Parks. After being stuck inside for so long during the lockdown, “we thought you might want some inspiration as to where you should get to now lockdown measures are being lifted. We collected Instagram data to reveal which National Parks are the most beautiful according to Instagram”.

It's easy to see why these National Parks are most shared on the social media app - they are

bursting with the natural beauty that we've all been missing whilst staying indoors and are guaranteed to take your breath away. These parks are known for their stunning landscapes and natural beauty, so it's no wonder they make the best background for selfies and travel snapshots. You can see the results below and you can even follow the hashtags we have provided to fill your Instagram feed with stunning pictures of the great outdoors.

1. Grand Canyon, United States (#grandcanyon, 3,648,494 posts)
2. Yosemite National Park, United States (#yosemite, 2,897,973 posts)
3. Lake District National Park, United Kingdom (#lakedistrict, 2,571,048 posts)
4. Banff National Park, Canada (#banff, 2,410,547 posts)
5. Yellowstone National Park, United States (#yellowstone, 1,399,905 posts)
6. Zion National Park, United States (#zionnationalpark, 962,438 posts)
7. Glacier National Park, United States (#glaciernationalpark, 709,325 posts) ▶



Wildbeest in the famous Serengeti National Park crossing Mara river.



Serengeti National Park got a total of number of 511,640 posts and was the only one coming out of East Africa

8. Torres del Paine National Park, South America (#torresdelpaine 568,634 posts)
9. Kruger National Park, South Africa (#Kruger, 567,909 posts)
10. Rocky Mountain National Park, United States (#rockymountainnationalpark, 536,808 posts)
11. Bryce Canyon National Park, United States (#brycecanyon, 518,327 posts)
12. Serengeti National Park, Tanzania (#serengeti, 511,640 posts)
13. Sequoia National Park, United States (#sequoia 478,163 posts)
14. Arches National Park, United States (#archesnationalpark, 449,999 posts)
15. Jasper National Park, Canada (#jaspernationalpark, 405,464 posts)
16. Uluru-Kata Tjuta National Park, Australia (#uluru, 395,202 posts)
17. Iguazu National Park, Argentina (#iguazu, 345,97 posts)
18. Plitvice Lakes National Park, Croatia (#plitvicelakes 297,612 posts)
19. Grand Teton National Park, United States (#grandtetonnationalpark, 294,813 posts)
20. Krka National Park, Croatia (#krkanationalpark, 121,906 posts)
21. Fiordland National Park, New Zealand (#fiordland 112,197 posts)
22. Durmitor National Park, Montenegro (#durmitor, 96,005 posts)
23. Hot Springs National Park, United States (#hotspringsarkansas, 74,374 posts)
24. Vatnajökull National Park, Iceland (#vatnajökull, 57,553 posts)
25. Valley of Flowers National Park, India (#valleyofflowers, 39,702 posts)
26. Tatra National Park, Poland/ Slovakia (#tatronationalpark, 35,173 posts)
27. Ordesa y Monte Perdido National Park, Spain (#ordesaymonteperdido, 34,918 posts)
28. Parque Nacional Los Glaciares, Argentina (#parquenacionallosglaciaries, 32,033 posts)
29. Huascaran National Park (#huascaran, 28,360 posts)
30. Hawai'i Volcanoes National Park, Hawaii (#hawaiiivolcanoesnationalpark, 25,149 posts). •



News in Picture

Dr. Allan Kijazi taking oath of allegiance before the President of the United Republic of Tanzania H.E. Dr. John Magufuli following his appointment as the Deputy Permanent Secretary, Ministry of Natural Resources and Tourism recently at Chamwino Dodoma.



Chief Secretary of the Government of Tanzania Ambassador Eng. John Kijazi receiving a souvenir from Ms. Dorice Ngemera of Asilia Lodge when he toured Rubondo Island National Park recently.

Msembe Airstrip of Ruaha National Park wins as the FIRST scenic airstrip in Africa 2020 and the SECOND in the world in the competition which was conducted by Private Fly Scenic Airport Approaches 2020.



TANAPA Board of Trustees led by Chairman Gen. George Waitara (rtd) inspecting the destroyed infrastructures caused by floods at Rubondo Island National Park recently.



A group picture of TANAPA Conservation Commissioner, Deputy Conservation Commissioners and Zonal Conservation Commissioners after their meeting with Principal and Senior Conservation Rangers in Dodoma recently.



Senior Assistant Commissioner Noelia Myonga was recently conferred the Doctorate Degree of Philosophy in Humanities by the Africa Graduate University.

TANAPA Ranger wins 2020 African Ranger Awards

By Paulina Mkama

Tanzania National Parks's Conservation Ranger Two Baraka Samson Luchebera, has been nominated to be among the nominees of the 2020 African Ranger Awards Winners organized by Alibaba Foundation.

Luchebera who is based at Ruaha National Park joins her fellows from other conservation areas in Africa and will receive their awards in December 2020 in a venue to be known later. She was nominated by Joel Gabriel Masuki, a Conservation Officer from Tanzania National Parks.

Alibaba Foundation based in China initiated this awards in 2017 after recognizing that Africa has the world's richest wildlife resources; however, wildlife trade is still rampant there although it is illegal and that Rangers are the front-line defense against the intense and ever-present risk of poaching in Africa's critical conservation

areas. Alibaba Foundation noted that every year, many rangers sacrifice their lives fighting against armed thieves and poachers. A survey in 2016 showed that in Africa, 82% of the rangers' lives were at risk while on duty, and more than 60% of the rangers were directly attacked by poachers. In 2006-2016, at least 1,000 rangers died protecting wildlife.

it is for this reason that on July 21, 2017, Jack Ma announced that the Alibaba Foundation together with the Paradise Foundation would set up a ten-year African Ranger Awards program to honor wildlife rangers in Africa.

The African Ranger Awards program seek to illuminate the role of rangers in nature conservation and provide them with financial support in their effort to preserve our natural environment. By sharing those real-life stories, this award aims to help stem the current decline in Africa's wildlife populations. ▶



Conservation Ranger Baraka Luchebele with her colleagues.

Starting from 2020, ten (10) African front-line wildlife rangers will be officially recognized each year. Each winner and his/her team will be awarded US\$10,000 in total. The grants may support the individual ranger family, professional training, upgrade essential patrol gear.

The list of the nominees for the 2020 African Ranger Awards Winners include:

1. Admasu Akamo, Ethiopia
NechiSar National Park, Ranger
Ambelu Getachew(NechiSar National
Park, Senior Wildlife & Tourism Expert)

2. Sauma Kasay Edouard, Democratic Republic
of Congo
Virunga National Park, Section Chief
Commandant
Nominated by Paluku Kakororo Amos(Virunga
National ,Park Ranger Officer)

3. Aden Abass Jelle, Kenya
Kenya Wildlife Service, Coast Conservation
Area HQs – Mombasa, Warden/Intelligence
Officer
Nominated by Jackline Chirchir (KWS,
Investigation Officer - Assistant)

4. Benson Kanyembo, Zambia
South Luangwa National Park and Lupande
Game Management Area, Law Enforcement
Advisor
Nominated by Eric Nkhoma(Conservation
South Luangwa Unit Leader)

5. Dailus Laurence, Seychelles
Cousin Island Special Reserve, Chief Warden
Nominated by Nirmal Shah(Nature Seychelles,
Chief Executive)

6. Baraka Samson Luchebera, Tanzania
Ruaha National Park, Conservation Ranger II
Nominated by Joel Gabriel Masuki(Tanzania
National Parks, Conservation Officer)

7. Leilah Mkhabela, South Africa
Balule Nature Reserve, The Black Mamba
Ranger/Staff Sergeant (Supervisor)
Nominated by Simon Jones(Helping Rhinos,
CEO)

8. Natercio Ngovene, Mozambique
Maputo Special Reserve, Head Law
Enforcement Officer
Nominated by Antony Alexander(Peace Parks
Foundation, Senior Project Manager)

9. Jean Bosco Rwagasore Sebushari, Rwanda
Gishwati - Mukura National Park, Ranger
Nominated by Abel Musana(Rwanda
Development Board Chief Park Warden)

10. Mathias Sah, Benin
Pendjari National Park, Head of Law
Enforcement
Nominated by Jean-Yves Koupongue(African
Parks, Park Manager). •

TANAPA adopts Land Use Planning to foster conservation and socioeconomic goals

By Godwell Meing'ataki and Malima Mbijima

IN a bid to ensure that all villages adjoining national parks have functional land use plans and therefore end the human wildlife conflicts to a greater extent, Tanzania National Parks (TANAPA) has engaged the National Land Use Planning Commission (NLUPC) by setting aside funds to smooth the progress of land use plans in the said villages.

Land Use Planning is as a systematic assessment of land aiming at selecting and putting into practice the land uses which best meet the needs of the people while safeguarding resources for the future.

This initiative is expected to potentially generate multiple gains related to community development and conservation. These include among others, mitigation of human-wildlife conflicts, resolving land conflicts, value-addition to land parcels in the villages, unveiling investment opportunities for the village and facilitating focused sectoral development projects. Land Use Planning is therefore a very important development tool and its adoption is very much in line with TANAPA's spirit of conserving for sustainable development.

Thus far, a total of 105 villages adjacent to Serengeti, Lake Manyara and Tarangire National Parks have been facilitated to prepare land use plans to the level of approval by the respective village assemblies.

The impressive number of completed village land use plans notwithstanding, more other positives have been drawing from the implementation of this undertaking.

Land use planning being an intensive and participatory process, has provided a good platform for the national parks to deliver conservation education comprehensively in the target communities with the potential to yield multiple desired results including strengthening of trust between the two parties. ▶



Some members of the village surrounding national parks participating in the land use planning process coordinated by TANAPA.



Village meetings are among the best approaches to engage citizens in the land use plan processes.

A total of 48 land conflicts have been resolved in Kondoa (6), Bariadi (10), Bunda (7), Tarime (12), Karatu (4), Monduli (3) and Simanjiro (6) bringing about peace and reconciliation which are key to community development. A unique incidence occurred in one of the villages in Kondoa whereby land use planning facilitated confiscation of land (thousands of acres) from an unlawful owner and then availing that land for communal use.

As we commemorate 60 years of its existence, we can proudly say that TANAPA has progressively shown growth in commitment towards a man-centered conservation approach as manifested by huge and ever growing investments into the adjacent communities.

It does that so as to enhance conservation awareness amongst them, support social projects initiated by themselves and promoting their engagement in income generating activities that are both economically viable and environmentally friendly. Land use planning is yet another highlight of TANAPA's impressive work into the target communities.

The extent to which benefits from the established village land use plans shall be realized, rely very much on how best recommendations for specific planned land uses are implemented and how effectively the monitoring and evaluation plans are executed. It shall therefore be necessary for all involved parties to play their respective roles in implementing the village land use plans.

The 6th and last stage of the land use planning process involves implementing projects/activities designated to optimize the potentials of the specific land uses.

This is a huge task and definitely requires a multi-sectoral approach to complement each other's resources and enhance sustainability.

Top in the priority list should be projects related to pasture improvement and adaptation of improved breeds of livestock coupled with destocking programs, since most of the villages so far covered happen to host huge numbers of livestock beyond carrying capacity. •

Gombe National Park best chimps filming n Africa

By Happiness Kiemi

If you are looking for a beyond uncertainty wild place with a remarkable representation of the few remaining great apes, endemic species and fascinating history going way back to the 1960s, make sure you find time to visit the Gombe National Park.

The slopes of the Great Rift Valley provide a relatively small range, while the evergreen forest standing with many open and well-lit places, make chimps come to the position where you can get clear, good and exciting chimp footage.

The trail system through the tropical forest provides a great view that makes it easier to get close to the chimps. Gombe National Park, a place of outstanding sights of the rift valley escarpment, waterfalls, beach, long-range viewpoint across the second deepest lake in the world and stunning sunsets provides scenic beauty for attractive footage.

The alternating peaks are also very varied and this makes it easy for photographers to catch spectacular vistas with interesting sightlines across valleys.

Historical origin of the famous Gombe chimps started back in 1960s when the world famous animal lover and protector, Dr. Jane Goodall, began the first detailed long-term study of wild chimpanzees and a widely enjoyed series was made about them by National Geographic. Dr. Goodall is a British primatologist and anthropologist who came to Gombe early in the 1960s and provided the world with early discoveries of chimp life and their intricate society.

She has extensively promoted Gombe chimp's fame: her lectures constantly and always emphasize on the chimp's different personalities, and their complex social relationships. As a result, Gombe's chimps have become iconic.

These primates are well known individually— they can be recognised facially, their life histories, relationships, dominance struggles and jealousy, so it is easier for a producer to come up with an interesting story line about





what is seen on film. Some of the chimps, such as Fifi, Frodo and Gremlin are well known internationally.

River system makes known an abundant biodiversity of wildlife that favours large population of chimps, which make chimp encounter quite easy.

Gombe chimps are quite familiar to humans: the photographer can get quite close to them and they will remain calm—as if nothing is happening—as you shoot

pictures. This is what attracted local and international filmmakers who are keen on making a series of films, tracking certain individuals' behaviours over weeks or even months. One such film was made—BBC Chimpanzee Diary—and its successor, Chimp Week, followed by Year of the Chimpanzee. These series became almost like TV soap operas featuring chimps!

And irrespective of what time of the year it is, the Gombe National Park will provide you with a memorable experience. ●



How REGROW project aspires to open the

By Catherine Mbena

Efforts to open up the southern tourism circuit are now bearing fruit after the recent commissioning of the Resilient Natural Resource Management for Tourism and Growth (REGROW) project.

The six-year project, funded by the World Bank is being implemented by two main lead agencies namely Ministry of Natural Resources and Tourism and Tanzania National Parks (TANAPA). MNRT leads implementation of activities in TAWIRI, TTB, TFS, NIRC and RBWB while TANAPA leads implementation of activities in Ruaha, Udzungwa, Mikumi and Nyerere National Parks.

REGROW is being funded by the World Bank whereby the Government of Tanzania has acquired fund to the tune of \$ 150 million seeks to enhance the management of natural resources and development of priority tourism assets in the Southern Circuit. Also the government is keen to develop new tourism products to expand the sector to capture the highest per capita revenue in the region. Other areas of focus is to develop the Southern Circuit, which includes Udzungwa, Mikumi and Ruaha National Parks and other areas of cultural interest.

A study commissioned by the government has highlighted specifically the; Udzungwa, Mikumi, Ruaha and Nyerere National Park as priority protected areas.

According Senior Assistant Conservation Commissioner Betrita Loibooki who is also the Project Coordinator TANAPA the project will boost management and improve infrastructure in these areas.

“Everything is going according to plan and once the project comes to fruition, it will make the parks more accessible to tourists,” says Loibooki.

Commissioner Loibooki is convinced that the joint initiative between the World Bank and TANAPA will open up investment opportunities in the area and these, he noted, would eventually have a trickle-down effect on the livelihoods of communities neighbouring the circuit.

“There will be a number of businesses run by locals within the precincts of the circuit as we anticipate the demand for food products will go up,” he said.



Southern Tourism Circuit to the world

She adds that the project will target infrastructure development with a special focus on roads, airstrips, bridges, ranger posts, hostels, gates and accessories as well equipment which will include road maintenance equipment, lorries and communication systems.

“Visitors to the park will spend less time at the entry and exit gates once the project is completed,” he says, adding:

“It will also boost security and patrol prospects in the protected areas and eventually, promote tourism in the otherwise untapped southern circuit.”

According to Loibooki, the aim of the project is to make the southern circuit a low volume but a high yield area.

She adds that the funds will be used to put in place infrastructure development for research facilities such as housing and mini labs in the Nyerere and Ruaha National Parks.

Displayed fleet of 14 Toyota Land cruisers which procured under the Regrow program and distributed to Ruaha, Mikumi and Udzungwa National Parks.

BELOW: A group picture of the recently Regrow key stakeholders meeting held in Mikumi National Park recently Chaired by Dr. Aloyce Nzuki, PS MNRT

Meanwhile, the Permanent Secretary in the Ministry of Natural Resources and Tourism, Dr. Aloyce Nzuki, has highlighted the importance of unleashing the potential offered by the southern tourism circuit.

“The circuit boasts a fair share of natural attractions in flora and fauna...the project has come at an opportune time,” he says.

He further noted that the primary focus of the six-year project is geared at improving the infrastructure to facilitate better access to the national parks and make Iringa Region another tourist hub.

A total of 14 vehicles which is the first batch of 23 vehicles that were ordered for Ruaha, Mikumi and Udzungwa Mountains National Parks were received meanwhile, the second batch of 9 vehicles are expected to arrive end of September.





TANAPA throws weight to fight invasive alien species

By Yustina Kiwango

Invasive Alien Species (IAS) over and over again cause unique problems in protected areas including national parks because they suppress and occasionally replace native or indigenous varieties hence negatively affect biodiversity.

Their effects may extend to significant changes in the structure and natural or normal functioning of the ecosystem of the area that has been invaded. However, there are positive contribution of alien species to ecosystem function and integrity including provision of food, shelter or habitat to other organisms.


Invasive alien animals may disrupt native trophic levels (herbivory, predation, parasitism) and other biological interactions such as pollination and competition which can lead to significant environmental and economic impacts.

In Tanzania, human encroachment and disturbances including habitat fragmentation are rapidly escalating, thus opening new

opportunities for the introduction and establishment of problem alien species. Increasing human movements is also contributing to this problem. Furthermore, climate change creates conditions that favour introduction and establishment of IAS.

Tanzania National Parks (TANAPA) has been taking various actions to deal with IAS, with varying success levels. The ongoing prevention, detection and control or eradication for these species is ongoing in parks according to available resources, while trial programmes and research continue according to the available guidelines in order to provide actions that are desirable, feasible and acceptable.

Analyses have indicated that, there is quite high number of potential and invasive species in national parks. According to recent surveys and the compiled data, it appears that most national parks are infested by invasive and potential invasive species thus threatening the sustainability of conservation and tourism in the country.



In total, about 70 species (both invasive and potentially invasive) have been documented in these sensitive areas which are the main source of income in the tourism sector. The number of invasive species identified in different national parks differs between them in terms of impact, extent and severity even when it is similar species.

The available data further indicates that, so far Serengeti National Park have the highest number of invasive species (30), followed by Lake Manyara, Kilimanjaro, Arusha and Saadani National Parks. Among the potential invasive species that may cause serious impact include *Chromolaena odorata* (Siam weed) which have negative impacts on the abundance of *Themeda triandra* and *Hyperrheniasp* (these two are important grasses for wild herbivores).

Currently, plant IS (invasive species) have been observed to result into changed hydrological patterns hence leads to displacement of wildlife. Due to their ability to change soil characteristics such as pH, IS leads to disappearance of some delicate and palatable species, and replacement with resistant, less palatable species to wildlife.

A study that was conducted in 2012 shows that the area occupancy of invasive plant species *Opuntia sp* is estimated to a total of 5.16 ha out of the total 45.2 ha surveyed in Serengeti NP. Further expansion of the same species continues to new areas as per recent observations.

In Saadani National Park the rapid invasion of grassland patches by *Acacia zanzibarica* threat the existence of grazers in the park. For example, during field visits in the Saadani National Park it was noted that, some areas were overgrown into thickets which eventually destructed wildlife visibility and blocked penetrability as they move in searching for food or when hunting. Similar effect by *Caesalpinia decapetala* and *Acacia zanzibarica* is reported in Arusha and Saadani NPs.

Therefore, altering grazing opportunities for wildlife forces wild animals to squeeze into the remaining habitable area, or move outside protected areas. Long term data (Veldhuis et al., 2019), suggest that squeezing wildlife into the core of Serengeti national Park is damaging habitation and disrupting the migration routes of wildebeest, zebra and gazelle.

it appears that most national parks are infested by invasive and potential invasive species thus threatening the sustainability of conservation and tourism in the country.



This also leads to wild animals' displacement. Some IS have poisonous characteristics which cause death when consumed in large amounts by wildlife. Therefore, invasive species have been reported to cause negative impacts on wildlife by reducing forage and biodiversity.

They invade relatively large grazing area replacing the native species with unpalatable or non-edible species while reducing potential land for forage production. In fact, the spread of IS in wildlife protected areas may lead to overgrazing in some areas and may force wildlife out of protected areas and hence causing increased human-wildlife conflicts and potential poaching.

This has happened in areas around other protected areas in the country whereby when wildlife is displaced from their natural areas, they sometimes move into community land, where they can find water and pasture. This leads to human-wildlife conflicts as well as escalated poaching incidences.

In areas where there are rare and endangered species, such as Chimpanzees in Mahale and Gombe National Parks, displacement of wildlife can have dire impacts whereby the chimpanzees move into communal land, where they increase the probability of contacting infectious zoonotic diseases, which can decimate their population or endanger human life. ▶



- ▶ In addition, IS on water surface prevent the infiltration of sun rays leading into drop of oxygen levels, which have a direct impact on the abundance and diversity of aquatic organisms. Effects of IS could potentially make ecosystems less resilient to future shocks such as drought or further climate change. Directly and indirectly, tourism is finally negatively affected by loss of revenue to the nation.

Removal of noxious species such as *Chromolaena odorata* (now in Serengeti) may be successful if conducted before flowering and/or continuous uprooting of new regenerates in several consecutive years. On the other hand, removal of the Mauritius thorn (now in Arusha and Lake Manyara NPs) can be done mechanically through cutting and uprooting stems, and then burn them when they have wilted. These approaches have been observed to be successful but are very labour intensive and financially costly.

The impacts of the water hyacinth in Lake Victoria, where Rubondo and Saanane Island NPs are situated, is well known. These include cut off in oxygen supply to aquatic organisms, blocking of access to water resources, beach and fishing, destruction of fish breeding to aquatic organism and provision of good breeding site for disease spreading vectors such as Malaria and Bilharzia.

Within the park boundaries, eradication strategies such as trawling and burning are routinely conducted, while joint efforts have also ventured into biological strategies using weavers and nites which were introduced on the lake to feed on the water hyacinth.

It is interesting to note that since its inception as an institution, TANAPA has always had a policy to manage and try to eradicate invasive alien species within borders of national parks. These efforts have resulted into accumulation of experience, success and failure stories, which can be used to advance the field of invasive alien species management elsewhere.

As a special note, management of invasive species in national parks poses great challenges as these areas are meant to enhance nature resilience. Management approaches that in one way or another can cause unintended negative outcomes on wildlife species and habitats cannot be practised.

For example the use of chemicals such as herbicides and even biological control may have strong negative effects on native flora and fauna and hence are not easily practical. This calls for emphasizing on physical approaches such as uprooting, slashing or mowing.

When the physical approaches are costly to apply, other alternative management options that are both ecologically friendly and effective are applied. Generally, more research is warranted in this field, in order to explore feasible options that may serve the purpose without compromising the overall goal of conservation and sustainable tourism.

Finally, all reasonable efforts should be applied to ensure that national parks remain as places of wonder, where the nature blends beautifully and harmoniously with the rest of the environment, providing safe homes for native plants and animals, of which benefits extends to human socio economics and wellbeing. •





TANZANIA NATIONAL PARKS

COVID-19 HEALTH AND SAFETY STANDARD OPERATING PROCEDURES

On the bases of the World Health Organization (WHO), Ministry of Health, Community Development, Gender, Elderly and Children (MoHCDEC) and the MNRT COVID-19 Stand Operating Procedures (SOP's), Tanzania National Parks (TANAPA) has customized specific COVID-19 standard operating procedures that will guide service provisions in the national parks. The procedures provide a framework for operations during the unprecedented times of COVID-19 pandemic. These guidelines will be updated as the COVID-19 situation progresses in conformity with the measures provided by the MoHCDEC.

The protocols will help to control the spread of COVID-19 pandemic and therefore protecting staff, visitors, other park users, along with ensuring safe working environment. The general SOP's are outlined as follows.

1. General SOPs

TANAPA shall ensure that:

- (i) Staff are trained on health and safety

protocols for COVID-19;

- (ii) All frontline duty staff are tested and proved to be negative from COVID-19;
- (iii) All front desk staff use the recommended PPE's when attending guests and servicing guest areas;
- (iv) A COVID-19 liaison officer is appointed at the corporate level who will be coordinating all COVID-19 issues. The COVID-19 Liaison Officer shall keep abreast of health protocols and preventative measures to all parks. Noted: The officer shall report to SAC-Administration;
- (v) A COVID-19 responsible offer is appointed in the respective national parks and hotline numbers provided. The officer shall ensure the implementation of the following functions;
 - a. Special area cleaning procedures.
 - b. Standard hygiene and sanitizing procedures.
 - c. Capacity limits and controls to ensure social distance. ▶

- ▶ d. Physical distancing plans.
- e. Tourist and staff health safety procedures.
- f. Procedures for suspected people with COVID-19 symptoms.
- g. Monitoring the implementation of the SOP's and the effectiveness of the measures undertaken.
- h. Maintain health records for staff and tourists with COVID-19 symptoms.
- i. Maintain and checks logs of cleaning activities.
- j. Oversight of all COVID-19 staff training and information provision.
- k. Report all COVID-19 suspected cases to the District Medical Officer. Note: The officer shall report to in-charge of Administration at the park level
- l. Health centers in the national parks are designated to provide COVID-19 emergency services while arranging for transfers to designated Government health centers for COVID-19 cases among others;
- m. All contact surfaces are thoroughly cleaned, sanitized and disinfected with approved solutions regularly and disinfectant solutions provided;
- n. Hygienically operated hand sanitizers/hand washing facility with soap and running water is provided in entry/exit gates and in other tourist facilities;
- o. A disposal mechanism for masks, and other protective gear complies with recommended national health and safety standards and following TANAPA waste management guidelines;
- p. Staff and guests are aware and reminded to adhere to the best preventive practice against COVID-19.
- q. To a large extent and where practical all our staff at all times maintain a distance of not less than one (1) meter from one person to another;
- r. Staff are protected by providing masks, sanitizers, gloves or any other item(s) required for personal safety;
- s. COVID-19 precautionary measures are continuously observed and communicated accordingly to tour operators and other relevant stakeholders;
- t. Entry/exit gates are supplied with digital thermos-scanner for tracking visitors' and crew body temperature when or before entering the park and during their exit;
- u. Cleaning attendants disinfects thoroughly surfaces such as taps, toilet handles, basins, bathroom door handles, etc. after every hour and other times disinfectant spray will be provided;
- v. Mechanisms for drying visitors/guest hands are provided;
- w. Physically challenged persons, elderly guests, and those with declared underlining health issues are served before others. Note: the tour guide should declare at the respective service points;
- x. Effective implementation of physical distance between one person to another when providing/receiving services at our gates, viewing points, or when using tourist's public facilities such as toilets or picnic and camping sites;
- (vi) Barriers are placed at the payment counter or designate floor markings of at least 1-meter distance to protect staff and maintain social distancing in areas likely to have queues;
- (vii) Where practical, doors shall be left open to reduce surface touching or attendants shall be deployed to open doors for guest to limit their touching of surfaces;



- (viii) Medical evacuation services from the parks are provided in collaboration with air operator who offers the service;
- (ix) Guests are encouraged to carry their disinfectants/hand sanitizers;
- (x) In public campsites, all tourists and camp crew pitch their tents at a reasonable distance of not less than three (3) meters from each other and with a maximum of two guests per tent;
- (xi) Visible notices are provided on strategic locations on COVID-19 preventive measures, frequent hand washing and sanitization, screening, and mandatory mask wearing;
- (xii) Where appropriate doors will be kept open/ wedge opened doors fixed to reduce surface touching;
- (xiii) All parks with chimp's tracking/ habituation experience shall strictly ensure that;
 - a) Visitors wear masks and gloves during chimpanzee trekking
 - b) Visitors provide proof of negative test against COVID-19
 - c) Maximum number of six (6) visitors per group and a maximum of one (1) hour for every sighting
 - d) Visitor undertakes full-body sanitizing before trekking
- (xiv) All organization staff are aware of how the SOPs work; and
- (xv) The SOP's are reviewed and updated from time to time when more information is revealed on COVID-19 and the situation progresses.

2. Specific SOP's

In addition to general SOP's, the following specific SOP's shall apply to particular areas and various types of tourism activities conducted in the national parks.

- a) SOP for Water Vessels and airstrips in the parks

TANAPA shall ensure that:

- (i) All incoming passengers are subjected to MoHCDEC pre-screening procedures at the point of entry;
- (ii) All ports and airstrips have required equipment approved by the MoHCDEC to assess passenger's physical condition.
- (iii) Security lines are not adjacent to each other and a minimum of 1-meter gap between passengers/people is maintained;
- (iv) Posters with information about the COVID-19 preventive measures are placed in the visible part of the passenger's check-in/departure area;
- (v) Enough disinfectant gel is placed at the Check-in/out counters for passengers to disinfect their hands, and that check-in/out areas are clean and regularly sanitized;
- (vi) All staff working in areas such as security, boarding, Health Care, Ground Cleaning, etc., use proper protective gears;
- (vii) Docks/airstrips and their public areas as much as possible practice "Physical distancing";
- (viii) Air ventilation is enhanced in the lounge areas;
- (ix) Security Inspection key areas such as document verification counters, baggage packing areas, baggage plates, hand-held metal detectors, and security screening facilities are sanitized, and hand sanitizers shall be provided in screening areas; and
- (x) All other COVID-19 preventive measures are adhered in all entry points.

- b) SOP for Mountain Climbing

TANAPA shall ensure that:

- (i) Full body disinfectant mechanism provided at main entry gates for visitors to be sanitized before entering the park; ►

COVID-19 HEALTH AND SAFETY ...

- ▶ (ii) None-contact temperature sensors are available in respective points/stations of visitors' registrations. Visitors with abnormally high body temperature or other COVID-19 related symptoms shall be ordered to descend immediately;
 - (iii) All tour companies provide sterilized transport to entry gates and porters shall be required to be on PPE's at all times;
 - (iv) All Visitors and crew wear recommended face masks when entering the park;
 - (v) Luggage weighing is done by service providers under the supervision of Conservation Rangers on PPE and Rangers shall not touch the luggage;
 - (vi) Guest luggage's are sanitized before ascending;
 - (vii) All equipment are handled with crews in appropriate PPE's;
 - (viii) All service providers use rubberized bags to carry their equipment/supplies;
 - (ix) Weighing scales are sprayed with sterilization solution after every weighing action;
 - (x) Service providers install hygienically operated handwashing facilities after arriving at the designated camping area;
 - (xi) Masks and disposable gloves to be worn by any crew setting tents where appropriate;
 - (xii) All staff serving guests or porters wear masks and disposable gloves where appropriate;
 - (xiii) Kitchen tents are only accessed by cook and crews. All other staff and guests shall be required to keep away;
 - (xiv) Cleaning crew disinfect all public toilets regularly when guests are in camp;
 - (xv) All eating spots are re-planned to accommodate distancing of groups according to expected capacity;
 - (xvi) All companies adhere to GMP by limiting the number of trekkers for all routes. Max guests as per available camping places;
 - (xvii) Lemosho and Machame are considered for a dual-route system for porters and guests to decongest people to enable easier distancing.
 - (xviii) Few people spend shorter time at Uhuru peak;
 - (xix) On certain summit sections where congestion is expected, up and down trails are developed to allow more distancing;
 - (xx) Companies operating on Mount Meru are allowed to carry own firearms to guide their respective groups rather than grouping many guests with 1 ranger on day 1 or 2;
 - (xxi) Anyone with COVID-19 symptoms is requested to immediately descend with appropriate support and monitoring;
 - (xxii) Soap and running water for handwashing is available in respective stations.
- c) SOP for Park Accommodation Facilities
- TANAPA shall ensure that:**
- (i) Frequently touched surfaces such as workstations, countertops, light switches, and doorknobs are cleansed all times as appropriate;
 - (ii) Number of guests in dining facilities are limited to adhere to safety distance required;
 - (iii) Tables have a limited number of seats;
 - (iv) Guests are managed to be spread out at all times;
 - (v) Items which guests handle regularly shall be sanitized regularly;
 - (vi) As much as possible, cleaning is done using disposable cleaning equipment;



- (vii) All luggage's are disinfected after offloading from vehicles and before the attendant carries the bags to the accommodation facility;
- (viii) After check-out, all furniture/equipment, all surfaces, and all floors are thoroughly cleaned with an effective disinfectant and bathroom surfaces cleaned thoroughly; and
- (ix) Appropriate non-touch bins are available for disposal of wipes/tissue everywhere the wipe/tissue is provided.

d) SOP's for staff while on duty

TANAPA shall ensure that all staff:

- (i) Maintain a distance of not less than one (1) meter from one person to another;
- (ii) Adhere and exercise the best hygiene practices;
- (iii) Avoid close contact with anyone showing symptoms of respiratory illness such as coughing, sneezing and/or runny nose;
- (iv) Once they observe co-workers or guests with respiratory symptoms, they report to supervisor for follow up. Upon being advised, the Supervisor should isolate the employee or guest and immediately notify the Medical Officer of Health for the locality;
- (v) Must protect themselves by having sanitizers, gloves, or any other item(s) required for personal safety, available in their workspace, such as vehicles, stalls, vessels, etc; and
- (vi) Contact COVID-19 liaison officer or RRT in case of any respiratory symptoms associated with COVID-19.

e) SOP for Meetings

TANAPA shall ensure that:

- (i) Attendees must sanitize upon entering the event and before any activity undertaken during the event;

- (ii) Attendees must handle all event items on their own and independently;
- (iii) Participants adhere to a safe distance during their interactions;
- (iv) Registration areas are not congested and numbers limited in group areas;
- (v) For indoor events, doors will be kept open/ designated personnel open and close the doors to prevent multiplicity of persons touching door handles;
- (vi) The number of attendees to the event is controlled to maintain the required safe social distance; and
- (vii) All attendees comply with the SOP's provided by the MoHCDEC.

3. Monitoring of COVID-19

TANAPA shall ensure that:

- (i) Procedures to check for signs and symptoms of employees daily and as feasible and implemented;
- (ii) Any staff who is sick stay is isolated from work;
- (iii) A sick employee is immediately attended in line with the established government protocols;
- (iv) Monitoring of employees' attendance at work is regularly conducted and a flexible leave practice effected where appropriate; and
- (v) Our liaison officer regularly monitor development and communicate to relevant health authorities.

4. Communication on COVID-19

TANAPA has designated a centralized communication team that shall always communicate the measures that the organization is taking to address the Pandemic in the national parks. •



Tanzania National Parks

Conserving amazing nature for the present and future generations.

Mt. KILIMANJARO

Visit Tanzania and make an important contribution towards the conservation and protection of wild.

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