



THE
SARARA
FOUNDATION



GlobalGiving &
Reteti Elephant Sanctuary

Impact Report

February 2025



A LETTER FROM OUR
MANAGER



Peter Lenasalia

“

One of my biggest inspirations has been the age-old coexistence between wildlife and my people – and the wisdoms I have learned as a Samburu through previous generations have guided my path to become an advocate for nature today.

”

The Sarara Foundation

The sole fiscal sponsor of the Reteti Elephant Sanctuary

“Indigenous Communities are some of the most under-resourced around the world, and yet these communities often live closest to nature. They hold profound ancient wisdom that is passed down through generations – from preserving biodiversity to how we raise our children.”

Jeremy Bastard
CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER



– Jeremy Bastard, CEO of the Sarara Foundation





WHO WE ARE

Reteti is the first community-owned elephant sanctuary in East Africa. All of its keepers and staff are Samburu and recruited from within Namunyak Community Conservancy. The Samburu are nomadic pastoralists who have lived in Northern Kenya's wilderness for centuries. Devoted to their livestock, they are natural carers, giving both sustenance and comfort to the orphaned elephants as they would to their cows and goats.

On a fast-developing continent where space is at a premium, the indigenous Samburu are working to preserve the region's vast and pristine landscapes, as well as their age-old tradition of harmonious coexistence with wildlife.

Reteti was originally founded by Sarara, Northern Rangelands Trust, and Namunyak Community Conservancy in partnership with Kenya Wildlife Service. In time, it expanded its partnerships to include the San Diego Zoo Wildlife Alliance and Save the Elephants, working together to exchange the latest techniques in veterinary care and conservation science.



Our Impact - Thanks to you.

Ashe Oling! (Thank you!)

Reteti is a Samburu community owned elephant sanctuary in Kenya

The Sanctuary takes in orphaned and abandoned elephant calves with the aim to release them back into the wild herds adjoining Reteti.

This is the result of a widely recognised and expanding grassroots movement of community-driven conservation across Northern Kenya; a movement that is growing new economies, transforming lives and conserving natural resources.



Reteti currently cares for 33 elephant orphans at the sanctuary.

Releases

We've successfully rewilded 36 elephants - including our recent release in June 2024 of 13 elephants within Namunyak Conservancy.

Rescues

Since 2016, the Reteti team has performed 167 elephant rescues throughout Northern Kenya, and their work continues making an impact today.

Expansion

Reteti has built an additional release boma within Namunyak Community Conservancy to strengthen resiliency.

This past year's much-anticipated release of 13 elephant orphans from Reteti Elephant Sanctuary onto community-owned land was a testament to the coexistence between the Indigenous Samburu and wildlife. The herd's next chapter roaming the Mathews Range Ecosystem - under the watchful eye of the community they share the land with - is a blueprint for conservation and inspiring an increasing number of followers around the globe.





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RETETI'S OPERATIONS ARE FUNDED ENTIRELY
BY THE SARARA FOUNDATION

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RETETI ELEPHANT SANCTUARY

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