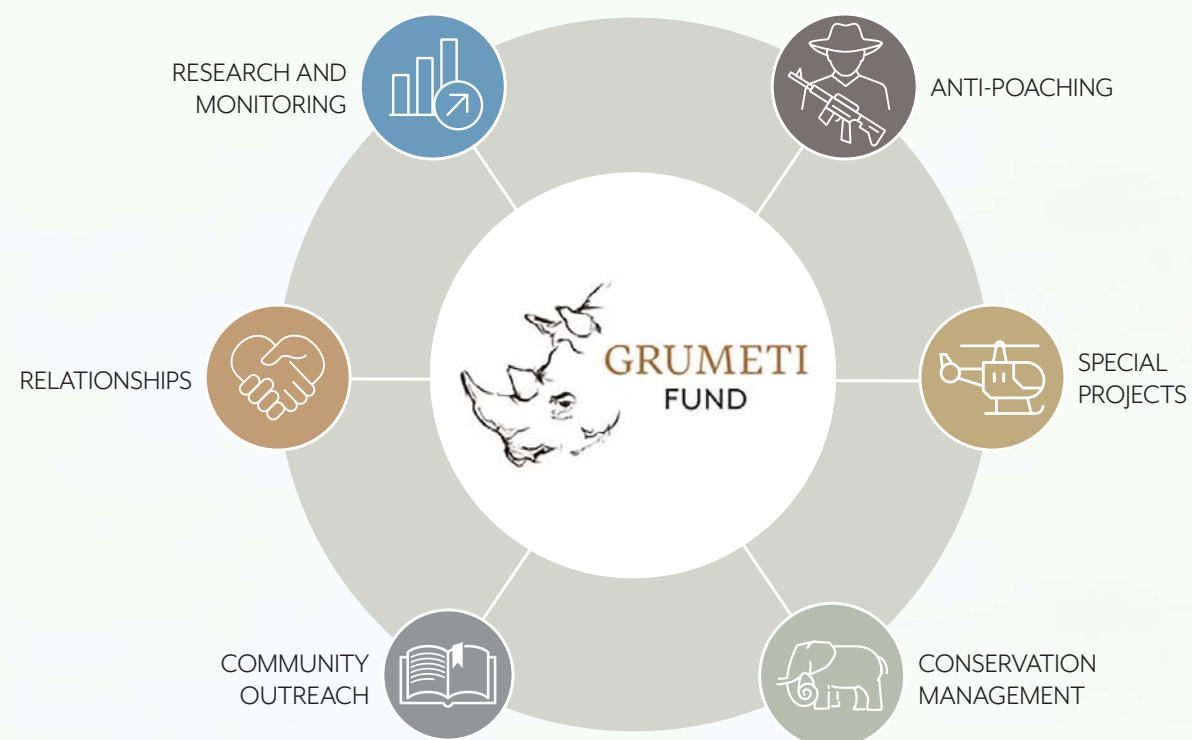




COLLABORATIONS

IMPACT
REPORT
2018



The Grumeti Fund's mission is to contribute to the conservation of the Serengeti ecosystem, its natural landscape, and its wildlife. To do this we partner with local communities and other stakeholders to build capacity and thereby help them to realize their development aspirations. We believe that by doing this we can help to create a world in which people and wildlife live together, sustainably, forever.



STEPHEN CUNLIFFE

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S MESSAGE

Building upon the successes achieved in 2017, 2018 has been another productive and rewarding year for the Grumeti Fund. Our team of 168 passionate conservationists continues to protect, manage and monitor Grumeti's 350,000-acre concession area, where the near-barren plains of 15 years ago teem with wildlife once more.

Recognizing the value of partnerships and collaborations, the Grumeti Fund has adopted an open-door policy: We go out of our way to visit and engage with other protected area managers, leading conservation organizations and our neighboring communities. Of course we want to learn from our partners' successes, but even more importantly, we want to learn from their setbacks and failures. This pro-active outward-looking approach supports our mission of contributing to the conservation of the greater Serengeti ecosystem, its natural landscape and its wildlife, while simultaneously uplifting local communities.

As human populations in Tanzania continue to increase exponentially and biodiversity comes under mounting pressure, it is these partnerships – along with significant donor support – that ensure the Grumeti Fund continues to grow its impact. Our aim is to develop lasting conservation and community upliftment solutions throughout the western Serengeti and beyond, and our achievements to date are testimony to the efforts of everyone involved.

Six specialist departments work together to drive the Grumeti Fund's mission on a daily basis, addressing critical conservation and development challenges such as commercial bushmeat poaching, rural livelihoods diversification, ongoing habitat encroachment and exploding human-wildlife conflict.

Dedicated to implementing best practice conservation and community upliftment, the Grumeti Fund aspires to positively impact conservation efforts in protected areas across the African continent. Partnerships and information sharing are critical in achieving this goal and successfully conserving the Serengeti ecosystem for future generations. A significant diversification of our funding base, combined with continued support from donors and philanthropists around the world, makes the Grumeti Fund enthusiastic about our sustainable and positive impact on safeguarding one of the world's most iconic ecosystems for years to come.

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- 26** PARTNERS
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RELATIONSHIPS

12

+

19

permits

permissions

acquired to execute
various activities

297

>

87%

calls to Human-
Wildlife Conflict
Mitigation Unitpositive
response rate

CONSERVATION MANAGEMENT



2,666

acres cleared
of alien plants

= 80%

increase
from 2017

3

black rhino
in Grumeti

14

wildlife
rescues

ANTI-POACHING



1,392

snares
removed

187

traditional
weapons
seized

21,922

kilometers
covered on
patrol

50%

success rate
in arrests
using covert
cameras

77%

Canine Unit
success rate

COMMUNITY OUTREACH



129

people from

v

8

villages graduated
from the Enterprise
Development Program

33%

increase in turnover
among

v

10

entrepreneurs in the
Enterprise Development
Guiding Program

238

fifth graders from

v

7

villages participated
in English camp

1,162

girls involved in
empowerment sessions

123

scholarship recipients



288

students participated in the
environmental awareness program

24

teachers participated in the
environmental awareness program

SPECIAL PROJECTS – LOOKING AHEAD



35

covert cameras with
artificial intelligence
to be installed in 2019

1

aircraft for
surveillance and
monitoring

11

black rhino
approved for
translocation
in 2019

1

Applied Research
Center to be
constructed in 2019

2,500

women and girls to
be impacted through
empowerment
programs in 2019

RESEARCH AND MONITORING



30

elephants
collared

232

camera traps

v

22,019

images classified by

v

3,939

citizen scientists



6

rare and unusual
sightings (Greater kudu,
aardwolf, pangolin,
aardvark, honey badger
and roan antelope)

255,168

elephant location data
points captured




RELATIONSHIPS DEPARTMENT

Key to the Grumeti Fund’s ability to function and fulfil its mission, the Relationships Department supports the Tanzanian government in protecting the buffer zone of the iconic Serengeti National Park and the great wildebeest migration. It does this while working closely with surrounding communities to ensure they are uplifted by the presence of a healthy ecosystem and intact natural resources. Essential partnerships fostered by the Relationships Department include those with the Ministry of Natural Resources and Tourism, Wildlife Division, Tanzania Wildlife Management Authority, Tanzania Wildlife Research Institute, and many more stakeholders and local communities. Without this support, initiatives to further the Grumeti Fund and the projects it is dedicated to overseeing, such as the Black Rhino Re-establishment Project, the Canine Unit and the aerial census, would not be possible. The Relationships Department also works closely with other Grumeti Fund departments to ensure the continued pursuit of their projects, as most can only reach fruition with the involvement of multiple parties.



Working closely with a number of Tanzanian government partners, the Relationships Department secured all the necessary permits for the translocation of Eric the rhino to Grumeti.

© Scott Ramsay

 **12** + **19**
permits permissions

6 of these were obtained for the translocation of Eric, the rhino from San Diego Zoo to Grumeti

 **50%**
of arrested poachers were convicted

 **297**
calls to the Human-wildlife Conflict Mitigation Unit
2017: 27

 **626**
human-wildlife conflict reports

✓ **87%**
positive response rate from the Human-Wildlife Conflict Migration Unit
2017: 67%

 **60**
stakeholder visits hosted at Grumeti



Film nights are hosted across the villages with which we work, focusing on human-wildlife conflict prevention.

© Sacha Specker for Black Bean Productions



Working with communities to manage human-wildlife conflict is critical, not only for the success of our day-to-day activities, but for the future of people and wildlife. With an increase in both human and wildlife populations comes more strained interactions; and the pressure on organizations such as the Grumeti Fund to find solutions for this impending crisis mounts.

This is a key focus for the Relationships Department, and the team works on several projects alongside different departments to address this. In 2018, the development of the Human-Wildlife Conflict Mitigation Unit resulted in the improvement of our ability to react to calls reporting conflict. Awareness of the unit and their ability to assist increased significantly – from 27 calls to action in 2017 to 297 calls to action in 2018. The unit’s positive response rate also increased, from 67% to 87%.

A newly appointed Community Liaison Officer works toward developing relationships, listening to villages, understanding their challenges and sharing solutions that can be implemented. A mobile movie night program brings communities together to learn how to respond to environmental issues, particularly human-wildlife conflict. A portable screen, projector, speakers and generator can be set up almost anywhere. Led by the Assistant Relationships Manager, this new effort has received positive feedback. *Living on the Edge*, a documentary filmed in the region, highlights real issues facing people and wildlife in the immediate vicinity, and offers solutions to these issues. The documentary features several Grumeti Fund employees and is relevant to all the communities living on the boundary. It sparks discussion and leads to questions and answers on how each community can play a positive role in the reduction of human-wildlife conflict.

In 2019, we expect the various aspects of human-wildlife conflict mitigation to grow even stronger, and for the Relationships Department to continue to work together with other departments to coordinate cross-cutting solutions for long-lasting change.



© Alize Yaccino for Black Bean Productions

Wildlife moves in and out of protected areas, posing a threat to those living directly on the boundary of the reserve.

Together with our TAWIRI and TANAPA partners we saved 14 injured animals from their human-induced injuries in 2018, but snaring remains one of the greatest challenges in the Serengeti ecosystem.





CONSERVATION MANAGEMENT DEPARTMENT

Proper management of the ecosystem is crucial in ensuring that fauna and flora are secure for years to come. This entails fundamental work such as removing invasive alien plants – one of the largest threats to the functionality of the ecosystem; managing both controlled fire burns and arson fires; ensuring the general wellbeing of wildlife, including animals found wounded due to human interference; and the oversight of infrastructure such as road networks and scout camps.

Working closely with the Special Projects function the Conservation Management Department prepares for and implements key species introductions such as the Black Rhino Re-establishment Project.

The 350,000 acres of protected land is divided into three sections, each of which is overseen by a Section Manager who ensures the proper management and implementation of conservation activities in that area.

 **25%**
of concession burned
20% arson and **5%** controlled

 **2,666 = 80%**
acres of
concession
cleared from
alien plants increase
from 2017

 **14**
wildlife rescues





Rescuing wildlife alive yet suffering from human induced injuries is an important part of Conservation Management.



The snare once removed from the animal.



The best moment is always when the animal wakes up and runs off.



Makuru Rugatiri, Getiga Chiwa and Yohanna Augustino.



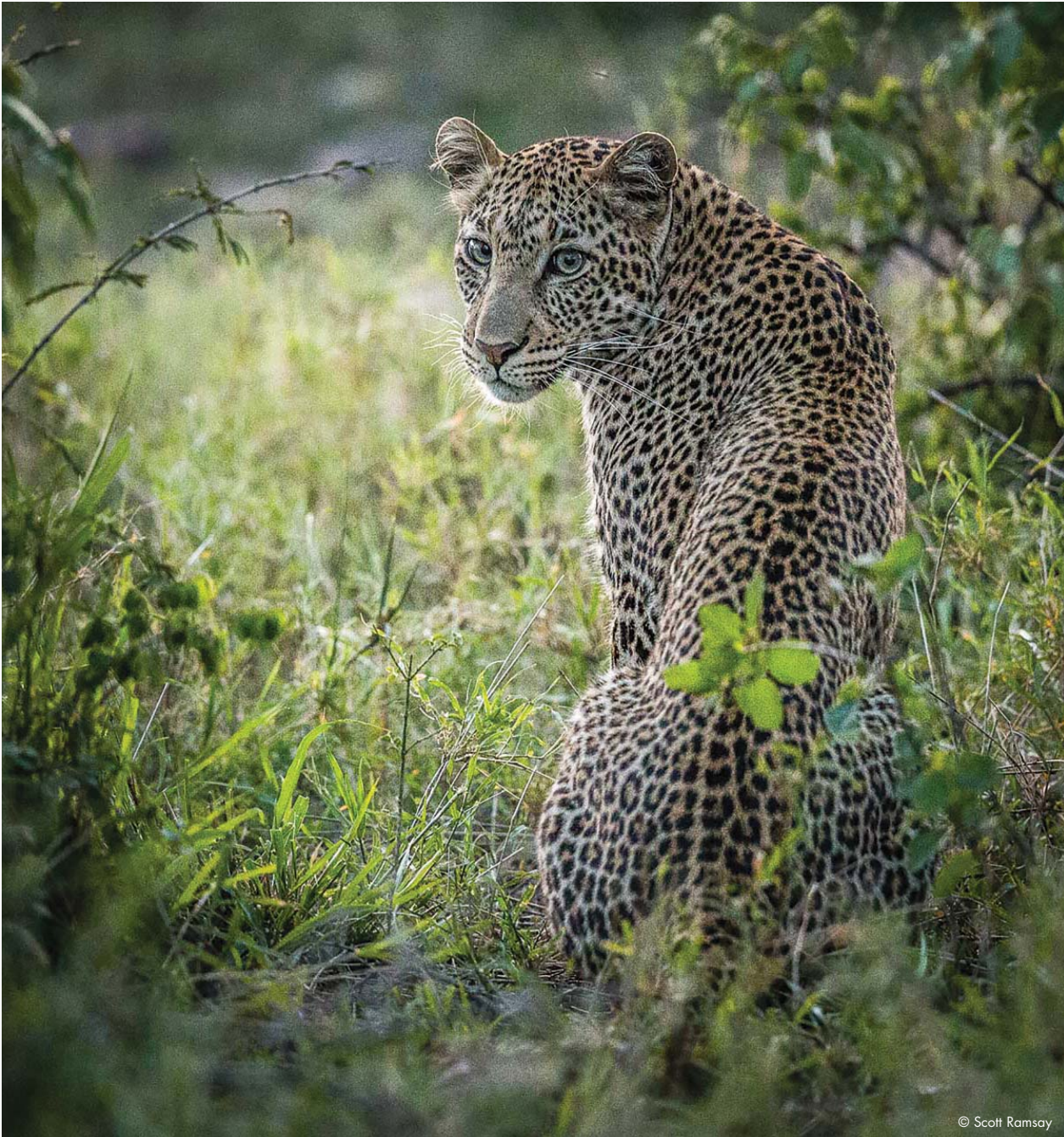
The relationship between the Section Managers and the Grumeti Fund

began 18 years ago when three dedicated men began their careers in wildlife conservation. Starting as game scouts, Yohanna, Chiwa and Makuru were part of the team instrumental in stopping the intense destruction of wildlife populations in this critical region. As they moved up the ladder within the Anti-Poaching Department, their skills and dedication to conservation were noted and all three were given the opportunity, through the Grumeti Fund, to spend time studying wildlife conservation and protected area management.

With the restructuring of the Fund in 2016, Yohanna, Chiwa and Makuru were promoted to Junior Section Managers, each taking on a section of their own. The following year they were promoted again to Section Managers, becoming valued members of the management team. As part of this promotion, each was given new accommodation within his respective area.

In 2018, a key responsibility was managing the removal of alien plants. A total of 2,666 acres were cleared, an increase of 80% from the prior year. More than 30 different fires (20% due to arson) were contained, and the Section Managers were also instrumental in overseeing the construction of a boundary road along the northeastern section of the reserve. This new road allows the Grumeti Fund to more actively patrol and monitor the interface between the protected area and the villages – an activity that will be critical with the reintroduction of black rhino.

2018 also saw Yohanna, Chiwa and Makuru gaining hands-on experience in the collaring of 30 problem elephants, working with wildlife vets to rescue 14 injured animals, and becoming involved in the preparation and care-taking of Eric, the eastern black rhino from San Diego Zoo. Such wildlife management experience is paramount to the development of these men as leaders in the department and the organization as a whole.



Alien plants threaten the health of an ecosystem and are difficult to eradicate. Dedicated teams remove as many as possible each year.



Controlled management burns encourage optimal vegetation regrowth in specifically chosen areas.



“I do not say with any self-pride but rather facts that the six handlers and four canines at Grumeti could serve anywhere in the world and match or top the performances of others.”

Chris Aycock, President of the American Society for Canine Trainers

ANTI-POACHING AND LAW ENFORCEMENT DEPARTMENT

Strategy is everything when it comes to anti-poaching initiatives, and the future integrity and security of the area depends on it. Run in a paramilitary style, the Anti-Poaching and Law Enforcement Department’s primary focus is to stop people from poaching. To achieve this mandate, the department has several focus areas.

One is a Joint Intelligence Unit, which works closely with local government law enforcement divisions with the primary goal of poaching prevention. Alongside the Joint Intelligence Unit is the Special Operations Group. This elite scout unit responds to incoming information and reacts to apprehend potential poachers that have just entered the protected area. One of the Special Operations Group’s key resources is the Canine Unit, comprising four dogs and six handlers that can track and detect people and wildlife contraband across any terrain and over long distances. Other teams within the department include a Mobile Patrol Unit, Scout Camps and Observation Posts.

A critical part of the multi-factional Anti-Poaching Department is the ability to coordinate all the moving parts. This functionality is dependent on the EarthRanger domain awareness system. Located in the Joint Operations Center, this dynamic visualization platform developed by Vulcan Inc. collates all information coming from the teams on the ground – from assets to incidents – in one location.



132

dedicated members of the Anti-Poaching and Law Enforcement Department



1,392

snares removed



812

snares removed since July by de-snaring teams



214

animals poached



0

elephants poached



Wire snares are set in trees to capture wildlife passing by. These snares kill hundreds of thousands of animals each year in the Serengeti alone.



The De-Snaring Unit finds and removes snares during times when large numbers of animals are in the protected area.



Over the past three years, the mandate for the Anti-Poaching and Law Enforcement Department to work in a paramilitary style has proven its worth.

The combination of strategy, technology, intelligence and well-trained boots on the ground is key to combating poaching, and allows operations to flow smoothly and have maximum impact. Conservation-focused technology has developed significantly with the introduction of the EarthRanger system, night vision goggles and covert cameras to become a serious force multiplier for anti-poaching efforts at Grumeti.

One development in 2018 that proved particularly fruitful in the fight against poaching was the creation of a De-Snaring Unit. Grumeti is part of a contiguous ecosystem allowing wildlife to flow between protected areas. At certain times of the year, particularly during the wildebeest migration, wildlife is more concentrated in particular areas. During these high occupancy periods, snaring – the most common bushmeat poaching method – increases. Wire snares are set by poachers, intended for animals to walk through and become entangled in, eventually leading to the animal's death. Bushmeat poaching is one of the greatest threats to biodiversity in the Serengeti ecosystem, responsible for the removal of thousands of animals on an annual basis.

The De-Snaring Unit is called in when the reserve is teeming with game, or if one of the scout teams – the Special Operations Group or the Mobile Patrol Unit – reports into EarthRanger that they have come across a line of snares. The team is then deployed to clear the area of snares. Since its creation in July 2018, the unit has removed 812 snares from the Grumeti area.

Grumeti forms the buffer zone between the communities and the protected area of the Serengeti region. The Anti-Poaching and Law Enforcement Department's focus is on stopping as many poachers and threats to the ecosystem before damage is done. Each unit is an important link in the chain of proactive anti-poaching operations. Locating and de-activating a snare line is just the beginning of the story. Once the information is logged in EarthRanger, the Special Operations Group is deployed to set up an ambush. Armed with night vision and accompanied by the canine unit there is every chance of apprehending the poachers when they return to check their snares. Arriving at the scene, poachers are arrested by the Special Operations Group, then handed over to the local police and magistrate for prosecution, with support from the Grumeti Fund Relationships Department.

In this scenario, we have effectively prevented the destruction of wildlife. All aspects of the incident are logged on EarthRanger, contributing to our database and helping to determine when and where people are illegally entering the protected area. This data is the foundation of our proactive anti-poaching strategy.



22

Canine Unit operations



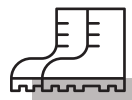
77%

success rate



187

traditional weapons seized



21,922

kilometers covered on patrol



The Special Operations Group use night vision to work covertly in the dark.

© Sacha Specker for Black Bean Productions



The anti-poaching team trains using CrossFit.

© Scott Ramsay



© Sacha Specker for Black Bean Productions

Technology is the key to the future of anti-poaching and wildlife conservation. The EarthRanger system collates and visualizes assets and incidents in real time.



COMMUNITY OUTREACH DEPARTMENT

The Community Outreach Program is focused on three main areas of need within local communities. The program is designed to:

- 1

Diversify the local economy through enterprise development;
- 2

Promote and enhance environmental awareness through the Environmental Education Center; and
- 3

Support education through programs such as scholarships, life skills training, teacher training, language immersion and mentorship.

Further to the programs benefiting men and women equally, the department also prioritizes women and girls’ empowerment, through a mentorships program and events targeted at local high school girls.

The department’s most basic mission is to provide support in a sustainable manner, empowering those living in close proximity to the game reserve in a way that does not detract from or replace the work that is being done by other organizations and government bodies. Through the improvement of education and the diversification of livelihoods, an understanding of and commitment to environmental protection can be nurtured, ensuring long-term benefits for the communities as well as the wildlife areas they live alongside.



© Sacha Specker for Black Bean Productions

Each group of students visiting the Environmental Education Center spends time in the protected area learning about their nation’s fauna and flora.



Menstruation is still a taboo topic, causing girls to miss school. 1,000 girls received re-usable pads during Empowerment events.

© James Suter for Black Bean Productions

129

people across

>

8

villages graduated from the Enterprise Development Program

>

28%

of whom created or expanded their business



Mr. Matiko and Mabaya from Mugeta Village collaborated on a venture whereby they sold some of their cattle and bought four new hybrid dairy cows to start a dairy business. Output increased from 7 liters of milk per day to 36 liters per day.



238

fifth graders from



7

villages participated in English camp



76%

of these students improved by



20%

or more on their interpretive assessment by the end of camp



1,162

girls involved in empowerment sessions

2

young ladies went on an international Girls’ Empowerment road trip

288

students participated in the environmental awareness program

30

teachers participated in English training

24

teachers participated in the environmental awareness program

10

entrepreneurs participated in the one-on-one Enterprise Guiding Program



33%

increase in turnover amongst these entrepreneurs



An Enterprise Development Program Officer meets weekly with members of both the Guiding and Village Learning programs.



The Enterprise Development Program supports the honey industry, incentivizing the protection of village forests.



According to the World Bank (2017), Tanzania has a population of 57,310,019. This is expected to increase by more than 100% by 2050.

Inevitably, considerable pressure will be placed on the country's natural resources and protected areas, like Grumeti. As a small but future-facing organization, we know that if we want to continue to uplift local communities, we must focus on key projects and partner with a variety of stakeholders and like-minded organizations, businesses and philanthropists to empower these communities.

While we cannot work directly with each of the 85,000+ people living on the boundary of the protected area, we believe strongly in the ripple effect caused by the impact of those with whom we do connect. By keeping track of the number of people we reach through our various programs and recording the influence of these programs on their businesses or studies, we can gauge the impact we are having not only on them as individuals but on the community as a whole.

This October marked one year since the launch of the Grumeti Fund Enterprise Development Program in partnership with Raizcorp (a South African business incubator). Whilst there is always room for improvement, results have been inspiring. We have seen 129 people graduate from the program, and nearly 30% of these graduates have gone on to create or expand businesses. Ten entrepreneurs participated in the one-on-one Enterprise Guiding Program, and amongst this group we saw a remarkable 33% increase in business turnover.

Alex Masatu Iganja shares his journey to becoming an entrepreneur:

There's no wrong way to go about starting a business, as long as you believe in what you want to do, use your common sense, and manage your resources efficiently. You don't have to be an expert to run a successful business. Each entrepreneur solves the problems familiar to him or her using their unique perspective and the resources available to them. Plenty of entrepreneurs have found success in fields where they had no previous experience.

My first exposure to entrepreneurship was in primary school when I was selling biscuits to support my mother. After completing time in the army and later earning a university degree, I began my entrepreneurial journey as a motorcycle driver. Six months later I had enough capital to start a business selling vouchers, access to phone charging stations and later with mobile network operators (Vodacom, Airtel and Tigo). In 2015, the business started to pick up and I got the chance to become an agent for NMB bank, employing one person.

It was in 2017, however, after I got the chance to join the Grumeti Fund's Enterprise Guiding Program that my business really took off. Through this program, I managed to grow and expand my business; firstly relooking at all aspects of my business – from finance, strategy and marketing to sales and personal development – from the inside. I was able to set out my vision – both personal and professional – and make a plan to achieve it. That's why, in less than a year, I managed to open another branch, employ five qualified people, increase my net profit by 30%, put systems into the business, enable the business to run without my presence, and research new areas for investment, as well as registering a second micro-credit business.

This guiding program has helped me to believe in myself, and to strategize, run a successful enterprise, and engage with different stakeholders in the business cycle. Right now, I am known and trusted amongst big financial service providers and was recently recognized as one of the top 10 agents in the region for providing financial services.

I can't say I am an amazing entrepreneur at this point, but I'm absolutely way better than I used to be, and I am loving the business I'm currently doing and have no plans to stop. Through my business proceeds I have managed to buy a new car and two plots of land, build a two-bedroom house for my mother, and pay school fees for my two children as well for my nephew.

My plan is to become the best financial services provider in Africa by opening new branches, buying shares in financial companies, giving employment to competent staff and giving entrepreneurship training to entrepreneurs just as the Grumeti Fund has done for me.



Alex has increased his net profits by 30% since completing the one-on-one Enterprise Guiding Program.



The Enterprise Development Program works with budding entrepreneurs to develop their skills to expand their business and diversify local economies.



Donatirra's restaurant and catering business has expanded and she has employed three more people since joining the program.

You cannot overestimate the importance of accurate data and research findings in informing evidence-based management decisions.



RESEARCH AND MONITORING DEPARTMENT

To better understand local ecological systems, and to measure the effectiveness of the Grumeti Fund's work, investing in research and monitoring programs with the aim of maintaining long-term records of changes in key variables is critical.

The Research and Monitoring Department monitors climate, soil carbon, hydrological variables, vegetation biomass and species, large mammal numbers, large and important bird species and human-wildlife conflict. State-of-the-art GIS mapping software enables the team to accurately map everything from wild fires and alien plant infestations to human-wildlife conflict and poaching incidents. This data ensures that only the best evidence-based information guides management decision-making.



1,534

elephants recorded in
2018 Wildlife Census



7.5%

annual growth
since 2003

30

elephants collared



255,168

elephant location data
points captured



7,709

buffalo recorded in
2018 Wildlife Census



17%

annual growth
since 2003





The Research and Monitoring Department

provides comparative data for past, present and future management decisions made by the various Grumeti Fund departments. This data is gathered from numerous sources; such as the collaring of elephants, camera trap surveys, the collection and analysis of vegetation, mapping of alien plants, collection of weather data and various anti-poaching data sets. Arguably, one of the most critical analyses conducted by the department that influences the Grumeti Fund's work and success, is the biennial census. This aerial game count provides data on the wildlife populations within the Grumeti concessions.

While some species require different methods of counting, this census provides information regarding the trends in a number of wildlife populations (large herbivores) that, when collated, give a holistic understanding of the protected area. The data gathered in the 2018 census shows that, overall, wildlife populations are leveling or continuing to grow, with a few negative or downward trends amongst certain species such as reedbuck and roan antelope.



Hyena numbers have remained relatively constant throughout the survey period, while the encounter rate of lions suggests a linear increase of 20% per annum.

Excerpts from the census report explained further:

The aerial survey took place between the **23rd and 31st of July 2018**. The survey was streamlined by not attempting to enumerate the migratory species in the process of leaving the concession. The total effort was **1,539 km flown in 31.93 hr** on survey.

The resident herbivore community is dominated by buffalo (7,709) and elephant (1,534), followed by topi (11,995), giraffe (759), impala (9,826) and eland (1,116) which combined make up 27.7% of the biomass. Buffalo and elephant populations are still growing, buffalo show a linear growth of 17% per annum and elephant exponentially at 7.5% per annum. Most herbivore species showed increases at the outset of the intervention, but over the past few years have stabilized.

At the initiation of this project, the Grumeti Fund management team's primary purpose was to facilitate, principally through protection, the recovery of the resident large herbivore populations in this part of the Serengeti ecosystem. This was seen as an important step in the rehabilitation of this component of the ecosystem, but also essential for fully restoring the tourism potential of the area. The Grumeti Fund has been extremely successful in achieving this, with resident herbivore biomass increasing fourfold to date and still increasing. With the slowing in the growth of most large herbivores as the reserve approaches carrying capacity, the rate of increase of the herbivore populations now becomes a less useful indicator of management success. Instead, alternative indicators become more pertinent and useful, such as maintaining populations within environmentally determined limits, limiting the poaching rate of species below a predetermined rate and ensuring that rare species and habitat restricted species remain within an acceptable range of variability.



Measuring the elephant's tusk during collaring.



Research and Monitoring department conducting veldt condition assessments and biomass measurements.



RARE AND UNUSUAL SIGHTINGS

Greater kudu, aardwolf, pangolin, armadillo, honey badger and roan antelope



232

camera traps



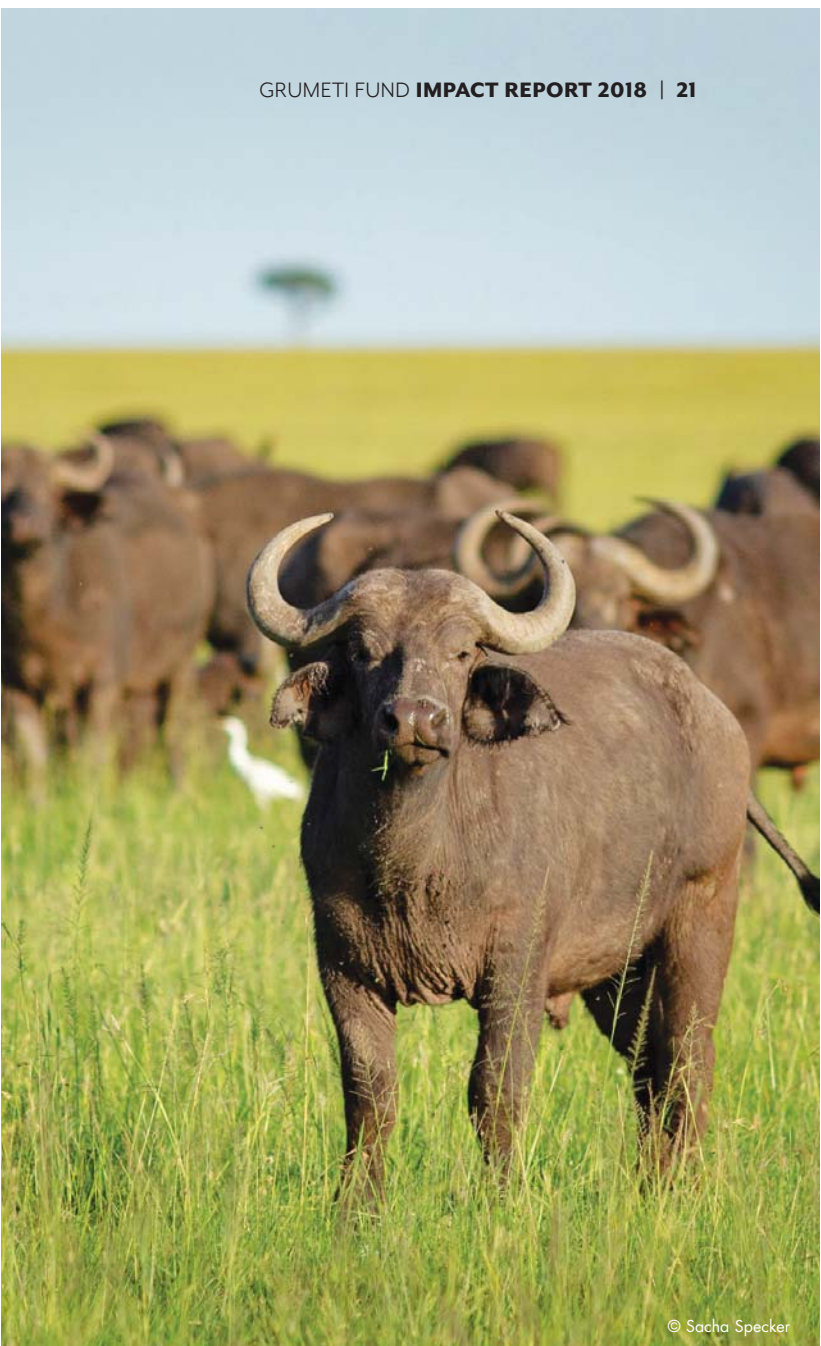
22,019

images classified by

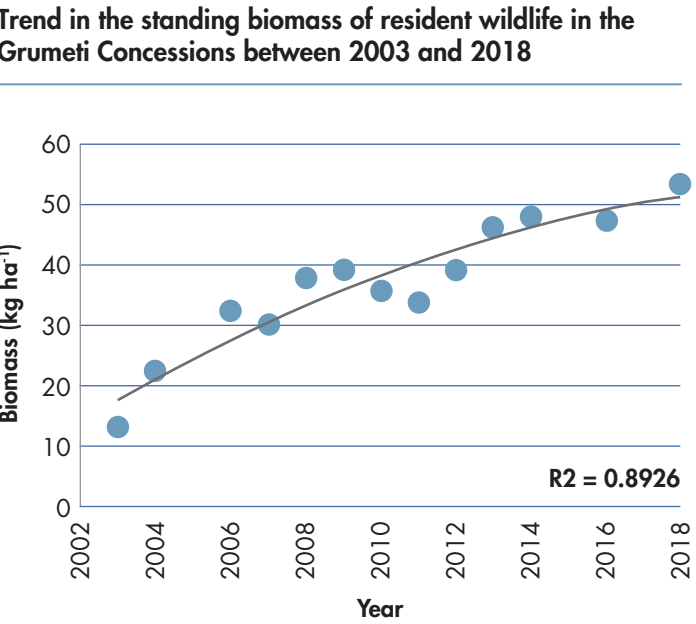


3,939

citizen scientists

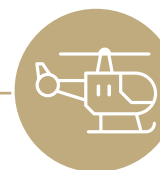


Buffalo make up 39.5% of the area's biomass.



“Rhino populations have crashed before in Africa, but they’ve survived, and recovered, because of people who do something about the problem. We are confident we can do it again here in the Serengeti.”

Grant Burden



SPECIAL PROJECTS

The Special Projects function was created to allow for new and innovative projects to take place without straining the existing departments and Grumeti Fund operations.

Working alongside most department heads gives the organization the ability to look to the future, planning and executing complex projects that require time and funding. Special Projects also dedicates a significant amount of time to the creation and enhancement of new and existing relationships with other conservation-oriented organizations or companies.

Once a project is implemented and running smoothly, it is handed over to the relevant department to integrate into their day-to-day operations. Projects to date include EarthRanger, the canine unit, the reintroduction of eastern black rhino, and the trialing of new and innovative anti-poaching technologies. Looking ahead, some new special projects include the Black Rhino Re-establishment Project, the integration of aerial support, drone flight testing, the continued development of covert camera trials and the fostering of relationships with other conservation-related organizations around the world.



6

Canine Unit Handlers certified by the American Society for Canine Trainers



4

transmitters implanted in



2

rhinos



50%

arrest rate with covert cameras



1

black rhino translocated from San Diego Zoo

© Ami Vitale

Eric the eight-year-old eastern black rhino shortly after his long journey from the San Diego Zoo, transition from a zoo-based diet to indigenous vegetation.

ERIC'S JOURNEY



Eric's 68-hour journey across five countries and 10,000 miles was a logistical feat.



Eric has his horn tipped and receives two transmitters.



Eric is released into a 10-acre re-wilding enclosure within the rhino Intensive Protection Zone.



In an effort to save a critically endangered species from extinction, the Grumeti Fund successfully completed the first phase of a long-term Black Rhino Re-establishment Project by safely translocating an eight-year-old eastern black rhino male from the San Diego Zoo to the Serengeti.

Eric was gifted to the government and the people of the United Republic of Tanzania to bolster an important satellite population of critically endangered black rhino within the greater Serengeti ecosystem. His translocation is significant because although Eric is genetically over-represented within the American zoo's East African rhino population, he will play a vitally important breeding role in the wild Tanzanian population.

It took two trucks and three airplanes across five countries to get the 2,550lb bull rhino back to his native habitat. Since his arrival Eric has undergone a process of trickle exposure to local diseases and indigenous browse and has adapted very well.

Fueled by a lucrative illegal trade in wildlife products, Tanzania has experienced a poaching crisis that has decimated rhino populations. Today, fewer than 750 remain across the whole of East Africa, classifying the eastern black rhino (*Diceros bicornis michaeli*) as critically endangered on the IUCN Red List of Threatened Species.

The Grumeti Fund has had tremendous success in curbing poaching since its establishment in 2003, resulting in dramatic increases in wildlife numbers. Between 2003 and 2018, the concession experienced a fourfold increase in elephant populations and more than a tenfold increase in buffalo numbers. With a strong anti-poaching presence in place and plenty of rhino habitat, the Grumeti Fund is ideally positioned to co-manage the Black Rhino Expansion Project, meaningfully contributing to the repopulation and protection of eastern black rhino within the greater Serengeti ecosystem.

The Grumeti Fund has been working in close collaboration with the Ministry of Natural Resources and Tourism's Wildlife Division, Tanzanian Wildlife Management Authority (TAWVA), Tanzanian National Parks (TANAPA) and Tanzania Wildlife Research Institute (TAWIRI) to implement this multi-phase project.

The establishment of a viable satellite population of breeding black rhino within the Grumeti concession area by 2020 is expected to provide the stimulus for rhino population growth. The goal and measure of the success of the Black Rhino Re-establishment Project will be for the reintroduced rhino to be breeding and thriving within their natural environment and recolonizing new territories within the greater Serengeti ecosystem.

LOOKING AHEAD

While 2018 marked great achievements and positive steps towards our goals – from the introduction of Eric the rhino from San Diego Zoo, to the collaring of 30 elephants, the completion of one year of Enterprise Development training, the inaugural Serengeti Girls' Run, the biennial aerial census, and further developments within the anti-poaching department (technical and non-technical) – there is always more to be done.

As the race against the clock continues, and with conservation and community upliftment of utmost importance, the Grumeti Fund will continue to pursue forward-thinking, collaborative efforts to safeguard the western Serengeti for future generations. Some of these projects for 2019 include phase two and three of the Grumeti Fund's Black Rhino Re-establishment Project, the construction and opening of an applied research center called RISE (Research and Innovation for the Serengeti Ecosystem), the introduction of an aircraft for aerial surveillance and monitoring and an increased impact across the Community Outreach Program.



1
—
aircraft for surveillance and monitoring



11
—
black rhino approved for translocation in 2019



1
—
applied Research Center to be constructed in 2019



2,500
—
women and girls to be impacted through empowerment programs in 2019



© Sacha Specker

PARTNERS MAKE A DIFFERENCE



CANINE UNIT

This was the second year that the Grumeti Fund Canine Unit was supported by a key donor. Their contribution has been invaluable and it has allowed us to develop the unit into one of the best canine programs in Africa.

In 2018, the dogs went operational and their success rate (i.e. ability to catch a poacher or confiscate wildlife contraband) was 77%. We partner with Montana-based Working Dogs for Conservation, which has facilitated regular training by the head of the American Society for Canine Trainers, Chris Aycock. In Chris' words, *"It has been a real pleasure serving Grumeti in 2018. I do not say with any self-pride but rather facts that the six handlers and four canines at Grumeti could serve anywhere in the world and match or top the performances of others."*

Moving forward, we are working to integrate the Canine Unit and the Special Operations Group more closely, to enhance the handlers' veterinary capabilities and to enter into an ecosystem-wide agreement allowing the dogs to operate outside of Grumeti.

VULCAN INC. AND INNOVATIVE TECHNOLOGY

The late philanthropist Paul Allen's forward-looking and impact-driven non-profit organization, Vulcan Inc. is a key partner for the Grumeti Fund. The work we do together is changing the way that wildlife conservation is carried out. For example, the EarthRanger system has completely changed the way the Anti-Poaching and Law Enforcement Department operates. Knowing when and where incidents are taking place allows us to be much more efficient than in the past, when information was presented only once a week. The system allows for the various departments to coordinate efforts quickly and efficiently, reducing the overall threat to the protected area. We also continue to work with Vulcan Inc. on other technological developments that we expect will have an impact not only on the work being done in Grumeti, but across Africa.

LANGUAGE IMMERSION CAMP

In Tanzania, primary school is taught in Swahili and secondary school in English. Recognizing this challenge, the Grumeti Fund's Community Outreach Program decided to pursue a partnership with the world-renowned Concordia Language Villages to develop an English Immersion Program in Tanzania. Nicole Anderson, an experienced language teacher from Concordia Language Villages, states:

Three parts of the Language Immersion Program stand out for me. One is the incredible change in the students between the first day and the last day of the camp. Many arrived shy, timid, not understanding, not talking among themselves, and not participating. Everything was new, different, and using teaching methods and an English that was very different from their prior exposure. By the end of the week, they were laughing, singing, playing, participating, and using English to converse. It was very rewarding to see the students having fun using English, and even more satisfying when their comfort level, confidence, and English level let them participate fully and their different personalities shone through! This new confidence and increased motivation for English will benefit them enormously in the future.

Thanks to integral donors we look forward to continuing to scale this program up, reaching 360 fifth graders in 2019.



Language Immersion Camp helps children learn English in a fun, dynamic way, building their confidence and making the transition to secondary school easier.

SAFARIS WITH A PURPOSE



ELEPHANT COLLARING

This year, the Grumeti Fund collared 30 elephants (15 cows and 15 bulls) to assist in the prevention of human-wildlife conflict.

The remote download GPS collars allow us to track the elephants' movements, and we are working toward perfecting the response of our Human-Wildlife Conflict Mitigation Unit when alerts come through from the Operations Room that the animals are headed outside of the protected area. When the elephants register on the EarthRanger system, we are able to deploy the unit, which then moves the animals back into the protected area. This project was initiated by the Research and Monitoring Department as a way to gather more detailed information on where and when elephants are dispersing, and to offer a proactive solution to one of the largest crises facing the immediate area, human-wildlife conflict.

Since the inception of the project, which was funded by guests and philanthropists from around the world, we have logged 255,168 data points from the 30 remote download GPS collars. Interestingly, we have discovered that the distances traveled by certain individuals are significant – some over 100 kms. We have also seen entire herds moving into the farms instead of just lone bulls. This distinction has an impact on further solutions, and in 2019 we aim to delve deeper into the data collected to fine-tune the coordinated response of both the village mitigation units and our own mitigation unit. We will also continue to educate, involve and empower local communities to be a part of the solution.

SERENGETI GIRLS' RUN

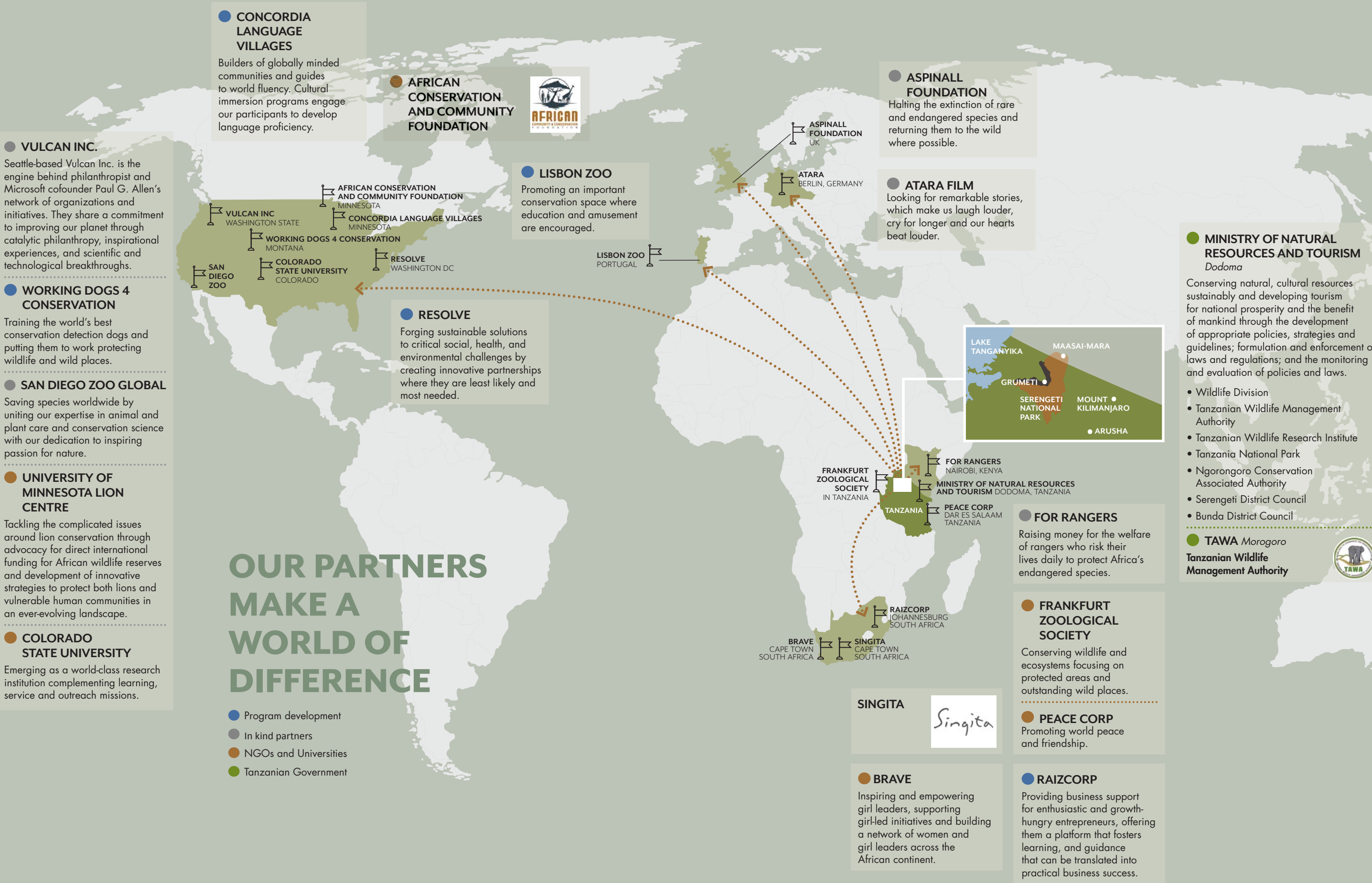
Girls' empowerment and equality for women is relevant the world over. In Tanzania, women are particularly marginalized. Practices such as female genital mutilation still occur illegally, and young girls are married off for dowry, unable to finish their education. Menstruation and reproductive health are taboo subjects and access to materials can be challenging. Many girls do not go to school during their menstrual cycle, missing out on a significant portion of their studies. In the last two years, we have introduced empowerment events whereby high school girls come together to learn about career development, confidence building, menstruation, female genital mutilation, early marriage and reproductive health. The number of girls impacted through this program doubled from last year, and in 2019 we aim to double it again.

The Serengeti Girls' Run is an event aimed at raising awareness and support for the entire empowerment program. The inaugural run this year saw nine women from around the world come together to support the program, raising enough for the Grumeti Fund to engage with 1,162 girls through three empowerment events. Before the run began, the guest philanthropists were part of a fun run and career fair in the local village that hosted more than 400 girls.

While the run itself took place inside the protected area, the reason for the run was never far from mind. Discussions on the run and around the campfire were centered around breaking down barriers and finding healthy and positive ways to impact young women in the area and around the world. The bond between the runners grew stronger every day, even as knees and ankles grew tired.



Safaris with a Purpose are done in partnership with Singita. Opportunities for 2019 include: Serengeti Girls Run and Black Rhino Re-Establishment Project. Email info@grumetifund.org to find out more.



KEY PARTNERS

“A significant diversification of our funding base, combined with continued support from donors and philanthropists around the world, makes the Grumeti Fund enthusiastic about our sustainable and positive impact on safeguarding one of the world’s most iconic ecosystems for posterity.”

Stephen Cunliffe



TANZANIAN WILDLIFE MANAGEMENT AUTHORITY
TAWA's mission is to conserve and sustainably utilize wildlife resources in protected areas. For this, TAWA collaborates with local communities and other national and international stakeholders so that present and future generations of Tanzanians, as well as the global community, can benefit.



AFRICAN CONSERVATION AND COMMUNITY FOUNDATION
ACCF's mission is to contribute to the preservation of important African wilderness areas, as well as to empower the communities living alongside these spaces, contributing to a world in which people and wildlife live together, sustainably, forever.



SINGITA
Singita is a conservation brand that has been preserving African wilderness for the past 25 years, offering guests an exceptional safari experience with 12 luxury, award-winning lodges and camps across five regions in Africa. In partnership with non-profit funds and trusts who implement strategic conservation projects in each region, Singita is preserving and protecting pristine land and wildlife populations, and helping to create economic independence within local communities surrounding the reserves.



FUNDING

PLATINUM
(\$100,000 +)

- Anders and Anne Povlsen
- Anonymous
- Aqualia International Foundation
- Kent and Bosko Greenawalt
- Paul and Sonia Jones
- Vulcan Inc.

GOLD
(\$10,000 – \$99,999)

- Anonymous
- Carol and Landon Butler
- Chris and Diane Joest
- Drorit Wertheim
- Eastern Computer Exchange
- Hayley and Tyler Hubbard
- Jacob Weinig
- Jason Zullin
- Katherine Blount
- Lisanne Dorion
- Malachite
- Mary-jean Tully
- Paul and Julie Hagedorn
- Paul Lyon-Maris
- Randy Sweeney
- Ruth Mutch
- Simon Fuller
- Stadler Family Charitable Foundation
- TL Ambani

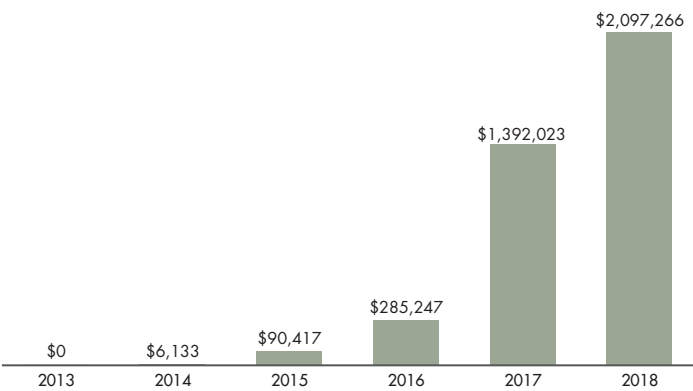
SILVER (UP TO \$9,999)

- Adi Cohen
- Alexandra Connolly
- Amanda Rice
- Andrew Gelman
- Anne Delaney
- Anne Wharton Thayer
- Are Helge Traasdahl
- Balaramisha Gillingham
- Barry Friedburg and Charlotte Moss Family Foundation
- Benjamin Schlosser
- Betty and Lewis Smoak
- Beverley Butler
- Blue Marble Private
- Bonamy Grimes
- Brad and Krista Harris
- Bradford Lowell Pope
- Brian Ford
- Brianna Feo
- Bruce Conzelmann
- Bruce Denis Boggiss
- Chad and Wendi Fischer
- Chang Sen Huang
- Cherri Briggs
- Christian Oth
- Christina Ritzmann
- Christopher Tang
- Claudia Chapek
- Clayton Andrew Robinson
- Curt Vossen
- Dan Redler
- Dan Rose
- Debrah Charatan
- Debrah Lapping
- Diana Turk
- Dominique De Smeytere
- Donald Bollinger
- Dr. Thomas NG
- Duane Mark Fiedler
- Dusco Perovic
- Edward and Christy Policy
- Eileen Schroder
- Elliott and Anastasia Stephanopoulos
- Elsie Lin
- Empowers Africa
- Eric Sambol
- Eric Shah
- Erik De Haart
- Erin Long
- Erin Steva
- Evgeny Yakimov
- Explore Inc.
- Fiona Susan Williams
- Frank and Brinna Sands Foundation
- Franny and Walter Kansteiner
- Gary Rosenbach
- Gay Sutton
- Gayduk Family
- Gershman Family
- Grumeti Fund Kids Lemonade Stand
- Hamad Almuhammad
- Heather DiBenedetto
- Hermann Elger
- James Allen Rothstein
- James Strong
- Jay Mehta
- Jeffrey and Jackie Zicarelli
- Jennifer Forbes
- Jennifer Kaufman
- John Brueckner
- Judith Smith
- Katie Losey
- Keary and Ericka Millard
- Kelly Kaelin
- Kenneth Edward Goodman
- Kristen Cord
- Kristen Saran
- Kyle and Gabi Hicks
- Laurence Scott Maier
- Leslie and Diedre Pillay
- Lori Forsythe
- Lyane An Schaik
- Madhu Mangi
- Maiga Milagre
- Mark Lakin
- Martins Paberzs
- Matti Sakari KemilSinen
- Mazen Abu Ghazaleh
- Michael and Lily Burdiek
- Michael Craig Forman
- Michael Faircloth
- Michael Mettler
- Michael Phelps
- Michael Retzer
- Michelle Quick
- Patricia Thornton
- Paul Francis Di Vito
- Pawel Walicki
- Peter Stuart Dawson
- Phil Stephenson
- Philip Du Toit
- Phylis DeRose
- Randy Glick
- Randy Perkins
- REVO Stiftung Foundation
- Richard and Alicia Scanlon
- Richard and Annie Mastain
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- Robert Gentz
- Robert James Mongeluzzi
- Robert Julius
- Robert Kimmel
- Robert Kronenberger
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- Roshni Nadar Malholtra
- Ross Neubauer
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- Ryan Circh
- Sam and Jennifer Galloway
- Sean McKenna
- Stafford Family Foundation
- Stefan Dermul
- Steven and Jodie Fishman
- Stone Family Fund
- Stuart Gordon Miller
- Sunya Aucoin
- Tanya Foster
- The Bierley Group
- Theresa Mersky
- Thomas and Pamela Pitts
- Thomas McInerney
- Victor Rashnikov
- W. Grant Williams III
- Warren Naphtal
- Waskito Purwana
- Yuangeng Huang
- Zichichi Family

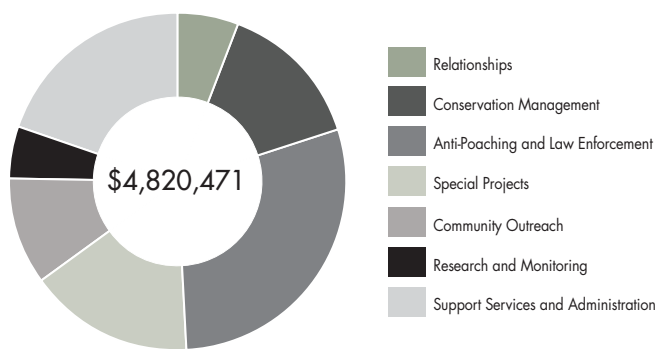
THANK YOU TO
ALL THE GRUMETI
FUND DONORS
WHO MADE 2018 A
SUCCESS.

FINANCIALS

Increase in external funding



Department financials





**“We are here to speak to the girls and to tell them,
‘You have the right to a good education and to stand firm’.
We want to inspire them, to give them power and energy.”**

Frida Mollel, Community Outreach Program Manager

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