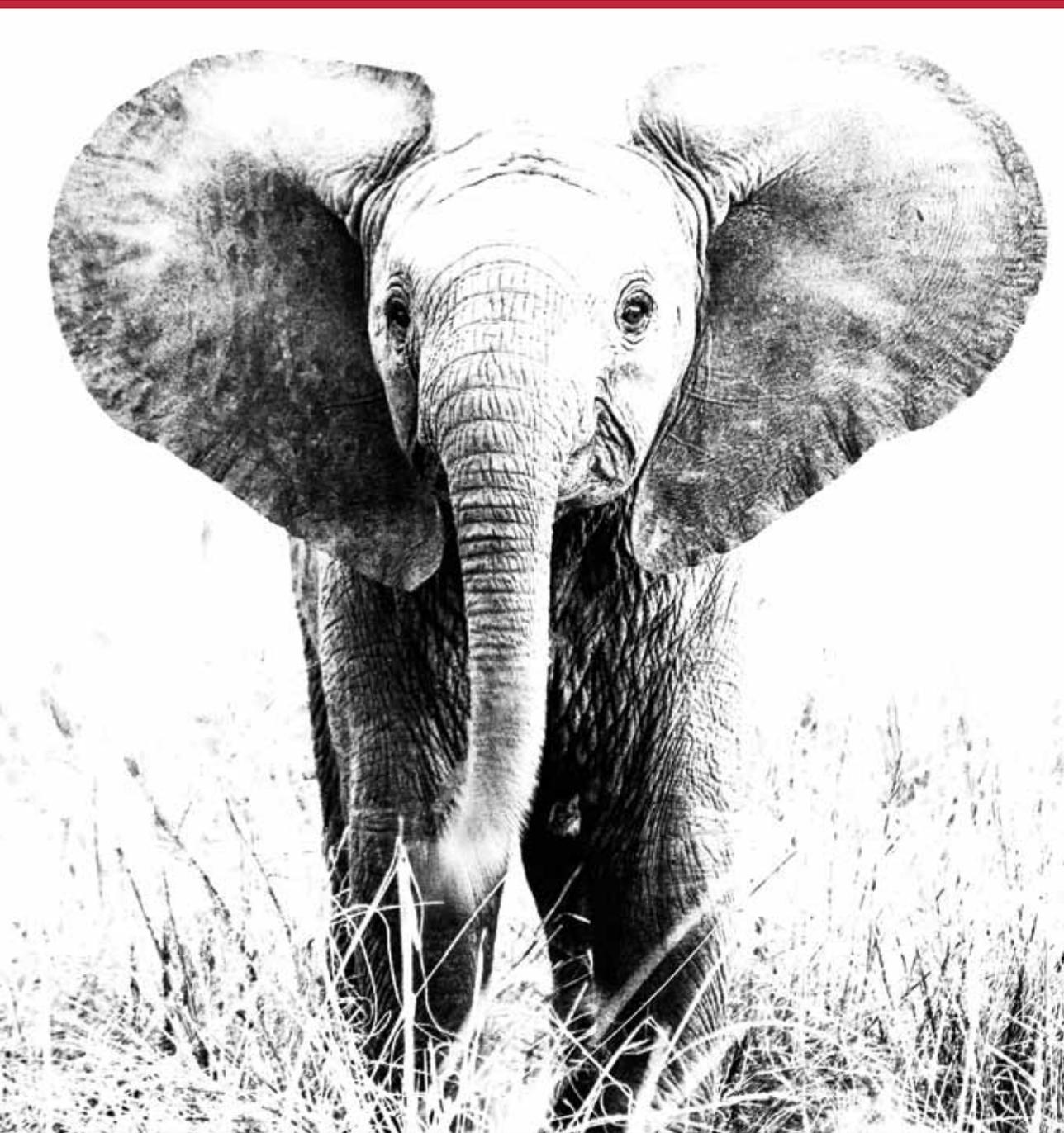


20TH

SAVE THE ELEPHANTS
ANNIVERSARY



Annual Report 2013

A Letter from Our Founder



Over the last year the price of ivory has soared. The impacts of the illegal ivory trade continue to widen and deepen – a tragic echo of 40 years ago when Africa lost half her elephants in one decade. Fortunately awareness of the elephant crisis has also spread, from a few conservation-minded people to a broader world consciousness.

For the first time scientists, based on evidence from key indicator populations, are near-unanimous that elephants are in bad trouble across their range and in decline in all four regions of Africa. Ultimately it is facts, given credibility by science, that stimulate united international action.

Save the Elephants has played a critical role here, delivering to the highest corridors of power the science from studies of individual elephants and the ongoing continental body-count that is the Monitoring of Illegal Killing of Elephants programme. The building wave of world awareness on the ivory issue is now roaring towards the shore.

Following last year's Senate hearings in America a series of hard-hitting newspaper

articles were kicked off by the New York Times, Hillary Clinton made a landmark speech to the diplomatic community, elephants were discussed at the UNEP governing council and then headlined at the CITES meeting. The poaching issue even went as far as the UN Security Council, and it will be raised again this October at the UN General Assembly. These entities, formerly unaware of the extent of the ivory crisis, have taken note that the world might actually lose elephants in the wild.

At STE we have joined with our long term allies in America, the Wildlife Conservation Network, to launch a new Elephant Crisis Fund that enables trusted partners to address these three priorities. We are working with the Clinton Global Initiative's Partnership to Save Africa's Elephants, and also hope to join with institutions and scientists from China to tackle the problems together.

There is still a long way to go but, thanks to celebrities like Li Bingbing and Yao Ming, Chinese perceptions appear to be changing.

Despite the dire situation we are heartened by the gathering of this global coalition that has real potential to stop the killing, stop the trafficking of ivory and, most important of all, stop the deadly demand for ivory.

Dr. Iain Douglas Hamilton
Founder and CEO

Our Mission

To secure a future for elephants and sustain the beauty and ecological integrity of the places they live, to promote man's delight in their intelligence and the diversity of their world, and to develop a tolerant relationship between the two species.



“People like you who protect them, even you cannot control the world [or] the situation to stop people poaching them. It’s very very sad. I don’t know what we can do but we just want to say... don’t do that.”

Li Bingbing, UNEP Goodwill Ambassador for the Environment, visiting a matriarch killed for her ivory in northern Kenya.

A Letter from Our Chairman



This year has been critical for the elephant. Poaching went out of control. But in the summer all at CITES realised - for the first time since the killing really started - that there is a crisis.. This single fact is the silver lining, I believe. Action is no longer just promoted by NGOs like STE but now also by governments, and ministries are beginning to take action in earnest. The USA is crushing its ivory stockpiles, Thailand is banning dealing in ivory, China is enforcing existing laws. Everywhere in Africa where elephants still roam the press is now talking, daily, about the killing and the crisis and the effect on each nation's heritage.

People are waking up to the 'issue', but what a pathetic word given the enormity of the fact that elephants might be extinct in our lifetime, if we don't stop the slaughter NOW! The recent example of poisoning drinking water with cyanide, which then via the elephant carcass continues to poison the ecosystem, is one horrific example of the danger that skulks in the shadows of the ivory trade.

STE has been at the forefront of the small

group that warned long ago about the ivory trade taking control of elephants. And STE continues to be a key player, as Iain's report and the projects outlined in this annual briefing demonstrate. Iain's testimony to the US Congress engaged the lawmakers, and Hillary Clinton took on the mantle of elephant champion after stepping down from government office. The big NGOs are engaging actively and new organisations are being formed with the specific aim to stop ivory trading. In its turn, STE actively engages with all and shares its insights and resources. Funds are committed all round to take action on poaching and trafficking. Successes are mounting. Kenya, which I know best, is now 100% committed to action that includes boots on the ground, finding ivory and prosecuting poachers, dealers, traders and carriers alike.

Being ever the optimist I hope for the best and share and encourage STE's vision of a world where elephants have safe havens, even if some need to be protected by Lucy's bees. But I know that for now we need to take to all battle stations to make this happen.

Finally, I would like officially to welcome our Chief Operating Officer Frank Pope who with his enthusiasm and vision is beginning to made a tangible difference in the work of STE.

In this spirit, all the best wishes for the working year ahead

Professor Fritz Vollrath
Chairman



Poaching and Anti-Poaching in Samburu

by David Daballen

The devastating surge in the illegal killing of elephants continues across the continent. An exceptionally heavy episode of poaching in the months preceding Kenya's March 2013 election made 2012 the worst year on record for the Laikipia-Samburu region, as measured by the Monitoring of Illegal Killing of Elephants programme.

A rugged region of hills between the Reserves and the booming frontier-town of Isiolo known as the Mlango, or Gateway, became a particular hotspot. In one incident an elephant family was sprayed with automatic gunfire, killing three on the spot and a fourth from her wounds. By February 2013, over 20 elephants had been killed in that area alone. When two poachers were killed in the Mlango hills in a shoot-out with the Kenya Wildlife Service that area finally calmed.

The loss of five of our known elephants in the first half of 2013 has given grim detail to the raw data on the crisis. First came Changila, one of the last remaining big bulls living in the west of our study area. He'd come to the reserve in full Musth, looking for females when he was gunned down. Then there was Philo, a young male who'd sought sanctuary from elsewhere but found only his demise. Then Ngampit, aka Bigfoot. Then Cirrocumulus, the last of the Clouds family, killed as she was trying to restart her life with another group. Finally Bonsai, the young co-leader of the last remaining Hardwoods.

Despite these tragedies, with the current price of ivory there might not be a single elephant left in the region without the support of Africom and the Liz Claiborne & Art Ortenberg Foundation (LCAOF) for our own team and the crucial work of KWS, the

Northern Rangelands Trust, the Lewa Wildlife Conservancy and County Council Rangers. The close collaboration between our groups has established an effective and far-ranging response system, and by the middle of 2013 the killing in Kenya's north had calmed. We are working hard to ensure it stays that way.



Samburu-Laikipia suffered heavy poaching despite strong efforts from the Kenya Wildlife Service, the Northern Rangelands Trust, Council Rangers and Save the Elephants



Elephants at CITES |

by Dr. Iain Douglas-Hamilton

Every three years the world's governments, NGOs and inter-governmental organisations come together for the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species (CITES). It is the single most powerful forum for deciding the future of elephants, and, thanks to support from the Briar Patch and Overbrook Foundations, Save the Elephants was there in force.

The focus in Bangkok in March 2013 was very much on elephants. Tanzania wisely withdrew her proposal to sell her ivory stockpile, leading to a much friendlier atmosphere between delegates who hold differing views on the question of such sales. The usual discussion over the theoretical desirability of an ivory trade was postponed and the ban on international trade remains in place.

Some major achievements for elephants followed. A new mandate now states that DNA samples should be taken on future ivory seizures over 500kg, and all parties must now report on their ivory stockpiles once a year. It was also decided that the CITES Secretary-General will cooperate with the UN Office of Drugs & Crime regarding the illegal killing of elephants, the illegal trade in ivory and the national security implications.

A number of hard-hitting reports were published. One, 'Elephants in the Dust', by UNEP, TRAFFIC, IUCN and others, built its case using the results of the Monitoring of Illegal Killing of Elephants (MIKE) programme. STE assists KWS in implementing the Samburu-Laikipia MIKE site, kindly supported by the Barrett Foundation, and I am on the MIKE Technical Advisory Group.



Demand reduction had been omitted from the list of recommendations, despite many parties considering it a vital key to secure a future for elephants. I made an intervention to that effect to the CoP that:

“World demand for ivory exceeds the current supply of ivory from elephants, and the continental population is now in decline. Unless demand is reduced, no amount of increases in law enforcement on their own are likely to succeed. We urge all parties to unite in supporting ivory demand reduction and to initiate public awareness campaigns to reduce demand, to stop the killing.”

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OF IVORY FROM ELEPHANTS, AND
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The plenary meeting subsequently endorsed such campaigns, providing solid footing for the growing coalition we have been advocating of individuals, scientists, NGOs, institutions and governments to take united international action to reduce demand for ivory.

| Aerial Surveillance over Tsavo |

In January 2013, STE began a partnership with the Tsavo Trust to help bring air support to one of East Africa's most important elephant populations. Tsavo, an area about the size of Belize, harbours around 12,000 elephants but poaching is on the rise. By funding the costs of the Tsavo Trust's anti-poaching aircraft, STE has enabled Tsavo Trust's Chief Conservation Officer Richard Moller (ex-head of security for Lewa) to cover 13,600 miles of patrols in 180 hours. The Tsavo Conservation Area is largely roadless, making aerial detection essential. In the first six months of operation, the project identified 34 poachers' blinds, spotted 29 carcasses, recovered 12 tusks and defined many concentrations of vulnerable elephants. Thanks to a close collaboration with KWS, who have a ranger acting as back-seat observer on every flight, follow-up is fast. With more aircraft for Tsavo from the David Sheldrick Wildlife Trust and KWS now airborne there is a good chance to turn the tide.



| Mara Elephant Project |

STE's partnership with the Mara Elephant Project moves from strength to strength. Thanks to solid support from the ESCAPE Foundation, 19 elephants across the ecosystem are currently being tracked in order to guide the project's anti-poaching forces. The team is expanding fast and is expecting to take delivery of an anti-poaching aircraft in the near future to better respond to incidents across the area. While there have been many successes, there has also been sadness. On 31st March, Heritage, a big collared bull named after the project's biggest benefactor, was shot dead in a thick area of forest. Two of his suspected killers have been arrested.



Save the Great Tuskers

by Frank Pope

Elephants are the largest beasts to walk the Earth today. Among them, the Great Tuskers are the most magnificent. With their towering presence and vast tusks they appear to belong to another era. Without action they might truly be consigned to the past. There may now be less than a hundred Great Tuskers left in Africa. With tusks weighing more than a hundred pounds (45kg) each, they have been targeted by generations of hunters. Now, with demand for ivory reaching new highs in the Far East, such animals risk being wiped from the face of the Earth.

Save the Elephants believes that these animals are symbols for all elephants that deserve to be protected. Our children have a right to be awed by their presence. Using hi-tech tracking devices and early-warning systems that we have developed, we can defend elephants from the threat of

USING HI-TECH TRACKING DEVICES AND EARLY-WARNING SYSTEMS THAT WE HAVE DEVELOPED, WE CAN DEFEND ELEPHANTS FROM THE THREAT OF POACHERS WHILE LEARNING ABOUT THEIR BEHAVIOUR AND PLANNING FOR THEIR LONG-TERM SURVIVAL.

poachers while learning about their behaviour and planning for their long-term survival. The campaign has already swung into action in Tsavo, the Maasai Mara and South Africa, supporting anti-poaching efforts through satellite tracking technology to assist ground forces in defending the animals and help authorities map poaching danger zones.

Kenani, one of at least 12 Great Tuskers left in Tsavo National Park in Kenya



South Africa Braces for Poaching Onslaught

by Dr. Michelle Henley

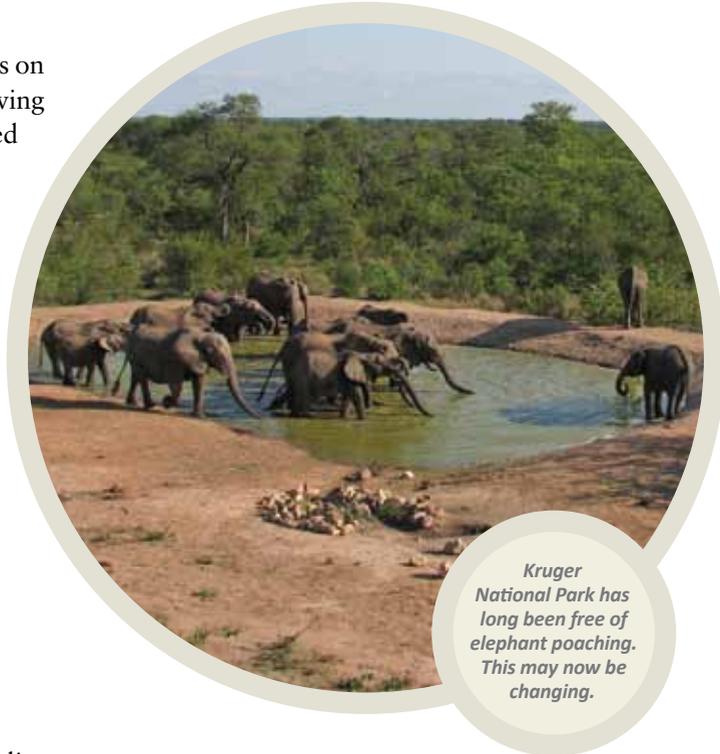
South Africa is one of the few nations on the continent that still has a growing elephant population, but with continued demand for ivory even these well-protected herds are now threatened by the surge in poaching being experienced elsewhere in Africa. The first incidents were reported in early 2013, and the Kruger authorities are braced for more.

To date we have collared
58 elephants in **91**
collaring operations in the
Kruger ecosystem.

As a result we aim to run a mortality monitoring programme as an early-warning system, and giving special protection to the great tuskers of the Greater Limpopo Transfrontier Park (GTLP). These flagship individuals are also powerful educational tools for raising broader conservation concerns around elephants.

After a decade of research under the wing of Save the Elephants, STE South Africa is on the road to becoming an independent entity: *Elephants Alive*. We will continue to partner with STE into the future with tracking and other projects as we work on our mission 'to ensure the survival of elephants and promote the harmonious co-existence between elephants, their habitats and people'. To date we have collared 58 elephants in 91 collaring operations in the Kruger ecosystem.

Our work would not be possible without the support of the Wardens and landowners



Kruger National Park has long been free of elephant poaching. This may now be changing.

of the Associated Private Nature Reserves to the west of the Kruger National Park, SANParks and SA WorldVets, the Wildlife and Environmental Society of South Africa (WESSA), and the US Fish and Wildlife Service.



Building Strategies to End the Crisis

by Dr. Kathleen S. Gobush

The Ivory Crisis that threatens Africa's elephants is multifaceted and intricately complex. The debate sees passions run high on all sides, requiring rigorous analysis and detailed argument. High volumes of data and complex statistics needed processing and presenting in order to help forge a coalition to reduce demand for ivory. In January 2013, with the support of Singer Rankin's World Women Work, STE hired me in the role of Ivory Crisis Strategist.

I come with a background in endangered species conservation spanning 17 years that includes research on elephant behaviour and physiology in Tanzania and 5 years as a federal scientist for the U.S. government. My initial role for STE was to prepare for and attend CITES in March in Bangkok, Thailand as part of the STE delegation.

My primary responsibility is to assist the CEO in developing an "ivory crisis" strategy to lower demand, reduce illegal trade and prevent the poaching of elephants for ivory. The project involves understanding the positions and elephant conservation strategies of numerous other African nations and nongovernmental organizations in order to formulate how and where Save the Elephants can most effectively act to end the elephant slaughter.

In addition to strategy development, research on topics crucial to decision-making has been initiated: an assessment of government-held ivory stockpile data for the 38 African elephant range states and basic modelling of possible accrual of ivory stocks over time; a review of ivory stockpile inventory and auditing procedures and formulating a model ivory stockpile inventory for maximum scientific value; and a review of historical African elephant population data to explore the possibility analyzing of "deep" population growth trends.

Weak law enforcement, the involvement of organised crime and soaring demand for ivory threaten the future of elephants.



Sharing a Stage with Yao Ming in Beijing

by David Daballen



With demand for ivory still at a record high and driving poaching across the African continent, it has never been more important to share awareness with consumer nations. China's vast population and economic boom have combined to make it the most important country in deciding the fate of elephants. Leading such a charge is a big task, which needs a big star.

Enter Yao Ming. When this Chinese mega-star came to Africa last year he spent several days with Save the Elephants in Samburu, and I had the privilege of introducing him to the wonder of wild elephants. I was also with him when he saw for the first time the horrific impacts of poaching. We became friends, and I was invited to Beijing for the official launch of his Ivory & Rhino Horn Campaign, orchestrated by our partners WildAid, world pioneers in using star power to give wildlife a future.

Yao's campaign represents a major push to raise public awareness about the impacts

of buying ivory and rhino horn and has seen the release of several Public Service Announcements to be broadcast on Chinese television and placed on billboards in major cities. These were made possible by Singer Rankin's World Women Work, the Knowles and Yamazaki families, and the Bole & Klingenstein Foundation.

When I arrived in the strange and wonderful world of Beijing, I was certainly glad to see the smiling face of my big friend Yao Ming again. The launch went well, with Yao, Peter Knights from WildAid, Dr. Philip Murithi from the African Wildlife Foundation and I giving short speeches and answering questions, all of which were translated into Chinese.

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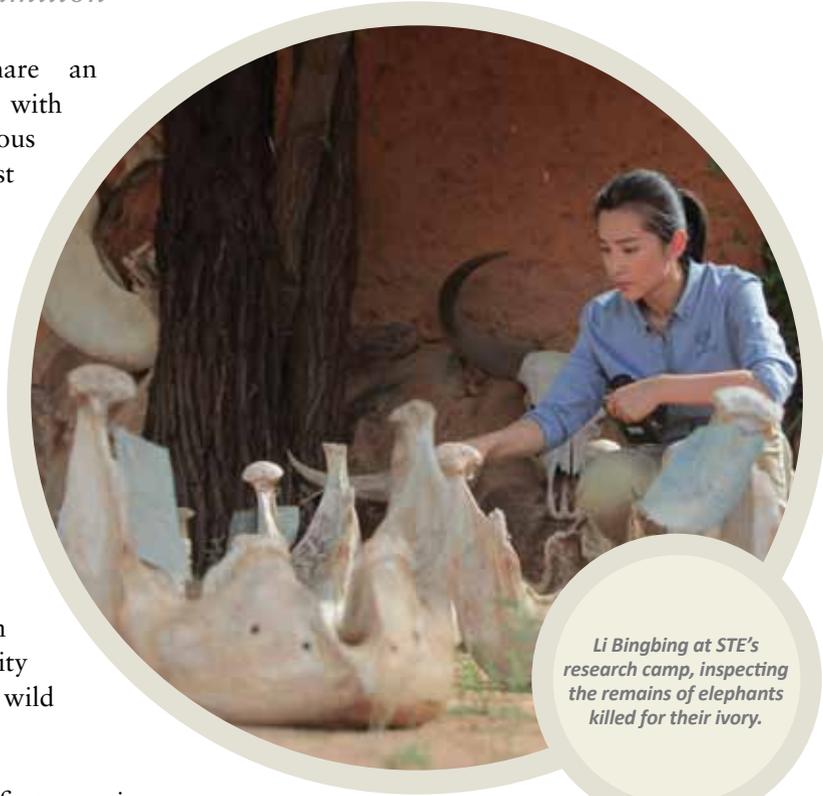
The following morning I went to see the huge billboards at Chaoyang Gate, just outside Beijing's park, and was pleased to see the amount of attention they were getting. LCD screens were also at subway stations and huge shopping malls showing the Public Service Announcements that WildAid created during Yao's visit.

We look forward to welcoming more Chinese friends to meet the elephants of Samburu. I hope the campaign will send the message to all caring Chinese citizens that, as Yao Ming says, "when the buying stops, the killing can too."

China's Leading Actress Says No to Ivory |

by Saba Douglas-Hamilton

How do you share an urgent message with the world's most populous country? One way is to enlist the help of a woman so beautiful, charming and passionate that she has risen over more than a billion people to become one of China's most celebrated stars. Actress Li Bingbing came to Kenya in May 2013 in her capacity as a UNEP Goodwill Ambassador for the Environment, and we were thrilled when UNEP gave us the opportunity of introducing her to the wild elephants of Samburu.



Li Bingbing at STE's research camp, inspecting the remains of elephants killed for their ivory.

Bingbing embraced her first experience of Africa and rejoiced in the wide open spaces and smiling faces of Northern Kenya. While a film crew worked to capture her reactions in order to relay them to audiences around the world, Bingbing discovered the wonder of wild elephants. The following morning we regretfully showed her the impact of buying ivory. A matriarch had recently been shot and killed. The grass surrounding the body had been crushed flat by the feet of her anxious relatives as she died. When Bingbing returned to China she couldn't wait for the film footage to be edited. She immediately launched her own *Say No to Buying Ivory* campaign on social media. In just four days she had reached over a million people, boosting the issue to the top of the social media charts in what was reported to be the fastest-moving campaign since 2009. This will form the foundation of the main campaign release.

In just four days she had reached over
reached over
a million people...
the fastest-moving campaign
since 2009.

After hearing stories from the Samburu people of their relationship with elephants, Bingbing danced with the warriors. That night she was christened sampiripiri, or 'butterfly'. We hope that her wingbeats will create a storm that will change the world.





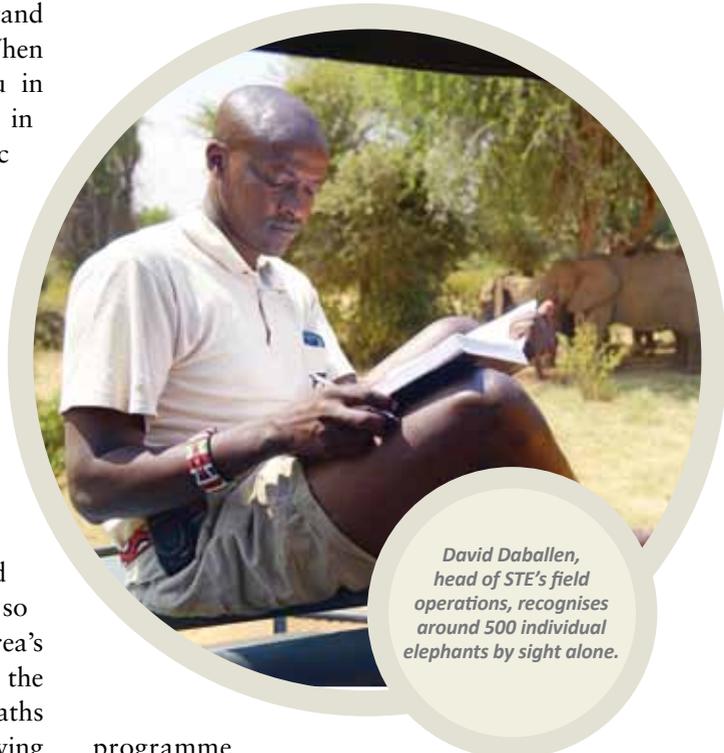
Poaching & Society - The Samburu Elephant Project

by Dr. George Wittemyer

The more people understand elephants, the more they care. When Save the Elephants arrived in Samburu in 1997 with a mission to promote delight in their intelligence and deepen scientific knowledge of their needs, little was known about the area's elephants. What was known, and which made them ideally suited for behavioural research, was their exceptional calmness around people.

Over the next fifteen years this project has become one of the world's best-studied populations, a noble record achieved in recent years through the constant support of the Globe and ESCAPE Foundations. The 1,000 or so individual elephants that use the area's reserves are recognised individually by the shape of their ears and tusks. Births, deaths and interactions are recorded, allowing detailed analysis of their social behaviour and demography and providing important insights into their world.

The population has become something of a Rosetta Stone for interpreting the impacts of poaching on the society of savannah elephants. The sensitive monitoring



David Daballen, head of STE's field operations, recognises around 500 individual elephants by sight alone.

programme meant that, in 2009, STE was the first organisation to warn, with hard data, of the storm of illegal killing descending on East Africa's protected areas and thus call attention to this emerging global threat.

Over the last five years demand for ivory has seen this close-knit society torn apart. The details, as published in the scientific journal *PLOS One* in January 2013, are harrowing. Older animals – who usually have larger tusks – fared particularly badly. In 2000 there were 38 known males over 30 years old. By 2011, this number had dropped to 12, of whom 7 had arrived in the study area from elsewhere. Almost half of the known females over 30 years old were lost between 2006 and 2011, their number dropping from 59 to 32. While some of this mortality was due to a severe drought that hit the area in 2009-10, at least half is thought to be due to illegal killing.

The resilience and perseverance of elephants in the face of disaster is important... we cannot lose sight of the fact that given protection, elephants can and do rebuild their lives.

The deaths have altered the age structure and age-related social organisation. In 1998 42 per cent of the population was male, but by 2011 the bulls – who bear more ivory – made up only 32 per cent. Ten of the fifty elephant groups were effectively wiped out, with no known breeding females left, while thirteen had no breeding female over the age of 25.

The loss of mature females destroys the memory banks of those families, lowering the chances of survival for those that remain. One result of the poaching crisis is an increased number of orphans. We are embarking on a unique study to understand how these individuals reconstruct their lives after the trauma of social disruption due to illegal killing. The resilience and perseverance of elephants in the face of disaster is an important aspect of the bigger conservation picture, and we cannot lose sight of the fact that given protection, elephants can and do rebuild their lives. The elephants of Samburu have responded to the poaching pressure by increasing their reproductive efforts and producing more babies, displaying the resilience that saw them survive the last onslaught on their populations in the 1970s and 80s.

Alongside monitoring individual elephants to understand behaviour and demography, the Samburu Elephant Project employs long-term GPS tracking to investigate what elephants need and how they make choices while also identifying critical corridors and key areas in the ecosystem. To quantify the changes in the rate of poaching, STE also assists KWS in implementing the Monitoring of Illegal Killing of Elephants programme by actively searching for and investigating elephant carcasses.

In each of these three focal areas, the STE Samburu Elephant Project is a global leader in terms of scientific production, public outreach and policy interaction. The research has produced novel understanding of elephant social dynamics and complexity, providing new insight into the intelligence of this species. As well as advancing our understanding of the factors influencing elephant use of the landscape, the radio-tracking program is being used to coordinate ranger patrolling and to identify corridors and road crossing points to ensure that Kenya's development plans take elephants into account.

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The Orphans of Samburu

by Shifra Goldenberg, PhD Candidate, Colorado State University

The surge in poaching over the last several years and the drought of 2009 have left many elephant orphans and disrupted families in Samburu. Some orphans choose to remain with what is left of their disrupted groups, others leave their natal group to attach to unrelated individuals. Still others become drifters, showing some social preference but not fully committing to any one group.

As we study these strategies more deeply, it has become very clear that the social intelligence of these animals affords them resilience in the face of intense periods of disruption. By following their social and reproductive lives, we hope to understand how elephants cope with high rates of mortality and what this will ultimately mean for the population.



The leaders of the First Ladies, Mary Todd Lincoln and Maya Churchill, went missing during a spike in poaching during November 2011. Maya's death left Rosalynn, her 18-year old daughter, as the family's oldest surviving female.

The American Indians rarely venture far outside the reserves. After drought and poaching killed four family elders, Amayeta left the remaining young females in her family to be with Alpin from the Flowers.



The dominant Planets family is now reduced to a few young females. Luna split from the last of the Planets and now spends a great deal of time with Alpin, the matriarch of the Flowers.



The tragic death of the last remaining mature female of the Swahili Ladies left 12-year old Habiba to lead what is left of her family: her cousins Layla, Hadithi and a young male calf named Swahili Boy. A tuskless old matriarch from the Spices family named Cinnamon has taken them under her wing.



| The STE / WCN Elephant Crisis Fund |

by Frank Pope

The elephant crisis is too big for any one organisation or government to resolve. The only hope is a coordinated response from a coalition of effective organizations to develop and deploy well-funded, strategic and efficient actions to address poaching, trafficking, and demand for ivory.

To this end STE and our trusted partners the Wildlife Conservation Network (WCN) are creating the STE / WCN Elephant Crisis Fund (ECF). The initial target is \$5 million to be deployed over the next three years to selected projects in the three target areas of anti-poaching, anti-trafficking and demand reduction.

The Wildlife Conservation Network's proven efficiency, flexibility and responsiveness in support of field-based conservation projects will enable Save the Elephants to leverage its unrivalled contacts to partner with the most effective organisations to tackle the highest priorities.

The ECF is intended to jumpstart and scale up immediate strategic interventions by rapidly deploying financial resources to field partners. The fund is also a key element of a broader effort to expand investment by private individuals, foundations, nonprofit organizations and governmental agencies to reduce elephant poaching.

The initial investment was a \$1 million contribution from WCN through a gift from



the Sidney Byers Charitable Fund, which will be used to match contributions from individual donors and foundations and so double their impact. Donors will be able to choose into which of the three areas they wish to invest.

The ECF's first intervention was made within 24 hours of hearing the news that the world's most celebrated sanctuary for forest elephants, the World Heritage Site of Dzangha Sangha, had fallen to a rebel militia. A grant of \$100,000 was made to the Wildlife Conservation Society to enable Mike Fay and WWF's Richard Ruggiero to stage a successful intervention. Other projects being supported in the first phase are WildAid's continued demand reduction programme, investigations in Tanzania and judicial reform in Kenya to combat trafficking, and anti-poaching support in Gabon and Mozambique.

Samburu's Expanding Human Footprint

by Jennifer Ridder, *International Intern*

Kenya's north is changing fast. Development is already encroaching on the reserves where STE's research centre is based. Many new lodges have sprung up within the reserves, while a newly-built highway is attracting ribbons of development on either side and has swollen Archer's Post into a busy town. By 2030, the nation's vision for the area includes a railway, oil pipeline, highway and a resort city.

STE's Human Footprint project aims to understand and visualize the effects of increased human populations and infrastructure on the land used by elephants in and around Samburu and Buffalo Springs Reserves. By better understanding the interaction of elephants and humans we can work with government to plan for a future to allow both species to thrive.

In February 2013, I arrived at the Save the Elephants research camp in Samburu to study anthropogenic influences on the environment as part of a National Geographic Expedition Council Grant. After three months of travelling through communities and talking with local villagers with Bernard Lesowapir (a GIS researcher with STE), it was apparent that the formerly nomadic Samburu and Turkana tribes were increasingly turning towards a more settled lifestyle.

The change can be attributed in part to the growing tourism industry. In 2005, there were five permanent lodges in the area and one under construction. Now there are 11 fully operational lodges inside the reserve boundaries and two just outside park limits. These lodges employ community members, and bring tourists who buy gifts, artefacts and leave donations, giving an economic incentive to grow roots near the reserves.

IN 2005, THERE WERE FIVE PERMANENT LODGES IN THE AREA AND ONE UNDER CONSTRUCTION. NOW THERE ARE ELEVEN FULLY OPERATIONAL LODGES INSIDE THE RESERVE BOUNDARIES AND TWO JUST OUTSIDE PARK LIMITS.

A paved highway bordering the East side of the Reserves was completed in 2010. Easy access to larger markets and fast transportation have greatly benefited the Samburu and Turkana people, but has created a dangerous obstacle for migrating elephants and speeded the transport of illegal ivory.

Of the multiple threats that elephants face such as poaching, drought, and climate change, coping with an expanding human presence is possibly the most critical long-term challenge. Combining elephant movement and Human Footprint data is a crucial step in planning for a safer and more sustainable landscape for both elephants and humans.



Hope and Honey – the Benefits of Bees

by Dr. Lucy E. King

Crop-raiding gives elephants a bad name, and finding ways of preventing this is key to developing a more tolerant relationship between elephants and man. The *Elephants and Bees Project* builds on our discovery of elephants' natural fear of honey bees to help deter them from damaging fields of crops, whilst at the same time providing honey and pollination services to boost rural farm production.

Critical to our project is understanding elephant behaviour and responses to bees and other threats in their environment. This vital research continues into our seventh year in partnership with Dr. Joseph Soltis from Disney's bioacoustic laboratory in Florida, with core funding from Disney Worldwide Conservation Fund. This year we were also delighted to welcome Ike Leonard, the Zoological Manager from Disney's Elephant Team, to our research sites in Samburu and Tsavo. Ike helped enormously, both with our elephant behaviour research, collaring one of our study elephants, and with constructing new Langstroth Beehive Fences for farmers in Sagalla community, who live with elephants from Tsavo East National Park.

This year, our beehive fence farmers in Kenya have been assisting our Masters student from Yale University, Anna Sekallariadis, conduct a community assessment of the project, as we are starting to see a change by our Beehive Fence farmers in the negative attitudes and perceptions that they held previously to elephants. Anna is one of the seven young international and national interns we have welcomed to the *Elephants and Bees Project* in the last year.

As demand for Beehive Fences grow,



Women in Mozambique finish construction of a protective beehive fence to stop elephants crop-raiding their farms

we have been busy conducting training and implementation of Beehive Fences in three human-elephant conflict areas of northern Botswana, in partnership with the Department of Wildlife and National Parks and The World Bank. Additionally, in collaboration with our Wildlife Conservation Network partner, The Niassa Lion Project, I visited Mozambique to help Colleen and Keith Begg establish some trial beehive fences in Mbamba Village. The Wildlife Conservation Network and Elephant Action League funded this cross-partner support and we are delighted to report that the project officer, Mbumba, and the Beehive Fence farmers in Niassa, have since produced the first ever 7.5kgs of “Mozambican Elephant-Friendly Honey”.

For anyone interested in learning more, Beehive Fence Construction Manuals are freely available for download on the project website: www.elephantsandbees.com.

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Years of Save The Elephants



1993

STE is founded



SAVE THE ELEPHANTS

'94

STE pioneers GPS tracking of elephants

'95

'96

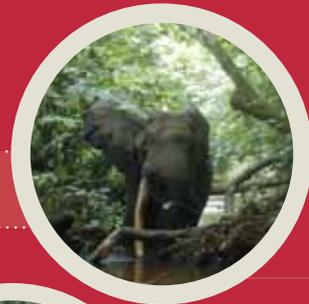
STE starts the Samburu Elephant Project in northern Kenya



'97

'98

Central African Forest Elephant Tracking Programme starts with WCS



'99

STE Elephant News Service begins transmitting

2000

STE's Mali Project starts



'01

STE builds Samburu research centre on the foundations of George Adamson's camp

'02

The biggest tracked tusker in Africa is collared in South Africa. Mac has tusks weighing more than 115lbs a side and ranges an average 5,000km.



1963 - 50 years ago *Iain Douglas-Hamilton* arrives in Tanzania as an intern for *Tanzanian National parks*. Two years later he starts the first research into African elephant behaviour.

1979 - *Iain* conducts pan-African elephant census and charts 1.3 million elephants across the continent

1989 - Kenya burns its ivory stockpile in protest at the ivory trade. Soon afterwards world governments ban international trade in ivory at CITES.



Rommel destroys STE's Hilux. Toyota replaces it with a new Landcruiser.



Sept 11th... plane crashes into zebra ... soon afterwards its replacement 5Y-STE arrives



Wangari Maathai launches STE's Safaricom GSM cellphone tracking programme

2003

'04

'05

'06

'07

'08

'09

2010

'11

'12

'13

Research by Lucy King et al shows that eles run from sound of disturbed bees, paving the way for the Elephants and Bees Project.

CITES parties agree to a sale of around 100 tonnes of ivory to Japan and China in return for a 9-year ban

STE publishes early warning of a rise in poaching



568 elephants die as drought hits Samburu

BBC screens the series *Secret Life of Elephants* on STE's work in Samburu

Flood destroys much of the STE research camp



The Mara Elephant Project begins



Yao Ming visits Kenya to meet wild elephants and rhinos



UNEP partners with STE to bring Li Bingbing to Samburu to understand the origins of ivory

The Secret of Survival Among Mali's Desert Elephants

by Jake Wall



The elephants of Mali's Gourma desert are on the edge. Not only do they live further north, and in more extreme conditions, than any other known population – they are also enduring a fundamentalist uprising and they number only around 350.

Save the Elephants has been investigating and working for the conservation of the extraordinary Gourma elephants since 2000, with the help of African Parks, the late Prince Bernard of the Netherlands, National Geographic, US Fish & Wildlife & the Wild Foundation.

In January of this year, in the journal *Biological Conservation*, we revealed the complex way in which elephants use the landscape in order to survive in the hot and water-scarce Sahelian ecosystem. Using nine GPS collars, we discovered that the Gourma elephants are among the world's longest-distance Pachyderm travellers. They move in a unique, anti-clockwise migration pattern that covers a region greater than 32,000 km² that is likely driven by the rare and shifting availability of food, water and minerals.

Daytime temperatures can soar to over 50 degrees Celsius, while a single annual rainy season means the area is prone to droughts. The whole system relies on a series of shallow lakes that dry in rapid succession during the dry season, concentrating people, livestock and elephants together into a handful of locations. Tensions between them rise along with the temperature. In step with the rest of Africa, poaching is on the rise, and political instability has newly re-affected the entire region, making conservation efforts difficult to impossible.

In Mali, daytime temperatures
can soar to over 50
degrees Celsius

We sincerely hope that despite the odds, the Gourma elephants will continue to prove their resilience as they have done for centuries, and make it through these tumultuous times.

A Bridge Between Two Worlds |

by Gao Yufang, *International Intern*

The views of the individuals, organisations and governments involved in elephants and ivory are diverse and often conflicting. Elephants will benefit from a better understanding of the perspectives of East, West and Africa, and the complex interactions between them.

As a Chinese national bilingual in English and Mandarin, I am able to access the different cultural outlooks prevalent in the issue of international ivory trade from Africa to Asia, and this is the area on which I decided to focus my research.

In December 2012, writing my first email to Dr. Iain Douglas-Hamilton, I was nervous. A Chinese graduate student at Yale School of Forestry & Environmental Studies and was looking for an organization to host my research project about the ivory trade, but I'd never been to Africa before.

AS A CHINESE NATIONAL BILINGUAL IN ENGLISH AND MANDARIN, I AM ABLE TO SEE THE DIFFERENT CULTURAL OUTLOOKS PREVALENT IN THE ISSUE OF INTERNATIONAL IVORY TRADE FROM AFRICA TO ASIA.

Now, as the first Chinese research intern to have worked with STE, I know how eager the team is to develop understanding with China. I am honoured to be a bridge in between the two worlds.

Between May and September 2013, I conducted fieldwork on both the supply and demand sides of the trade. In Kenya, I had the opportunity to spend three weeks with the STE team in Samburu where I talked to many local Kenyans who live among the elephants. In Hong Kong and mainland China, I visited ivory shops and talked to ivory traders as well as the government officials and conservation practitioners.

By unveiling the diverse perspectives, I attempt to help all participants to achieve a more comprehensive and nuanced understanding of the problem and each other. I hope I can help clarify the common interests, and that I can facilitate the search for solutions that are logically rational, politically feasible and morally justified.

The work is entirely funded by Yale University, and would not have been possible without the support from many individuals in Africa and Asia who were so generous to share with me their insights into the issue. Thank you to Iain, Oria and all of Save The Elephants for their help in making my first visit to Africa an unforgettable experience!



Ivory Climbs the Global Political Agenda |

by Dr. Iain Douglas-Hamilton

The poaching storm has been building since 2008, when we first expressed our concern that we might be at a new tipping point for elephants. This warning was later backed up with reams of scientific data, and for the first time it was agreed by scientific consensus (by the CITES MIKE Technical Advisory Group) that the number of elephants across the continent being killed for their ivory was unsustainable.

The message has spread in a series of landmark publications and hearings. A Grand Alliance of conservationists and politicians is forming, but it is still touch and go whether jointly the situation can be turned around. In Central Africa, where the well-documented destruction is proceeding at a terrifying pace, it may already be too late.

What we have seen is a movement towards much greater awareness. Hearings at the US Senate under John Kerry in May 2012, were followed by a major series of articles by Jeff Gettleman of the *New York Times*, the *National Geographic* cover story **Blood Ivory**, and a powerful statement by the former Secretary of State Hillary Clinton.

Come March 2013, elephants topped the agenda at CITES, where some significant gains were made. The Conference of the Parties officially endorsed campaigns to reduce demand for ivory. Soon afterwards the Chinese state news agency, *Xinhua*, published a series of stories following a visit to STE's research camp in Samburu. A visit by China's leading actress and UNEP Goodwill Ambassador Li Bingbing helped boost awareness still further.



In April in Kenya, President-Elect Uhuru Kenyatta decried poaching in his inaugural speech. His pledges, spurred and amplified across Kenyan society by dynamic conservationist Paula Kahumbu, have put issue high on the agenda of the public and – crucially – the judiciary.

In June, I had the opportunity to brief officials at the White House with partners from WWF. In July, President Obama announced a \$10m wildlife poaching initiative, and during a summit with China's Xi Jinping the issue of ivory was reportedly raised. WCS then convened a meeting of leading elephant NGOs to meet Hillary Clinton, seeding a major new coalition to work with the Clinton Global Initiative to stop the killing, stop the trade and stop the demand.

In September, meetings at the White House and with the CGI during the UN General Assembly will help solidify a new international strategy to save elephants.

The Darkening Situation in Central Africa |

by Dr. Iain Douglas-Hamilton

In the 1960s and 1970s elephants were believed to have flourished in the vast forests of Central Africa at truly astonishing densities. Since then, and especially in the last few years, the losses have been dramatic. Ravaged by bandits and government forces hungry for income, three quarters of the region's elephants have been lost over the last two decades, mostly in the last few years.

On the 3rd of December 2012, I visited Brazzaville, capital of the Congo, at the invitation of the EU and US Embassy, to raise awareness amongst the political elite and to secure commitment to action in the region. The high-level gathering resulted in a strong statement and message to Central African leaders exhorting them to take united action to stop the killing of elephants and trading of ivory.

Huge efforts are being made by our allies, the African Parks Network, to slow down the killing of elephants both in Chad and in Garamba in the north of the Democratic Republic of the Congo, and a new joint strategy for Central Africa by a consortium of NGOs aims to keep the pressure on.

In June 2013, the government of the Central African Republic was overthrown. A rebel militia attacked the sacrosanct Zhangha elephants, made famous by the long-term studies of Dr. Andrea Turkalo. Within 24 hours of getting the news Save the Elephants had joined with the Wildlife Conservation Network to send \$100,000 from our new Elephant Crisis Fund to the Wildlife Conservation Society who were spearheading a rescue mission to the area in conjunction with WWF.



Forest elephants have borne the brunt of the current poaching crisis and many populations have already been wiped out

The global implications of the loss of Central Africa's elephants are serious. To deplete them from hundreds of thousands to the few tens of thousands of today has taken 40 years. Now that they are exhausted as the major supply of ivory supply to the world, the full fury of the demand for ivory is turning on East Africa's elephants. If these also fall, those of southern Africa will be next. The world's ivory supply is finite and if present levels of demand persist, the elephants can only be driven rapidly downwards.



Kenya Fights Back

by Resson Kantai

By the end of 2012, the elephant crisis had climbed high on the agenda internationally, but Kenya still suffered from a woeful lack of political will. Penalties for poachers and traffickers were low to the point of insignificance and tales of rotten officials abounded.

In the press and behind closed doors, STE and others pushed hard to bring the issue to the fore. In March, the National Economic & Social Council convened a special session on the issue. Then, on the 9th of April, Uhuru Kenyatta became Kenya's first president to take on poaching in his inaugural address. "My fellow Kenyans," he said, "Poaching and the destruction of our environment has no future in this country. The responsibility to protect our environment belongs not just to the government but to each and every one of us."

IN KENYA, POACHING CAN NOW ATTRACT A 10 MILLION SHILLING FINE, OR A JAIL SENTENCE OF 15 YEARS.

The Kenya Elephant Forum (of which STE is an active member), with the authorship of Paula Kahumbu, Steve Itela and Lisa Rolls Hagelberg of UNEP, approved a policy document "10 ways in 100 days" to suggest actions for the government to make good on this statement. The first peals of victory rang on the 23rd of May when Parliament passed a motion to amend the Wildlife Bill, an archaic document, which has been lying untouched since 1976. Poaching can now attract a 10 million shilling fine, or a jail sentence of 15 years. Other legal changes mean that the illegal killing of elephants and rhinos can be classed as "economic sabotage."

Kenyans have taken up the torch. Jim Nyamu began a 1,500km walk around Kenya for elephants, joined by 1,000 men, women and children in Samburu, then Kenya's First Lady. STE supported him as he walked and preached to those who live among elephants. Meanwhile government, corporates and civil society joined forces beneath the powerful banner HANDS OFF OUR ELEPHANTS, launched by our partner Wildlife Direct.

The momentum is real and building. The story of the struggle for Kenya's elephants is the story of hope.



Marches in protest at the poaching sprang up around Kenya in 2013

Community Outreach |

by *Jerenimo Lepirei*

Guns and boots on the ground are undoubtedly important in the battle against poaching. But wild elephants use areas too large for rangers to effectively patrol, so it is crucial for local communities to also be their defenders.

After returning from my Emerging Wildlife Conservation Leaders course in the US in April I launched a new phase of STE's long-running community outreach programme. Every weekend meetings are arranged in different areas to bring warriors, elders and officials together to talk.

At the very first meeting we managed to bring nine poachers to the table, all of whom renounced their life of crime and vowed to help spread the word that poaching was not worth the costs. By bringing them in from the cold we return them to the watchful eyes of their community.

Following this success the local MP, wardens and county reps have all joined the discussion, meeting to discuss building the scheme across the region and ensuring that the gains are long-lasting even in the face of continued demand for ivory.



Inspiring Lives through Education |

by *Desmond Kukubo*

Many children in the elephant range of northern Kenya would have a bleak future without outside help. Poverty and under-funded schools are problems, but so too are traditions which value warriors and wives above a modern education.

In November 2012, seven new Samburu students won elephant scholarships with their good academic results. They have been enrolled into high schools thanks to the Fred B. Snite and Handsel Foundations, Seaworld and many individual donors. Four existing scholars who recently gained impressive high-school grades will join our internship program before going to university at the end of 2013.

Kenya's schoolchildren have called on their president to protect elephants. Children at five Samburu schools wrote letters later presented to the First Lady. They also came out in support of Celia Ho, a passionate 14 year-old girl from Hong Kong, to help her spread this message: "We the children of the world, ask for people to stop buying ivory and CITES to fully ban the ivory trade".



Elephant Watching Turns Eastwards

by Oria Douglas-Hamilton

Visitors to Samburu enjoy wonderful experiences with both human and elephant residents



Bingbing came to witness wild elephants, the poaching and the importance of elephants to local people.

Young Kenyans are taking their share of responsibilities in their fast-growing nation. Watching them stand up and speak out to their Government and to the world has been especially heartening. This came out strongly as another of our new champions, Jim Nyamu, walked across the nation declaring 'Ivory Belongs to Elephants'. Our First Lady, Mrs Margaret Kenyatta, joined in on the walk.

Every year we are improving our dialogue with Chinese people over what is happening to the elephants of Africa and especially in Northern Kenya. Here many of our well-known elephants have been killed, faces hacked and their ivory tusks torn out to feed a market largely ignorant of its impacts.

The team at Elephant Watch Camp have been very active organising and entertaining two megastars, Yao Ming and Li Bingbing, alongside many other Chinese guests. Yao Ming, the famous basketball player, stayed during his filming trip with WildAid and STE. Then, in May 2013, the beautiful actress and UNEP Goodwill Ambassador Li

All of this underlines the importance of the EW/STE Education Programme. We are sending young men and women to schools not only to gain a higher education, but also to appreciate that they too can make a difference for their country. We are very proud of all their achievements and especially thank our donors who had the foresight to join us in our very important education programme.

Elephant Watch is doing what our name says - watching out for the elephants, and inviting more people from the world to join us, to participate in our activities, to learn with us and especially to have fun with us - there is so much to do and we thank you for coming all this way to Africa to be with us.



| Farewells |

With great sadness we say farewell to two extraordinary women.



Mary Boardman passed away in April and is sorely missed by all who knew her. Mary and her late husband Richard became faithful supporters and friends of STE in 2006. Committed to Africa, its wildlife and people, Mary adored spending time with Iain and Oria, our team and the elephants of Samburu. A portion of Mary's ashes will be scattered here in Kenya and her soul laid to rest where elephants gather. Mary and Richard were and will continue to be a huge source of strength just as her family, Lance and Kitty Williams and The Snite Foundation, have been in lifting the lives of young people in northern Kenya.

Patricia Nelson passed away in March. Trustee of the Sidney Byers Charitable Trust, Pat established the Sidney Byers Scholarship Programme from which two members of our field team have benefitted so much. Pat was deeply committed to elephants - so much so that she left a portion of her estate to protecting them. Following her wish, Charlie Knowles of the Wildlife Conservation Network suggested to STE forming an Elephant Crisis Fund that would support key partners in anti-poaching, anti-trafficking and demand reduction initiatives. This expands STE's ability to provide fast-acting, catalytic financing to save elephants across Africa and we hope it will be a powerful force in delivering security for the elephants.



Mary and Pat, your spirits and wisdom live on in Samburu in the elephants you cared so much about. May you both be at peace.

“Ivory and Insecurity” Event

A few weeks prior to the CITES convention in Bangkok, a stream of diplomats, senior government officials, judicial experts, business leaders and top NGO personnel gathered at the British High Commissioner’s private residence in Nairobi. Organised by the High Commission and STE (and sponsored by Safaricom and Tusker), the event set out to raise high-level awareness about the ivory poaching crisis and to further catalyse a coalition of concerned individuals, scientists, NGOs, inter-governmental Organisations and governments themselves to reduce demand for ivory.



John Scanlon, Secretary General of CITES (pictured), the UK’s Minister for Natural Resources Richard Benyon, and our host the British High Commissioner Christian Turner all gave speeches, alongside Pat Awori, chair of the Kenya Elephant Forum and Iain Douglas-Hamilton. In the following months substantial progress was made at CITES, and leaders of the G8 nations left the Loch Erne summit agreeing to “take action to tackle the illegal trafficking of protected or endangered wildlife species.

A Buzz About Lucy

Lucy King received two significant conservation awards this year for the Elephants and Bees Project. Dr Jane Goodall presented Dr Lucy King with *The Future for Nature Award 2013* at a ceremony at Bergers Zoo, the funds of which have already helped purchase a more reliable research vehicle for the project. Shortly after, Lucy survived a three day series of interviews in Scotland to go on to win *The St Andrews Prize for the Environment 2013* and a substantial donation to help her expand the project within Africa. This support will also help her to start research and development into the potential use of Beehive Fences in Asia to help farmers living next to Asian elephant reserves.

Scientific Board Meeting

The first Save the Elephants Scientific Board Meeting was held June 1, hosted by board member Dr. Peter Leimgruber at the Smithsonian Zoological Park in Washington, D.C. The productive meeting covered STE’s scientific outputs, their strategic impact, and future focus. Tackling the threats of illegal killing, land use changes, and the human elephant interface dominated the discussion. STE’s scientific productivity and its assistance in bridging gaps between science, policy and management were acknowledged. The Scientific Board will provide strategic guidance and input as STE continues to address emerging and persistent issues impacting the conservation of elephants.

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 Susan Manuel
 Adam and Valerie Marcus
 Carmen Marron & Sid Idris
 Erik and Christine Mazzone
 Jodi McCall
 Greeta & Robert McGahey in honor of the marriage of Lance Dubloin & Christine
 Janet McKee
 Catherine Menor
 Mary Miller
 Jill Mitchell
 Mary Mock
 Monkey Mountain LLC
 Mr. & Mrs. Terry Montesi on behalf of Emma Montesi
 Lily Moore
 Pamela More
 Joseph Muck
 Nancy Mulholand
 Keith Mullin
 Veronica Munoz
 Jeanette Myers-Rogovin
 Soumya Naidu
 National Geographic
 Leslie Nowinski
 Katharine O'Dell
 Linn Ong
 Michelle Ouellette

Carl Pascarella
 Joyce & Duane Phillips
 Marissa Pierce
 Philip Powers
 Ana & Katharine Priu
 David & Jeanne Radvany
 Sandra Rakestraw
 Easwaran Raman
 Tracy Rand
 Randi Reichel
 Linda Reifschneider in honor of Iain & Oria Douglas-Hamilton
 Ryan Rice
 Stephanie Ridder
 Norma Da Rosa
 Jack & Lynne Rosser
 Jennifer & Nicol Sager
 David Sandberg
 Takako Sato
 Eric Schenkel
 Jane Schmidt
 Daniel Seddon
 Nitin Sekar
 Lynn Sellon
 Diana Shang
 Margaret Shipstead
 Charles Silverstro
 Mark Singer in honor of John & Becky Booth
 Samuel Slater & Eleanor Forbes
 Bijal Soni
 David Stafford
 Nancy Stanley
 Jennifer Stevens
 Sally Supplee
 James & Marianne Swanson
 Mindy Sweeny
 Patricia Tarr on behalf of Nancy Abraham
 Telegraph Media
 Deirdre Toner on behalf of Robert Toner

Michael and Margaret Unetich
 Heather Wachtler
 M. Ryan Wagner, The Weatherlow Foundation
 Kathleen Walker
 Anne Warner
 John Watkins
 John Watson
 Mark Weakland
 Weber State University
 Phoebe Weinberg
 Anne von Weise on behalf of Chicago Friends of Save the Elephants
 Phoebe Weseley
 Cynthia Linnell Whalen dedicated to Changila
 Nicolas Wild
 Molly Wu
 William Yates
 Helen Yin on behalf of Developing Virture School
 Cathy & Ken Young in Memory of Mary Boardman
 Cindy Zeigler on behalf of Chicago Friends of Save the Elephants
 Marsha Zuckerman

We thank all our anonymous donors, and those who gave less than \$250 through Just-Giving, Network for Good or PayPal. We thank Oria Douglas-Hamilton and Elephant Watch Camp for their huge support to STE through advice, fundraising, and involvement in our work.

FINANCIAL STATEMENT

Save the Elephants relies on donations and grants to run our operations. As a registered UK Charity (*no. 118804*) we operate under strict financial controls. For this reason we operate to high standards and strict financial controls. In 2012, 84% of the funds raised went to support our programmes in the field. 16% of the funds went to Fundraising and Administration. All grants and earmarked donations are used 100% on the intended projects.

Statement of Revenue and Expenses US \$

Calendar Year Ending 2012

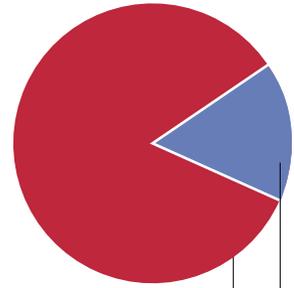
REVENUE

Donations, Grants, Royalties	\$1,106,237
Interest Earned	\$58
TOTAL REVENUE	\$1,106,295

EXPENSES

Programme Grants & Services	\$965,053
Fundraising and Administration	\$188,583
TOTAL EXPENSES	\$1,153,636
CHANGE IN NET ASSETS	(\$47,341)

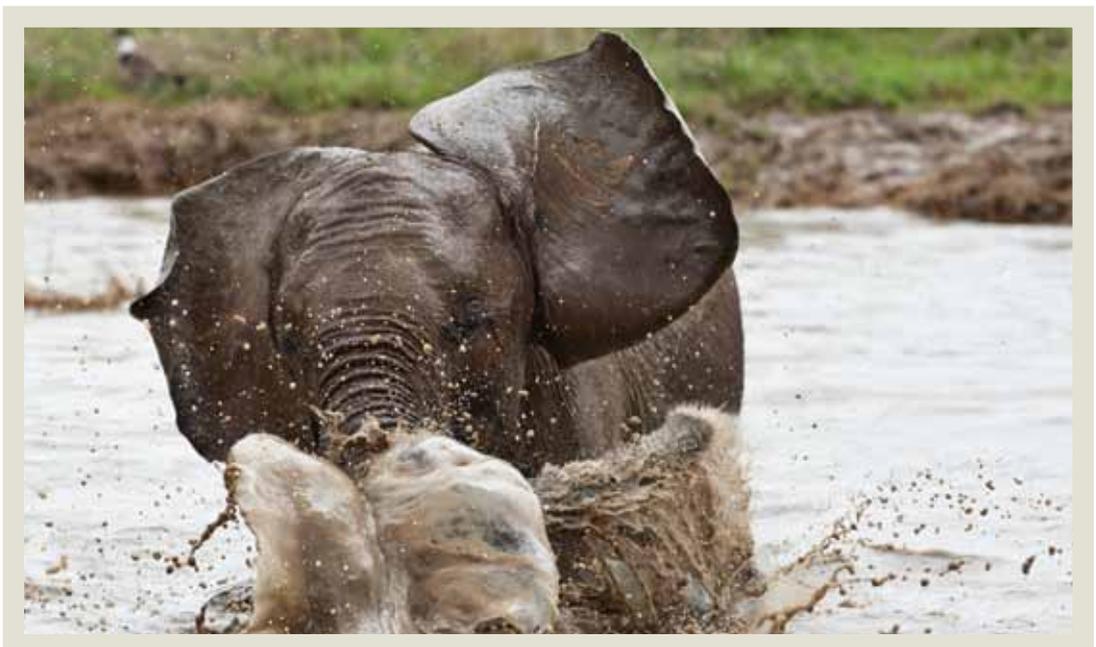
2012 Analysis of Expenditure



Programme Grants & Services 84%

Fundraising & Administration 16%

*Complete financial reports are available upon request.
Converted from UK audited accounts at a rate of £1=\$1.618*



How You Can Help

The fate of elephants is in the balance. The record price of ivory has attracted organised crime, rebel militias and even terrorist groups, fuelling a surge of poaching across the continent. We urgently need your support, while there is still time. You can be of vital assistance by donating to either our core funds or to one of the four programmes listed below.

STOP THE KILLING

We are working on three fronts to stop the killing of elephants: anti-poaching, and enhancing anti-poaching efforts of others through our GPS tracking; anti-trafficking, through initiatives to disrupt criminal networks and ensure enforcement; and demand reduction, by sharing awareness of the impacts of buying ivory with the top consumer nations.



LIVING IN HARMONY WITH ELEPHANTS

Beyond the current poaching crisis lies a deeper threat to the future of elephants. The human footprint is rapidly expanding across Africa but elephants need large ranges to survive. By understanding elephant needs and movements through GPS tracking research we are working to preserve vital migration corridors and ensure an elephant-friendly landscape. Where people and elephants already collide, our elephants and bees project is proof that win-win solutions exist.



RESEARCH

We conduct vital research on elephant behaviour and ecology and pioneered GPS radio tracking in Africa to provide fresh insight into the secret life of elephants. After 15 years of intensive monitoring the elephants of Samburu are one of the world's best-studied populations. We also assist in implementing a UN-level programme to monitor the illegal killing of elephants. Our solid scientific data has helped shift international policy towards a future for the species.



PROMOTING UNDERSTANDING

Elephants are intelligent creatures with complex levels of consciousness and we intend to bring this to the world's attention. We disseminate this locally and internationally through films, publications, a computerised elephant library, a news service, social networks and our website. We involve local people in research and education to develop a conservation ethic based on local knowledge and elephant needs, and recognize that the best potential ambassadors for elephants are the people with whom they share their land.



Why Choose Save the Elephants

Save the Elephants is on the front line of tackling the current ivory crisis, and the solutions we seek to implement are based on long experience in the field and in the corridors of power. Our continued presence at the forefront of research into the ecology and behaviour of elephants represents a crucial building block for the conservation and well-being of elephants across Africa. Small, agile and catalytic, Save the Elephants is funded entirely through donations from individuals and foundations.

How to Donate

IN THE UNITED STATES

Cheque donations (tax deductible) may be sent to:
Wildlife Conservation Network / Save the Elephants Project
25745 Bassett Lane
Los Altos, CA 94022
Tax Exempt ID #30-0108469

Please remember to specify the donation is for 'Elephants' in the 'Designation' field.

IN THE UNITED KINGDOM

Cheque donations may be sent to:
Save the Elephants
c/o Ambrose Appelbe
7 New Square Lincoln's Inn
London WC2A 3RA
Reg. Charity No 1118804

If you give through the Gift Aid Scheme we receive an extra amount deducted from your taxes at no extra cost to you (UK tax payers only).

IN SOUTH AFRICA

Cheque donations may be sent to:
Save the Elephants – South Africa (STE-SA)
Account number: 331632284
Standard Bank branch code: 052752
Hoedspruit
Southern Africa
International Banking Account Number: SBZAZAJJ
Tax exempt number: 930030852

Contact Us

Main Office

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Mobile: +27 (0)71 006 3900
Email: michelephant@savetheelephants.org

Mali

Through analysis of movement data from the few surviving desert elephants of Mali, we are helping to secure a future for them among the resident nomadic people who live on the southern edge of the Sahara.

Gabon

Using GPS tracking to understand forest elephant movements in Central Africa while there is still time, our partners are able to plot detailed elephant needs and strategies, and is used at the highest government levels to promote elephant survival.

South Africa

Adjoining the greater Kruger ecosystem in Southern Africa our scientists track elephants across international boundaries. We identify individual elephants, examine the effects of elephants on key tree species and provide scientific knowledge to all stakeholders.

China

Sharing knowledge with China's New Rich is vital if the destructive force of their buying of ivory is to be reduced. China has become increasingly influential in Africa and could become a leading factor in the survival of the African elephant.

Kenya

Kenya is the centre of our East African elephant research, protection, and community outreach. Understanding elephant dispersal and vital corridors will improve land use and elephant management strategies.



