

Charity number: 1179460



Southern Tanzania Elephant Trust
Annual Report and Accounts for the Year ended
31st December 2022

Charity Name: Southern Tanzania Elephant Trust

Registered Charity Number: 1179460

Principal Address:

30 Barn Road
Stirling
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United Kingdom

Trustees Report for the year ended 31st December 2022

Southern Tanzania Elephant Trust present their annual report and audited accounts for the period 1st January 2022 through 31 December 2022 and confirm they comply with the requirements of the Charities Act 2011, the Trust Deed and the Charities SORP (FRS 102).

Charity Trustees

Helen Pearson
Nathaniel Comber
Nick McWilliam

Name and Address of Independent Examiner

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Winsley's House, High Street, Colchester
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Governing document

The Charity was registered as a Trust on the 6th August 2018 and is governed by a Trust Deed dated 1st August 2018.

Trustee selection method

The first Trustees of the Charity were appointed for a term of three years at the time of registering the Charity. The Trustees were reappointed for another three-year term on 21st July 2021. The current trustees may appoint new trustees by approaching individuals whom the trustees believe would bring necessary skills, knowledge, and experience to the Organization. If the individual is willing to put themselves forward, their appointment is put to the current Trustees for approval.

Objects of the Charity

The objects of the charity are to conserve and protect the African elephant in Tanzania and other African wildlife and habitats in Tanzania for the public benefit.

The trustees identified Southern Tanzania Elephant (STEP) in Tanzania as the organisation whose work the Trust is aiming to support, in accordance with the Trusts' objects, to facilitate the delivery of the UK Charity's objectives.

Vision

Creating a long and peaceful future for elephants in southern Tanzania and for the ecosystems and communities on which they inter-depend.

Mission

To secure a future for elephants in southern Tanzania by, directly and through partnerships, supporting elephant protection, enhancing coexistence between communities and elephants, strengthening community livelihoods, conducting research and monitoring, and awareness-raising.

Principal Activities

Southern Tanzania is a globally important region for elephant conservation, with elephant populations numbering some 30,000 individuals in 2015, and approximately 70,000 in 2009 before devastating declines from poaching for the ivory trade (Thouless et al. 2016). The region holds 35% of East Africa's elephants, and 7% of Africa's elephants (Thouless et al. 2016). The Ruaha-Rungwa and Udzungwa-Selous ecosystems of southern Tanzania are some of the few elephant strongholds and wilderness areas for large mammals left in the world. The ecosystems and elephant populations of southern Tanzania are a global treasure, requiring global support for their conservation. Elephant conservation in the region faces two main challenges:

Securing elephant populations and habitat: The combined efforts of the Tanzanian government, civil society and international community have greatly reduced the threat of poaching to elephants compared to previous years. However, ongoing protection efforts are needed to secure these important gains and ensure long-term recovery of southern Tanzania's elephant populations. In addition, protecting the integrity of the ecosystems that comprise elephant range is vital to the long-term survival of the elephant populations of this region.

Human-elephant coexistence: Farms and settlement adjacent to protected areas and in elephant corridors and dispersal areas are at risk of elephant damage, as some elephants learn to use crops as a 'high-risk, high-reward' food source. As more land comes under cultivation, elephant habitat and corridors outside of protected areas are also increasingly at risk. Every year people are killed by elephants, often because of accidental encounters. This is a complex challenge that requires long-term vision and a multi-faceted approach.

We work to conserve the elephant metapopulation of southern Tanzania through a landscape level approach. The charity's principal activities include:

1. **Supporting elephant protection in critical habitats:** supporting ground and air patrols and providing technical support to under-resourced protected areas in important elephant range, as well as building ranger capacity to map and analyse patrols and outcomes and monitor spatial and temporal trends in illegal activities.
2. **Enhancing human-elephant coexistence in communities living with elephants:** working with farmers' groups to protect farms and improve livelihoods through beehive fence projects which deter elephants from farmland and produce elephant-friendly honey; trialling novel crop protection strategies with farmers; providing farmers with access to financial services and improving household resilience through membership and training in Village Savings and Loans Associations; restoration of a critical wildlife corridor between the Udzungwa and Selous ecosystems; and awareness-raising and education activities.
3. **Conducting elephant research to inform conservation efforts:** monitoring elephants in the Ruaha-Rungwa and Udzungwa-Selous ecosystem; assessing spatial and temporal trends in human-elephant interactions and evaluating solutions; and monitoring of wildlife corridors.

Impact for the Year End 31st December 2022

The main activities during the year were increasing protection for elephants through support to wildlife rangers (Section 1), increasing community capacity for human-elephant coexistence through farm-based interventions, supporting farmer livelihoods activities, education and awareness-raising, and corridor restoration (Section 2), and research and monitoring of elephants and human-elephant interactions (Section 3). Capacity building was carried out in a number of ways through these activities.

All activities in Tanzania are carried out by our affiliate organization in Tanzania, Southern Tanzania Elephant (abbreviated and referred to from here on as STEP), a non-governmental organization registered on 17th July 2019 under the Non-Governmental Organization (NGO) Act, 2002 Section 12(2) of Act No. 24 of 2002, with registration number I-NGO/R2/00077. The Tanzanian affiliate Organization was previously registered as a company limited by guarantee having no share capital (i.e. a not-for-profit company). With the passing of The Written Laws (Miscellaneous Amendments) (No.3) Act, 2019 on 30th June 2019, all companies limited by guarantee having no share capital were required to register under the Non-Governmental Organization (NGO) Act, 2002 by August 30th 2019.

The Board of Trustees of Southern Tanzania Elephant Trust in the UK (from here on referred to as STET UK) and the Board of STEP Tanzania are responsible for overall management of the organization, including setting and reviewing strategic plans and budgets, financial matters, reviewing the performance of management, and ensuring adherence to internal control policies and sound governance. and for compliance with sound governance principles. The organization is committed to the principles of effective governance, integrity, transparency and accountability. STET UK and STEP Tanzania agree on the yearly strategy and budget together. The Trustees of STET UK exercise their discretion when selecting which activities to support by having regard to the Charity Commission's public benefit guidance as well as the following internal criteria:

1) The activity contributes to the conservation of the African elephant in Tanzania through any of the following:

- a. Increasing resources and/or capacity for law enforcement of elephant range
- b. Increasing public awareness of the value of elephants and elephant conservation
- c. Increasing the capacity of rural communities to coexist with elephants
- d. Improving the welfare of rural communities who coexist with elephants
- e. Increasing the availability of research and scientific outputs to inform elephant conservation

(2) It has been demonstrated that the activity provides good value for money

STET UK and STEP Tanzania maintains close contact with regards to implementation of activities. Each Board meets at a minimum twice per year.

Achievements and Performance

1. Supporting elephant protection in critical habitats

The goal of this programmatic area is to enhance protection efforts of rangers and village game scouts through supporting for ground and air patrols, provision of training and resources, and data optimization. Targeted support is provided to three protected areas selected for their importance to elephants, their biodiversity value, and funding and resource gaps assessed with respective wildlife management authorities. These include MBOMIPA Wildlife Management Area (WMA), a community-managed wildlife area; Uzungwa Scarp Nature Forest Reserve (USNFR), a forest reserve by Tanzania Forestry Services Agency (TFS); and Rungwa-Kizigo-Muhesi Game Reserves (RKM GR), managed by Tanzania Wildlife Management Authority (TAWA). The means by which we provide support include:

- Building the capacity of rangers and Village Game Scouts through training and equipment
- Supporting ground and air patrols
- Mapping and analysing patrol outcomes for strategic patrol planning

1.1 MBOMIPA Protection Project

STEP first began to work with the community-owned MBOMIPA Wildlife Management Area in 2018. MBOMIPA WMA is a critical part of the Ruaha-Rungwa ecosystem and especially important for elephants, as well as other endangered species such as wild dogs and lions. 2022 marked the fifth year of the fruitful collaboration between STEP and MBOMIPA WMA. STEP supported teams of Village Game Scouts (VGS) to conduct at least 24 days of foot patrols each per month by supplying scout wages and providing fuel and food supplies. In 2022, VGS covered 10,637 km of foot patrols and 10,893 km of vehicle patrols in the WMA. All patrols were logged using GPS units with patrol data collected using a mobile app, with patrol coverage and outcomes mapped every month and analysed by STEP to enhance patrol effectiveness. STEP also continued with maintenance and operation of a field vehicle for the WMA to enable monthly rotation of VGS and vehicle patrols, and with provision of all necessary fuel. All VGS received new patrol uniforms including shirts, trousers, t-shirts, caps, military boots, raincoats, and gumboots.

To increase the involvement of women in community protection of MBOMIPA WMA, four female VGS were recruited. We work to ensure safe working conditions for women VGS, including separate accommodation at VGS posts, and flexibility in work schedules to accommodate childcare

responsibilities. Women are also represented in VGS leadership; among the three VGS commanders every month, one is a woman.



VGS on patrol in MBOMIPA WMA

1.2 Uzungwa Scarp Protection Project

Uzungwa Scarp Forest Nature Reserve (USFNR) is a biodiversity hotspot that is home Udzungwa endemics and globally threatened vertebrate species (Rovero et al., 2014) including Sanje mangabey, Udzungwa red colobus, Abbott's duiker, 20 endemic and 14 threatened reptiles (Lyakurwa et al., 2019), and 19 endemic and threatened amphibians. The Reserve also serves as a critical water catchment. USFNR has been under threat from anthropogenic activities (Harrison 2006) such as wildfire, logging, forest encroachment for agriculture, and illegal hunting (Topp-Jørgensen et al., 2009). Severe population declines have been documented for several threatened species, attributed to hunting and trapping (Rovero et al., 2015).

With support from and in collaboration with Wild Planet Trust (WPT, formerly Whitley Wildlife Conservation Trust), Bristol Chester Zoo, and Association Mazingira, STEP has been supporting the protection of Uzungwa Scarp Nature Forest Reserve since late 2017. The Uzungwa Scarp Protection Project supports with funding of ground patrols, training of rangers, and provision of essential equipment. In 2022, mobile camping patrols by Village Scouts, rangers from Tanzania Forestry Services and the Southern Highlands Anti-Poaching Unit covered 845 km of the Nature Reserve. Patrols were strategically planned and executed, with mapping, analysis and reporting of findings after each patrol. These patrols resulted in the removal of 331 snares and closure of 15 timber cutting sites.

The USPP project also facilitated meetings in 19 villages adjacent to the Uzungwa Scarp Nature Reserve to bring together Village Natural Resources Committees (local institutions entitled to manage access to benefits and jointly manage the Reserve), Village Leaders, Chita JKT representatives, and foresters. In these meetings, participants received training on Participatory Nature Forest Reserve Management and fire management, shared lessons learned, and discussed the way forward on management of the Reserve. STEP also facilitated meetings with TFS USFNR to discuss the feedback and findings of the community benefits assessment conducted in 2021 and to discuss the

way forward. Additional patrol gear (solar lamps, power banks, and camera) were provided to USNFR and major maintenance of the patrol vehicle was facilitated.



Village Game Scouts supported by the Uzungwa Scarp Protection Project

1.3 Rungwa-Kizigo-Muhesi Game Reserves

STEP's new Savannah S aircraft was delivered to Tanzania from South Africa in late 2022, allowing aerial support for the Ruaha-Rungwa ecosystem to resume in December 2022. A total of 17.5 hours of aerial surveillance was completed in MBOMIPA WMA and Lunda-Nkwambi Game Controlled Area in December 2022, resulting in the detection and closing of several poaching camps. STEP's aircraft is planned to operate for many months in both the wet and dry season months of 2023. Furthermore, Rungwa-Kizigo-Muhesi Game Reserves rangers conducted >10,000 km of vehicle patrols with STEP fuel support, thereby helping to detect and respond to threats such as tree cutting, illegal mining, illegal grazing and bushmeat poaching.



STEP's new Savannah S aircraft

1.4 Capacity building

As part of the Uzungwa Scarp Protection Project, STEP provided monthly technical support to USNFR's staff and VGS in collection, storage, analysis, mapping, and reporting of patrol data. This support helps USNFR management to plan patrols in a strategic manner and to produce monthly patrol reports and annual reports. Patrol teams were also supported with the application of conservation technologies including Survey 123 Data Collector and GIS for patrol data analysis.

Under the MBOMIPA Protection Project, VGS teams received assistance with creating strategic patrol plans, management of the patrol database, and reporting of patrol findings. In addition, 36 VGS received training in how to respond to poisoning incidents from a trainer from North Carolina Zoo.

2. Enhancing human-elephant coexistence in communities living with elephants

The goal of this programmatic area is to enhance coexistence between people and elephants in communities living in and alongside elephant range. We support communities to coexist with elephants in two project areas, the Kilombero Valley in Morogoro region, and the western boundary of Rungwa-Kizigo-Muhesi Game Reserves in Singida region. These areas are hotspots of elephant impact, with regular movement of elephants onto village land and frequent crop damage. The means by which we build capacity for coexistence include:

- Supporting farmers to implement farm-based mitigation methods to reduce crop losses to elephants.
- Conducting education and awareness-raising events in villages affected by human-elephant conflict to explain elephant behaviour, provide context for human-elephant interactions and provide advice on how to stay safe around elephants.
- Collect data on elephant movements and use this to inform education and trials of crop protection measures.
- Work with Village Governments to understand the drivers of HEC and work towards establishing Land Use Plans that facilitate human-elephant coexistence.
- Explore and support establishment of corridors to facilitate safe elephant movement.
- Immersive hands-on training and development opportunities for students and early career Tanzanian conservationists, many of whom go on to work for other organizations.

2.1 Kilombero Valley

The Kilombero Valley, in the Udzungwa-Selous ecosystem, is a densely populated, fertile matrix of villages, agriculture, and grazing land. Elephants regularly attempt to cross the short distance of ~10km across the valley, between Udzungwa Mountains National Park and Magombera Forest Reserve on the edge of Nyerere National Park (formerly Selous Game Reserve). Less than 50 years ago, there was continuous forest across the valley; today, the forest has been fragmented by rapid land conversion due to agriculture. The route is a critical connection between the western and southern elephant metapopulations of Tanzania (over 30,000 individuals) and the only link that can be maintained and restored. Intensive agriculture in the valley has created a hard edge between forest and farmland, making farms vulnerable to elephant crop damage. The multi-faceted land use challenges of the Valley have informed STEP's approach to building human-elephant coexistence in the Kilombero Valley through limiting elephant movement into farmland and settlement through farm-based interventions, facilitating safe elephant movement through a designated wildlife corridor, and supporting income diversification and awareness-raising events.

2.1.1 Farm-based interventions, Village Savings and Loans Associations, and Awareness-Raising

To date, STEP has supported seven farmers groups (183 farmers) registered as Community-Based Organizations to establish seven beekeeping projects (6.8km of beehive fences) in the Kilombero Valley to protect agricultural fields from elephants. In addition to reducing elephant movement into farmland and settlement, beehive fences generate revenue for farmers' groups through the sale of honey. Economic resilience is an important factor in building human-elephant coexistence. If a household's economic resources are depleted by an incident of crop raiding by an elephant, it is unlikely that members of the household will be willing to tolerate the presence of that elephant. STEP continued to support its existing groups with field visits, in depth follow up and refresher training. STEP also

continued to operate the Udzungwa Honey Collection Centre, of which all STEP beekeeping groups are members, to enable the processing and packaging of honey generated by beehive fences. Farmers harvested 405 litres of honey in 2022, a 50% increase relative to 2021. The honey was processed and packed at the Honey Collection Centre.

STEP also works with farmers' groups to establish and support the operation of Village Savings and Loan Associations (VSLAs), informal financial systems in which members have access to credit and financial assistance through weekly contributions. Members can take loans from VSLAs and have access to emergency financial relief. By increasing community and household resilience to human-wildlife conflict, VSLAs can contribute to increasing coexistence. In 2022, we supported the establishment of one new Village Savings and Loan Association and continued to support six existing VSLAs. 250 farmers participated in VSLAs and took out 318 loans with a value of TZS 31,925,500 to build small businesses, improve their farming practices, pay school fees, and to support household cash needs (e.g. payments for medication, food). Such access to credit is highly valued by VSLA members in our project area. Prior to VSLAs, farmers' options for accessing credit either required traveling >50 km to a larger commercial centre and seeking a loan from a formal financial institution, or engaging in 'prospective' rice selling. If members of the VSLA wanted to access credit sizes similar to their total loan size from the VSLA, some would have had to part with six bags of rice or more, representing an enormous loss to future earnings and a significant blow to household food supplies. Therefore, the existence of the VSLA itself is impactful through creation of an alternative source of credit.

2.1.2 Awareness-Raising and Education

In 2022, STEP conducted film nights in 8 villages, reaching 2,936 adults and youth. Local Elephant Monitors also reached 224 farmers with one-to-one training. During these film nights and trainings, the STEP team and LEMs share information about human-elephant coexistence, methods to stay safe when you come across an elephant, benefits of elephants, the life of elephants, and mitigation strategies to reduce human-elephant conflict. STEP also taught a 3-module course on human-elephant coexistence in 19 schools, reaching over 2000 students. The modules covered 1) Elephant Behaviour, Ecology, and Biology 2) Human-Elephant Coexistence, and 3) Wildlife connectivity. STEP also expanded its park visit program a small pilot bringing primary and secondary students to national parks as an experiential supplement to educational outreach. More than 260 students and 32 teachers (compared to 50 students in 2021) visited Udzungwa Mountains National Park and Mikumi National Park, learned about elephants' lives in the wild and had the opportunity to experience Tanzania's rich natural heritage.



Students visiting Udzungwa Mountains National Park as part of STEP's park visits program

2.1.3 Corridor Restoration

2022 saw continued progress towards our long-term vision of restoring the Kilombero Elephant Corridor between the Udzungwa Mountains and Nyerere National Parks, via the Magombera Forest Nature Reserve. The goal is to peacefully manage the regular movements that elephants make across the Kilombero Valley, even though their once forested routes have been turned into farmland over the last 50 years. STEP has been facilitating this multi-stakeholder restoration project since 2018, involving communities, civil society, Government and the private sector to restore this ecological connectivity, and enhance food and personal security for the local farming population. At the heart of the corridor project are the communities of the three villages of Sole, Mang'ula A and Kanyanja, who have agreed to setting aside ~7% of the village land to enable the Corridor. Following a formal valuation process led by the District Government, over 270 small-holder farmers were formally compensated for giving up parcels of land for the corridor in 2022, and further compensation payments are planned for 2023. Financial training was provided to >400 landowners and their spouses, to maximize the benefits of compensation payments. STEP also facilitated landowners to come together to register and operate Village Savings and Loans Associations, which provide a means to save and invest their compensation funds.

STEP's work towards restoring this corridor will carry on in the years to come. STEP will continue to support the Kilombero Elephant Corridor Management Committee, comprising village leaders, District Government, and protected area representatives, to manage the corridor and take the project forward. Next steps include tree planting and other habitat restoration efforts in the corridor and camera trapping to monitor how elephants and other wildlife use the restored corridor. In a further effort to ensure that communities see tangible benefits from conserving elephants and corridors, in 2023, STEP plans to initiate conservation agreements with the corridor villages. Under these agreements, stewardship of the corridor generates monetary benefits based on attainment of certain conservation targets set through a village-wide participatory process. Village assemblies decide how these benefits are allocated toward initiatives to improve healthcare, education, empowerment of women and girls, and the environment.



2.2 Rungwa-Kizigo-Muhesi

Bordering Ruaha National Park to the north and west, Rungwa-Kizigo-Muhesi Game Reserves comprise 15,200 km² of wildlife habitat. Historically an elephant stronghold within East Africa, the area lost 60% of its elephants between 2009 and 2015 to poaching (Thouless et al. 2016). Between 2015 and 2018, the elephant population remained stable. However, human-elephant conflict is a rapidly emerging threat to elephants in the area. Human settlement along protected boundaries, in conjunction with a lack of land use planning, has led to more frequent human-elephant interactions. STEP works to mitigate human-elephant conflict in villages on the western edge of Rungwa Game Reserve through a combination of farm-based interventions, establishment of Village Savings and Loans Associations, and awareness-raising and education activities.

2.2.1 Livelihoods activities and Village Savings and Loans Associations

2022 saw significant growth in STEP's work around Rungwa-Kizigo-Muhesi Game Reserves. STEP started 16 new VSLAs across 9 villages, bringing the total number of VSLAs to 24. Across the 24 groups, members took out 267 loans at a total value of TZS 47,321,500. These loans supported establishment of small businesses and agricultural activities. 15 VSLA groups used the CHOMOKA mobile app to keep their weekly records for enhanced transparency and accuracy in record-keeping.

In 2022, we continued to support the 46 farmers who had been given three beehives each in 2020 with beekeeping, and beehives were also distributed to farmers groups operating VSLAs (10 hives per group). A total of 644 litres of honey and 25 kg of beeswax were harvested by the beekeepers supported in 2022, a >50% increase relative to 2021.

2.2.1 Awareness-Raising and Education

In 2022, we continued and expanded community outreach and education efforts. In collaboration with Tanzania Wildlife Management Authority and Itigi District Council, STEP's Human-Elephant Coexistence team hosted the fourth instalment of the *Tembo Cup* Football Tournament (Tembo is Swahili for elephant). The tournament involved villages experiencing human-elephant conflict adjacent to Rungwa-Kizigo-Muhesi Game Reserve. The coverage of the tournament was expanded to three zones: Rungwa, Kizigo and Muhesi. The tournament aimed to raise awareness about human-elephant coexistence, the benefits of protected areas, and to create a positive association with elephants through an engaging community activity. During the tournament, spectators attended matches as well as film nights and school outreach events. These events focused on building a culture and norms of loving and respecting elephants, as well as on safety around elephants to handle potential encounters with elephants on foot on village land. Over 35,000 people were reached through these football tournaments and associated events. In 2022, in partnership with the NGO Lion Landscapes and MBOMIPA WMA, STEP also held the inaugural MBOMIPA Cup football tournament with 21 villages surrounding MBOMIPA Wildlife Management Area, reaching over 15,000 people.

Our team of local elephant monitors (LEMs) also conducted awareness-raising with communities outside of these large-scale events. LEMs reached 1,092 community members with one-on-one training and 257 with household-level film shows. In these visits, LEMs share information about safety measures around elephant and ways to protect their food stores and farms from elephants.



Scenes from the MBOMIPA Cup football tournament

2.3 Capacity building

In 2022, one Tanzanian student and two Tanzanian interns participated in human-elephant coexistence activities and learned fieldwork and community engagement methods. STEP also facilitated elephant safety and walking around elephants training for 6 local elephant monitors and several Park and STEP staff from experienced walking guide Andrew Molinaro of Kichaka Expeditions Environmental Program.

To support more effective human-wildlife conflict response by protected area management agencies, STEP also provided >10,000 litres of fuel Rungwa-Kizigo-Muhesi Game Reserves, Udzungwa Mountains National Park, and Nyerere National Parks for HWC response. We donated one vehicle to Muhesi Game Reserves and made major repairs of one car for Kizigo Game Reserve. We also rehabilitated a vehicle for human-wildlife conflict response for Udzungwa Mountains National Park.



Safety around elephants training for LEMs, STEP and Park staff



Rehabilitated HWC response vehicle for Udzungwa Mountains National Park

3. Conducting elephant research to inform conservation efforts

The goal of this programmatic area is to collect and analyse data to inform the formulation of meaningful and sound conservation strategies, as well as to monitor the impact of our conservation work. The geographic focus of this program comprises the Ruaha-Rungwa and Udzungwa-Selous ecosystems. The main activities under this program include:

- Running a long-term elephant research project in Ruaha National Park to assess population status and to investigate tusklessness, ecology and behaviour.
- Monitoring elephant distribution and status in the forests of the Udzungwa Mountains.
- Monitoring wildlife corridors.
- Assessing spatial and temporal trends in human-elephant interactions and evaluating solutions.
- Collaboration and development opportunities for early career researchers from inside and outside of Tanzania.

3.1 Monitoring elephants in the Ruaha-Rungwa ecosystem

The Ruaha-Rungwa elephant population declined by over 50% between 2009 and 2015 due to poaching for the ivory trade (Thouless et al., 2016), and STEP's long-term research and monitoring aims to understand the consequences of poaching for elephants in the ecosystem. The elephant monitoring program in Ruaha National Park under STEP's affiliated research project aims to collect long-term data on elephant population structure, tusklessness, distribution and behaviour. In a study published in the *African Journal of Ecology*, STEP researchers showed that in areas of the ecosystem that had experienced higher levels of poaching, elephants were more nocturnal than in areas where elephants had been relatively safe from poaching. Poaching risk also influenced elephant use of roads and water sources as well as grouping patterns, indicating that poaching has important consequences for how elephants use their environment and their associations with other elephants (Smit et al., 2023).

3.2 Monitoring elephants in Udzungwa-Selous

A key objective of STEP's work in the Kilombero Valley is to support the recovery of the Udzungwa-Selous elephant population and to secure long-term connectivity for elephants between Udzungwa and Selous through restoration of the Kilombero Elephant Corridor, a historic corridor that spans the

Kilombero Valley. To monitor our progress toward this objective, we monitor elephant presence and status in Mwanihana and Magombera forest, which form endpoints of the Kilombero Elephant Corridor, as well as elephant presence in the corridor area. We hope to see an increase in elephant use of the forest and corridor area over time because of our conservation efforts. We continued monitoring of elephants in Mwanihana forest (first begun in 2015) and Magombera forest (begun in 2019) to collect data on elephant use of these forests through foot transects throughout 2022. Our monitoring suggests that elephant use of Mwanihana forest in Udzungwa has generally increased over the past seven years – a positive indication that the forest is becoming safer for elephants.

3.3. Studying human-elephant interactions

To help plan and evaluate human-elephant coexistence strategies, we expanded our monitoring of elephant activity and crop losses on village land. In 2022, we worked with 18 local elephant monitors (LEMs) across 13 villages in the Rungwa-Doroto and Kilombero valley project areas. Each elephant monitor is provided with training and regular performance feedback, a GPS unit. All data collection is done using KoboCollect. These data informed our work in several ways, including 1) to help us select locations for trials of novel elephant deterrents, 2) to assess baseline crop damage to elephants prior to restoration of the Kilombero Elephant Corridor; and 3) to evaluate trials of novel crop protection methods.

3.4 Trialling farm- and household-based interventions

Finding affordable and effective ways to protect farms from elephants is one way that we aim to enhance coexistence between people and elephants. The development and trialling of elephant deterrents with farmers continued to be an important area of innovation and learning for us in 2022. Following consultations with village leaders and residents, we supported farmers in Kanyenje village to register as a community-based organization and to build and manage a 3.5 km linear solar-powered strobe lights fence along village farms. In Magombera village, we entered an agreement with the village leadership to support them to build and manage a 1.5 km double-stranded metal strips fence along village farms. Furthermore, with farmers groups managing beehive fences in Kanyenje and Katurukila villages, we began trialling whether beehive fences can be more effective at preventing elephant incursions into farmland if we combine these fences with solar-powered strobe lights or metal strips. We will monitor elephant responses to all these mitigation methods and assess their efficacy.



Double-stranded metal strips elephant deterrent fence in Magombera village

In villages around Rungwa-Kizigo-Muhesi, elephants are known to damage food stores. In 2022 we began trialling an alternative food store design (first developed in Zambia) to determine whether it is more effective at protecting crops from elephants. We constructed eight food stores with households participating in the trial and, to date, none of these stores have been damaged by elephants. In the upcoming year, we will continue to monitor whether these stores keep crops safe from elephants, as well as interview households to understand their views on these food stores and to gauge whether people in the community are willing to contribute financially to alternative food stores.

3.5 Capacity building

One of our goals is to build capacity for research in Tanzania and, in doing so, facilitate scientific studies that inform our elephant conservation work. In 2022, we supported three Tanzanian Master's students in the conservation field. This support included helping students to design a research project and provision of mentoring and training in data collection methods and data analysis, and a bursary to support fieldwork. In 2022, two students from the Sokoine University of Agriculture who we started working with in 2021 (Irene Laizer and Lowassa Moitiko) completed their fieldwork and were supported to conduct analysis and write-up for their findings, with thesis submission expected in 2023. Through Irene's research, we learned more about human-elephant interactions around water sources on village land. Camera trapping showed that elephants visited village water sources primarily at night, while household surveys indicated that people primarily accessed water sources during the day. While some people feared meeting elephants at water sources, the most common concerns were that elephants damaged water sources (such as by causing soil to fall into wells) and that elephant urine and dung made the water less safe for domestic use. One recommendation from respondents was to provide alternative safe water sources, such as communal taps, for people.

Through Lowassa's research, we learned more about the elephants using the edges of Magombera forest and Mwanihana forest (which form the endpoints of the Kilombero Elephant Corridor). Through camera trapping, we learned that both males and family groups use these areas. Using features of the ears and tusks, we identified 70 different individual elephants using the forest edge over a period of just six months! Once the Kilombero Elephant Corridor is restored, we will continue to use camera traps to estimate the number of elephants using the corridor.

We also welcomed a new student to the program in 2022: Ms. Grace Mchome from the Sokoine University of Agriculture. Grace's research project will assess the efficacy of various mitigation fences by investigating elephant responses to mitigation fences, including by observing elephant behaviour at fences using camera traps, and by conducting interviews with farmers to learn more about their views on these mitigation methods.



MSc student Grace Mchome checking a camera trap used to monitor elephant behaviour at a deterrent fence in farmland.

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Policy on Reserves

The Charity operates with limited cash reserves. The Trustees' objective is to maintain a sufficient balance to meet committed expenditure on current projects and cover foreseeable administration expenses.

Financial Review

Accounts in separate document

Approved by the trustees on 13.09.2023 and signed on their behalf by:

A handwritten signature in grey ink, appearing to read 'Helen Pearson', written over a light blue horizontal line.

Helen Pearson

Dated: 13.09.2023

SOUTHERN TANZANIA ELEPHANT TRUST

Charity registration number 1179460

**FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE PERIOD ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2022**



SOUTHERN TANZANIA ELEPHANT TRUST

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SOUTHERN TANZANIA ELEPHANT TRUST

LEGAL & ADMIN INFORMATION FOR THE PERIOD ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2022

Status

The trust was formed as an incorporated charity on 1st August 2018.

Trustees

Nicholas McWilliam
Helen Pearson
Nat Comber

Charity number

1179460

Independent Examiner

Community360
Winsley's House
High Street
Colchester
CO1 1UG

Business address

30 Barn Road
Stirling
FK8 1EP

Bankers

Natwest
Cleveleys Branch
Lancs
FY5 2AL

SOUTHERN TANZANIA ELEPHANT TRUST

INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2022

I report on the accounts of Southern Tanzania Elephant Trust for the year ended 31st December 2022 which are set out on pages 3 to 5.

Respective responsibilities of trustees and examiner

The Charity's Trustees are responsible for the preparation of the accounts. The Charity's Trustees consider that an audit is not required for this year (under section 144 (2) of the Charities Act 2011 (The Act) but that an independent examination is needed.

It is my responsibility to:

- Examine the accounts under section 145 of the Charities Act,
- To follow the procedures laid down in the General Directions given by the Charity Commissioners (under section 145(5)(b) of the Charities Act, and
- To state whether particular matters have come to my attention.

Basis of independent examiner's Statement

My examination was carried out in accordance with the General Directions given by the Charity Commissioners. An examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the Charity and a comparison of the accounts presented with those records. It also includes considerations of any unusual items or disclosures in the accounts, and seeking explanations from you as trustees concerning any such matters. The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in an audit and consequently I do not express an audit opinion on the view given by the accounts.

Independent examiner's statement

In the course of my examination, no material matters have come to my attention which gives me cause to believe that in, any material respect:

- the accounting records were not kept in accordance with section 130 of the Charities Act; or
- the accounts did not accord with the accounting records; or
- the accounts did not comply with the applicable requirements concerning the form and content of the accounts set out in the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 other than any requirement that the accounts give a true and fair' view which is not a matter considered as part of an independent examination.

I have come across no other matters in connection with the examination to which attention should be drawn in this report in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

Shelley-Marie Rudling FMAAT AATQB for and on behalf of:

Community360

Winsley's House, High Street, Colchester, Essex



Date

30/10/2023

SOUTHERN TANZANIA ELEPHANT TRUST

RECEIPTS AND PAYMENTS ACCOUNT FOR THE PERIOD ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2022

	Notes	Unrestricted Fund £	Restricted Fund £	2022 Total £	2021 Total £
Receipts					
Donations, legacies and other similar receipts	2	2,893	30,017	32,910	47,029
Total receipts		<u>2,893</u>	<u>30,017</u>	<u>32,910</u>	<u>47,029</u>
Charitable payments					
Charitable activities	3	-	66,970	66,970	48,571
Governance		-	400	400	400
Total payments		<u>-</u>	<u>67,370</u>	<u>67,370</u>	<u>48,971</u>
Net of receipts/(payments)		<u>2,893</u>	<u>(37,353)</u>	<u>(34,460)</u>	<u>(1,942)</u>
Cash funds as at 1 December 2021		2,325	91,438	93,763	95,705
Cash funds as at 31 December 2022	4	<u><u>5,218</u></u>	<u><u>54,085</u></u>	<u><u>59,303</u></u>	<u><u>93,763</u></u>

Notes on pages 5 form part of these accounts

SOUTHERN TANZANIA ELEPHANT TRUST

STATEMENT OF ASSET AND LIABILITIES AS AT 31 DECEMBER 2022

	Notes	2022 £	2021 £
<u>Monetary assets</u>			
Cash at bank and in hand:		59,303	93,763
Total monetary assets		59,303	93,763
<u>Funds</u>			
Unrestricted	4	5,218	2,325
Restricted	4	54,085	91,438
Total Funds		59,303	93,763
<u>Other monetary assets</u>			
<u>Liabilities</u>			
Independent examiner fee	5	400	400
		400	400

These accounts were approved by the Trustees and signed on their behalf by :

Signed: 

Date: 26/10/2023

Helen Pearson

SOUTHERN TANZANIA ELEPHANT TRUST

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS FOR THE PERIOD ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2022

- These accounts are prepared on a receipts and payments basis, following best practice as laid down in the Statement of Recommended Practice "Accounting and Reporting by Charities" (SORP 2019) issued in 2019, with all revenue and expenses shown on a cash basis.
Non-monetary Assets and Liabilities are shown as actual values at the end of the year.

Period

These accounts cover a 12 month period from 1st January 2022 to 31st December 2022.

2. Donations, legacies and other similar receipts		Unrestricted Fund	Restricted Fund	2022 Total	2021 Total
		£	£	£	£
Donations		2,893	30,017	32,910	47,029
		2,893	30,017	32,910	47,029
3. Charitable activities		Unrestricted Fund	Restricted Fund	2022 Total	2021 Total
		£	£	£	£
Insurance		-	247	247	247
Self employed		-	-	-	4,200
Donation		-	66,670	66,670	44,104
Bank charges		-	53	53	20
		-	66,970	66,970	48,571
4. Cash Funds	Balance at 01/01/22	Incoming	Outgoing	Transfers	Balance at 31/12/22
	£	£	£	£	£
Unrestricted					
General fund	2,325	2,893	-	-	5,218
	2,325	2,893	-	-	5,218
Restricted Funds					
Wild Planet Trust	31,582	17,000	(48,130)	-	452
Bristol Chester Zoo	4,650	-	(4,650)	-	-
Association Mazingira	9,554	-	(9,554)	-	-
MBOMIPA Protection Project	23,534	-	-	-	23,534
Corridor restoration	17,083	-	-	-	17,083
Pro Wildlife	5,036	13,017	(5,036)	-	13,017
Totals	91,439	30,017	(67,370)	-	54,085

- The Independent Examiners Fee will be £400.00.
- No remuneration was paid to any trustee or to any person(s) known to be connected with any of them.
- There were no related parties within the year.
- The charity is operating on a going concern basis.
- During the year, there were Nil employees (2021: Nil).

SOUTHERN TANZANIA ELEPHANT TRUST

Charity registration number 1179460

**FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE PERIOD ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2022**



SOUTHERN TANZANIA ELEPHANT TRUST

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SOUTHERN TANZANIA ELEPHANT TRUST

LEGAL & ADMIN INFORMATION FOR THE PERIOD ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2022

Status

The trust was formed as an incorporated charity on 1st August 2018.

Trustees

Nicholas McWilliam
Helen Pearson
Nat Comber

Charity number

1179460

Independent Examiner

Community360
Winsley's House
High Street
Colchester
CO1 1UG

Business address

30 Barn Road
Stirling
FK8 1EP

Bankers

Natwest
Cleveleys Branch
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FY5 2AL

SOUTHERN TANZANIA ELEPHANT TRUST

INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2022

I report on the accounts of Southern Tanzania Elephant Trust for the year ended 31st December 2022 which are set out on pages 3 to 5.

Respective responsibilities of trustees and examiner

The Charity's Trustees are responsible for the preparation of the accounts. The Charity's Trustees consider that an audit is not required for this year (under section 144 (2) of the Charities Act 2011 (The Act) but that an independent examination is needed.

It is my responsibility to:

- Examine the accounts under section 145 of the Charities Act,
- To follow the procedures laid down in the General Directions given by the Charity Commissioners (under section 145(5)(b) of the Charities Act, and
- To state whether particular matters have come to my attention.

Basis of independent examiner's Statement

My examination was carried out in accordance with the General Directions given by the Charity Commissioners. An examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the Charity and a comparison of the accounts presented with those records. It also includes considerations of any unusual items or disclosures in the accounts, and seeking explanations from you as trustees concerning any such matters. The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in an audit and consequently I do not express an audit opinion on the view given by the accounts.

Independent examiner's statement

In the course of my examination, no material matters have come to my attention which gives me cause to believe that in, any material respect:

- the accounting records were not kept in accordance with section 130 of the Charities Act; or
- the accounts did not accord with the accounting records; or
- the accounts did not comply with the applicable requirements concerning the form and content of the accounts set out in the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 other than any requirement that the accounts give a true and fair' view which is not a matter considered as part of an independent examination.

I have come across no other matters in connection with the examination to which attention should be drawn in this report in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

Shelley-Marie Rudling FMAAT AATQB for and on behalf of:

Community360

Winsley's House, High Street, Colchester, Essex



Date

30/10/2023

SOUTHERN TANZANIA ELEPHANT TRUST

RECEIPTS AND PAYMENTS ACCOUNT FOR THE PERIOD ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2022

	Notes	Unrestricted Fund £	Restricted Fund £	2022 Total £	2021 Total £
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Governance		-	400	400	400
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Notes on pages 5 form part of these accounts

SOUTHERN TANZANIA ELEPHANT TRUST

STATEMENT OF ASSET AND LIABILITIES AS AT 31 DECEMBER 2022

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Total Funds		59,303	93,763
<u>Other monetary assets</u>			
<u>Liabilities</u>			
Independent examiner fee	5	400	400
		400	400

These accounts were approved by the Trustees and signed on their behalf by :

Signed: 

Date: 26/10/2023

Helen Pearson

SOUTHERN TANZANIA ELEPHANT TRUST

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS FOR THE PERIOD ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2022

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