



**REPORT ON AFeWiS SURVEY AND FIELD TRAINING HELD IN LOLIONDO IN
NGORONGORO DISTRICT, TANZANIA**

3rd January 2017

REPORT BY: Alert for endangered wildlife Species.

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WORKSHOP REPORT ON SURVEY AND FIELD TRAINING HELD IN LOLIONDO DISTRICT IN NGORONGORO

INTRODUCTION

The mission of the AFeWiS is to prevent illegal Poaching, Trophy Trade and secure wildlife through Foundational education to communities around Game reserves. And extend supportive services to relative public Bodies and other conservationists in facilitating for the Halting of The **DEVICE** among others acrimonious activities on wild animals and their relative Eco systems, so as to maximize wildlife potential for **SOCIO-ECONOMIC** Development.

So as to be in line with our mission, AFeWiS identified the groups and communities most in contact with/interacts with wildlife as the communities surrounding game reserves. In an effort to identify ways to halt the device AFeWiS decided to conduct a series of surveys/training to communities around reserves. After consultation and enquiries it was discovered that districts and villages surrounding and within Ngorongoro are vulnerable to poaching and its likes.

AFeWiS decided to take an outward-in approach by starting with communities surrounding Ngorongoro and eventually communities within so as to build a parameter of communities in support of wildlife and against the device. In this quest we begun by “AFeWiS to LOLIONDO “, a community that the government is sensitive towards, located within the parameters of NGORONGORO conservation. As the motto for Ngorongoro says “WHERE MAN AND ANIMALS CO-EXIST IN HARMONY”, the training/survey was geared towards finding out how the pastoralists communities around this areas co-exists with nature and what they think, know and recommend to halt the device.

THEME: COMPREHENDING HOW MAN AND NATURE CAN EXIST IN HARMONY

OBJECTIVES

- Find out what the community knows about poaching as well as conservation.
- Educate the community about the need to uphold conservation and its values.
- Debate and find out alternative means of eliminating poverty which is not hazardous to the eco-system.
- Meet up with different age groups and share what each can do to make it better.

ITERNARY OF THE WORKSHOP

DAY 1-2nd January 2017

With a team of three AFeWiS activists took up a journey from Arusha at 5:00am in the morning boarding the Coastline coach, a bus used by the locals to get to Loliondo in Ngorongoro. Due to the conditions of the roads there is limited vehicles highlighting to the so mentioned area. As observed during our journey man and animals within Ngorongoro do leave in harmony, as seeing maasai grazing their livestock at close proximity with a herd of Zebras or Giraffes is a common sight. A journey of 8 hours from Arusha to Loliondo.

Upon arrival at Loliondo we were received by secretary of the elder's council, got settled in at a guest house and went out to familiarize with the environment, the leaders and elders who were mobilizing an audience for the training. We met a number of elders, village chairmen, and the tradional leaders of the “wasonjo” and Maasai tribes of Loliondo. AFeWiS visited one of the main Boma's located at the top of a

small mountain within the outskirts of Loliondo; it was evident to us even before the training that the main cause of increase of poaching in these areas is poverty.

DAY 2-3rd January 2017

The day begun with planning, and putting the schedule in practice for the workshop to be held in one of the villages called “MAG Aiduru”. It took as a total of one hour drive to Magaiduru from Loliondo town center by private vehicles, not counting time in between spent conversing, surveying, sightseeing, map reading with elders to pinpoint areas much in need of awareness and support. As noted “a physical examination of the surrounding is a case half solved before meeting the communities!

The sessions were held at a local primary school, which is the only school from miles around, a school with a total of slightly over 480 students. We began with introductions followed by welcoming participants to the session by our hosts the elders and village leaders, introduction so as the participants could get acquainted with the trainers. The workshop was opened officially by Mr. Ololulu who holds the highest and most respectable position among the Maasai community as the “leguanani” followed by the chairmen of the elders.

After which the participants were introduced to AFeWiS and the purpose of the workshop/training by Founder & Director Moses Ryakitimbo. The event was initially planned to accommodate a total of 50 participants but we had a total of 78 participants overall who attended the event. The attendees were of different age groups ranging from elders & men, women and some youths from within and nearby villages.

After which AFeWiS secretary Mr. Benbella engaged and led an open discussion with the participants to address the elephant in the room “what, how, where, who “as far as poaching and conservation is concerned. The participants surprised us with the knowledge they have as far as conservation is concerned, and poaching, however there were still loopholes to be addressed.

After the open discussion Director Moses provided a brief training addressing gray areas as far as the audience were concerned about wildlife conservation and poaching. This opened up the floor with questions left and right from the village elders as well as the rest of the participants, realizing a need that is too big which is “the thirst for more knowledge”.

After which Miss. Rebecca led the participants on identifying how to come over this challenges, this led to a number of suggestions brought up that carry the weight of logic. The closing was very lighting as feedback from audience was very positive, this was followed by a picture session and lunch with the elders before departing back to Loliondo.

PARTICIPANT’S FEEDBACK AND RECOMMENDATIONS

During and after the workshop with the help of the village elders and our self we collected from the participants feedback and recommendations as far as the event was concerned.

1. Stakeholder breakdown

- a. Women-33
- b. Men-38
- c. Youths-15

2. Pros and cons of the workshop

- a. The workshop presentations were good and easy to follow
- b. The workshop was well organized and timely
- c. The participants commended the response from AFeWiS trainers
- d. The workshop had great information
- e. The participants commended and appreciated the drinks and refreshment provided

- f. Participants stated that the workshop shed light on the existence and need to address wildlife conservation concerns
- g. The appreciated the fact that neutrality was emphasized while allowing the engagement of everyone's opinions.

3. Recommendations regarding the event

- a. They requested extension of days of the workshop, as they felt more time was needed to cover more ground.
- b. They suggested that events of the same caliber should be regular and if possible from village to village as well as the Boma's.
- c. For AFeWiS next mission it was recommended to hold out a training to children, within the schools, addressing how wildlife could be of economic and sentimental value to the society.

Table (1): Summary of the training evaluation by participants

Indicator	Quality of training	Usefulness	effectiveness	distribution
High	73	75(useful)	75 (fully effective)	75 (Yes)
good	-	-	3 (Adequate)	3 (Do not know)
poor	-	-	-	-

The numbers in the cells refer to number of participants.

4. Workshop facilitators

The workshop was led by a team of dedicated AFeWiS member's serving as facilitators.

- ✓ Moses Ryakitimbo
- ✓ Benbellah Isinika
- ✓ Rebecca Emmanuel

MEETING OUR OBJECTIVES

- What the community knows about poaching as well as conservation?

Judging from the remarks, questions answered and matters addressed during the workshop, the following were observed and agreed on by the majority.

- A. They are aware of poaching, what it is, how it is done and why
- B. The Maasai community does not in any way support or commends the actions of poaching. It is against their traditions and cultures to disrupt nature's cause; it's only recently that a few of poachers have been identified as poachers. Reasons being them having hard economic situations, most often they act as accomplices to the act but not the actual people involved with it.
- C. However it was stated that they don't benefit directly from tourism and wildlife conservation since they hardly see any developments made in their societies by the government.
- D. They highlighted the following as reasons leading to poaching, all of them in line with poverty and illiteracy revolving around four key factors:

1. Lack of employment
2. Water challenges
3. Livestock grazing and hunger
4. Access to education being too expensive

E. It was also observed that the question the community needed addressed more was why:

1. We say wildlife conservation leads to tourism which leads to economic development, where does this tourism money go to? Because the communities surrounding the reserves don't directly benefit from it.
2. Most employments are given in reserves to people not from within these societies.

- Educate the community about the need to uphold conservation and its values.

After understanding and gagging the knowledge possessed by these communities, AFeWiS took time to fill in the missing parts of the puzzle, this involved letting

Suggestions from community included: the community learn to see the value of this animals alive than dead.

- Debate and find out alternative means of eliminating poverty which is not hazardous to the eco-system.
1. Having better water systems and availability of water so as to ease and make agriculture and livestock farming easier.
 2. Improved education system for the children in the community, this involves books and other learning materials.

3. Women entrepreneurial activities such women small holder farmers loans and grants. To assist them grow in business as they serve as the bridge to both children and men in the community hence highly important for the cause to be well settled.
4. A way/coalition to ensure all tour companies gives back to the communities that coexist in peace with wildlife so as to encourage and motivate community involvement.

6. TOTAL COST OF THE TRAINING PROGRAM

The total cost of the training program was 500,000Tshs

- Travel Tickets for trainers to and from Loliondo
- Hotel accommodation
- Local transport to the villages and Boma's
- Meals and refreshments for trainers as well as audience during session
- Incentive and per diem to local officials who helped mobilize people
- Some miscellaneous expenses incurred such as vouchers and credit

RECOMMENDED FOLLOW UP EVENT

- **Artists for Wildlife**

Communities around and in Ngorongoro areas such as Loliondo where poaching happens have a lot of unrecognized potentials in terms of talents. A majority of them though lacking formal education have a lot of potential waiting to be harnessed and encouraged. Through AFeWiS work we have been able to notice that letting the community use their talents to both earn and promote wildlife conservation. This gives them more meaning as to why they should protect it, because it gives them economic benefits as well.

This is through a **Painters for wildlife program**: Here we focus on people within the communities more especially children who are talented in drawing. We teach them to use their arts imagination to educate people on wildlife, its beauty and why people should stop poaching and the like. Our long term goal is to plan an art expose gallery in which we can showcase their works and probably earn them some cash prizes so that they can find a career in keeping animals safe. The young ones enjoy this program as they get to draw, paint and color different animals at the same time learning of the fauna and flora.

So the plan in mind is to hold week long art/painting training to the kids at Magaiduru primary school, on how to use wildlife in form of arts to earn a living as well as establish a career. Kids are visual hence a week long session with them will be geared towards the following objectives:

1. **Awaken the love for wildlife and animal rights activism in the young ones who are the leaders of tomorrow.**
2. **To help them understand that they can make and earn while the animals are alive instead when dead.**
3. **To engage the kids in a more fun and interesting way to learn about wildlife, poaching and conservation**

WORKSHOP TIMETABLE

TIME	ACTIVITY	RESPONSIBLE
	Introduction Village elders <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • AFeWiS • Participants • Objectives of the training 	Moses Ryakitimbo
	Questions and open discussion <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What the community knows about wildlife as well as poaching • Efforts made to stop and halt the device • Any other observations 	Benbella Isinika
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Educate the community about the need to uphold conservation and its values. • Poaching • Challenges in wildlife conservation 	Moses, Benbella na Rebecca
	Debate on factors leading about to poverty and opening up the floor for suggestions to solve the challenge.	Rebecca
	What each age group, set of people can do towards halting the device <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • women • Men • Leaders(both local and traditional elders) • Youth and children 	Moses, Benbella na Rebecca
	Closing remarks and picture taking Lunch	All

TIME CAPSULES OF AFeWiS TO LOLIONDO MISSION



Day 1 survey visit around the hills, Boma's in and around Loliondo



Day 2 Mapping and road survey of the AFeWiS team to identify and clarify points of interest



Day 2 A session with the local leaders, elders and members of Magaiduru village in Loliondo



A picture with part of the participants after the training at Magaiduru Village, Loliondo

CONCLUSION

Overall the event was successful, motivating, participants were well engaged in the workshop and all its procedures, and we hope that more of similar events will be in place.