

SERENGETI DEVELOPMENT, RESEARCH AND ENVIRONMENTAL CONSERVATION CENTRE (SEDEREC)

**“IMPROVING CO-EXISTENCE BETWEEN ELEPHANTS
AND FARMERS WITHIN COMMUNITIES ADJACENT
TO PROTECTED AREAS SOUTHERN OF MARA RIVER
ECOSYSTEM, MARA, TANZANIA”**

Presenter:

Damian Thobias Magori
Executive Director,
(SEDEREC)
Box 176, Mugumu/Serengeti,
Mara, Tanzania.
Email. sederec@gmail.com



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EMERGING ISSUE

Increasing Human-Elephants Conflicts to Communities Living within Mara River Basin , Tanzania

- **(A) An overview**
- Human-elephant conflicts mostly exist where human populations and wild animals shares resources outside protected areas. When elephants and humans interact, there is conflict from crop raiding, injuries and deaths to humans, and elephants being killed by human.

EMERGING ISSUE (...)

- **(B) THE LINKAGE BETWEEN MARA RIVER AND WILDLIFE CONFLICT.**
- The Mara River is a key link between Serengeti Ecosystem Tanzania and Maasai Mara ecosystem Kenya connected through annual wildlife migration. Elephants migrate through the landscape looking for food and water they take advantage of any juicy crops they come across keeping communities within the ecosystem clear of farms.

EMERGING ISSUE (...)

(B) THE LINKAGE BETWEEN MARA RIVER AND WILDLIFE CONFLICT (...)



**Wild animals crossing Mara River-
Tanzania to Maasai Mara-Kenya**



**Farmers' left without crops in Mara River
Basin, Tanzania**

EMERGING ISSUE (...)

(B) THE LINKAGE BETWEEN MARA RIVER AND WILDLIFE CONFLICT (..)



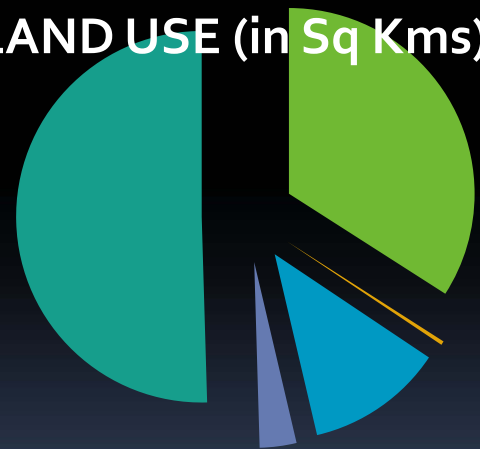
- Wild animals enjoying Mara river water

EMERGING ISSUE (...)

- Why Increasing Human-Wildlife Conflicts.

Area	Serengeti National Park	Ikorongo Game Reserve	Grumeti Game Reserve	Open Area for Wildlife Reasource	Residential & Agriculture	Total land area
Sq Kms	7,000	189.68	68.37	2,456	659	10,373
%age	67.48	1.83	0.66	23.68	6.35	100.00

LAND USE (in Sq Kms) IN SERENGETI DISTRICT




- Serengeti National park
- Ikorongo Game Reserve
- Grumeti Game Reserve
- Open Area for Wildlife Reasource



EMERGING ISSUE (...)

IMPACTS OF HUMAN-ELEPHANT CONFLICTS

- Increasing cases of killing of wild animals within village compounds.
 - Increasing incidences of people killed by elephants.
 - Some families are left without food. That caused high pressure to water resources and environment ie. Charcoal burning business
- 

BEST PRACTICES ON MITIGATION OF HUMAN-ELEPHANT CONFLICTS

- **(A) The beehive fence.**
- African honeybees have been proposed as a possible deterrent to elephant when they heard the buzz of disturbed bees.



- Beehive Fence protecting crop fields in Serengeti, Tanzania

BEST PRACTICES ON MITIGATION OF HUMAN-ELEPHANT CONFLICTS

- **(B) Non-electrical wire fence.**
- The fence friendly keeps elephants out of farms. The fence need maintenance periodically.



Farmers participating in construction of non-electrical fence in Mara river basin at villages adjacent to Serengeti National Park, Tanzania




LESSONS LEARNED

MITIGATION OF HUMAN-ELEPHANT CONFLICTS

- Non-electrical wire
- The beehive fence
- Lighting fires,
- Banging drums and making noise,
- Setting off firearms and fire crackers,
- Digging trenches,
- Putting up electric fences,
- Use of chilli and tobacco-based deterrents,,
- Changing farming practices,
- Growing crops that elephants don't like and
- Educating communities on new techniques.



CHALLENGES

- There are not enough game posts with equipped rangers and patrol vehicles to respond on elephant raids at field levels.
 - Hungry elephants are difficult to frighten off and with time they become adapted to the employed techniques.
- 




FUTURE PLAN

- **Integrated Approach**

Integrated approach will help to scare away elephants for long period than single methods that can be easily copied by elephant within short period.

- **Capacity Building for Improved Community Engagement**

- Strengthen the capacity of the communities bordering protected areas in western Serengeti.
 - Support on village level income generating and conservation services activities that will mostly involve and benefit directly women groups.
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END OF PRESENTATION

Thank you for listening