

# NEWSLETTER



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Bomet County Draft Forest Bill Launched

Call to Action to Save the Mara River

## Proceeds from Forest Challenge Fund Eburru Restoration Effort



One of the participants at the tree-planting event at the Eburru Forest, Nakuru County.

**O**n 18th May, 2019, the EAWLS in partnership with the Eburru Rafiki Community Forest

Association, Kenya Forest Service and the Rhino Ark, hosted a tree-planting event in Eburru Forest in Nakuru County. The event marked the beginning of a project to plant 4,500 trees in the degraded parts of Eburru Forest with funds raised during the Forest Challenge 2018.

The Mau Eburru Forest, part of the vast Mau Forest ecosystem, is of immense conservational value. The forest is identified in the Conservation Connectivity

Framework (CCF) as an important wildlife dispersal area and migratory corridor. It hosts important biodiversity such as the critically endangered bongo antelope and is a key water catchment for Lake Naivasha and Lake Elmentaita. However, as a consequence of decades of deforestation and degradation, Eburru Forest has become fragmented.

The Eburru Forest rehabilitation project aims to restore in 4.5 hectares of the degraded areas.

Activities on the initial tree-planting day included a tour of Eburru that included a demonstration



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East African Wild Life Society, P.O.Box 20110-00200 Nairobi, Kenya Riara Rd, Kilimani, Nairobi

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+254 (020) 3874145

+254 (0) 722 202 473

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1. Group photo of representatives of EAWLS and participating corporates at the Eburru tree-planting project.
2. EAWLS Executive Director, Nancy Ogonje plants a tree.
3. A tour operator carries seedlings.
4. From L-R: George Njenga (The Ecosystem Conservator Nakuru), Lydia Nyota (Community representative for Eburru Rafiki), Tony Church (Eburru Rafiki committee member), Nancy Ogonje (Executive Director EAWLS) and Samuel Mundia (Kenya Forest Service forester), address participants at the commencement of the event.
5. Lydia Nyota, Community representative of Eburru Rafiki shares seedlings with participants.

by members of the local community on the use of steam-jets to condense water for domestic use. The Rhino Ark's is building a fence around the forest as part of the restoration effort.

An estimated 150 people attended the tree-planting event, including representatives from about 40 corporates that sponsored or participated in the Forest Challenge 2018, an annual fun sport competition at Kereita Forest in Kiambu County.

EAWLS would like to express its gratitude to all its partners and sponsors of the Forest Challenge 2018. Their contributions and participation made the commencement of the Eburru Forest rehabilitation work possible.

The Eburru Rafiki Community Forest Alliance will ensure that the planted tree take root and are cared for the next three years until.

# WORLD ENVIRONMENT DAY 2019



**W**orld Environment Day 2019 was marked on 5th June with the theme this year being “Beat Air Pollution”. People were urged to explore renewable energy and green technologies, and improve air quality in cities and regions across the world. More than 6 billion people – one-third of

them children – regularly breathe air that is so polluted it puts their health and well-being at risk.

The East African Wildlife Society participated in marking the Day by planting mangroves in Mida Creek in the Watamu Marine Reserve in Kilifi County and in the capital Nairobi.

EAWLS was involved in planning of the event in Watamu alongside other stakeholders, including Kenya Wildlife Service, A Rocha Kenya

and nine local community organisations. Other groups taking part included the Watamu Marine Association, Nature Kenya, Local Ocean Conservation, two hotels and members of the communities around Mida Creek and Watamu. An estimated 250 people planted some 30,000 saplings of mangrove.

## EAWLS Supports Development of Bomet Forestry Bill

**T**he Gazette Supplement No. 116 of 9th August 2014 specified devolved forestry functions to the County Governments. Some of these functions include implementation of national policies and formulation of by-laws and legislation that are applicable to county forests. The County Government of Bomet through their County Integrated Development Plan (CIDP) identified inadequacies of policies and legislation as hindrance to execution of the devolved forestry functions.

In order to abridge the above policy inadequacies at county level, the East African Wild Life

Society (EAWLS) through Kenya Forest Working Group (KFWG) has been partnering with Bomet County Government to develop a Forestry Bill through its one year project on “Creating an enabling environment for Community-Based Natural Resources Management (CBNRM) through policy advocacy and awareness creation”. This project is being supported by World-Wide Fund for Nature, Kenya (WWF-K) under its Community-Based Natural Resource Management (CBNRM) Programme. The WWF-Kenya CBNRM programme aims at supporting the development of or review of policies and legislations to create enabling environment for sound Community-Based Natural

Resource Management (CBNRM) in Kenya.

Previous consultative engagements culminated in a Draft Forestry Bill for Bomet County. In order to take this policy formulation process forward, EAWLS/KFWG organised a one-day consultative meeting to discuss and strategize on the next steps towards finalizing the Bill. The discussions during this meeting culminated into a clear roadmap that would guide that would guide the next steps. According to the roadmap, it is expected that the Bill will be ready for tabling at the County Assembly for passing by September.



# CALL TO ACTION TO SAVE THE MARA RIVER

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**T**he 4th Private Sector Conference on Sustainable Inclusive Business that was held on May 17 at the United States International University (USIU) was attended by over 300 people representing businesses, academia, civil society and the government.

The theme of the conference was #CircularEconomy, #Changethestory #RethinkBusiness, aimed at inspiring businesses to rethink their long-term strategies to reduce waste and positively impact on People, Planet and Profit.

Speaking at the conference, Nancy Ogonje, Executive Director, EAWLS, declared a call to action under the Saving the Mara River Campaign, a long-term collaborative effort of EAWLS and UAP Old Mutual Insurance, to restore the Maasai

Mau water tower through forest rehabilitation of the Mau water catchment.

The Mara River, popular for the wildebeest migration, is the lifeline of the Mara-Serengeti ecosystem, supporting the livelihoods of over 1.1 million people in both Kenya and Tanzania and contributing to the economy of Narok County and significantly to Kenya's GDP through tourism.

The survival of the Mara-Serengeti ecosystem is threatened by a number of factors, including deforestation of the Mau escarpment, encroachment and settlement, abstraction of water for irrigation and other purposes. Consequentially, there are increasing incidents of human-wildlife conflict as a result of drought and competition for resources, wildlife displacement, shifting wildlife

migratory patterns, loss of livestock and biodiversity.

EAWLS through its annual Forest Challenge event has been working in conjunction with corporate organisations and individuals to fundraise for the rehabilitation of key water towers in Kenya. It is through these efforts that UAP Old Mutual Insurance approached EAWLS and collaboratively established a long-term initiative dubbed Saving the Mara River Campaign.

In her call to action, Ms Ogonje stressed that only through concerted effort by all stakeholders, experts, corporations, government institutions and non-governmental organisations can save the Mara River. "We can, and will save the Mara," she said. "If we ever want to save the Mara, the time is now!"

# EAST AFRICAN WILD LIFE SOCIETY IMRE LOEFLER LECTURE



## Rethink business, Redesign Economies to save the Planet?

- **How does a green & circular Economy contribute to nature conservation?**
- **What has sustainable inclusive business practice to do with Biodiversity?**
- **Why is our current economic model out of date and far from future proof?**

Businesses can drive the change because they can move fast with a huge power for a positive impact on people and the planet. They can build a new economy. Circumstances have changed, and so must our economy. A linear economy depends on cheap materials, cheap energy and cheap credit. But what happens to the "cheap" excuse when we apply 'true costing system' to all what we do? When we have negative impacts on our financial accounts, it does make business sense. What is the footprint of a business? You can't measure restoring nature in money. Do you measure it in terms of people's future? Our GDP is not a good measure of wellbeing.

We have to measure and think differently. What happens when we rethink resources, calculated in natural capital, human capital, with the word growth replaced by thriving. Let's walk through the trends in better business practices and how they lead to natural conservation.

**#People, Planet, Profit #Rethink Business #Circular Economy  
#ChangeThe Story**

Businesses don't operate in isolation. Whether you use nature for resources, or you have an office, or waste, or need fuel to transport & infrastructure you are in the space of nature, and you have an impact on it. Whether you are employing 4 people in the office or 3,000 at a farm or converting a community by starting a mine, you are having an impact on people.

People, the planet & profit go hand in hand.

**KARIN BOOMSMA** is a circular thinker & Sustainable economic development expert with both national and international experience. She helps create better business practices by designing concepts, programmes, communication and networking strategies. The aim is to support businesses to redesign their models for sustainable growth by providing operational expertise and management skills. She has worked with businesses and partners across the Netherlands, Zimbabwe, Maldives, Cambodia and Kenya.

**VENUE:** Karen Country Club @ the JR Martin room

**DATE:** Wednesday 19th June, 2019

### PROGRAMME

**6.30 P.M.:** Welcome glass of wine | **7.00 P.M.:** Lecture starts

### MEMBERS & GUESTS:

Members & Guests: **1,500** | Lecture & Dinner : **2,800/-**

### KAREN:

eventsoffice@karen.or.ke | Library@Karen.or.ke | gmsecretary@karen.or.ke

**Mobile:** +254 0722 204 431 / 0733 606 950 | **Tel:** +254 020 3882801/2

**EAWSL:** (events@eawildlife.org) or info@eawildlife.org

**Tel:** 3874145/0722 202 473/0734 600 632

# EAWLS GIFTS CATALOGUE

## Branded Polo Shirts



Branded Polo Shirts  
Kshs. 1,500/-

## Branded T-shirts



Branded T-shirts (M/L/O/LU)  
Kshs. 1,000/-



## Branded T-shirts



Branded T-shirts (M/L/O/LU)  
Kshs. 1,000/-



## Tote bags/Eco bags



Branded Tote bags  
Kshs. 1,000/-



Branded Eco bags  
Kshs. A3-250/-  
A4-200/-

## Branded Maasai shuka with fleece



Branded Maasai shuka with fleece  
Kshs. 3,000/-

## Branded Maasai shuka with fleece



Branded Maasai shuka with fleece  
Kshs. 3,000/-

## Branded Safari hats/Car badges/lapel pins



Branded Safari hat  
Kshs. 1,200/-



Branded car badge  
Kshs. 400/-



Lapel pin  
Kshs. 100/-

## Wildlife spotter



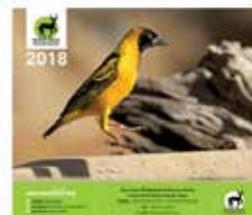
Wildlife Spotter  
Kshs. 400/-



## Wall, Desk calendar and Season's cards



Wall Calendar 2018  
Kshs. 500/-



Desk Calendar 2018  
Kshs. 400/-



Print off a seasonal Season's cards  
Kshs. 450/-