

Final Evaluation Report

Your Details	
Full Name	Jonathan Lucas Kwiyega
Project Title	Stopping Illegal Lion Killings in western Tanzania
Application ID	34530-B
Date of this Report	12/10/2022

1. Indicate the level of achievement of the project's original objectives and include any relevant comments on factors affecting this.

Objective	Not achieved	Partially achieved	Fully achieved	Comments
<p>To Intensify WASIMA model operations to reduce illegal lion killings, increase community conservation commitment among agro-pastoral Sukuma settling in remote villages around protected areas within the complex Rukwa-Katavi-mahale-Ugalla-Mahale-kigosi ecosystem (72villages)</p> <p>Through innovative Activities:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) Stakeholders workshops, seminar and meetings 2) Conservation education- to create and promote conservation awareness in communities. 3) Village stop illegal lion killing regulation approach 4) Lion Conservation Ambassadors (LCA) approach. 				<p>The Rufford Booster grant strengthened WASIMA model operations and supported Lion Conservation Ambassadors (LCAs) commitments towards lion conservation within potential villages around core protected areas in western Tanzania. Our model has reduced lion killings and increased community conservation awareness in these forgotten but important conservation areas in the least served landscape by conservation NGOs.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) A sum of 680 community and village leaders were reached through stakeholders' seminars, workshops and meetings. 2) Over 16000 locals were reached through conservation education outreaches and over 688,785 through 30 live community radio sessions which were further aired at our 4 HLCs Loudspeaker early Warning Systems (LEWS) in four villages. 3) Stop illegal lion killing by-laws were well monitored in 35 villages, such that 8 villages held sungusungu seminars to empower traditional policemen to monitor and punish illegal lion hunters within their village boundaries. 4) A sum of 73 Lion conservation ambassadors were trained and equipped with uniforms to well assist monitoring and support HLCs mitigation within their villages- also how to oversee HLC LEWS. LCAs empowerment

				and involvement indicators were assessed via their ability to perform and support villagers to coexist with lions within their village.
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2. Describe the three most important outcomes of your project.

a). We have village by-laws certifications against non-retaliatory lion killing practices in 35 villages from the previous 22. We supported and facilitated 8 villages (out of planned 16) to process and complete by-laws ratification and empowerment seminars to ensure enforcement by village traditional policemen (Sungusungu). No new lion killers emerged nor recorded by LCAs in all 35 villages.

b). We reached and raised local conservation awareness and participation in 68 villages of targeted 72 potential villages. Our village awareness campaigns involved spreading a lion conservation education, spread stop reserves encroachment, poaching and illegal trophy use and ownership messages through film shows, lions, lions proof bomas (living wall) and wildlife trophy brochures, Loudspeaker Early Warning System (LEWS) and community Mass radio, meetings, seminars and educational park trips. We also sensitized and supported participation of traditional policemen, village game scouts (VGS) and our trained Lion Conservation Ambassadors (LCAs) to maximize their contribution in reducing human-lion interactions and retaliations. We supported local governments to establish use and engagement of the three local law enforcement units in ensuring community and wildlife co-existence. We supported Mpimbwe, Ipole and Uyumbu WMA leadership empowerment meetings, seminars and joint patrols.

In 68 villages, 74 pastoralists' seminar meetings, lion conservation awareness raising outreaches involving public presentations and discussions, film shows-most of which focused on lion behaviours, and their habitat/ecosystem values and importance were shared to over 14,555 community members. A total of 12,200 educational and promotional materials (12000 brochures and 200 calendars) were distributed to various locals. Youths were reached via 22 students clubs where 1,169 pupils got engaged. 5 park trips and 3 pupil's eco-studies were held involving 221 village community leaders and members and 98 pupils. We were able to establish the fourth HLC-LEWS to enable locals to report wildlife incursions in communal lands at Idekamiso village around Ipole WMA. We shared lion and other wildlife conservation messages by airing 20 live, and 30 recorded sessions from the community mass radio presentations at Mpanda radio FM and via our HLCs-LEWS this year. Our radio awareness campaign-aired sessions popularly reach over 688,785 populations in villages across Katavi and Rukwa Regions. The recorded sessions included topics on lions and lion behaviours, values and importance of lions, HLCs mitigations, why stop reserves encroachment by both humans and live stocks, dangerous animals and consolations, wildlife trophies, the history of wildlife conservation and conservation categories, how to mitigate HLCs, benefits of wildlife conservation, community and drivers of HLCs and best wildlife conservation practices.

c). Publications: community outreach efforts and practices are published in popular conservation related journals, our website, project web page and other social

media. Our online community have been updated to keep them posted through newsletters, workshops, conferences, meetings and presentations.

- 1) Improved stakeholders' collaboration in promoting human-lion coexistence. Throughout our educational outreach activities. Our team has collaborated with community conservation managers from TAWA, TANAPA and respective District Game Offices. A sum of 24 human-wildlife incidences were reported at our four HLC-LEWS stations compared to 72 incidences reported last year, - where only 2 of 24 were associated with lions and single cattle was lost as a result of serious injury by lions. This marks a decline of about 66.7% of occurrence of human-wildlife incidences in 4 villages with LEWS.
- 2) With Game rangers, VGS and LCAs engagement: We co-supported 6 joint patrols against illegal livestock grazing into Mpimbwe and Ipole WMAs – leading into confiscation of 2393 cattle and 13 cattle caretakers whose fines sums to \$55,297.79. During patrols, participants reported presence of lions but commenting continuous and regular patrols to keep livestock and unpermitted human activities out of reserves. Over 36 lions mostly young adults were sought and reported in different occasions in Rukwa GR, Katavi NP, Inyonga and Ugalla GR and Mpimbwe, Ipole and Uyumbu WMAs. A sum of 39 cattle and one sheep were killed by lions in 9 villages. Two subadult male lions were killed as Problem Animal control (PAC) and two non-retaliatory killings by community members in villages around Ugalla and Inyonga Game Reserves. A total of 4 lions and leopard have been killed, and within buffer zones of Rukwa and Inyonga Game reserves (all carcasses collected by TAWA).
- 3) Mpimbwe WMA has finally been registered, offered User right and gazetted on Government Notice, Whereas Ipole WMA village members have increased from 4 to 6 village members as the result of our program initiatives.
- 4) Including WASIMA's sister programs: 51 children with physical disabilities (including 15 albinos) were supported to access treatments. 124 pupils were supported with school uniforms in two primary schools, 10 women supported through our pay forward chicken project and over 20,664 trees were raised and donated to community members planted in south of Katavi National Park.

As stated in section 3 and 4, our project success was measured in a number of ways to assess the indicators of the impacts of every activity that we did before and after each activity. We used pre and post assessment questionnaires to assess attitude and awareness change among workshop, seminar and meeting participants. The immediate success of our meetings with community leaders were measured by assessing their understanding, awareness and behaviour change levels about lions, human-lions and other wildlife conflicts and the associate drivers and appropriate solutions towards the species and their habitat conservation. Content analysis was also used to learn the next steps leaders would make practice their roles. Leaders also made commitments to support and engage themselves in conservation practices; integrating lion and other wildlife conservation in their decision making,

commitment to educate community members they lead, to engage in campaigns against lion killers and support for TAWA, TANAPA and traditional policemen and other law enforcement stakeholders.

Awareness levels among community members were associated with reduced habitat degradation, improved commitment to set apart and preserve catchment forests and community-based reserves like that of Mpimbwe which has been legalized as wildlife management area. Willingness to share information about lion killers, poachers and acting against wildlife criminals, ability to live with dangerous and problem animals like lions, elephants, crocodiles and hippos is function of our outreaches in focal villages. Now adays, three out of 10 park trips are organized over 80 percent of costs shared by beneficiaries. The willingness to cooperate, share and take part in various conservation activities has gone up among community members in all areas of our project coverage. We thus also assess the long-term impact of our general outreaches by doing the endline survey (in 2023) similar to what we did at the start of the project in 17 new villages we expanded on top of those around Katavi. We will afterwards be publishing a paper on the status of traditional lion killings around Ugalla ecosystem.

Lion Conservation Ambassadors (LCAs): We had 14 LCAs, four among whom oversee the four village HLCs Early Warning Systems HLC-LEWS. LCAs coordinate use and security of LEWS, disseminate conservation education (using recorded mass radio sessions and film shows) to community members. LCAs are also the focal personnels representing our project team in the field; actively available to record Lion presence, HLCs, losses and attend wildlife related issues facing community members within their respective village. LCAs were also equipped to report and arrest lion dancers within villages, as well discourage rewarding lion dancers visiting households within the village. In our new strategy, we expect to use LCAs to coordinate and lead predator proof bomas' construction, monitor HLCs using data collection toolkits (Kobo and Malt).

3. Explain any unforeseen difficulties that arose during the project and how these were tackled.

1. Increased need for services- to engage the locals to resolve conservation issues (human-wildlife conflicts, poaching, climate change impacts and reserves, encroachment) all influenced by rapid human and livestock population growth around protected areas in western Tanzania.

2. Village and district leadership shifts, bureaucracies and politics caused delayed approval of bylaws at both village and district levels.

3. Inadequate resources, technical knowledge and skills to manage and timely attend daily office duties and responsibilities and also access to learning and training opportunities and national and regional conferences.

4. Field related challenges: inaccessibility due to frequent project vehicle breakdown and poor transport facilities and reluctance (due to remoteness, language barrier, and poor road and cell phone networks) of most potential areas

where HWCs are persistent. The harsh field condition: poor roads networks worsened by weather condition and inadequate field equipment- limit team's daily tasks timely and effective accomplishments.

5. Inadequate resources, technical knowledge and skills to manage and timely attend daily office duties and responsibilities, also access to learning, networking and training opportunities like national and regional conferences.

Ideas on how we managed unforeseen difficulties and challenges:

We tackled this by being focused and intentional to addressing illegal non-retaliatory killings at project sites. We need to adopt transport and accommodation services, equipment, tools and apply citizen science (use of Lion Conservation Ambassadors (LCAs) and Human Lion Conflict-Loud speaker Early warning system (HLC-LEWS) to ensure continued conservation interventions. Invest more to developing relationship with locals through Free and Prior Inform Consents (FPICs) and diversification of contextual intervention approaches and platforms. We switched to public transport, hire motorbikes and consult car mechanics. We also trained a project field assistant as car mechanic and driver. We plan to have both professional and legally sound management tools in place to enhance LCMO's program operations scope and coverage expansion around protected areas in Tanzania. We need soft skills, trainings, equipment and facilities: effective camera, smartphones to well manage field and office tasks-like data collection and processing.

4. Describe the involvement of local communities and how they have benefited from the project.

The project focussed on halting traditional lion killings as well as reduce negative human-lion interactions and conflicts. We executed activities of the expanded and intensified WASIMA operations to stop illegal lion killings in over 40 project villages and areas beyond- bordering reserves in Katavi, Tabora and Rukwa regions. Our focus for this booster grant was dissemination of the stop poaching, illegal trophy ownership and use, and stop livestock and human encroachment into neighbour reserves through mass radio-"Mass radio Human Lion Conflict reduction campaign" Build capacity of influential local leaders and household heads through meetings; seminars and Village game scouts and Lion Conservation Ambassadors (LCAs), training and patrols of community members in project villages and other villages within Katavi-Rukwa-Ugalla-Mahale and Kigosi ecosystem. We also continued with other village awareness raising outreach activities such as conservation education public presentations and film shows, Youth engagement, tree planting/Greening campaign, a day in a park, and health programs also being implemented as sister Organization programs which are supported by other funders supporting LCMO to promote human-wildlife co-existence in western Tanzania.

5. Are there any plans to continue this work?

Yes, my plan is to keep active intensified and expanded stop illegal lion killing campaign operations accordingly in both old and new villages where lions are at high risks and to effectively promote human-wildlife co-existence, reduce human-

lion and other wildlife conflicts and promote biodiversity conservation and protection in the western Tanzania Landscape! LCMO received a total of \$90,000 (from Wildlife Conservation Networks' Lion Recovery Fund and Maliasili) to support human lion coexistence in western Tanzania and to ensure Organization strategic planning process and development and have applied to National Geographic Society to support continuous community conservation outreaches to promote human-lion coexistence within the Katavi-Rukwa-Mahale-Ugalla and Kigosi ecosystem.

6. How do you plan to share the results of your work with others?

We use our LCMO website, Website project page, Facebook and tweeter, online semi-annual newsletters, annual reports; publish papers, meetings, seminars and workshops, and brochures, video and brochures to reach formal and informal WASIMA stakeholders.

We also communicated results through local stakeholders' workshops in western Tanzania, and conservationists' conferences. We have published an evaluation study for publication [Borgerhoff Mulder et al., 2019]. In 2021, I presented on "Human-Lion Conflicts in Western Tanzania" at Rufford Small Grant East African Recipients Conference held in Zanzibar and TAWIRI conference in Arusha. In 2022, I attended and delivered talks about my project work to the national and international conferences-including APAC in Kigali Rwanda and at the lion and leopard review national action plan workshop this year.

The project results were communicated through the following different mechanisms to maximize information reach:

- Website: <http://www.lcmo.or.tz/> Especially on project page-
- Project Facebook page
- Youtube Video and Film presentation shows made by the Organization and project leaders to reach out online and community groups.
- Letters and documents to local and formal stakeholders
- Updates, progress reports and final reports to stakeholders
- LCMO Quarterly and semi-annual 2021 and 2022 Newsletters
- Brochures and calendars which are made and distributed to the community and stakeholders.
- Public, local and formal presentations with various stakeholders during meetings and seminars with stakeholders.
- Paper, poster and oral Presentation during national and international conferences, including the ICCB2023 conference in Kigali.

7. Looking ahead, what do you feel are the important next steps?

Investment on monitoring and evaluation of lion occupancy, lion and landscape and other wildlife research are highly needed in western Tanzania reserves (4 National parks, 8 Game reserves and 3 WMAs). 2) With a new strategy, LCMO calls for resources to self-equip to qualify for partnership and collaborations with

conservation stakeholders to maximize our conservation effort in the landscape. 3) We look to focus on addressing HLCs and habitat degradation existing in the landscape. With collaborators we will then continue addressing the community and livelihood dynamics calling for more initiatives to address human-wildlife conflicts, Natural resource governance, climate changes, drought and poaching. 4) We will continue investing in frequent patrols mostly needed in Mpimbwe, Ipole, Uyumbu and Isawima community-based wildlife management Areas all of which buffer Katavi and Ugalla River NPs respectively. Uyumbu and Ipole WMA also buffer Lwafi, and Ugalla and Wembere GRs respectively.

8. Did you use The Rufford Foundation logo in any materials produced in relation to this project? Did the Foundation receive any publicity during the course of your work?

Yes, through:

- a. LCMO Website: <http://www.lcmo.or.tz/our-supporters/>
- b. Project Facebook page
- c. Public, local and formal presentations
- d. Video and Film presentation shows made by the Organization and project leaders.
- e. Letters and documents to local and formal stakeholders
- f. Papers and reports
- g. LCMO Quarterly and semi-annual 2021 and 2022 Newsletters
- h. Brochures and calendars

9. Provide a full list of all the members of your team and their role in the project.

Professor Monique Borgerhoff Mulder: (natural resources anthropologists) has prominent experience of more than 20 years of experience inside and outside Rukwa-Katavi ecosystem. She played roles as mentors and my project and Organization Technical Advisor.

Harriet Kivuyo: the cook and camp keeper, and small livelihood projects. Harriet took care of our two sons and daughter, and supervising and making arrangements and logistics for food, cleanness and accommodation services throughout the project year.

Neema Mwaja: the Assistant Project Manager for Katavi and Rukwa regions; participated in the HLC mapping surveys as the research assistant and implementation of field outreaches in villages around Katavi and Rukwa ecosystem.

Gilya Lino: the Assistant Project Manager (Tabora regions) assisted field works and HLC mapping surveys as the research assistant and implemented of the field outreaches in villages around Ugalla ecosystem.

Emmanuel Steven: the VIMA Project Manager, he worked together with me to manage the greening campaign and facilitate and support Mpimbwe youth environmental education activities.

6. Others: **John Kwilasa, Bahati Hilary and Mwazembe Mwayaya** and the 12 LCAs in Rukwa and Ugalla who played various fieldwork roles during both HLCs mapping and assessment surveys, educational campaign outreach activities.

10. Any other comments?

1. *Increased investment in addressing human-lion conflict (HLCs) within the agro-pastoral Sukuma remotely settled villages around villages closer to protected areas to reduce encroachment and negative interactions through various contextual interventions like lion proof kraals, promoting Natural resource management and governance, climate change smart agricultural practices like agroforestry, lion hosting programs and rangeland management, destocking to ensure human-wildlife coexistence in the landscape.*
2. *Request for support execution of our new and very first validated LCMO strategic plan focusing on addressing human-lion conflicts and habitat degradation.*
3. *Call for stakeholders to support, partner and collaborate into execution of LCMO's new strategic plan and the [seven district conservation stakeholders recommendations](#) and our unpublished (but available upon request) western Tanzania lion conservation strategy.*

Appendix1: Photo gallery.



Figure 1: LCMO staffs and facilitators handing over the approved village bylaws to VEO, Village chairman and sungusungu Chief at Kizi village. © Bahati.



Figure 2: Sungusungu seminar stakeholders from Kizi village with facilitators from LCMO, TAWA, Nkasi DC and Ipanda police station. © Bahati.

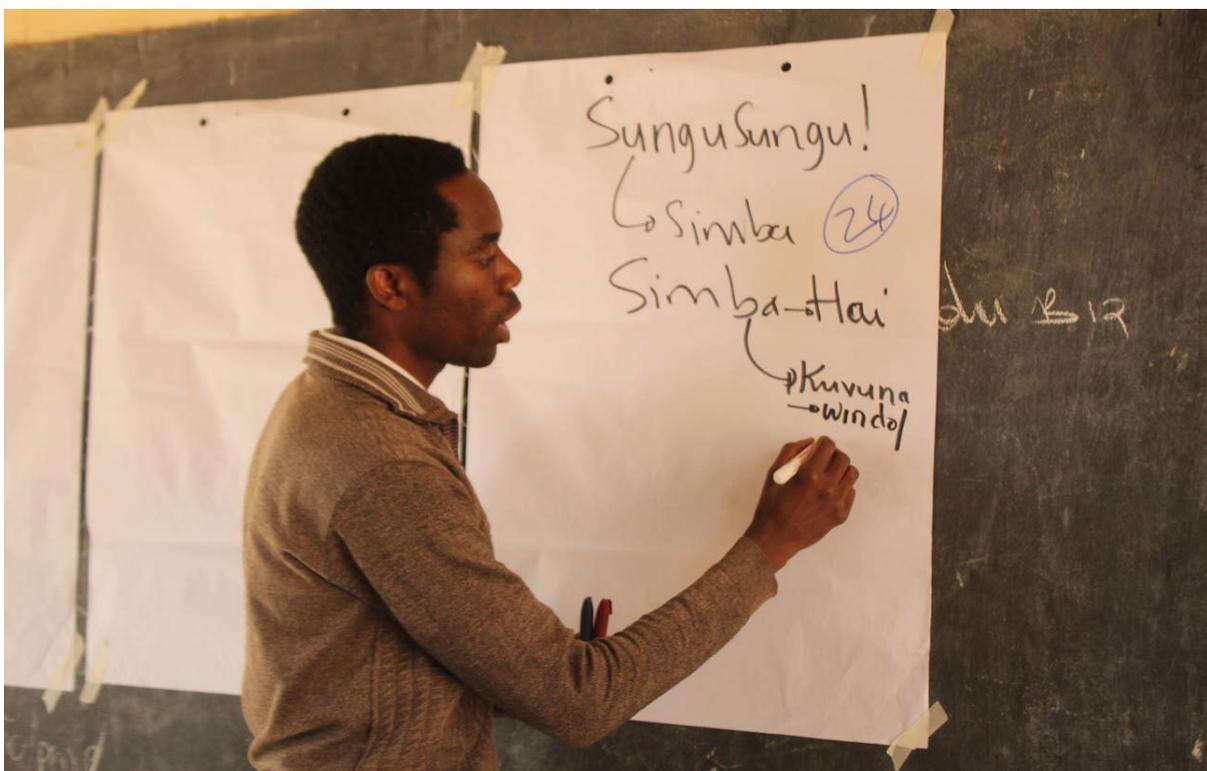


Figure 3: Mr. Jonathan presenting during sungusungu seminar at Kizi village. © Bahati.



Figure 4: Jonathan Kwiyega elaborating some issues during Mwamatiga village (a in south of Mlele Game Reserve) by-laws approval. © Neema Mwaja



Figure 5: Brochure distribution, Mtisi village. © Emmanuel Stephen.



Figure 6: Village meeting, Kanoge. © Emmanuel Stephen.



Figure 7: Ipole WMA leaders and member villages' representatives during a community based WMA leadership seminar facilitated by LCMO.



Figure 8: Mpimbwe WMA leaders getting a talk from Chada tourists' camp manager as Jonathan interprets within Katavi during their park trip. © Bahati Hilary.



Figure 9: Jonathan and Neema Mwaja during one of the wildlife conservation education sessions through radio-the ant-encroachment and illegal wildlife trophy use campaign. © Happyness Jackson.

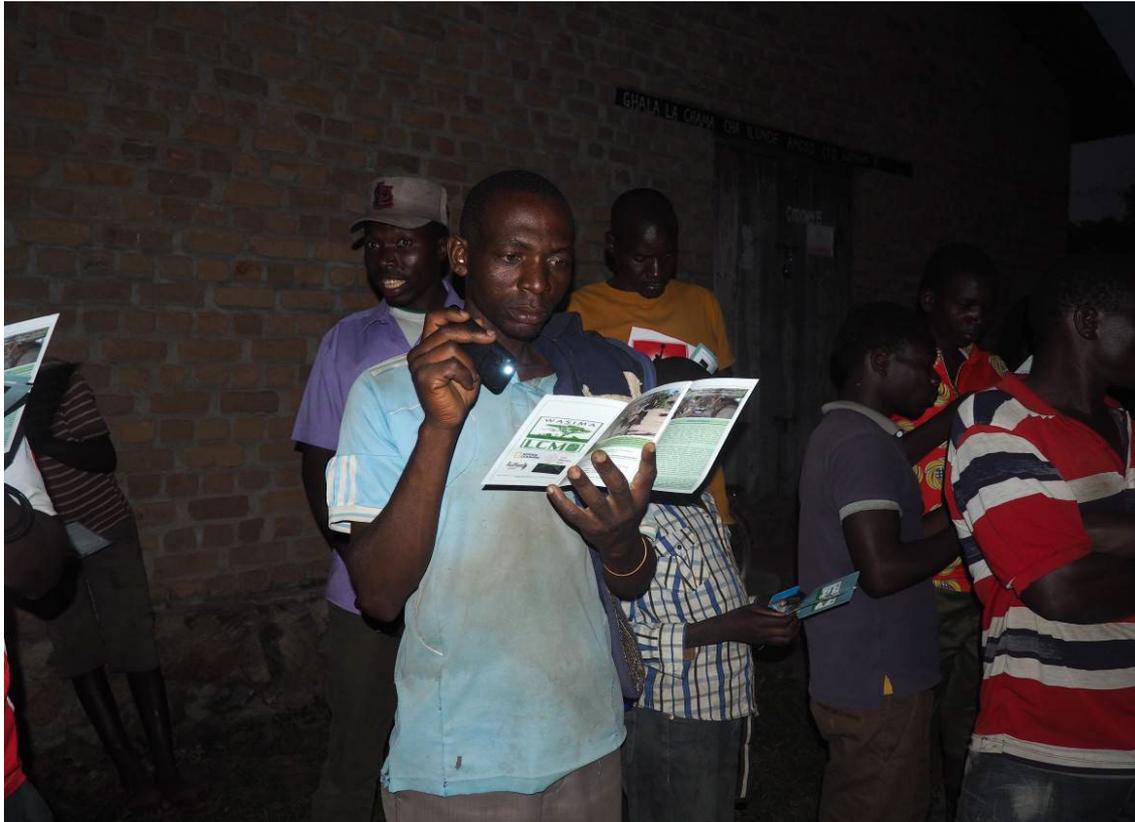


Figure 10: a villager very excitedly reading the lion brochure to learn about lions as the LCMO get ready for a night film show at Ilunde village. © Neema Mwaja.



Figure 11: Community members from Kabunde-Karunde sub village during conservation night film show. © Brayn.



Figure 12: Majimoto Secondary school environment club members when they visited majimoto hot spring source to learn about is conservation. © Brian.



Figure 13: Pupils watching hippo in hippo pool, and B: Pupils, four guide, Teachers and LCMO team in the group photo.



Figure 144: A group photo of pastoralist from Ikuba ward with LCMO staff. © Miss Happiness Jackson.



Figure 15: Participants from Ikuba ward observing the wild animals at Katavi National Park. © Miss Happiness Jackson.



Figure 16: Participants from Ikuba Ward watching the Hippopotamus from Iku Hippo pool at Katavi National Park. © Happiness Jackson.



Figure 17: A group photo of pastoralist from Ikuba ward with LCMO staff. © Miss Happiness Jackson.



Figure 18: Mr Emmanuel Stephen presenting about the importance of youth in environmental conservation during the park trip in Katavi national park with pastoralist from Ikuba ward. © Miss Belinda Mligo.



Figure 19: Park security officer presenting the rules and punishment of the park to the participants. © Miss Belinda Mligo.