



The Importance of Tourism to Community Conservation

June 2011



Introduction



Why community conservation?



Tourism – is it the ideal partner?



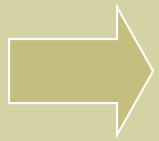
The tourism - community partnership – is this sustainable?



Why community conservation?



Population increase



Since the national parks were developed, human populations have expanded and spread:

- Serengeti Park est. 1951 population 8 ½ million
- Tarangire Park est. 1970, population 13 million



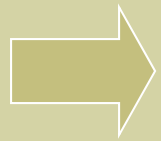
Population today is approx 38 million



Tanzanian population has tripled since the 1950s. Human density over the last 50 years has increased from 14 persons / sq. km, to 39 persons / sq. km



Wildlife Is Dependant On Communities

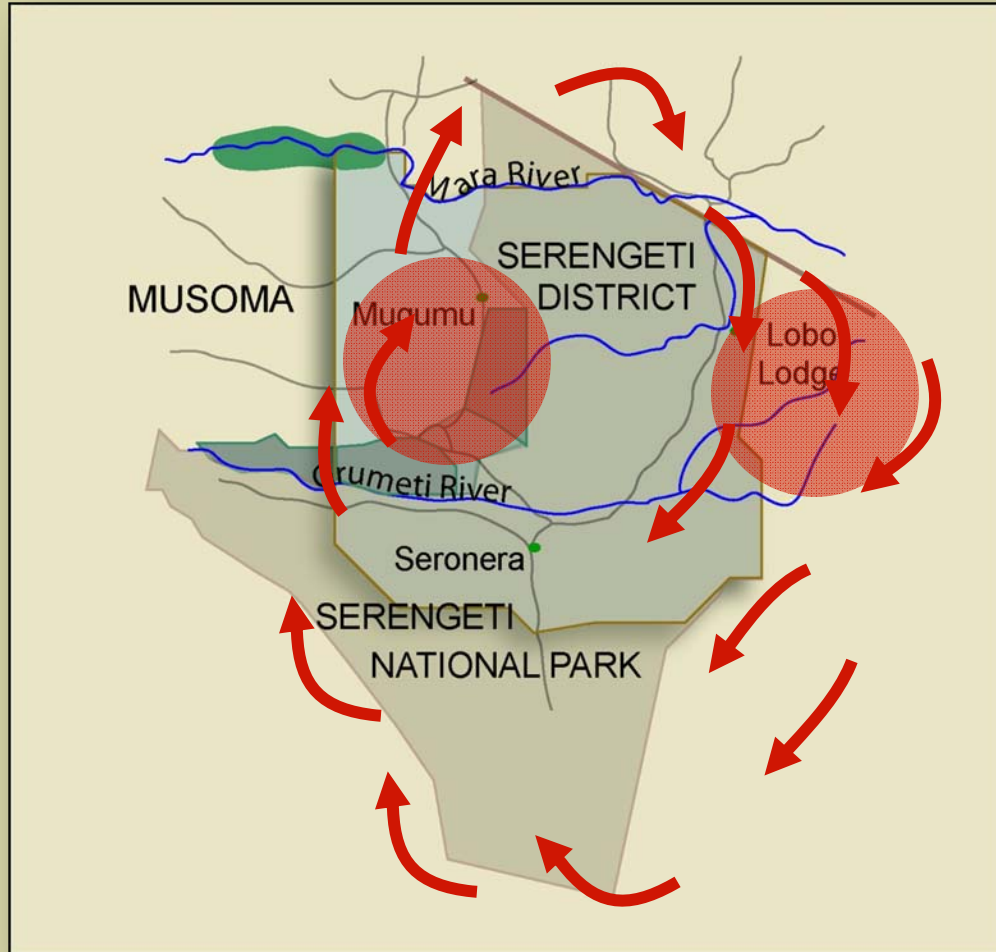


Protected areas (parks etc) were not made big enough to encompass the ecosystems, wildlife movement patterns included areas outside the protected zones

- Serengeti National Park
- Tarangire National Park
- Kilimanjaro- Amboseli- Arusha

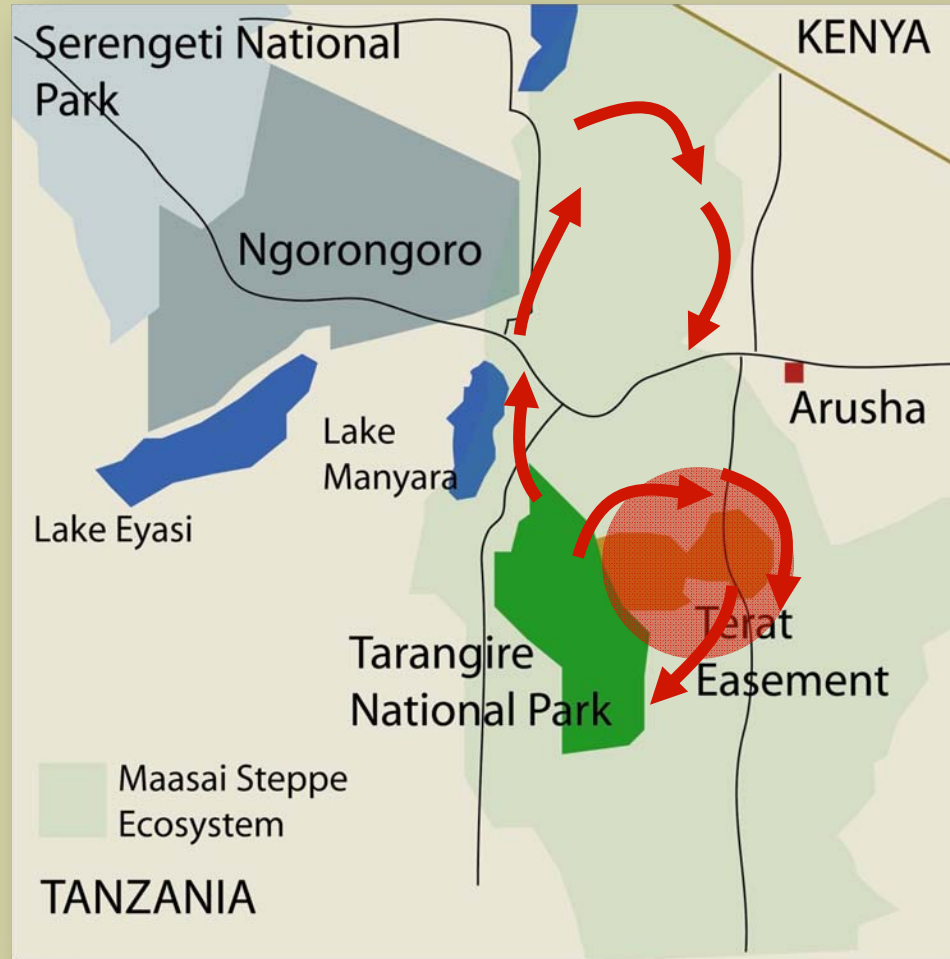


Serengeti



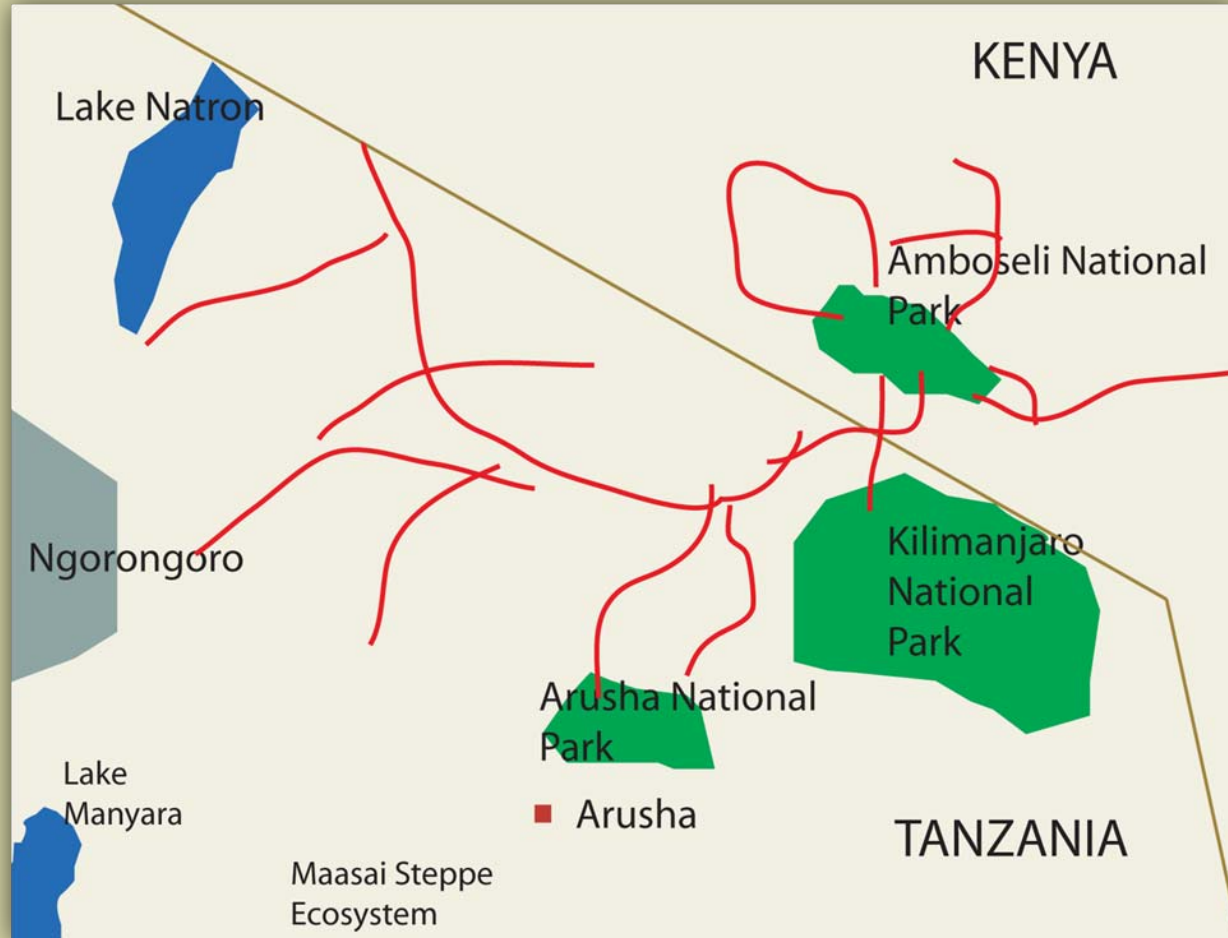


Tarangire





Amboseli- Kilimanjaro



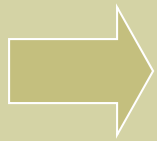


Do Communities Benefit?

- ➔ In 2007 Tanzania National Parks earned TShs 69.0 Billion of which it allocated only 1.8 percent to community conservation services (TANAPA Annual General Report 2007).
- ➔ WMA- retain 60% total earnings (split between running the WMA and village development).
- ➔ Tourism on village land retain 40% of total earnings.
- ➔ In 2009 consolation included in Wildlife Act



Community Conservation?



The future of these ecosystems depends on the participation of the communities that occupy this land with the wildlife.

During the 1990s, Tanzania's Ministry of Natural Resources and Tourism carried out a wildlife sector review which concluded that: ***“It is essential to the future of wildlife conservation in Tanzania that local communities who live amongst the wildlife should derive direct benefit from it.”***



Tourism – is it the ideal partner?

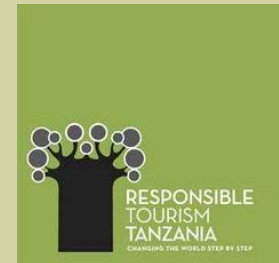


Is tourism the ideal partner?

Why is eco-tourism a natural partner for communities?

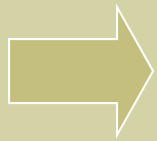
- Talk of the day
- Sustainable business model
- Local people benefit more- trickle down effect
- Add value to tourism product-Eco journey
- Generates income and employment
- Non-consumptive
- Participatory

But tourism has to be **responsible**





Can tourism provide?



Tourism provides the funds to make conservation a viable business venture for communities to engage in.

- Loliondo [eastern Serengeti] in 2007 exceeded \$400,000
- Simanjiro, [east Tarangire] earned \$20,000 in 2007
- Sayari camp (northern Serengeti) in 2005 employed in 40% employees locally and 90% (approx 40 staff) in 2007
- Grumeti reserves purchased vegetable and salads locally approx \$30,000 per month



Are there negative impacts?

Without an intelligent business approach, cultures and ecosystems can suffer:

- Culture
- Immigration
- Expectations
- Wealth
- Politics
- Ecosystems



**The tourism community
partnership – is this
sustainable?**



Perfect partnership

1- Lack economic income from tourism- little incentive for communities.

2- No consideration for conservation, wildlife populations and habitat unsustainable.

3- community not onboard, no buy in to conserve ecosystem.

4- Harmonious balance.





Unbalanced partnership

Tourism becomes the threat to conservation.

Can have a negative effect on the communities.

Needs to be managed well.





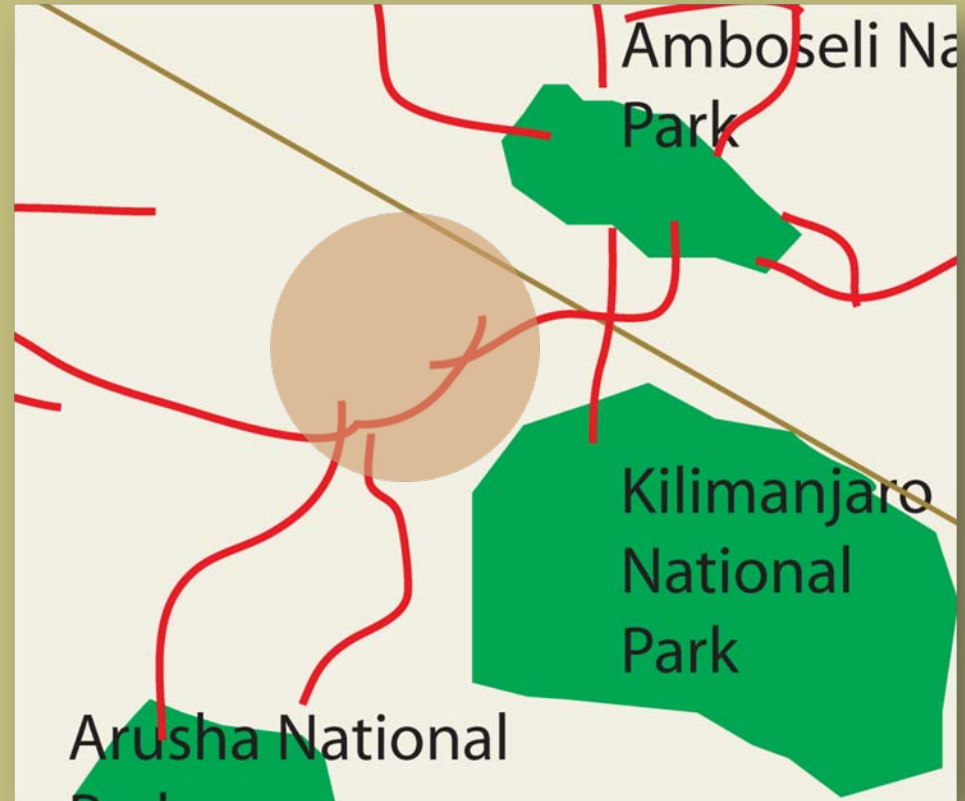
The role of tourism

- Should tourism only focus on the needs of the community?
- Who pays for conservation and what does it cost?
- Who are we conserving for?



Cost of conservation

- Enduimet
 - 40 game scouts
 - 3 vehicles
- WWA need \$330,000 pa
- 40 b/n pd for 300 days
- 60% into WMA \$200,000
 - \$70,000 anti-poaching
 - \$30,000 admin
 - \$100,000 for 9 villages (\$11,000 per village)
- \$130,000 WD





Incentive to Conserve





Conclusion

My experience in northern Tanzania is that tourism provides the economic rationale for conserving wildlife but cannot front the total costs of conservation **and** the support of local livelihoods.