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WORLD PARKS
CONGRESS
SYDNEY 2014

*Parks, people, planet:
inspiring solutions*

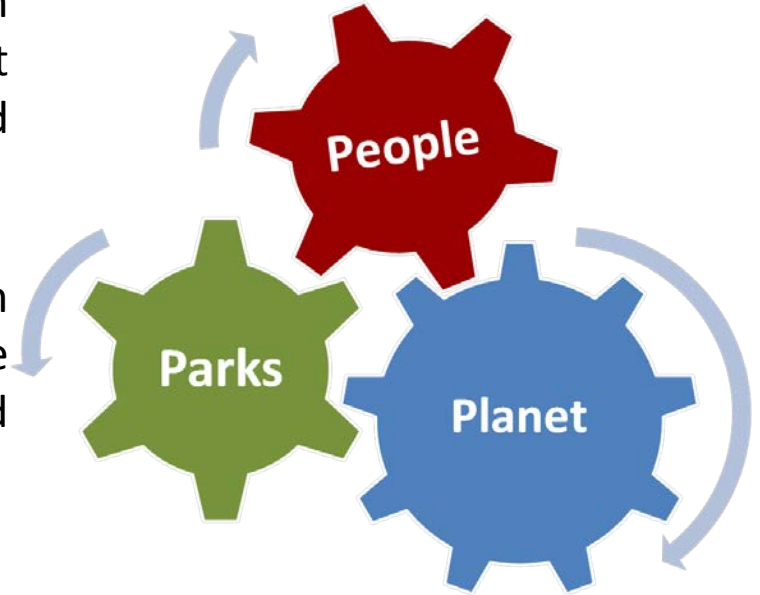
Learn to conserve for a better tomorrow: Engaging the youth in the conservation of key ecosystems in Kenya.

Otieno Mary Margret, meg@wildlifeclubsofkenya.org



Reaching Conservation Goals: Empowering for Conservation

- Wildlife Clubs of Kenya (WCK) and her activities as an example on how empowering the youth with conservation knowledge can support efforts towards the conservation of parks and protected areas.
- WCK believes that sustained education from grassroots to leadership levels is the single most important element in improved environmental protection and conservation.



WCK - Origin and Scope of Coverage

WCK Education Centres
in Kenya



- Formed in 1968 by a group of 12 students.
- WCK operates from 7 Regional centres spread countrywide.
- WCK is the longest running conservation education organisation in Africa.
- WCK served as the template and trainer for similar youth movements in Tanzania, Uganda, Malawi, Zambia, Rwanda, S. Sudan, Sychelles and India

Activities

- To empower the youth with conservation knowledge, WCK implements ecosystems based programmes and several other environmental education activities.
- In the coast the focus is on coast and marine ecology education programme – with regular students' trips to important bird areas (IBAs).



Nairobi Ecology Programme



In the Nairobi Region, the programme's focus is the Nairobi National Park and the WCK's own Mokoyeti Nature trail (remnant of the Ngong Forest).

Other Programmes

Mobile education programme



Anti-poaching campaigns



Habitat restoration initiatives



Hands on nature experience



An inspiring solution?

- The programme provides the best opportunity for young people to gain lifetime knowledge and experience of the planet's flora and fauna. The experience in conservation imparts positive values and sense of responsibility among the youth. This is bound to exert a positive influence on the children's future outlook to the environment in general.
- More than 90% of Kenya Wildlife Service personnel belonged to a Wildlife Club during school days, most Park wardens and Rangers claim to have found their conservation career path through WCK membership
- Former members have set up NGO's and charities to enable them continue with their conservation passion e.g. Uvumbuzi and Youth for Conservation.

What makes it work?

- Free access to Parks to students who participate in the activities.
- The hands on practical activities involving the youth.
- Government support.
- Funding partners skilled staff.
- Well structured programmes and activities



Thank you, Asante sana

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