



Annual Report

2015



For more information, references or detailed project information on Colobus Conservation activities or results, contact the Conservation Manager at:

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Colobus Conservation is a not-for-profit organization based in Diani Beach, Kenya. The organization works in partnership with local communities to promote the conservation of the Angolan black and white colobus monkey (*Colobus angolensis palliatus*), along with other endemic primate species, and the unique coastal forest habitat on which they depend. Colobus Conservation programmes focus on habitat conservation and community linkages as well as human/primate conflict management, welfare, education and research. The objectives and work of Colobus Conservation are recognised internationally by AZA Colobus Species Survival Plan (SSP), Pan African Sanctuary Alliance (PASA) accreditation and are supported by well-known conservationists Jonathan and Angela Scott through their role as Patrons.

The main activities carried out during 2015 were:

Habitat Conservation

The forest ecosystem of the coastal areas of Kenya and Tanzania is listed as one of the top global biodiversity hotspots by Conservation International. With high levels of endemic and near endemic species, these forests abound with plants and animals found nowhere else in the world. In Kenya the once extensive coastal forests on which the Angolan colobus depend, have been reduced to a fragmented patchwork along a narrow coastal strip. This fragile resource is made up of gazetted forest reserves and conservation areas; community managed forests and woodlands, including culturally important sacred "kaya" forests; and privately owned forest and woodland patches. Sadly, forest loss and degradation is continuing due to pressures from agricultural expansion, urban development, tree cutting for firewood, charcoal, carving wood, and clearance for mining. To promote habitat conservation Colobus Conservation has conducted the following activities.

- ▶ Promoted tree planting aimed at enhancing fragmented and isolated forest patches by encouraging local residents, community groups and land owners to replenish the natural environment with indigenous trees. A detailed catalogue of recommended species is available on our website.
- ▶ A plot by plot survey of Diani and Galu was conducted detailing habitat type and usage. These data will be used to increase our understanding of census results, inform our Colobus Corridor tree planting programme and monitor habitat changes yearly.
- ▶ Arranged an indigenous tree sale aimed at land owners within the Diani community. In total 301 trees were sold to local residents. All trees were sold by five local roadside tree sellers, six indigenous tree species were available.
- ▶ Monitoring of the survivorship and growth rates of indigenous tree saplings that were planted through our program was carried out in July.



Human/primate conflict management

Human-primate conflict management is targeted in the Diani area of Kwale district. This location is Colobus Conservation's focus area as it contains Kenya's second largest population of Angolan colobus monkeys.

- ▶ Reduce primate road traffic injuries - Since 1997 Colobus Conservation has installed primate canopy bridges at critical road crossing points along the main Diani road that bisects the primate habitat. During 2015 Colobus Conservation continued to maintain and repair 26 canopy bridges over the main Diani Road.
- ▶ Reduce incidents of primate electrocutions - Colobus Conservation regularly trims trees growing alongside the power lines and where possible, in conjunction with the Kenya Power and Lighting Company, insulates them using PVC covering. In 2015
 - 6,630 meters of trees were trimmed and
 - 200 meters of electricity cable insulated in electrocution hot spot areas.
- ▶ Snare removal - Wire snares are set by poachers to capture Suni antelope for bush meat. Ground dwelling primates of Diani are also at risk of being caught in these snares. In recent years snaring activities have become greatly reduced within Diani however Colobus Conservation continues to remove snares either on request or upon the discovery of a snare an area will be swept by Colobus Conservation, this consists of walking through targeted areas of snaring activity, dismantling and removing snares.
 - 8 snares removed from the local forested areas.
 - Training of ground staff was conducted on how to remove snares appropriately in the future.
- ▶ Conducted surveys, produced literature and given advice to many different levels of the community regarding Primate Pest Management including crop raiding, local businesses, hotels and private residents.

Animal Welfare

Colobus Conservation operates a 24hr hotline and responds to welfare cases for all Diani primate species. Frequently these are road injuries, electrocution, snares and cases of animal cruelty. We have a veterinarian clinic and quarantine facility on site for when cases require intervention.

- ▶ Colobus Conservation attended 153 welfare call outs in 2015 of which;
 - 50 were road traffic incidents,
 - 25 were electrocution incidents,
 - 4 were individuals trapped in snares,
 - 11 were dog related attacks,





- 1 was a confirmed poisoning,
- 16 were injuries or illness due to natural causes,
- 46 were due to other or unknown causes
- ▶ Of these 153 animals;
 - 13 individuals were treated and release back to their territory,
 - 12 are undergoing long term rehabilitation for future release back to the wild,
 - 26 individuals who did not require human intervention,
 - 101 arrived at our facility already deceased or died shortly after their arrival,
 - 1 sent for care at another facility.
- ▶ The 153 welfare cases attended consisted of;
 - 60 colobus monkeys,
 - 56 Sykes monkeys,
 - 19 vervet monkeys,
 - 5 baboons,
 - 5 galagos
 - 8 other animals, including birds, hedgehogs and reptiles.
- ▶ Sykes Release Programme;
 - On the 29th November, six Sykes monkeys were released on the Colobus Conservation compound. They are currently being monitored by Colobus Conservation researchers. They will continue to be monitored for the next 12 months.
- ▶ Colobus Troop
 - The captive colobus troop has increased from two individuals to five individuals in 2015. Originally the colobus troop consisted of Betsy and Tumbo. In July 2015, Kui arrived at the centre with his mother. His mother unfortunately died, leaving Kui orphaned. Initially Kui received 24 hours human care. Kui was introduced to Betsy, who quickly adopted him and became his full time carer. The only human intervention required is bottle feeding Kui, otherwise he is with Betsy 24/7.
 - In October 2015, Amani, a young female colobus arrived at Colobus Conservation. She had lost both her parents to electrocutions and was unable sustain herself within her troop. She finally came to Colobus Conservation emaciated and incredibly weak. She is now fully integrated with the colobus troop.
 - Finally, Whitecap arrived in November, 2015. Similar to Amani had lost both his parents to electrocutions, he had also fallen victim to an electrocution. Due to irreversible damage, Whitecap had to have his arm amputated. The operation was a success by the





end of December 2015, he was fully integrated with the four other colobus.

Education

Weekly education workshops are hosted at Colobus Conservation's base, teaching children and teachers about the beauty of the wildlife surrounding them and the importance of the forest. In addition, Colobus Conservation has an information and education centre, which is also open to the public to visit during a guided Eco-tour. In 2015 Colobus Conservation educated;



- ▶ 791 school children from 34 schools attending our one day on-site education workshop.
- ▶ Adult education programmes were held in April and August for people working in the tourism industry and roadside tree sellers.

Research

Key conservation issues are addressed by working in partnership with national and international universities and other research bodies and by promoting information sharing. Three Research projects were conducted at Colobus Conservation during the course of 2015 including;

- ▶ Food selection, fallback foods, and conservation of Kenya's Angola black and white colobus monkey. Principle researcher being Noah Durham, a PhD student from Ohio State University.
- ▶ Osteology Study- The collection of primate skeletons. Colobus Conservation research project.
- ▶ Analysis of Colobus Conservation's colobridge survey data. Principle researcher being Andrea Jacobs, an MSc student from Kent University.
- ▶ Assessment of perceptions of primates and Colobus Conservation within differing socioeconomic groups in Diani. Principle researcher being Kelly Martin, an MSc student from Oxford Brooks University.



- ▶ Distribution and conservation status of the Angolan black and white colobus monkey in Tanzania. Principle researcher being Pamela Cunneyworth.
- ▶ Impact of dog predation on primates in Diani, Kenya. Principle researchers being Pamela Cunneyworth, Andrea Donaldson and Andrea Presotto.
- ▶ Atavistic occurrence of thumbs in two wild Angolan black and white colobus monkeys (*Colobus angolensis palliatus*) in Diani, Kenya. Principle researchers being Pamela Cunneyworth and Andrea Donaldson.
- ▶ Annual census of Diani's diurnal primates:
 - A census was conducted in October 2015, covering approximately 7km² from Southern Palms Hotel to Pinewood Beach Resort covering areas on both sides of the Diani Road. The primate species encountered and their numbers are detailed below.



Species	Number of Troops	Number of Individuals
Colobus	59	372
Vervet	27	212
Sykes	82	673
Baboon	5	186

Colobus numbers have increased after declining in number over the previous three years, vervet monkeys have also increased in number, while the Sykes monkeys continue to decline. The baboon population increased by 26 individuals.



Colobus Conservation continue to work with Base Titanium on crop raiding issues around the Base Titanium site. Data has been collected on crop raiding by the local wildlife, the next stage of the project will be the implementation of mitigation methods to reduce crop raiding on local farms. Research is carried out by two Colobus Conservation researchers and four research assistants, employed from the local community.



Finances

Colobus Conservation does not receive funding support from central or local government and therefore relies solely on grant applications and donations from individuals and organisation to cover operational and staff costs. As such funding is currently the biggest constraint on the range and depth of project implementation and limits the activities the organisation can undertake.

- ▶ Grants and Donations - During 2015 grants and donations of more than \$1,000 were received from the following organizations and individuals:
 - International Primate Protection League (IPPL), USA
 - Safarilink Aviation, Kenya
 - Columbus Zoo, USA
 - San Antonio Zoo, USA
 - Woodland Park Zoo, USA, Worldwide Fund for Nature,
 - Henry Doorly Zoo, USA
 - plus numerous individual donations from local, national and international supporters and business which combined totaled more than \$1,000.

A breakdown of income and expenditure can be seen in the table on the next page:



Income	
Source	Ksh
Base Titanium	3,420,000
Grants	3,076,000
Donors	1,451,000
Volunteer programme	1,059,000
Eco-tour income	476,000
Shop sales	285,000
Adoptions and sponsorships	56,000
Total	9,823,000

Department	Ksh
Programmes (including staff salaries)	
Education Programme (including staff salaries)	474,000
Animal Welfare and Husbandry Programme (including staff salaries)	1,093,000
Base Titanium Crop Raiding Programme	791,000
Tree planting project	411,000
Colobridging, Insulation and Tree Trimming Programme materials	530,000
Research and travel expenses related to Programmes (includes annual census and staff salaries)	107,000
Field staff	285,000
Total	3,691,000
Other	
Administrative and office support (including staff salaries)	508,000
Volunteer support	74,000
Other staff salaries	1,529,000
House support (including volunteer and staff accommodation, staff salaries, food and associated living expenses)	2,375,000
Vehicle maintenance and associated running costs	441,000
Staff support	758,000
Marketing	300,000
Legal and banking expenses	172,000
Depreciation	619,000
Total	6,776,000
Overall total	10,467,000



Several fundraisers were held in 2015, these include:

- Progressive dinner
- Golf Day
- Petanque
- Mike and Sabine fundraiser: Fundraiser party held in Tiwi.
- Magic on the beach.



Other

▶ Publications

- Numerous articles in the local South Coast Residents Association Newsletter aimed at reducing levels of human/primate conflict.
- Numerous of articles in Coast week, a local newspaper.
- Case Study in Road Ecology textbook, titled Canopy Bridges for Primate Conservation, by Andrea Donaldson and Pamela Cunneyworth.

▶ Membership

- Colobus Conservation continued to meet the requirements and remained members of Pan Africa Sanctuaries Alliance (PASA), Kenya's National Primate Conservation Task Force (NPCTF) and Global Federation of Animal Sanctuaries (GFAS).

▶ Workshops and Conferences attended

- PASA Strategic Development Conference in Nairobi, 4th-7th November. Attended by Pamela Cunneyworth, Board director. The workshop brought together directors of PASA's member organisations. The primary goals of the conference were to learn about the needs of the member organizations and determine how PASA can address them.
- Alternatives to the use of Animals in Research and Education Workshop, 25th-16th November 2015. Attended by Dr Dennis Bahati, resident vet.

▶ Volunteers

- 7 volunteers donated their time to gain future experience and help Colobus Conservation achieve our goals,
- Volunteers from 5 countries joined our programme including Kenya, Holland, USA, Britain and Italy.
- Volunteers stayed from 3 weeks to 12 months, with the average length of stay being 12 weeks.





▶ Staff

- Dr. Dennis Bahati joined Colobus Conservation in September 2015. Dr. Dennis is a vet from African Network of Animal Welfare (ANAW). Due to a collaboration between ANAW and Colobus Conservation, Dennis will be with Colobus Conservation for 1 year overseeing animal welfare and husbandry.
- From 1st November 2015, Andrea Donaldson, Colobus Conservation's conservation manager for the last 5 years, left for a one year sabbatical. Kelly Martin has taken over the role the next 12 months.

