



# Annual Report

## 2017



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

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Dear Readers,

In the following pages you will read a summary of the significant environmental and conservation achievements made by our dedicated staff and volunteers during 2017. But there were other 'highs' and 'lows' that I think you should know about. First a few of the highs:



- Our long time director Pam Cunneyworth, who is responsible for primate related matters, was appointed a director of the Pan African Sanctuary Alliance commonly known as PASA. This is an organisation with its headquarters in the USA and comprises 22 primate centered sanctuaries, including ourselves, based in 13 countries in Africa. A well-deserved recognition of Pam's contribution to primate conservation over many years.
- Andrea Donaldson, our Conservation Manager for approximately 6 years until late 2016, completed her doctorate from the University of Durham, UK. Her thesis was based on data collected whilst with us.
- We built a new, much larger enclosure for the resident colobus.

But sadly there was one big low – the death in late October of Betsy, the colobus we hand raised from a few days old. Betsy was over 5 years old when she died and had far exceeded the previous world record of 53 days for a hand reared colobus.

And unfortunately there is another 'low' that I fear will not go away in the near future – the increased difficulty to obtain funding to support our activities and thus limits both our capability to broaden our direct impact on the environment and wildlife of Diani and surrounding areas. And, in particular, to educate the local school children of the importance of conservation for the general benefit of both humans and wildlife and the generations to come.

Hence, and I know I have said it before, please can I again ask you to support Team Colobus in any way you can. Obvious examples are by making an online donation towards a particular project or our day-to-day costs, participating in any of our Diani based fun-filled fund-raising events, purchasing and planting indigenous trees or visiting us and taking one of our informative Eco-tours followed by buying a small souvenir from our on-site shop.

I close with a sincere big thank you to those who have supported us in 2017.

Kind regards,  
John Buckley, Chairman



Colobus Conservation is a not-for-profit organisation based in Diani Beach, Kenya. The organisation 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.

#### 2017 Highlights:

- Fourth indigenous tree sale in Diani promoting local forest conservation efforts;
- 191 primate welfare call-outs attended;
- Signing of the MOU between Colobus Conservation and ANAW, the Africa Network for Animal Welfare;
- 794 children from 23 schools visited Colobus Conservation for one-day workshops;
- Kenya Power insulated 12 km of electricity cable to reduce primate electrocutions.

The main activities carried out during 2017 were:

#### Habitat Conservation

Deforestation is the leading cause of the rapidly declining numbers of colobus monkeys across their range. With over 80% of the coastal forests already lost due to human activities, Colobus Conservation are actively combating this in several ways;

- ▶ Colobus Conservation facilitated a forest education workshop along with tree planting along the river banks near Lunga Lunga in Kwale with over 60 school students, funded by Doterra and Fairoils.
- ▶ A fourth indigenous tree sale was hosted at The Sands at Nomads Hotel, specifically for land owners within the Diani community.





▶ Monitoring of the survivorship and growth rates of indigenous tree saplings that were planted through our programme was conducted in July, 148 indigenous trees were measured and monitored.

▶ Colobus Conservation received funds from the WWF EFN Conservation Workshop Grant to conduct several workshops with roadside tree sellers and key stakeholders in Diani, planning began in 2017, aiming to commence workshops at the beginning of 2018.

▶ Alfian Mwituu, assistant manager at Colobus Conservation was invited to the WWF EFN Reforestation Practitioner Workshops, this was a four day training opportunity in reforestation and monitoring techniques.

### Primate Conservation

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.

- ▶ Colobus Conservation worked closely with Kenya Wildlife Services including participating on the KWS committee, the *National Primate Task Force* overseeing primate issues across the country.
- ▶ Colobus Conservation also worked with GRASP in the organisation of the International Primate Society Nairobi 2018 meeting.

### *Road traffic management:*

- ▶ Thirty two colobridges over the Diani's beach road were maintained quarterly. These canopy bridges reduce the number of primates at risk to vehicle injuries and death.
- ▶ A small team of trained Colobus staff dedicate a day a week to maintain all colobridges along Diani's beach road. On average each bridge requires maintenance and/or rebuilding approximately once per year.

### *Electrocution management:*

- ▶ Two to three primate electrocutions occurred each month in Diani.
- ▶ Colobus Conservation are currently working with Kenya Power, the government parastatal that distributes electricity across the country. In collaboration with the Departments of Health and Safety, and Integrity and Ethics for the country, a project was put together to insulate 12 km of



cable and move and insulate transformers in Diani. In 2017, a total of 12 km of cable was insulated, this being phase 1 of the project. The second phase which will commence in 2018, will see a further 12 km of cable insulated.

- ▶ With Lydia Katsis of University of Bristol, who conducting research in 2017 titled 'Spatial patterns of primate electrocutions in Diani, Kenya'. The paper highlighted electrocution hotspots for primates in Diani, highlighting 5 areas of concern. This has enabled Colobus Conservation to compile a report of areas that need to be insulated. This information has been forwarded to Kenya Power.

### *Snaring of primates:*

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. To mitigate against snaring of wildlife, Colobus Conservation, in collaboration with Kenya Wildlife Services (KWS) carries out de-snaring activities which consists of walking through targeted areas of snaring activity, dismantling and removing snares.



- ▶ The areas that were searched for snares and other illegal activities, the following was found;
  - One snare was found,
  - 3 lethal animal traps,
  - 27 metres of netting was removed,
  - On two occasions, evidence of logging was recorded,
  - Two hunting dogs identified.
  -

Early February, on one de-snaring excursion within a sacred forest, evidence of illegal activities were recorded, the use of needles for drug use and other items were seen, this was near a school, Colobus Conservation reported this to the authorities and head teacher of the school.

### *Primate pets:*

- ▶ Holding primates as pets is illegal in Kenya. KWS confiscated an infant patas monkey which was forwarded to Colobus Conservation.
- ▶ In 2017, we received a total of two primates all from the pet trade.



### *Primate pests:*

- ▶ 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.
- ▶ Three pest assessments were conducted in three hotels along Diani. Reports were forwarded after each assessment and follow up visits organized.

### 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 has partnered with ANAW (Africa Network for Animal Welfare), an international organisation promoting welfare standards for domestic and wild animals. Within ANAW's veterinary program, recently graduated veterinarians come to Colobus Conservation for their internships.

- ▶ Colobus Conservation attended 191 welfare call outs in 2017 of which;
  - 53 were road traffic incidents,
  - 52 were injuries or illness due to natural causes,
  - 25 were electrocution incidents,
  - 5 were individuals trapped in snares,
  - 7 were dog related attacks,
  - 2 were a pet,
  - 2 were due to 'pest' behavior,
  - 5 were cases of animal abuse,
  - 5 were confirmed infanticide,
  - 4 were orphaned,
  - 31 were due to other/unknown causes or were not found.
- ▶ Of these 191 animals;
  - 27 individuals were treated and release back to their territory,
  - 16 are undergoing or undergone long term rehabilitation for future release back to the wild,
  - 33 individuals who did not require human intervention,
  - 115 arrived at our facility already deceased or died shortly after their arrival,
- ▶ The 191 welfare cases attended consisted of;
  - 59 colobus monkeys,
  - 56 Sykes monkeys,





- 48 vervet monkeys,
- 8 baboons,
- 7 galagos
- 13 other animals, including birds, snakes, hedgehogs and other reptiles.
- ▶ Sykes Release Programme;
  - Zoe Edwards from the University of Bristol, joined us from May 2017 to follow the four Sykes monkeys were released on the Colobus Conservation compound in 2016, in addition, she analyzed previous releases. She was able to identify patterns of survival related to individual cases. It was found that ex-pet primates survival rate was less than their con-specifics, furthermore survivorship improved if individuals integrated with a wild troop of Sykes monkeys.
- ▶ Colobus Troop
  - In 2017, Betsy, the first hand reared Angolan colobus monkey, became suddenly ill and died on the 29<sup>th</sup> October. This was a huge shock to all and incredibly sad to both staff and volunteers. The vet team worked around the clock but was unable to save her. After 5 years with Colobus Conservation, she will be sorely missed by both her troop and carers.
  - In 2017, we received a further 3 orphaned colobus, three survived and two have been successfully integrated into the captive troop at the centre. The three were called Tim, Maggie and Safari. We currently have 6 colobus in our care. Maggie the newest arrival is slowly being integrated into the troop.



### 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. Due to the Kenyan elections in 2017 Colobus Conservation were unable to reach as many students as previous years. Colobus Conservation educated;

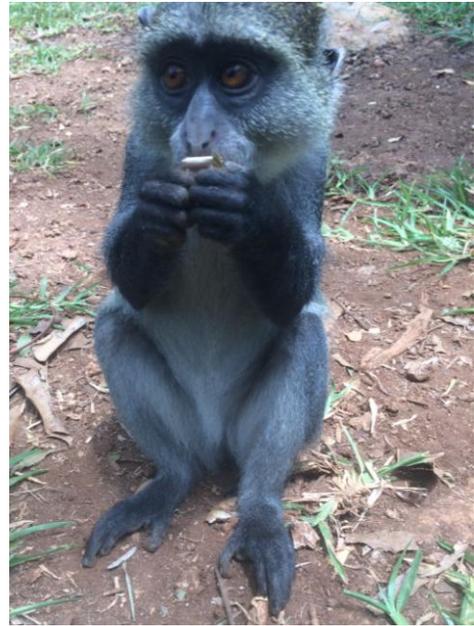
- ▶ 794 school children from 23 schools attending our one day on-site education workshop.
- ▶ Adult education programmes were held in April and August for people working in the tourism industry, local transportation and roadside tree sellers.



## Research

Key conservation issues are addressed by working in partnership with national and international universities and other research bodies and by promoting information sharing. Six Research projects were conducted at Colobus Conservation during the course of 2017 including;

- ▶ Comparison of pre and post-release, and wild behaviour in groups of Sykes monkeys in Diani, Kenya. Principle researcher being Zoe Edwards, an MSc student from the University of Bristol, UK.
- ▶ Spatial patterns of primate electrocutions in Diani, Kenya. Principle researcher being Lydia Katsis from the University of Bristol, UK.
- ▶ Weaning process among wild Angola black and white colobus monkeys (*Colobus angolensis palliatus*) in Diani Beach, Kenya. Principle researcher being Manon Rabia from the Universite de Rennes.
- ▶ Annual census of Diani's diurnal primates.
- ▶ The colobus subspecies in Diani is only found in Kenya and Tanzania. Though we estimate that there are 30,000 individuals remaining, there is some confusion on the location of the Diani subspecies in Tanzania. In fact, in some locations, another subspecies may be present instead. Team Colobus is currently undertaking a genetic study to determine the distribution of colobus in Tanzania in order that we can give a more definitive population size.



## Other

- ▶ Publications and Media
  - Articles in the local South Coast Residents Association Newsletter aimed at reducing levels of human/primate conflict.
  - Articles in Coastweek, a local newspaper.
  - Citizen TV Kenya visited the centre to document the work done. The documentary will be aired in 2018.
- ▶ Membership
  - Colobus Conservation continued to meet the requirements and remained members of Pan Africa Sanctuaries Alliance (PASA) and Kenya's National Primate Conservation Task Force (NPCTF).
- ▶ Workshops and Conference attended
  - WWF Natural Capital Assessment Consultation workshop held in Diani, Kenya, in October 2017- Attended by Kelly Martin, Conservation Manager and Elias Kimaru, Director.
  - Pan African Sanctuary Alliance's Strategic Development Conference and Community Engagement Workshop in Chingola, Zambia held in September 2017- Attended by Kelly Martin, Conservation Manager and Pam Cunneyworth, Director.



- Validation workshop: CESA map for Kwale, organised by WWF in Diani, Kenya held in June 2017- Attended by Kelly Martin, Conservation Manager and Elias Kimaru, Director.
  - UNDP GEF Small Grants Consultation meeting in Mombasa, Kenya held in January 2017- Attended by Kelly Martin, Conservation Manager and Elias Kimaru, Director.
- ▶ Volunteers
- 39 volunteers and 3 researchers donated their time to gain future experience and help Colobus Conservation achieve our goals,
  - Volunteers from 11 countries joined our programme including Kenya, Holland, USA, Britain, French, Russia, China, Denmark, Belgium, New Zealand and Spain.
  - Volunteers stayed from 2 weeks to 6 months.

### 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 2017 grants and donations of more than \$1,000 were received from the following organisations and individuals:
- International Primate Protection League (IPPL), USA
  - Safarilink Aviation, Kenya
  - Columbus Zoo, USA
  - San Antonio Zoo, USA
  - Woodland Park Zoo, USA
  - World Wildlife Fund for Nature (WWF)
  - Omaha Zoo, USA
  - Pittsburgh Zoo, USA
  - Fort Wayne Children's 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 for the period of September 2016 through to December 2017, can be seen in the following tables:

<b>Income</b>	
<b>Source</b>	<b>KSH (2017)</b>
Tree Nursery Sales	98,750
Grants	2,579,249
Donations (Individual, online, zoos)	2,739,492
Local Fundraisers	969,143
Corporate Sponsorship (Safarilink)	560,000
Volunteer programme	3,589,744
Eco-tour income	1,312,825
Shop sales	498,692
Adoptions and sponsorships	313,400
<b>Total</b>	<b>12,162,603</b>

<b>Department</b>	<b>Ksh</b>
<b>Programmes</b>	
Education & Community Programme	411,780
Animal Welfare and Husbandry Programme	1,434,077
Tree planting project	322,871
Colobridging, Insulation and Tree Trimming Programme materials	277,903
Research and travel expenses related to Programmes	266,895
Field staff	583,403
<b>Total</b>	<b>3,296,929</b>
<b>Other</b>	
Administrative and office support	621,272
House support (including volunteer and staff accommodation, food and associated living expenses)	3,128,392
Vehicle maintenance and associated running costs	518,364
Staff support	1,475,219
Marketing	1,286,186
Legal and banking expenses	69,921
<b>Total</b>	<b>7,099,354</b>
<b>Overall total</b>	<b>10,396,283</b>



Several fundraisers were held in 2017, these include:

- Cruise for Colobus
- Golf on the Beach at Nomads the Sands
- Craft Fair at Nomads the Sands
- Craft fair at the Diani Beach Festival
- Mandragora Circus, Safari Beach Hotel



**Thank you for all your support in 2017**

