World Bank Knowledge Exchange

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AFRICAN **CONSERVATION** CENTRE

VISION

Conserving large open landscapes linking knowledge, biodiversity and human wellbeing.

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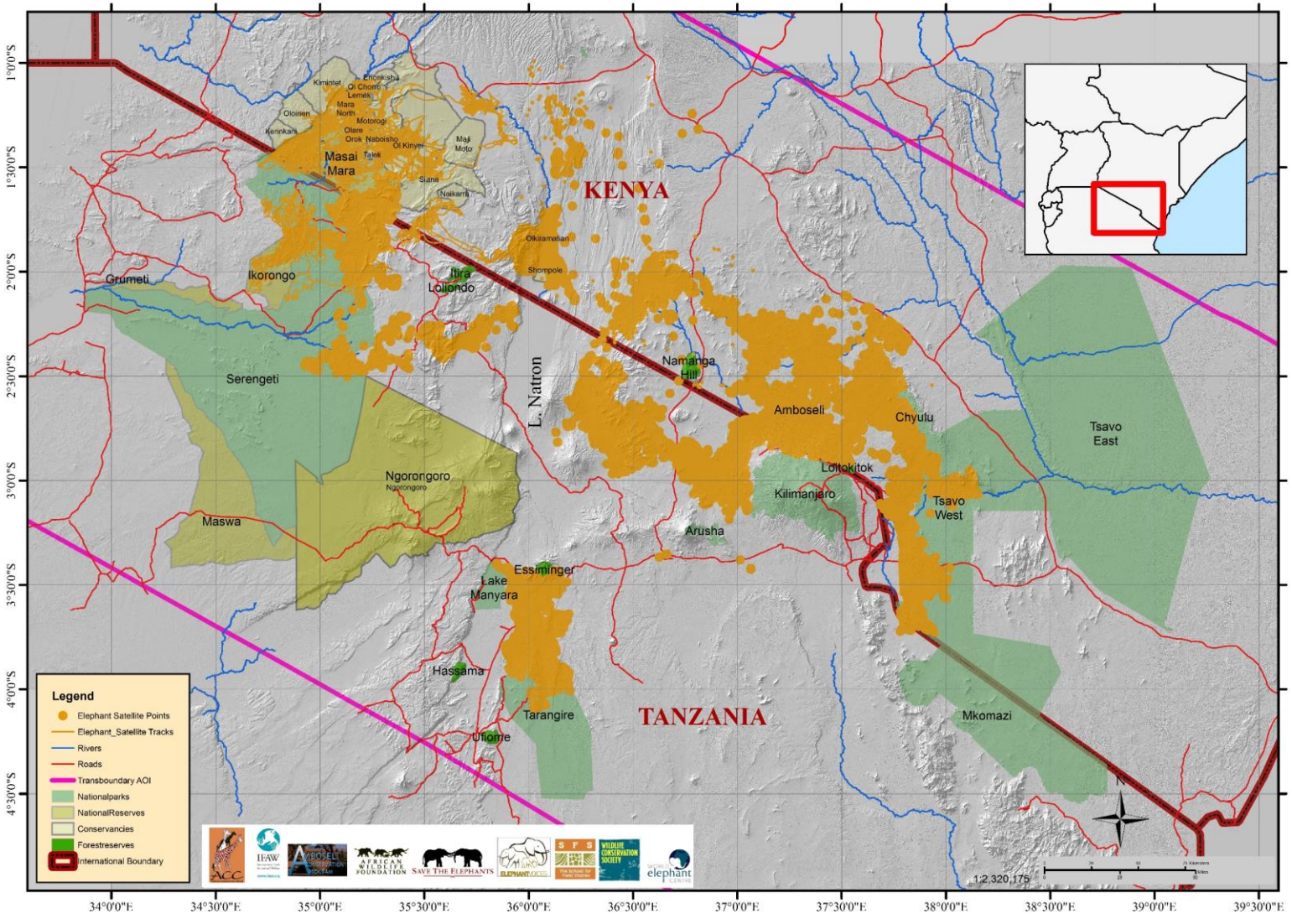
Our Purpose: To foster the integration of local, national and global efforts to promote the conservation of ecosystems and the coexistence of people and wildlife.

Crossborder Connectivity in the Kenya-Tanzania Borderlands



- The Kenya-Tanzania borderlands region supports some of the richest wildlife populations on earth through a network of national parks and reserves, as well as the pastoral lands that connect them.

- Over the last 30 years, Kenya's parks and reserves have lost half of their wildlife populations, about the same as countrywide losses. The same trend is also seen in parks across eastern Africa.

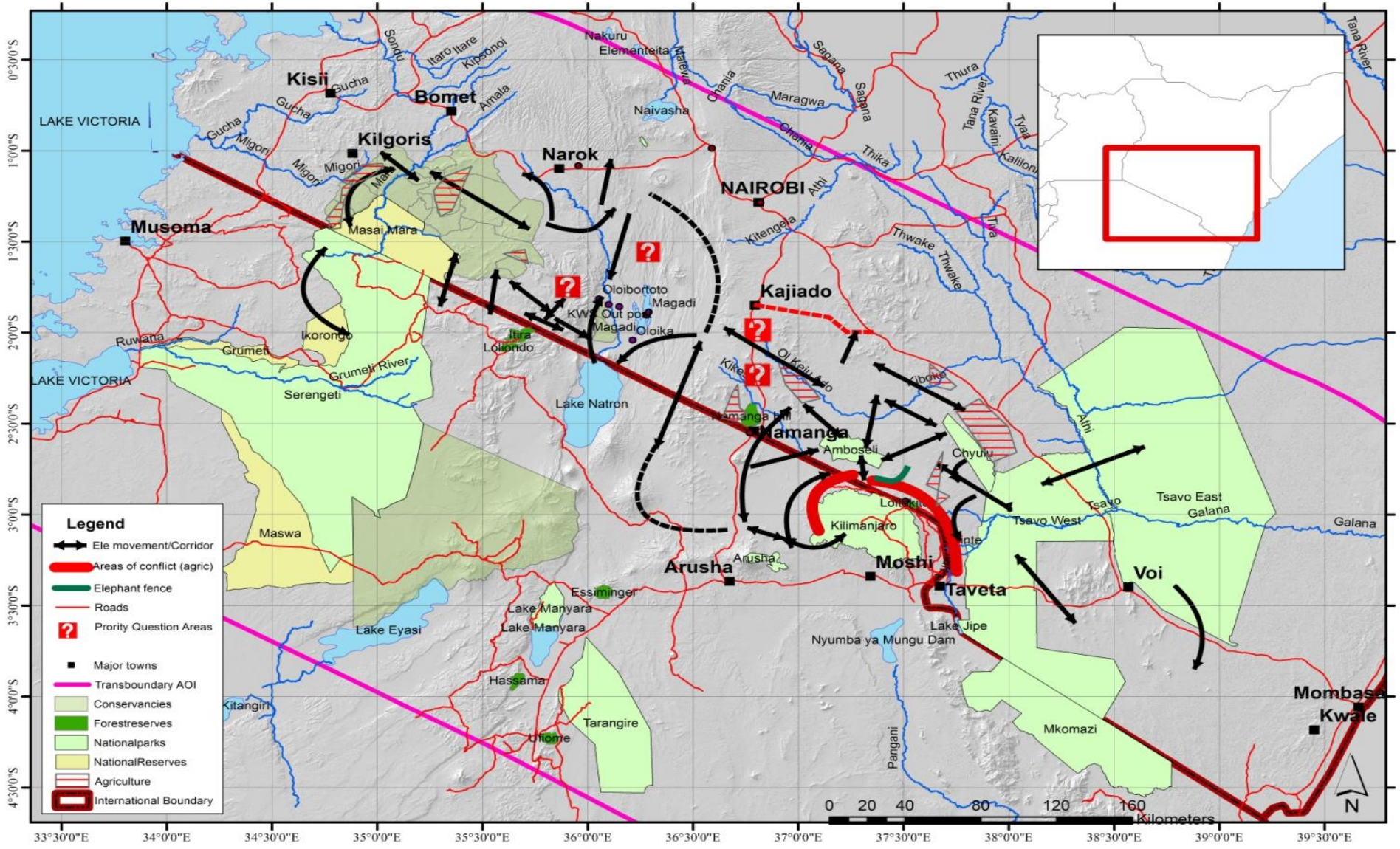
Borderlands Conservation Initiative

In March 2014, ACC and Wildlife Conservation Society brought together 60 plus representatives of Kenyan and Tanzanian governments, communities, and conservation organizations to plan the way forward for cross-border collaboration.

Kenya-Tanzania

Cross-Border Collaboration

Known elephant movements, threats and key gaps in information or protection. (ACC-BCI Workshop report 2017)



Kenya-Tanzania Borderlands Conservation Initiative (BCI)

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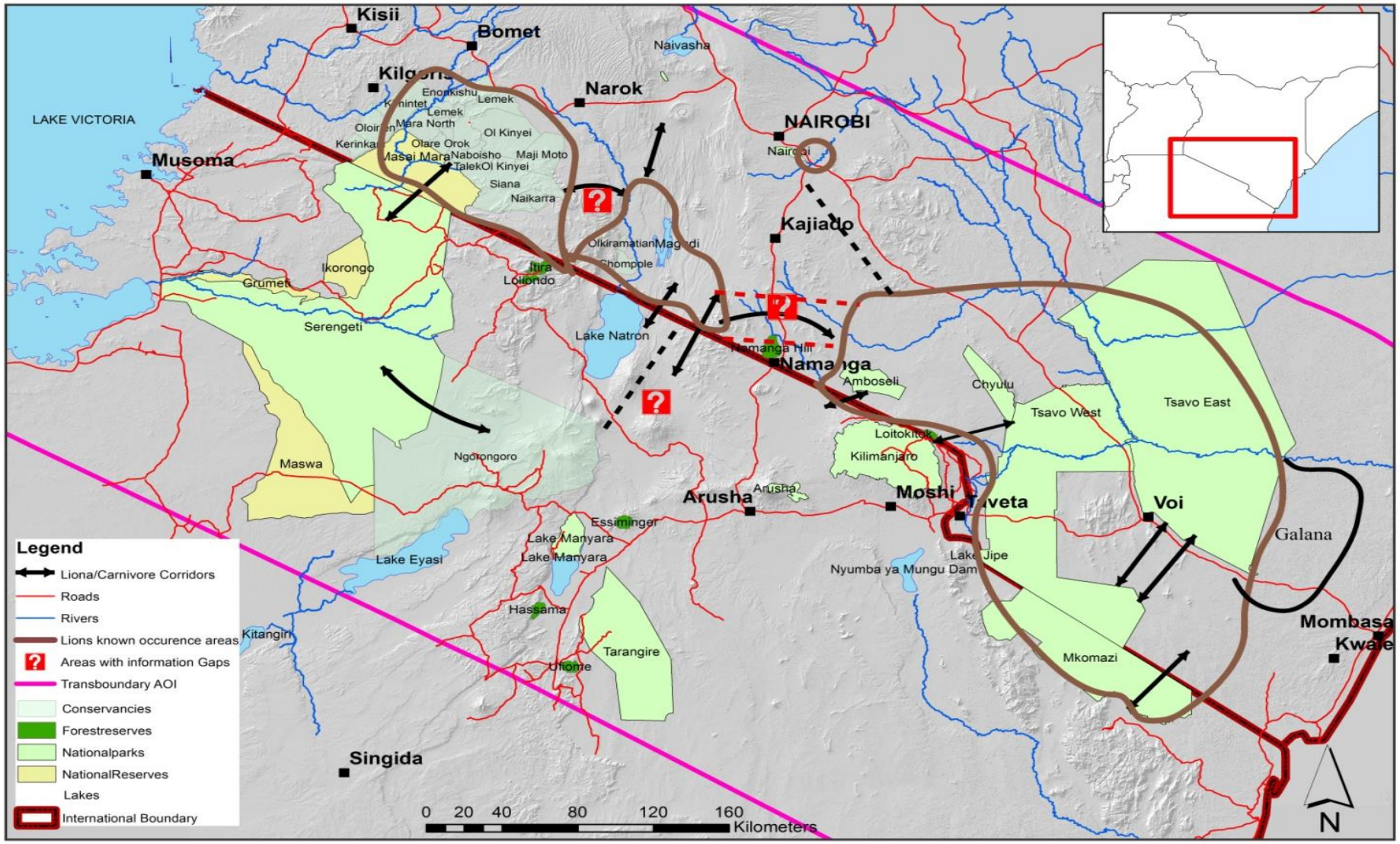
Known lion habitat use and movements, plus information gaps
ACC-BCI Workshop Report 2017



Kenya-Tanzania Borderlands Conservation Initiative (BCI)

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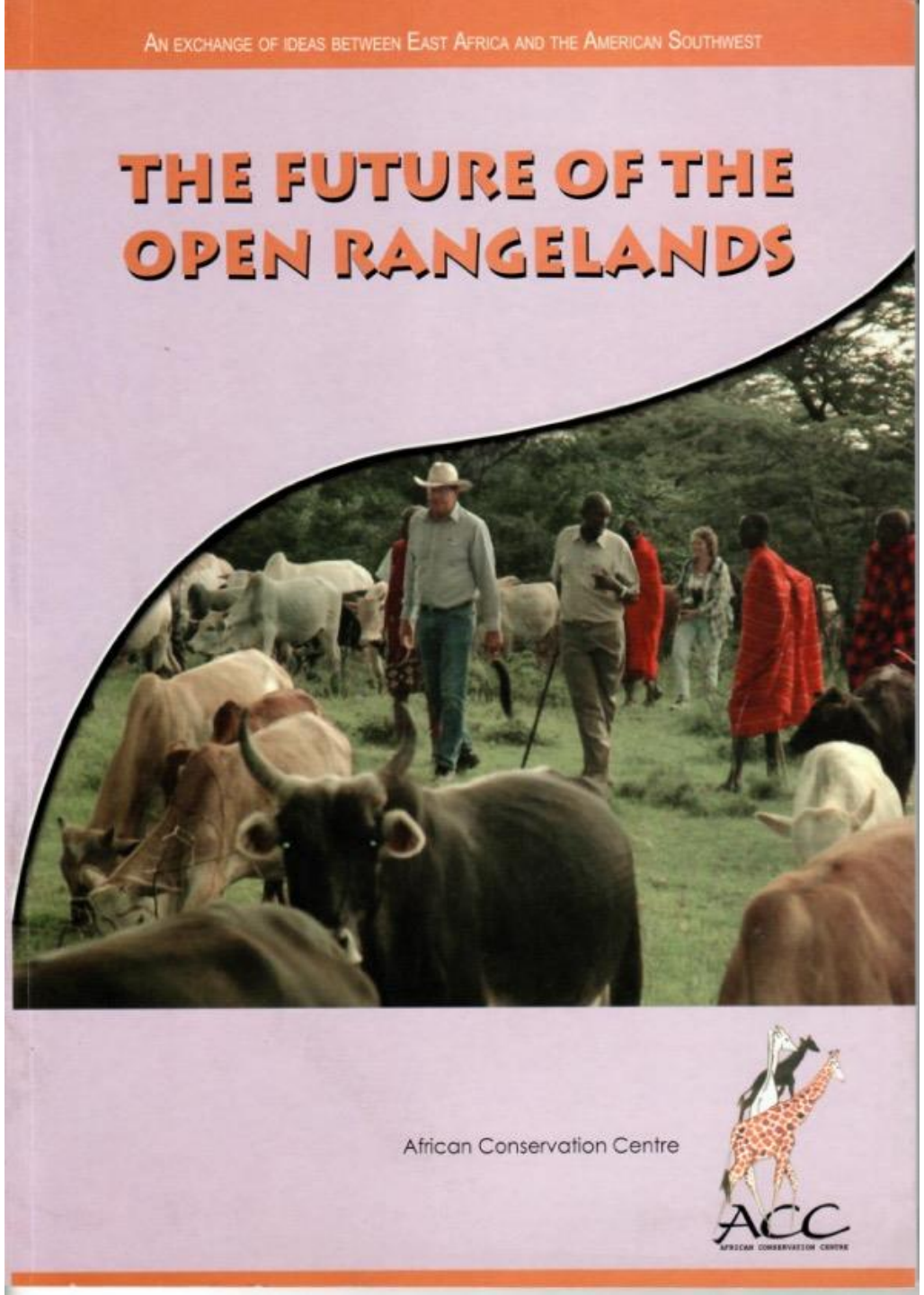
Learning Exchanges on maintaining connectivity

- ACC co-ordinated and supported a learning exchange between the American cowboys of the US and maasai of pastoral rangelands tolearn from their history on governance options and land opportunities in a sub-divided landscape

- This led to the formation of the South Rift Association of Landowners (SORALO) that is a grass-root organisation representing 14 group ranches in southern Kenya



Wildlife Dispersal Areas and Migratory Routes Corridors in Southern Kenya

MEMR

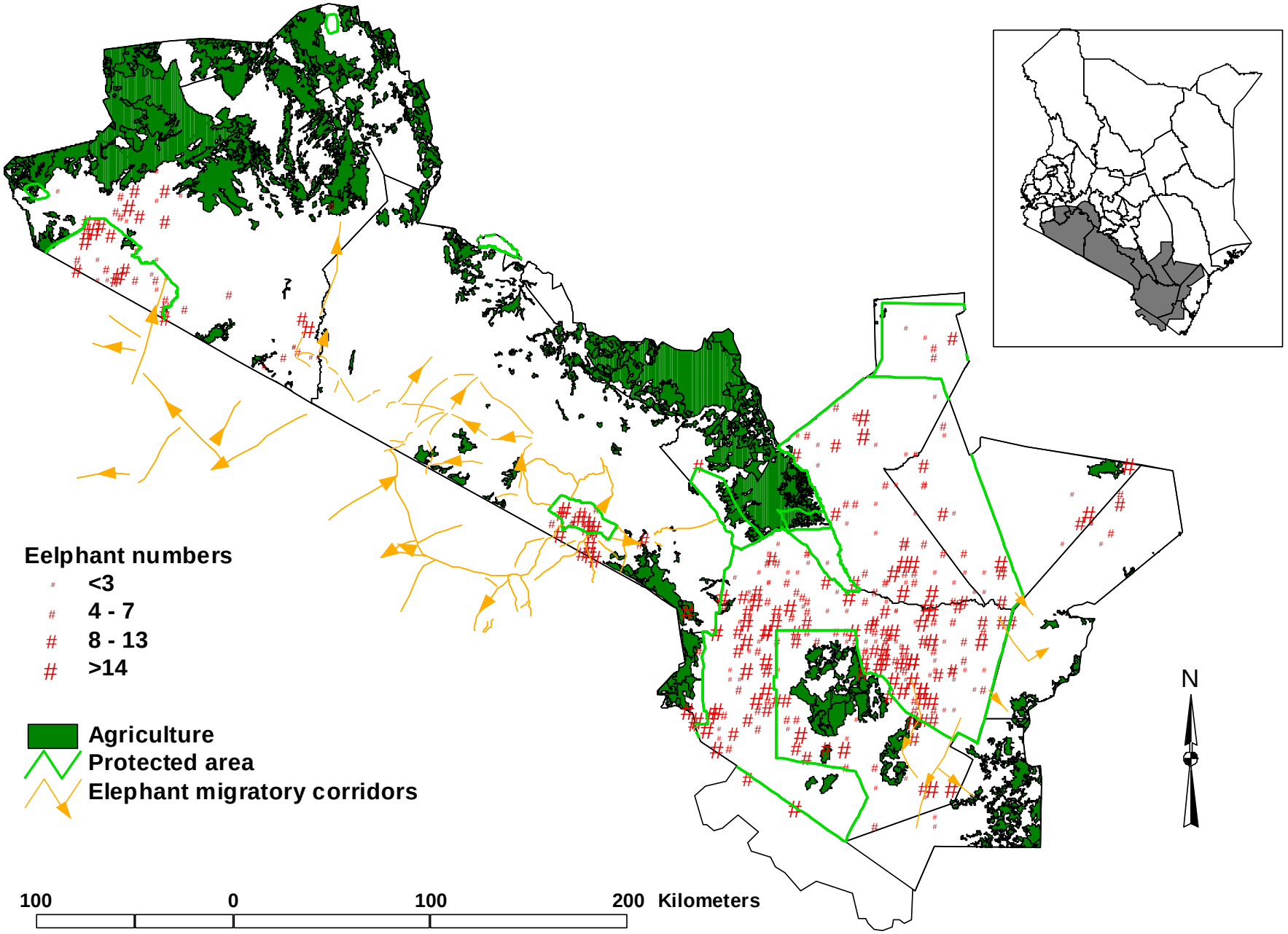
Corridors for Connectivity and Conservation

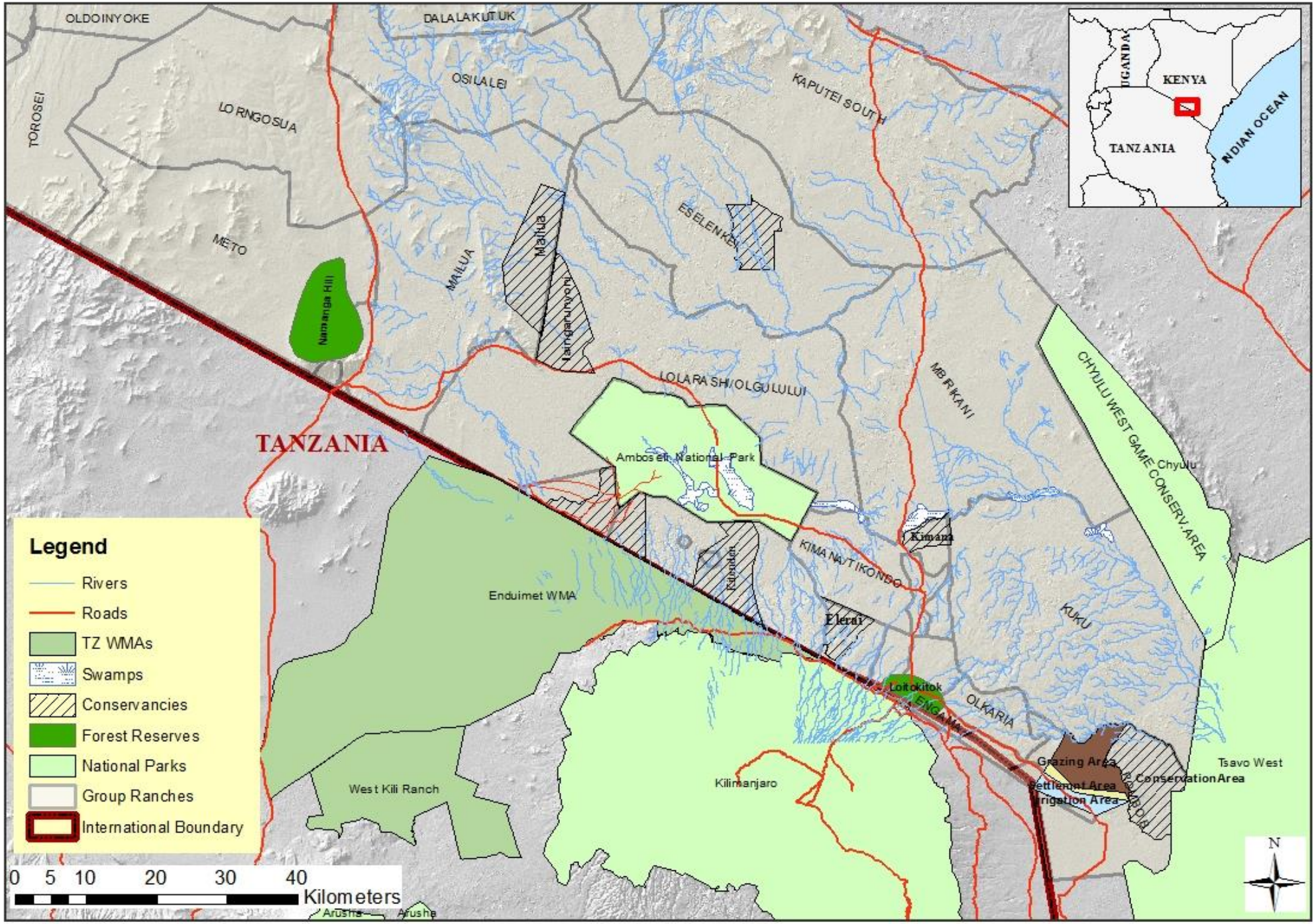
- Defined over 90 wildlife corridors and dispersal areas
- Requires a prioritization process to define the minimum viable corridors to be secured
- Requires incentives for land owners to keep land open and connected.

National level Engagement
- Data sharing
- Building partnerships

Kenya Vision 2030 Flagship Project:
"Securing Wildlife Migratory Routes and Corridors"

Elephant migratory movements and landuse



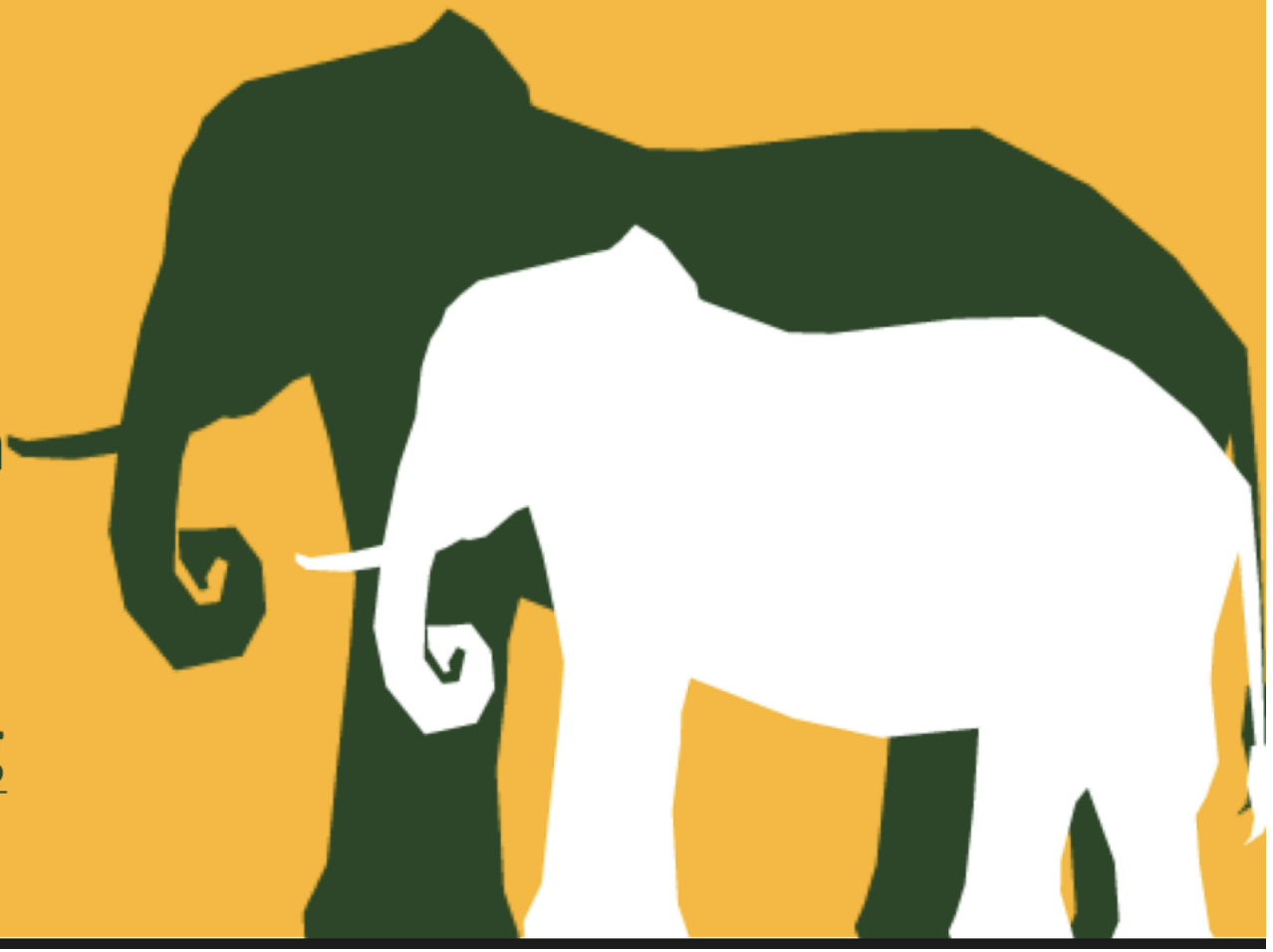


CONSERVING NEIGHBOURING ECOSYSTEMS
CONNEKT
IN KENYA AND TANZANIA

AMBOSELI ECOSYSTEM TRUST

60%

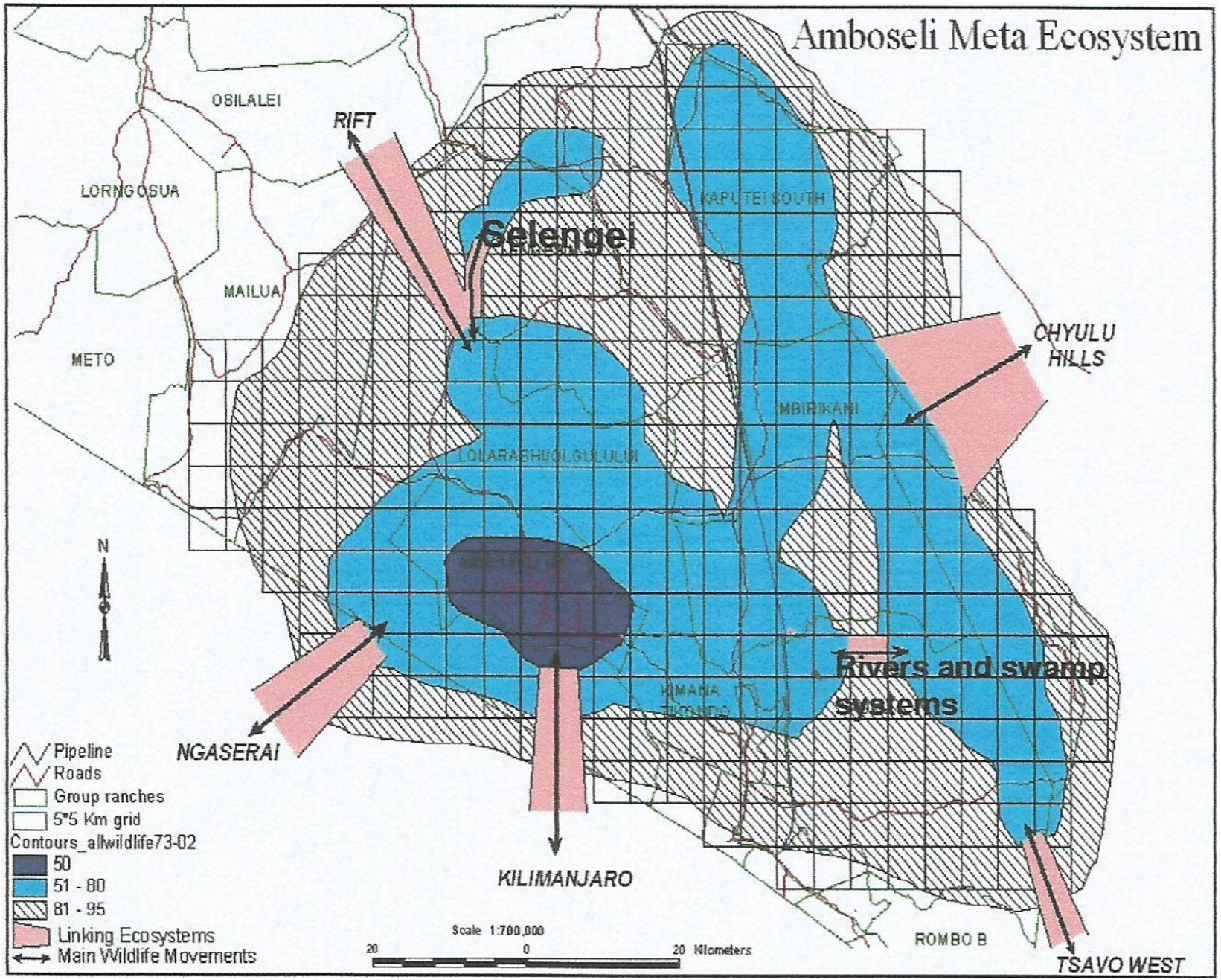
Community Land in Amboseli is under conservancies and dry seasons grazing areas



Threats to Connectivity

Ecosystem Challenges

1. Land Subdivision, Land sales and Land use change
2. Expansion of Irrigated Agriculture and Unplanned Development
3. Human wildlife interaction and co-existence
4. Community conservation is still not a competitive land use option – less benefits
5. Climate change and Rangeland degradation



Amboseli Conservation Program (ACP)

- Over 50+ years of ecological surveys and monthly aerial wildlife counts across the entire Amboseli ecosystem on 5*5km grid
- The data on wildlife densities, distribution and trends informed the Minimum Viable Conservation Area (MVCA) for the ecosystem.

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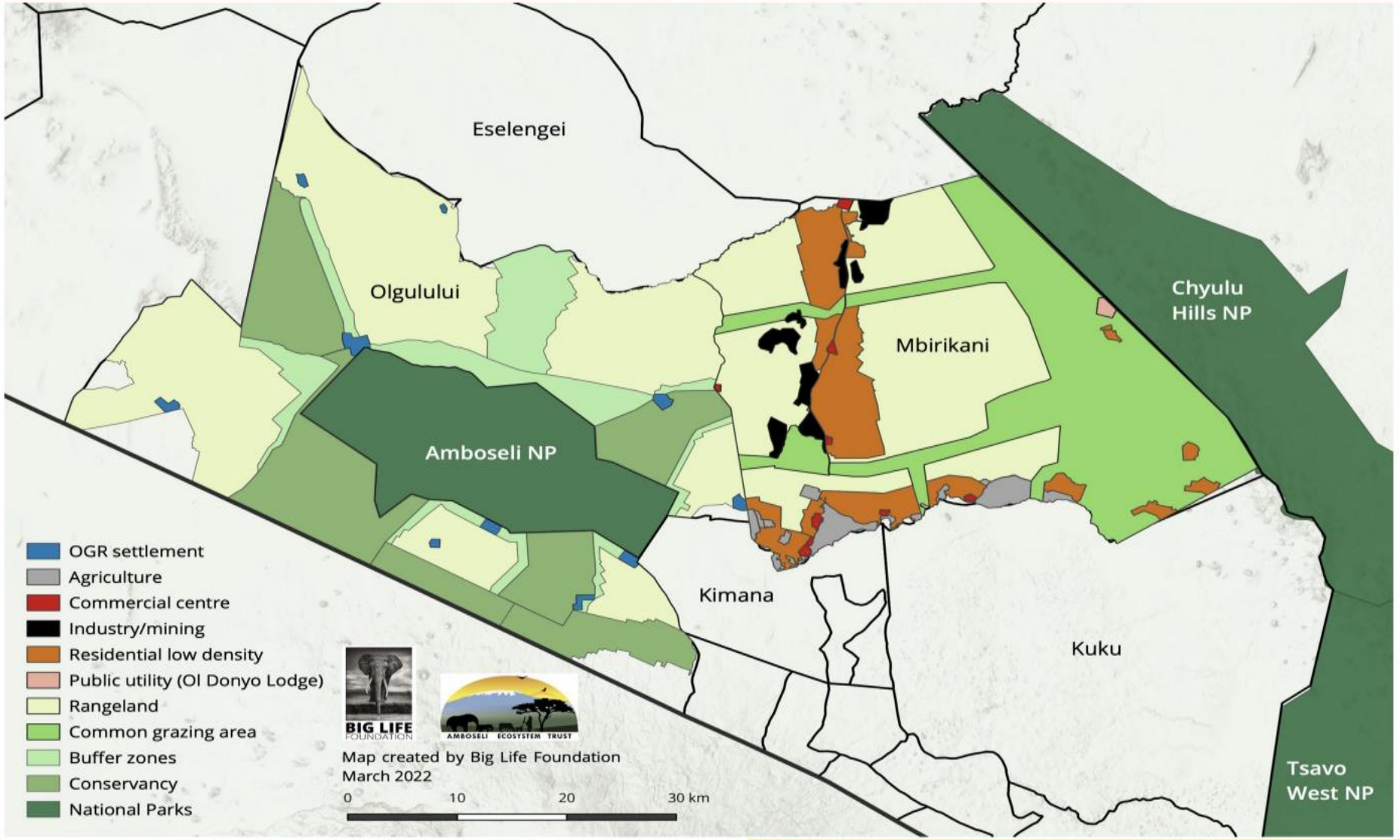
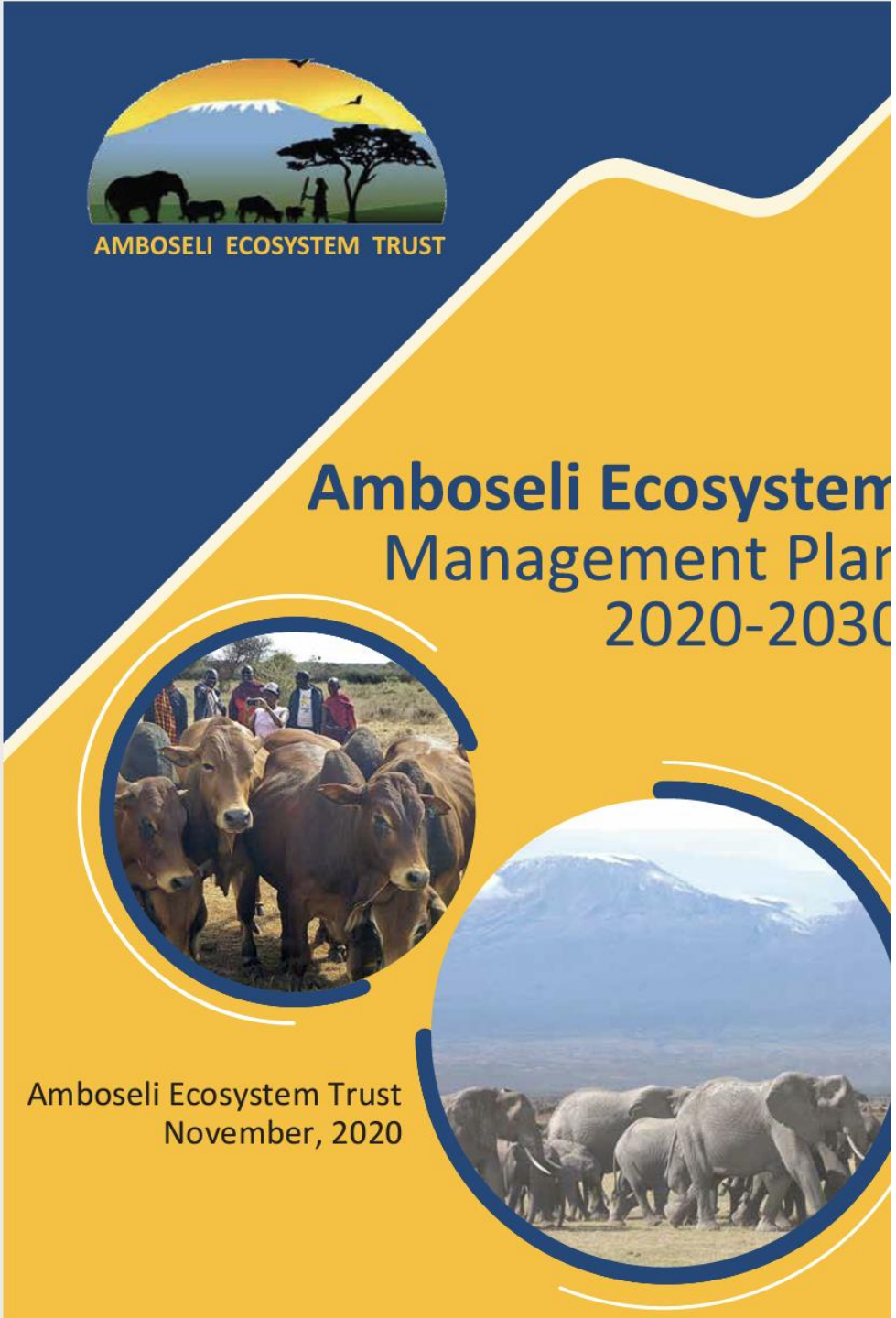
Sub-division of land causes fragmentation





Amboseli Ecosystem Management plan 2020-2030

- ACC supported the formation of a grass roots organisation: The Amboseli Ecosystem Trust (AET) - an umbrella organization that brings together all stakeholders in the Amboseli Ecosystem on conservation and development issues.
- The main aim is to ensure that the Amboseli Ecosystem rangelands remain open, diverse and healthy for the benefit of people and wildlife. This is being achieved through the development of the Amboseli Ecosystem Management Plan

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GCRF UK Research and Innovation

Infrastructure Development across ecologically sensitive areas

The Mitigation Hierarchy

Balancing Conservation needs and Development priorities

DEVELOPMENT CORRIDORS PARTNERSHIP

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When Development priorities clash with Conservation needs

Study of roadkills: Tsavo KENYA

52% Roadkills occurred within urban Settlement

58% Roadkills occurred near water sources

61% Roadkills occurred near adjoining roads

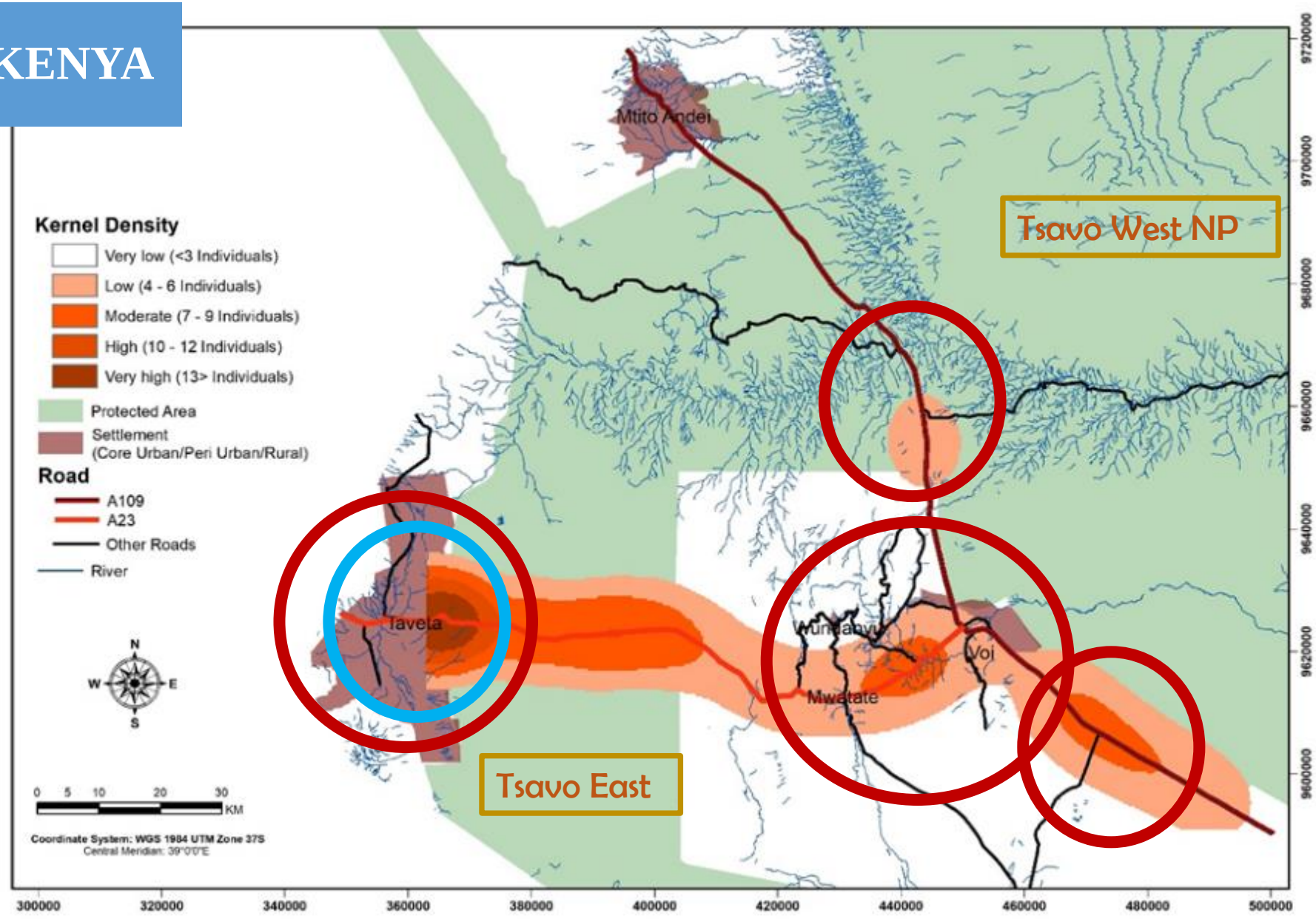
Kernel density results

Hotspots

1 - Very high

1 - High

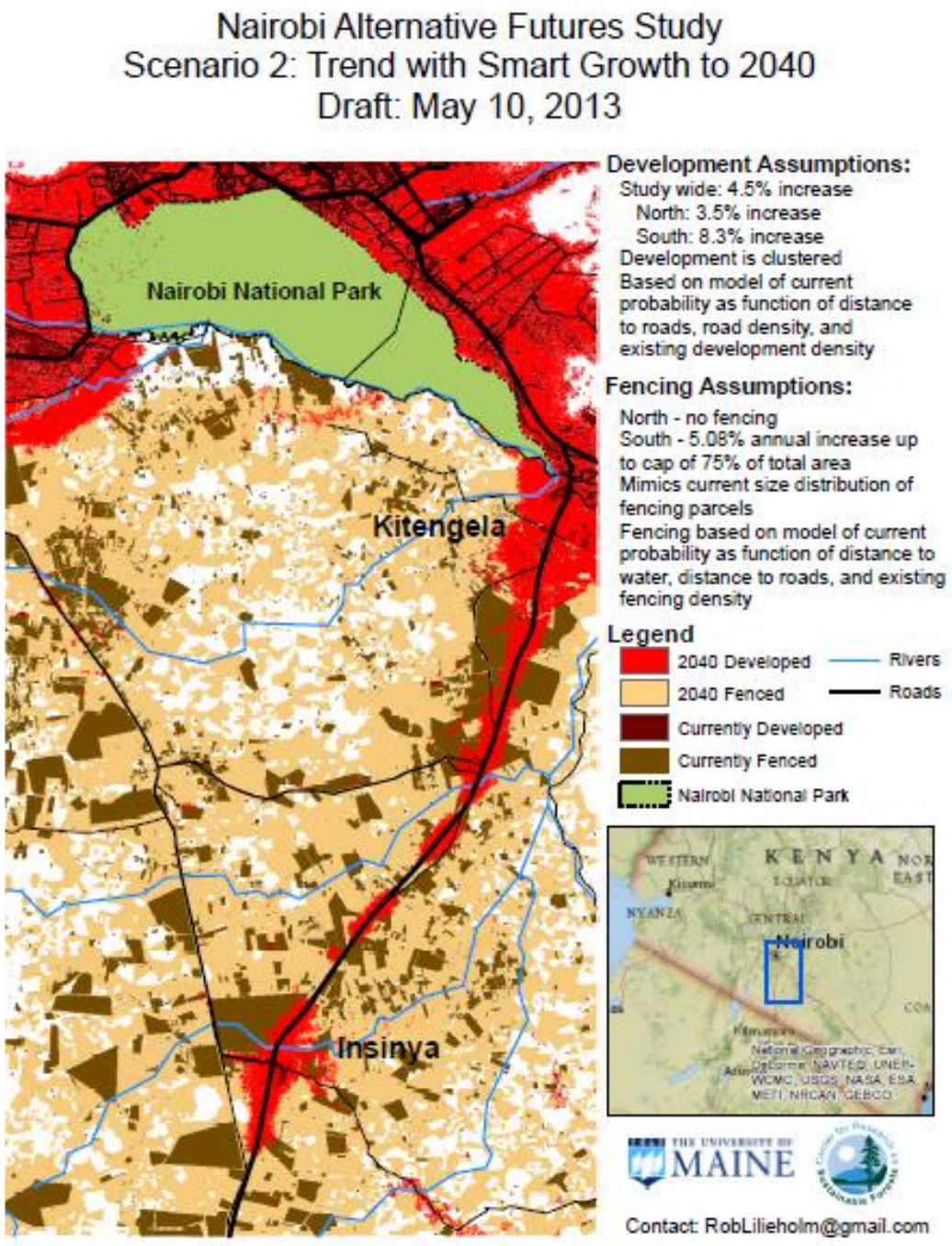
3 - Moderate



Rapid infrastructure development

Population growth and urban expansion is a major barrier to connectivity

Lilieholm et al. 2014



Collapse of wildebeest migration

Source: Lilieholm et al. 2013; Ogutu et al. 2013

Supporting Policy engagement

High level inter-agency dialogue on Environment & Infrastructure
Serena Hotel, 22nd April 2022 Nairobi. Convened by Ministry of Environment and Forestry

Governing the commons - for Connectivity (1)

1. Integrated landuse planning is key – infrastructure, agriculture and settlement that prioritizes ecological connectivity
2. Secure key/priority migratory movement pathways based on focal herbivores & carnivores to define areas critical for all species using a variety of instruments
3. Secure pastoral landscapes through restoration initiatives and establishing grass banks to serve as dry season refuge areas
4. Establish Land trusts and Trust funds to secure the subdivided lands that would be going up for sale and govern the shared spaces

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Governing the commons - for Connectivity (2)

5. Establish economic landuse options at scale that prioritize/ incentivise maintaining of open rangelands with benefits to community
6. Capacity building and tools for application of futures thinking for infrastructure development using scenario planning tools
7. Policies and legal frameworks to protect the encroachment or fragmentation of important connectivity areas (Kenya Govt taskforce on Wildlife corridors and dispersal areas)
8. Coordination of conservation efforts and cooperation between key interest groups and across sectors– local level with landowners, civil society, private sector and government.

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Thank you!

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