

**ATTITUDE OF LOCAL COMMUNITIES TOWARDS CONSERVATION.**

**A CASE STUDY OF AMBOSELI NATIONAL PARK.**

**BY**

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**DECLARATION**

I METIAN LYDIA declare that this academic work is a product of my own efforts.

I declare to the best of my knowledge that the entire proposal has never been presented to any institution of higher learning or any university for any award.

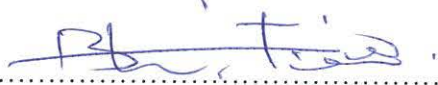
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**METIAN LYDIA**

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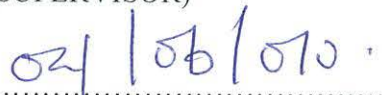
**APPROVAL.**

This report has been submitted with my approval as the University supervisor.

Signed .....  .....

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Date.....  .....

## **DEDICATION.**

This academic work is dedicated with my sincere and heartfelt gratitude to my most beloved family; Dad and mom Mr. and Mrs. Fredrick Munga, Sister Evelyn and Brothers Steve and Kimani, Cousin Ian and to my dear Uncle Mr. John Njoroge for their encouragement.

## ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

At the peak of writing this report, it is a supreme that I sigh back, down the mission accomplished to pay tribute to all those who contributed in one way or the other, to see my success in my academic endeavor.

First and foremost, I highly pay tribute to the almighty God whose unconditional love, blessing, protection and care gave me good health and strength up the end of my research report.

Also profound tribute and my deepest gratitude and appreciation to my beloved parent, who bore and nurtured me and treasured the need for my esteemed education. I thank them for their precious overflowing love; patient insight, financial support and motivation, and concern that accorded me, which enabled me accomplish my research report.

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## ABSTRACT.

There is debate on what is the attitude of people living around protected areas. In this case, the attitude of the local community living around Amboseli National Park is assessed. The study also tries to establish how the national park can affect the immediate adjacent neighboring community both socially and economically. The relationship between the park management is also determined. Data was collected using both qualitative and quantitative methods. Five villages of Illasit, Nkama, Entonet Mortot and Namelok were considered.

Results showed towards the local communities nearest to the park have suffered the social – economic impacts of the park. The local people’s attitude towards the park greatly influenced the park management. Also the relationship between the park management and the local people has been in terms of employment, infrastructure development, security, income generation and education. Most of the local people depend on the park on their livelihoods since they sustainably collect weaving material from the park.

As in many protected areas worldwide, Amboseli conservation problems largely result from conflicts of interest over land use. These include wild life hunting, cultivation and tradition resource uses among others.

These problems have been overcome through; Revenue sharing, working together, income generating activities for local people, learning about the forest and problem animal control programs has been put in place.

The study recommends that the park authorities should ensure that they develop a friendly environment and cooperate with the local communities to improve and manage the park resources.

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## CHAPTER ONE.

### INTRODUCTION

#### 1.0 Back ground of the study.

Amboseli, home to more than a thousand elephants, was one of Kenya's most visited parks in 1994-1995. The park is located within traditional Maasai rangelands bordering Tanzania, Mount Kilimanjaro standing guard.

Amboseli's arid landscape and dusty appearance are deceptive: Thousands of underground streams fed by runoff from the slopes of the great mountain bisect and feed the park's marshlands, providing year-round water and lush grazing for the elephant and other wild browsers and grazers. In contrast, many of the Maasai group ranches outside the park have no natural surface-water sources. When water and grazing are scarce, herding livestock within the park boundaries is increasingly necessary for the Maasai.

The rise of poaching in the 1970s decimated Amboseli's elephant herds and halted their traditional migratory patterns. As the threatened animals learned to stay within the safety of the park, they created severe pressures on the ecosystem. On average, elephant consume four hundred pound of mixed fodder each day. The concentration of elephant and successful breeding means that Amboseli is now threatened by the species it has protected for so long.

With very few natural woodland areas remaining in Amboseli and the park in a critical state, the Kenya Wildlife Service scheduled three workshops to discuss contemporary issues in conservation and management of wildlife and other natural resources, focusing on Amboseli's biodiversity. The workshops brought together a wide variety of interested parties-researchers, wildlife managers, non governmental organizations, donors, local hoteliers, tour operators and

landowners-to focus on the various changes in Amboseli and the need for a comprehensive action plan.

The first workshop, held in Nakuru, addressed the use of research findings in the conservation of biodiversity. The second, held in Amboseli in April 1995, aimed to consolidate the vast amount of data on the dynamics of the Amboseli ecosystem and the views of all involved. The final workshop to clarify and balance scientific and social necessity was held in the Aberdares.

The main workshop recommendations were to ease elephant congestion in the Amboseli basin by creating space outside the park, providing water outside the park for livestock and minimizing crop destruction in surrounding settlements; to support local landowners in establishing wildlife-related enterprises; and to rehabilitate Amboseli using the exclusion method tested in the park (experiments preventing elephant and giraffe access to certain areas showed complete woodland regeneration in twelve years).

During the last year, Kenya Wildlife Service also has addressed many of the community issues highlighted during the Amboseli biodiversity workshops. Denying the Maasai communities access to their traditional rangelands when the park was gazetted created an immense potential for resentment and harassment of wildlife that has not been fully recognized until recently. Water, grazing, education and revenue generation were identified as key areas in which collaboration and support from Kenya Wildlife Service and selected donors could enhance Maasai-wildlife relations.

With the initiation of an education bursary programme for secondary school and university study, Kenya Wildlife Service provided Kshs 3.8 million toward the further education of students selected by local Maasai leaders.

During the year, Kenya Wildlife Service rehabilitated three boreholes outside the park at Ilmarba, Kitendeu and Naiperra. It also provided equipment and manpower to build several two-tiered tanks, supplied from Amboseli's underground streams, to provide humans, livestock and wildlife with water year round.

In a bid to encourage greater tolerance and understanding of wildlife, Kenya Wildlife Service recruited more than a hundred game scouts from the local communities. The scouts were trained to gather and classify information about wildlife (in particular, how to monitor the movements and behavioural trends of elephant outside the park) and educated on Kenya Wildlife Service's goals and plans for Amboseli.

### **1.1 Statement of the problem**

Despite the fact that the local communities have benefited from the park i.e through employment, development of school for example Amboseli primary school, development of town for instance Namelok town, busury to the student of the communities etc there still conflicts with the park management. For example during the dry season the wild animals and the Maasai communities compete for the watering area. These watering areas may cause a lot of conflicts of animals attacking the people or people attacking the animals, this leads to also animals being killed. Poaching has also been a big problem the local people killed the big 4 animals and sell to the near by country Tanzania.

Members from the community group work with the park management and help in conservation issues and some have been employed by the park as rangers, porters, and even guide and truckers. The problem is the local communities seem not to be benefiting both socially and economically and yet the park management consider them as stakeholders. Since the local community graze their animals around the boundaries of the park, in case an animal is killed by the wild animals the local communities revenge by killing a lion or any other big

animals this has also been a big problem in the park. This study seeks to find what kind of attitude the community has toward conserving the Amboseli ecosystem. This will give the researcher the following variables to consider under this study: The conservation objectives and how the local people perceive the park.

### **1.2 Purpose of the study.**

To find out the attitude of the local people toward conservation of Amboseli National Park.

### **1.3 Research objective**

- I. To identify the attitudes of local people living around Amboseli National Park towards conservation.
- II. To determine the relationship between the park management and the local people in terms of benefit sharing.
- III. To find out how the local people attitude influence the management of the park.

### **1.4 Research question.**

- I. What attitude do the local people living around Amboseli National Park have?
- II. What is the relationship between the park management and the local people in terms of benefit sharing?
- III. How does the local people attitude influence the management of the park?

### **1.5 Geographical scope.**

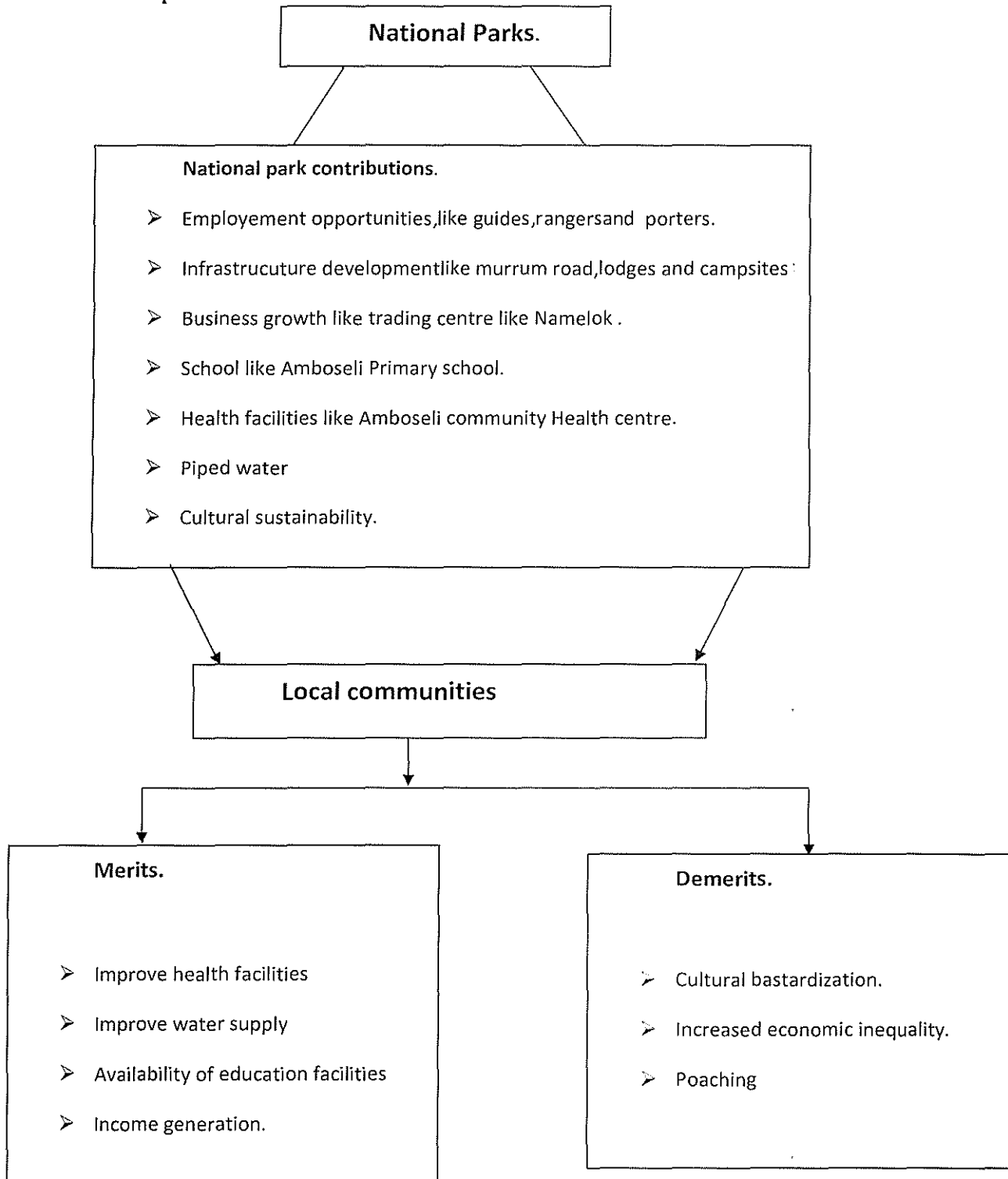
Geographically, the researcher will carry his study in the villages of Namelok and Amboseli of Loitokitok district because of accessibility in terms of transport and accommodation and interest with which to find a lot from it.

### **1.6 Content scope**

In this research the researcher will focus on the attitude of the local people toward conservation of the park both socially and economically. The variables are: the relationship between the

park management and the local people , the effect of the park on the local people and the local people attitude toward the national park.

### 1.7 Conceptual Framework





## **Chapter two.**

### **Literature review.**

#### **2.0 Introduction.**

In this chapter the researcher's interest will focus on what other authors and writers have researched about the attitude of the local communities toward conservation.

#### **2.1 Community background.**

The Maasai people first came here about three hundred years ago, replacing other more primitive people. In those days the Maasai were nomadic pastoralists, relying entirely on their cattle, sheep, and goats for all their requirements. They moved between the best areas for grazing and there was plenty of land for everyone. They did not hunt the wildlife but learned to live with it quite peacefully with only the occasional fracas taking place, either in defence of their livestock, or to provide sport for the famed Maasai warriors, who would show off to their peers and girlfriends by taking part in lion hunts with their six-foot-long spears and heavy buffalo-hide shields. But since the population has grown and cattle numbers have increased, pressures on the land have widened and there is less and less room for wildlife.

This situation has led to a severe deterioration of the vegetation which has suffered from overgrazing and from the absence of wild herbivores that used to graze and browse the whole mosaic of plants. As a result, the quality of the Maasai livestock has deteriorated and become more susceptible to drought and disease and the people themselves have become poverty-stricken and regularly have to seek food aid during drought periods.

About half of the children receive primary education and some of the luckier ones go on to secondary school. Education brings new horizons and new aspirations, and many of the more educated individuals are now looking for ways to supplement their meagre income. Some

believe the future lies in irrigating parts of their land to grow cash crops such as tomatoes and vegetables, and many hectares have already been turned over to this form of farming. But the crops soon deteriorate because the supply of water is problematical and little is put back to enrich the soil, which soon loses its fertility.

Having seen the numbers of tourists entering the national parks, a few landowners now realise the value of the wildlife that remains on their ranches and are looking for ways to exploit the resource.

"For too long we have been denied the benefit from the wildlife we have protected all these years", says Jacob Leyian, Chairman of the Eselenkei Group Ranch. "The government took our land to form Amboseli National Park and now they pocket all the money the tourists pay to enter. But much of the wildlife lives on our land outside the national park, grazing our grass, and sometimes killing our livestock. If we are to conserve the wildebeest and zebra that eat our grass we must have some financial benefit in return."

Another leading Maasai elder Lengu Ole Mbaa who was once a clan chief argues, "During droughts our people starve, and children and old people die. We must make use of this resource given to us by God but we need to be shown how to do it. We are not traders by nature; we are cattle people and know nothing of tourists and tourism. But our people are willing to learn the skills required by tour operators and safari lodge managers, so what we can earn money from those who want to visit our land and photograph our wild animals."s

## **2.2 To determine the relationship between the park management and local people in terms of benefit shairing.**

After the establishment of the park in 1974, a programme was initiated in 1977 to involve the Maasai in direct benefits from the National Park. These benefits formed part of the

conditioned for park creation negotiated between the local pastoralists , Ol kejuado county council and the government . It was agreed the group ranches would retrieve the following benefits from the park in their midst.

- Provision of adequate water supply outside the park boundaries through the maintenances of existing borehole and through the construction of a pipeline to carry water from the main spring in the basin to outlying water tanks. National park staffs were to assume responsibility for operating the pipeline and boreholes with funds from the ministry of water development and the county council.
- Compensation for opportunity cost tolerating wildlife grazing on fee” their group ranch lands. This wildlife utilization fee was to equal the theoretical market value of cattle, which could be raised instead of the equivalent biomass of wild herbivores, which migrate across the group ranches. It was calculated to start at Ksh25, 000 per annum and to increase with a protected growth in the wildlife populations after the Maasai vacated the basin grasslands.
- Direct income benefit to the Maasai group ranches through the development of wildlife viewing circuit’s campsites, trophy hunting and cropping on the group ranch lands. Under exiting tourist trends, it was predicted that additional tourist lodges would be developed on the ranch within three and six years in the best and worst cases respectively. the wildlife utilization fee paid by the government could be replaced by earnings from rental fee paid by the government could be replaced by earnings from rental fees charges to new lodges as well as from other sources of direct income.
- Additional direct benefits in the form of public utilizes and services such as school dispensaries and cattle dips.

It was predicted that the Maasai of Amboseli would come to view wildlife and their habitats as a local resource, subject to the same concerned husbandry as their cattle. Successful results were reported in the earlier years of the programme and Amboseli was proposed as a model for integrated conservation and development. By 1984, however, it was apparent that early successes were limited by novel or re-emerging problems. These early programmes failed to provide the Maasai community with a continuous benefit in return for compromises in the use of land.

In 1991, Kenya Wildlife Service re-activated the benefit sharing arrangement with the land owners through the community wildlife programme. The primary aim of the Community Wildlife Project was to support wildlife conservation and the integrity of parks and reserves over the long term by engendering a spirit of cooperation and partnership among living in adjacent areas. This would achieve through reduction of negative impacts of wildlife on the communities and increasing the economic benefits, through direct sharing of the park revenues, small scale development projects and financial and technical assistance. As with the 1977 programme, this arrangement failed to provide reliable and sustainable benefits to the land owners.

Failure of the various benefits sharing programmes has succeeded in widening the division between the interests of the local population and wildlife conservation. Any incipient appreciation by the Maasai of the park and its wildlife as an integrated component of the developing pastoralist's life style has suffered a damaging blow. The challenge then is to develop sustainable land use regimes based on secure land tenure and innovative financing mechanisms in order to secure the areas biodiversity, ecosystem values and processes.

### 2.3 Local people attitude toward the park.

According to Annon (2004\_2005), the local people's attitude towards the park was made positive through the activities that were undertaken during the involved enabling the communities to reap financial technical benefit from supporting and participating in wildlife management in the following ways

- Conservation education and awareness.
- Revenue sharing activities
- Resource access agreements.

According to Annon (2004\_2005), pg 20, conservation education and awareness was done among many school groups and communities including: All seven conservation areas conducted several sensitization meetings with different communities which addressed issues such as fire management and value of protected areas and resource access. Conservation education was also done in various schools neighboring the national parks. The courses mainly centered on the importance of protecting the wildlife resources in the country. For example Amboseli National Park organized meetings in the six villages and taught people in buffalo wall maintenance, mushroom growing techniques, piggery and other income generating activities.

In addition, the communities have come to appreciate the benefits of activity participating in the implementation to problem animal interventions. This positive attitude has been manifested in the public denouncement of poaching and the surrender of poaching tools by the communities in areas neighboring Amboseli National Park and also by the communities at the border of Tanzania.

#### **2.4 Conclusion.**

In this chapter, the researcher will try to integrate the findings of other researchers and authors in relation to the local people attitude toward the park in terms of accessing resources and benefits. In view of the above the researcher will assert that, there is a relationship between the local communities and the park management which influences the positive attitude by the locals towards the park.

#### **2.5 Definition of key concepts.**

**Attitude** is defined by Rokeach (1973) as an organization of several beliefs around a specific object or situation that would incline a person to react in a particular manner or fashion to that object or situation. Kellert (1980) defined an attitude as a view of the world or a set of feelings and beliefs about an object or an issue whose underlying emotional step predisposes and influences an individual's behaviour.

**Community,** A community in the words of Dotson(1991)"is a spatial or teriteriak unit of social organisation in which people have a sense of identity and feeling of belonging"

Hillary (1995), defines a community as peoplewho relates to neighborhood or territorial , focused to social interactions with social feelings and solidarity . it is a group of people living in particular areas and interacting with one another, it build on socialization of a family and peer group in particular for example the responsibility of the training and promoting young people from childhood to adult hood is not done by the group alone it is the responsibility of the community.

**National park:**Uganda Wildlife Act 2000 , sec , 19:defines a national park as an area of international and national impotance which because of its biological diversity , landscape or natural heritage has been describe as a national park.

**Conservation** : Mr. Gifford Pinchot (1907) coined the word conservation deriving it from the word conservator (title of an officer in the colonial British India) the Latin word of the word conservation are: Servare \_to guard: and Con \_together. Conservation is therefore guarding together eg the soil, wildlife, forests.

## **Chapter 3**

### **Methodology.**

#### **3.0 Introduction.**

In this chapter the researcher will show the methods he will employ in carrying out the study. The methods include research design, area of study and selection of respondents, research instruments, data analysis and limitation of the study.

#### **3.1 Area of study.**

The research will be carried out in Loitokitok district particularly in the villages of Namelok, Illasit, Moortot, and Entonet. Reason being that they are accessed and the interest with which to find a lot from them.

#### **3.2 Research design**

The researcher will employ qualitative and quantitative strategies. Field studies and casual comparative designs will be considered to determine the cause and casual comparative research design which will be considered to determine the cause and effect relationship. The research will involve the use of questionnaires and interview guides where people will express their attitude on conservation of Amboseli National Park.

#### **3.3 Research sample**

The researcher will entrust sample design to direct research topic. A definite sample will ensure accuracy and operation within the range of agreeable limit to the research. Researcher will conduct the research by interviewing the respondents.

Out of 400 people who are all pastoralist living in the villages immediately adjacent the national park. The researcher intends to interview at least 20 respondents from each of the five villages: Moortot, Entonet, Illasit, Nkama and Namelok. And 20 from the park management staff. a total population of the study will be 120.



### **3.4 Research instruments**

These are instrument that the researcher will use to collect the necessary information for the study. These instruments are discussed below.

#### **3.4.1 Questionnaires.**

A questionnaire is a list of question that relate to certain topic under study. The study will use a selected response question simply because scoring is easy and objective. The researcher will formulate the question that will approve by the moderator and then will dispatch the target group in fulfillment of the purposive selection.

#### **3.4.2 Interview Guide.**

This tool will be used to seek people's ideas, views and suggestions. The researcher will used structured question for the communities head, support staff of Amboseli National park and elders in the community. This will aim at eliciting the information to balance the quality and quantity of the data that can be collected.

#### **3.4.3 Observation.**

The researcher will use observation as the method of collecting data because it will be possible to gather data without asking questions just by observing how people behave toward the park. The researcher will collect data as non \_participant observer where the researcher will collect data in the role of pure researcher without trying to become an integral part of the community.

#### **3.4.4 Documentary review.**

The researcher will review the park management documents in order to get the data needed for the study. This involves arranging of the exiting literature for the purpose of critical analysis and comparative study to gather part of data needed for the research

#### **3.5 Data analysis**

The researcher will use both qualitative and quantitative methods in data analysis; the researcher will categorize data in form of percentages and frequencies and draw conclusions. In qualitative analysis, the researcher will organize the data in a logical way and have to draw conclusions.

#### **3.6 Limitation of the study.**

It may be difficult for the researcher to formulate or develop scales with which he / she could use to measure variables with, due to the limited time for conducting the study.

Due to fear of losing their jobs, some give biased information that is contrary to what is actually there hence reliability of the information will be limited.

The management may want to keep some of the information confidential and so they may not reveal hence limiting the scope of the information required for the study.

## CHAPTER FOUR.

### DATA PRESENTATION, ANALYSIS AND INTERPRETATION.

#### 4.1 Introduction.

This chapter contains presentation, analysis and interpretation of information about the attitude of the local communities toward conservation in Amboseli National Park.

#### 4.2 Background information of the Respondents

**Table 1: Showing age of respondents**

Age of respondents	Frequency	Percentage (%)
18-30	40	33%
30-42	30	25%
42-54	35	29%
Above 54	15	13%
Total	120	100%

**Source:** Amboseli National Park.

The above table shows that the large number of respondents is between the age of 18-30 making 33 %, 30 respondents are between the age of 30-42 making 25 %, 35 respondents are between the age of 42-54 and the old people that is above the age of 54 are 15 making 13 %. The general analysis is that the people living Amboseli National Park are working age because the majorities are above 18.

**Table 2: Showing sex of the respondents.**

Sex of the respondents	Frequency	Percentage (%)
Male	80	67%
Female	40	33%
Total	120	100%

**Source:** Amboseli National Park.

The above table shows that the biggest number of respondents is males who are 80 making 67% and the females are 40 that is 33%. The analysis shows that male participated more than females. This sample shows that males are more concerned about conserving the Amboseli ecosystem than women.

**Table 3: Showing the religious status of the respondent.**

Religion	Frequency	Percentage (%)
Catholics	25	21%
Protestant	30	25%
Islam	25	21%
Pentecostal	40	33%
Total	120	100%

**Source:** Amboseli National Park

The above table shows that the biggest number of respondents is Pentecostal who are 40 making 33%, the protestant are 30 that is 25%,and 25 are both Catholics and Islam .The analysis shows that Pentecostal participated more than any other religious denomination in the area . This sample shows that the attitude of the Pentecost is more appealing toward conserving the national park.

**Table 4: showing the education level of the respondents.**

Level of education	Frequency	Percentage (%)
Primary level	45	37%
Secondary level	50	42%
College and university level.	25	21%
Total	120	100%

**Source:** Amboseli National Park

The above table shows that the biggest number of respondent secondary level, that is 42 %, 37 % at primary level. And the rest (21%) belonged to the college and University level. This sample shows that the form four leavers are the most respondents.

**Table 5: Showing marital status of the respondents.**

Status	Frequency	Percentage (%)
Single	35	29%
Married	70	58%
Divorced	15	13%
Total	120	100%

**Source:** Amboseli National Park

The above table shows that majority of the respondent who participated were married that is 58%. Those ones not yet married were 35 respondents making 29 % and those divorced were 15 making 13 %. The analysis shows that the married are more concerned with conserving the park.

**Table 6: Showing the villages of the respondents.**

Village	Frequency	Percentage
Entonet	20	16.6%
Illasit	20	16.6%
Moortot	20	16.6%
Nkama	20	16.6%
Nameelok	20	16.6%
Park	20	16.6%
Total	120	100%

**Source:** Amboseli National Park

The above shows specific respondent in relation to their areas of residence . the analysis shows that the 20 respondent selected from each village that is 16.6 % all showed a positive response as far as the findings on the local community attitude toward conservation.

**Table 7: Showing the occupation of each respondent**

Occupation	Frequency	Percentage
Peasant	60	50%
Student	30	25%
Teacher	10	8%
Tour guide	5	4%
Civil servant	15	13%
Total	120	100%

**Source:** Amboseli National Park

From the above table, the researcher deduced that the majority of the respondents were peasants by occupation making 50%, students were ranked second making 25%, civil servants such as local community chairperson 13%, teachers 8%, and tour guides 4%. Treed his analysis shows that the group affected most by the park is the peasant class.

#### 4.3 How the local communities have benefited from the park.

**Table 8 : showing the extent to which the local communities have benefited from the park.**

Responses	Frequency	Percentage
To a small extent	25	21%
To a larger extent	60	50%
To the largest extent	35	29%
Total	120	100%

Source: Amboseli National Park.

Out of 120 respondents 60 that is 50 % that to a larger extent, the local communities have benefited from the park. A sizeable number 35 (29) % viewed that to the largest extent the local communities have benefited from the park and 25 (21%) suggested that to a large extent the local people benefited from the park.

The residents interviewed about the use of park resources, 50% argued that the local people have gained much from Amboseli National Park. This is because they sustainably collect medicinal herbs and get water for their animals and themselves.

Pertaining to the same issues, 29% of the interviewees said that there is need to work hand in hand with the park management to enhance sustainable development. He further put it that the local people especially those from the immediate neighboring communities have been employed by the park.

However, one of the members from the Namelok group pointed out that sometimes park management ignores the Maasai who claim the land rights and lived in the area for generations without destroying its ecosystem at the expense of the non Maasai groups who had cut the forested areas in order to cultivate them. The Maasai were not compensated whereas the non Maasai received compensation and their rights were recognized.

#### 4.4 The field where the local communities benefited most

**Table 9: finding on the field in which the local communities have benefited most from the park.**

Area /field	Frequency	Percentage
Education	22	18%
Infrastructure	27	22%
Security	38	32%
Income generation	33	28%
Total	120	100%

**Source:** Amboseli National Park.

From the table above, the majority of the respondents making 32 % suggested that security is the field in which the community has benefited most, 33 respondent that is 28 % asserted that income generation is the field in which the local people have benefited, 27 respondents making 22% put that it is the infrastructure in which the local people have benefited and 22 respondents making 18% agreed that it is the education area in which the local community has benefited most. This can also be shown on the figure below.



Figure 1 showing the field in which the local people have benefited most against their percentages

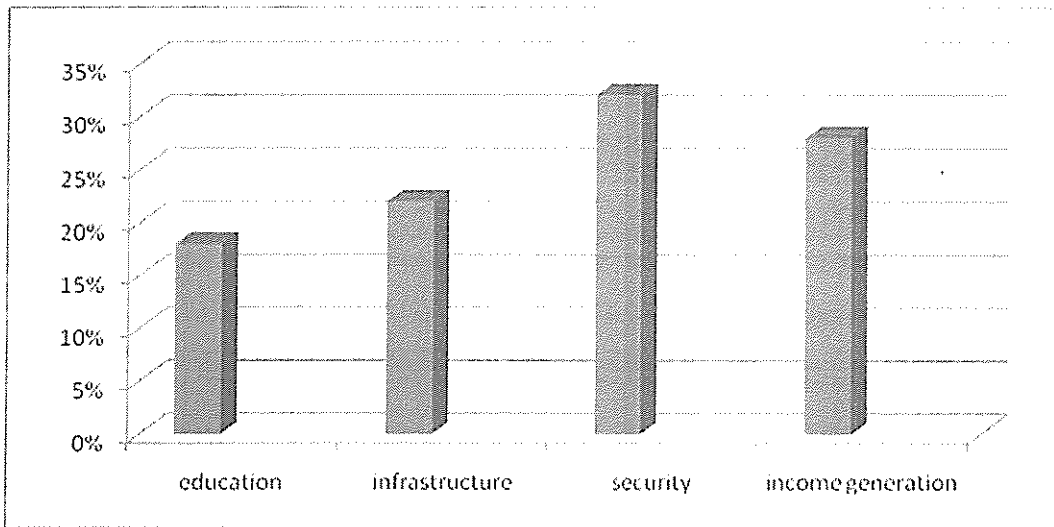


Figure 2 showing the field in which the local people have benefited most against their percentages

Basing on the above analysis different views were suggested by different respondent:

32% of the respondent said that “it is the field of security in which the local people have benefited most, take an example so many Barracks have been established like Mawenzi and the SWIFT (Special Wildlife and Tourism Protection Force) Barracks.” This is because the rebels such as Allied Democratic Force who had plagued the region were forced out.

More so 28% of the respondent asserted that is in the field of income generation that the local community has gained a lot. Take an example of such activities like piggery, farming, animal rearing inform of zero grazing which were enhanced among the local community by the park Authorities. This has acted as an alternative way to earn income with which to support the livelihoods among communities.

Furthermore, 22% said that among others benefits, infrastructural developments such as roads and health centre like Amboseli Community Centre were established. This has helped to ease transport for example the community agricultural produced especially maize, sorghum, and

beans are easily transported to the market. Also people have access the health services from the centre like Amboseli Community Health Centre which was established as a result of forest gazzetement as a National Park.

Lastly one the community elders, a resident of Kimana claims that it is a field of education that the local people have benefited most. For instance so many school likes Kimana secondary, Namelok primary, were developed. this has helped to stimulate and prote education level in the area.in addition a student from Namelok secondary credits Amboseli National Park. Reason bieng that it is the through tourist who visit the park that he has acquired a scolarship for his education.

**Table 10: showing the relationship between the park management and the local people in terms of employment**

Responses	Frequency	Percentage (%)
True	45	37%
False	75	63%
Total	120	100%

**Source:** Amboseli National Park.

From the table above 45 out of 120 respondents representing 37 % had a view employing the local community leaders with the park affects the execution of the duties of these leaders in the communities. Most of the respondents making 63% viewed that the employment of the local community leaders does not affect their responsibility in the community.

63% of the respondents put it clear that the park management has helped the local people through provision of employment opportunities. For example some of the locals have been employed as guides, porters and trackers. This has helped to improve their standard of living. In addition 28% of the respondents said that the park has helped them generate income. This

is through the establishment of craft shops by the locals where by their market is the park tourist.

#### 4.5 The extent to which the local people's attitude has contributed to good management of the park.

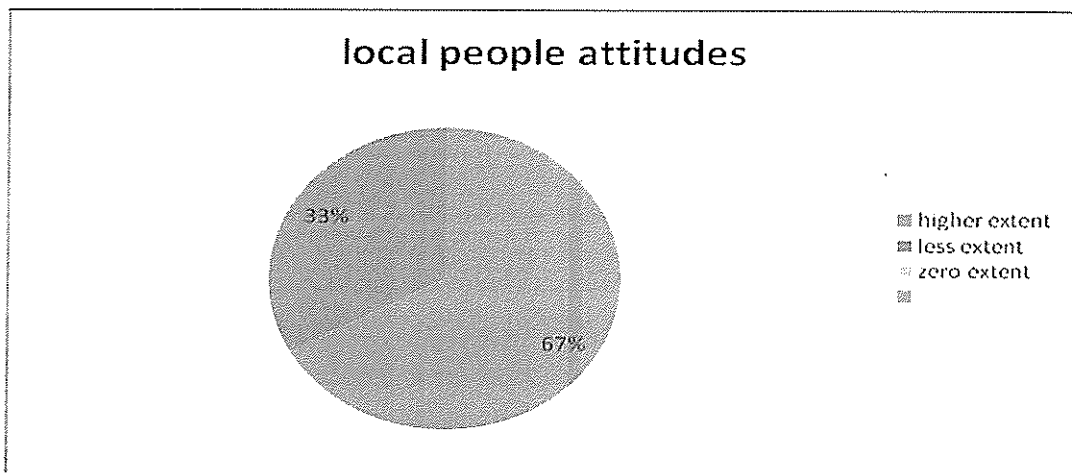
**Table 11: Showing the finding on the local people's attitude towards the management of the park.**

Responses	Frequency	Percentage
To a higher extent	80	67%
To a less extent	40	33%
To a zero extent	0	0%
Total	120	100%

**Source:** Amboseli National Park.

People's positive attitude has contributed a lot towards the good management of the park. Out of 120 respondents 40 argued that it is a less extent that positive attitude has enhanced the good management of the park. And none of the respondents suggested that it is the local people's positive attitude that has contributed to the good management of the park. This can be further illustrated using the figure below

**Figure 2: showing the findings on the local people's attitude toward the management of the park.**



**Source:** Amboseli National Park.

The 67 % of the respondents suggested that, peoples attitude contributed a lot towards the good management of the park. For example the welcoming culture of the local people has created ample time / environment for the tourism activities like community walks hence creating a positive tourist product among the tourists.

In addition 33% of the respondent asserted that the park management has been promoted by the local people's positive attitude. For example the local community has created an association called Rombo community association. This help to chase back the wild animals from the local people's gardens and plantations. Therefore, the community works hand in hand with the park authorities towards the management of the park.

However, according to the researcher's observation there is some negative attitude towards park management. Reason being that the local people does not openly access the park resources. For example the local are controlled on how to collect weaving materials, firewood and medicine herbs. This has created a negative attitude among the local people towards the park management.

#### 4.6 What natural resources are you responsible in around Amboseli National Park?

**Table 12: showing the natural resources that Kenya Wild Life Service is responsible in Amboseli National Park.**

Natural resources	Frequency	Percentage.
Lake	5	5%
Swamps	20	20%
Wild animals	45	30%
Vegetation	30	25%
Hills	10	10%
Birds	10	10%
Totals	120	100%

**Source :** Amboseli National Park.

From the above table majority of the respondents 30% suggested that wild animals are the major natural resources that Kenya Wild Life Service are responsible for managing, this is because most of the tourist are interested in seen wild animals.25% of the respondent agree that vegetation are also managed by Kenya Wild Service this is because most of the animals are herbivores this mean they will feed on the vegetation. Also the carnivores hind on the vegetation when they are looking for prey.20% suggested that swamps are also managed by the Kenya Wild life Service, this is because the animals drink their water from the swamps also the neighboring community take their cattle to drink water from the swamps.

10% suggested that hill and birds are also managed by Kenya Wild life Service, this is because some tourists are only interested in seeing birds alone. Also the hills act as the observation hill at the park. When you on top of the hill you can view the whole park.5% of

the respondent suggested that also the lake which is a seasonal lake is also is also managed by Kenya Wildlife Service.

**4.7: Is there any conservation projects that your department has initiate among Amboseli Community.**

**Table 13: showing the conservation project that Kenya Wild Life Service initiate among Amboseli Community.**

Project	Frequency	Percentage
Community project	40	35%
Elephant research project	50	40%
Conservation based project	30	25%
Total	120	100%

**Source primary:** Amboseli National Park.

35% of the respondent agreed that community project is initiated by Kenya Wild life Service. Community project is mainly based on showing the hospitability to the tourist, also they get some benefits from Kenya Wildlife Service like free education, dispensaries, borehole water, etc 40% of the respondent viewed that elephant research project is popular project in Amboseli National Park. The project is mainly responsible for elephant. 25% of the respondent suggested conservation based project is the project that deals with conserving the ecosystem.

**4.8: Are local people cooperative with conservation effort/issues?**

**Table 14: showing if local people are cooperating with conservation issues.**

Response	Frequency	Percentage .
True	90	90%
False	30	10%
Total	120	100%

**Source Primary:** Amboseli National Park.

From the above table, the majority making 90% agreed with the statement local people are cooperative with conservation issues. This is because it is through the resources around and within the park that they survive. 10% of the respondent viewed No because some time when the wild animals attack the local people cattle, they local people become wild and kill the wild animals.

**4.7 :What challenges/problem do you encounter in your conservation efforts in Amboseli National Park?**

**Table 15: showing the finding on the challenges encountered in conservation efforts.**

Responses	Frequency	Percentage.
True	75	63%
False	45	37%
Total	120	100%

**Source:** Amboseli National Park.

From the above table, the majority of the respondents 63% suggested that the park management encounters challenges during conservation. While 37% viewed that there no challenges encountered during conservation. Majority (63%)of the respondents suggested the following challenges they encounter during conservation:

Wild fire whereby there is seasonal fires which threaten the ecosystem, crop raiding by wild animals, this chronic burden to farmers around Amboseli. People illegally pass through the park there by increasing the risk of poaching and fire as well as conflicts with the authorities.



## CHAPTER FIVE.

### SUMMARY, RECOMMENDATION, AND CONCLUSIONS

#### 5.0 Introduction.

The basis aim of this study was to find out the attitude of local community of Amboseli National Park towards conservation. In this chapter, the study gives summary, draws conclusion and finally makes recommendations.

#### 5.1 Summary.

In chapter one, the researcher gives a clear situation that prompted him to go in for his study.

In the background to the study, the researcher puts forward a question that compelled him to carry out the study that is: the attitude of local community toward conservation of Amboseli National Park.

Chapter two presents the view of the related literature. This focus on what other authors and writers have researched on in relation to the topic under study. The sources of information used are text books, internet, encyclopedia, and library documents. The researcher handled the following variables: first, the attitude of local people living around Amboseli National Park towards conservation. Second, the relationship between the park management and the local people in terms of benefit sharing. Third, the influence of the local people attitude towards park management.

Chapter three gives the trend of methodology adopted in the field. It treats the tools and methods the researcher employed in carrying out the study. These include research design area of the study, selection of the respondents and data analysis.

Chapter four deals with analysis, presentation, and interpretation of the data obtained from field in the fulfillment o the aim of the study.

## **5.2 Conclusions**

After a thorough and comprehensive study of the entire research report, the researcher came up with the following conclusions, which were based on the study findings and literature review.

It is not entirely a single factor that affects the local people in their communities but rather a number of factors;

The researcher generally concludes that there is a close relationship between the local communities and the park management. This is because the local communities sustainably harvest weaving materials; medicinal herbs also graze along the boundaries of the park, and get water for themselves and their animals from the park. This indicates the local people to some extent survive on the park.

The researcher found out that the most outstanding positive impacts of the park on the local communities is: improve health facilities, water supply, availability of education facilities and income generation among others.

The researcher also found that the attitude of the local communities to a large extent is positive; this is because the local communities are really cooperating in the issues of conserving the Amboseli ecosystem. For example they report any poacher at the park, work at the park as guides, etc.

The researcher also found that the park adversely affects the social life of the local people; this is through cultural bastardization where social morality has been degenerated.

### **5.3 Recommendations**

After the critical and systematic study on the attitude of local people towards conservation, the researcher recommends the following for the improvement of local communities' attitude and livelihood.

The park authorities should ensure that they develop a friendly environment and cooperate with the local communities to improve and manage the park resources. The Kenya Wildlife Service as a parastatal body managing all the protected areas should increase on the percentage shared by the local people from the park entrance fees. This is presently 20% of the park entrance fees which is shared among the local community.

The local communities whose gardens and plantation are damaged by the wild life say the baboons, elephants, and monkey should be timely compensated. As this will help iron out the conflict between the park management and local people.

The government through its parastatal body likes National Environmental Management Authority, Kenya Wild life Service; National Forestry Authority should sensitize the local community about the value of national park and forests. This could be through workshop seminars and conferences. This will help motivate the local communities to attach value to natural resources like national parks.

The park authority should include some of the local people on the committee for management of the park. This will help instill a spirit of conservation. This will enhance sustainable tourism in the area.

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## Appendices

### Appendix1: Questionnaire.

Dear Respondents.

I am Lydia Metian a student at Kampala international university pursuing a bachelors' degree in management. I kindly request you to fill up this questionnaire that would amply help me succeed in finishing my academic research project in partial fulfillment of the award of bachelors degree of Tourism and hotel management. The information obtained is purely academic.

**INSTRUCTION: ENCYCLE THE MOST APPROPRIATE OPTION TO YOU.**

(1) Have you benefited from Amboseli National Park?

A) Agree    b) Disagree            c) Strongly agree    d) Strongly disagree

(2) If so to what extent?

a) Small            b) Large            c) Largest.

(3) In which field (area) do you think you have benefited most?

a) Education      b) Infrastructure for example roads            c) Security

d) Income generation

(4) To what extend do you think local peoples' attitude is contributing to good management of the park.

a) To a higher extent    b) to less extent            c) Zero extent

5) Communities leader have been employed by the park, giving them little or no time to execute their duties in communities

a) True

b) False

**APPENDIX II:**

**Kenya Wildlife Service and Forestry Dept. Staff Questionnaire**

1. What natural resources are you responsible for managing in and around Amboseli?

(a) ..... (b).....

(c) ..... (d).....

2. (i) Do you think the people in this area are using these resources well?

Yes  No

(ii) If yes, give reasons.

(a).....

b).....

(c).....

(d).....

(iii) If no, give your reasons.

(a).....

(b).....

(c).....

(d).....

3. (i) Are there any conservation projects that your department has initiated among the Amboseli community?

Yes

No

(ii) If yes, which ones?

(a).....

(b).....

(c).....

(d).....

(iii) If no, why not?

(a).....

(b).....

(c).....

(d).....

4. (i) Are local people cooperative with conservation efforts/issues?

Yes

No

(ii) If yes, why do you think they support the projects?

(a).....

(b).....

(c).....



(d).....

(iii) If no, what are the reasons for lack of support?

(a).....

(b).....

(c).....

(d).....

5. What challenges/problems do you encounter in your conservation efforts in Amboseli NP.

(a).....

(b).....

(c).....

(d).....