

# Protecting Elephants and Their Habitats Across the Greater Mara Ecosystem



## Who We Are

Mara Elephant Project (MEP) was established in 2011 with the mission of protecting elephants and their habitats across the Greater Mara Ecosystem (GME). MEP's vision is to see the existence of a stable and healthy elephant population co-existing peacefully with the people across the GME. Our decade of experience using the MEP Method of boots on the ground Maasai rangers and applied research all while taking a collaborative approach has eradicated poaching in the region and combatted conflict and habitat loss. For over a decade at MEP, we've focused on protecting wildlife and wild spaces for generations to come.



Photo: Amish Chhagan



## The Crisis

2012

**96** elephants were poached in the GME

2015

Reporting indicates the human population in the Mara is growing more than **3X** the global rate

2020

MEP recorded the **highest level** of bushmeat poaching and habitat destruction in a decade



The killing of elephants threatens an iconic keystone species and results in the erosion of biodiversity.

## What We Do



### MONITOR

MEP uses cutting edge tools to monitor elephants, rangers and asset movements in real time daily for threats to wildlife, communities and habitat. These tools include the helicopter, elephant collars and EarthRanger.



### EVALUATE

MEP evaluates data to provide greater protection in our areas of operation. Data evaluation improves our program's effectiveness and establishes a strong working relationship with key partners that inspires and advances conservation.



### PROTECT

MEP employs Maasai rangers in patrol units who work tirelessly in unprotected areas of the Mara. Our rangers lead the anti-poaching operations and stop conflict to increase security for wildlife, communities and habitat in the Mara.

## Impact



Working in close collaboration with Kenya Wildlife Service and other conservation organizations, **MEP's presence in the Mara has increased security for wildlife and wild spaces.**





## Tools



A specialized **conservation software** that collects information in real time from all of MEP's assets including elephant collars, rangers, vehicles and cameras that MEP quickly analyzes and uses to react.



MEP has collared and monitored over **50 elephants** in the GME. These collars alert MEP rangers to elephant immobility or slow speed and geo-fence breaches which MEP reacts to at a moment's notice.



MEP operates the only helicopter **dedicated to wildlife** in the Mara. The helicopter monitors and protects wildlife and wild spaces in the Mara.



## Impact

### A Decade of Impact

In the last decade MEP focused on teaching, training and employing Maasai men and women to be first responders to save wildlife and wild spaces.

Their commitment has:

- Disrupted poaching in the GME
- Protected critical forest habitat and ecologically key areas
- Kept community's farms and families safe



MEP'S KUMI (10<sup>th</sup>) ANNIVERSARY

Help us celebrate our milestone.

Donate to strengthen, build and grow our decade of success.



Photo: Finlay Marrian

**MEP IS READY FOR THE NEXT 10 YEARS.**

Join us to combat the rise in conflict, habitat destruction and continue our previous success.



Monitor and Protect Elephant Families Over the Next 10 Years

Monitoring the overall population of all elephant families protects them into the future. MEP's LTM team studies how elephants use their limited wild spaces to expand the protection and survival of elephant families.



Monitor and Protect 10 Collared Elephants

MEP's elephant collars protect community's crops and keep down tensions between wildlife and people. The monitoring informs spatial planning to protect the ecosystem's biodiversity and solve conflict.



Protect More Elephants by Employing 10 Total Ranger Teams

MEP's Maasai rangers are the defenders of the Mara's wildlife, people and habitat because they are the future generation of Kenyan conservationists.

## Support Us

By working together, we can save wildlife and wild spaces.



All U.S. donations are processed through our 501(c) 3 the Sidekick Foundation, Inc. dba Mara Elephant Project.

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