

MONTHLY REPORT

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DID YOU KNOW?

Did you know, ACBA members published a SharedEarth/SharedOceans article titled: Integrate biodiversity targets from local to global levels? The article can be accessed at: <https://cordioea.net/shared-earth-shared-ocean/paper/>



Communications Task Force

The Africa CSOs Biodiversity Alliance (ACBA) in collaboration with China's Civil Society Alliance for Biodiversity Conservation (CSABC) hosted a webinar titled sustainable management and use of wild species and agricultural and husbandry ecosystems towards human well-being and an ecosystem service-based economy. The webinar was held on the 30th August 2021.

The main goal of the webinar was to share lessons learned and best practices on “Sustainable management and use of wild species and, agricultural and husbandry ecosystems for human well-being and an ecosystem service-based economy” and how they can contribute to the Global Biodiversity Goals of the post-2020.

The African Civil Society Organizations Biodiversity Alliance communications team was honoured to be part of the communications team in planning for the Kenya Indigenous Youth Forum which celebrated the World's Day of the Indigenous Peoples. The forum was a two day event which was hosted online on the 7th and the 9th of August 2021. The forum was themed “Sustainable practices: how intergenerational knowledge-sharing systems preserve indigenous peoples cultural heritage and ancestral lands conservation”. The forum was organised in partnership with Jamii asilia Centre, Wings of empowering Pastoralists and the Sengwer Indigenous Peoples. Prior to the forum ACBA communications team ran a social media campaign which included profiling different young people from indigenous communities with quotes of their liking of the role of indigenous peoples.

CSO OF THE MONTH



Jamii Asilia Centre (JAC)

Jamii Asilia Centre (JAC) is a non-profit, non-governmental organisation registered under Kenya's NGOs and Coordination Board. Jamii Asilia is a Swahili phrase for Indigenous People. Jamii Asilia began as an idea of the founders, Indigenous Youth leaders from Indigenous Communities in the Rift Valley Region, namely, the Ilchamus, Ogiek, Samburu, Turkana, Maasai, Endorois and Sengwer. The idea came from the fact that the numerous indigenous communities in the above region have continued to face marginalisation in socio-economic and political spheres even post 2010 Constitutional change, which introduced a devolved system of governance.



Carson Kiburo
Founder
Jamii Asilia Centre (JAC)

There mission as an Indigenous-led NGO is to promote and advocate for the rights of indigenous peoples in Kenya. Jamii Asilia envisions providing a voice for Indigenous Peoples in Kenya, with culturally relevant ideas in socio-economic development, achievable by developing their capacity to adopt sustainable best practices through advocacy, information dissemination, research and networking.

They Focus Areas are Indigenous Peoples rights, Climate action & Biodiversity, Environment and Policy advocacy and Research. JAC hosts the Kenya Indigenous Youth Network as the secretariat; it is a self-organised space whose aim is to bring together indigenous youth to form a network and strategic partnership towards joint promotion and protection of Indigenous Peoples rights in Kenya. The membership is open for the Indigenous-identifying minorities in Kenya.

Jamii asilia plays a major role every year in the organisation of the KIYN convenes the Kenya Indigenous Youth Forum (KIYF), an annual event held to coincide with the United Nations International Day of World's Indigenous Peoples, which happens on 9th August every year.

To learn more about Jamii Asilia visit their website <https://www.jamiiAsilia.org>. to be part of Jamii Asilia you can send an email to jac@jamiiasilia.org.

COMMUNITY OF THE MONTH

The Endorois

The Endorois are an indigenous minority community living around Lake Bogoria and Mochongoi Ol-Arabel and Marmanet Forest in Marigat (Baringo South Constituency) Mogotio sub-counties of Baringo County, as well as in Nakuru and Laikipia Counties within the Rit Valley of Kenya. The Endorois community lived around Lake Bogoria from time immemorial and regarded Mochongoi Forest and Lake Bogoria as sacred grounds due to the use of these locations for key cultural and religious ceremonies.

They were forcibly evicted from their ancestral land in the early 1970s by the government of Kenya in the name of conservation, ultimately paving the way for the creation of Lake Bogoria National Reserve.

The Endorois people have learnt to grow crops to diversify their livelihood over the last three decades, thus encouraging rich biodiversity around Lake Bogoria. According to the customs of Endorois people, different animals, plants and ecosystems are attached to totemic significance for ease of identification in their thirteen clans when conducting marriage and other ceremonies.

Wildlife conservation: Some wildlife species are very important to ceremonies; for instance, the Crane bird is linked to circumcision and regarded as a wisdom symbol. For that reason, it is prohibited to kill a crane. The Endorois community holds their traditional and spiritual prayers at Loburu, the geysers of hot springs in Lake Bogoria. The Ceremonies are performed by blameless men (both young and old). The hot spring geysers spurt steam that offers medicinal value as well as rich geothermal pools.



POLICY UPDATES

INTERESTING NEWS FROM THE REGION AND BEYOND

- Virtual Intersessional Workshop for the Sustainable Ocean Initiative (SOI) Global Dialogue with Regional Seas Organizations and Regional Fishery Bodies, 29th September – 01 October 2021. Online (confirmed)
- IUCN World Conservation Congress, 3rd to 11th September 2021, Marseille Chanot, Marseille, France

UPCOMING EVENTS



Virtual Intersessional Workshop for the Sustainable Ocean Initiative (SOI) Global Dialogue with Regional Seas Organizations and Regional Fishery Bodies
ONLINE

29 September - 1 October 2021



Online discussions on biosafety commitments from non-State actors for the Action Agenda
ONLINE

27 September - 10 October 2021

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