



AN ASSESSMENT ON COMMUNITY PERSPECTIVES AND VIEWS ON NATURAL RESOURCE MANAGEMENT AND ITS IMPLICATIONS TO BIODIVERSITY CONSERVATION

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Introduction

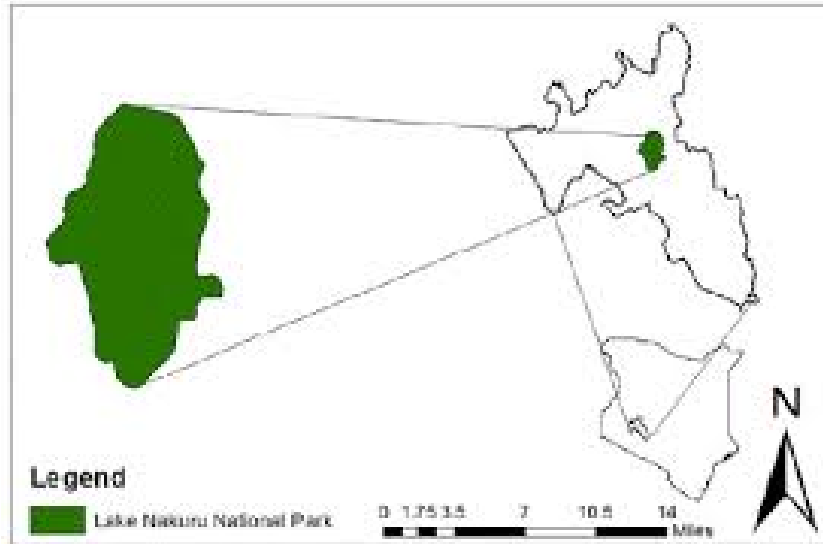
- ▶ Bushmeat hunting is intimately tied to human development challenges
- ▶ Concentrated overhunting is in areas where there are little alternative for income
- ▶ Bushmeat trade causes pressure on the ecosystem that has wide ranging effects that cascade beyond the loss of the hunted species
- ▶ The selective loss of large herbivores, for instance, is known to cause relatively systematic increases in abundance of rodents

Introduction

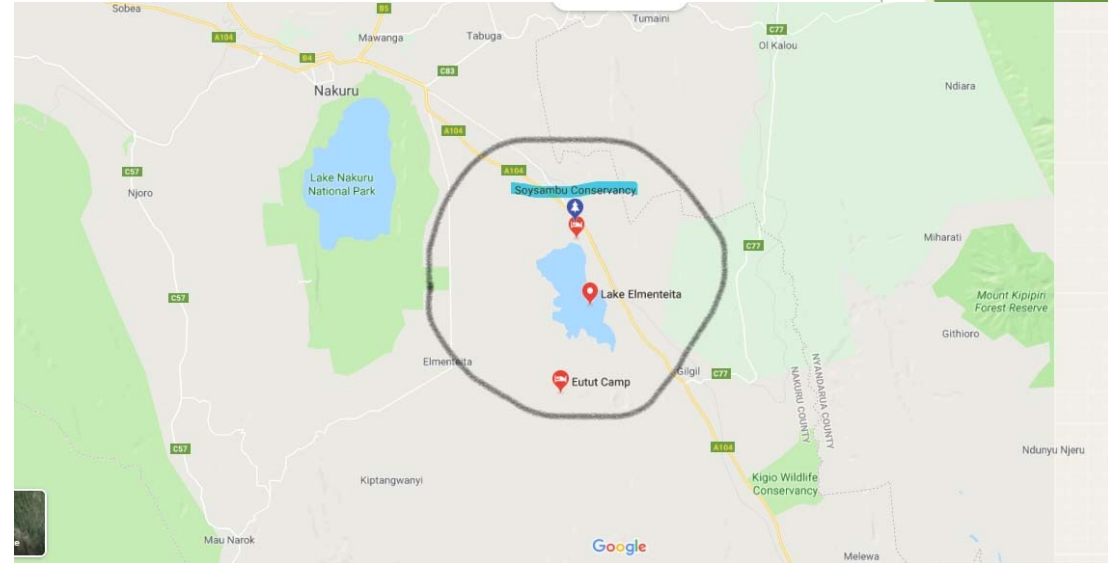
- ▶ Human-Wildlife conflict has become a major threat to the survival of countless species of wildlife globally¹
- ▶ Perceptions and opinions of local people towards wildlife and their surrounding habitat is a critical element in biodiversity conservation and fortification that generally affects the welfare of the adjacent flora and fauna²
- ▶ Community-based conservation has been sited as a key conservation tool, however, this is highly pegged on the overall buy-in and backing from the community³
- ▶ A cross-sectional study on community perception on habitat and wildlife conservation as well as their knowledge on potential zoonotics associated with the consumption of bush meat was conducted in key ecosystem protected areas in Nakuru County.

Study Area

Lake Nakuru National Park



Soysambu Conservancy



Study Objective

- ▶ assess the Knowledge, Attitude and Practice of community members living around critical protected areas on bush meat poaching, trade and consumption & associated zoonoses and perceptions towards habitat and wildlife conservation.

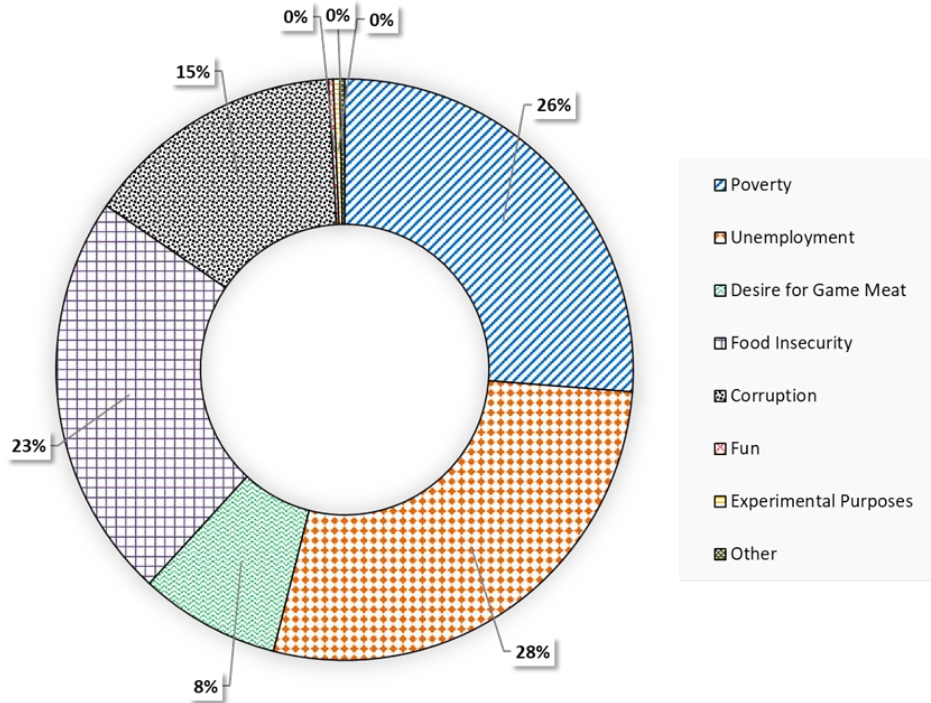
Study design

- ▶ personalized interviews
- ▶ comprehensive semi-structured questionnaire
- ▶ a cross sectional study
- ▶ Eight (8) community youths were recruited and trained

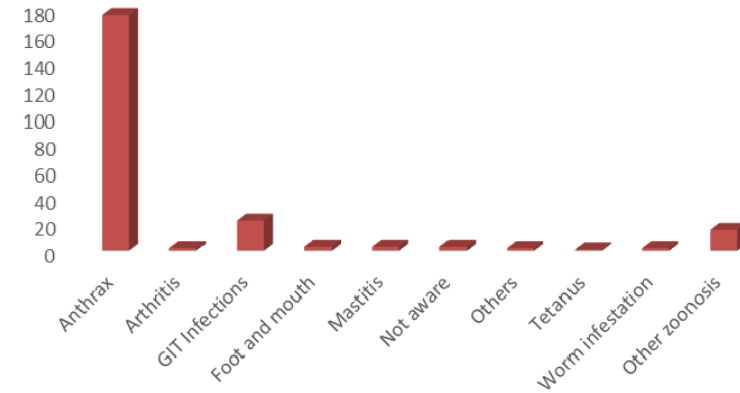
Results

- ▶ Male respondents higher than female respondents (58% vs 42%)
- ▶ Most people in this communities were farmers 54.66% while the rest were either employed, self-employed or students. Few respondents were in a health-related occupation 9.3%
- ▶ 98.2% of community members identified bush meat as meat from wild animals

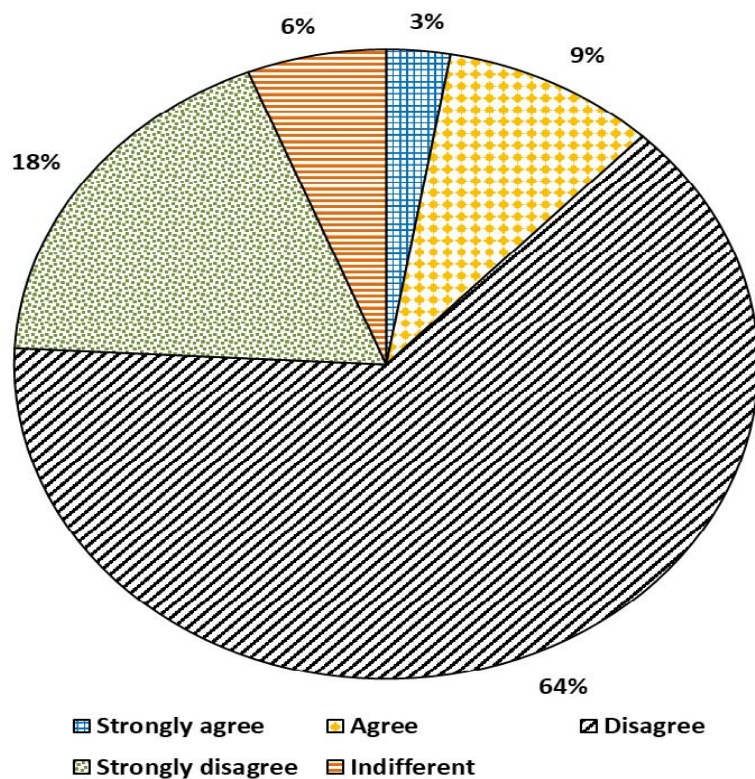
Contributing Factors to Bush Meat Hunting and Trade



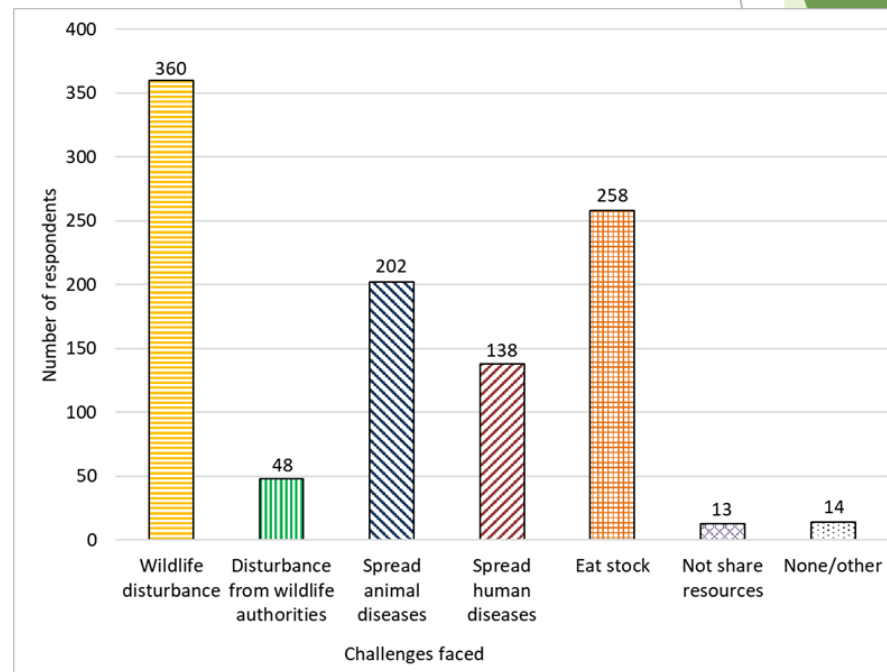
Participants Knowledge on potential Zoonoses



Community perception on consumption of Bush meat



Challenges faced by communities living next to wildlife protected area



Conclusion

- ▶ most of the respondents understood the definition of bush meat
- ▶ *level of awareness on laws governing wildlife and habitat conservation was low
- ▶ *majority of them were aware of the potential risks from the consumption of bush meat
- ▶ driving factors for bush meat hunting and trade within the study community were unemployment, poverty and food security in order of their importance.
- ▶ *community members were willing to actively contribute and participate in wildlife and habitat conservation initiatives in the area

Recommendations

- ▶ Community sensitization and awareness on laws relating to bush meat hunting and trade, wildlife conservation and habitat protection
- ▶ Sensitization on hazards and risks associated with bush meat
- ▶ Community involvement and engagement in wildlife and habitat conservation initiatives
- ▶ Investment on community support initiatives

References

1. <https://www.annualreviews.org/doi/full/10.1146/annurev-environ-110615-085634>
2. <https://rmportal.net/framelib/marshalmurphree-mweka2000.pdf>
3. <https://www.annualreviews.org/doi/full/10.1146/annurev-environ-110615-085634>
4. <http://soysambuconservancy.org/blog/the-battle-against-the-bush-meat-trade/>
5. <https://www.zmescience.com/ecology/world-problems/endangered-species-not-delicacy/amp/>
6. <https://doi.org/10.1098/rsos.160498>



Thank you!