

Environment & Conservation

Sarova Hotels recognises that preserving and maintaining the environment and wildlife habitats is critical and is committed to responsible tourism and hospitality. There are a number of sustainability projects supported by the Company in and around all its properties. In addition, each property adopts requisite processes to minimise any impact on the environment, from the operations of the properties.

Sarova Hotels, Resorts and Game lodges ensure that practices, even though at first glance may appear small, are practiced in all properties. For instance, "Towel Talk" on recycling towels, an initiative aimed at reducing the amount of water utilized in the washing of towels and beddings has seen the properties water consumption drop significantly. In addition to this recycled paper is used for the production of all employee business cards while children who visit the various properties attain valuable information on environmental conservation and conserving the Ozone layer through the Ozone Club's knowledgeable animators. Investments in ICT aim to create paperless offices while supply chain is encouraged to procure recycled paper for office use. Sarova partners with its suppliers and vendors in Green initiatives. Hotels guests are encouraged to plant trees whenever they visit Sarova hotels. This is evident from the large number of trees in all Sarova establishments.

Sarova Lion Hill Game Lodge, Lake Nakuru National Park

Sarova Lion Hill Game Lodge

Lake Nakuru National park is the hub of 100s of bird species that converge at the lake through the better part of the year to feed and procreate. Over the last couple of years the level of water in the lake has drastically reduced, as waters that feed the lake have been cut off due to increased levels of agricultural activities and human settlement. Sarova Lion Hill has taken on a tree planting project with aim of planting 10,000 trees by the end of 2007 (to date over 11,000 trees have been planted). The lodge strives to ensure that its immediate environment is aware of the catastrophe that will emerge if the community does not take an initiative to halt the deterioration of the lake.

Sarova Lion Hill offers guests an opportunity to plant a tree or two to save this ecosystem in dire need of help after which they are presented with a certificate of appreciation by the lodge. The trees are currently being planted at the Lanet Gate entrance with the aim of capturing the waters flowing into the park and also to shield the area from the pollutant emissions from the city.

The lodge is an active participant in the initiatives to save Lake Nakuru as an ornithological paradise and is a key partner in Friends of Lake Nakuru National Park, an association of key players including Kenya Wildlife Service, neighboring hotels, business and farming community. Last year, Sarova Lion Hill Game Lodge actively took part in the "**Cycle with the Rhinos**" race in Lake Nakuru National Park to raise funds towards this initiative where it donated Kshs. 100,000.

Sarova Mara Game Camp, Maasai Mara

The Maasai Mara game reserve recently declared the 7th Wonder of the World is widely considered to be the finest game reserve in Africa; arguably the world, with an abundance of unique wildlife. However the ecosystem within the reserve is extremely fragile and that is why lodges that lie in and around the park are being closely monitored on how they tackle environmental conservation.

Sarova Mara Game Camp located in Maasai Mara National Reserve is one of the pioneers in environmental conservation in the Mara. The lodge has in place a sewage treatment plant that is capable of filtering sewage; and releasing purified water into the surrounding open lands. The

plant comprises of 5 lagoons and 2 septic tanks. The main tank; uniquely shaped into a V for filtering purposes, stores an effluent mixture of fluids and solids which then passes through the V leaving the solids behind allowing purified water to pass. A similar investment was recently made at Sarova Shaba Game Lodge in Shaba National Reserve in northern Kenya.

In the neighboring Sekenani Primary School situated 200m from the Maasai Mara National park gate lies a botanical garden with over 500 trees of different species. Apart from conserving the environment these trees, most of which are traditional with herbal benefits, were planted in the school to create a sense of security to the children and hive them off from the hustles and bustles of the opposite shopping centre.

In addition to this there is the Isokon Cultural village located in the Camp where guests get the opportunity to experience and learn more about the Mara's sensitive ecosystem and various steps that can be taken to conserve the environment. The information is relayed by a member of the Maasai community who also educates guests on medicinal benefits of various plants. All proceeds generated by the village go back into the community

Sarova Whitesands Beach Resort & Spa, Mombasa

There has been growing concern about the filth accumulating on Kenyan beaches; especially those at the North coast, contributing to loss of revenue for the tourism sector in the area. It is for this reason that Sarova Whitesands Beach Resort and Spa, located on Kenya's North Coast, has adapted practices and projects aimed at preserving the beach and its environment. The Resort's staff every fortnight holds a Beach Clean up exercise where they clean up to 4km's of the beach. The team begins the project by first collecting the waste and sorting it out according to the decomposing variability. The decomposable waste is buried as it would naturally blend into the environment. The items that are indecomposable are weighed, recorded and then disposed of accordingly. These efforts aim at offering guests views of pristine white beaches and blue waters.

The Resort has also implemented in all aspects of its business practice environmental policies such as; appointing energy champions in each department that are responsible implementing innovative actions aimed at energy conservation. In addition to this, the resort's team comes together once a year to take part in the country's annual environmental day, World Water Day organized by the UN, UNEP's tree planting program, Mombasa Clean Up Day, events more hotels and resorts should take part in.

Sarova Hotels Herb & Vegetable Gardens

Sarova Lion Hill Game Lodge located in Lake Nakuru National Park recently harvested their first crop from their very own vegetable garden. The initiative which started in February 2009 has now produced a variety of vegetables which will be used to prepare scrumptious meals for guests. Sarova Mara Game Camp continues to be the fore runner with green fingers; growing its vegetables and herbs while Sarova Whitesands Beach Resort & Spa has already started to harvest herbs. Sarova Hotels prides itself in preparing all meals with the freshest ingredients and the vegetable gardens will continue to ensure that the promise is delivered.