

ANNUAL REPORT

2024



OUR ORIGIN



our mission

the wild source foundation is dedicated to creating lasting wildlife conservation through the empowerment of local communities.

We focus on three areas of need: *wildlife research and conservation, creation of economic empowerment, and education.*

We leverage our partners and the connections we've built on the ground to identify needs directly from the communities where we work.

our story

since the inception of the wild source in 2008, we've been on a mission to conserve wildlife, using travel as our means to do it.

Contributing to the regions where we operate has always been an essential part of our culture. We've supported wildlife research, job skills development, and creating ownership opportunities for local people within safari guiding operations and safari camps.

When the safari industry was brought to a halt in 2020, we faced massive challenges. It became evident that our ability to support our mission-based projects would be severely affected. We also knew the communities we worked with would be facing economic devastation and potential health risks.

Past travelers began reaching out to us with their concern for the wonderful people they had met on their safaris and asking how they could help.

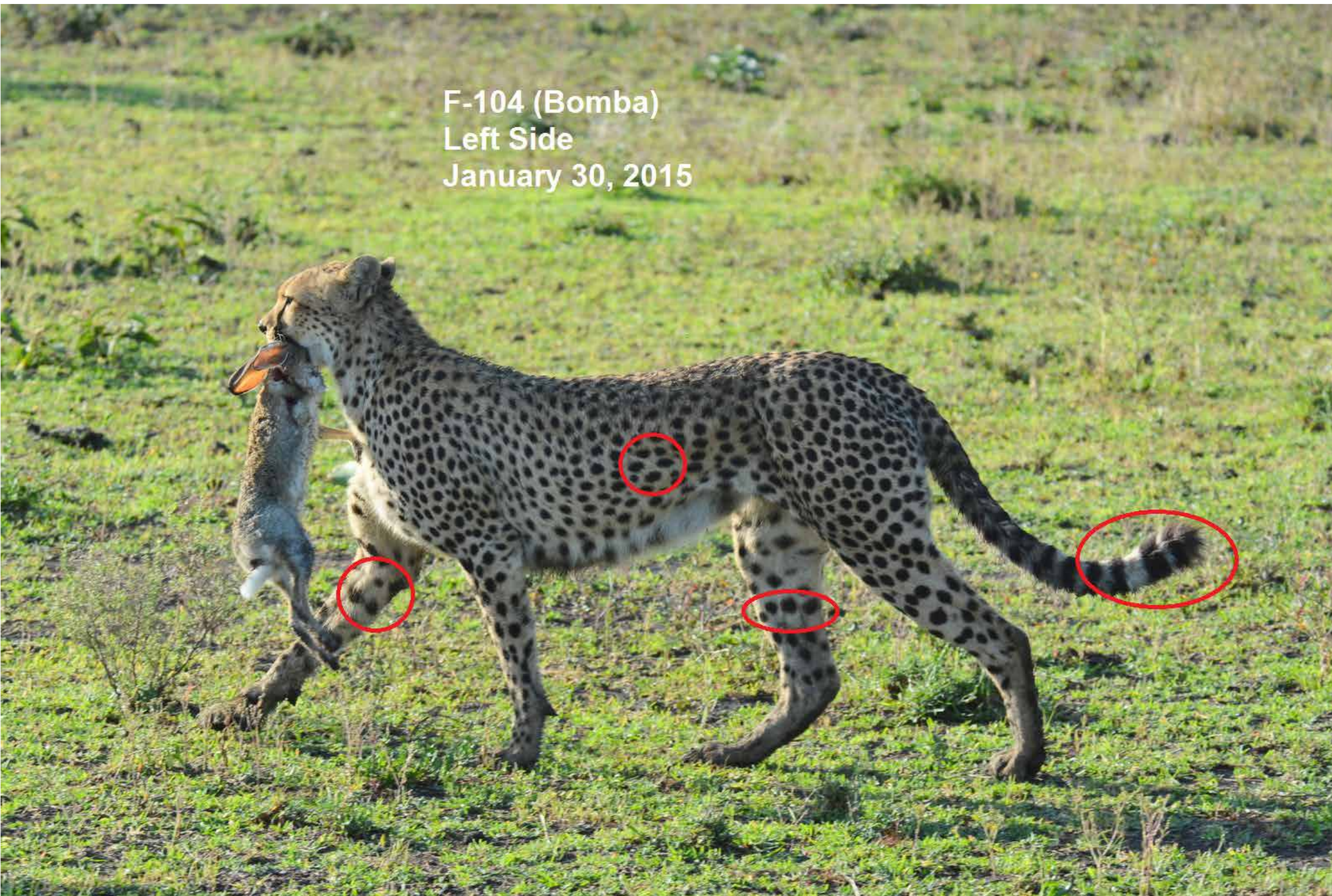
In response, The Wild Source Foundation was formed.

WILDLIFE RESEARCH

+ CONSERVATION



TANZANIA



big cat research

YUSUF MAGOYE CONTINUES TO LEAD BIG CAT RESEARCH BASED OUT OF NJOZI CAMP. AND IN 2024, WE ADDED TWO TRAINEE BIOLOGISTS, RAYMOS AND BENSON.

The team continues to collect observational data on big cat species in the Ndutu/Southern Serengeti and Northern Serengeti regions. In December, we had a biologist workshop with three extremely accomplished, now retired, American wildlife biologists. The workshop and continued mentorship is focused on growing the biologists' reporting capabilities, developing research questions to be investigated, and eventually lead to published research papers.





temminck's pangolin research

WE CONTINUED TO SUPPORT PANGOLIN RESEARCH AT TSWALU KALAHARI WITH FUNDING FOR GRADUATE STUDENT, BEN MELAMDOWITZ.

Ben tagged six pangolins with telemetry transmitters, allowing for the collection of habitat use, including the specific vegetation they're excavating their prey from. We hope to better understand how and why they select certain habitats by linking the vegetation they currently use to what habitats are available. This will help make informed decisions about where confiscated and rehabilitated pangolins should be released to ensure the best chances of survival.



BRAZIL

ocelot research

IN 2024, WE CONTINUED TO SUPPORT THE BRAZILIAN BASED PROJECTO JAGUATIRICAS (OCELOT PROJECT).



We sponsored two ocelot collaring sessions, including the live trapping and veterinarian efforts. Both TWS Pantanal group trips were able to be present for the research collaring and the release. Two additional collars were purchased for the project, which is studying how ocelots are using the land - natural areas and human altered landscapes within Brazil's Pantanal region.



BRAZIL

jaguar id project

TWSF DONATED 17 TRAIL CAMERAS TO THE JAGUAR IDENTIFICATION PROJECT AFTER RECOGNIZING THE URGENT NEED FOR THEIR PRESERVATION.

Jaguars are vital to the health and balance of ecosystems, playing key roles in population control and seed dispersal. Partnering with the Jaguar Identification Project helps to support efforts in monitoring and protecting these incredible creatures.



ECONOMIC

EMPOWERMENT



BOTSWANA



mentmore botswana soap company

FUNDING FOR PRODUCT DEVELOPMENT AND PACKAGING FOR THE WOMAN-OWNED MENTMORE BOTSWANA SOAP COMPANY.

Their vision is to offer a range of products, including dishwashing liquid, powder, and bar soaps with a focus on supplying these products to safari companies, hospitals, schools, and consumers.

gudigwa shop

THE FOUNDATION PROVIDED BUILDING MATERIALS IN ORDER TO BEGIN CONSTRUCTION ON THE BUSINESS OWNER'S LAND.

This woman-owned startup provides basic staples in the very rural village of Gudigwa, Botswana. By building on the owner's land, it helped alleviate financial strain, offering the business a greater chance for long-term success. Continued support helps supply food to the nearby primary school, while also creating a station for government rations delivered to the elderly.



EDUCATION

+ JOB TRAINING



KENYA

ping's bush school

THE LARGEST PROJECT FUNDED BY TWSF IS PING'S BUSH SCHOOL, ESTABLISHED IN 2022.

Located in the Maasai Mara, the school focuses on educating the local community about coexisting with wildlife and managing ecotourism to promote wildlife and habitat conservation.

By the end of 2024, the Resource Center was 80% complete. This center will serve as a hub for international guests, host various outreach workshops with the local community, and provide essential information about the Bush School program.

The Bush School program had an impressive impact in 2024, with 1,890 students participating, with the foundation covering school fees for four students. Additionally, the Planet Managers environmental program, which began in 2024, now involves over 40 students. These students are spread across five local schools, with Oloigero, Suswa, and Molibany primary schools being the largest beneficiaries.

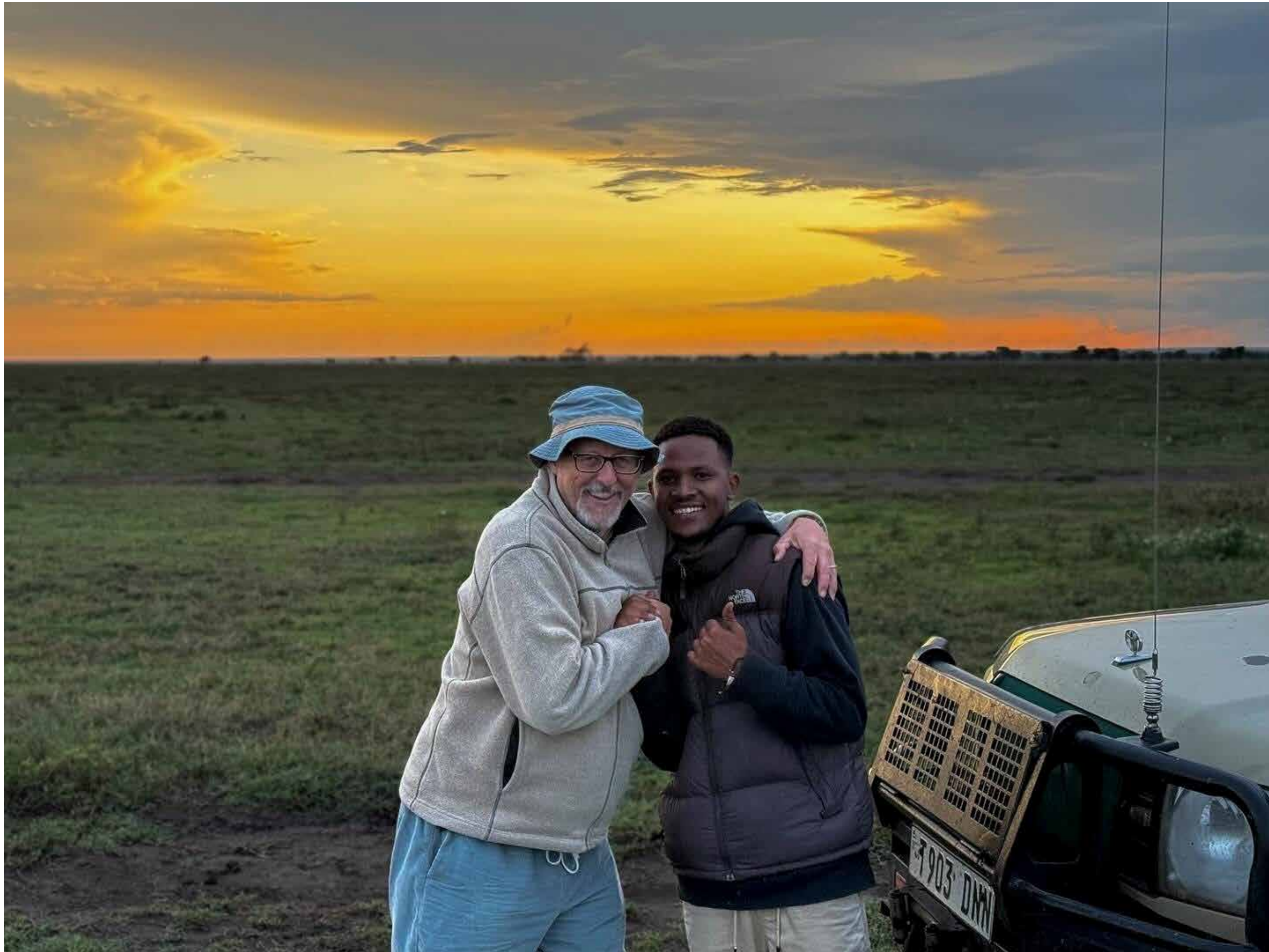
In addition to supporting youth education, the Bush School has expanded its focus to provide educational opportunities for older adults in the Maasai community. Since Kenya's independence in 1963, the country's population has grown from about 2 million to over 51 million, while the Maasai population has surged from 30,000 to over 1 million. This growth has created significant challenges in land management, livestock and wildlife conflict, and conservation efforts.

Historically, educational programs in Kenya have focused primarily on youth and, occasionally, business education for young adults. However, the older Maasai generation, which holds decision-making power over land use and cultural practices, has not had access to this education. This population, aged between 40 and 83, controls all aspects of land management, yet only 20% are educated. To effectively address critical issues like land use and conservation, this age group needs to be part of the conversation.

Recognizing this need, the Bush School organized four workshops for Maasai men in the Mt. Suswa Conservancy area. These workshops focused on how to adapt to changing lifestyles and emphasized the value of wildlife and scenic areas as sustainable resources that can provide long-term economic benefits to the community.



BOTSWANA + TANZANIA



TWSF HAS BEEN INVESTING IN NJOZI CAMP'S VERY OWN JOSEPHAT, SUPPORTING HIS JOURNEY TO BECOME A SAFARI GUIDE.

We are proud to announce that Josephat graduated from guide college in 2024 and is now thriving as an apprentice guide.



IN 2024, WE GIFTED LAPTOPS TO EACH OF THE FIVE GRADUATING SECONDARY STUDENTS FROM GUDIGWA, BOTSWANA WHO WERE ADVANCING TO UNIVERSITY.



mama kathy fund

THE MAMA KATHY FUND WAS FOUNDED AND DIRECTED BY A FREQUENT SAFARI TRAVELER OF THE WILD SOURCE WITH A MISSION TO EDUCATE AND EMPOWER AFRICAN WOMEN.

The Mama Kathy Fund (MKF) is currently supporting a diverse group of students within Kenya and Tanzania, including young women pursuing business, accounting, and healthcare studies, as well as young men and orphans attending primary and secondary schools. MKF provides financial support for tuition, clothing, food, and other essentials for these students while also supporting various vocational and professional training, such as tour guiding, nursing, and pharmaceutical studies. In addition to supporting education, MKF funds infrastructure projects, such as a new kitchen for the Endeves School and a 75,000-liter water tank for the women of Mbuyuni. The fund also launched a tree planting project at the school and is working on establishing a local market in Mbuyuni.

Many of the donors supporting MKF are fellow travelers from Kathy's community of Biologists that have also traveled with The Wild Source in the past.

The Wild Source Foundation is proud to partner with the Mama Kathy Fund, aligning our missions and providing support for the important work they're doing to improve opportunities for African women.

financial overview

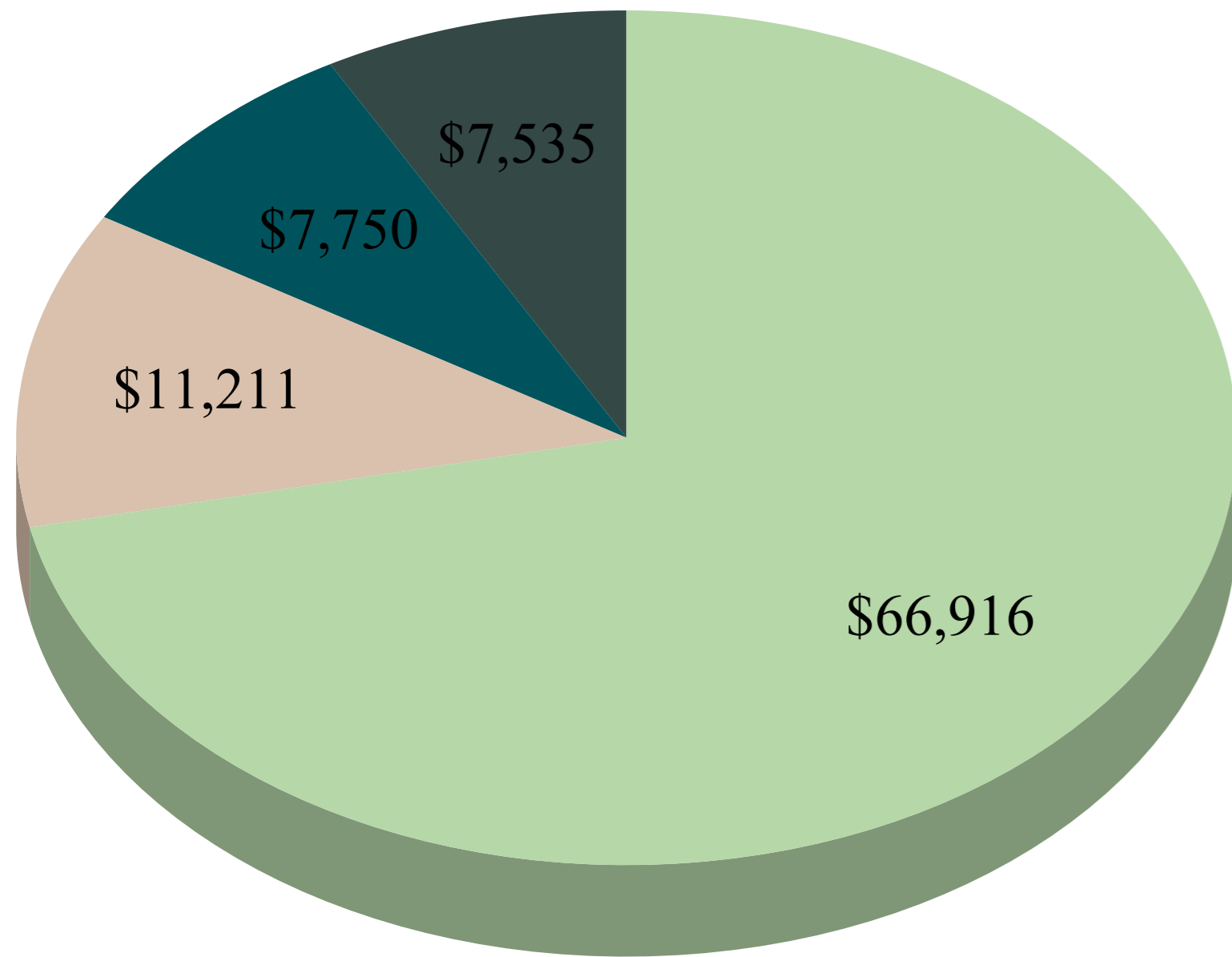
DONATIONS RECEIVED \$129,420

PROGRAM COSTS \$84,777

ADMINISTRATIVE COSTS \$7,535

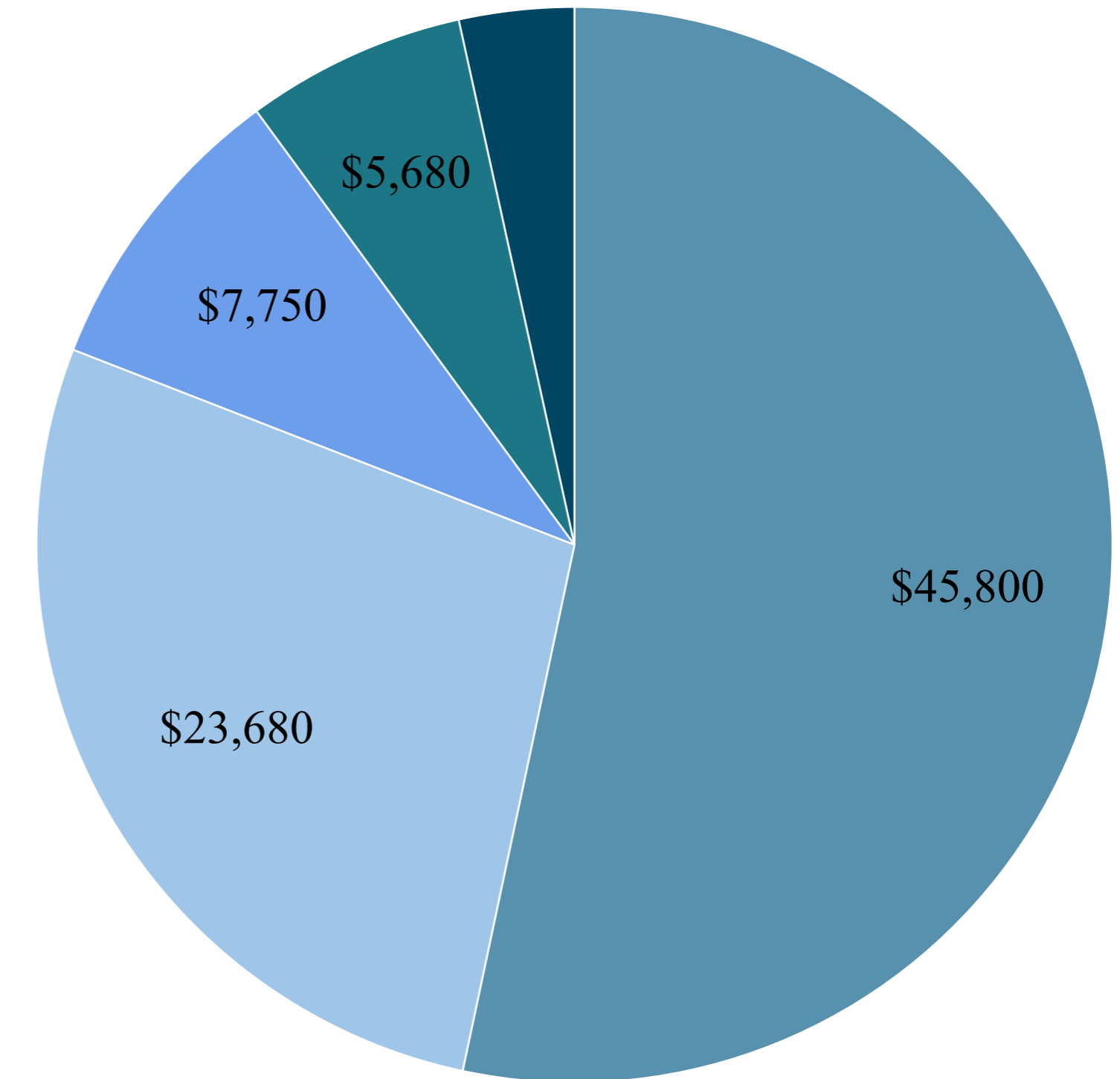
BALANCE ENTERING 2025 \$37,108

BY MISSION



- WILDLIFE RESEARCH + CONSERVATION
- ECONOMIC EMPOWERMENT
- EDUCATION + JOB TRAINING
- ADMINISTRATIVE COSTS

BY COUNTRY



- KENYA
- TANZANIA
- BOTSWANA
- SOUTH AFRICA
- BRAZIL