

# Annual Report 2009

## Celebrating our achievements in 2009:

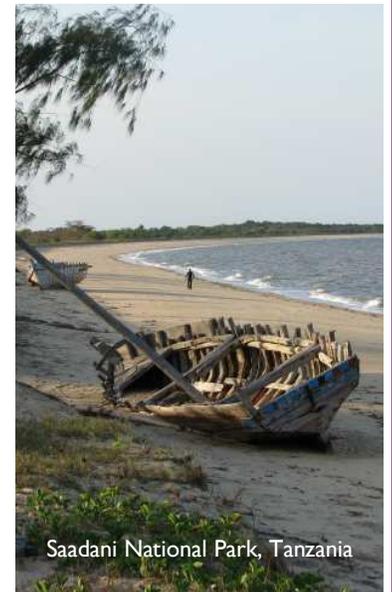
- The Nature Child Reunion initiative hosts another successful international forum and spawns a new organization to lead the broadening of the movement nationally.
- Rob Cairns of Victoria is elected as our new board member.
- The Protected Areas and Poverty Reduction Research Alliance [PAPR] is funded and undertakes a site review in Ghana and Tanzania.
- Partner organizations - Saving African Nature and the Serengeti Farmers Association - are contracted to assist with community liaison on the PAPR.
- Our new partnership with the International Centre for Sustainable Cities results in the successful funding of an urban planning and environmental sustainability project in Dar es Salaam. Morgen Zivhave and Hamidah Mzoa are hired to work on the project
- An office is opened in Dar es Salaam.

## Major Steps Forward

The Kesho Trust has completed another very successful and encouraging year both in our Canadian efforts and our work in Africa.

Our increasing circle of partnerships with other development organizations and donors in Africa is building momentum. Two major projects have begun this year: our research consortium's success in the five year International Communities and Universities Research Alliance awards; and our joining with the International Centre for Sustainable Cities in the second three year phase of their CIDA funded PLUS Network Africa Project.

On the Canada front we hosted another very successful Get Outside Forum and have been successful in launching a new organization to carry the child and nature movement nationally. For the Kesho Trust this is now an opportunity to build the youth element of our conservation focus into all our project work both here and abroad. Once again we are very appreciative of the support of so many people that allows us to achieve what we do and we encourage all who read this to check out our website for details and sign up for the regular newsletters that will keep you up to date on our work.



Saadani National Park, Tanzania

## Our Strategic Directions

### Vision

A world where healthy, strong communities live in harmony with their environment and are instrumental in ensuring that the protected areas and conservation lands they live alongside are thriving and achieving the objectives for which they were established.

### Mission

To facilitate and support community led activities that foster positive relationships between local communities and the conservation of their protected areas. We work with community organizations and individuals to facilitate and enhance their capacity to achieve long term sustainability of community based conservation and development initiatives.

### Goals

- To preserve the natural environment in and around protected areas;
- To strengthen communities and build the capacity of community-based organizations by supporting them to identify and carry out local initiatives which sustain and benefit from environmental conservation.

### Strategic Aims

In order to achieve our vision of a world where healthy, strong communities live in harmony with their environment, the Kesho Trust will:

- Promote and facilitate positive community development activity that is compatible

with conservation and which allows communities to benefit more fully and directly from their position as neighbours to important conservation lands.

- Form partnerships with local community organizations who share our values and goals and help them find appropriate development strategies, mechanisms and learn the skills needed to improve their lives.
- Promote a belief in the value of community based environmental conservation and help build stronger and mutually beneficial relationships between protected areas and local communities.

## Highlights of 2009

Rick and Grant at Ottawa workshop



### The Protected Areas and Poverty Reduction Research Alliance [PAPR] is funded by SSHRC & IDRC

Dr. Grant Murray and Dr. Rick Rollins from Vancouver Island University coordinated a successful bid to the first International University and Community Research Alliance [ICURA] call for proposals from the Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council [SSHRC] and the International Development Research Centre [IDRC]. The awards were recognized at a workshop in Ottawa at the end of June marking the start of a five year research program that

will investigate the relationship between protected areas and poverty in adjacent communities. The consortium has participating partners in three countries - Canada, Ghana and Tanzania.

The program focuses on 4 research themes: a) the costs and benefits of protected areas to local communities; b) human and wildlife interactions; c) governance; and, d) knowledge mobilization.

The Kesho Trust in Tanzania will be responsible for coordinating the community liaison and knowledge mobilization activities for the two research sites adjacent to the Serengeti and Saadani national parks.

We are partnering with Saving African Nature [SANA] and the Serengeti Farmers Association [SEFA] who, along with Bruce Downie and our staff, will assist in the community work and provide support for the visiting researchers.

**“One of the biggest challenges we face is the inability to manage its solid waste in a way that is environmentally sensitive.”**

### New DSM office to support urban environment project

Jane McRae, Program Director of the International Centre for Sustainable Cities is the project director for the second phase of the Sustainable Cities: PLUS Network Africa Program. This CIDA funded work provides support to the City Council and the municipalities in Dar es Salaam to encourage more effective urban planning and with greater sensitivity to the benefits of sustainable development through positive interaction with the environment.

The project will seek innovative solutions to urban problems and encourage solutions through engagement with stakeholder groups in the city.

Morgen Zivhave is a full time Coordinator for the project and Hamidah Mzoa, who has been supporting the Kesho Trust in Tanzania since its inception, is the part time Administrative Officer. We are very pleased to have these dedicated staff working with us.



Participants at the 2009 Peer Exchange in Dar es Salaam



### Research team visits sites in Ghana and Tanzania

In August 2009, key participants in the research team visited the sites in both Tanzania and Ghana. The adjacent photo shows Rick Rollins [Vancouver Island University], Abiud Kaswamilla [Dodoma University, Tanzania] and their guides poling their way through Avu Lagoon in Ghana.

The trip was a great success and provided an excellent opportunity to meet with local communities and introduce the research program we are em-

barking on. Besides Avu Lagoon, an area where the Nature Conservation Research Centre has been working on community based conservation, we visited Bui and Mole national park areas in Ghana and the villages linked with them. In Tanzania we visited Saadani and Serengeti national parks and the adjacent communities identified for the research program. In each case we met with village committees and other residents to explain the nature of the program and the

objectives of what we wanted to achieve. The reception was very positive as all these communities experience significant challenges, feel quite disenfranchised and ignored by the managing agencies of protected areas in their homeland. The exception may be Avu Lagoon where major efforts have been made to engage with local communities and build ecotourism opportunities that are managed by and directly benefit the communities.

## Highlights of 2009

### Get Outside Forum a Huge Success

Building on the interest from our February 2007 forum, the Kesho Trust co-sponsored BC's 2nd Regional Children, Families and Nature Forum in March 2009. The intention of this forum was to broaden the conversation about reconnecting children and families with nature to a larger audience and to authentically engage youth participation at the Forum and subsequently in the broader movement.

Over 200 people attended and the gathering was a roaring

success. We were particularly pleased that money was contributed by the BC Government specifically to support youth attendance. As a result 30 youth were at the Forum and the forum was designed to ensure their ability to respond to key speakers and partake in the Forum as equals.

We also thought it was important that all attendees demonstrate their commitment to act to ensure that children become reconnected to nature. To this end the Hatley Park Declaration was posted throughout the

forum and it was inspiring to note that most people who attended signed the Declaration.

We were also thrilled to have great support and participation from 4 leaders in Richard Louv's Children and Nature Network.

Participants were very pleased with the outcomes of the event. A summary of the Get Outside! Forum and the Hatley Park Declaration are both posted through our website.



### 30 Rainwater Storage Tanks Completed - More Needed

Ereto Maasai Youth [EMAYO] began this project in late 2008 with a study tour to a similar project in a Maasai community in Kenya. They quickly put into practice what they learned there and through 2009 constructed 30 rainwater storage tanks in family bomas and at local schools.

The project focuses on supporting the women to develop systems for domestic water supply. This will ease the burden of carrying water from

town which takes huge amounts of their time. Now they are able to devote more of their energies to other things such as income generating activities and the girls are more free to attend school.

EMAYO is pleased with the success of the project and its support from UNDP but they are actively looking for further donor support because the community need is still significant.



### Child and Nature Alliance created

After 3 years of background work by the Kesho Trust we are proud to say that the Child and Nature Alliance was successfully launched at the recent Get Outside! Forum and their first Annual General Meeting held in December 2009. The Alliance is quite similar to Richard Louv's organization in the United States and Richard has agreed to be its Honorary Director.

The Alliance has a vision that all children and their families should be connected with nature and the outdoors in the settings where they live, play, learn and work. Kesho Trust Director Bob Peart chairs the newly elected Board and the board members themselves are a well-respected spectrum of health, environment and education advocates from across Canada.

The initial priorities are to develop a Canada-wide youth orientated Natural Leaders Alliance, partner with like-minded corporations to promote the message across Canada and ensure that the proper governance and policy mechanisms are in place by government to support this work. We look forward to their success. For more information please go to their website at [www.childnature.ca](http://www.childnature.ca)

***“Children need to be connected to nature in the settings where they live and play.”***



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Rob Cairns  
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Peter Campbell, President  
Gumboot Productions  
Victoria, BC

## Financial Report

The Kesho Trust was incorporated as a society in 2005 in British Columbia, Canada and was registered as an International NGO in Tanzania in 2006.

In Canada our major emphasis in 2009 was the creation of a new organization to carry forward the work of the Nature Child Reunion initiative to a national level. The Get Outside Forum and the continuing support of our key donors has been instrumental in allowing this to happen.

In Africa, individual donors have been crucial in the expansion of our program leading to the success of key partnerships in bringing two major projects to fruition. Major funding of these new projects from Canadian agencies has been the big news of 2009.

A summary of our 2009 statement of accounts is provided here. Our Financial Statements are prepared by Ounsted and Co. of Victoria, BC.

Summary of Financial Statements Fiscal year 2008 / 2009		
Consolidated Balance Sheet		
	2009	2008
<b>Assets</b>		
Current assets	\$12,537	\$11,707
Investments [trust fund]	\$5,485	\$3,959
<u>Accounts receivable</u>	<u>\$574</u>	<u>\$566</u>
Total assets	\$18,629	\$16,232
<b>Liabilities</b>		
Current liabilities	\$800	\$800
<u>Long term debts</u>	<u>\$0</u>	<u>\$0</u>
Total liabilities	\$800	\$800
Consolidated Statement of Operations		
	2009	2008
<b>Revenue</b>		
Donations	\$19,257	\$13,319
Grants	\$55,831	\$29,440
<u>Other income</u>	<u>\$4</u>	<u>\$6</u>
Total revenue	\$75,092	\$42,765
<b>Expenses</b>		
Program delivery	\$66,010	\$34,025
<u>Administration</u>	<u>\$6,685</u>	<u>\$2,468</u>
Total operating expenses	\$72,695	\$36,493
Excess of revenues over expenditures for the year	\$2,397	\$6,272

## Many Thanks to Our Donors and Supporters

The Kesho Trust appreciates the interest and financial support that we have received from individuals and organizations during the past year. The contributions have been varied, including individual financial donations, commitments of time and the financial contributions from organizations and foundations.

Our thanks go to:

**Kesho Trust Volunteers:**

Erica Heuer  
Brent Liddle  
Lorraine Wapling

**Individual donors:**

Veronica Bak  
Stephen Blane  
Debra Bowen  
Jack Christie

Bruce Downie  
Margaret Downie  
Paul Downie & Andrea Philp  
Brent Liddle  
Rosemary O'Shaughnessy  
Brenda Protheroe  
Bob Peart  
Marlene Power  
Suzanne Simard

**Organizational supporters:**

Alberta Parks & Recreation  
Association  
Canadian International Development Agency  
Children & Nature Network  
International Development  
Research Centre  
Govt. of British Columbia  
Mountain Equipment Coop  
Royal Roads University



Meeting with Rwamchanga Village Committee