

File 17 p. 168 • Kenya

Capital: Nairobi

Population: 49.7 million in 2017

Official languages: English and Swahili

- Size of the state of Texas
- Two seasons: one rainy and one dry
- More than 50 national parks and reserves
- Kenyans living in rural areas: 74.8%
- Kenyans living in urban areas: 25.2%

File 17 p. 170 • Fresh flowers, blooming business

It is estimated that over 500,000 Kenyans depend on the floriculture industry, 90,000 of whom are flower farm employees.

Kenya's floriculture industry exported 125,000 tons in 2013, valued at \$507 million.

The agriculture sector contributes 25.3% of Kenya's GDP, with the flower industry accounting for 1.3% of the national economy.

Kenya Flower Council / Kenya National Bureau of Statistics

File 17 p. 171 • How to make a turtle-friendly holiday on Kenya's coast

Responsible operators in the tourism industry are raising awareness of the plight¹ of turtles among hotel, staff and beach operators.

Kenya Wildlife Service (KWS) says:

- Leave only footprints in the sand and air bubbles in the water.
- Don't dispose of litter² in the sea (or anywhere except in a bin). Turtles mistake clear plastic waste for jellyfish³ and can die if they eat it.
- Try to stay in resorts⁴ that have responsible beachfront management practice – for example, banning bright lights that face the beach and can confuse nesting turtles, or keeping all beach furniture behind the high-water mark so that it does not present obstacles for turtles.
- Don't drive motorised vehicles on the beach. Compacted sand from vehicle use makes it hard for turtles to dig nests.
- Research marine tour operators who don't disturb wildlife such as dolphins.

www.theguardian.com, 2011

1. very difficult situation **2.** throw away waste **3.** méduse

4. hotels offering recreational activities

Tourism hard facts

About 1.5 million tourists visit Kenya each year

1/5 of all new jobs created last decade are related to tourism

In 2017, Kenya earned \$1.2 billion from tourism

Tourism represents 10.4% of Kenya's global GDP

1/10 jobs is supported by tourism

www.wttc.org, 2018

File 17 p. 172 • Maasai warriors in Kenya now protect African wildlife

A little kid is hunched over his school book in a dusty classroom of a village school in Kenya, drawing a lion. Probably no more than seven, he beams with pride: "This lion is my friend!"

A gradually unfolding revolution in Kenya is seeking to reconnect Africans to their wildlife. For as they start to share in the income from a booming sustainable tourism industry, so they become eager to help protect and preserve the lion, leopard, rhino, buffalo and elephant that bring many of these tourists to their lands.

Once Maasai warriors would kill a lion on their coming of age¹ to prove their strength and courage: now they are being persuaded that to be a guardian of lions carries much more prestige and honour. Rhinos used to be so often targeted by poachers² for their valuable horns. Now locals are much keener to report any newcomer they suspect may be a poacher.

Adapted from *www.traveller.com.au*, 2017

- 1.** when they become adults **2.** illegal hunter

The greenhouse project

The greenhouse¹ was built as a pilot project in 2012 using low-cost materials. It is used to produce non-native crops² that are sold to generate an income. The objective is to show community members that they, too, can produce plants for sale and not just for their own subsistence.

Grow to eat and learn to earn

The project was launched in March 2014. The first step consisted of teaching participants how to create kitchen gardens at home. Families were introduced to the basics of composting and organic farming.

The 'Grow to Eat' project has changed the lives of the families involved and improved their chances of feeding themselves and setting money aside in the process. Although most meeting attendees are women, men are taking an increasingly active role in the work of the kitchen gardens.

sautikuufoundation.org

1. *serre* **2.** agricultural produce

File 17 p. 179 • From Nairobi to Mombasa

Cries of “save our park”, “save our animals” were heard echoing through Nairobi’s National Park in Kenya earlier this month, as protesters thronged¹ to challenge the construction of a six and a half kilometer railway bridge. If it all goes ahead, the bridge will stretch through the protected parkland, running above giraffes, black rhinos, lions and leopards.

The railway is a scheme² to reduce travel time between the capital Nairobi and Mombasa, Kenya’s second largest city. Supporters of the railway claim that it will boost exports, create jobs, and create a far greater ease of movement for Kenyans and tourists alike.

But, in 2017, a petition from wildlife campaigners demanded the completion of an environmental impact study. Construction was stopped and a legal tussle³ ensued.

Kenya Railways insist that the railway has been designed with animal welfare⁴ in mind. In the stretch of railway through the national park, the train will be elevated above the ground, allowing animals to pass freely underneath the tracks. It will also be camouflaged, soundproofed and vibration-proofed.

Adapted from *www.theworldweekly.com*, 2018

1. gather (many people) 2. plan 3. fight 4. well-being