

# ANGAMA

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## ANGAMA TO PARTNER WITH BIG LIFE IN AMBOSELI

Through a long-term agreement, Angama will bolster the conservation efforts of Big Life Foundation, and the Sheldrick Wildlife Trust, to secure the future of Kimana Sanctuary



*Tolstoy, one of the famous tuskers, in Kimana Sanctuary with Mt. Kilimanjaro in the background.  
Photo: Jeremy Goss*

Established in 1996 as the first community-owned wildlife sanctuary in Kenya, Kimana Sanctuary has an outsized importance to the greater Amboseli ecosystem. Overlooking Mt. Kilimanjaro, the Sanctuary is part of a corridor that connects Amboseli National Park to the Chyulu Hills and Tsavo West National Park creating a critical migratory path for wildlife, most notably the region's famous tusker elephants. This diverse and intimate sanctuary offers an astonishing biodiversity with fever tree forests, savannah and marsh, providing vital year-round access to water, making it a haven for dozens of species of animals.

The partnership will see Big Life retain its head lease with the 844 community landowners as well as its management responsibilities, while the sub-lease to Angama for tourism access to the Sanctuary will ensure a minimum funding commitment of over US\$ 11 million over 25 years. The Sheldrick Wildlife Trust will continue its important support through funding for anti-poaching patrols along with financing for leases elsewhere in the corridor.



“Kimana Sanctuary is that rare and special place, a wild space that can stand up to the economics driving habitat-loss across Africa – and thrive. This partnership with Angama delivers a long-term sustainable-use case that can and will protect this critically important wildlife habitat,” said Richard Bonham, Co-Founder & Executive Chairman of Big Life. “Moreover, this is a clear example for conservationists and philanthropists across the world that where wildlife thrives, tourism will follow, and we are equally excited for what this means for the landowners and their families.”

Angama CEO Nicky Fitzgerald adds, “Kimana Sanctuary is a little wilderness jewel. Everywhere you turn there is beauty – the abundant wildlife, the ever-changing habitat, the super tuskers, and always the mountain. Guests will experience something truly special whilst making a tangible impact. I am so proud that Angama can build on its success in the Mara to play a bigger role in sustaining this fragile but critically important corner of Kenya.”

“Angama’s partnership with Big Life creates an opportunity to develop a tourism model that can ensure shared benefits for the sanctuary’s local stakeholders – both the communities and wildlife,” noted Angela Sheldrick. “This is an exciting time for Kimana, and the Sheldrick Wildlife Trust looks forward to continuing our support of Big Life’s protection of this safe haven and the corridor the animals must pass through to reach it.”

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