



CONSERVATION

Founded in 1990, CCF is a Namibian non-profit incorporated association dedicated to the long-term survival of the cheetah and its ecosystems.

CCF VISION

To see a world in which cheetah live and flourish in co-existence with people and the environment.

CCF MISSION

To be an international centre of excellence concerning cheetah conservation, and multi-disciplinary research and education programmes; working with all stakeholders to achieve best practice in conservation and management.

CCF's activities include conducting international research, conservation and education programmes to ensure the survival of the cheetah for future generations.

CONSERVATION GOAL

To assure the survival of cheetah

CONSERVATION OBJECTIVE

To maintain viable populations of cheetahs in the wild

Namibia is home to the largest number of free-ranging cheetah, with 20 percent (3,000 cheetah) of the world's wild population. Due to conflict inside protected areas with other large predators, 90 percent of the Namibia's remaining cheetahs live on farmlands where they come into conflict with humans and agriculture interests. Farmlands also support 70 percent of the game species that provide the cheetah's prey base. It is critical to develop strategies that encourage the sustainability of habitat and prey species in order to maintain a viable wild cheetah population.

The Cheetah Conservation Fund (CCF) uses the results of its scientific research as the foundation for a variety of conservation projects that integrate human needs with cheetah management. Many of the CCF conservation programmes developed in Namibia are now used as models for cheetah conservation in other range countries.

PROTECTING CHEETAH HABITAT AND WILDLIFE PREY SPECIES

Wildlife naturally moves between individual farms, and so it is important to bring together the management of wildlife within a community. Conservancies, on both communal and commercial lands, are collaborative partnerships of neighbouring farmers who work together to develop and implement sustainable livestock and wildlife management systems. The CCF is an active member of the Waterberg Conservancy that surrounds the Waterberg Plateau Park. Nationally, CCF sits on the board of the Conservancies Association of Namibia (CANAM).

LIVESTOCK & WILDLIFE MANAGEMENT TECHNIQUES

During the 1980's, livestock and game farmers halved the Namibian cheetah population, indiscriminately removing approximately 7,000 cheetahs. To prevent further population decline, CCF works with farmers to investigate, develop and implement livestock and wildlife management techniques. Techniques are then exhibited at CCF's model farm. Predator-friendly livestock management techniques include establishing calving seasons, calving kraals, herders, dogs and donkeys as livestock guardians, electric fencing and warthog swing gates. The CCF promotes these livestock management solutions in farmer publications and media, and at agricultural shows, meetings and colleges and universities. The CCF is encouraged by the far greater awareness of the cheetah's role in the ecosystem, and an increasing number of farmers adopting predator-friendly livestock management practices and fewer cheetahs being killed.

LIVESTOCK GUARDING DOG PROGRAMME

Anatolian Shepherd livestock guarding dogs originate from Turkey where they have protected livestock from predators for over 6,000 years. In 1994, CCF initiated a programme to bring Anatolians to Namibia. The first Anatolians proved so successful that CCF established a breeding programme; teaching local farmers Anatolian husbandry and training techniques, and monitoring and evaluating the dogs' performance. More than 200 dogs have now been donated to commercial and communal farmers throughout Namibia with over 80 percent of farmers reporting a significant reduction in livestock losses. The programme has become a model for Livestock Guarding Dog use around the world.



“ Conservation is our future. It is up to us to become a voice for our natural world and to ensure that species survive for future generations. ”

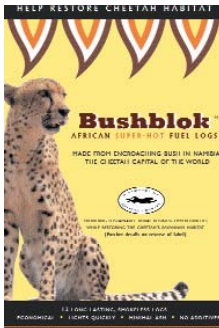
-DR. LAURIE MARKER,
CCF EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR





GLOBAL MANAGEMENT PLANNING AND POLICY INVOLVEMENT

The CCF participates in government forums and organizations in Namibia and around the world to influence public policy through interaction and involvement. To encourage and facilitate a global plan for the management of the cheetah, CCF participates in the Large Carnivore Management Association of Namibia (LCMAN) and the Conservancies Association of Namibia (CANAM). Internationally, CCF is a founding member of the Global Cheetah Forum and CCF's executive director is one of six core members in the Cat Specialist Group of the World Conservation Union (IUCN). The CCF also develops and implements reintroduction programmes in range countries and works to ensure that the rate of removal by hunting, culling, or displacement does not negatively impact the sustainability of the species. The CCF coordinates and communicates with the members of the global captive cheetah community by maintaining the International Cheetah Studbook and assisting with the development of regional and international management plans.



SUSTAINABLE ECONOMIC SUPPORT FOR LOCAL COMMUNITIES AND CCF

Humans must co-exist with cheetah if the world's fastest cat is to survive in the wild. The CCF supports sustainable, environmentally appropriate activities that assure the economic well-being of people living within the cheetah's range and provide resources to support long-term CCF programmes.

BUSHBLOK

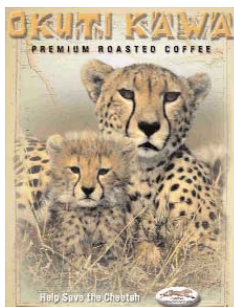
Much of Namibia's farmland is now thickly infested by thorn trees, and it is estimated that over N\$700 million is lost annually from this 'bush encroachment.' Bush encroachment effects cheetah habitat and prey. In 2001, the CCF Bush Project was established with a grant from United States Agency for International Development (USAID) to study the ecological impact of bush encroachment and assess the economic viability of transforming harvested thorn trees into a household fuel product. 'Bushblok' fuel logs will help restore cheetah habitat, supply Namibian and international markets with compacted fuel log products, employ, train and empower historically disadvantaged Namibians, provide business opportunities and develop economic, environmental and social standards for bush harvesting, chipping, processing and packaging.



CHEETAH COUNTRY BEEF
Free - range predator friendly farming

CHEETAH COUNTRY BEEF

Farmers and cheetahs can live together, and farmers are vital partners in cheetah conservation. In order to motivate farmers to live with the cheetah that are so vital to the ecosystem, CCF initiated the Cheetah Country Beef programme in partnership with the Conservancies Association of Namibia (CANAM) and the Namibian meat industry. Cheetah Country Beef is an eco-label that will provide a financial incentive for farmers who practice cheetah-friendly livestock management techniques. Certified farmers will be paid a premium for the beef they sell. This new business initiative provides a viable economic opportunity while helping safeguard the survival of the cheetah and other predators.



OKUTI KAWA COFFEE

The CCF and Coffee For the World (CFW) have partnered to launch 'Okuti Kawa,' an eco-coffee that supports the Cheetah Conservation Fund. Okuti Kawa, and other brands that support conservation efforts around the globe, can be bought online at www.coffeefortheworld.com

ECO-TOURISM

The CCF Field Research, Conservation and Education Centre is open to the public seven days a week from 9am to 5pm, offering guided tours that include the interactive cheetah museum, research facilities and veterinary clinic, and a chance to see the non-releasable cheetahs in enclosures close to the Centre. The CCF also continues to welcome paying volunteers from around the world. Paying volunteers assist with the Fund's Research, Conservation, and Education programmes and return to their own countries as new ambassadors for Namibia, CCF and cheetah conservation.



CHEETAH CONSERVATION FUND

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