

## **CLUELESS IN KENYA: BUY MORE INTREPID AND SUSTAINABLE BUSES? PROTECT THE WILD ANIMALS AND KIDS FIRST!**

### **Overview and Ideal Direction for the Masai Heartlands Intrepid Trip and Beyond**

I recently returned via Dubai from the fifteen day Intrepid trip 'Masai Heartlands'. In international context this evaluation argues the protection of endangered African species is ideally treated as the first enterprise to raise the quality of life for all the children of the world, not only sick or poor ones. This is necessary for sustainable futures which all who have heard the word say we seek. At the current rate, for trade and population related reasons discussed later below, African wild animals, whether endangered species or not, are under major competitive onslaughts for trees, land and water, even from watchers and keepers. Help all, including Intrepid, by assisting more sustainable use of land and water and also pursue trade in this context. *Call for and support open tree planting partnerships and try to ensure more wood and fresh water for people besides tourists. Explore solar energy, water tanks and related energy, water and waste management solutions in Kenyan tourist parks and beyond. Many related problems and reasons are addressed later, from some different perspectives. Mine are not mainly Australian.*

Many press, academic, website and government reports discussed later show there are many competing uses for land, much of which has been made into desert or urban slums by cattle overgrazing, depletion of wood and water, overpopulation and related violent struggles. Kenya-Travel-Packages.com states the Kenya population was estimated at 38 million by the UN Population Fund in 2008. It is projected to grow to 65 million in 2050, an increase of 72%. Upwards of 75% of the population are described as working in agriculture, which accounts for 25% of gross domestic product. Agriculture apparently plays a 'key role' in the national economy despite the fact that upwards of 85% of Kenya is classified as arid or semi-arid, leaving arable land at a mere 15% of the total land area. It is not mere vagaries of weather that hold the country back. It makes sense to fix it.

As is demonstrated later, Kenya experiences a high risk of self-destruction related to conflicting concepts of appropriate land use, patronage and ownership, which have also been historically driven by more powerful feudal interests, which may or may not still have the upper hand today. The media is ideally the fourth estate, showing people and leaders as honestly as possible to help lead all forward before and after voting. In Kenya, newspapers form a crucial connective function for English-speaking Kenyan readers. This seems found almost nowhere else except the internet. Also build up TV and radio. One wonders how many are without them all. Democracy is not voting in Kenya, because the process of voting has demonstrably also increased violence against those communities who may only feel able to support the immediate community and its particular causes, which are often very ignorant and so destructive of self and of others.

*Ideally East African tourism now restructures to cut costs and assist provision of a better life for all, openly in company with others. If Intrepid is not yet restructuring in East Africa, now seems a good time. Ask Bob Carr, new Australian Foreign Minister and former NSW Premier, then advisor to the Macquarie Bank, for some open, free advice.* I gather the Intrepid Foundation is mixed up with Macquarie Bank, which is an

outfit that in my almost complete ignorance I loathe as they were conning mug punters expensively on TV about their capacities every night for a year prior to the global crash in 2008. Top executives raked off obscene amounts even for bankers. Don't start them up again, as Dambisa Moyo appears to be doing in her book 'Dead Aid' (2009). Dead people and dead investments seem a very high risk due to current forces discussed later.

We all agreed we greatly enjoyed the 'Masai Heartlands' trip and also said the Intrepid guide and his team were excellent. We did not like the broken bus. In too many areas of Nairobi and Kenya I saw, however, there appears to be a very high risk of profits and everything else being killed by neglected duty of care. The case and direction are later. Kenya Wildlife Service should get it through its head that English speakers of the world love Africa mainly because of animals shown by David Attenborough. We also love both Janes and Ted Turner, who began CNN. Many others are attached to Africa by the myth of the loss of Eden, as in Tanzania. Give it your best shot in the Olduvai Gorge, the Serengeti, the Gorongoro Crater and the road to Mto wa Mbu. (Fancy that on billboards.) Unfortunately, the Intrepid bus was late again because of breakdowns, so we moved on.

***More open and stable management to achieve clear social and environmental goals through related services provides an ideal framework for competition, which ideally is not just for money. Good evaluation of the quality of services is vital for service economies. I'm here to tell you that US cable TV is disgusting crap where the only content King is a nasty advertising push. TV should instead be a precious jewel of democracy and collective or individual education and entertainment, like newspapers.. Pursue communication and many related development aims together in Kenya and beyond. Consider wild species, land, water and energy as business development. Make content King, like the lion in the movies. Elsa and Joy were first – respect!***

Kenya Wildlife Service figures on tourism quoted later, show there is little point of Intrepid for many tourists if animals from 'The Lion King' are not there. This should be the first show in town for primary development purposes. Compare it with 'Finding Nemo' and so many that others have loved or found wanting. Kenya Intrepid team wake up - get a grip. Follow our Australian direction and learn from Dubai, discussed later. According to 'Inside Business' on ABC TV (11.3.12) the three richest men in the world are now Carlos Slim Helu, Bill Gates and Warren Buffet. Start on open communications and insurance. ***Through the Minister for the Department of Resources, Energy and Tourism or with anybody else, ask them to lead an East African communication and related risk management pilot to enhance democratic understanding and participation through better cooperation with African and Australian newspapers, the Australian Competition and Consumer Commission (ACCC), TV stations, radio and anyone else who wants to be involved in providing training, information, education, entertainment, sport or other content globally or regionally. Communication is the way forward.***

***In Australia they kept telling us content was King before they built the system. We just couldn't see it. We thought it was an economic race to the bottom defined as 54 US cable channels and nothing to save us but PBS News Hour. We adore the News Hour team. This is not so much following Chevron, as trying to put things together in much better ways for you, instead of them. Require unbundling or bundle content to get what***

*you need. Don't tell the consumer that the phone always has to talk to the computer and the TV if this is not a consumer friendly trajectory. Many of us need the simple, reliable and cheap technology, rather than the supposed cutting edge technology rammed down our throats, especially in situations where there is no maintenance capacity. If you have trouble dealing with Telstra's bizarre billing and management practices, go straight to the ACCC. Try getting Rod Sim's more reasonable approaches adopted, which is what the organization is actually supposed to be supporting, unless they disagree. In the latter case they should say so. They might be right in their hypothesis, which ideally is an empirical question of better management in future. This is why I always ask the kids what they are doing everywhere and give free tips.*

In 'The Bottom Billion: Falling Behind and Falling Apart' Collier talks about the group of mainly African and Central Asian nations that even in the golden decade between the end of the Cold War and 9/11 saw incomes decline by 5% (2008, p. 1). He describes the bottom billion of the world population as living in 'Africa +, with the + being places such as Haiti, Bolivia, the Central Asian countries, Laos, Cambodia, Yemen, Burma and North Korea'. For the bottom billion people average life expectancy is very low. Infant mortality, the proportion of children who die before their first birthday, is 14%. From broader management perspectives they have too many children to cope and are ruining their land in the process of feeding them by overgrazing and making deserts. I first heard about how to plant trees in desert dunes in the Kano Club in 1972. It is hard not to hate.

Kenyan statistics, newspapers and my personal experience pointed daily to far too many problems likely to add to investor uncertainty and much community violence in the short and long terms – like rising inflation coupled with an increasingly degraded environment and over population. The East African (Feb. 27<sup>th</sup>-Mar.4<sup>th</sup> 2012) recently addressed oil exploration and Kenyan and other military intervention in Somalia. This will cost a lot and one wonders who will end up getting the money and the guns. Under Kenyan leadership a ban was also ordered on the export and import of charcoal from Somalia, calling this 'a significant revenue source for the Shabaab'. We trust the boys and their close mouthed mates will burn the country up one way or other, slowly or fast. Lucky Dambisa Moyo (2009) - will she go to Oxford, Harvard or Washington next? She could perhaps try funding modified zoos on islands in Dubai, filled with scarce zoo monkeys from Chicago taken off contraceptives. Tell our Intrepid guide there are zoos and zoos. The Chinese could hardly have gone further in trying to help the sex life of the panda. Habitat is ideally a related issue to be reasonably reconstructed instead of rapidly lost. As discussed later, many in Dubai appear prepared and well equipped to lead this direction.

***Recommend sport or other pastimes in exchange for gun jobs on the ground whenever possible.*** (Not just another Great Leap Forward in the New World Order. I am Woman.) Bring me David Attenborough and his great Swiss army knife. Get acquainted with him. Our Intrepid guide and his crew needed no specialists to help them get along well in what must often have been very frustrating circumstances. They certainly would be for me.

In Kenya, Lake Nakuru seemed an inspiring example of what better care may achieve, along with some related Intrepid support for a village of women and children displaced from their native land by the last election violence in 2007/2008 or by related, more

common violence. The women are currently selling their produce to tourists and to a hotel near the beautiful, well stocked and apparently well managed Lake Nakuru Park, where many endangered species appear to thrive inside an electric fence. Village women mainly make African beads, beautiful woollen animals and also keep and sell fish and rabbits. If the latter is a good idea, it seems a very good idea. Should they be guarded? Find out how. The Standard (20.2.12, p.19), reports the fisheries ministry has plans to construct fish ponds in primary and secondary schools across the country to promote fish consumption and trade. How is this to be delivered? By whom and how are sites chosen? What will the fingerlings eat and why? Program roll out should be documented well.

Does Sylvia, the Intrepid cook choose who she trades with herself? What are the best criteria? I wished I had asked her about Intrepid food and its sources. I merely saw that traders may want more and more US dollars because of runaway inflation, partly caused by rapid expansion of Kenyan public service costs and many related bums on seats. Trader licence revenues, on the other hand may be increasingly resented and hard to collect. Time to bring in the oil and more weapons, perhaps made locally? I don't think so. We seemed to have a very good expense account at the Narok Hotel, which was also hosting a great wedding and a colourful mass baptism in the pool when we were there. Take the open communications route to freedom not the gun and the lawyer. I recall what it did in Romancing the Stone for Joan Wilder. Africa needs open communications and good control of sexually transmitted diseases and births. Australia has good services.

According to the Kenyan Daily Nation (15.2.12, p. 4), shillings became the world's worst performing currency late last year, 'falling from a high of Sh84 to a low of Sh107 to the dollar (sic.)' This then led to a sharp increase in petroleum prices which in turn meant the cost of most basic commodities went up as well. Don't worry, be happy? The Central Bank of Kenya Governor's job is now on the line, or not, depending on the constitutional interpretations, because the current interest rates of slightly over 30% charged by banks, are seen by a parliamentary committee as 'unrealistic, harmful and untenable'. ***It seems good to avoid those banks for any development purposes. The concepts of duty of care and risk management to support regional and local goals appear best delivered in non-profit and related insurance environments. (Yoo hoo open up Dubai?) This is a hypothesis based on good Australian experience of superannuation, health insurance and related cooperative risk underwriting, where many standard quality services are expected to be delivered competitively, to meet the key stakeholder interests. As I was often told in NSW WorkCover, it is often easier to manage something big than something small. See many related Australian and international policy stories on [www.Carolodonnell.com.au](http://www.Carolodonnell.com.au)***

If greenhouse gas reduction is to occur in a meaningful way the concepts of risk management and competition must change so that key environmental and social goals are not undermined by the animal spirits of the markets breaking everything up. Australian government and related communicators are getting better at explaining competition requirements. In Australia, by international standards, the economy is strong and stable; government balances the budget; unemployment is 5.2% and living standards related to housing, health and education are excellent by international standards. Productivity is not good and improving it depends, in my view, on gaining a better understanding of good

service directions, which are discussed below and attached. However, like the Chinese, Australia must have done something right and it wasn't always following US or English leads. Pick up our animals. (I am the Secretary Bird. Tell the female hyena on the bus.)

The Intrepid trip Masai Heartlands was in two parts of roughly one week each. Until day 8 there were 10 tourists plus luggage, food, cooking utensils and tents being carried in a van with a guide, a cook and two drivers. In Narok a bigger bus was introduced and the complement of tourists changed to 22 which meant the bus was full. It broke down seven times on the way into Tanzania to Lake Victoria, Serengeti National Park, Ngorongoro Crater and on the return journey to Nairobi. I guess people will recommend a new bus and I guess this is the way Kenya typically works, ideally faster with sensible outcomes.

***I recommend against even more tourists being sent to the Loita Hills camp in the heart of Masai country and elsewhere related, because of the further pressure this puts on the land. Apply for Tourism Quality Project Grants of \$100,000 from the Australian Department of Resources, Energy and Tourism by 19.4.2012. The Minister says turn your big tourism idea into reality. Ask others for help to plant more trees and deal better with land, water, energy management and all related education. You may perhaps pick up others' budgets later, if they are shown to be spending too slowly and/or expensively in the ways of the past, as discussed later. Put the endangered species first for a change. Let them appear on ballots. In Australia we once wrote NO DAMS on voting papers. Maybe this was stupid, maybe not. Let us revisit the debate as dams confuse us. Dubai has most of its water from a desalination plant. Kenya has nearly all its water from dams and China has only 6% of its water from dams. More of everything in the right places is ideally conceptualised in the interests of wild animals and children first.***

In Kenya, The Standard (20.2.12, p. 13) reported Gigiri was hosting the 12<sup>th</sup> special session of the Global Ministerial Environment Program, attended by President Kibaki. It will apparently be the last global environmental meeting before the landmark UN Conference on Sustainable Development is held in June 2012. ***Reconsider the roses at Lake Naivasha and do something to protect the land, water and wild animals in the region, and to manage tourism and related community development better. Tourist management at Crayfish Camp appeared very poor because of an apparently wilful wastage of wood and water on a few tourists who might also patronise more attractions if they had more knowledge what they are. What is available here; what are our time options and how much does it cost - absolutely no idea?*** Come alone or in couples and the tourist operator gives special prices. Give the regular tourists much more effective information about what is available. Its beauty, history, heritage or popular importance are top class and threatened by nasty people. (The wild animals have seen it all before.)

***Find out what will be done with Nairobi National Park.*** It did not appear on any map I picked up by Maps R Us at the airport, even though it is so close to the airport, with helicopters hovering over it. It appears surrounded by huge numbers of new apartments. How many animals in Nairobi National Park have been killed off besides the hippos in the polluted pool, as pointed out in the nearby notice by a Texan photographer? The national parks ranger has a job, selling Coca Cola to tourists on the spot, while offering to show them crocodiles further up the stream, as he has a gun to protect them, should

anything untoward appear likely to happen. Many of these guys only seem to know protection rackets. At the Tanzania/Kenya border I guess the big five will go suitably before the guarded hippos. What do these guards do? How are they trained? The award winning Sun Africa hotel, with hippos nearby, does not take credit cards. ***Work is ideally made much more inviting as tourist promotion and wildlife protection roles do not appear well understood, except by our Intrepid guide and his team. Providing fewer, better quality servers is ideally the central motor of quality development which also picks up others better in more effective and honest training - not just bums on seats. Production and accountability measures are crucially important. What's your view?***

One may clearly see the top engineering marvels of concrete or other construction product in China or in Dubai, which I saw after Nairobi. Management also seems great for leading more open tourist and other ventures in Dubai, discussed later. Many African nations depending strongly on tourism, like Kenya, suffer severely from rising population rates and related land and water degradation as well as other poor service, corruption and violence. Capital flights generated by the rich, well connected and corrupt may be problems. Cities like Nairobi are spreading slums where few seem to work by Western standards. Manufacturing has not developed. One longs for more service culture but gets Christianity instead. What are the key industries in Kenya and how are they protected, particularly from US and Asian competition? Are there significant minerals or not? The sources on this seem confused but agree about the importance of manufacturing. I cannot see manufacturing doing well unless a more effective service culture is understood and supported first, to generate it. Directions are discussed below with this in mind.

### **Lend a hand in clarifying the ideal role of elections in assisting open government**

Nobody knows when the next Kenyan election will be held. December 2012 is suggested. In a report entitled 'How ready is Kenya for the next elections?' (Sunday Nation, 26.2.12, p. 21), Harbeson notes that violent conflict has attended three of Kenya's four national elections since the democratic era began in 1991 and that the Kenya National Dialogue and Reconciliation Monitoring Report of January 2012 found that over 90% of Kenyan citizens know little or nothing about the Constitution that they approved in August 2010. The report also found a high level of public anxiety about how government devolved to the regions would function. Nearly 70% of respondents reported believing the country was headed in the wrong direction. Education is recommended. Try seeking and broadcasting the truth, which may often be extremely rude, in my experience of history and personal life. In real life, as distinct from constitutional law, the 'truth', embodied in law or not, may later be shown as an apparently biased, wrong or wrongly dominating perception also due, perhaps, to some earlier technical error, etc. Record well. African newspapers appear good at reporting well, in my very limited, ignorant, experience. ***(Having seen them, how did we ever live without Emirates 24/7 on Channel 1, Dubai - too many Americans or others in the way? Do open arbitrations. Never call lawyers.)***

The article by Priscilla Nyokabi Kanua and Antony Gatitu entitled 'Bills will slow down reforms and retard progress in the land question', in the Daily Nation (15.2.12, Opinion 13) points out land is central to Kenya's political, economic, social and cultural problems. Land-related ethnic clashes over the years culminated in post-election violence in

2007/2008 and support the view that unless there is radical land reform to promote 'the rights of the poor, marginalised, minorities and historically disadvantaged groups, Kenya's future stability is at stake'. They claim current land bills run contrary to the principles of management devolution to regional levels in the new Constitution. They state the land bills do not 'bring out the tenure system' or attempt to come up with solutions for the landless poor, for persons in informal settlement in urban areas or for those who have weak tenure claims such as so-called 'squatters' in forests and national parks. They state this perpetuates the same legal order that caused abuse of public land by those in authority previously. The new Community Land Bill apparently takes away the constitutional mandate of the National Land Commission and hands it over to the Cabinet Secretary, thus making the proposed law no different from the existing system.

Elsewhere, in cattle-rustling prone Mukutani Division, Sape Lesita was preparing to take his family cattle for grazing in the company of other morans (sic.?) when armed raiders shot and killed him, according to Kipsang and Cheloen in Daily Nation (15.2.12, p. 18). The entire Arabel area now lives in fear as two rival communities are said to be silently acquiring more guns. Delineation of new electoral units by the Independent Electoral Boundary Commission has also ignited old rivalry between minority communities in Baringo County, with Ilchamus and Endorois clashing over creation of the new Mochongoi constituency. The proliferation of firearms can be traced to 2005 when Pokot raiders fought the Ilchamus in Makutani killing several in the process. Three schools have not reopened. In less than a generation, communities have apparently gone from protecting their animals with bows and arrows to much more high class weaponry. See it while shopping or lazing around on the beach in Kenya? You must be nuts it isn't nice. Check out Dubai as an ideal hub of African development instead. It has a lot going for it.

Havana good time - this is the dilemma of the responsible tourist, such as Intrepid. Do not talk up the market. Talk up more broadly sensible and fairly open policy direction as better for the market. Collier estimates around 40% of Africa's military spending is financed by foreign aid but claims that far from favouring big military budgets, finance ministers want evidence to defend their spending priorities against the demands of powerful military lobbies. This leads naturally to the thought that regional service provision must be openly designed and delivered if it is going to work to achieve any of its ideally stated community objectives. The daily newspapers should be a big help to anybody interested in achieving this. Some Kenyans may be surprised to learn that delivering services is not just about levying taxes. According to Mwaniki Wahome, as Kenya prepares to usher in 47 counties after the General Election, concerns are growing over the burgeoning national wage bill. Experts say the estimated 15% allotted from the national budget will not cover all of their budgets (Sunday Nation 26.2.12, p.27). Does this mean even more money will be dragged from those government ideally serves? The Australian Defence Minister thinks there are no entitlements in public life and I do too.

Collier suggests each time the government releases money it could inform local media. He suggests that services be delivered through an independent service authority model in which competing organizations may provide the services on the ground while the authority finances and scrutinizes their performance. This would enable donors and investors to coordinate, pooling funds into the authority. He claims it will also usually

make sense to fund traditional projects to restore infrastructure, which will also need exceptionally substantial supervision to ensure success and guard against corruption. *People will need to understand what is going on. This is not the lawyer's strongest point. Try plain English and use popular media. Does one need the authorities or just the funds, their social and environmental aims and some related project managers? The latter should not seek to get off the hook by contracting their quality management responsibilities into a profusion of opaque and lengthening subcontracting chains which may be driven without attention to service quality or community impact. Collier has obviously not worked in construction, a big key industry. No idea of the real world.*

**Adopt open regional management and development projects to support social and environmental goals, or watch everything go up in election smoke at home on TV.**

According to The Standard (20.2.12, p.7) the Kenyan government recently despatched a high powered delegation to calm tempers among residents about compensation for land, mangrove forest destruction and lack of water at the new port construction at Lamu. Ports are vital in traditional global attitudes to trade, as discussed by Collier in 'The Bottom Billion (2008). This book is viewed critically along with Moyo's 'Dead Aid'. They are yesterday's people as they adhere to pre-scientific approaches to regional management. They peddle the antithesis of sustainable development because they are driven purely from the secret basis of commercial objectives which have also been made increasingly adversarial in related legal design by many feudally related and dominating developments. Kenyan regional and tribal interests do not need this financial approach around elections because patronage has repeatedly led to corruption, violence and failure. Benazir Bhutto's autobiography made her sound like a total fool about where any money comes from let alone goes. No worries, our team will be able to do much better than that.

In the Standard, Patrick Beja writes that acting head of civil service, Francis Kimemia, told Lamu area residents they would be given title deeds and get adequate compensation for their land, be supplied with water and get priority employment at the new port. Gee, I'd like to see how that is to be done. Apparently, Kimemia said, amid cheers:

Don't be worried about losing an inch of your land. This is a democratic government and all your concerns will be addressed.....The issue of compensation for your land is not negotiable. It is enshrined in the Constitution under the Bill of Rights. *(Ooh a bill of rights!!! squealing from the cheap seats.)*

Assistant Minister for Fisheries and Lamu East MP Abu Chiaba replied:

Our concern is that title deeds have not been issued while port construction is about to start.

Others said, 'We care for the environment but benefits to be accrued from this project far outweigh the loss'. There are a lot of complex interests here which ideally should be resolved clearly, as many similar or related land use disputes appear likely to be repeated up until elections and increasingly afterwards. What does Kimemia expect will be done or will she wait for her boss to tell her? If so, that is no way to go. One can only make



grave mistakes depending for future orders on old men soon dead. Kenyans need good organization models besides those based on family expectations linked to higher feudal ones. Coming elections may be a good way to increase global or regional understanding rather than following the US game of the old rich picking winners for their contests. Call up Slim, Bill and Warren openly for support. Why waste money in secret US Superpacs?

**Aims of trade should be to improve the quality of life for those on current and future trips (Learn from Dubai. Go there yourself and be surprised by joy?)**

The attached submission to the Australian Productivity Commission argues the ideal aims of trade should be to improve the quality of life for current and future generations. This depends on the quality of the social and natural environment, as well as on increased economic gain and its distribution. This perspective is ideally international, forward looking and openly questioning, as well as comparatively openly accountable. Roses, coffee or tea and unknown manufacturing, plus defence and oil exploration spending, is unlikely to be Kenya's best way forward as it encourages the boys to start up trashing the joint more instead of protecting endangered species and land, the foundations of growth.

The best way forward to sustainable development and to related improvements in trade is for all regions to plan their continuing competitive development by first situating the relevant land, water or air most affected by any current and proposed development in the broader context of the primary need to protect internationally and nationally endangered species. The responsibility for the planned protection of many endangered species is ideally taken up globally as well as regionally and nationally. An East African case for this is developed below, in discussion attached and on [www.Carolodonnell.com.au](http://www.Carolodonnell.com.au) Dubai is an extremely impressive place in terms of the obvious major expertise gathered there and supported by the United Arab Emirates (UAE) oil money and HSBC Holdings. At HSBC profits from UAE operations were up 77% to \$575 million from \$324 million in 2010 (Gulf News, 28.2.12, p.27). 'Great men rise to greater challenges' at The Palm? They appear to be looking for a better competition. Check out Australia. It is nice here.

On 27.2.12 the Gulf News reported the Secretary General of the Environment Agency-Abu Dhabi (EAD) said Abu Dhabi was hosting its meeting with the Species Survival Commission of the International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN) to set the global species conservation agenda for the next four years which the EAD will be proud to support. The IUCN Red List of Threatened Species is apparently widely recognized as the most comprehensive, objective global approach for evaluating the conservation status of plant and animal species. Guys, we're not fussy. Just do something obvious like planting trees before everything in the world is turned into desert or concrete. Should Kenya have a desalination plant? That clearly put Dubai into a much better place. Can one power a desalination plant with biogas? A lot of it is wasted in towns and deserts. Could Massais, for example, be attracted to selling their ungulates and trading guns for many suitable training and/or job programs, preferably where meals are a little meat and every warrior is provided with a Swiss army knife, etc? Some might like planting trees?

Dubai, New York and Brunei have terrific talking buses to take one on tour. The singing and talking boat gliding under the bridges of Paris is a romantic historical dream. Kenya-

Travel-Packages.com should also get more of a grip on international reality in its website related view of the region. Kenya cannot afford a large population. It is not Singapore or Shanghai and seems highly unlikely ever to be so. Kenyans should understand that practically the only thing Kenya clearly has going for it is international tourism centring on wild life viewing, rehabilitation and protection, as seen on TV. Why trash the global brand for all the kids. Haven't these idiots seen 'The Lion King' let alone 'Born Free'? Educate the public in many more directions. This seems Kenya's only good card so should be extremely powerfully built. ***Anyone trawling through ABC and SBS TV vaults could come up with helpful collections to start the ball rolling - White Mischief?*** It would be fabulous to see it all again in situ. There is so much to talk about and assess.

Serengeti National Park and Ngorongoro Crater in Tanzania appear beautifully protected under hard circumstances and the unusually good road from the Crater to Mto Wa Mbu, apparently built by foreign money, is also characterised by apparently great care for land. There has been much thoughtful planting of many beautiful trees to shade the crops and to improve the water table. This part of the trip, besides Lake Nakuru, was a highlight for me. Nairobi is discussed later. Our Nairobi hotel was a lovely old colonial one where I could watch birds performing in dancing pairs in the sky for hours, just as I saw on TV.

This bird watching occurred after I decided to abandon what a tourist website might call a pleasant self-guided walk around bustling Nairobi. (Give me a break.) Could somebody provide tourists with a map of Nairobi not a photocopy of a comparative mud map from the third drawer down in the office filing cabinet? As guards with guns seem affordable to so many, the notice or pamphlet should not be so far behind. Museums or art galleries – I guess not. ***Learn from Dubai! Busses and traffic lights work. Consider more LED lights, solar lights and solar hot water heaters, water tanks, desalination plants and related open directions for protective reasons outlined later. Assist the critical promotion of openly planned regional directions disseminated in company with newspapers and TV. People driven by organizational or personal directions, or by feudal or tribal perspectives, should be better assisted to explain their competitive cases more clearly in the context of the broader environmental and socially protective directions laid down more generally. Then we would all learn more and be better off.***

**To assist community management, support newspapers and other communications which take and implement broader views of well-being than patronage politics**

In the broadly related Kenyan and global contexts in which Intrepid operates, the newspapers appear by far the best sources of information I saw, although I also saw Al Jazeera news on TV at Narok's lively hotel, which was good. Working people and children need strong support if the nation is to avoid falling into chaos and confusion related to key battles for control of land and its produce, or water or money, and easily exacerbated by the coming elections. On present evidence a great many more endangered species will be lost by 2040. Put these and other animals like our local favourites and the big five in Kenya first for a change. The big five are lion, African or Cape buffalo, rhinoceros (black and white), African elephant and leopard. Our Intrepid guide Victor also knows about the big five insects. The cheetah and many other species are even more

endangered. Did our Intrepid driver reverse over a snake in Kenya, or did someone else? In Victor's world elephants shit everything out and it grows up again. Baby, you wish.

Kenyans need to understand what they should do to make the place nicer. It isn't voting. Collier came up with the related failed story in 'The Bottom Billion' (2008). In it agriculture and manufacturing are seen as more important for Africa than driving service industries. This is an essentially sexist position in a society where the genital mutilation of little girls is very common but not talked about. The market doesn't care? Collier's is also the failed and ideally outmoded colonialist view as it does not recognise the ideally central position of endangered species to the future of the world from God's perspective. He made them and does not want them all killed. Neither do Friends of David and Janes. Olduvai Gorge should be understood as the Garden of Eden and as man-made desert. Kenya shows gross imaginative failure from the New York Jewish and Hollywood perspectives. Learn from Dubai. They see the value of a good English speaking bus and museum. Offer warriors Paintball and more interesting pursuits. (I guess they must be very bored. Towel heads versus wig men? I'll try the towel heads for a change thanks.)

Collier correctly argues that voting, which he equates with democracy, undermines ability to harness any natural resource surpluses partly because resource surpluses induce an excessively large public sector and much siphoning off. Under the new Kenyan constitution and new land bills it is unclear where oil exploration license revenues, for example, would end up. Large public sectors may be fine if those employed do useful work. However, Collier points out that to finance patronage for re-election to the heads of all troughs, individuals and governments embezzle public money out of the budget and into slush funds. He claims when patronage politics is not feasible, people attracted to politics are more likely to be interested in issues of public service provision. Learn from Dubai where one roughly sees where big oil money and HSBC loans went. Infrastructure and water consumption are world class. (Bollywood or South American soaps, shopping and food - my passions - other than sport. Let me lie back and think of Princess Di.)

**Develop effective management of universally available health related services  
(Follow Australian, European and related models, not failed US service approaches)**

President Obama has cut the AIDS budget to Kenya but East Africa still faces AIDS and other tropical diseases like malaria, Bilharzia, sleeping sickness, Leishmaniasis as well as all the other problems of infection most common to those who are poorest. Clean water is vital. However, Immaculate Karambu notes (Saturday Nation, 18.2.12 p.33) Deloitte found administration and expenses accounted for 71% of 'the total expenses' (sic.) of the National Hospital Insurance Fund. That is a long way from value for money from the services consumer and ideal manager perspectives, as well as stockholder perspectives.

Kenyans will soon have to deal with a new constitution, elections, electoral boundary redrawing, new land bills, exploration for oil and gas, fighting in Somalia, as well as more pay-offs through more of the traditional local violence and wars with neighbours. Management of health and other community funds should be openly directed to achieve clear goals. This appears a rational way forward for everybody invested. Australian government has been comparatively successful in this domestic approach, as discussed at

[www.Carolodonnell.com.au](http://www.Carolodonnell.com.au) and in related economic management and investment, with largely balanced budgets and largely escaping the effects of the global financial crisis.

To take better directions than development aspirations based on oil and military spending, one needs to know the key industries in Kenya and how are they protected, particularly from US and Asian competition. Are there significant minerals in Kenya or not? Academic sources on this seem confused but agree on the primary importance of horticulture and manufacturing. I cannot see either doing well unless a more effective service culture is understood and supported first, to generate open management and development in the interests of a more broadly consuming public than the usual pay-offs and jobs for mates. Kenya is a place where one would be a fool to trust, rather than depend on good evidence, which I guess is true of everywhere from scientific, as distinct from feudal, tribal or stupid perspectives. Moyo (2010) and Collier (2008) appear blinded by their associations into seeing Kenya as a good investment for the usual troops. Anybody with eyes can see that it is more like a failed state than a good bet and that a new recipe for change is necessary. Helping endangered species first is very logical to achieve the Millennium Development Goals which many nations also state they embrace.

***Help Kenyans see their ideal regional goals through understanding more about their empirically demonstrable problems, and let newspapers monitor and assist progress towards environmental and social aims as openly and honestly as possible.*** This may start internationally or not. Kenya is not a high grade investment opportunity. Kenyan agriculture and manufacturing appear highly unlikely to compete effectively with Asian production unless they are driven by the constructively open services of greenhouse gas reduction through reforestation and land, water and energy improvement which supports effectively related social development. See the kind that superficially appears to begin at Mto Wa Mbu where entrepreneurial spirit is great, although I worry about banana beer.

### **Promote openly driving and evidence based management of services, not patronage**

Promote openly driving and evidence based regional services management to all those currently having problems with managing patronage expectations and tribally related politics, which all appear likely to sharpen in future, on the basis of past evidence. It does not take much imagination to see the Masais and their foes or brothers, who are rapidly turning the place into desert principally by tricks with fire and machetes, moving up to carrying guns and helicopters provided in the public or private sectors. Baby, that's competition. Welcome to Kenya's World Class Parks! Let me get back on the bus for Christ's sake. Kenya Intrepid had a guide, a cook and 2x2 bus drivers on my tour. The Intrepid guide in the US does it all alone for two weeks, if we don't count all the tourists. Tell that to our lovely Kenyan guide Victor and give him a big clap? I wouldn't do that.

Intrepid and the crew would probably make more money if a large bus was used on the first part of the trip as well as the second. I expect this is what Kenyan management and the team are hoping for as some tourists said they were booked on another tour which was cancelled and they had to join the big Intrepid bus. The earlier part of the tour was very popular with some tourists, who enjoyed living among the Masai very much. The Masai, on the other hand, love a really big fire, as long as their women collect the wood.

The average tourist has long hair which she also seeks to wash every day in a shower which is preferably hot. She also likes to flush the toilet every time she urinates, washing her hands afterwards. Taps may be faulty so left to run. The way water and wood are used by those running Crayfish Camp at Lake Naivasha and elsewhere seems criminally wasteful management from even the most minimally informed Australian perspective. How well are the animals in Hell's Gate National Park protected? What is the area plan?

According to the East African (27<sup>th</sup> Feb.-4<sup>th</sup> Mar. 2012, p.32) at least sixteen oil and gas exploration wells will soon be sunk across East Africa besides ongoing drilling offshore in many places including Kenya. Kenya.Travel.Packages.com is wrong when it states 'Kenya has no significant mining endowments'. Listing tourism as either the second or third most vital industry in Kenya, when it clearly should be first, is a common problem discussed later. If manufacturing thrives in Kenya, which seems unlikely to me, it will need to be driven by tourism and related newer forces, not by the need to compete with Asian manufacture or be highly protected instead. From developed perspectives, the problems of Kenyan agriculture or horticulture and manufacturing are legion. Before the national parks were created Massai warriors lived in them. God threw them off. Get it? Set them to raising rabbits and fish with other incentives that might appeal to warrior people besides guns. Do construction more likely to promote good development.

As Massai cattle, collection of wood and fires, have contributed to turning more of Kenya into desert it would seem a reprehensible move for Intrepid to increase the pressures on the land and wild animals by using a bigger tourist bus to support the first part of the journey as well as the second. Management of park borders between Tanzania and Kenya already appears to see a large amount of overgrazing and fire damage. I guess that at this place endangered species may often be killed by ubiquitous men with cigarettes and guns. The luxury hotel nearby has Asian language animal literature and does not accept credit cards or have many animals around it except hippos which it guards, presumably helping the soldiers (oops, the Kenya Wildlife Service) doing similarly up the road. The people on the bus were polite and helpful and probably would also have thrived in Nazi Germany as they would not have read or seen anything nasty there either.

In many parts the Masai Heartlands are rapidly turning to desert and seem likely soon to be stripped of many endangered species by a combination of forces boiling down to more roads, planes and guns, women, kids, cattle and tourists. No men involved, only market forces. Do something useful about it instead of trying to make money while more men with guns enter Somalia. Learn from Dubai, Singapore, etc. Ulan Bator tourist office is the most pro-active I have ever seen. For example, it took the bank to the Naadim festival when everything else in town was shut. Develop film skills. Show the culture as well as the animals to the world through heritage protection and rehabilitation strategies.

Whatever - as there is great pressure on tourist parks from tourists from all nations, it seems at the very least a good idea to investigate the potential for the kind of dry pit toilets they use in national parks in Australia, Canada and elsewhere. (Try doing your business squatting, holding a failing torch behind a broken lock knowing that any one of thirty other women may suddenly break in. Fresh from TV all over the developed world we all get to see just the same few animals, like those who visited the Sweet Baby Jesus.

Put up notices saying ‘If it’s yellow, let it mellow. If it’s brown flush it down’. Ask tourists to bring antiseptic gel to clean hands. For Christ’s sake provide better education for the masses. Burn down churches and build up managerial service cultures – Shoot me, I’m kidding. Watch Christians drag others from Narok hotel swimming pool instead.

### **Put quality of land, water and heritage first or see more chaotic deserts emerge**

To me, this was a very cheap and extremely informative trip and I greatly valued the experience as I had not returned to Africa since teaching for two years in Kano, Nigeria, shortly after the Biafran war massacres over oil and related resources. I see in the East African papers, which are fortunately very good and appear well distributed, that ethnic massacres have recently returned to the Nigerian North as well as to Chad, etc. etc. etc. Newspapers and TV appear the best vehicles in East Africa to promote understanding of requirements of good project management, where clear accountability is crucial. For the purposes of investment, should Kenya first be graded as promising, or as a failed state? The former appears recommended by Moyo (2010), nasty old men’s colonial protegee extraordinaire. If Kenya or Nigeria is compared to China or Dubai post WW2, they clearly failed on all counts. Kenyan independence was 1963. Wake up earlier England.

Many questions about the sustainability of Intrepid African operations are ideally first addressed in the international context of ensuring the protection of endangered species, in order to promote better regional planning and many better development relationships. Fortunately, Intrepid has always recognised such relationships as naturally being part of its business. I greatly admire Intrepid and have learned a lot from its trips. However, if one takes its spiel on the dangers of plastic seriously, and I guess a few in Kenya do, there is a lot of other cleaning up to do, especially at Nairobi National Park. One wonders what this urban park is being kept for – not its wild animals I guess.

Collier’s concerns about violence appear to centre only on wars and coups. However, anybody who scans a Kenyan newspaper can see Africans are daily subject to a much more broadly creative range of violence and destruction than that. Less in the news is female genital mutilation conducted around the age of nine to ensure a girl doesn’t make the wrong alliances through sexual pleasure, before the elders’ first marriage plans are all sewn up. It must be hard for anyone who took Germaine Greer to heart to warm to Masai culture but many tourists do it. Ask the girls on the bus. Imagination is their strength. Invite them over and give them some real work to do, instead of just pretending. The museum at Narok and others like it ideally should be strongly assisted to get more videos and other ways of supporting their educational efforts, which I strongly appreciated.

### **Help Kenya Tourist and Wildlife Management face its many problems**

According to Julius Kipng’etich, Director of Kenya Wildlife Service (KWS), writing in the Visitor’s Guide Kenya 2010/2011, ‘tourism is the *second largest* sector of Kenya’s economy and also forms the backbone of the tourist industry since most visitors come first and foremost to view wild animals’. Anybody who thinks important crowds will flock to conference in Nairobi rather than Dubai, which I saw afterwards, is kidding themselves. Perhaps through ignorance of outside a lot of it occurs. The Director states

that tourism 'is said to account for 21% of total foreign exchange earnings and 12% of gross domestic product (GDP)'. The Kenya-travel-packages.com website states, however, that tourism is the *third largest* industry and accounts for 10% of GDP. It also acknowledges, however, that tourism is the nation's largest foreign exchange earner.

Kenya has a structural food deficit and inflation is near 20% in Nairobi, according to an article entitled 'Currency swings, Eurozone crisis hits EA horticulture' in the East African (Feb.27-Mar.4, 2012, p. 54). Tourism, based on wildlife protection, should therefore be clearly considered as the most important Kenyan industry and treated accordingly. Just as Italy always has the Pope and Vatican draw cards, Africa has wild animals. Understand more about them and Kenya should never go backwards as they constitute the world's most scarce natural resource which ideally should be husbanded as effectively as in world class farming, both to achieve sustainable development and escape colonial roots. Everyone on the Intrepid bus loved Victor, our guide, who was a whiz at communications and helping fix the bus. Related higher standards are ideally articulated.

According to the Director, Kenya Wildlife Service directly manages approximately 8% of the total landmass of the country which is comprised of 22 National Parks, 28 National Reserves and 5 National Sanctuaries. Four Marine National Parks and 6 Marine National Reserves are also under KWS, along with 125 field stations outside protected areas. KWS is responsible for managing and protecting many critical water catchments and is involved in collaboration with many national agencies, such as Kenya Roads Board and energy companies, as 70% of Kenya's electricity comes from hydro-electric dams (p. 27).

The Director states the KWS 'conserves and manages Kenya's wildlife for the Kenyan people and the world. The KWS mandate includes 'security of National Parks and Reserves, including security for these and neighbouring areas; Oversight of wildlife conservation and management outside protected areas, including local and private sanctuaries; Conservation education and training; Wildlife research; Input into national wildlife-related policy and adapting and carrying out international conventions and protocols. By many international standards of animal management and display they need a lot of help to do this in Kenya. Besides the wildlife habitat, the parks and station house office (sic. p.27) KWS also manages residential blocks, training institutes, workshop areas, research centres, bandas, hotels, shops and restaurants, boreholes, road networks, airstrips and related plants and equipment. KWS is expected to account for 90% of safari tourism and about 75% of total tourist earnings. Apparently, 'the sector is expected to between (sic.) 4.5% and 5% a year' (p. 27). Up or down is anybody's guess or business?

In KWS they see themselves as 'a disciplined and uniformed force, supplementing national security to protect wildlife, people and property' – not necessarily in that order, one assumes, having seen land management in Nairobi National Park, at Lake Naivasha, on the Tanzanian/Kenyan park border, etc. One reads daily about many other more violent conflicts which appear likely to spread soon, related to the coming elections and a new constitution where power is supposedly devolved to regional levels. Related problems are discussed attached. Who understands the new land bills – only the lawyers? This is a threat or an opportunity - time to close one's eyes or do more washing up?

If the Kenya Wildlife Service is conserving and managing Kenya's wildlife for Kenya people and the world, God help us all. These people need more of a Dubai-style service culture. At least the KWS Director appears to know what he is expected to do. God bless him for writing in down. Does he know why Nairobi National Park information offices and so many others are closed to tourists - flexi-time in the public service?

I found the Kenya Visitor's Guide 2010/2011 on the final day of my two week stay, in place of the Bible in my Nairobi hotel room so I knocked it off as I can read English and it was useful and present. This is more than I can say for most communication on the Kenyan side of Tanzanian parks beyond the newspapers and Al Jazeera on TV at the hotel in Narok. They seem the most truthfully informed and informing sources.

Under the heading 'A more responsive city council', the City Council of Nairobi shows a gallery of those who will be responsible for inspecting licensing this year (The Standard, 20.2.12, p. 36). This is a good sign for openness but a service culture is not just about collecting money. As it's their money and resources, what do people get for it? Dr Njoki Fernandes, living in Tamarind Gardens, next to Kiandra School and directly opposite the Kaete Water Treatment Works in Nairobi, wrote to the Sunday Nation (26.2.12, p.14) that she and her neighbours have to contend with dry taps or pay for delivery at exorbitant prices by operators of water tankers. To add insult to injury, bowsers draw the water from there and charge them for it. 'If water is being rationed, they should let us know when to expect our supply', writes Dr. Njoki. (Jesus wept. This is how normal contracting 'works'? Send comfort to Dr Njoki at njokifern@yahoo.com.)

The Sunday Nation Review (26.2.12, p.18) points out the influential politician, John Michuki, who is now dead, wondered who will clean Nairobi River up. Land and water management are also difficult as many competing claims upon resources may be related to the new constitution, elections, new land bills and potentially related violence. As the Sunday Nation reports (26.2.12, p.35) several constitutional commissions will pile further pressure on the wages bill, along with the teachers and health workers who are among the latest groups to demand higher pay. One could do a lot better educationally with good TV and related communications much more cheaply, if the political will is there to do it. In developed nations like the US, Britain or Australia, it isn't yet. Most people need help to get the education they deserve. The average Kenyan lives on less per day than the cost of a cup of coffee at Sydney University and Kenyans are still banging out plenty more kids, so there is also plenty of room yet for development of meritocracies. Nigeria often intrigued me regarding how often the lowly might appear so clever and the great so dim. Let us see more of the performance product and thereby provide better education for all.

The Kenya 2011 Economic survey states average annual salaries have risen by 33.9% since 2006, with public sector earnings rising by 45.1% compared to 28.5% in the private sector. The public sector wages bill went up by 7.5% which was lower than the 8.2% registered in 2009. The Sunday Nation states the central government had the highest, increase of 10.9%. The local government wage bill increased 9.8%. 'Parastatals and institutions under public sector majority control saw their wages bills increase by 1.8%'. (Gee what do they do? They seem affordable and aren't adding to inflation at 18.9%.) If



Dambisa Moyo thinks Kenyans don't want US dollars and more of them every week, she must be living with the pixies in Washington or London as usual, talking up the book.

The more reliable Saturday Nation (18.2.12, p. 34) on the other hand, stated 1.26 million tourists came to Kenya in 2011 and 98 billion Kenyan shillings were earned 'despite travel advisories and debt woes ravaging Europe'. When watching many great BBC or other wildlife documentaries on TV with much enjoyment, Westerners have little idea of the forces wiping them out. Kenya is full of men carrying guns and many may be guards. The concept of 'security' needs work. The US State Department sensibly states, 'If you see something, say something', thus increasing potential for improved communication by all across the US nation, terrorist or not. By Australian standards 'security' should not involve taking tourists to see animals for money, with the view that the animals may be shot by the guard if they become dangerous to humans in the process. I guess a lot of this goes on. I saw the practice personally at the border and in Nairobi National Park. The only pamphlet I found in the latter park concerned conservation fees, including the costs of vehicle and aircraft and of security and guided tours per guide for various durations.

The global financial crisis has badly affected the sale of roses which are grown by Dutch interests around Lake Naivasha. Valentine's Day is heavily promoted, but that is Day 1 of 365. Priorities for roses or other horticulture in what is ideally endangered wildlife heartland is crazy. It is hard to conceive of more poorly managed tourism than at Lake Naivasha or nearby Hell's Gate National Park. I have a solar hot water system in Glebe. Why burn up so much wood and waste water? There seems no written information on anything except at Joy Adamson's house, where there is also a great deal to be learned. Somebody should tell our Intrepid Guide, Victor, about 'Born Free' and that going to Adamson's house is ideally more than just another opportunity to stuff one's face with finer food. Make some more links with more decent people. This, like Olduvai Gorge, is a vitally significant place for those from all across the world who hate senseless killing. There are many stories and movies made about this culture. Get them free or nearly free.

The KWS Guide for 2010/2011 states 'Nairobi National Park is not fenced and wildlife is still able (for the time being) to migrate along a narrow wildlife corridor to the Rift Valley'. (Oh yeah?) Nairobi National Park is 'home to the highest concentration of black rhino in the world (over 500)'. Is that right – you could have fooled me. Can we count them? Could a lot more now be gone like the hippos? Why does Nairobi National Park not appear on the scarce tourist maps of Nairobi? Is somebody going to take it over and build apartments on it? Being so close to the airport and so comparatively denuded, it seems like that. Is it possible to maintain this park in the centre of Nairobi effectively? From its run down state and the related establishment of small internal zoos, I guess not. One wonders what the helicopter was doing which hovered over its grounds for so long.

The East African Special Report on Oil and Gas Exploration (Feb. 27<sup>th</sup> -4<sup>th</sup> Mar. 2012, p.35) states it is prudent for Kenya to enter current exploration agreements aware of attendant land use and environmental issues bound to arise if prospecting is successful. Arid and semi-arid regions relying heavily on livestock production are largely neither surveyed nor demarcated with vast swathes under the control of county councils. Councils could lay claim to undisputed land to position themselves to benefit from oil

proceeds expected which could also generate a lot of booty in Nairobi. Is 'a revenue stabilization account to act as a buffer against volatility in oil prices', as recommended by consulting firm Prescient 360 Group, a good way to go? Baby, I'd guess not.

On the other hand, one wonders why 'natural gas can be easily integrated into mainstream industrialisation of a country as is happening in Tanzania and why it would be easier to manage gas with higher levels of discipline, accountability and transparency than oil'. Elsie Eyakuze in Tanzania states 'I am not sure why democracy and social change are becoming synonymous with violence, but they are.' I blame bad neighbours.

The Kenyan future appears bleak but brave newspapers appear very good informants and should be strengthened as a means of assisting more open and democratic management. Take a look at Nairobi National Park. This seems a lot of land somebody has marked up.

### **Seek broader ranges of pundits to lead the way forward for Kenya and beyond**

Hans Rosling's analysis and development solutions, shown recently on PBS News Hour on Australian SBS TV, aim at helping women live above the wash-line, where all can have washing machines. My tent partner Amy came from a small US town but lived in Chicago before becoming a US teaching volunteer in Africa. She says one of the worst things about her situation is scrubbing clothes, so I believe Hans. Amy also hates seeing the Africans teachers using students as slaves to hand wash their clothes for free. I pointed out that in China students are often required to clean the school. She saw immediately this was different - an act of public service in a poor community. I like Americans like that. From travelling one gets the impression most of them are now dead.

It's mainly the American TV dream which Intrepid seems to be sharing in Masai country. Seriously these guys are totally nuts. One would need a death wish to marry into their culture which appears obsessed with differences between the duties on Earth given to men and women. You can imagine what follows besides cutting off your daughters' clitoris at the age of about nine so that she doesn't get any big ideas of her own. We don't talk about that on the bus. We normally ask instead if wives get jealous. The answer is obviously 'No, they don't'. Jesus Christ, give us better training and not more powerful drugs packaged and pushed as medicines instead of more poisons in the system.

Collier does not define transparency. People are naturally often suspicious about the benefits of 'free trade' when it delivers such massive social inequality, a rapidly degraded natural environment, continuing species loss, unexpected financial crises and a general financial environment closer to perfect ignorance than perfect information, along with the normal violence, corruption and lousy TV. The global financial crisis seemed to take those who should have known by surprise. Who should we ever trust without reliable information? Governments, industries and communities must take openly planned and monitored approaches to regional development projects which have clear environmental goals as well as social and economic ones. More awareness of related international standards would be good. Intrepid could also help the company more with this approach.

There is no clearer way to shape Kenya business incentives rationally, other than by first focusing on enhancing the situation of the most endangered species and all the related land, water, and air that one wishes to protect for current and future generations, wherever those generations who will enjoy the outcomes may live across the world. When I went from Nairobi to Dubai on the way home, it was a quantum leap in clear, comfortable and reasonably priced service culture in an environment that I guess is underutilised and in debt but extremely promising. Those who think African cities and hotels have anything much going for them without wild animals should take a harder look. I am unconvinced that either horticulture or manufacturing can flourish in Africa unless drawn by pro-actively directed ideas about more open service, as in Dubai. The Dubai Museum, its related fort and other restorations are very beautiful and impressive. Africans deserve to understand and display their heritages just as truly and productively.

The Gulf News (27.2.12, Nation 7) reports that experts in Abu Dhabi have warned an estimated one in ever seven species of bird, one in every four species of mammal and one in every three amphibian species are globally threatened with extinction. Many species in the United Arab Emirates (UAE) are also threatened with extinction including the Socotra cormorant, Arabian tahr, Arabian oryx, Arabian leopard, dugongs, hawksbill turtles, as well as many other species of reptiles, fishes, amphibians, and invertebrates.

In 2008 the former Australian Prime Minister (PM) Kevin Rudd and President Susilo Bambang Yudhoyono signed an agreement on forests and carbon trading. The attached submission to the Productivity Commission argues that the most logical direction now appears to be to plan future trade policy around greater protection of internationally endangered species and related land, water and air. There is a lot of scope for this or the total reverse in Africa, where men often appear intent on killing everything, in my admittedly limited experience of the place. How come I can't go to my hotel and get a map of the town and its attractions and walk comfortably around Nairobi alone, like anywhere else in the world? How come at 65 I was harassed or followed by so many men on the road that I just wanted to be home? Money, Baby! It used to be good looks.

We all have to eat. Always look on the bright side of life, as Chairman Mao pointed out before introducing the sensible one child policy with competitive communications, health, education, housing and pension incentives. Show Kenyan kids how nice it is on TV with the beautiful trees and birds where Iggle Piggle and Upsy Daisy live, largely in harmony with many strange looking neighbours as well as with pinky-ponks and ninky-nonks that don't break down seven times in a week, like a Kenyan Intrepid bus. Help journalists, TV, film and radio expand to provide more effective fourth estates. Towel heads vs. wig men? I'll have another go at towel heads for a change. See attacks on wig men and their mates on [www.Carolodonnell.com.au](http://www.Carolodonnell.com.au) I normally hide in my hat or tent.

Thank you for the opportunity to make this submission. Yours truly

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