THE STORY OF THE YIASIM EE NGILAI CREST





Yiasim ee Ngilai is a Thriving Futures partnership between the Ngilai communities in Northern Kenya and Legado. As part of our partnership launch, Ngilai community members chose this name and created a crest to represent their community's legacy. The drawing of the crest (see below) was the result of an exercise inside of our legacy workshop. We first invited workshop participants to draw and represent the four most important elements that they valued, felt proud of, and wanted to maintain in Ngilai for a Thriving Future. Groups of men, women, and youth all drew and then presented their crests to each other, after which the artists from each group created a combined crest. This crest was then shared in each village in Ngilai when validating the community goals established for their Legacy Plan.

RAMAT NABULAA

Ramat Nabulaa (written at the top of the crest) is a Samburu name that reflects the four elements that are drawn in the crest to represent a Thriving Future. Each of the four elements are described by Moses Lekaaso, Rangelands Coordinator for Ngilai community, below:

UNITY

"The two hands at the top are a sign of coming together for the purpose of achieving a common goal together and benefit all. A sign of unity for all of us coming together: women, youth and men, bringing inclusivity."

NATURAL RESOURCES

"This is the largest part of the crest represented by the following elements:

- A tree: representing the forest
- Water: represented by a river
- Wildlife: A lion that is a sign of strength. An Elephant that has a huge value for the ivory, but for Samburu people an elephant is more important than the ivory because we cannot even imagine our lives without elephants; it shows how we value wildlife. The two birds (Superb starlings) represent the beauty of our land, and our wildlife."



EDUCATION

"Education is represented by a book and a pen. Formal education means educating children (boys and girls) in order to meet the current modern status, this also means eradicating poverty in our communities, and empowering our people."

CULTURE AND LIVELIHOODS

"Culture is represented by the chains and beaded belts at the logo. Our Samburu community are very rich in culture and some elements of our culture also support our incomes through the sale of our costumes, beaded chains and also performing cultural activities that attract tourists. Livelihoods are represented by a head of a bull, that is one of the main sources of income and most valued by the Samburu community."