Olderikesi Community Conservancy Operations Centre Funding Proposal
This is a funding proposal for a Centre of Operations in the Olderkesi Conservancy, which will function as a centralised work space for the Cottars Wildlife Conservation Trust (CWCT) team to manage the Olderikesi Conservancy. This is needed in order for the conservancy to successfully and efficiently meet its strategic objectives, and secure land towards wildlife conservation. This involves the securing of vital wildlife corridors between the Maasai Mara National Reserve and the Nguruman forest, which is vital for many species, most notably the Elephant. The success of the conservancy directly benefits all community members, making it a holistic outcome, and a truly sustainable model. The conservancy seeks to make wildlife conservation and tourism an economically viable land use option for the community in order to secure habitat for wildlife.
Map indicating Elephant corridors (red lines)
Number 14 is Olderkesi - Keeping the corridors open to the nguruman forest is critical for the preservation of habitat and therefore the natural biodiversity.
Map indicating Sustainable Land Use Plan drawn out together with the conservancy Phases 1 & 2 in green, and Phases 3 & 4 in yellow. The wildlife corridors on RED.
Olderkesi Conservancy was established in 2006 together with the local community. The community conservancy is managed by Cottars Wildlife Conservation Trust, a team of 5 senior staff and 20 rangers. Phase 1 of the conservancies land use plan consists of a single title deed representing every family unit within the 7,608 acre group ranch, giving it a democratic and stable nature where all parties benefit equally, making its success in the common will and benefit of the Maasai community.

The four strategic objectives the trust looks to implement within the conservancy are:
1. To ensure sustainable land use objectives;
2. To decrease pressure on species from illegal wildlife trade through a Theories of Change framework;
3. To establish and strengthen collaborative networks with strategic Partners; and
4. To strengthen institutional capacity.

We welcome you to join our journey.
The focus point for CWCT in 2019 is centralised on developing the strategic objective number four; to strengthen institutional capacity, which will act as a catalyst to enabling all other strategic objectives to move forward smoothly. This involves strengthening both the physical structures which house CWCT and its members (such as the proposed operations centre), as well as solidifying the reporting methods and establishing structures of organisation which the CWCT team will operate within, in order to most efficiently work towards its other objectives.
As Olderkesi Conservancy looks to fully secure and establish itself, it faces a ‘cart before the horse’ scenario whereby investment is needed in order to secure the area thereby increasing its value, but cannot increase its conservancy fee to facilitate this investment with its current value. Therefore funding is needed for an operations centre, which will enable the securing of the conservancy and the creation of reporting structures necessary for conservancy management. An operations centre will massively strengthen the institutional capacity of the conservancy, allowing for it to facilitate all other strategic objectives, as well as increase the value and success of the secured land. This will increase revenue to the conservancy for operations and potential expansions, whilst also increasing the revenue received by the community through wildlife conservation; culminating in an increase in trust for this type of land use by the local community, and beyond.
The operations room will assist the team to secure phase 1 of the conservancy, by creating structures of reporting and monitoring. It is a space where the team are able to work together, as the current lack of office creates chaos within the management, communications, and reporting structures. The operations room will enable the conservancy manager to monitor ranger patrols, have key members of staff at hand, supervise reporting structures, and communicate directly with the team; all critical towards optimising conservancy management and objectives.
An operations room will enable the conservancy to become fully secured and functional, thereby increasing its value and enabling it to raise the conservancy fee to tourist partners (which has already been agreed upon with existing partners). These conservancy fees will in turn maintain the operational costs of the operations room.
Total Furniture: $8,877
Office Supplies: $1,815
Electronics and Appliances (inc. computers): $8,745
Infrastructure and Substructure (attached document) $37,356
Solar System: 17,470

TOTAL: $74,263
Vision Statement:

“A healthy, prosperous group ranch where all parties care for and value the natural biodiversity, and are able to commit to sustainable long term benefits for the community and wildlife.”