



## PRESS RELEASE

### ECOTOURISM KENYA ANNOUNCES THE 2019 ECO WARRIOR AWARD LONG LIST OF NOMINEES

**23/08/2019 - Nairobi, Kenya:** Ecotourism Kenya has released the long list of nominees who will be contesting for the Eco Warrior Award in 2019. The Award, held annually, recognizes efforts, innovations and exceptional achievements for promoting responsible tourism and enhancing tourism sustainability which directly conserves the natural environment while supporting local communities through mutually beneficial and equitable partnerships. The finalist will be announced in a colourful Award ceremony held annually to recognize these unsung heroes and heroines.

To recognize the winners, Ecotourism Kenya together with her partners will host the **14<sup>th</sup> Edition** of the **Eco Warrior Award Ceremony & Gala Night** on the theme – **‘Tourism Jobs and the Green Economy: A Better Future for All’** on Thursday 26<sup>th</sup> September 2019 at the Nairobi Serena Hotel. **The dress code is – Black with a touch of Gold!** The event will take place on the eve of UNWTO World Tourism Day.

The nomination process for the Eco Warrior Award closed on 9th August 2019. Under the 6 categories, we received a total of 46 nominees as follows:

#### 1. 2019 Tourism and Green Jobs Eco Warrior

1. Sweet Waters Serena Camp
2. Mugie Conservancy
3. Peak East Africa
4. Ekorian Mugie Camp

#### 2. 2019 Social Impact Eco Warrior

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|-----------------------------|----------------------------------|
| 1. Amboseli Serena Lodge    | 10. Porini Camps                 |
| 2. Twiga Tours              | 11. Mugie Conservancy            |
| 3. Kakapel Cultural Center  | 12. PEAK (East Africa) Ltd       |
| 4. Kichwa Tembo Tented Camp | 13. Turtle Bay Beach Club        |
| 5. Otenyo Cultural Center   | 14. Expedition Maasai Safaris    |
| 6. Ngare Ndare Forest Trust | 15. Lake Elementeita Serena Camp |
| 7. Mlilo Ecotours           | 16. Napak Resort                 |
| 8. Il Ngwesi Eco Lodge      | 17. Sanctuary Olonana            |
| 9. Basecamp Explorer Kenya  | 18. Sasaab Lodge                 |

### 3. 2019 Sustainable Tourism Change Makers

1. Rahmina Oyugi
2. Peter Liech
3. Minaz Manji
4. Marion Wanjiku
5. Livingstone –Mlilo Ecotours
6. Irene Muchumu
7. Henry Kimathi
8. David Marenya

### 4. 2019 Green Tourism Eco Warrior: Resource Use Efficiency Category

1. Kilaguni Serena Safari Lodge
2. Kicheche Mara Camp
3. Escapades – Kilima Camp
4. Amboseli Serena Safari Lodge

### 5. 2019 Green Tourism Eco Warrior: Tour Operators Category

1. Twiga Tours and Travel
2. Sunworld Safaris
3. Marhaba Holidays
4. Let's Go Travel - Uniglobe
5. Gamewatchers Safaris Ltd

### 6. 2019 Green Tourism Eco Warrior: Minimization of Single Use Plastic Category

1. Angama Mara
2. Tawi Lodge
3. Kichwa Tembo
4. Mara Bush Camp
5. Sunworld Safaris
6. Safari Collection
7. Serena Beach Resort

### Where next from here: Judging Process

The nomination process has come to an end and it marks the onset of the shortlisting process. A team of carefully selected individuals who are professionals in sustainable tourism will embark on the judging process. A shortlist will be released one week to the Award night. Together with our sponsors and host **Nairobi Serena Hotel**, we give a promise to make the night worth it with great fun and networking.

In addition, we have compiled a list of exciting raffle prizes that will be up for grabs during the Gala Dinner courtesy of Ecotourism Kenya members including the certified sustainable tourism accommodation facilities. To book your place at the dinner and for payment details, register at this link <https://ecotourismkenya.org/ecowarrioraward/dinner-registration/>

Charges:           Individuals:                           Kshs 6,000  
                          Corporate Table of 10:       Kshs. 56,000

Ecotourism Kenya members get a **10% discount**.

## **About Ecotourism Kenya**

Ecotourism Kenya is a business membership association that was established in 1996. Founded with enormous support from the tourism industry in Kenya, it is the industry association charged with the responsibility of ensuring that Kenya's tourism is sustainable, both in terms of concern for the environment and for the welfare of local communities. With a direct membership of 250 and reaching out to hundreds more, Ecotourism Kenya brings together Individuals, Community Based Organizations (CBOs) and tourism businesses in a forum where they discuss the concept of ecotourism and use the resultant knowledge to improve their operations towards best practices.

Ecotourism Kenya's achievements include being the first Ecotourism Society in Africa; the first to develop a voluntary eco-certification scheme for hotels/lodges in Africa; managed to publish a Green Directory of producers of green products and services; worked with Travelife to develop a customized sustainability standard for Tour Operators; and developed a comprehensive guideline for Green Destination in Africa.

For more information about the Eco Warrior Award and/or Ecotourism Kenya contact:

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