



Maasai International Solidarity Alliance

Key Policy Messages from the Maasai of Northern Tanzania

MISA LOBBY TOUR — SEPTEMBER 2025

1) Put an End to Human Rights Violations

- **Use your influence to help protect the human rights of Maasai Indigenous People** by demanding, in political dialogues with Tanzania:
 - an end to forced evictions of Maasai from their lands and territories;
 - an end to confiscations of livestock, which deprive Maasai of their livelihoods;
 - an end to the alienation of the Maasai's land caused by wildlife corridors, conservation and Game Controlled Areas and other protected areas, regardless of status, which is leading to the destruction of Indigenous Peoples' livelihoods, culture and spirituality;
 - a positive outcome to the dialogue process that was initiated between the Tanzanian government and Maasai representatives following massive protests in August 2024; we request that the **reports of the two Presidential Commissions be made public before the elections** in October 2025; the recommendations should respect and ensure the human rights of the Maasai;
 - a return to unconditional access to and grazing on demarcated conservation areas to promote co-existence in all Maasai land;
 - that the Flying Medical Service is allowed to operate to provide essential health care to Maasai communities;
- **Demand the recognition of the Maasai as well as Barbaig, Akie (Amie), Hadzabe, and Sandawe as Indigenous Peoples** in Tanzania in line with UN and African Union decisions.
- **Condition EU and its Member States, US and World Bank funding to Tanzania on the respect of the human rights** of the Maasai Indigenous People, in line with ILO Convention 169 and the UN Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples.
- **Support the organization of independent visits by the UN Special Rapporteur on Indigenous Peoples and the EU Special Representative for Human Rights to Tanzania.**
- **Organise an independent and free inquiry about the human rights impacts of biodiversity conservation, climate and tourism projects funded by EU or US based actors in Tanzania.**

2) Respect and Promote the Maasai Conservation Vision

- **Ensure your policies and programs on biodiversity conservation, tourism, climate change and international partnerships are aligned with the [Maasai Conservation Vision](#):**
 - Stop funding and supporting the creation of national parks and other protected areas (regardless of status) if the FPIC of the concerned peoples cannot be guaranteed and if there are risks of human rights violations.
 - Provide full transparency on the objectives and activities of internationally funded conservation, climate and tourism projects, including on EU, its member states, US and World Bank funding to conservation organisations like the Frankfurt Zoological Society or WWF which have a problematic track-record.
 - Ensure that no partnership or project funded by the EU or its member states is involved in any hunting activity (including its management); zero tolerance for hunting means no funding to government agencies involved in hunting.
 - Ban trophy hunting imports in Europe. Such a ban can send a strong signal to the Tanzanian government and discourage trophy hunting, which is generating forced evictions of Maasai and undermining their livelihoods.
 - Initiate new legislation to prevent human rights abuses in EU-funded conservation projects and establish appropriate compliance mechanisms.
- **Establish EU and member states policies, programs and funding schemes that support the Maasai Conservation Vision:**
 - Acknowledge and support pastoralism as a viable and resilient livelihood.
 - Support food and water security and economic resilience and ensure that vital health, education and social services are provided in Maasai lands and territories.
 - Protect pastoralists' lands and livestock mobility.
 - Support investment in decentralised infrastructure development and ensure people-led service delivery in pastoral areas.
 - Ensure socio-ecological and climate resilience and encourage the inclusion of pastoralist-based strategies in national climate contributions and national biodiversity strategies.
 - Strengthen pastoralist institutions, voices and culture and raise awareness and address negative stereotypes.
 - Finance public research on pastoralism.
- **Take FPIC seriously and ensure it follows UN guidelines:**
 - Insist on a systematic rights-based approach to conservation, climate action and tourism, including respect of Free, Prior, and Informed Consent (FPIC) for any development or land-use changes on their territories.

3) **Respect the Moratorium on Soil Carbon Credits in Rangelands**

Carbon credits are not a solution to climate change. Carbon offsets and credits should not act as a substitute for reducing carbon emissions in the Global North. In line with key findings from our [Report on Soil Carbon Credits in Tanzanian Rangelands](#), we insist that:

- **The Tanzanian government should put on hold all soil carbon deals and discussions between communities and carbon proponents until a proper FPIC process can be ensured.**
 - All soil carbon business in pastoralists' rangelands should be paused at least until 2030 to allow local communities to access full information and understanding on soil carbon. As general elections will take place in 2025, the current context is particularly prone to politics and corruption.
 - A Tanzanian legal framework on soil carbon projects should be developed that adequately protects pastoralists' human and land rights.
 - On the international level, clear regulations with adequate and strong human rights safeguards for voluntary carbon markets need to be elaborated and enforced.
- **Free, Prior and Informed Consent (FPIC) should be guaranteed at all stages, from project identification to formulation, implementation and closure. FPIC must be obtained before communities enter into any carbon contracts.**
- **Carbon credit projects should neither interfere with nor undermine in any way pastoralism, access to natural resources such as water, grazing areas, firewood, access to sacred sites, traditional knowledge and land-use practices.**
 - Carbon credit projects should not limit pastoralist mobility in any way and should enable Maasai communities to maintain full control over their land and be the ones making self-determined decisions on where to graze and when;
 - Carbon credit projects should respect and not interfere with the land use plans that are in place. They should align with the already-set principles of a participatory land use plan;
 - Carbon credit projects should fully guarantee and protect land tenure security; carbon credits should not pave the way for further alienation of Maasai land for protected areas, hunting areas and any other use than pastoralism or livelihood options decided upon by Maasai communities themselves;
 - Carbon credit projects should not lock communities into long-term contracts that do not allow for easy termination and regular reviews and interfere with the existing or future land use plans;
 - Communities should be able to develop their own baseline surveys including the amount of soil carbon on their land; they have the right to full and transparent access to information collected on their land (baseline protocol).
- **Carbon Credit Proponents should respect MISA's call for a MORATORIUM. We demand that Soils for the Future, supported by Volkswagen ClimatePartner, Carbon Solve, and The Nature Conservancy (TNC) stop inciting villages in Longido, Monduli and Simanjiro to sign carbon deals, as their activities are generating corruption and conflicts over natural resources.**
- **Amendments to the EU Climate Law should not further encourage the development of international carbon credits.**