

Since 2006, **Dr. Jerry Daday**, associate professor in Sociology, has worked on an interdisciplinary and collaborative research project that examines the intersection of human-wildlife conflict, extreme poverty, community-based conservation, and sustainable development in Kasigau, Kenya. Kasigau is situated between two of Kenya's largest wildlife national parks, Tsavo East and Tsavo West, and human-wildlife conflict is a persistent issue for these communities. Subsistence-based farming provides food and economic resources for the majority of households, and wildlife intrusions can destroy the small number of crops they can grow with limited water, no irrigation, and poor soil. Many farmers are forced to hunt wildlife (1) to protect their crops, (2) to obtain food, or (3) to sell the poached meat on the black-market. Due to extreme poverty and the lack of basic infrastructure, the residents of Kasigau face numerous challenges each day. Daday's interdisciplinary research project measures the extent of human-wildlife conflict and works with the community to find ways of mitigating conflict and to promote sustainable economic development that employs community-

based conservation. Additionally, Daday and his colleagues have collected data on 120 small businesses in the Kasigau area. This research was an attempt to understand the factors promoting and hindering the creation and expansion of these small businesses with the hope that community leaders could use the data to promote economic development in the area.

