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## **ZOO REOPENING – LEWA SAVANA OPEN**

**With the reopening of Zoo Zurich after temporary closures due to the coronavirus pandemic, the new Lewa Savanna is officially welcoming visitors as well. The exhibit, which is home to giraffes, rhinos and other African wildlife is linked to the Zoo's longstanding conservation partner Lewa Wildlife Conservancy in Kenya.**

After a twelve-week closure, Zoo Zurich is at last able to reopen its doors for visitors on Saturday, 6 June 2020. The reopening of the Zoo coincides with the opening of the new Lewa Savanna, which is now welcoming its first visitors. Sadly, festivities surrounding the official launch of the exhibit originally planned for April had to be cancelled.

The Lewa Savanna is the third key project outlined in the zoo's master plan, presented by Zoo Director Alex Rübel in 1993, following the launch of the Masoala Rainforest in 2003 and the Kaeng Krachan Elephant Park in 2014. Spanning 5.6 hectares, the Lewa Savanna is now the Zoo's largest site exhibit and is home to 15 species found in the African savanna, including Reticulated giraffes, White rhinoceros, Grevy's zebras, antelopes, ostriches, meerkats and spotted Hyenas.

Zürich Zoo financed the Lewa Savanna – as all other exhibits –, entirely through donations, with costs totalling CHF 56 million.

### **Conservation Partnership in Kenya Since 1998**

Inspiration for the Lewa Savanna exhibit at Zoo Zurich is the Lewa Wildlife Conservancy (lewa.org), located in northern Kenya. For 22 years, Zoo Zurich has proudly supported this UNESCO World Heritage Site and is committed to its work in anti-poaching, human-wildlife conflict mitigation, wildlife conservation and community development projects. Through its connection with Lewa in Kenya, the Lewa Savanna in Zurich will encourage visitors to actively support the conservation of endangered species and wildlife habitat.

#### **For more information please contact:**

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