

# Lion Boy – Richard Turere

<b>Date</b>	<b>11<sup>th</sup> Nov 2022</b>
<b>Time</b>	<b>16:00 (UTC+8)</b>
<b>Venue</b>	<b>3N01 &amp; Zoom</b>



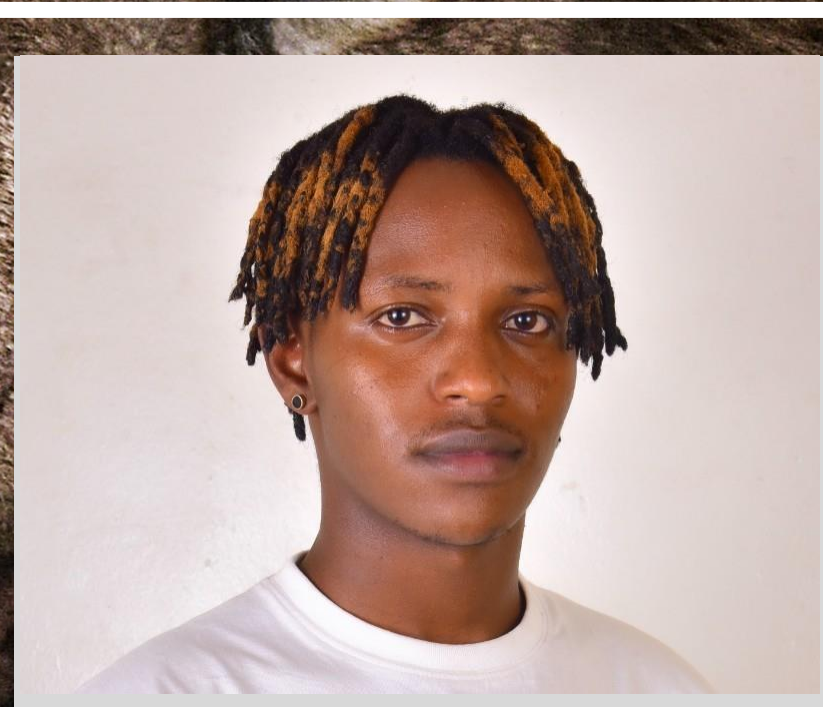
You can also email us to require the Zoom link  
(check SBS website → NEWS & EVENTS)

## Abstract

Richard Turere hails from the pastoral Maasai community in Kenya. As a young boy, he was responsible for herding and caretaking his family's herd of cattle. Because Richard's family lives on the periphery of the unfenced Nairobi National Park, they often experienced lion attacks on their livestock, leading to devastating losses of livestock that they depend on for survival.

Richard applied his creative thinking skills and came up with a novel solution. While patrolling one night, he discovered that lions were afraid of and would retreat if they spotted a person walking around with a flashlight. Using electrical skills he had taught himself by breaking apart old radios, Richard created an LED light device powered by an old car battery and some solar panels. At night, the light flashes in a sequence that mimics someone patrolling with a flashlight and successfully repels lions from coming close to livestock. Richard has formalized his clever solution under an organization called Lionlights, and the innovation has been installed on 750 farms now in Kenya over the past 4 years. He also employs 50 youth from his village who manage the installation of the lights.

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## About speaker:

Richard Turere is a graduate of The African Leadership University, Kigali, Rwanda, East Africa, where he studied Global Challenges with a focus on Wildlife Conservation. He grew up as a Maasai cattle herder in Kenya, and due to his real-life encounters with the Human-Wildlife conflict, he set his mind and energy on finding a solution to this age-old problem.

Richard is the Founder and Technical Director at Lion Lights and has been humbled, honoured and privileged to speak within various forums both local and global, such as the TED Global Stage in California, USA, Lets Go Festival in Brazil, La Ciudad de Las Ideas, Mexico and Lion Week Festival, Hong Kong.

He has received a Special Commendation from Africa Leadership Awards for his critical role in protecting and creating awareness around the Crisis Facing Kenya's Lions. He is recognized as Kenya's youngest patent inventor. In 2020 he became a Young NatGeo Explorer, and he was a finalist at the Future for Nature awards in 2021

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