



Darwin Initiative: Final Report

To be completed with reference to the “Writing a Darwin/IWT Report” Information Note:
(<https://www.darwininitiative.org.uk/resources-for-projects/reporting-forms-change-request-forms-and-terms-and-conditions/>).

It is expected that this report will be a **maximum** of 20 pages in length, excluding annexes)

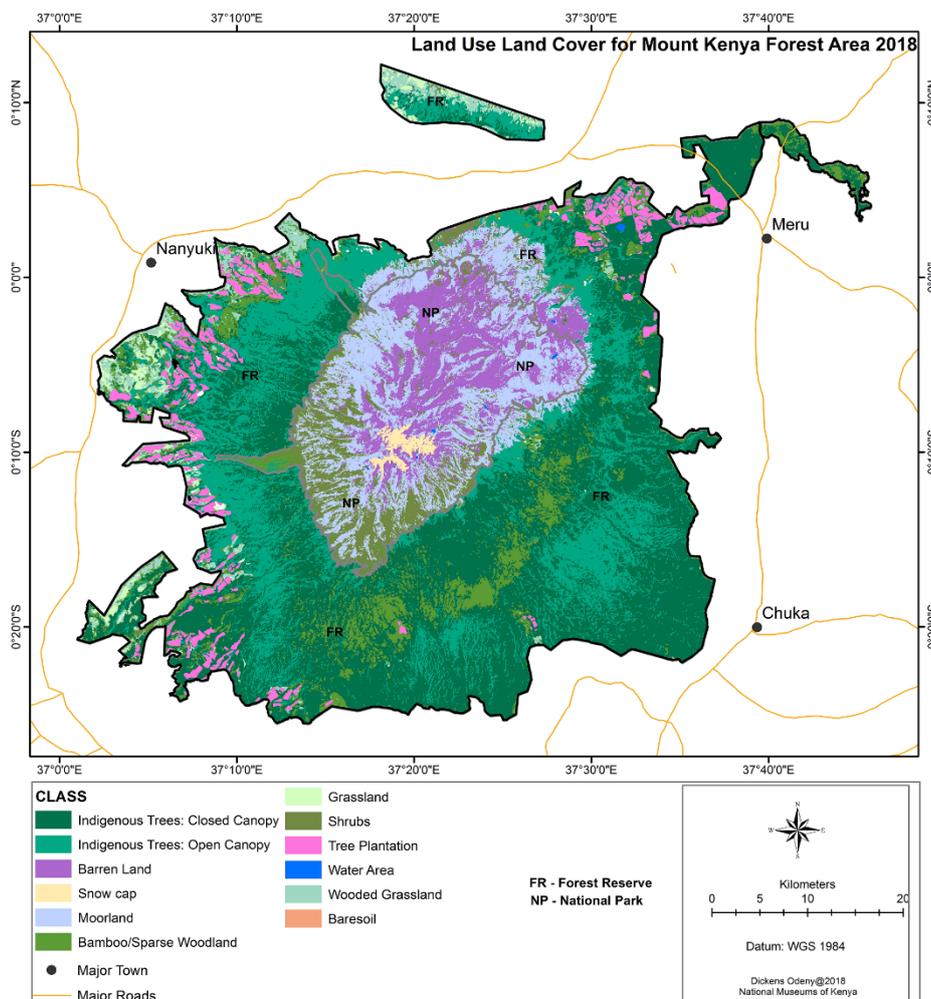
Darwin Project Information

Project reference	25-031
Project title	Partnering with Business for Restoration of Mt.Kenya Ecosystem Services
Country(ies)	Kenya
Lead organisation	Nature Kenya
Partner institution(s)	Kenya Forest Service, National Museums of Kenya, KENGEN, KPLC, Ministry of Environment and Forestry The Nature Conservancy (TNC), 12 Community Forest Associations, Mt. KEBIO Site Support Group
Darwin grant value	£336,276
Start/end dates of project	1 st July 2018- 31 st March 2021
Project leader’s name	Paul Matiku
Project website/blog/social media	www.naturekenya.org
Report author(s) and date	Paul Gacheru, Paul Matiku

1 Project Summary

Project Location

The Mount Kenya Forest ecosystem is found in Central Kenya and covers parts of Meru, Tharaka Nithi, Embu, Kirinyaga, and Nyeri counties (See Map 1 below). Mount Kenya forest boundary is recognized as a National Park managed by Kenya Wildlife Service which is surrounded by the National Forest Reserve managed by Kenya Forest Service with the community buffer areas largely comprised of the agricultural community that cultivate coffee, tea, Irish potatoes, maize, beans, cabbage, wheat, carrots, and barley, among other crops. Mt. Kenya forest area is globally recognized as Important Bird Area, Key Biodiversity Area, Alliance for Zero Extinction site and UNESCO-World Heritage Site. The project primarily focused on the entire mountain with direct forest restoration areas confined within the National Forest Reserve.



Map 1: Location of Mt. Kenya Forest Ecosystem of the project location

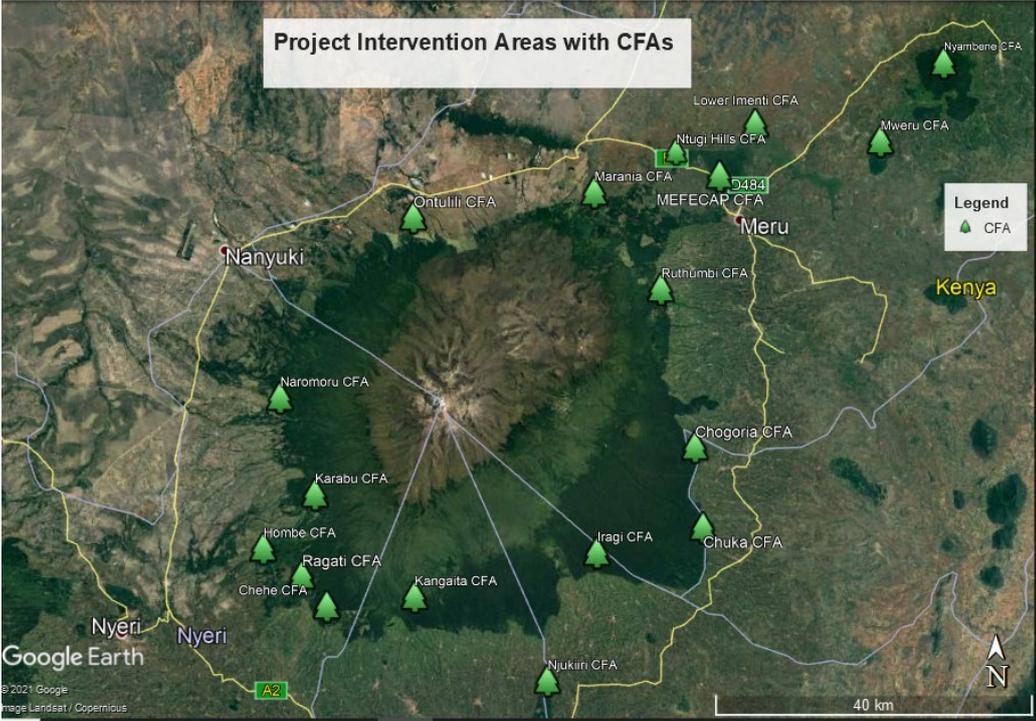
Mt. Kenya is one of the largest water catchments for Kenya. Mount Kenya, part of the Tana River watershed, provides fresh drinking water to over 2 million people. Over 70% of Kenya's electricity is from hydropower. Over 95% of Nairobi's water is from Sasumua and Ndakaini dams. Over 1million ha of the Tana River watershed is under food production. Mount Kenya forest receives inadequate attention and protection leading to rapid environmental degradation. Government/NGO efforts are limited by insufficient funding and are not slowing deforestation. Forest adjacent communities receive insufficient incentives from downstream water users that would support to slow down and halt deforestation.

Due to the deforestation, habitat suitability for endemic and species of global conservation concern like Elephant, Mountain bongo among others is reducing, increasing the risk of species extinction. The project targeted to promote forest restoration to increase habitat suitability for biodiversity.

Mt. Kenya forest adjacent community are categorized as poor rural community living under a dollar a day. They rely significantly on the forest ecosystem for vital ecosystem services like water and fuelwood. Due to the over-reliance and unregulated extraction of forest products, this has been identified as a key driver for forest degradation. The project targeted at providing incentives that would address these drivers of forest degradation and diversify livelihood alternative sources of household revenue options.

As a result of the Mt. Kenya Forest degradation and deforestation, challenges and reduced water quantity and quality of rivers flowing from Mt. Kenya have been experienced. The ability of Mt. Kenya Forest to sequester carbon has reduced contributing to global warming. The project aims

at piloting innovative approaches involving commercial downstream users' support towards Mt. Kenya Forest restoration. Local people have limited skills and knowledge to negotiate with downstream users for their rightful contribution to the Mt. Kenya Forest restoration. We aim to build the capacity of local community groups-Community Forest Associations (Map 2- CFA distributions) who are established by law and support forest conservation, to be able to present and negotiate with the business community for resource allocation to support forest restoration. As a result, these CFAs will actively participate in forest restoration and awareness creation on the importance of Mt. Kenya Forest. We are linking up with the corporate community in Kenya to drum up support for watershed restoration. We are working with Community Forest Associations that surround Mt. Kenya Forest from 5 counties; Nyeri, Kirinyaga, Embu, Tharaka, Meru.



Map 2: Map extract from google earth showing the distributions of the CFAs

2 Project Partnerships

Roles of Partners in Project Planning and Decision Making

The project had multiple partners that contributed to the project planning and decision making. Nature Kenya was the lead organisation in project execution. We strengthened and catalysed project partners engagement through formation of project advisory committees at the national level (see Annex 1 committee ToRs) and Mt. Kenya Forest ecosystem level (See Annex 2 committee ToRs). These committees included all the project partners, provided platform for discussing project implementation and providing strategic advice on project execution (Annex 3-6 see Committee Meeting Minutes). The partners provided inputs in the development of- Mt. Kenya Forest Restoration Strategy 2019-2019 (Annex 7); Mt. Kenya Forest Ecosystem Services Assessment Report (Annex 8) and Mt. Kenya Forest business case for sustainable restoration (Annex 9)

The Ministry of Environment and Forestry continued to promote the protection, conservation, restoration and management of forests. With an aim of promoting private sector partnerships in forest restoration, the Ministry provided goodwill to initiate discussions of Kenya PES policy, and formulation of forest regulations to strengthen participation of Community Forest Associations in forest management (Annex 10-11).

Kenya Forest Service (KFS) continued to participate and play their role within their mandates for forests management and conservation. They continued to empower CFAs engagement in forest restoration and management, and promoted Forest and Landscape Restoration nationally (Annex 12) and at Mt. Kenya Forest ecosystem level (Annex 13) where lessons were shared and mainstreamed.

The National Museums of Kenya (NMK) provided technical inputs in biodiversity surveys (Annex 14), water quality and quantity surveys (Annex 15), GIS technical support informing the Mt. Kenya Ecosystem Services Assessment report (Annex 8). This information was used to update the KBA database to inform the national and global conservation community.

The CFAs and Mt.KeBio SSG were beneficiaries of capacity building in order to play their role as water producers/suppliers and eventual recipients of financing from downstream water users to implement catchment protection and restoration. In addition, they actively participated in awareness creation on forest restoration, increased surveillance on illegal activities and monitoring biodiversity in Mt. Kenya Forest.

The Nature Conservancy (TNC) has been setting up the Upper Tana and Nairobi Water Fund. As a member of the advisory committee, they provide insights on engagement of business sector and shared lessons on how to integrate community once the fund was operational (Annex 3 & Annex 5 see Committee meeting Minutes). They also provided complementarity and synergy in forest restoration in Upper Tana Catchment within the Aberdare Forest with funding from GEF.

KENGEN and KPLC as the lead institutions in electricity generation and distribution, participated actively in the project advisory committee and explored financing mechanism to CFAs on forest restoration (Annex 3 & Annex 5 see Committee Meeting Minutes). One CFA-Mweru CFA signed financing agreement with Ministry of Energy catalysed by KENGEN on forest restoration (Annex 43)

Partners in involvement in writing this report

Nature Kenya took the lead in consolidating report content and organising the supporting documentation. During the project implementation, we supported a number of partners to deliver an activity which included reporting writing. When compiling the reports, the institutions and staff that led the actions are consulted should their reports require clarification. For example, biodiversity monitoring and water quality and quantity surveys led by National Museums of Kenya, the expert's engagement in data analysis and reporting responding to the project Indicators giving them the opportunity to input to the overall project implementation. Also, the CFAs actively participated in field data collection associated with socio-economic surveys and forest disturbance monitoring contributing to project Indicators and delivery.

Particular partnership achievements

Key achievements with partnership were- development of the Mt. Kenya Forest Restoration Strategy 2019-2029 (Annex 7) which provided a coordinated framework to restore Mt. Kenya Forest ecosystem services. This was informed by a detailed Mt. Kenya Forest Ecosystem Services Assessment report (Annex 8). A Mt. Kenya Forest restoration business case (Annex 9) which demonstrated the business risks for continued degradation of Mt Kenya forest and the business consequences for not taking action was developed. These products were shared widely for implementation and mainstreaming into policies and programs by county governments and private sector. We strengthened partnerships on forest restoration where private sector i.e. KBL, KENGEN, Water Sector Trust Fund actively contributed to forest restoration achieving 1854ha of Mt. Kenya Forest restoration. With the capacity of the CFAs enhanced, it demonstrated to have positive impacts on awareness creation, community led forest restoration and resource mobilisations.

Lessons, strengths, challenges and solutions;

Community Forest Associations (CFAs) and other community-based organizations are the main asset for forest restoration in Mt Kenya. Their presence on the ground and willingness to engage in the project formed the backbone of its success. Importantly CFAs willingness to engage made it easy for Nature Kenya thus found it easy to build their capacity to engage with downstream water buyers and to equip them with skills that they required as water sellers. These skills included institutional management and governance, group leadership, negotiation and communication, and fundraising. Though recognised by law, these local institutions are not funded by the government and sustaining their operations remains a challenge; most remain dormant.

Corporates support to restoration of Mt. Kenya Forest was mainly driven by demonstrated tangible benefits to communities. This aligned well with their missions and corporate social

responsibility programmes. It also formed the basis for corporates e.g. East Africa Breweries to continue funding forest restoration beyond the initial phase.

Effective advocacy and partnership with governments enabled early buy-in afforded the programme credibility which was vital for community and private sector engagement.

Nature Kenya lobbied and obtained early government ownership of the project securing the involvement of main agencies that included the Ministry of Environment and Forestry, Kenya Forest Service, National Environment Management Authority and County Governments of Embu, Nyeri, Kirinyaga, Tharaka-Nthi and Meru among others.

UK-Embassy and British High Commission involvement

We did not hold particular meetings with either the UK-Embassy or the British High Commission or the Foreign office but we maintained links with concerned staff who we shared other Darwin concepts and applications in the Darwin call round 27th in 2020.

3 Project Achievements

3.1 Outputs

We set five Outputs in the project which were achieved as follows;

In **Output 1-** *A clear, comprehensive, evidence-based 'business case' for the sustainable management of the Mt Kenya forest-* this was achieved as a result of- carrying out a detailed Mt. Kenya Forest ecosystem services assessment- **Indicator 1.1**. We published a detailed report Mt. Kenya Forest ecosystem services assessment report (see Annex 8). The ecosystem services report packaged the values of Mt. Kenya Forest which included water provisioning, recreation, harvested goods, cultivated goods, climate regulation, and cultural values. The ecosystem services report documented scenarios in the case of Forest Restoration implemented, and the Business-as-Usual scenario where forest degradation was being experienced. Informed by the ecosystem services assessment, a Mt. Kenya business Case for Sustainable Restoration was updated and published (Annex 9)-achieving **Indicator 1.2**. The business case targeted to mobilize £15 million in the next five years restore 1,234 ha annually (6,170 ha in the next 5years) of forest area identified to be in urgent need of restoration. In the published business case (Annex 9 pg 20-22), we documented Payment for Water Services approach including financing options achieving **Indicator 1.3**; where costs were described producing seedlings (£0.21/seedling); transportation and planting labor (£0.17/seedling) and cost of post-planting protection and maintenance (£0.21/seedling). According to Kenya Forest Service, it takes 1000 trees to restore 1 ha of forest area.

Output 2-*Payment for Water Services (PWS) partnerships developed and applied by producers/suppliers (CFAs) and buyers (downstream users/businesses) was achieved by the capacity of 14 CFAs improved with an initial target of 12 CFAs. Informed by the Mt. Kenya forest ecosystem services report (see Annex 8), and following a training guide for socio-economic development of community-based organizations developed by Nature Kenya (Annex 16- see Updated Nature Kenya CBO Training Guide), 104 (63male, 41female) representatives of 14 CFAs were trained- on leadership, governance, institutional management and action plan development between 6th- 16th June 2018 and 2nd-3rd August 2018 (Annex 17- see training workshop proceeding); 138 CFA representatives (73M, 65F) trained on the business case and proposal development between 4th- 21st February 2019 (Annex 18- see summary workshop report). This training carried out resulted in the increased capacity of 12 CFAs to build partnerships with buyers and negotiate for payments for ecosystem services-achieving **Indicator 2.3**. As a result, the CFAs developed site specific community action plans-achieving **Indicator 2.1**; to improve biodiversity and water services with roles for sellers and buyers (Annex 19-32_ see CFA's specific Community Forest Conservation Action Plans). Informed by the CFA capacity building program, a Payment for Water services a community guide for CFAs to engage with the business sector was jointly developed-**Indicator 2.2.**; (Annex 33) highlighting 7 key points- 1. Organization capacity building; 2. Identification of ecosystem services; 3. Planning for*

implementation; 4. Communication, advocacy, and outreach; 5. how to satisfy financiers; 6. Reporting and communication, and; 7. creating awareness on payment for ecosystem services.

As a result of the training the CFAs developed funding proposals and site-based business cases informed by their site-based action plans in readiness for submission-**Indicator 2.4**. 12 CFAs were supported to convene site-based downstream water users' meetings to present their forest restoration business cases in 2019 (see Annex 34-40; sample *CFA-Water buyers meeting minutes*) and carry out subsequent follow up one-on-one meetings with the identified businesses

We achieved **Indicator 2.5** on partnership between businesses and CFAs. A total of 14 partnership agreements were signed where; in 2019 6 CFA (Lower Imenti, MEFECAP, Nyambene, Ntimaka, New Njukiiri and Kabarú CFAs) signed financing partnership agreements following successful submission of funding proposal to Water Sector Trust Fund (WSTF) mobilizing £157,407 (Annex 41, *public gazette notice by WSTF on successful CFAs*), and in 2020-7 CFAs (Mweru, Ruthumbi, Chehe, Ragati, Irangi, Hombe, Naromoro CFAs) signed financing agreement with WSTF for £ towards sustainable forest conservation and restoration (Annex 42-*public gazette notice by WSTF on successful CFAs*). Mweru CFA signed a financing agreement with Meru County and Ministry of Energy under the Kenya Energy and Environment Social Responsibility Program- KEEP (Annex 43).

Nature Kenya engaged the Upper Tana and Nairobi Water Fund- **Indicator 2.6**; through national partnership meetings (**Annex 3 & 5**; see *the partnership meeting minutes held in August 2019 & September 2020*) to showcase the potential and capacities of CFAs who can enter into a financing agreement with the fund when it operationalized.

We achieved **Output 3-Community Forest Associations across Mt Kenya delivers and maintains commitments in Payment for Water Services partnerships for continued forest restoration** where- We trained and mentored 12 targeted CFAs across Mt. Kenya to deliver and maintain commitment in Payment for Water services partnerships for continued forest restoration. In collaboration with Kenya Forest Service site-specific forest station managers, we trained CFAs on tree nursery establishment and management-**Indicator 3.1**. A total of 365 community members (160 women, 205 men) were trained (Annex 44). Following the training, the CFAs were supported with certified indigenous tree species seeds, seedling potting materials, and a 5000-liter water tank per CFA to enhance their tree seedling production for Mt. Kenya Forest restoration. As a result, the supported CFAs increased their capacity in tree seedling production from 1.3 million seedlings in Year 1 to 3.7 million tree seedlings in Year 3 (Annex 44 see pg 6). This enabled the CFAs to achieve the restoration targets of 594ha restored in Year 1, 614ha restored in Year 2 and 646ha restored in Year 3 (see Annex 44 pg 7). The survival rate of the trees planted in restoration areas was between 75-85% following post-planting survey (see Annex 44 pg 7), which was enhanced to above 85% through site maintenance and replacement of dead seedlings.

Working in partnership with experts from National Museums of Kenya, using birds as indicators of forest health, monitoring transects were laid in different forest areas which included indigenous forest area, forest restoration area with indigenous tree species, Forest exotic plantations, forest exotic plantation establishment sites and forest glades. We trained 94 community members (65 men, 29 women) representing from 18 CFAs-**Indicator 3.2**; on participatory forest disturbance assessment (Annex 45-*CFAs training report*) and 15 (8 men, 7 women) representatives from Mt. KEbio SSG on KBA monitoring protocols (Annex 46-*SSG training report*). As a result, the annual forest disturbance assessment (Annex 47- *combined comparative forest disturbance assessment report*) indicating increased tree seedling regeneration from 44.97 seedlings/plot during baseline to 75.13 seedlings/plot at the end of the project. Biodiversity monitoring surveys were carried out (Annex 14- *End of project biodiversity assessment report*) that indicated that the mean species richness in the natural forest showed an increase from 10 recorded during baseline to 11 species recorded at this end of project biodiversity assessment. The mean abundance (bird population) was 28 birds compared to the baseline record of 26 birds. Data analysis shows that indigenous restoration forest generalist species reduced from 10 species during baseline to 8 species in the 2020 survey. This shows improving forest quality where forest generalist abundance declines while forest specialists are known to increase forest quality. Indigenous natural forest had the highest mean species diversity index of $H' = 1.9422$ followed by

indigenous forest restoration areas $H' = 1.6851$ with the exotic plantation forest restoration areas (PELIS) recording the lowest diversity index of $H' = 0.8174$. The participatory forest disturbance assessment results indicate reduced illegal activities in the forest between the baseline and end of the project. This demonstrates that 20,000 Ha of the 40,000 Ha of the Mt Kenya forest that KFS jointly manages with CFAs is under improved management by 12 CFAs achieving-**Indicator 3.3**.

Output 4-Poor Forest adjacent people living around Mt Kenya are empowered to derive additional benefits/incentives from nature-based livelihood activities that support forest restoration was achieved as follows; we supported 1000 women-headed households to adopt energy-efficient cookstoves that reduced fuelwood consumption by 40-50% by end of Year 1 and established 3 Climate Smart demonstration schools with institutional energy saving cookstoves-**Indicator 4.1**. As a result of this initiative, end of project socio-economic report indicated an increase of 15% in the adoption of energy-saving cookstoves and reduction of 6% in the use of kerosene compared to the baseline data (see Annex 48 pg 6). The 3 climate-smart demonstration schools that adopted energy-efficient cookstoves that reduced fuel wood consumption by 60%. These climate smart demonstration schools were able to reach 19 other schools in their locality, with lessons shared with 8000 school children and 5000 parents (see Annex 48 pg 6-7). Total carbon saving from the energy saving technology in schools is 45TCarbon/year/school.

We enhanced the capacity of the business owners to develop sustainable income-generating activities which included beekeeping, ecotourism, and tree nurseries-**Indicator 4.2**. We developed beekeeping and tree nurseries business plans (Annex 49) which provided a guide for capacity building. As a result, 320 community members (215men, 105women) were trained on beekeeping enterprise management (Annex 50); and 365 community members (160women, 205men) were trained on tree nursery management (see Annex 44). In partnership with the Kenya Wildlife Service and county governments of Meru, Nyeri and Tharaka-Nthi we strengthened ecotourism by training 214 (207men, 7women) potters and mountaineering guides on the improvement of eco-tourism packages in Mt. Kenya Forest (Annex 51, Annex 52). The aim of the mountaineers and guides training was to increase customer service product diversification targeting to increase and maintain visitation to approximately 26,000 annually visitors by 2020. This would ensure the park would generate £1.7million annually to the economy, with £900,000 earned by the local community as potters and mountain guides.

We supported 300 households organized around the Community Forest Associations with 300 beehives aimed at increasing household incomes-achieving **Indicator 4.3**. Following these initial beehives support, the community was able to upscale beekeeping by mobilizing 1379 additional beehive from the Water Sector Trust Fund reaching a total of 589 households (User Group membership-230women, 359men). The community harvested 6963kg of honey earning the community £43,024 by end of the project (see Annex 50).

Overall, income at the household level increased as a result of enhancing nature-based enterprises. According to the end of project socio-economic survey, there was an increase of 8% of household income where 87% of respondent had a monthly income that ranged from KSh.0 – KSh.15,000 in 2020 compared to **79%** in 2018 (see Annex 48 pg. 4).

Output 5-Lessons learned from the project are disseminated to all relevant stakeholders by a Payment for Water Services mainstreamed Nature Kenya was achieved as follows; Nature Kenya ensured knowledge generated and lessons learned as a result of the implementation of this project were shared widely with the Ministry of Environment and Natural Resources and all other relevant bodies-**Indicator 5.1**. We have published the Mt. Kenya Forest Ecosystem Services Assessment report (see Annex 8) and Mt. Kenya Forest Restoration Business case (see Annex 9). The Mt. Kenya Forest restoration strategy 2019-2029 (Annex 7), was officially adopted by Kenya Forest Service-the lead the government agency responsible for forest conservation- for implementation. We also shared finding and recommendations in forest restoration partnership meetings at the national level (Annex 3 & 5; see *partnership meeting minutes held in August 2019 & September 2020*) and Mt. Kenya Forest ecosystem level (Annex 4 & 6; see *minutes of meetings held at Mt. Kenya ecosystem level in 2019 & 2020*). To upscale

this the initiative, the Mt. Kenya Forest restoration strategy 2019-2020, site-based approach has contributed lessons to the Kenya Forest and Landscape Restoration Implementation Action Plan 2021-2025 targeting to restore 5.1million Ha pledge under the Bonn Challenge (Annex 12) anchored in the Ministry of Environment and Forestry and coordinated by Kenya Forest Service. Nature Kenya is a member of the Technical Working Group of the development of the Kenya Forest and Landscape Restoration Implementation Action Plan. Nature Kenya is part of The Restoration Initiative spearheaded by UNE-FAO-IUCN where lessons generated on forest restoration and partnerships building from Mt. Kenya Forest was shared during the annual committee meeting (Annex 53 *see meeting minutes*)

To ensure transformative scaling up of lessons generated on use of energy-efficient cookstove – **Indicator 5.2**; at the community level (see Annex 48 pg 6-7 *that documents impacts of energy-saving cookstoves*), we shared these lessons to 46 community representatives from 23 SSGs (39 Men, 7 Women) from across Kenya (see Annex 54- *National SSG lesson sharing forum report*). AS a result, 13 SSGs from across Kenya are actively engaged in promoting the adoption of energy-efficient cookstoves. In addition, we coordinated a Mt. Kenya site-based CFAs lessons sharing forum (see Annex 55- *Project lesson sharing report*) which brought together representatives from 18 CFAs (14men, 4women). As a result, the CFAs reported an increase in uptake on use of household energy-efficient cookstoves, which has reduced pressure from the forest. This corresponds with the forest disturbance assessment report findings (see Annex 47)

The wide dissemination and communication of project lessons and recommendations, resulted to an increase in mainstreaming of project generated lessons and recommendations in national and county level policy formulation and decision-making process-achieving **Indicator 5.3**. The lessons and recommendations contributed to-the Kenya NBSAP process; the development of the 6th National report to the CBD (Annex 56) which is linked to the 5th Global Biodiversity Outlook and Global Biodiversity Strategy 2021-2030; review of the national forest policy (Annex 57); the development of Forests Community Participation in Sustainable Forest Management Rule-2021 (Annex 10- *letter of appreciation from Ministry of Environment & Annex 11-final SFM Rules 2021 for gazetting*) the development of the National Forest and Landscape Restoration and Implementation Action Plan coordinated by Kenya Forest Service (see Annex 12); development of the Kenya Key Biodiversity Areas Status and Trend report (Annex 58-*2018 Kenya KBA Status and Trends Report*, Annex 59-*2019 Kenya KBA Status and Trend Report*). At the county level; 5 Mt. Kenya forest adjacent counties convened stakeholder forums- Meru County (Annex 60- *County level water dialogue meeting held in 2019*; Annex 61-*county partnership with business stakeholder forum held in 2020*; Annex 62-*stakeholder forum on the implementation of Mt. Kenya forest restoration strategy held in 2021*), Nyeri County (Annex 63-*county partnering with business in Mt. Kenya forest restoration*; Annex 64-*Nyeri stakeholders meeting on Mt. Kenya forest restoration strategy*; Annex 65-*newspaper cutting covering the Nyeri county meeting*), Kirinyaga County (Annex 66-*Kirinyaga county stakeholder forum on mainstreaming Mt. Kenya restoration strategy*), Embu County (Annex 67-*Embu county stakeholders meeting reporting on the implementation of Mt. Kenya forest restoration strategy*), Tharaka Nthi County (Annex 68- *TharakaNthi county stakeholder forum on the implementation of Mt. Kenya forest strategy*) to mainstream Mt. Kenya forest ecosystem services restoration into county-level policy processes. As a result, Nyeri, Meru, Embu, and Kirinyaga counties set restoration targets anchored in county legislation in particular, Annual Development Plans, Forest Policy, and Climate Change Bills.

Nature Kenya has fully mainstreamed the Payment for Water Services Mt Kenya forest restoration as part of the institutional activities and approaches for marketing to business at all levels- **Indicator 5.4**. Nature Kenya has functional partnership with the World Land Trust (WLT) that provided £206,200 to complement the Darwin Initiative funding allowing the expansion of CFAs from 14 to 34 including 4 in the Aberdare's Forest (Annex 69). The WLT is providing support for the restoration of 100ha year 2021/22. Nature Kenya signed a 3 year strategic agreement with Safaricom Limited to restore Kenya forest water towers (Annex 70); Nature Kenya signed 3year agreement with BirdLife International with funding from Aga Khan Development Network to restore 69 ha of degraded forest land in Mt.Kenya forest (Annex 71); Nature Kenya as a functional partnership with Kenya Breweries targeting to restore 200ha of degraded forest area in Mt. Kenya forest (Annex 72); Nature Kenya signed a 3 year MoU with CocaCola Kenya to support in delivering environmental programs including forest restoration

(Annex 73 & Annex 73a), with initial forest restoration support targeting 30,000 tree seedlings. Nature Kenya membership organised membership golf tournament to promote Mt. Kenya forest restoration reaching 27 corporates (Annex 74). In addition, they engaged national companies- Dimension data (Annex 75); Total Foundation Kenya (Annex 76); Peptang Foods (Annex 77) and Stanchart Bank (Annex 78) with an aim of mainstreaming payment for watershed services into business sector. The BirdLife International has recognised the approach used by Nature Kenya in restoration of Mt Kenya. The business case approach is considered innovative and ground breaking. As a result, Nature Kenya is part of the global Trillion Trees initiative where Birdlife, WWF and the WCS are partners to grow one-trillion trees globally (Link). Also, Nature Kenya is part of the Forest Landscapes Sustainability Accelerator program (Link) managed by Birdlife International. Through the Forest Landscapes Sustainability Accelerator program, Nature Kenya staff are gaining new skills through training and mentorship on innovative restoration financing models and help in increasing visibility of Mt. Kenya Forest restoration through global platforms to mobilize resources for Community Forest Associations restoration programs. Nature Kenya has included Mt Kenya among the scaling up sites for the GEF/UNEP Forest Landscape Restoration Initiative where Nature Kenya is one among 11 projects in 10 countries that are restoring forest landscapes under the name The Restoration Initiative

3.2 Outcome

The project achieved the set **Outcome** of-*Twelve local forest communities, empowered as water-sellers, secure financing from downstream water buyers to plant 500 Ha of Mt Kenya forest catchment annually to maintain biodiversity and water provision services by;*

Carrying out biodiversity field surveys annually to assess populations of bird species (as indicators of biodiversity) in areas of the Mt. Kenya Forest, we achieved **Indicator 0.1**. The populations of bird species remained stable in natural forest habitats (see Annex 14- *End of project biodiversity survey report*). The mean species richness in the natural forest showed an increase from 10 recorded during baseline to 11 species recorded at this end of project biodiversity assessment. The mean abundance (bird population) was 28 birds compared to the baseline record of 26 birds. In restoration areas, it seems to be too early for restoration to have an impact on species richness as the data shows stable species richness between baseline (8 species) and end of project (7 species). However, preliminary data analysis shows that indigenous restoration forest generalist species reduced from 10 species during baseline to 8 species in the 2020 survey. This shows improving forest quality where forest generalist abundance declines while forest specialists are known to increase with forest quality. Overall bird populations remained stable in different land-use type compared across the three years. Indigenous natural forest had the highest mean species diversity index of $H' = 1.9422$ followed by indigenous forest restoration areas $H' = 1.6851$ with the plantation forest restoration areas (PELIS) recording the lowest diversity index of $H' = 0.8174$

Stream sampling surveys of rivers flowing from Mt. Kenya Forest were carried out to assess the sedimentation load (see Annex 15- *stream sampling survey report*)-achieving **Indicator 0.2**. Between baseline collected in 2018 and year 2020 samples, the data shows notable reduction of sedimentation load of sampling point close to the forest from 4.42ton/yr during the baseline to 2.94ton/yr in 2020. Mid-stream, sedimentation load reduced from a baseline of 7.47ton/yr to 5.89ton/yr in the 2020 survey. At the dam entry, there was an increase from a baseline 3.65ton/yr to 6.41 ton/yr in 2020. The increase of sedimentation load at the dam entry may be attributed to the convergence of many other rivers and streams within the Tana River basin which includes tributaries from the Aberdare Forest, influenced by poor land-use practices with continuing land degradation and soil erosion

By the end of project 12 CFAs who were trained -achieving **Indicator 0.3**; following developed training guide (see Annex 16), on leadership, governance, and institutional management (see Annex 17- training 104 community representatives -63male, 41female) and on proposal development and resource mobilization where 138 CFA representatives (73M, 65F) were trained (see Annex 18- training proceeding report); The 12 CFAs were able to successfully initiate and develop partnership with downstream businesses, to mobilize financial and in-kind support and plant 500ha of native forest. This was through holding site based downstream businesses meetings (see Annex 34-40; sample *CFA-Water buyers meetings minutes*) and also submit

funding proposals. Majority of business sector players agreed to support the CFAs initiatives in forest restoration even though they did not put it in writing. This was a good initial step in creating awareness on the importance of forest restoration. CFAs signed financing agreements of £313,107 with Water Sector Trust Fund (see Annex 41 & Annex 42-*public gazette notice by WSTF on successful CFAs*); Mweru CFA signed a financing agreement with Meru County and the Ministry of Energy (Annex 43); Lower Imenti CFA was able to secure forest restoration financing from Eden Project who signed an MoU with KFS to restore 1500ha of the forest area in 5 years. As a result, the CFAs were able to restore a combined area of 594ha in Year 1, 614ha in Year 2 and 646ha in Year 3 (see Annex 44 pg 6-7) by planting and taking care of indigenous tree species

We supported 300 households organized around the Community Forest Associations with 300 beehives aimed at increasing household incomes-**Indicator 0.4**. The community harvested 6963kg of honey earning the community £43,024 by end of the project or equivalent to £14,341/yr (see Annex 50) against the set target of £14000/yr. Following these initial beehives support, the community was able to upscale beekeeping by mobilizing 1379 additional beehive from the Water Sector Trust Fund reaching a total of 589 households (User Group membership 230women, 359men).

With a target increasing incomes of 8750 CFA members across 12 CFA by £94,000 annually as earning from raising, transporting, planting, and caring for 500,000 tree seedlings- **Indicator 0.5**; we enhanced the capacity of Community Forest Associations managed tree nurseries increased tree seedlings production from 1.3million seedlings in Year 1 to 3.7million seedlings by Year 3 (see Annex 44 pg 6). As a result, 13,415 CFA members (9498women, 3917men) earned a total of £499,235 in 3 years-equivalent to £166,412/year compared to target to £94,000/year; from the sale of tree seedlings, transportation, planting and maintenance of restoration areas (see Annex 44 pg 7-8). The increase household income as a result of the different nature-based enterprises were reflected in the end of project socio-economic survey, where 87% of respondent had a monthly income that ranged from 0 – KSh.15,000 in 2020 compared to 79% in 2018 (Annex 48 pg 4).

We targeted by end of the project, 4 down-stream businesses have incorporated Mt Kenya water catchment restoration into their policies, plans, strategies and budgeting- **Indicator 0.6**. This was achieved where by 6 down-stream businesses have provided an indication of mainstreaming Mt. Kenya Forest restoration into their programs. Meru Water and Sewerage Services and Lewa Wildlife Conservancy committed and incorporated Mt. Kenya Forest restoration by fully adopting the Mt. Kenya Forest Restoration Strategy into their policy and strategies (Annex 7 pg 2 *business logos affirming their support*). In addition, Nature Kenya has a functional partnership with the World Land Trust (WLT) that provided £ towards forest restoration work (see Annex 69); Safaricom Limited signed a 3-year strategic agreement with to restore Kenya forest water towers (see Annex 70); Nature Kenya signed 3year agreement with BirdLife International to restore 69 ha of degraded forest land in Mt. Kenya forest (see Annex 71) mobilizing global private sector engagement with funding from Aga Khan Development Network and Trillion Trees program; Kenya Breweries Limited mainstreamed forest restoration in their business sustainability program through a functional partnership with Nature Kenya targeting to restore 200ha of degraded forest area in Mt. Kenya forest (see Annex 72); and CocaCola Kenya signed a 3 year MoU with Nature Kenya to deliver forest restoration program, part mainstreamed company's environmental program with 15ha of degraded Mt. Kenya forest area restored in 2021 (Annex 73).

Randomized participatory forest disturbance assessment was carried out by trained CFA members-**Indicator 0.7**. 18 randomized forest disturbance assessment transects were monitored annually by the trained CFA members. Results show reduced forest threats especially of livestock grazing leading to increased regeneration of indigenous tree seedlings; 75.13 seedlings in 2020 compared to 44.97 seedlings baseline in 2018 per sampling area (Annex 47). It was noted that pressure on forest products mounted in 2020, especially for poles attributed to impacts of COVID that resulted to job losses in urban areas where people moved back to their rural areas.

3.3 Monitoring of assumptions

Throughout the project implementation phase, we monitored Outcome and Output level assumptions. There were no changes in the assumptions and as a result the assumptions identified were appropriate and true.

At the Outcome level, we observed that water users/buyers like to manage their CSR schemes directly. The Upper Tana-Nairobi Water Fund was not operationalized by the end of the project. The Fund was promoted as an avenue for businesses to contribute financing (Annex 7 pg 55 of the *Mt. Kenya Forest restoration strategy*; Annex 9 pg 22 *Mt. Kenya Forest restoration business case*). We documented increased awareness and motivation of water users to contribute to Mt. Kenya Forest restoration through their participation and verbal commitments in partnership forums (Annex 61-68, *county levels business sector meetings held*)

At the Output level, companies were able to afford to make financial contributions to forest restoration. This was documented where 27 companies actively participated and contributed to charity Mt. Kenya Forest restoration events (see Annex 74), 5 companies signed financing agreements to support forest restoration (Annex 69-73), and 4 companies accepted the engagement where they are reviewing proposals (Annex 75-78) w requested submission of forest restoration proposals financing considerations (see Annex 69-73).

Kenya Forest Service maintained Forest Management Agreements with the Mt. Kenya Forest CFA. KFS was supportive in enforcing law and formulation of enabling policy frameworks that would strengthen CFA operations. This included the adoption of the Mt. Kenya Forest restoration strategy 2019-2020 (Annex 7), coordinated the development of Kenya Forest and Landscape Restoration Implementation Action Plan 2021-2025 targeting to restore 5.1million Ha pledge under the Bonn Challenge (Annex 12), development of Forests Community Participation in Sustainable Forest Management Rule-2021 (Annex 11-*final SFM Rules 2021 for gazetting*).

The local community adopted household energy-efficient cookstoves without resistance and reported direct benefits of the use of the cookstoves which as attributed to reduced fuelwood use (see Annex 48 pg 6-7 *that documents impacts of energy-saving cookstoves*). The end of the project socio-economic report indicated an increase of 15% in the adoption of energy-saving cookstoves and a reduction of 6% in the use of kerosene compared to the baseline data (see Annex 48 pg 6). Nature-based enterprises- beekeeping tree nurseries and tourism; were enhanced aimed at increasing household incomes. This demonstrated to positively influence change in attitude and perception on forest conservation (see Annex 48).

The Ministry of Environment and Forestry was receptive to project activities by participating in routine project update meetings (Annex 3 advisory committee meeting minutes); contributing to the development of Mt. Kenya Forest restoration strategy 2019-2029, adopting and integrating lessons and recommendation from the project into policy processes (Annex 10- *letter of appreciation in development Forest Rules development*). This has resulted to discussions on formulating Kenya PES policy.

3.4 Impact: achievement of positive impact on biodiversity and poverty alleviation

The project impact was-The Mt Kenya forest is managed sustainably to provide critical watershed services, support community livelihoods, and maintain biodiversity and climate protection functions through innovative and long-term public-private-civil society partnerships.

Enabling policy framework has been put in place at the county and national level that will see Mt. Kenya Forest sustainably managed. This includes Mt. Kenya Forest restoration strategy 2019-2029 (Annex 7), Forest (Community Participation in Sustainable Forest Management) Rules 2021 (Annex 11); Meru, Embu, Nyeri, Tharaka Nthi, and Kirinyaga county-level policy frameworks on forests and climate change mitigation. We have built the capacity of Community Forest Associations that jointly manage the forest with the Kenya Forest Service, to enhance human development, well-being and strengthen partnerships for forest restoration (Annex 19-32). The CFAs have already demonstrated their capacity in community livelihood through nature-based enterprises i.e., ecotourism (Annex 51), beekeeping (Annex 50), tree seedling production, and restoration of 1854ha of degraded forest areas (Annex 44) to improve habitat for biodiversity-increasing species abundance and diversity captured in biodiversity survey (Annex 14) and increase capacity of forest in climate protection function through carbon sequestration (Annex 8

pg 37). Mt. Kenya business case for sustainable restoration (Annex 9) was developed to catalysed and strengthened public-private-civil society partnerships in forest restoration at global, national and site level. This business case will be marketed widely to private sector by Nature Kenya and CFAs, learning from and building on successes registered with partnerships companies with Safaricom Ltd, Kenya Breweries Ltd, Coca-Cola Kenya, World Land Trust among others—We will leverage on these partnerships to demonstrate to wider private sector players importance of safeguarding and restoration of critical forest landscapes- as started with catalysing discussion with 7000 Kenya Breweries Ltd suppliers, participation in BirdLife International Global Forest Restoration Accelerator program, and Global Trillion Trees initiative and The Restoration Initiative by spearheaded by UNE-FAO-IUCN

4 Contribution to Darwin Initiative Programme Objectives

4.1 Contribution to Global Goals for Sustainable Development (SDGs)

The project contributed to six SDGs. Substantial focus was on SDG 15-Life on Land: Target 15.1 and 15.2. where we promoted conservation and restoration of Mt. Kenya Forest (Annex 7- *Mt. Kenya Forest restoration strategy 2019-2029*) and directly support identification of Mt. Kenya Forest in urgent need of restoration and catalysing direct forest restoration through tree growing by CFAs (Annex 8). We built the capacity of total of CFAs who are co-forest managers with Kenya Forest Service to enhance participatory forest management-Target 15.5 (see Annex 47 *participatory forest disturbance assessment*; Annex 19-32; *CFA site specific action plans*). We mobilised financial resource from business to finance sustainable forest management (see Annex 9-*Mt. Kenya Forest restoration business case*) where CFAs were able to mobilise approximately £313,107 (Annex 41-43), and Nature Kenya signed financing agreements for (see Annex 69-73). This provided incentive to CFAs to advance forest restoration-Target 15.B.

We contributed to SDG1- (Targets 1.1,1.5) where we introduced nature-based enterprises to diversify and enhance household incomes (Annex 44, Annex 50, Annex 48) reducing poverty and build community resilience to reduce exposure and vulnerability to climate-related extreme events and social and environmental shocks and disasters. A total of 13,415 community members livelihoods (9498women, 3917men) were directly impacted by the project.

We enhanced SDG 6- (Targets 6.4, 6b); where we promoted forest restoration, to increase water recharge capacity into major rivers flowing out of Mt. Kenya Forest. A total of 1854.3 ha degraded was directly restored (see Annex 44) increasing the capacity of water recharge of the forest by 1854 million litres of water annually (Annex 8, pg 23). In addition, the project provided useful data to local water distribution companies to correlate forest restoration and reduced costs of water treatment (Annex 8 pg 21-22).

We promoted SDG 12- (Target 12.2) on responsible consumption and production where we developed a Mt. Kenya Forest restoration business case (Annex 9) which documented the need for businesses to be responsible to sustain Kenya's economic growth by maintaining and restoring vital ecosystem services.

We strengthened the resilience and adaptive capacity of local communities to climate change-SDG 13 -(Target 13.1) by promoting energy saving clean cookstoves adopted by 1000 women led households and supporting 3 climate smart demonstration schools reaching out to 8000 students and 5000 parents (Annex 48) and idea upscaled to other 5 sites nationally.

The project demonstrated partnerships SDG 17-(Target 17.2 and 17.3) where the Darwin/UK foreign assistance catalysed and progressed mobilisation of financial resources from businesses locally (Annex 69-73) and from international institutions to developing countries.

4.2 Project support to the Conventions or Treaties (e.g. CBD, Nagoya Protocol, ITPGRFA, CITES, Ramsar, CMS, UNFCCC)

This project made contribution in helping Kenya to mainstream biodiversity into other sectors of the economy (water provision from biodiverse forests for agriculture, drinking and electricity) and mobilise additional financial resources for the implementation of the CBD's Aichi targets.

Nature Kenya participated as a member of African Group of Negotiators on resource mobilization to the CBD (Annex 79). We developed the Kenya position statement on resource mobilisation presented by Kenya delegation to SBSTTA (Annex 80-81). Nature Kenya was integrated into Kenya technical team for the drafting of the 6th National Report to the CBD (Annex 56).

The project supported Kenya to implement the following articles of the CBDs 2011 to 2020 strategic plan: Article 6b-Integrate conservation and sustainable use; we developed and implemented the Mt. Kenya business case for sustainable restoration (Annex 9) with options for down-stream water buyers to contribute to the sustainability of their businesses and support communities to both reduce fuelwood consumption (cook stoves) and engage in forest restoration. Promoted the rehabilitation of Mt Kenya by providing financial support for in-situ conservation. (Article 8: (d)(f)(m)) by developing a Mt. Kenya Forest restoration strategy (Annex 7) and directly supporting the restoration of 1854ha of degraded forest area (Annex 44). Contributing to (Article 10-(d)(e)); we supported 14 community forest associations to reach out to local private sector to implement water payment for ecosystem services approaches to restore Mt. Kenya Forest ecosystem. As a result, CFAs were able to mobilise funds from private sector.

Article 20 (2); We used Darwin/UK Government developed country Party financial resources to enable Kenya to meet the agreed full incremental costs to fulfil the CBDs national obligations; where Nature Kenya actively contributed to Kenya CBD processes- Kenya NBSAP development, the development of the 6th National report to the CBD (Annex 82) which is linked to the 5th Global Biodiversity Outlook and Global Biodiversity Strategy 2021-2030.

The project contributed towards Aichi 2020 targets- Goal A..on mainstreaming biodiversity across government and society- Targets 1,2 and 4 – where we collaboratively published 2018 and 2019 Kenya Key Biodiversity Areas Status and Trends Report (Annex 58 & Annex 59), with data contributed by government and local community. This supported increased awareness on biodiversity values (Target 1). In addition, a detailed Mt. Kenya Forest ecosystem services assessment survey was carried out (Annex 8) documenting the values forest services. The results of the ecosystem services were used to inform the Mt. Kenya restoration strategy 2019-2029 (Annex 7) which informs approaches of poverty reduction (Target 2) and sustainable production and consumption (Target 4). The Mt. Kenya restoration strategy has been adopted by 5 local county government for implementation.

We contributed to Goal B ..reduce the direct pressure on biodiversity; Target 5- where trained CFAs were able to eliminate threats to the forest by increasing surveillance and biodiversity monitoring (Annex 47). As a result of this increase surveillance and forest restoration efforts, we documented improvement in status of biodiversity (Goal C- Target 12) where there was increase in forest specialist bird species in the forest restoration areas (Annex 14) and no extinctions of known threatened species occurred. We contributed to Goal D..enhance the benefits from biodiversity and ecosystem services (Target 14)- where we strengthened the importance of ecosystem services restoration and safeguarding documented in the Mt. Kenya forest ecosystem services assessment report and community led forest restoration initiative (Annex 44)

4.3 Project support to poverty alleviation

The project contributed to reduction in poverty in the beneficiary community. The project contributed to restoration of vital ecosystem services that support local community- especially increasing the capacity of the forest in water replenishment through restoration of 1854 ha degraded areas (Annex 44). There was increase of 8% in household income reported in the end of project socio-economic survey, where 87% of respondent had a monthly income that ranged from KSh.0 – KSh.15,000 in 2020 compared to 79% in 2018 (Annex 48 pg 4). This is attributed to improved human development and wellbeing as result of capacity building local community through training and awareness creation, support with startup nature-based enterprises and climate change mitigating infrastructure. A total of 365 community members (160women,

205men) were trained (Annex 44) on tree nursery establishment and management. The CFAs were supported with certified indigenous tree species seeds, seedling potting materials, and a 5000-liter water tank per CFA to enhance their tree seedling production for Mt. Kenya Forest restoration. As a result, the supported CFAs increased their capacity in tree seedling production from 1.3 million seedlings in Year 1 to 3.7million tree seedlings in Year 3 (Annex 44 pg 6). The tree nursery nature-based enterprise recorded a total 13,415 community members beneficiaries (9498women, 3917men) earning a total of £499,235 in 3 years-from sale of tree seedlings, transportation, planting and maintenance of restoration areas (see Annex 44 pg 8).

We supported 300 households with 300 beehives aimed at increasing household incomes. The community harvested 6963kg of honey earning the community £43,024 by end of project (see Annex 50). Following these initial beehives support, the community was able to upscale beekeeping by mobilising 1379 additional modern beehives from the Water Sector Trust Fund reaching a total of 589 households (User Group membership 230women, 359men).

We enhanced community well-being by supporting 1000 women led households to adopt fuel efficient cookstoves and 3 climate smart demonstration schools who adopted energy efficient institution cookstoves. AS a result, 1000 households reported reduction in fuel wood consumption of 45%-50%; and 3 local schools reduced wood fuel consumption by 60% accounting to a total carbon saving of 45T/year/school (see Annex 48 pg 6-7). The energy saving cookstove reduce carbon emissions associated with community health and time saving associated with search for fuel wood. The end of project socio-economic report indicated an increase of 15% in adoption of energy saving cookstoves and reduction of 6% in use of kerosene compared to the baseline data (see Annex 39 pg 6).

We trained 214 (207men, 7women) members of organised mountaineering and guides association (Annex 51-52). The aim was to increase customer service product diversification targeting to increase and maintain visitation to approximately 26000 annually visitors by 2020. This would ensure the park would generate £1.7million annually to the economy, with £900,000 earned by the local community as potters and mountain guides.

4.4 Gender equality

The project ensured that equal opportunity was provided to both men and women of Mt. Kenya Forest adjacent community. Following the Kenyan constitution on gender, we ensured that no more than two third gender rule was implemented with deliberate effort of targeting women led on-ground intervention. As a result, the beneficiary Community Forest Association registered membership was 31% women and 69% men. This trend was observed following all capacity building programs that were supported by the project through training-where we trained 1105community members (348women, 757men)- 214 (207men, 7women) mountaineering and guiding (Annex 51-52) , 320 (215 men, 105women) beekeeping (Annex 50), 365 community members (160women, 205men) tree nursery establishment and management (Annex 44), 67 (40men, 27women) business planning, 109 (73men, 36women) biodiversity monitoring and forest disturbance (Annex 45-46), and 30 (17men, 13women) questionnaire survey protocols (Annex 8 pg 14). We also targeted 1000 households led by women for introduction of fuel efficient cookstoves (Annex 48) which resulted to reduction of household fuel wood consumption by up to 50%

4.5 Programme indicators

- **Did the project lead to greater representation of local poor people in management structures of biodiversity?** Yes- We strengthened capacity of 18 CFAs to enhance collaborative forest management scaling up from target 12 CFAs within the project for greater representation of local community in management of biodiversity. The local community was able to collaboratively carry out participatory forest disturbance assessment (Annex 47) which informed on the status of the forest.
- **Were any management plans for biodiversity developed and were these formally accepted?** Yes- A Mt. Kenya Forest restoration strategy 2019-2029 (Annex 7) was developed and formally adopted by national government, and mainstreamed for adopted

by 5 county government programs. The restoration strategy provided a reference point for CFAs that were revising and updating their participatory forest management plan i.e. Ontulili CFA

- **Were they participatory in nature or were they ‘top-down’? How well represented are the local poor including women, in any proposed management structures?** We used Bottom-Up approach in our program. The Mt. Kenya Forest restoration strategy 2019-2020 (Annex 7 pg 68- *list of persons consulted*), was informed by the detailed Mt. Kenya Forest ecosystem services report (Annex 14 pg 9-13, pg 49- *stakeholder engagement & list of participants*) which collated information collected at field level in consultation with households and local community groups. This bottom-up approach ensured integration of practical achievable approaches on community led forest restoration
- **How did the project positively influence household (HH) income and how many HHs saw an increase?** The project influenced household incomes through enhancing nature-based enterprises and community capacity building through training. On beekeeping, targeting 300households, a total 589 households were positively influenced. The community harvested 6963kg of honey earning the community £43,024 by end of project (see Annex 50). The tree nursery nature-based enterprise benefited 13,415 community members beneficiaries (9498women, 3917men) earning a total of £499,235 in 3 years-from sale of tree seedlings, transportation, planting and maintenance of restoration areas (see Annex 44 pg 8). We enhanced capacity of 23 registered mountaineering, guides and potters’ clubs with a membership of 4000members through training.
- **How much did their HH income increase (e.g. x% above baseline, x% above national average)? How was this measured?** Overall, there was increase of 8% in households surveyed income reported in the end of project socio-economic survey, where 87% of respondents had a monthly income that ranged from 0 – KSh.15,000 in 2020 compared to baseline of 79% in 2018 (Annex 48 pg 4)

4.6 Transfer of knowledge

Following the implementation of this program, we build on transfer of knowledge from the RSPB, Dr. Rob Field, who a specialist on ecosystem services assessment to Nature Kenya staff and retained experts. As a result, Mr. Paul Gacheru and Dr. Paul Muoria, were able to deliver effectively the Mt. Kenya Forest ecosystem services assessment (see Annex 8) and collectively supported national partners to develop the Mt. Kenya Forest Restoration Strategy (see Annex 7), publication printed and shared widely with stakeholders. Knowledge generated by this project, was shared widely in national platforms to inform the development of the National Forest and Landscape Restoration Action Plan (see Annex 12) aimed at guiding Kenya’s effort on restoration towards Bonn Challenge target of 5.1million ha of degraded landscapes; knowledge shared in international platform, BirdLife International Forest Accelerator program which involved 15 institutions globally.

4.7 Capacity building

As a result of implementing this project, there was increase in status of Nature Kenya and its staff nationally and internationally. Mr. Paul Gacheru is a member of national expert committee for the development of the National Forest and Landscape Restoration Action Plan, a member of National taskforce of birds at Kenya Wildlife Service and has enhanced his capacity in Ecosystem Service Assessment methodologies. Dr. Paul Matiku, is in the BirdLife Africa thought leaders on post 2020 framework, member of the Africa Group of Negotiators and member of advisory group on mainstreaming biodiversity (see Annex 79). Mr. John Kiptum is a member of national committee of developing Kenya’s position to SBSTTA and SBI. Serah Munguti, who was Nature Kenya advocacy manager, having learned on job and gaining experience, is now Kenya Country Program Manager for Fauna and Flora International.

5 Sustainability and Legacy

As a result of this project, Mt. Kenya forest restoration strategy 2019-2029 (see Annex 7) was consultatively developed, adopted by national government, and mainstreamed in five Mt. Kenya forest adjacent county programs and budgeting processes putting in place supportive policy framework on forest restoration. The Mt. Kenya Forest restoration business case (see Annex 9), is an innovative resource mobilisation tool, for engaging private sector to integrate forest restoration for business sustainability. Nature Kenya membership will continue to use this tool beyond the project funding phase. Nature Kenya has built the capacity of 18 Community Forest Associations, on resource mobilisation, institutional management and project management. These CFAs will continue to exist beyond the project funding phase with mentorship from Nature Kenya. To strengthen the engagement CFAs, the project has informed the formulation of Sustainable Forest Management Community Participation Rules 2021 (see Annex 12), policy framework to empower CFAs in forest management nationally. This validates the planned exit strategy envisioned in this project. All Staff have been retained by Nature Kenya to continue work in Mt. Kenya Forest with financing from other agencies- World Land Trust.

6 Lessons learned

A detailed lessons learned report was developed (see Annex 55). Overall, it was noted that Partnerships with business take a long time to setup and the success of partnerships towards restoration rely on being demand-driven rather than supply-driven.

Community Forest Associations (CFAs) and other community-based organizations are the main asset for forest restoration in Mt Kenya. Their presence on the ground and willingness to engage in the project formed the backbone of its success (see Annex 55).

Corporates support to restoration of Mt. Kenya Forest was mainly driven by demonstrated tangible benefits to communities. This aligned well with their missions and corporate social responsibility programmes. It also formed the basis for corporates e.g. East Africa Breweries to continue funding forest restoration beyond the initial phase (see Annex 55).

Empower and collaboration with government (national and county) buy-in afforded the programme credibility which was vital for community and private sector engagement. Nature Kenya lobbied and obtained early government ownership of the project securing the involvement of main agencies that included the Ministry of Environment and Forestry, Kenya Forest Service, National Environment Management Authority and County Governments of Embu, Nyeri, Kirinyaga, Tharaka-Nthi and Meru among others (see Annex 55).

Community ownership of the restoration programme ensured sustainability of the initiatives. We believe that supplying CFAs with seeds and inputs for establishment of tree nurseries as opposed to just supplying them with ready seedlings formed the basis for community ownership (see Annex 55).

Community involvement and transparency in the project at all stages was a strong strategy. CFAs and other community-based organizations were involved at project inception, during the launch of the Mt. Kenya documents at county level, the CFAs and other community organisation are finding legitimacy and increased involvement of county level process through consultations (see Annex 55).

6.1 Monitoring and evaluation

There were no changes in the project design and log frame outlines in Annex 1 below. We used Outcome and Output indicators to track project progress. We used national and Mt. Kenya Forest ecosystem level advisory committees (see Annex 3-6) to provide guidance and evaluation of project implementation progress. We also used the network of beneficiary CFAs to monitor on-ground project implementation and assessing delivery of planned target with the local populations (see Annex 44, 50, 51) Baseline biodiversity surveys and water quality and quantity surveys were carried out and compared with subsequent annual and end of project surveys (see Annex 14 & 15) documenting the changes in the ecosystem especially as a result of forest restoration. We continue to monitor success of forest restoration efforts, with on-ground visits documenting tree survival rates and use of open-source GIS mapping software where tree survival rates have remained above 85%.

6.2 Actions taken in response to annual report reviews

We received feedback from annual reports which were responded and implemented in subsequent annual reporting. On COVID pandemic, this did not impact delivery of Year 2 activities, but was integrated in this final report. We effectively integrated reviewers' feedback to improve our reporting and communication. For example, in the project we targeted to support 12 CFAs but as a result of ensuring upscaling and working in the same budget, we were able reach a total of 18 CFAs in different Outputs of the project. This ensured coordinated capacity building of contiguous CFAs within Mt. Kenya for improved forest management. With cofunding from WLT, we have been able to cover the entire Mt. Kenya Forest, reaching all 28 CFAs the region.

Nature Kenya having understood the barriers of cooperates to directly engage with the CFAs as a result of strict financial regulations, acted as an intermediary organization, to support channelling of financial resources from private sector to the CFAs and offering monitoring and evaluation expertise to businesses. This is mainly because organized financial model that would be offered by for example the Upper Tana-Nairobi Water Fund were not yet operational. Nature Kenya continued to market the CFAs nationally. AS a result of this approach, usage funds directed to forest restoration were monitored, and survival rate of planted tree seedling assessed. Tree seedling survival was documented to be above 85%.

7 Darwin identity-

We ensured that Darwin Initiative identity was publicised and promoted throughout the project implementation phase. In all presentations done, at community, county, national and global level, Darwin Initiative logo was present. In all published documents, Darwin Initiative was branded (see examples Annex 7,8,9,58,59,94). We aligned our communication to all partners on the support Darwin Initiative is providing towards catalysing partnerships in the restoration of Mt. Kenya Forest ecosystem services (see Annex 10- *letter from Ministry of Environment and Forestry*). During all events held on sites, Darwin Initiative was branded (see examples Annex-96,98,99). In media articles published covering the project activities, Darwin Initiative was mentioned (see Annex 104). Nature Kenya newsletter [Nature Net](#) and Kenya Birding magazine (see Annex 108) Darwin Initiative was branded. Nature Kenya has active Twitter, Facebook, Instagram channels accounts where Darwin Initiative was tagged on updates of project delivery (see example Annex 109).

8 Impact of COVID-19 on project delivery

We delivered all planned activities; we did not request rescheduling or budget alignments. We tried to adapt to the situation, follow guidelines and keep our staff and partners safe. Covid-19 safety directives from Government included: social distancing, masking, lockdowns limiting movements; travel bans and limitations on number of people attending meetings. At start in April 2020, there was panic, anxiety and limited knowledge on how to effectively respond. Nature Kenya embraced the Government directives as a minimum and implemented additional own stricter internal directives to try to keep staff, members and partners safe: the office closed to the public and staff who accessed the office adhered to strict directives-- no attending physical meetings in covid-19 hotspots, no public transport for Nairobi based staff, no eating in public eateries and enhanced hygiene including hand washing, fumigating the office and sanitizing all common areas. Nature Kenya stopped circulations of hard copy documents for example Nature Net and Kenya Birding and embraced all virtual meetings especially in hotspots.

Within the project area, Mt. Kenya Forest, we took advantage of our excellent delivery approach that includes staff based at site level, use of government and local communities on the ground to deliver actions and flexible financing and administrative system allowed transfer of resources to the site level. We ensured our staff and partners were safe by distributing masks to all those attending meetings and ensured social distancing. Communities' lost livelihoods during the pandemic and so threats such as poaching for tree poles were on the rise and were documented in field survey. Community led forest restoration actions and beekeeping nature-based enterprises went on while adhering to government directives. As a result, the income earned from these enterprises, was able to cushion the community.

Covid is still with us. These directives will continue for as long as Covid risks exist. Masks are now mainstreamed into project budgeting and meetings. Only necessary travel will take place and virtual meetings will replace a good number of avoidable physical meetings.

9 Finance and administration

9.1 Project expenditure

Project spend (indicative) since last annual report	2020/21 Grant (£)	2020/21 Total actual Darwin Costs (£)	Variance %	Comments (please explain significant variances)
Staff costs (see below)				
Consultancy costs				
Overhead Costs				
Travel and subsistence				
Operating Costs				
Capital items (see below)				
Others (see below)				
TOTAL				

Staff employed (Name and position)	Cost (£)
Paul Matiku - Executive Director	
Joel Siele-Local Empowerment Manager	
Paul Gacheru - Biodiversity and Ecosystem Support	
Milka Musyoki - Site Project Manager	
Martin Njogu - Community Liaison Officer	
Charles Kiama- Livelihoods Officer	
Serah Munguti - Policy and Advocacy Manager	
Denvas Gekonde - Finance Manager	
Caroline Kabilu - Programmes Monitoring & Evaluation Manager	
Cecilia Mbaluto - Accounts Officer	
Juliet Kananu - Programmes Assistant	
James Mutunga - Biodiversity monitoring Officer	
Gloria Waswa- Marketing Liaison with Business	
John Mwacharo - Communications Officer	
TOTAL	

Capital items – description	Capital items – cost (£)
	0
TOTAL	0

Other items – description	Other items – cost (£)
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Energy Saving Technologies	
Materials for restoration and nurseries	
Materials, livelihood diversification	
TOTAL	

9.2 Additional funds or in-kind contributions secured

Source of funding for project lifetime	Total (£)
World Land Trust	
Water Sector Trust Fund	
BirdLife International	
Kenya Breweries Ltd	
Safaricom Ltd	
CocaCola Beverages Kenya	
TOTAL	

Source of funding for additional work after project lifetime	Total (£)
World Land Trust	
BirdLife International	
CocaCola Beverages Kenya	
Kenya Breweries Ltd	
TOTAL	

9.3 Value for Money

All the Darwin Initiative grant was spent in Kenya providing a multiplier effect during the implementation period. The funding provided was able to catalyse private sector engagement in partnership towards Mt. Kenya Forest restoration (see Annexes 70-78). The capacity of Mt. Kenya Forest CFAs was enhanced, empowering them to independently mobilise for resources (see Annexes 41 & 42). The project catalysed community led nature-based enterprises that are generating income for local people (see Annexes 44 & 50). Nature Kenya worked with government and local communities in-kind staff time which provided a great deal of added value while at the same time demonstrating ownership and dedication to the project whilst enhancing the project's value for money.

10 OPTIONAL: Outstanding achievements of your project during the (300-400 words maximum). This section may be used for publicity purposes

I agree for the Darwin Secretariat to publish the content of this section (please leave this line in to indicate your agreement to use any material you provide here)

Outstanding achievements as a result of this project were;

Development of the Mt. Kenya Forest restoration strategy 2019-2029 (Annex 7), which adopted by five county governments and national government for implementation. This restoration strategy was based on scientific field assessments.

An innovative private sector resource mobilisation tool-the **Mt. Kenya Forest Business Case for Sustainable Restoration** (Annex 9) was developed which catalysed and strengthened public-

private-civil society partnerships in forest restoration at global, national and site level. This has resulted to increased private sector engagement to mainstream forest restoration actions in their business sustainability programs.

Annex 1 Project's original (or most recently approved) logframe, including indicators, means of verification and assumptions.

Note: Insert your full logframe. If your logframe was changed since your Stage 2 application and was approved by a Change Request the newest approved version should be inserted here, otherwise insert the Stage 2 logframe.

Project summary	Measurable Indicators	Means of verification	Important Assumptions
Impact: (max 30 words)			
The Mt Kenya forest is managed sustainably to provide critical watershed services, support community livelihoods and maintain biodiversity and climate protection functions through innovative and long-term public-private-civil society partnerships.			
Outcome: (Max 30 words) Twelve local forest communities, empowered as water-sellers, secure financing from downstream water buyers to plant 500 Ha of Mt Kenya forest catchment annually to maintain biodiversity and water provision services.	0.1. By end of the project populations of bird species (indicators of biodiversity) remain stable in areas where forest habitat is being better managed (20,000 Ha) or restored (1500Ha) by the project 0.2. Stream sampling close to forest and at dam entry points show significant/measurable sedimentation decline by end of year 3 0.3. By end of the project Twelve project trained CFAs succeed in developing partnerships with downstream business mobilise financial support and plant 500 Ha of native forest/yr from Year 1. 0.4. By end of the project 300 beehives increase income of 300 households (1800 people) of forest dependent communities (£14,000 or £46/yr/HH) 0.5. Incomes of 8750 CFAs members across the 12 CFAs (men and women) increase by total £94,000 annually as earnings from raising, transporting, planting and caring for 500,000 tree seedlings 0.6. By end of the project, 4 down stream businesses have incorporated Mt Kenya water catchment restoration into their policies, plans, strategies and budgeting. 0.7. Randomised forest disturbance assessment by trained CFA members and partners show greater empowerment and ownership of communities in restoration and management leads to significantly reduced tree cutting, charcoaling and other pressure/threats and area of regenerating forest increases in the 271,000 ha Mt Kenya Forest Reserve/National Park year on year in month 12, 24 and end of project	0.1 Bird baseline, annual and endline survey reports 0.2 Baseline and endline stream monitoring reports. 0.3 Partnership agreements between CFAs and Businesses. Financial reports/commitments for disbursements. 0.4 Baseline and endline HH surveys and progress reports 0.5 Baseline and endline HH surveys and progress reports 0.6 Company strategies and profiles and public declarations 0.7 Participatory forest disturbance assessment report	Water users/buyers like to manage their Corporate Social Responsibility schemes directly. We assume after awareness they will be willing to contribute to the Upper Tana-Nairobi Water Fund which has a separate governance system to their Corporate Social Responsibility. Even if they do not contribute to this existing water fund or it does not become full operational by project end, their enhanced their Corporate Social Responsibility will continue Water user decisions to engage is based on multiple motivations; CSR, money saving (for cleaning water for commercial use), investor relations and government regulation, rather than purely from a financial perspective. Our experience with Kenya Breweries and letters of support included here, indicates that this assumption holds true.
Project summary	Measurable Indicators	Means of verification	Important Assumptions

Outputs			
<p>1. A clear, comprehensive, evidence-based 'business case' for the sustainable management of the Mt Kenya forest.</p>	<p>1.1 Detailed report on ecosystem services complete by end Year 1. 1.2 Business case for restoring 500 Ha of forest annually updated with this new information by end Year1. 1.3 Report on Payment for Water Service approaches to engage water buyers including financing options such as cost of producing, transporting, planting and taking care of one tree or total cost per hectare of forest restored done by year 1</p>	<p>1.1 Ecosystem services report 1.2 Business case 1.3 Copy of Payment for Water Services Approaches report.</p>	
<p>2. Payment for Water Services partnerships developed, and applied by producers/suppliers (Community Forest Associations) and buyers (downstream users/businesses)</p>	<p>2.1 Costed community action plan to improve biodiversity and water services with roles for sellers and buyers by end of Year 1 2.2 Payment for Water Services guide for Community Forest Associations (CFAs) developed jointly with CFAs and disseminated by end of year 1 2.3 12CFAs have enhanced capacity to build partnerships with buyers and negotiate for payment for ecosystem services by end month 12. 2.4 Project proposals/business cases for 12 CFAs to submit to identified downstream water users 2.5 Four business-CFA financing partnerships developed by end Year 2. 2.6 Upper Tana and Nairobi Water Fund and Nature Kenya/CFAs agree intention to collaborate to build CFA and buyer agreements into the Fund.</p>	<p>2.1. Community action plan, reports. 2.2 Copy of CFA Payment for Water Services guide 2.3. Community advocacy/ negotiation training reports 2.4. Project packages for 12 CFA. 2.5. Community –business partnership agreements. 2.6. Minutes of CFA and Water Fund meetings.</p>	<p>Companies are able to afford to make financial contributions to forest restoration given their profitability or market conditions from year to year. Nature Kenya will address this by seeking long term commitments which will allow flexibility in size and frequency of contributions based on existing market trends.</p> <p>Indications from pilot work undertaken by Nature Kenya in collaboration with Kenya Breweries, coupled with the letters of support from commercial water users give us great confidence that they are able and willing to do so.</p>
<p>3. Community Forest Associations across Mt Kenya deliver and maintain commitments in Payment for Water Services partnerships for continued forest restoration.</p>	<p>3.1. Twelve CFAs trained (equal male and female) and plant total 500 Ha (42ha/CFA) as a 'restoration demonstration' by end of year 2. 3.2. Four members (equal male female) trained in each CFA to undertake bird census work using point counts to assess biodiversity in pristine and restored forest four times a year throughout the project. Data inputted to NK data base. 3.3.20,000 Ha of the 40,000 Ha of the Mt Kenya forest that KFS jointly manages with CFAs is under improved management by 12 CFAs (1800Ha/CFA) whose members (male and female) are involved in Income Generating Activities and energy saving technologies by year 3</p>	<p>3.1. Restoration reports 3.2. Bird survey training reports 3.2. Quarterly survey reports. 3.3. Participatory forest disturbance assessment report</p>	<p>KFS currently has agreements with CFAs to jointly manage buffer zones on the edge of the National Park covering 40,000ha. KFS will continue to work towards sustainable finance for CFAs core operations by increasing budgetary allocations from treasury for CFAs operations in addition to water buyers commitments.</p>

			KFS is supportive and enforces law in project areas and there are initiatives that are addressing CFAs sustainability. This is core to KFS work and progressively KFS should make it work as it is a legal obligation in forest law for Kenya.
4. Poor forest adjacent people living around Mt Kenya are empowered to derive additional benefits/incentives from nature-based livelihood activities that support forest restoration.	<p>4.1. Fuel wood consumption reduced by 30% compared to baseline due to adoption of clean cook stoves by 1000 households (especially poor women headed households) and 20 schools from year 2</p> <p>4.2 Business owner's (female and male) capacity to develop sustainable income generating activities (honey, ecotourism) scaled up and production of target nature-based enterprises enhanced.</p> <p>4.3 300 beehives increase income (by £14,000) of 300 households (1800 people—equal female and men) forest dependent communities participating in the management of 20,000 of the 271,000 Ha of Mt Kenya forest ecosystem by year 3</p>	<p>4.1. Household Fuel wood consumption analysis reports, lessons learned reports, CFA forum minutes</p> <p>4.2 Community Business and HH income Reports</p> <p>4.2 Community business owner training manuals and reports</p> <p>4.3 Community Business and HH income Reports.</p>	<p>Communities take to fuel efficient stoves. Evidence¹ of this can be found across Kenya and we have no indications that these communities will resist uptake of this simple and appropriate technology.</p> <p>Good market for locally produced honey as evidenced by honey sold at the Kipepeo Market Place² in Arabuko-Sokoke forest that bulks honey from coastal towns and never has enough to meet the local market</p> <p>Mt Kenya is a leading tourist destination for Kenya.</p> <p>Nature Kenya work elsewhere shows that income generating</p>

¹ <http://ir-library.ku.ac.ke/bitstream/handle/123456789/12328/Factors%20Influencing%20Adoption%20of%20Woodfuel%20Energy....pdf;sequence=1>

² <http://kipepeo.org/our-products/>

			activities improve the attitudes of forest adjacent communities to support forest conservation agenda
5. Lessons learned from the project are disseminated to all relevant stakeholders by a Payment for Water Services mainstreamed Nature Kenya.	<p>5.1 Findings and recommendations from the project are shared with Ministry of Environment and Natural Resources and all other relevant bodies at least annually throughout the project (i.e. at the end of each project year).</p> <p>5.2 Lessons on use of fuel wood stoves are adopted by 22 Site Support Groups for transformative scaling up at other 22 sites in Kenya.</p> <p>5.3 Records of subsequent discussions within and among these target groups demonstrate that this dissemination work is effective and that the lessons and recommendations communicated are being taken into account during relevant policy formulation and decision-making processes.</p> <p>5.4. Nature Kenya marketing work programmes include Payment for Watershed Services for Mt Kenya and other key water towers</p>	<p>5.1 Project reports, proceedings and minutes from meetings with government bodies.</p> <p>5.2 Site Support Group Reports mention uptake of fuelwood stoves.</p> <p>5.3 Copies of policy documents/correspondence.</p> <p>5.4 Nature Kenya marketing workplans/schedules</p>	<p>Ministry of Environment receptive to project updates and reports and assuming reports shine very positive light on our approach they express interest to replicate and take forwards the PWS agenda.</p> <p>Nature Kenya has regular meetings with the Ministry and we are confident that they will continue to be receptive to our work and briefings.</p>

Activities

1. A clear, evidence-based 'business case' is applied for the sustainable management of the Mt Kenya forest.

- 1.1 Conduct a start-up workshop with project partners to agree methodologies and provide training in protocols for the Ecosystem Service Assessment for Mt Kenya
- 1.2 Convene meetings/workshops and carry out consultations needed to assess ecosystem services (e.g. discussions about utilisation of water and other natural resources)
- 1.3 Engage Socio-economic consultant and train local enumerators and carry out socio-economic fieldwork needed to assess the socio economic ecosystem services (especially water) provided by Mt Kenya
- 1.4 Carry out biophysical (biodiversity and sedimentation) fieldwork needed to assess the bio ecosystem services provided by Mt Kenya
- 1.5 Compile findings into a detailed report on ecosystem services. Includes assessing historical sediment loads deposited into dams
- 1.6 Carry out analyses to validate business case for eventual use on targeted down stream businesses
- 1.7 Develop and disseminate business case communication and awareness materials

2. Payment for Water Services (PWS) partnerships developed, and applied by sellers (CFAs) and buyers (downstream users/businesses)

- 2.1 Develop community action plan to improve biodiversity and water services with roles for sellers and buyers to restore 500 Ha annually
- 2.2 Train 12 CFAs as water sellers to enhance their capacity (communications, marketing, public relations, governance and others) to build partnerships with buyers (downstream users) and negotiate for payment for ecosystem services
- 2.3 Develop project proposals/business cases for 12 CFAs to submit to identified down stream water buyers
- 2.4 Support CFAs to convene meetings at site level towns to bring together area based water buyers and small businesses to make them understand the benefits of engagement
- 2.5 Directly approach individual businesses with tailored funding proposals customised for each of the CFAs based on area based CFA forest restoration and management proposals.
- 2.6 Hold meetings to explore ways for Water Resources Agency (WRA) and CFAs to partner in planting trees on Mt Kenya
- 2.7 Convene meeting at national level to bring together larger water buyers in Nairobi who will be the major contributors to the restoration of the Mt Kenya water services

- 2.8 Support CFAs to participate in consultations to present their restoration proposals to businesses outlined in 2.4-2.7
- 2.9 Work with the TNC to link the Upper Tana and Nairobi Water Fund to trained CFAs and also to help them popularise the fund to become the legal financial mechanism for CFAs and downstream PWS buyers.

3. Community Forest Associations (CFAs) across Mt Kenya deliver and maintain commitments in PWS agreements partnerships for continued forest restoration.

- 3.1 Carry out organisational capacity assessments and Train CFAs in tree planting, forest protection and monitoring
- 3.2 Convene the Mt Kenya CFAs forum to coordinate and communicate efforts and agree resource mobilisation approaches for Mt Kenya restoration
- 3.3 Train 12 FACs (CFAs/SSG) and establish tree nurseries to restore 500 Ha as a 'restoration demonstration' by end of year 2.
- 3.4 Support the CFAs to develop financing agreements with businesses for short and long-term financing approaches
- 3.5 Collect biodiversity baseline data for selected species at start and annually and compare to baseline
- 3.6 Produce annual status and trends report and disseminate to decision makers

4. Poor forest adjacent people living around Mt Kenya are empowered to derive additional benefits from nature-based livelihood activities that support forest restoration

- 4.1 Conduct baseline and end of project household surveys to assess amongst other things diet, income, and fuel use to help monitor progress and inform HH selection for Beekeeping training and energy saving support.
- 4.2 Deliver training/mentoring in beekeeping to selected households, develop business plan and add value to honey for marketing
- 4.3 Research and document barriers to uptake of energy saving clean cook stoves
- 4.4 Identify individuals to be provided with energy saving technology and Implement training in energy saving technologies
- 4.5 Identify individuals to be provided with training in bird guiding
- 4.6 Deliver training/mentoring in bird guiding and mountaineering.

5. Lessons learned from the project are disseminated to all relevant stakeholders by a PWS mainstreamed Nature Kenya

- 5.1 Mainstream PWS approach into Nature Kenya marketing for beyond project PWS partnership development
- 5.2 Produce and distribute tailored business case awareness materials to stakeholders
- 5.3 Awareness events including important world days (e.g. World Environment Day and World Water Day) organised to share lessons and experiences
- 5.4 Payment for water services guide for CBOs is developed and shared with communities across Mt Kenya and SSGs in other Key Biodiversity Areas (KBAs) across Kenya.
- 5.5 Lessons on use of fuel wood stoves are share with and promoted to Site Support Groups during national SSGs forum for transformative scaling up at other 22 sites in Kenya.

Annex 2 Report of progress and achievements against final project logframe for the life of the project

Project summary	Measurable Indicators	Progress and Achievements April 2018- March 2021
<p>Impact: The Mt Kenya forest is managed sustainably to provide critical watershed services, support community livelihoods and maintain biodiversity and climate protection functions through innovative and long term public-private-civil society partnerships.</p>		<p>Enabling policy framework have been put in place at county and national level that will see Mt. Kenya Forest sustainably managed which include- Mt. Kenya Forest restoration strategy 2019-2029 (Annex 7), Forest (Community Participation in Sustainable Forest Management) Rules 2021 (Annex 11); Meru, Embu, Nyeri, Tharaka Nthi, and Kirinyaga county level policy frameworks on forests and climate change mitigation.</p> <p>Capacity Community Forest Associations have been strengthened to enhance human development, wellbeing and strengthen partnerships for forest restoration (Annex 19-32). The CFAs demonstrated their capacity in community livelihood through nature-based enterprises i.e., ecotourism (Annex 51), beekeeping (Annex 50), tree seedling production and restoration of 1854ha of degraded forest areas (Annex 44) to improve habitat for biodiversity-increasing species abundance and diversity captured in biodiversity survey (Annex 14) and increase capacity of forest in climate protection function through carbon sequestration (Annex 8 pg 37).</p> <p>Mt. Kenya business case for sustainable restoration (Annex 9) was developed to catalysed and strengthened public-private-civil society partnerships in forest restoration at global, national and site level. This business case will be marketed widely to private sector by Nature Kenya and CFAs, learning from and building on successes registered with partnerships companies with Safaricom Ltd, Kenya Breweries Ltd, Coca-Cola Kenya, World Land Trust among other—We will leverage on these partnerships to demonstrate to wider private sector players importance of safeguarding and restoration of critical forest landscapes- as started with catalysing discussion with 7000 Kenya Breweries Ltd suppliers, participation in BirdLife International Global Forest Restoration Accelerator program, and Global Trillion Trees initiative and The Restoration Initiative by spearheaded by UNE-FAO-IUCN</p>
<p>Outcome Twelve local forest communities, empowered as water-sellers, secure financing from downstream water buyers to plant 500 Ha of Mt Kenya forest catchment annually to maintain biodiversity and water provision services</p>	<p>0.1. By end of the project populations of bird species (indicators of biodiversity) remain stable in areas where forest habitat is being better managed (20,000 Ha) or restored (1500Ha) by the project</p> <p>0.2. Stream sampling close to forest and at dam entry points show significant/measurable</p>	<p>0.1. The indicator was achieved. The populations of bird species remained stable in natural forest habitats (see Annex 14- <i>End of project biodiversity survey report</i>). The mean species richness in natural forest showed slight increase from 10 recorded during baseline to 11 species recorded at this end of project biodiversity assessment. The mean abundance (bird population) was 28 birds compared to the baseline record of 26 birds. In restoration areas, it seems to be too early for restoration to have an impact on species richness as the data shows stable species richness between baseline (8 species) and end of project (7 species). Indigenous natural forest had the highest mean species diversity index of $H' = 1.9422$ followed by indigenous forest restoration areas $H' = 1.6851$ with the plantation forest restoration areas (PELIS) recording the lowest diversity index of $H' = 0.8174$. Overall, biodiversity survey shows by improving forest quality through forest restoration, forest generalist abundance declines while forest specialists are known to increase with forest</p>

Project summary	Measurable Indicators	Progress and Achievements April 2018- March 2021
	<p>sedimentation decline by end of year 3</p> <p>0.3. By end of the project Twelve project trained CFAs succeed in developing partnerships with downstream business mobilise financial support and plant 500 Ha of native forest/yr from Year 1.</p> <p>0.4. By end of the project 300 beehives increase income of 300 households (1800 people) of forest dependent communities (£14,000 or £46/yr/HH)</p> <p>0.5. Incomes of 8750 CFAs members across the 12 CFAs (men and women) increase by total £94,000 annually as earnings from raising, transporting, planting and caring for 500,000 tree seedlings</p> <p>0.6. By end of the project, 4 downstream businesses have incorporated Mt Kenya water catchment restoration into their policies, plans, strategies and budgeting.</p> <p>0.7. Randomised forest disturbance assessment</p>	<p>quality.</p> <p>0.2. The indicator was achieved. Between baseline stream sampling survey carried out in 2018 and end of project survey in 2020 (<i>Annex 15- stream sampling survey report</i>) the data shows notable reduction of sedimentation load of sampling point close to the forest from 4.42ton/yr during the baseline to 2.94ton/yr in 2020. Mid-stream, sedimentation load reduced from a baseline of 7.47ton/yr to 5.89ton/yr in the 2020 survey. At the dam entry, there was an increase from a baseline 3.65ton/yr to 6.41 ton/yr in 2020. The increase of sedimentation load at the dam entry may be attributed to the convergence of many other rivers and streams within the Tana River basin which includes tributaries from the Aberdare Forest, influenced by poor land use practices with continuing land degradation and soil erosion</p> <p>0.3. The indicator was achieved. By the end of project 12 CFAs who were trained following developed training guide (see Annex 16), on leadership, governance and institutional management (see Annex 17)- training 104 community representatives (63male, 41female) and on proposal development and resource mobilization where 138 CFA representatives (73M, 65F) were trained (see Annex 18-<i>training proceeding report</i>). The CFAs were able to successfully initiate and develop partnership with downstream businesses, to mobilize financial and in-kind support and plant 500ha of native forest. This was through holding site based downstream businesses meetings (see Annex 34-40; sample <i>CFA-Water buyers meetings minutes</i>) and also submission of funding proposals. As a result, the CFAs signed financing agreements with Water Sector Trust Fund (see Annex 41 & Annex 42-<i>public gazette notice by WSTF on successful CFAs</i>); Mweru CFA signed financing agreement with Meru County (Annex 43); Lower Imenti CFA were able to secure forest restoration financing from Eden Project who signed an MoU with KFS to restore 1500ha of the forest area in 5 years. By the end of the project the CFAs were able to restore 1854ha of degraded forest area (see Annex 44 pg 6-7).</p> <p>0.4. The indicator was achieved. We supported 300 households organized around the Community Forest Associations with 300 beehives aimed at increasing household incomes. A total of 320 community members (215men, 105women) were trained in a series seminars and field exchange visits on of beekeeping husbandry (Annex 50 pg 9-47) aimed at increasing their capacity in beekeeping nature-based enterprise. The community harvested 6963kg of honey earning the community £43,024 by end of the project (see Annex 50). Following these initial beehives support, the community was able to upscale beekeeping by mobilizing 1379 additional modern beehive from the Water Sector Trust Fund reaching a total of 589 households (User Group membership 230women, 359men).</p> <p>0.5. The indicator was achieved. With a target increasing incomes of 8750 CFA members across 12 CFA by £94,000 annually as earning from raising, transporting, planting and caring for 500,000 tree seedlings; we enhanced the capacity of Community Forest</p>

Project summary	Measurable Indicators	Progress and Achievements April 2018- March 2021
	<p>by trained CFA members and partners show greater empowerment and ownership of communities in restoration and management leads to significantly reduced tree cutting, charcoaling and other pressure/threats and area of regenerating forest increases in the 271,000 ha Mt Kenya Forest Reserve/National Park year on year in month 12, 24 and end of project</p>	<p>Associations managed tree nurseries increased tree seedlings production from 1.3million seedlings in Year 1 to 3.7million seedlings by Year 3 (see Annex 44 pg 6). As a result, 13,415 CFA members (9498women, 3917men) earned a total of £499,235 in 3 years-equivalent to £166,412 annually compared to target to £94,000; from sale of tree seedlings, transportation, planting and maintenance of restoration areas (see Annex 44 pg 7-8).</p> <p>0.6. The indicator was achieved. We targeted by end of project, 4 down-stream businesses have incorporated Mt Kenya water catchment restoration into their policies, plans, strategies and budgeting. A Mt. Kenya Forest Restoration Strategy 2019-2029 (Annex 7) was developed, mainstreamed 5 county level programs and promoted to local, national and global private sector. 6 down-stream businesses have provided indication of mainstreaming Mt. Kenya Forest restoration into their programs. Meru Water and Sewerage Services and Lewa Wildlife Conservancy committed and incorporated Mt. Kenya Forest restoration by fully adopting the Mt. Kenya Forest Restoration Strategy into their policy and strategies (Annex 7 pg 2 <i>business logos affirming their support</i>). World Land Trust (WLT) has provided £206,200 towards forest restoration work (see Annex 69); Safaricom Limited has committed 3 year funding to restore Kenya forest water towers (see Annex 70); BirdLife International with funding from Aga Khan Development Network has committed to restore 69 ha of degraded forest land in Mt. Kenya forest (see Annex 71); Kenya Breweries Limited has committed to restore 200ha of degraded forest area in Mt. Kenya forest under their sustainability program (see Annex 72); CocaCola Kenya Ltd has committed to support Mt. Kenya forest restoration targeting restoration of 30ha in 2021(Annex 73)</p> <p>0.7. The indicator was achieved. Randomized participatory forest disturbance assessment was carried out by trained CFA members. 18 randomized forest disturbance assessment transects were monitored annually by the trained CFA members (Annex 45). Results show reduced forest threats especially of livestock grazing leading to increased regeneration of indigenous tree seedlings; 75.13 seedlings in 2020 compared to 44.97 seedlings baseline in 2018 per sampling area (Annex 47). It was noted that pressure on forest products mounted in 2020, especially for poles attributed to impacts of COVID that resulted to job losses in urban areas where people moved back to their rural areas.</p>
<p>Output 1. A clear, comprehensive, evidence-based 'business case' for the sustainable management of the Mt Kenya forest.</p>	<p>1.1 Detailed report on ecosystem services complete by end Year 1. 1.2 Business case for restoring 500 Ha of forest annually updated with this new information by end Year1. 1.3 Report on Payment for</p>	<p>1.1. The indicator was achieved. A detailed Mt. Kenya Forest ecosystem services assessment was carried out and a detailed report published (Annex 8). The ecosystem services report packaged the values of Mt. Kenya Forest which included water provisioning, recreation, harvested goods, cultivated goods, climate regulation, and cultural values. The ecosystem services report documented scenarios in the case of Forest Restoration implemented, and Business as Usual scenario where forest degradation was being experienced.</p> <p>1.2. The indicator was achieved. Informed by the ecosystem services assessment, an Mt. Kenya business case for sustainable restoration was revised and published (Annex 9). The business case targeted to mobilize £15 million in the next five years restore 1,234 ha</p>

Project summary	Measurable Indicators	Progress and Achievements April 2018- March 2021
	Water Service approaches to engage water buyers including financing options such as cost of producing, transporting, planting and taking care of one tree or total cost per hectare of forest restored done by year 1	<p>annually (6,170 ha in the next 5years) of forest area identified to be in urgent need of restoration.</p> <p>1.3. The indicator was achieved. In the published business case (Annex 9 pg 20-22), Payment for Water Services approaches including financing options of producing seedlings (£0.21/seedling); transportation and planting labor (£0.17/seedling) and cost of post-planting protection and maintenance (£0.21/seedling). According to Kenya Forest Service, it takes 1000 trees to restore 1 ha of forest area. Cost for restoration of 1ha is KSh.100,000 that ensures post planting care and site maintenance.</p>
Activity 1.1 Conduct a start-up workshop with project partners to agree methodologies and provide training in protocols for the Ecosystem Service Assessment for Mt Kenya		This activity was completed and achieved. The methodology and approach used in carrying out the Ecosystem Services Assessment for Mt. Kenya are described in the published Mt. Kenya Forest Ecosystem Services Assessment Report (Annex 8 pg. 2-5)
Activity 1.2 Convene meetings/workshops and carry out consultations needed to assess ecosystem services (e.g. discussions about utilisation of water and other natural resources		This activity was completed and achieved. Results are documented the published Mt. Kenya Forest Ecosystem Services Assessment Report (Annex 8 pg. 9-12). Participatory ecosystem service scoping workshop was convened on 23 rd -24 th August 2018. This workshop helped to identify ecosystem services to be included in the detailed assessment. Ecosystem services that were identified for assessment included; water services, recreation services, harvested goods (wild & cultivated), climate regulation and cultural services.
Activity 1.3: Carry out socio-economic fieldwork needed to assess the socio economic ecosystem services (especially water) provided by Mt Kenya		This activity was completed and achieved. Informed by Activity 1.2 above, a detailed survey questionnaire was developed (Annex 82 <i>detailed survey questionnaire</i>). Socio-economic survey using detailed interview schedule was included in the assessment. Result socio-economic survey and other ecosystem services including; water services, recreation services, harvested goods (wild & cultivated), climate regulation and cultural services; were published Mt. Kenya Forest Ecosystem Services Assessment Report (Annex 8 pg 14-44). All interviews followed ethical standards required for human research developed by British Physiological Society.
Activity 1.4: Carry out biophysical (biodiversity and sedimentation) fieldwork needed to assess the bio ecosystem services provided by Mt Kenya		This activity was completed and achieved. In partnership with the National Museums of Kenya scientists we carried out biophysical fieldwork to document biodiversity values, water quality and quantity of rivers flowing out of Mt. Kenya Forest, and carried out GIS mapping of forest cover changes between 2000-2018. Mt. Kenya Forest Ecosystem Services Assessment Report (Annex 8) was published showing results on ecosystem services assessment. In addition, we carried out baseline and end of project biodiversity assessment survey report (Annex 14 see <i>biodiversity survey report</i>). Results indicate, indigenous natural forest had the highest mean species diversity index of $H' = 1.9422$ followed by indigenous forest restoration areas H'

Project summary	Measurable Indicators	Progress and Achievements April 2018- March 2021
		<p>=1.6851 with the plantation forest restoration areas recording the lowest diversity index of $H' = 0.8174$, showing benefit of forest restoration to biodiversity conservation. Water quality and quantity survey of sampled rivers flowing from Mt. Kenya Forest was compiled indicating the sedimentation load (Annex 15 see <i>water quality and quantity survey report</i>). Data shows notable reduction of sedimentation load of sampling point close to the forest from 4.42ton/yr during the baseline to 2.94ton/yr in end of project.</p>
<p>Activity 1.5: Compile findings into a detailed report on ecosystem services. Includes assessing historical sediment loads deposited into dams</p>		<p>This activity was completed. A detailed Mt. Kenya Forest ecosystem services report was published and printed 2000 copies for dissemination (Annex 8—see detailed Mt. Kenya Forest ecosystem services report). The report included an assessment of historical sediment loads deposited into dams and domestic water treatment companies (Annex 8 See pg 17-23). Result indicates that, hydroelectric dams along Tana River basin have reduced dam capacity by between 10-15% while water service companies have like MEWASS have seen an increase of water treatment cost up to 68% as a result of increased sediments in the water attributed to soil erosion.</p>
<p>Activity 1.6: Carry out analyses to validate business case for eventual use on targeted down stream businesses</p>		<p>This activity was completed. Informed by the Mt. Kenya Forest ecosystem services assessment report (Annex 8), a Mt. Kenya Forest business case for sustainable restoration was developed (Annex 9). Prior to publishing, we carried out analyses validate Mt. Kenya Forest restoration business case where it was presented national and Mt. Kenya ecosystem level stakeholders forums/committees. This includes Kenya Key Biodiversity Areas National Liaison Committee on 25th July 2019 (Annex 83), Partnering with business for restoration of Mt. Kenya ecosystem services national Advisory Committee on 8th August 2019 (Annex 3) and Mt. Kenya ecosystem level partnership for restoration advisory committee on 15th August 2019 (Annex 4). These committee brought together-hydropower producers, power distributors, manufacturers, water fund managers, national government agencies, academia, local community, NGOs and government ministries. As a result, the Mt. Kenya Forest Business Case for Sustainable Restoration was developed, published and printed (Annex 9—<i>business case copy</i>) for dissemination.</p>
<p>Activity 1.7: Develop and disseminate business case communication and awareness materials</p>		<p>This activity was completed. 2000 copies of the Mt. Kenya Forest Business Case for Sustainable Restoration (Annex 9—<i>business case copy</i>) were printed and disseminated widely across the country. In particular 5 counties that border Mt. Kenya forest- Meru, Nyeri, Kirinyaga, Embu and Tharaka Nthi counties organized county level private sector awareness creation events where the business case was widely disseminated- A total of 8 county level awareness forums were convened (Annex 62-68- see <i>county level Business Sector Awareness Forum Report</i>).</p>

Project summary	Measurable Indicators	Progress and Achievements April 2018- March 2021
<p>Output 2. Payment for Water Services (PWS) partnerships developed, and applied by producers/suppliers (CFAs) and buyers (downstream users/businesses)</p>	<p>2.1 Costed community action plan to improve biodiversity and water services with roles for sellers and buyers by end of Year 1</p> <p>2.2 Payment for Water Services guide for Community Forest Associations (CFAs) developed jointly with CFAs and disseminated by end of year 1</p> <p>2.3 12CFAs have enhanced capacity to build partnerships with buyers and negotiate for payment for ecosystem services by end month 12.</p> <p>2.4 Project proposals/business cases for 12 CFAs to submit to identified downstream water users</p> <p>2.5 Four business-CFA financing partnerships developed by end Year 2.</p> <p>2.6 Upper Tana and Nairobi Water Fund and Nature Kenya/CFAs agree intention to collaborate to build CFA and buyer agreements into the Fund.</p>	<p>2.1. The indicator was achieved. Targeting 12 CFA, the project was able to support a total 14 CFAs to develop site-based community forest restoration and management action plans (Annex 19-32_ see <i>CFA's specific Community Forest Conservation Action Plans</i>). The action plans packaged targets for forest restoration, forest management, biodiversity monitoring and identified key water buyers to target for the implementation.</p> <p>2.2. The indicator was achieved. Working in partnership with community forest associations, we carried out consultation on best approaches on participating in Payment for Water Services. Informed by these consultations, a Payment for Water services a community guide for CFAs to engage with the business sector was developed (Annex 33) highlighting 7 key components to be considered to successfully implement - 1. Organization capacity building; 2. Identification of ecosystem services; 3. Planning for implementation; 4. Communication, advocacy and outreach; 5. how to satisfy financiers; 6. Reporting and communication, and; 7. creating awareness on payment for ecosystem services.</p> <p>2.3. The indicator was achieved. Informed by Training guide for socio-economic development of community based organisation (see Annex 16) and Payment for Water services a community guide for CFAs (see Annex 33) the CFAs were trained in a series of workshops and seminars on leadership and governance, development of forest restoration and management action plans, proposal development, negotiation and communication skills (Annex 17- see <i>training workshop proceeding</i>), financial and book keeping, and project management (Annex 18-see <i>summary workshop report</i>). These training carried out resulted to increased capacity of CFAs to build partnerships with buyers and negotiate for payments for ecosystem services.</p> <p>2.4. The indicator was achieved. As a result, of the capacity building of the CFAs, the CFAs developed funding proposals and site-based business cases informed by their site-based action plans in readiness for submission. 12 CFAs convened site based downstream water users' meetings to present their forest restoration business cases in 2019 (see Annex 34-40; samples <i>CFA-Water buyers meeting minutes</i>) and carry out subsequent follow up one-on-one meetings with the identified businesses</p> <p>2.5. The indicator was achieved. 13 CFAs successfully entered into financing partnership with Water Sector Trust Fund- In 2019 6 CFA (Lower Imenti, MEFECAP, Nyambene, Ntimaka, New Njukiiri and Kabaruru CFAs) signed financing partnership agreements following successful submission of funding proposal to Water Sector Trust Fund (WSTF) mobilising £157,407 and in 2020-7 CFAs (Mweru, Ruthumbi, Chehe, Ragati, Irangi, Hombe, Naromoro CFAs) signed financing agreement with WSTF towards sustainable forest conservation and restoration (Annex 41 & Annex 42-<i>public gazette notice by WSTF on successful CFAs</i>). Mweru CFA signed financing agreement with Meru County (Annex 43).</p> <p>2.6. The indicator was achieved. Nature Kenya engaged the Upper Tana and Nairobi Water Fund through national partnership meetings (Annex 3 & 5; see <i>partnership meeting minutes</i></p>

Project summary	Measurable Indicators	Progress and Achievements April 2018- March 2021
		<i>held in August 2019 & September 2020</i>) to showcase the potential and capacities of CFAs who can enter into a financing agreement with the fund when it operationalized
Activity 2.1. Develop community action plan to improve biodiversity and water services with roles for producers/suppliers and buyers to restore 500 Ha annually		This activity was completed and achieved. Targeting 12 CFA, the project was able to support a total 14 CFAs to develop site-based community forest restoration and management action plans (Annex 19-32_ <i>see CFA's specific Community Forest Conservation Action Plans</i>). The action plans packaged targets for forest restoration, forest management, biodiversity monitoring and identified key water buyers to target for the implementation. All these action plans were consolidated into indigenous forest management and conservation action plan is detailed in the Mt. Kenya Restoration Strategy 2019-2029 (Annex 7 pg32-36) targeting 6170ha of degraded forest area in urgent need of restoration.
Activity 2.2. Carry out organisational capacity assessments and train 12 CFAs as water producers/suppliers to enhance their capacity (communications, marketing, public relations, governance and others) to build partnerships with buyers (downstream users) and negotiate for payment for ecosystem services		This activity was completed and achieved. Following organisation capacity assessments, we followed a training guide for socio-economic development of community based organisation (see Annex 16) and Payment for Water services a community guide for CFAs (see Annex 33) the CFAs were trained in a series of workshops and seminars on leadership and governance, development of forest restoration and management action plans, proposal development, negotiation and communication skills (Annex 17- <i>see training workshop proceeding</i>), financial and book keeping, and project management (Annex 18- <i>see summary workshop report</i>). These training carried out resulted to increased capacity of CFAs to build partnerships with buyers and negotiate for payments for ecosystem services
Activity 2.3: Develop project packages for 12 CFAs to submit to identified down stream water buyers		This activity was completed and achieved. CFAs developed funding packages and site-based business case presentation informed by their site-based action plans developed in Activity 2.1 above in readiness for submission.
Activity 2.4: Support CFAs to convene meetings at site level towns to bring together area based water buyers and small businesses to make them understand why they have to get engaged.		This activity was completed and achieved. 12 CFAs convened site based downstream water users' meetings to present their forest restoration business cases in 2019 (see Annex 34-40; samples <i>CFA-Water buyers meeting minutes</i>) and carry out subsequent follow up one-on-one meetings with the identified businesses. Overall, majority of business sector players agreed to support the CFAs initiatives in forest restoration even though they did not put it in writing. This was a good initial step in creating awareness on the importance of forest restoration
Activity 2.5: Directly approach individual businesses with tailored funding proposals customised for each of the CFAs based on area based CFA forest restoration and management proposals.		This activity was completed and achieved. At site level the CFAs were able to develop new partnerships with local businesses and county government on forest restoration following implementation of Activity 2.4 above. It was noted that majority of local businesses agreed to support the CFAs initiatives in forest restoration even though they did not put it in writing. This was good indication on the impacts of the approach adopted at site level on engaging business sector. To complement the efforts at site level, at a national level, Nature Kenya popularised forest restoration initiative on-behalf of Mt.Kenya forest CFAs to large companies. Customised proposals were developed and submitted to- Dimension data (Annex 75); Total Foundation

Project summary	Measurable Indicators	Progress and Achievements April 2018- March 2021
Activity 2.6: Hold meetings to explore ways for Water Resources Agency (WRA) to participate in supporting CFAs to help WRA plant trees in Mt Kenya		<p>Kenya (Annex 76); Peptang Foods (Annex 77) and Stanchart Bank (Annex 78).</p> <p>This activity was completed and achieved. Water Resources Authority (WRA) has actively engaged throughout the project implementation as member of the national Partnering with business for restoration of Mt. Kenya ecosystem services national Advisory Committee and Mt. Kenya ecosystem level partnership for restoration advisory committee ((Annex 3-6; see <i>partnership meeting minutes held in August 2019 & September 2020</i>). As a government institution they recognised, contributed, described roles of institutions and mainstreamed the Mt. Kenya Restoration Strategy 2019-2029 (Annex 7 see pg 2 logos of partner institutions & pg 44 water management action plan) into their programs</p>
Activity 2.7: Convene meeting at national level to bring together larger water buyers in Nairobi who will be the major contributors to the restoration of the Mt Kenya water services		<p>This activity was completed and achieved. National level meeting was held in partnership with Meru County government (Annex 60), we co-convened a regional water dialogue meeting on 18th October 2019. The dialogue brought together 450 participants (110 women, 340 men) representing 45 broad institutions which included large water buyers and water producer-CFA in the upper Tana River region and funders to discuss Mt. Kenya Forest restoration (see (Annex 84- <i>County level water dialogue meeting held in 2019</i>). The meeting was chaired by the Meru County Governor H.E. Karaitu M, included neighbouring Tharaka Nthi county governor H.E. Muthomi Njuki, and guest Ambassador of Morocco H.E. Dr. El Mokhtar Ghambou (Annex 85- <i>newspaper extract covering the forum</i>).</p> <p>Nature Kenya in partnership with Kenya Breweries Ltd developed a mechanism to engage the wide network of suppliers (Annex 86), resulting to a national forum bringing together section of 7000 suppliers was convened on 16th January 2020 (Annex 87), aiming to aligning the business to sustainability aspiration. Furthermore, a national private sector water conference with a theme on Environmental conservation as a catalyst for water resource generation was held coordinated by Kenya Breweries Ltd with support of Nature Kenya where Mt. Kenya Forest restoration was presented to catalyse private sector engagement (Annex 88).</p> <p>At the county level; 5 Mt. Kenya forest adjacent counties convened stakeholder forums- Meru County (Annex 61-<i>county partnership with business stakeholder forum held in 2020; Annex 62- stakeholder forum on implementation of Mt. Kenya forest restoration strategy held in 2021</i>), Nyeri County (Annex 63-<i>county partnering with business in Mt. Kenya forest restoration; Annex 64-Nyeri stakeholders meeting on Mt. Kenya forest restoration strategy; Annex 65-newspaper cutting covering the Nyeri county meeting</i>), Kirinyaga County (Annex 66-<i>Kirinyaga county stakeholder forum on mainstreaming Mt. Kenya restoration strategy</i>), Embu County (Annex 67-<i>Embu county stakeholders meeting reporting on the implementation of Mt. Kenya forest restoration strategy</i>), Tharaka Nthi County (Annex 68-<i>TharakaNthi county stakeholder forum on implementation of Mt. Kenya forest strategy</i>)</p>
Activity 2.8: Support CFAs to participate in consultations to		This activity was completed and achieved. We supported CFAs to participate in consultations

Project summary	Measurable Indicators	Progress and Achievements April 2018- March 2021
present their restoration proposals		during the development of the Mt. Kenya restoration strategy 2019-2029 (Annex 7 pg 68) where they integrated and aligned their restoration action plans within the indigenous forest management and conservation action plan targeting 6170ha of degraded forest area in urgent need of restoration. The CFAs were also supported to participate in all activities described in Activity 2.7 above where they presented their restoration proposals (see Annex 60-68)
Activity 2.9: Work with the TNC to link the Upper Tana and Nairobi Water Fund to trained CFAs and also to help them popularise the fund to become the legal financial mechanism for CFAs and downstream PWS buyers.		This activity was completed. Bilateral meetings were held between TNC and Nature Kenya to provide updates on organisational program implementation in the upper Tana region. Nature Kenya engaged the Upper Tana and Nairobi Water Fund through national partnership meetings (Annex 3-5 ; see <i>partnership meeting minutes held in August 2019 & September 2020</i>) to showcase the potential and capacities of CFAs who can enter into a financing agreement with the fund when it operationalized. The Upper Tana and Nairobi Water Fund is not yet to be fully operational as a legal financing mechanism. The Mt. Kenya Forest Business Case for sustainable restoration (Annex 9 pg 22) and (Annex 7 pg 55) of the Mt. Kenya Forest restoration strategy 2019-2029, popularises the Nairobi Water Fund as one avenue for private sector to channel funding towards forest restoration.

Project summary	Measurable Indicators	Progress and Achievements April 2018- March 2021
<p>Output 3. Community Forest Associations across Mt Kenya deliver and maintain commitments in Payment for Water Services partnerships for continued forest restoration.</p>	<p>3.1. Twelve CFAs trained (equal male and female) and plant total 500 Ha (42ha/CFA) as a 'restoration demonstration' by end of year 2.</p> <p>3.2. Four members (equal male female) trained in each CFA to undertake bird census work using point counts to assess biodiversity in pristine and restored forest four times a year throughout the project. Data inputted to NK data base.</p> <p>3.3. 20,000 Ha of the 40,000 Ha of the Mt Kenya forest that KFS jointly manages with CFAs is under improved management by 12 CFAs (1800Ha/CFA) whose members (male and female) are involved in Income Generating Activities and energy saving technologies by year 3</p>	<p>3.1. The indicator was achieved. We trained and mentored 12 targeted CFAs across Mt. Kenya to deliver and maintain commitment in Payment for Water services partnerships for continued forest restoration. In partnership with Kenya Forest Service, station managers, we trained 323 community representatives (205men, 118women) from 12 CFAs on tree nursery establishment and management (Annex 44). Following the training, the CFAs were supported with certified indigenous tree species seeds from Kenya Forestry Research Institute, seedling potting materials, and a 5000-liter water tank per CFA to enhance their tree seedling production for Mt. Kenya Forest restoration. As a result, the supported CFAs increased their capacity in tree seedling production from 1.3 million seedlings in Year 1 to 3.7 million tree seedlings in Year 3 (Annex 44). This enabled to the CFAs to restore 1854ha by end of project (see Annex 44 pg 7).</p> <p>3.2. The indicator was achieved. Working in partnership with experts from National Museums of Kenya, using birds as indicators of forest health, monitoring transects were laid in different forest areas which included indigenous forest area, forest restoration area with indigenous tree species, Forest exotic plantations, forest exotic plantation establishment sites and forest glades. We trained 94 community members (65men, 29 women) representing from 18 CFAs on participatory forest disturbance assessment in Year 1 (Annex 45-<i>CFAs training report</i>) and 15 (8men, 7women) representatives from Mt.KEbio SSG in Year 2 (Annex 46-<i>SSG training report</i>. Biodiversity assessment report (see Annex 14) indicate that the mean species richness in the natural forest showed an increase from 10 recorded during baseline to 11 species recorded at this end of project biodiversity assessment. The mean abundance (bird population) was 28 birds compared to the baseline record of 26 birds.</p> <p>3.3. The indicator was achieved. 20,000ha of 40,000ha of Mt. Kenya Forest that KFS jointly manages with CFAs showed improved management. Participatory forest disturbance assessment (Annex 47- <i>combined comparative forest disturbance assessment report</i>) carried out during baseline and end of project shows increased regeneration of indigenous tree seedlings; 75.13 seedlings in 2020 compared to 44.97 seedlings baseline in 2018 per sampling area. 13,415 CFA members (9498women, 3917men) have participated in income generating activities such as beekeeping, communal tree seedling production and ecotourism.</p>
<p>Activity 3.1: Train CFAs in tree planting, forest protection and monitoring</p>		<p>This activity was completed and achieved. Working in partnership with Kenya Forest Service, CFAs were trained on tree nursery establishment, management and forest restoration approaches (see Annex 44 pg 9-44- <i>Training reports</i>). In addition, to this, KFS continued to enhance capacity of community forest scouts, with Chehe and Ragati CFAs recruiting and training new scouts to enhance forest protection with funding from the Water Sector Trust Fund. 94 community members (65men, 29 women) on were trained on participatory forest disturbance assessment to strengthen forest protection and monitoring (Annex 45-<i>CFAs</i></p>

Project summary	Measurable Indicators	Progress and Achievements April 2018- March 2021																															
		<i>training report).</i>																															
Activity 3.2: Convene the Mt Kenya CFAs forum to coordinate and communicate efforts and agree resource mobilisation approaches for Mt Kenya restoration		<p>This activity was completed and achieved. Mt. Kenya CFAs forum was convened to provide inputs to the Mt. Kenya Forest ecosystem services assessment report, Mt. Kenya restoration strategy 2019-2029 and Mt. Kenya Forest business case for sustainable restoration aimed at coordination and communication on forest restoration. In the business case, a breakdown of costs of seedling production, planting and site maintenance is outlined. This provides a baseline costs of resource mobilisation for the CFAs that eliminates losses and burden to the CFAs.</p> <p>The CFAs developed site-based forest conservation action plans (Annex 19-32) which coordinated communication and resource mobilisation approaches. As a result, CFAs were able to convene site-based meetings (Annex 34-40 <i>CFA business sector meeting minutes</i>) and also CFAs communicated their restoration approaches for resource mobilisation through local radio programs (Annex 89- <i>recording of local radio talk shows</i>)</p>																															
Activity 3.3: Train 12 FACs (CFAs/SSG) and establish tree nurseries to restore 500 Ha as a 'restoration demonstration' by end of year 2.		<p>This activity was completed and achieved. In partnership with Kenya Forest Service, station managers, we trained 323 community representatives (205men, 118women) from 12 CFAs on tree nursery establishment and management (Annex 44). Following the training, 12 CFAs were supported with were supported with certified indigenous tree species seeds from Kenya Forestry Research Institute, seedling potting materials, and a 5000-liter water tank per CFA to enhance their tree seedling production for Mt. Kenya Forest restoration. As a result, the supported CFAs increased their capacity in tree seedling production from 1.3million seedlings in Year 1 to 3.7million tree seedlings in Year 3 (Annex 44 pg 6). This enabled to the CFAs to restore 1854ha by end of project (see Annex 44 pg 7).</p> <p>Extract from see Annex 44 pg 7 Table 2: Degraded Mt.Kenya forest area restored by CFAs between 2018 to 2020</p> <table border="1" data-bbox="1155 1054 1989 1449"> <thead> <tr> <th rowspan="2">CFA</th> <th colspan="3">Degraded Mt.Kenya Forest area Restored (Area in Ha)</th> </tr> <tr> <th>2018</th> <th>2019</th> <th>2020</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Njukiiri</td> <td>20</td> <td>100</td> <td>25</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Irangi</td> <td>50</td> <td>78</td> <td>50</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Chuka</td> <td>15</td> <td>60</td> <td>40</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Ruthumbi</td> <td>50</td> <td>37</td> <td>0</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Mweru Biankure</td> <td>10</td> <td>35</td> <td>105</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Mefecap</td> <td>10</td> <td>10</td> <td>30</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	CFA	Degraded Mt.Kenya Forest area Restored (Area in Ha)			2018	2019	2020	Njukiiri	20	100	25	Irangi	50	78	50	Chuka	15	60	40	Ruthumbi	50	37	0	Mweru Biankure	10	35	105	Mefecap	10	10	30
CFA	Degraded Mt.Kenya Forest area Restored (Area in Ha)																																
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Project summary	Measurable Indicators	Progress and Achievements April 2018- March 2021			
		Lower imenti	200	75	130
		Nyambene	49.1	30	65
		Ngaya	5	15	18
		Ntimaka	50	35	50
		Ontulili	130	120	116
		Ntugi	5	2	0
		Chehe		5.2	12
		Ragati		12	5
			594.1	614.2	646
<p>Activity 3.4: Support the CFAs to develop financing agreements with businesses for short and long-term financing approaches</p>	<p>This activity was completed and achieved. We supported CFAs to develop financing agreement which could considered when engaging with financing partners (Annex 90- <i>generic finance agreement</i>). CFAs were also trained in negotiation skills, finance and project management (Annex 17-18). It was noted that majority of finance providers, preferred to use their own formats of financing agreements. This was recorded with CFAs signing financing agreement with Water Sector Trust Fund (Annex 41-42) and Mweru CFA with Meru County government (Annex 43)</p>				
<p>Activity 3.5: Collect biodiversity baseline data for selected species at start and annually and compare to baseline</p>	<p>This activity was completed and achieved. Working with lead biodiversity experts from the National Museums of Kenya, 5 trained community members participated in assessing biodiversity in 10 transects in the Mt. Kenya Forest. The populations of bird species remained stable in natural forest habitats (Annex 14- <i>End of project biodiversity survey report</i>). The mean species richness in natural forest showed slight increase from 10 recorded during baseline to 11 species recorded at this end of project biodiversity assessment. Indigenous natural forest had the highest mean species diversity index of $H' = 1.9422$ followed by indigenous forest restoration areas $H' = 1.6851$ with the plantation forest restoration areas recording the lowest diversity index of $H' = 0.8174$.</p>				
<p>Activity 3.6: Produce annual status and trends report and disseminate to decision makers</p>	<p>This activity was completed and achieved. We produced the 2018 (Annex 58) and 2019 (Annex 59) Kenya Key Biodiversity Areas Status and Trends Reports. The reports were co-authored with experts from National Museums of Kenya, Kenya Forest Service, National Environment Management Authority, Kenya Wildlife Service and Nature Kenya. Each year 2000 copies of the report were printed for dissemination to various duty bearers nationally. This report was used as key contribution for Kenya NBSAP process (Annex 91) and compilation of the 6th National Report to the CBD (Annex 56)</p>				
<p>Output 4. 4. Poor forest adjacent people living around Mt Kenya are empowered to derive</p>	<p>4.1. Fuel wood consumption reduced by 30% compared to baseline</p>	<p>4.1. The indicator was achieved. We supported 1000 women headed households to adopt energy efficient cookstoves that reduced fuelwood consumption by 40-50% (Annex 48) by end of Year 1 and support 3 local schools to be Climate Smart Demonstration Schools (Macharia,</p>			

Project summary	Measurable Indicators	Progress and Achievements April 2018- March 2021
<p>additional benefits/incentives from nature-based livelihood activities that support forest restoration</p>	<p>due to adoption of clean cook stoves by 1000 households (especially poor women headed households) and 20 schools from year 2</p> <p>4.2 Business owner's (female and male) capacity to develop sustainable income generating activities (honey, ecotourism) scaled up and production of target nature-based enterprises enhanced.</p> <p>4.3 300 beehives increase income (by £14,000) of 300 households (1800 people—equal female and men) forest dependent communities participating in the management of 20,000 of the 271,000 Ha of Mt Kenya forest ecosystem by year 3</p>	<p>Kiboya, Mutunguru primary schools) with institutional energy saving cookstoves. As a result of this initiative the 3 climate smart demonstration schools who adopted energy efficient cookstoves that reduced fuel wood consumption by 60%. These demonstration schools were able to reach 19 other schools in their locality, with lessons shared with 8000 school children and 5000 parents (see Annex 48 pg 6-7). Total carbon saving from the energy saving technology in schools is 45TCarbon/year/school.</p> <p>4.2. The indicator was achieved. We enhanced the capacity of the business owners to develop sustainable income generating activities which included beekeeping, ecotourism and tree nurseries. We developed beekeeping and tree nurseries business plans (Annex 49) which would provide a guide for capacity building. As a result, 320 community members (215men, 105women) were trained on beekeeping enterprise management (Annex 50); and 365 community members (160women, 205men) were trained on tree nursery management (see Annex 44). In partnership with Kenya Wildlife Service, Kenya Tourism Development Board and county governments of Meru, Nyeri and Tharaka-Nthi we strengthened ecotourism by training 214 (207men, 7women) potters and mountaineering guides on improvement of eco-tourism packages in Mt. Kenya Forest (Annex 51-52).</p> <p>4.3. The indicator was achieved. We supported 300 households organised around the Community Forest Associations with 300 beehives and 30 honey harvesting kits were procured towards supporting community nature-based enterprises aimed at increasing household incomes. 320 community members (215men, 105women) were trained on bee keeping husbandry (Annex 50 pg 9-47; <i>training reports</i>) and mentorship provided. The community harvested 6963kg of honey earning the community £43,024 by end of the project (see Annex 50)</p>
<p>Activity 4.1: Conduct baseline and end of project household surveys to assess amongst other things diet, income, fuel use to help monitor progress and inform HH selection for Beekeeping training and energy saving support.</p>		<p>This activity was completed and achieved. Baseline socioeconomic assessment was carried out and was integrated into the Mt. Kenya Forest Ecosystem Services Assessment Report (Annex 8 pg 14-16 of the report). It was noted that 95% of the forest adjacent household use fuel wood as main source of cooking energy. Only 42% of household have adopted a form of fuel efficient cookstoves. 28.2% of households around Mt. Kenya Forest, participated in beekeeping as an enterprise, indicating low uptake of this nature-based enterprise. End of project socio-economic survey followed same methodology was carried out (Annex 48, <i>end of project socio-economic survey report</i>)- indicated an increase of 15% in adoption of energy saving cookstoves and reduction of 6% in use of kerosene compared to the baseline data (see Annex 48 pg 6). It was also noted that there was increase of household income where 87% of respondent had a monthly income that ranged from 0 – KSh.15,000 in 2020 compared to 79% in baseline 2018. (see Annex 48 pg. 4).</p>

Project summary	Measurable Indicators	Progress and Achievements April 2018- March 2021
Activity 4.2: Deliver training/mentoring in beekeeping to selected households, develop business plan and add value to honey for marketing		This activity was completed and achieved. We supported 300 households organised around the Community Forest Associations with 300 beehives and 30 honey harvesting kits were procured towards supporting community nature-based enterprises aimed at increasing household incomes. 320 community members (215men, 105women) were trained on bee keeping husbandry (Annex 50 pg 9-47; <i>training reports</i>) and mentorship provided. The community harvested 6963kg of honey earning the community £43,024 by end of the project (see Annex 50). Beneficiary beekeepers were also trained on business planning where working with a business consultant a beekeeping nature-based enterprise business plan was developed to guide the beekeeping enterprise. (<i>Annex 49-beekeeping business plan</i>)
Activity 4.3: Research and document barriers to uptake of energy saving clean cook stoves		This activity was completed and achieved. Research and documentation of barriers of the uptake of energy saving clean cookstoves was captured in the Mt. Kenya Forest Ecosystem Services Assessment Report (see Annex 8, pg 14-16) and End of project Socio-economic survey (Annex 48). The key reasons for the low uptake of the energy saving clean cookstoves was costs of procurement and the lack of skills of fabricating low cost clean cookstoves units.
Activity 4.4: Identify individuals to be provided with energy saving technology and Implement training in energy saving technologies		This activity was completed and achieved. We supported 1000 women headed households to adopt energy efficient cookstoves. The beneficiaries were trained on use and installation of the low-cost energy saving cookstoves. Post installation monitoring was carried out to document energy saving capacity. This was done through interviews on fuel wood consumption compared to previous. As a result, the household cookstoves reduced fuelwood consumption by 40-50% (Annex 48). Overall, there was an increase of 15% in adoption of household energy saving cookstoves and reduction of 6% in use of kerosene compared to the baseline data (see Annex 48 pg 6) as a result of intervention and community awareness on the benefits of the energy saving cookstoves.
Activity 4.5: Identify individuals to be provided with training in wildlife guiding and mountaineering		This activity was completed and achieved. We carried out an assessment to identify individuals or organised groups of guides and mountaineers that operate in Mt. Kenya Forest. Recreation/tourism is an important livelihood activity for the local people living adjacent to Mt. Kenya Forest (see Annex 92_capacity needs assessment report). The recreation value of Mt. Kenya Forest was estimated to be USD15.6 million annually (see Annex 8 pg 26). In April-May 2019, we assessed 12 organized mountaineering guides associations with a total membership of 1451 members (1422men, 29women) and carried out a capacity needs assessment to identify training needs of the guides. Following identification of the groups and individuals, discussions were held with Kenya Wildlife Service tourism department and local county governments on approaches of building the capacity of these local guides and mountaineers' groups.
Activity 4.6: Deliver training/mentoring in wildlife guiding and mountaineering.		This was completed and achieved. In partnership with local county governments, Kenya Wildlife Service and Kenya Tourism Development Board, we trained 214 (207men, 7women) members of organised mountaineering and guides association (Annex 51, Annex 52). These training was delivered collaboratively with. The aim was to increase customer service product

Project summary	Measurable Indicators	Progress and Achievements April 2018- March 2021
		<p>diversification targeting to increase and maintain visitation to approximately 26000 annually visitors by 2020. This would ensure the park would generate £1.7million annually to the economy, with £900,000 earned by the local community as potters and mountain guides. In addition to this, we supported 2 community members to be trained on certificated on Fundamentals of Ornithology course</p>
<p>Output 5. Lessons learned from the project are disseminated to all relevant stakeholders by a Payment for Water Services mainstreamed Nature Kenya.</p>	<p>5.1 Findings and recommendations from the project are shared with Ministry of Environment and Natural Resources and all other relevant bodies at least annually throughout the project (i.e. at the end of each project year).</p> <p>5.2 Lessons on use of fuel wood stoves are adopted by 22 Site Support Groups for transformative scaling up at other 22 sites in Kenya.</p> <p>5.3 Records of subsequent discussions within and among these target groups demonstrate that this dissemination work is effective and that the lessons and recommendations communicated are being taken into account during relevant policy formulation and decision-making processes.</p> <p>5.4. Nature Kenya marketing work programmes include Payment for</p>	<p>5.1. This indicator was achieved. Findings and recommendation from the project were shared with the Ministry of Environment and Forestry and all other relevant bodies where-published the Mt. Kenya Forest Ecosystem Services Assessment report (see Annex 8) and Mt. Kenya Forest Restoration Business case (see Annex 9). The Mt. Kenya Forest restoration strategy 2019-2029 (Annex 7), was officially adopted by Kenya Forest Service-the lead government agency responsible for forest conservation- for implementation. We also shared finding and recommendations in forest restoration partnership meetings at national level (Annex 3-5; see <i>partnership meeting minutes held in August 2019 & September 2020</i>) and Mt. Kenya Forest ecosystem level (Annex 4-6; see <i>minutes of meetings held at Mt. Kenya ecosystem level in 2019 & 2020</i>). To upscale this the initiative, the Mt. Kenya Forest restoration strategy 2019-2020, site-based the approach has contributed lessons to the Kenya Forest and Landscape Restoration Implementation Action Plan 2021-2025 targeting to restore 5.1million Ha pledge under the Bonn Challenge (Annex 12) anchored in the Ministry of Environment and Forestry and coordinated by Kenya Forest Service. Nature Kenya is a member of the Technical Working Group of the development of the Kenya Forest and Landscape Restoration Implementation Action Plan.</p> <p>5.2. This indicator was achieved. To ensure transformative scaling up of lessons generated on use of energy efficient cookstove (see Annex 48 pg 6-7 <i>that documents impact of energy saving cookstoves</i>) at the community level, we shared these lessons to 46 community representatives from 23 SSGs (39 Men, 7 Women) from across Kenya (see Annex 54- <i>National SSG lesson sharing forum report</i>). AS a result, 13 SSGs from across Kenya are actively engaged in promoting adoption of energy efficient cookstoves. In addition, we coordinated a Mt. Kenya site-based CFAs lessons sharing forum (see Annex 55- <i>Project lesson sharing report</i>) which brought together representatives from 18 CFAs (14men, 4women). As a result, the CFAs reported an increase in uptake on use of household energy efficient cookstoves, which has reduced pressure from the forest. This corresponds with the forest disturbance assessment report findings (see Annex 47)</p> <p>5.3. This indicator was achieved. The wide dissemination and communication of project lessons and recommendations, resulted to an increase in mainstreaming of project generated lessons and recommendations in national and county level policy formulation and decision-making process. The lessons and recommendations contributed to- the Kenya NBSAP process</p>

Project summary	Measurable Indicators	Progress and Achievements April 2018- March 2021
	<p>Watershed Services for Mt Kenya and other key water towers</p>	<p>(Annex 91); the development of the 6th National report to the CBD (Annex 56) which is linked to the 5th Global Biodiversity Outlook and Global Biodiversity Strategy 2021-2030; review of the national forest policy (Annex 57); the development of Forests Community Participation in Sustainable Forest Management Rule-2021 (Annex 10- <i>letter of appreciation from Ministry of Environment & Annex 11-final SFM Rules 2021 for gazetting</i>) the development of the National Forest and Landscape Restoration and Implementation Action Plan coordinated by Kenya Forest Service (see Annex 12); development of the Kenya Key Biodiversity Areas Status and Trend report (Annex 58-2018 <i>Kenya KBA Status and Trends Report</i>, Annex 59-2019 <i>Kenya KBA Status and Trend Report</i>). At the county level; 5 Mt. Kenya forest adjacent counties convened stakeholder forums- Meru County (Annex 60- <i>County level water dialogue meeting held in 2019</i>; Annex 61-<i>county partnership with business stakeholder forum held in 2020</i>; Annex 62-<i>stakeholder forum on implementation of Mt. Kenya forest restoration strategy held in 2021</i>), Nyeri County (Annex 63-<i>county partnering with business in Mt.Kenya forest restoration</i>; Annex 64-<i>Nyeri stakeholders meeting on Mt.Kenya forest restoration strategy</i>; Annex 64-<i>newspaper cutting covering the Nyeri county meeting</i>), Kirinyaga County (Annex 66-<i>Kirinyaga county stakeholder forum on mainstreaming Mt.Kenya restoration strategy</i>), Embu County (Annex 67-<i>Embu county stakeholders meeting reporting on the implementation of Mt. Kenya forest restoration strategy</i>), Tharaka Nthi County (Annex 68-<i>TharakaNthi county stakeholder forum on implementation of Mt.Kenya forest strategy</i>) to mainstream Mt. Kenya forest ecosystem services restoration into county level policy processes. As a result, Nyeri, Meru, Embu and Kirinyaga counties set restoration targets anchored in county legislation in particular, Annual Development Plans, Forest Policy and Climate Change Bills.</p> <p>5.4. This indicator was achieved. Nature Kenya fully mainstreamed the Payment for Water Services Mt Kenya forest restoration as part of the institutional activities and approaches for marketing to business at all levels. Nature Kenya has functional partnership with the World Land Trust (WLT) to complement the Darwin Initiative funding allowing the expansion of CFAs from 14 to 34 including 4 in the Aberdare’s Forest (Annex 69). The WLT is providing support for the restoration of 100ha year 2021/22. Nature Kenya signed a 3 year strategic agreement with Safaricom Limited to restore Kenya forest water towers (Annex 70); Nature Kenya signed 3year agreement with BirdLife International to restore 69 ha of degraded forest land in Mt.Kenya forest (Annex 71); Nature Kenya as a functional partnership with Kenya Breweries targeting to restore 200ha of degraded forest area in Mt. Kenya forest (Annex 72); Nature Kenya signed an MoU with CocaCola Kenya (Annex 73 & Annex 73a) to support in delivery of company’s environmental conservation program. Nature Kenya membership organised membership golf tournament to promote Mt.Kenya forest restoration reaching 27 corporates (Annex 74). In addition, they engaged 5 national companies- Dimension data (Annex 75); Total Foundation Kenya (Annex 76); Peptang Foods (Annex 77) and Stanchart Bank (Annex 78) with</p>

Project summary	Measurable Indicators	Progress and Achievements April 2018- March 2021
		<p>an aim of mainstreaming payment for watershed services into business sector. The BirdLife International has recognised the approach used by Nature Kenya in restoration of Mt Kenya. The business case approach is considered innovative and ground breaking. As a result, Nature Kenya is part of the global Trillion Trees initiative where BirdLife, WWF and the WCS are partners to grow one-trillion trees globally (Link). Also, Nature Kenya is part of the Forest Landscapes Sustainability Accelerator program (Link) managed by BirdLife International. Through the Forest Landscapes Sustainability Accelerator program, Nature Kenya staff are gaining new skills through training and mentorship on innovative restoration financing models and help in increasing visibility of Mt. Kenya Forest restoration through global platforms to mobilize resources for Community Forest Associations restoration programs. Nature Kenya has included Mt Kenya among the scaling up sites for the GEF/UNEP Forest Landscape Restoration Initiative where Nature Kenya is one among 11 projects in 10 countries that are restoring forest landscapes under the name The Restoration Initiative.</p>
<p>Activity 5.1: Mainstream PWS approach into Nature Kenya marketing for beyond project PWS partnership development</p>		<p>This activity was completed and achieved. Nature Kenya fully mainstreamed the Payment for Water Services Mt Kenya forest restoration as part of the institutional activities and approaches for marketing to business at all levels. As a result, new partnerships were developed-Nature Kenya has functional partnership with the World Land Trust supporting restoration of Mt Kenya and Aberdare forest (Annex 69); a 3 year strategic partnership agreement was signed between Nature Kenya and Safaricom Limited to restore Mt. Kenya forest and forest water towers (Annex 70); Nature Kenya signed 3year agreement with BirdLife International to 69 ha of degraded forest land in Mt.Kenya forest (Annex 71); Nature Kenya is in a functional partnership with Kenya Breweries targeting to restore 200ha of degraded forest area in Mt. Kenya forest (Annex 72); Nature Kenya signed a 3 year MoU with CocaCola Kenya to promote forest restoration PWS (Annex 73) . Nature Kenya membership continues to market Mt.Kenya restoration to corporate through events (Annex 74) to develop new partnerships with private sector. As a result, companies have requested and considered partnership proposals-Dimension data (Annex 75); Total Foundation Kenya (Annex 76); Peptang Foods (Annex 77) and Stanchart Bank (Annex 78).</p> <p>Nature Kenya is part of the global Trillion Trees initiative where BirdLife, WWF and the WCS are partners to grow one-trillion trees globally (Link). Also, Nature Kenya is part of the Forest Landscapes Sustainability Accelerator program (Link) managed by BirdLife International. Through the Forest Landscapes Sustainability Accelerator program, Nature Kenya staff are gaining new skills through training and mentorship on innovative restoration financing models and help in increasing visibility of Mt. Kenya Forest restoration through global platforms to mobilize resources for Community Forest Associations restoration programs. Nature Kenya has included Mt Kenya among the scaling up sites for the GEF/UNEP Forest Landscape Restoration Initiative where Nature Kenya is one among 11 projects in 10 countries that are</p>

Project summary	Measurable Indicators	Progress and Achievements April 2018- March 2021
		<p>restoring forest landscapes under the name The Restoration Initiative.</p> <p>This indicates that PWS approach has been fully mainstreamed to Nature Kenya program catalysed by this project that will go beyond the project funding</p>
<p>Activity 5.2: Produce and distribute tailored business case awareness materials to stakeholders</p>		<p>This activity was completed and achieved. We produced 2000 copies of the Mt. Kenya forest restoration business case (Annex 9); 1000 copies of the Mt. Kenya Forest Ecosystem Services report (Annex 8);1000 copies of the Mt. Kenya Forest restoration strategy 2019-2029 (Annex 7) which were be shared with targeted stakeholders nationally in forums described in (Annex 61-68). More copies were distributed with support of KFS to nationally through ecosystem level managers (Annex 93 <i>handover of documents in to KFS Head of Conservancy Eastern</i>).</p>
<p>Activity 5.3: Awareness events including important world days (e.g. WED/WWD) organised to share lessons and experiences</p>		<p>This activity was completed and achieved. We participated in awareness events and important world days where we presented sha shared lesson and experiences from generated from the project. We produced an awareness 2019 calendar on importance of Mt. Kenya Forest (Annex 94) which was shared nationally, at Mt. Kenya ecosystem level and among 1000 Nature Kenya members. Lesson from Mt. Kenya Forest were shared in global The Restoration Initiative program upscaling restoration in the Tana Delta (Annex 53), and BirdLife Forest Restoration Accelerator program with lessons captured in Trillion Trees Impact Report 2016-2020 (Annex 95). We marked annual World Environment Day, in partnership with government agencies NEMA, county governments and Ministry of Environment and Forestry, we participated in talks and webinars (Annex 96-97), produced communication materials i.e., banners, stickers; shared materials resulting from Mt. Kenya project i.e., Mt. Kenya Ecosystem Services Assessment Report, Mt. Kenya Restoration Business Case we produced, Community Guide on PES; were shared public stands.</p> <p>In line with the theme of forest restoration, in collaboration with National Environment Management Authority hosted a national awareness meeting to mark the World Day to Combat Desertification, with key messages on the importance of forest and landscape restoration, was delivered reaching approximately 500 local community members and more via local media broadcasting (Annex 98). In partnership with Meru County, we created community awareness on importance during World Wetlands Day 2019 with connecting river water quality and quantity with Mt. Kenya Forest quality (Annex 99)</p> <p>Nature Kenya participated in panel discussions on Environmental Conservation as a catalyst for water resources regeneration in a Clean Water Conference held on 6th and 7th November 2019 (Annex 88) where we shared lessons from Mt. Kenya Forest restoration and the contribution towards water replenishment ecosystem services.</p> <p>We participated in an open career and research fair hosted by Chuka University (Annex 100 &</p>

Project summary	Measurable Indicators	Progress and Achievements April 2018- March 2021
		<p>Annex 100a) from 3rd to 5th March 2020, which provided an opportunity to share a variety of project publications. We were able to create a link for local CFAs to get additional support towards forest restoration from local youths</p> <p>In partnership with local CFAs, a total of 14 local radio talk shows with listeners nationally and around Mt. Kenya Forest, with the theme of partnering in forest restoration for the benefit of local community livelihoods (Annex 89).</p> <p>Lessons and experiences from the project were shared through Darwin Initiative Newsletter where 3 articles were published- Control of Plastic Pollution (Annex 101), Gender Integration in Program activities (Annex 102), Control of Invasive Plant species (Annex 103). Furthermore, lessons were shared through national print media (Annex 104) where coverage of CFA led forest restoration was done mentioning the support from Darwin Initiative. In addition, articles on from Mt. Kenya were published in the monthly Nature Net Newsletter (Annex 105-107) and annual Kenya Birding Magazine (Annex 108) which is distributed nationally and in the UK Bird Fair.</p>
<p>Activity 5.4: Payment for water services guide for CBOs is developed and shared with communities across Mt Kenya and SSGs in other Key Biodiversity Areas (KBAs) across Kenya.</p>		<p>This activity was completed and achieved. We developed a Payment for Water Services Community Guide (Annex 33), and published 2000 copies which were shared with 28 CFAs around Mt.Kenya, 5 CFAs in Aberdare Forest, 25 SSGs from other Key Biodiversity Areas including- Tana Delta, Muumoni, Mutitu, Taita Hills Forest, Dakatcha Woodland, Arabuko Sokoke, Yala Wetland, South Nandi Forest, North Nandi Forest just to mention a few. This publication shared with wider community during awareness events mentioned in Activity 5.3 above.</p>
<p>Activity 5.5: Lessons on use of fuel wood stoves are share with and promoted to Site Support Groups during national SSGs forum for transformative scaling up at other 22 sites in Kenya.</p>		<p>This activity was completed and achieved. We documented impacts and lessons of use of fuel efficient cookstoves at household level and within learning institutions resulting from the project. We shared these lessons to 46 community representatives from 23 SSGs (39 Men, 7 Women) from across Kenya (see Annex 54- National SSG lesson sharing forum report) held between 23rd and 27th September 2019. As a result, 13 SSGs from across Kenya are actively engaged in promoting adoption of energy efficient cookstoves. In addition, the continued awareness creation, we coordinated a Mt. Kenya site-based CFAs lessons sharing forum (see Annex 55- Project lesson sharing report) which brought together representatives from 18 CFAs (14men, 4women). As a result, the CFAs reported an increase in uptake on use of household energy efficient cookstoves, which has reduced pressure from the forest. This corresponds with the end of project socio economic survey report (Annex 48) which indicated increase in adoption of energy efficient cookstove at household level</p>

Annex 3 Standard Measures

We use these figures as part of our evaluation of the wider impact of the Darwin Initiative programme. Projects are not evaluated according to quantity. That is – projects that report few standard measures are not seen as being of poorer quality than those projects which can report against multiple standard measures.

Please quantify and briefly describe all project standard measures using the coding and format of the Darwin Initiative Standard Measures. Download the updated list explaining standard measures from <http://darwin.defra.gov.uk/resources/reporting/>. If any sections are not relevant, please leave blank.

Code	Description	Total	Nationality	Gender	Title or Focus	Language	Comments
Training Measures							
1a	Number of people to submit PhD thesis						
1b	Number of PhD qualifications obtained						
2	Number of Masters qualifications obtained						
3	Number of other qualifications obtained						
4a	Number of undergraduate students receiving training						
4b	Number of training weeks provided to undergraduate students						
4c	Number of postgraduate students receiving training (not 1-3 above)						
4d	Number of training weeks for postgraduate students						
5	Number of people receiving other forms of long-term (>1yr) training not leading to formal qualification (e.g., not categories 1-4 above)						
6a	Number of people receiving other forms of short-term education/training (e.g., not categories 1-5 above)	1105	Kenyan	348women, 757men	214 people trained on-mountaineering and guiding; 320 people trained on-		

					beekeeping; 365 community members trained on-tree nursery establishment and management; 67 people trained on NBEs business planning; 109 people trained on-biodiversity monitoring and forest disturbance; 30 people trained on questionnaire survey protocols		
6b	Number of training weeks not leading to formal qualification						
7	Number of types of training materials produced for use by host country(s) (describe training materials)	1	Kenya		Payment for Ecosystem Services Guideline for Community to Engage in Forest Restoration	English	

Research Measures		Total	Nationality	Gender	Title	Language	Comments/ Weblink if available
9	Number of species/habitat management plans (or action plans) produced for Governments, public authorities or other implementing agencies in the host country (ies)	1			Mt. Kenya Forest Restoration Strategy 2019-2029	English	Participatory process
10	Number of formal documents produced to assist work related to species identification, classification and recording.	1			Mt. Kenya Forest Ecosystem Services Assessment Report	English	2000 copies produced
11a	Number of papers published or accepted for publication in peer reviewed journals						
11b	Number of papers published or accepted for publication elsewhere						
12a	Number of computer-based databases established (containing species/generic information) and handed over to host country						
12b	Number of computer-based databases enhanced (containing species/genetic information) and handed over to host country						
13a	Number of species reference collections established and handed over to host country(s)						
13b	Number of species reference collections enhanced and handed over to host country(s)						

Dissemination Measures	Total	Nationality	Gender	Theme	Language	Comments
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Dissemination Measures		Total	Nationality	Gender	Theme	Language	Comments
14a	Number of conferences/seminars/workshops organised to present/disseminate findings from Darwin project work	9	Kenya		Water Forum-Meru County 8 County level workshops- Partnership with business for forest restoration & Implementation of Mt. Kenya forest restoration strategy 2019-2029	English	
14b	Number of conferences/seminars/ workshops attended at which findings from Darwin project work will be presented/ disseminated.	2	Kenya		Enablers of the Government Big 4 Agenda- Payment for Ecosystem Services Clean water conference- Lake Basin Region	English	

Physical Measures		Total	Comments
20	Estimated value (£s) of physical assets handed over to host country(s)		
21	Number of permanent educational, training, research facilities or organisation established		

Physical Measures		Total	Comments
22	Number of permanent field plots established		Please describe

Financial Measures		Total	Nationality	Gender	Theme	Language	Comments
23	Value of additional resources raised from other sources (e.g., in addition to Darwin funding) for project work <i>(please note that the figure provided here should align with financial information provided in section 9.2)</i>						

Annex 4 Aichi Targets

Please note which of the Aichi targets your project has contributed to.

Please record only the **main targets** to which your project has contributed. It is recognised that most Darwin projects make a smaller contribution to many other targets in their work. You will not be evaluated more favourably if you tick multiple boxes.

	Aichi Target	Tick if applicable to your project
1	People are aware of the values of biodiversity and the steps they can take to conserve and use it sustainably.	√
2	Biodiversity values have been integrated into national and local development and poverty reduction strategies and planning processes and are being incorporated into national accounting, as appropriate, and reporting systems.	√
3	Incentives, including subsidies, harmful to biodiversity are eliminated, phased out or reformed in order to minimize or avoid negative impacts, and positive incentives for the conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity are developed and applied, consistent and in harmony with the Convention and other relevant international obligations, taking into account national socio economic conditions.	√
4	Governments, business and stakeholders at all levels have taken steps to achieve or have implemented plans for sustainable production and consumption and have kept the impacts of use of natural resources well within safe ecological limits.	√
5	The rate of loss of all natural habitats, including forests, is at least halved and where feasible brought close to zero, and degradation and fragmentation is significantly reduced.	√
6	All fish and invertebrate stocks and aquatic plants are managed and harvested sustainably, legally and applying ecosystem based approaches, so that overfishing is avoided, recovery plans and measures are in place for all depleted species, fisheries have no significant adverse impacts on threatened species and vulnerable ecosystems and the impacts of fisheries on stocks, species and ecosystems are within safe ecological limits.	
7	Areas under agriculture, aquaculture and forestry are managed sustainably, ensuring conservation of biodiversity.	√
8	Pollution, including from excess nutrients, has been brought to levels that are not detrimental to ecosystem function and biodiversity.	
9	Invasive alien species and pathways are identified and prioritized, priority species are controlled or eradicated, and measures are in place to manage pathways to prevent their introduction and establishment.	√
10	The multiple anthropogenic pressures on coral reefs, and other vulnerable ecosystems impacted by climate change or ocean acidification are minimized, so as to maintain their integrity and functioning.	
11	At least 17 per cent of terrestrial and inland water, and 10 per cent of coastal and marine areas, especially areas of particular importance for biodiversity and ecosystem services, are conserved through effectively and equitably managed, ecologically representative and well connected systems of protected areas and other effective area-based conservation measures, and integrated into the wider landscapes and seascapes.	√
12	The extinction of known threatened species has been prevented and their conservation status, particularly of those most in decline, has been improved and sustained.	√
13	The genetic diversity of cultivated plants and farmed and domesticated animals and	

	of wild relatives, including other socio-economically as well as culturally valuable species, is maintained, and strategies have been developed and implemented for minimizing genetic erosion and safeguarding their genetic diversity.	
14	Ecosystems that provide essential services, including services related to water, and contribute to health, livelihoods and well-being, are restored and safeguarded, taking into account the needs of women, indigenous and local communities, and the poor and vulnerable.	√
15	Ecosystem resilience and the contribution of biodiversity to carbon stocks has been enhanced, through conservation and restoration, including restoration of at least 15 per cent of degraded ecosystems, thereby contributing to climate change mitigation and adaptation and to combating desertification.	√
16	The Nagoya Protocol on Access to Genetic Resources and the Fair and Equitable Sharing of Benefits Arising from their Utilization is in force and operational, consistent with national legislation.	
17	Each Party has developed, adopted as a policy instrument, and has commenced implementing an effective, participatory and updated national biodiversity strategy and action plan.	√
18	The traditional knowledge, innovations and practices of indigenous and local communities relevant for the conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity, and their customary use of biological resources, are respected, subject to national legislation and relevant international obligations, and fully integrated and reflected in the implementation of the Convention with the full and effective participation of indigenous and local communities, at all relevant levels.	√
19	Knowledge, the science base and technologies relating to biodiversity, its values, functioning, status and trends, and the consequences of its loss, are improved, widely shared and transferred, and applied.	√
20	The mobilization of financial resources for effectively implementing the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011-2020 from all sources, and in accordance with the consolidated and agreed process in the Strategy for Resource Mobilization should increase substantially from the current levels. This target will be subject to changes contingent to resource needs assessments to be developed and reported by Parties.	√

Annex 5 Publications

Provide full details of all publications and material that can be publicly accessed, e.g. title, name of publisher, contact details. Mark (*) all publications and other material that you have included with this report

Type * (e.g. journals, manual, CDs)	Detail (title, author, year)	Nationality of lead author	Nationality of institution of lead author	Gender of lead author	Publishers (name, city)	Available from (e.g. web link, contact address etc)
Technical *	Ecosystem Service Assessment for the Restoration of Mount Kenya Forest; Paul K. Muoria, Paul Gacheru, Paul Matiku, Rob Field, Edward Njagi, Milka Musyioki, Martin Kiama, Dickens Odeny, James Mwang'ombe- (2019)	Kenya	Kenya, Kenyatta University	Male	Nature Kenya	http://naturekenya.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/10/Mt.-Kenya-Ecosystem-Services-Assessment-FINAL.pdf
Technical *	Mount Kenya Forest Restoration Strategy 2019-2029- Kenya Forest Service (2019)	Kenya	Kenya Forest Service		Nature Kenya	
Technical *	Management and Conservation of Mt. Kenya Forest-Business case for Sustainable Restoration; Matiku Paul, Gacheru Paul, Muoria Paul and Waswa Gloria. (2019)	Kenya	Kenya-Nature Kenya	Male	Nature Kenya	http://naturekenya.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/10/Mt.-Kenya-Business-Case.pdf
Technical *	Kenya's Key Biodiversity Areas: Status and Trends 2019-Gacheru, P., Mutunga,	Kenya	Kenya-Nature Kenya	Male	Nature Kenya	

	J., Mwinami, T., Ngw'eno, F., Matiku, P., Mulwa, R., Ngoru, B., R., Wanjohi, H., Chege, N., Mwang'ombe, J., (2020)..					
Technical *	Kenya's Key Biodiversity Areas: Status and Trends 2018: Gacheru, P., Mutunga, J., Mwinami, T., Ngw'eno, F., Matiku, P., Mulwa, R., Mungai, P., Wanjohi, H., Mwang'ombe, J., Ileri, P.(2019).	Kenya	Kenya-Nature Kenya	Male	Nature Kenya	

Annex 6 Darwin Contacts

Ref No	25-031
Project Title	Partnering with Business for Restoration of Mt.Kenya Ecosystem Services
Project Leader Details	
Name	Paul Matiku
Role within Darwin Project	Project leader
Address	
Phone	
Fax/Skype	
Email	
Partner 1	
Name	NA
Organisation	
Role within Darwin Project	
Address	
Fax/Skype	
Email	
Partner 2 etc.	
Name	NA
Organisation	
Role within Darwin Project	
Address	
Fax/Skype	
Email	

Checklist for submission

	Check
Is the report less than 10MB? If so, please email to Darwin-Projects@ltsi.co.uk putting the project number in the Subject line.	√
Is your report more than 10MB? If so, please discuss with Darwin-Projects@ltsi.co.uk about the best way to deliver the report, putting the project number in the Subject line.	√
If you are submitting photos for publicity purposes, do these meet the outlined requirements (see section 10)?	
Have you included means of verification? You should not submit every project document, but the main outputs and a selection of the others would strengthen the report.	√
Do you have hard copies of material you need to submit with the report? If so, please make this clear in the covering email and ensure all material is marked with the project number. However, we would expect that most material will now be electronic.	
Have you involved your partners in preparation of the report and named the main contributors	√
Have you completed the Project Expenditure table fully?	√
Do not include claim forms or other communications with this report.	