

Darwin Initiative Main: Annual Report

To be completed with reference to the “Project Reporting Information Note”:
(<https://www.darwininitiative.org.uk/resources-for-projects/information-notes-learning-notes-briefing-papers-and-reviews/>).

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

Submission Deadline: 30th April 2023

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Darwin Initiative Project Information

Project reference	29-004 Darwin Initiative Annual Year Report
Project title	Kaya Connect: Restoring the Eastern Africa Coastal Forest Biodiversity Hotspot
Country/ies	Kenya
Lead Partner	Botanic Garden Conservation International
Project partner(s)	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Kenya Forest Service 2. National Museums of Kenya 3. Little Environmental Action Foundation 4. Mandhari Plants & Designs 5. International Tree Foundation 6. Kilifi County Government 7. Kivukoni Indigenous Tree Nursery
Darwin Initiative grant value	£ 524,286.00
Start/end dates of project	01 June 2022 - 31 March 2025
Reporting period (e.g. Apr 2022 – Mar 2023) and number (e.g. Annual Report 1, 2, 3)	01 June 2022 – 31 March 2023 Annual Report 1
Project Leader name	Cristina Coletto (maternity cover for Kirsty Shaw)
Project website/blog/social media	Website: www.bgci.org Facebook 1: Botanic Gardens Conservation International Facebook 2: African Botanic Garden Network Twitter: Botanic Gardens Conservation International Twitter: African Botanic Garden Network
Report author(s) and date	Cristina Coletto and Roniance Adhiambo April 2023

1. Project summary

30% of the world’s tree species are threatened (BGCI, State of the World's Trees report, 2021). Huge tree planting and restoration pledges are being made worldwide. The focus is on planting trees in high numbers for carbon capture, rather than species diversity and livelihoods. The Ten Golden Rules for Reforestation (DiSacco, et al. 2021) and Kew Declaration (The Declaration

Drafting Committee, 2021) highlight the need for a better approach, but action on the ground is needed too. Kenya has 1,113 native tree species, 146 of which are threatened. The biggest threats to coastal trees in Kenya are habitat loss for agriculture, residential and tourism development (BGCI, 2020). Forest patches in Kilifi County contain 51 threatened tree species and represent some of the last remaining fragments of the Eastern African Coastal Forest (EACF) biodiversity hotspot. EACF has the lowest percentage of remaining intact vegetation of African hotspots and the third lowest globally (Habel, et al., 2019), making it a restoration priority.

COVID-19 has halted tourism, caused job losses, and people have returned to rural areas, increasing pressure on natural resources, including harvesting for charcoal, timber and medicine. Forest patches, confined to protected reserves, sacred kaya forests and unprotected fragments, are all under strain and visibly declining.

Kenya has made a 5.1-million-hectare pledge to the Bonn Challenge. The national-level restoration map produced in 2016 highlights some potential for restoration of natural forests in Kilifi County (the focus area for this application) but a much larger area is designated for plantations, agroforestry (both of which largely use non-native species) and bamboo planting (again relying on exotic species). Kenya has a single native bamboo species but found in upland areas not at the coast). These proposed interventions are putting economic benefit before biodiversity and could potentially cause significant harm to an already heavily degraded and fragile biodiversity hotspot. A review of tree-planting organisations operating in Kenya undertaken by BGCI found that only 8% of named tree species being planted are threatened.

This project will re-connect forest fragments in coastal Kenya, benefitting people and threatened trees, by mapping forest fragments, improving seed supply, protecting and restoring sites for connectivity, providing training and jobs and securing long-term political and public support.

2. Project stakeholders/ partners

The Kaya connect project has been very collaborative. At the application stage of the project, the partners who were listed were Kenya Forest Service, National Museums of Kenya, Pwani University, The Little Environment Action Foundation (LEAF); Kivukoni Indigenous Tree Nursery; Mandhari Plants and Designs/Gede Tropical Nursery; International Tree Foundation (ITF) and the County Government of Kilifi. The project has been able to foster successful partnerships with these project partners, with each of them focusing on their responsibilities within the project, as well as helping the other partners fulfil their responsibilities where necessary.

The project partners along with other interested and affected parties, form the Project Steering Committee. This committee is responsible for planning and ensuring proper delivery of the objectives of the project. The Project Steering committee consists of 13 members who are representatives from each of the partners and important stakeholders. The committee has held one planning meeting since its formal inception.

At the onset of the project, all the project partners were involved in the inception workshop of the project, that was followed by 2 other planning workshops for developing implementation plans for the different components of the project. There is also a WhatsApp platform and a mailing list for all the project partners to keep them updated on the progress of the project; share information and make decisions with regards to the implementation of the various components of the project. In the course of the project, other partners who have been highly instrumental in achieving the targets reported so far, were added to the project. They included Friends of Arabuko Sokoke Forest, Catholic Diocese of Malindi and Green Hearts of Kenya.

The achievements and strengths from the effective collaboration among the partners includes:

- Establishment of a collaborative network to share information and exchange knowledge on propagation protocols and planting techniques.
- Sharing of seed and other propagation materials among the nursery partners.
- Mutual capacity building. For instance, when a team from National Museums of Kenya is going for a collection mission, they will communicate and bring on board the staff from Green Hearts of Kenya and the LEAF charity, enabling them to work and learn together in the Kaya forests.

- Collaborations in terms of education and advocacy on indigenous tree planting among the communities in the project areas. Joint community meetings have helped in reinforcing the message to the communities.
- Cross identification of opportunities for learning, dependencies and gaps which other skilled partners can help fill for the less skilled partners in the project.
- Easy decision because of the good working relationship and effective collaboration that has been fostered.

There are no significant challenges that have been experienced, only with contentions over some decisions, but these were easily resolved. Aside from the listed partners, the project has also worked with the Community Forest Associations and Kaya forests elders and community members at the local level. The members of these groups have been collecting seeds and they are coordinating the selection of the 1000 farmers/households for the project. They have also been acting as advocates for indigenous tree planting and restoration within their communities. The project has also enlisted the expertise of various technical experts in the different components. We have worked with restoration consultants and formed a restoration advisory group that consists of restoration and plant conservation experts from all over the world, and especially with experience in Kenya. We have also invited various local organizations working in Kilifi to the workshops we have held, to get their experience and learn from the work they have done that is in line with the components of the Kaya Connect project. We have collaborated with La Farge; Nature Kenya; Kenya Forestry Research Institute (KEFRI); Centre for Ecosystem Restoration, Kenya; and African Forest among others.

3. Project progress

3.1 Progress in carrying out project Activities

Major progress has been made towards carrying out the project activities as was outlined in the project logical framework.

Under output 1: Remaining Forest fragments mapped and their potential as seed sources or tree islands better understood.

Activity 1.1.1 Collate existing maps and species lists for forests of Kilifi County, including analysis of herbarium vouchers

During year 1 of the project, we brought the project partners together to help in identification of the remaining forest fragments in Kilifi County, and this information was also complemented by literature on the same. A [shared google earth](#) project was then created to enable mapping or adding shape files of the remaining forest fragments to the maps. The existing forest fragments include Arabuko Sokoke Forest, Dakacha woodlands, Mwangea hill, Kizungo hill, Nzovuni hill, Kachoroni hill, Kaya forests (Kaya Bomu, Kaya Fimboni, Kaya Mudzimuvya, Kaya Mudzimwiru, Kaya Jibana, Kaya Kambe, Kaya Chonyi, Kaya Ribe, Kaya Chivara, Kaya Fungo, Kaya Kauma, Kaya Tsookero), Pangani rocks, Mwarakaya rocks, and Chasimba rocks. We conducted research on the forest fragments, being able to collate substantial information on some of them, on their potential as seed sources. This included literature available on the internet, and the information from project partners from previous surveys that they had conducted. BGCI having worked in some of the forest fragments before, also understood the ecological status of some of the forest fragments. This information was collated into a brief report (see following activity).

Through the collated maps, we were able to locate each of the forest fragments, and then develop the species list, based on information on the species that are found in some of the forest fragments. Initially we got hundreds of species on the list, which led to development of a criteria for selection of the 154 species of which 41 are to be rare and threatened species (Refer to Annex 5 for the draft list of species). Herbarium vouchers also served as a point of reference for National Museums of Kenya, who were the key partner in developing the species list. The criteria for refining the list included:

- The preferred indigenous trees by the households and farmers, as informed by the socio-economic survey;
- Commercial value of indigenous tree species (food, timber, and other wood and no-wood products and services);
- Rare and threatened indigenous tree species;

- Indigenous trees with potential to grow well, based on recommendations of the nursery and restoration partners in Kilifi County.

Activity 1.1.2 Write a report on the status of remaining forest patches

A report has been developed on the status of the remaining forest fragments. For some of the forest fragments, there is little information available on existing research done on the sites, and it would require conducting extensive research to be able to understand their potential as seed sources. Hence, this was the basis of deciding on which areas to focus on, for beginning seed collection in the first year of the project. In the subsequent years, further research will be conducted to inform the status of the other forest fragments and whether they can serve as potential seed sources (Refer to Annex 6 for the report on the forest fragments).

Activity 1.2.1 Obtain satellite imagery and drone images for remnant forest patches and potential restoration sites.

A GIS, mapping and drone consultant was contracted in year one of the project, to enable the development of maps and images for potential restoration sites and the remaining forest fragments. The main objective was to develop county level GIS maps showing the details of remaining forest fragments within Kilifi County and the coastal biodiversity strip and understand their potential as seed sources and tree islands and enable restoration towards reconnecting the existing forest fragments. The consultant's team was also supposed to obtain satellite images of the remnant forest patches and potential restoration sites and develop a restoration map that details the characteristics of the restoration site and the restoration approaches.

During sourcing for the consultant, and getting budgets and proposal based on the terms of reference, it was noted that it would be very expensive to obtain satellite images. Therefore, a decision was made to use the free satellite images, and then combine those with ground truthing, to be able to get a map that is reflective of the situation on the ground. The initial draft maps have been developed and revisions on the maps are currently ongoing. The map is intended to be published online in year 2 of the project.

Activity 1.2.2 Visit sites for verification, identify and obtain GPS points for mother trees and populations

In collaboration with the project partners and the casuals working as seed collectors and monitors, site verifications have been done in the forest fragments that had been selected as seed sources (Kaya Rabai, Kaya Kauma, Kaya Kambe, Kaya Ribe, Kaya Chonyi, Kaya Jibana, Pangani and Arabuko Sokoke forest). The coordinates of the mother trees have also been taken and they have been mapped in the existing maps. This activity will be completed by year 2 for some areas and as all the other tree species in the list of 150 are being located, the same will be done.

Activity 1.2.3 Share data with project team and refine list of project sites before end of year 1

All the data pertaining to the restoration sites was shared with the project partners during one meeting and two workshops. The initial meeting was held online with the project partners for a preliminary sharing of the restoration sites and seed sources that had been put forward by the partners.

After the restoration training (held in January 2023), the list of potential restoration sites and collated information was presented to all partners during a workshop held to define the criterion for selection of the sites. During the workshop, in a participatory way with all partners and stakeholders present, the sites have been selected applying the criteria defined. A final presentation of the sites selected has been done after the baseline ecological surveys being conducted, during the validation workshop, enabling the development of final reports on the project sites (more information on this is given in the subsequent activities).

Activity 1.2.4 Scale up activities 1.2.1 – 1.2.3 across the whole of Kilifi County

We are currently gathering information on the remaining forest fragments and potential restoration sites along the larger Kilifi County, and this activity is set to continue in years 2 and 3 of the project.

Under Output 2: 136 people from marginalised groups in Kilifi County have improved capacity to engage in forest restoration and protection activities and are employed in new or expanded restoration enterprises and 1,000 additional households.

Activity 2.1.1 Carry out gender mainstreaming training with KFS, Kaya Elders, and other partners prior to selection of communities and homesteads to be involve in the project.

The partner responsible for undertaking this activity, International Tree Foundation (ITF), was sub-contracted, and they held a training virtually on 2022, December 6, with all the project partners in attendance. The link to the training can be found here: [partner level gender mainstreaming training](#). The training was attended by 14 people, representing the partner organizations. The objective of this training was to enable the project partners to have a conscious mind on gender mainstreaming when they are conducting the selection of the beneficiaries of the project.

Activity 2.1.2 Hold meetings with KFS, Kaya elders and other partners to identify 136 people to train and employ through the project and determine their roles based on proximity to sites and interests.

During the first Steering Committee, held the 19th of December 2022, and other meetings with the project partners, BGCI team presented the responsibility of BGCI and each partner and the needs and parameters to be met for this activity. After this, it has been responsibility of the partners to select the people to be trained and employed by the project as seed collectors, nursery and restoration workers, with the roles for those well-defined.

The people who have been recruited so far and are working on the project at the local level for year 1 are 117 as seed collectors and monitors, restoration workers and nursery workers, and education officers, with 53 women and 64 being youth. This number will increase in the second year, with the addition of the majority of the restoration workers, as presented in the change request submitted in December 2022. Their numbers will be filled by the restoration workers who will be employed in year 2, to achieve the expected target. There are 11 workers, 5 in the nurseries and 6 in seed collection, who are temporary because of the magnitude of the work that was required in the last months of the first year. So, during year 1 a total of 128 people has been employed.

Activity 2.2.1 Provide theory and practical training on monitoring phenology and seed collection including Access and Benefit Sharing best practice to 60 people close to seed collection sites, on propagation, nursery management and business skills to an additional 40 people close to nursery sites, on restoration techniques, aftercare and monitoring to an additional 30 people close to restoration sites, on education and outreach to 3 additional people and on seed handling, germination testing and storage to and additional 3 people.

The training on monitoring phenology and seed collection was held during the months of January and February in different sites for a total of 61 participants (22 women and 34 youth). Over the course of the 2 months, refresher trainings and practical sessions have been held in different sites. The trainees were community members from: Pangani for collection at Pangani rocks, Kaya Kauma, Kaya Jibana, Kaya Chonyi, Kaya Rabai, Kaya Ribe, and Kaya Bomu for collection in the respective Kaya Forests, and Gede, Jilore and Sokoke Community Forest Associations for collection in Arabuko Sokoke forest.

The training has been organised for 2 days with a theoretical part and a practical session. During the first day the training covered planning for seed collection, prioritization and pre collection assessment, seed collection techniques and best practices and post collection practices. During the practical session the trainees went into their respective forests along with the trainer and botanists to learn more about identification of tree species and so they can be shown some of the target tree species. At the end of the practical day, they were able to collect seeds from a few tree species. At the seed collection level, they are not expected to conduct a lot of the aftercare and processing of the seeds, as this is done in the nurseries. However, there are some basics that they were also taught on handling and storing the seeds right after collection. Additionally, there were monitoring visits by the trainers where gaps were identified, and refresher and reinforcement trainings were conducted on site (in the forests). The capacity building for seed collection has been structured to be a continuous learning process. The bit on access and benefit sharing best practices is set to be covered in year 2 of the project (Refer to the training presentations on Annex 7).

The training on propagation and nursery management was conducted in January and February and a total of 51 people (31 women and 30 youth) were trained and then employed, included nursery workers from Kivukoni Indigenous Tree Nursery, Green Hearts of Kenya Tree Nursery, Kenya Forest Service nursery, Gede Tropical Nursery, County Government of Kilifi Tree Nursery, Pwani University/The LEAF Charity Tree Nursery, CFCU Tree Nursery, Kayas Kauma, Chonyi and Rabai Tree Nurseries. This was also a two-day training: day one was theory which covered plant propagation and proper nursery management on the subsequent days, the trainers visited each of the nurseries individually and spent the day going through processing of the seeds from the field, propagation protocols for some of the indigenous tree species, and the practicalities of proper nursery management. During the practical sessions at each nursery, more people attending the training, involving other workers of the nurseries, reaching up to a total of 80 people that have built up their capacities on best practices for nursery management (Refer to Annex 8). The business skills training will be conducted in year 2 of the project.

The training on restoration techniques, aftercare, and monitoring will be conducted in year 2 of the project. The restoration sites selection took longer than expected and the restoration interventions for the site were only agreed upon towards the end of the first year of the project. Furthermore, the rainy season was delayed, starting only in April, so the planting has also been postponed. In the second year, prior to major restoration works being conducted, the project partners will recruit restoration workers who are near each of the restoration sites, and the training will be conducted, based on the restoration approaches and interventions of each of the sites.

The training on education and outreaches is ongoing, led by the LEAF Charity to three young education officers (2 female and 1 male) that have been recruited. The trainings are on conservation education and engagement of schools in restoration work and indigenous tree planting, to enable the education officers have the needed capacity to engage with schools and community members.

The training for the seed technicians will be done in year 2 of the project. Initially, we anticipated getting a new seedbank from Terraformation. Unfortunately, this did not come to fruition, due to funding problems of Terraformation. However, previously BGC I had supported the organisation called Centre for Ecosystem Restoration – Kenya (CERK) to be provided by Terraformation with a seed bank at their Highland Forest Hub located at Brackenhurst Botanic Garden & Forest in Limuru. BGC I and Brackenhurst/CERK have a long-standing partnership and we are collaborating also under this project. Therefore, the seed bank at Brackenhurst will be officially available to stock seeds from the coastal area and the facility available for training in year 2 and any other support may be required for the project.

In addition, Mandhari Plants and Designs have put in a simple seed bank in the Gede Tropical Nursery, and most of the seeds will be channelled there if they are in excess and in need of storage. The seed technicians will be recruited and trained in the second year, with the support of CERK.

Activity 2.2.3 Provide certificates to each trainee for each course completed.

Certificates have been designed and printed for each of the trainees and they will be handed over to them in the second year, upon meeting them in the planting and other activities for the project. (Refer to Annex 9 for sample certificates).

Activity 2.3.1 Appoint consult to carry out baseline socioeconomic survey.

A consultant was appointed to carry out the socioeconomic survey. The objective of the survey was to increase the knowledge of the socio-economic conditions in communities within Kilifi County; understand communities' awareness of conservation issues and programmes on indigenous tree conservation; identify monitoring and evaluation indicators to measure impacts of the project and inform scale up and replication of the project in other Counties in the Eastern Africa Forest biodiversity hotspot; understand the preferred and most commercially viable indigenous tree species being used by the local communities within the project area; create a comparison in livelihoods at the beginning and end of the project by assessing a section of the community that will not be involved in the project, versus the ones that will be involved in the project. A comprehensive socioeconomic survey was conducted, and a total of 285 people from the project area were interviewed. A control group was also surveyed to enable a comparison of project impact among the project beneficiaries and non-project beneficiaries. (Refer to Annex 10 for the full socioeconomic survey draft report).

Activity 2.3.2 Provide each trainee with an employment contract specifying expected number of days work depending on the role.

All the project beneficiaries working as casuals for the project in the capacity of seed collectors (60: 22 are women and 34 are youth), nursery workers (51: 31 women and 30 youth), restoration workers (3) and education officers (3 youth) were issued with employment contracts. This was meant to stipulate their responsibilities within the project. The employment was done through the project partners, and not directly through BGC. Since each of the partners have their own management style and protocols for their recruitment and management of staff, the contracts took different structures, depending on the project partner. (Please refer to Annex 11 for the sample contracts for seed collectors and nursery workers).

Activity 2.3.3 Provide regular payments to each employee throughout the project.

All the project beneficiaries working as either seed collectors and monitors, nursery or restoration workers, under the respective project partners, were paid for their work on a regular basis, as stipulated in the financial reports received from each partner. The rate for payment was 750KES for each day worked. As a result of the intensity of work over the last few months, the number of days worked by each of the casuals under each of the partners varied.

Under Output 3: Supply of appropriate seed and seedlings of native and threatened species increased sufficiently in Kilifi County to support restoration of project demonstration sites (output 1) and planting in additional sites.

Activity 3.1.1 Procure and install equipment for nursery improvements, including installation of Terraformation seed bank

All the nursery partners for the project, including Gede Tropical Nursery, Kivukoni Indigenous Tree Nursery, Pwani University/The LEAF Charity, NMK-CFCU, the Kaya Community Nurseries and Green Hearts of Kenya, received infrastructure to improve their nurseries and the installations were done, and the nurseries are up and running and in production of seedlings. We were not able to secure a new seedbank from Terraformation. As mentioned earlier, a simple seedbank has been set up at Gede Tropical Nursery to assist in the storage of the needed seeds, and the seedbank installed at Brackenhurst Botanic Garden will be also used as a back-up for seeds and training centre.

Activity 3.2.1 Obtain permission from relevant authorities, traditional leaders and private landowners to carry out survey work and collect propagation material from additional sites

Community meetings held with the Kaya elders, led to verbal consents from the communities and the kaya elders to conduct seed collection in the Kaya forests. There was not written documentation needed for the Kaya forests that are not designated as forest reserves. For the forests designated as forest reserves, and in the case of Arabuko Sokoke forest, a collection permit was needed from Kenya Forest Service, which was applied for and issued. (Please refer to Annex 12 for the seed collection permit from Kenya Forest Service)

Activity 3.2.2 Survey team from NMK carry out survey of additional reference forests, recording and mapping species present and recording phenological information, supplement survey data with herbarium record data, and produce target species list for each site

A survey team from National Museums of Kenya carried out comprehensive surveys along with the baseline ecological survey to determine the state of the potential restoration sites and the forest fragments as seed sources. The surveys, along with information from the socioeconomic surveys and farmer preferences, yielded the development of a refined list of species that the project will focus on. The list of species is a living document, that will keep being updated, as more information on the species listed is obtained. (Please refer to Annex 5 for the draft list of species).

Activity 3.2.3 Trained seed collectors assigned to continue survey, monitoring and recording phenology of each target species, collecting seed when available and taking it to nurseries

After the comprehensive trainings of the seed collectors, they were each assigned to areas for carrying out surveys and collections. In some areas where they were able to use GPS devices, the collectors took coordinates and phenology information. The seeds collected were recorded and taken to respective nurseries for propagation.

Activity 3.3.1 Trained nursery workers plant seed, care for seedlings and document propagation protocols

The nursery workers were able to propagate around 49,370 seedlings of up to 56 different species, as indicated in their respective nurseries databases. They had received seeds from the seed collectors' network, either in their area or from other forests, for propagation. The team of nursery workers is in the process of developing their propagation protocols, which will continue into year 2 of the project. The project team is putting into place a propagation protocol task force which will be charged with reviewing propagation information from all the different nurseries, compiling it and development of the propagation protocols for the 150 species of the project. BGCI will also support with form for the propagation protocols and capacity building on it, during year 2 and 3.

Activity 3.3.2 Trained seed technicians carry out germination and storage testing on a portion of seed, and document germination and storage protocols.

This activity was moved to year 2 of the project, when the seed bank at Gede Tropical Nursery will be up and running. However, in collaboration with the National Museums of Kenya, and some of their seed technicians, we were able to conduct germination tests and develop propagation protocols for 10 species. (Please refer to Annex 13 for the report on germination tests and propagation protocols).

Activity 3.4.1 Maintain records of seed and seedling availability and provenance, price (for 3.5) and utility of each species at each nursery

Proper record keeping is being done at each of the nurseries and information on each of the species is also being recorded. At the project level, we also developed a data management system, that tracks the production at the different nurseries as well as seeds availability from the seed collectors' network. (Please see Annex 14 for the data management system and production in each of the respective nurseries to date).

Activity 3.4.2 Using target species lists and provenance of propagation material, supply the most appropriate seedlings for planting at each project restoration site

The seedlings that are being propagated in the nurseries are not mature enough to be planted in the restoration sites. As such, for the first planting season, the project team has sourced for mature seedlings from our partner nurseries which will be planted in May, when there are sufficient rains in Kilifi at the homesteads and also at the restoration sites.

Under Output 4: Restoration demonstration sites established that follow best practice, trial and monitor different restoration approaches, promote the use of native and threatened species and act as demonstration sites

4.1.1 Formally invite identified representatives to sit on the restoration advisory group via phone calls, emails and requesting each member to sign a project agreement

The Restoration Advisory Group (RAG) for Kaya Connect project was formed. The advisory group is a voluntary team of experts in restoration who enable the effective and efficient implementation of the restoration components of the Kaya Connect project. The project proposal and logical framework are the overarching documents for the group which set the path to deliver on the intended targets and goal of the project to reconnect forest fragments in coastal Kenya. The restoration advisory group provides guidance and support and act as a sounding board for the project partners on all matters pertaining to restoration in the Kaya connect project. The group members contribute their general knowledge and expertise to the deliberations and debate of the agenda on the table for the restoration advisory group with regards to the needs of the Kaya Connect Project.

The RAG is made up of six members from different organisations having experiences in restoration: Royal Botanic Gardens Kew, co-author of the ten golden rules of restoration and also the restoration consultant for the project; Tooro Botanic Garden in Uganda, leader of the project which the Kaya Connect project was modelled from; Centre for Ecosystem Restoration, Kenya (CERK), long standing partners of BGCI and implementing a Global Biodiversity Standard Hub in the project area; Plants for Life International, the organisation managing the restored

forest in Brackenhurst, and a restoration expert who works on restoration matters all over Africa and has a lot of experience in Coastal Kenya.

Please refer to Annex 15 for the terms of reference shared with the restoration advisory team.

4.1.2 Hold meetings of the advisory group at least twice per year to review restoration progress

The first meeting for the restoration advisory group was held in December 2023. The agenda of the meeting was to introduce the RAG to the Kaya Connect project. Updating them on the current progress of the project. The meeting was also meant to share the criteria for site selection for the restoration site, which they were to review and advice on. A plan for the restoration component of the project and the restoration activities was also outlined. Additionally, the RAG was to advice on budget allocations vs the targets for community and commercial nurseries to ensure that the money allocated to each nursery was going towards meeting the restoration objectives of the project well and ensuring optimal efficiency in allocations. Good advice on the named aspects were given to the project team, that informed further planning for the implementation of the project. (Please refer to Annex 16 for the minutes of the meeting).

The next RAG meeting is set to happen in May 2023.

Aside from the RAG meeting, the RAG members have also been joining trainings and field trips to Kilifi for the project, to offer their advice at the project areas. CERK has attended the meetings and trainings, and site selection trips, along with the restoration expert. There are plans to expand the group to also include a policy expert, given the objective of the project to develop a County Indigenous Tree Planting Policy which will be a big step towards restoring the Eastern Africa Forest Biodiversity Hotspot, and mainstreaming threatened species in tree planting programs in the county.

4.2.1 Continue analysis and delineation of candidate sites for restoration using satellite / drone imagery and site visits

Along with the project partners, potential restoration sites have been selected. The following are the restoration sites selected so far: (the areas are still approximations)

- Kaya Chonyi Restoration Site, 20 ha
- Kaya Mudzimuvya Restoration Site, 20 ha
- Gede Museum Forest Restoration Site, 15 ha
- Gede Tropical Nursery Restoration Site, 25 ha
- Pwani University Restoration Site, 10 ha
- Green Hearts of Kenya Restoration Site, 42 ha

Please refer to Annex 17 for the drone images on the restoration sites and the baseline ecological survey for more information on the sites.

The project team has also conducted site verification visits to all the sites. The sites are ecologically different, with some of them being bare, having a dispersed under-story, some are filled with thickets but no big trees; the rate of natural regeneration is also varying in all the sites. There are sites that are also overtaken by exotic invasive trees like the neem tree which is continuing to lead to further degradation of the sites. The already conducted site verifications and ecological surveys, which also encompassed rapid site assessments to determine the level of degradation and potential restoration approaches, have led to the development of reports on possible interventions for each of the sites. (Please refer to annex 18 for the report on restoration interventions per site).

Aside from the named restoration site, there are also woodlots that have been established as part of the project. So far, we have partnered with the Catholic Dioceses of Malindi (CDM), who have a programme dubbed 'Faith Based Forests' where they establish demonstration plots within the local communities, the land they have belonging to the church. These demonstration sites serve as learning centres for the community members and their congregation when it comes to best practices in indigenous tree planting. CDM has committed 8.5 acres of land for tree planting, and they are currently undertaking the initial planting activities with the aim of planting 1,000 trees of 10 species.

4.2.2 Hold meetings with government, kaya elders, private landowners including farmers and schools, to obtain written permission to restore selected sites

Community meetings were held with the partners in their respective communities and consent was given for the restoration sites. Where there was need for written consent from individual

landowners, the consent was also given in a signed letter. (Please refer to annex 19 for samples of the consent letters for some restoration sites)

4.2.3 Survey team from the National Museums of Kenya (NMK) carry out baseline ecological surveys at each restoration site, documenting number of remaining natural regenerants presence of invasive plants, current and past land-use and level of degradation (following methodology from Restoring Tropical Forests: A Practical Guide")

A survey team from the National Museums of Kenya was constituted. This included a team from the national office, as well as seasoned botanists working in the coastal region. The objectives of the study were: to determine soil type in the restoration sites; current vegetation growing on the site including the species (trees, grasses, shrubs); scientific and local names; estimated vegetation density at the restoration site; coordinates mapping the site; current drivers of degradation in the restoration sites; level of degradation on each of the sites (this was informed by the rapid site assessment methodology); current native species growing in the nurseries in Kilifi; current status of natural regeneration of the native species in the restoration sites, as this information will help in monitoring restoration progress over the next years.

The team also conducted rapid site assessment for the restoration site as per the methodology trained by Kew Garden from the practical guide on restoring tropical forests. This enabled the team to come up with potential restoration interventions for each of the sites. Upon developing the draft report, a validation workshop was held in Kilifi that brought together members of the RAG including the restoration consultant (Kew Garden), the representatives of each of the restoration sites and other stakeholder. The baseline ecological survey report was then updated. (Please refer to annex 20 for the baseline ecological survey report).

4.2.4 Hold meetings with NMK survey team, landowners, kaya elders, local communities, other stakeholders and restoration advisory group to determine appropriate restoration methodology at each site and develop monitoring plan for each site

Numerous community meetings were held with the project partners and the community members. The site verification visits were also joined by local community members and Kaya elders to gauge their interest and understanding of the interventions they think are needed for the sites. All this information was taken into consideration when developing the interventions for each of the restoration sites. The validation workshop also included local representatives from each of the sites to enable them to verify if the vision captured in the reports, is accurate and in agreement with the consensus within the community

4.3.1 Procure equipment required to support restoration activities, including for water supply, planting and monitoring

Some equipment necessary for restoration work has been procured in the first year of the project. For instance, water tanks to aid in water supply. One of the vulnerable sites and a good demonstration site for the project at the Catholic Diocese of Malindi land, serving a population of 7,000 people has also been fenced in the first year. The bulk of the restoration work will be undertaken in the second year, and therefore more equipment will be procured in Y2.

4.3.3 Plant seedlings out on sites (except those where Assisted Natural Regeneration is identified as the most appropriate restoration approach) aligning with rainy seasons (quarters shaded align with expected rainy seasons, but rain at the coast can be variable)

The raining season at the coast has been variable in the first year, starting only in April. The initial planting for the sites is therefore happening in April/May, which will be covered in the progress report for Y2.

4.4.1 Work with kaya elders and government to identify 1,000 homesteads and schools within the restoration area to plant trees

1,300 farmers have been identified having interest in planting indigenous trees in their farms and have been registered, as explained in the activity 4.4.2.

11 schools have also been identified.

4.4.2 Carry out focus group discussions to identify which trees farmers and schools are interested in (specific tree species and what uses they are interested in, e.g. timber, fodder, etc.)

Focus group discussions and direct interactions with farmers was done and participants have been informed about the list of 150 species to focus on for the project.

During year 1 of the project, we conducted community meetings through the project partners in the Kaya communities and in other project areas that are outside the Kayas, for instance, in Arabuko Sokoke forest and Pangani. These meetings were meant to communicate the project to the community members, and the need for on-farm planting towards reducing pressure in the forest fragments. A total of 6 meetings were held in the different locations. In attendance, there were Kaya elders, community members, chiefs and village elders, Community Forest Association leaders, Kenya Forest Service and other project partners and local stakeholders depending on the location of the meetings. During these meetings, there was positive reception of the project and interest in the community members planting trees in their own farms. One of the major matters that were arising, were the benefits of indigenous trees versus the exotic trees that they have been planting. It was noted that there are several organizations/private companies like Komaza, which are distributing exotic trees to the community members, who were able to appreciate the benefits of those trees. It was also noted that many of the community members were misinformed on some of the trees they have, whether they are indigenous or exotic trees. The questions arising from the meeting, showed a gap in understanding of community members on indigenous trees and their benefit. The project partners explained the benefits of different types of indigenous trees and importance of conserving and planting them. To fill the gap in information, we developed a Training of Trainer's workshop with community champions. This was a group of 24 people from the communities of the project areas, consisted of 80% youth. We conducted a two-day intensive training on indigenous trees, the Kaya Connect project, advocacy for action and communication. We then conducted role plays to gauge the understanding of the champions. In the second day of the training, we focused on the farmer registration tool, which was the Kobo Collect Toolkit. The community champions were then deployed to the local communities to conduct small group and one on one sensitization of the communities within the project areas. As they were doing the sensitization, they recruited 1,300 farmers/households who were interested in planting indigenous trees in their farms. The registration included taking down their information, including commitment of acreage of their farm for indigenous tree planting and the number of trees that they would be able to plant. The total land size committed by the farmers is 1,350 acres and a total of 71,000 trees. The initial planting will begin in April/May 2023. Through the LEAF charity, we have been able to recruit 11 schools into the project, who are also interested in indigenous tree planting. The schools will follow the model of environmental education as well as adopt a tree for the students in the schools. Preparations are still ongoing in the schools as the initial engagements have just been made.

(Please see annex 21 for a map showing the distribution of the farmers).

We are in the process of turning the raw data from Kobo Collect into a refined report.

4.5.1 Identify target organisations, groups and influential people to invite to visit sites

As in year one we were still in the process of setting up the sites, no organizations have been invited so far. However, we are intending to target conservation organizations working on restoration, other schools and community groups. We will also target the private sector for visiting the restoration work and promote it as part of doing for their corporate social responsibility. We also intend to invite media to the site, to create more awareness on the restoration interventions, impacts and community involvement in restoring their lands.

Under Output 5 Mechanisms in place to ensure long-term sustainability of project outputs, scalability of best practice restoration within Kilifi County and replicability across the Eastern Africa Coastal Forest Hotspot

5.1.1 Work with marketing consultant to develop a marketing plan and carry out review of who to target to purchase seed or seedlings

The project team enlisted the expertise of a team of consultants in communications and marketing to develop communications and marketing strategies for the project. Draft strategies were developed in year one, with the key highlight of target markets being:

- Individual farmers
- Homestead/homeowners
- Hotel and restaurant business owners
- Religious groups

- Commercial tree and timber companies such as Komaza
- Kenya Forest Service
- Tourist companies and establishments
- The private sector CSRs

In the second year of the project, the team will narrow down on actual establishments, individuals and companies that the project will focus marketing on, and approach them personally, tag them on social media, and develop proposals to share with them detailing the products offered by our nurseries and how these will be of use to them in meeting their triple bottom line. (Please refer to annex 22 for the communication and marketing strategies.)

5.1.2 Aligning with marketing plan, develop marketing and outreach materials for all nurseries, promoting the native and threatened species available, including printed materials, online and via media channels

Marketing and outreach materials have been developed for the project including:

- Flyers
- Signages
- T-shirts
- Infographics
- Plaques for the nurseries
- A project banner

As production was still picking up in year one of the project, the marketing materials for each of the nurseries have not yet been developed. In year 2, once there is a good number and mature size seedlings and saplings in the nurseries, then marketing materials will be developed. (Please refer to annex 23 for samples of the marketing and outreach materials)

5.1.3 Host talks and tours at nurseries to show availability and diversity of native and threatened species available

This activity will be conducted in year 2, as the nurseries were not yet in a position where they can showcase mature or near mature seedlings to the public. There are plans in year 2 to also conduct exchange visits among the project partners, and the open the tours up to other nurseries and interested parties as mentioned above.

5.2.1 – 5.2.3 Activities related to carbon credits.

The project aims to provide carbon credits to local communities, as an incentive for long term protection of the forest areas. The proposed partner for this component was originally Terraformation, acting as a bridge for buyers in the voluntary market who want to offset their carbon footprint. Unfortunately, Terraformation has indicated that they can't play this role, due to the evolving characteristics of our project, which do not fit into the kind of projects they prefer to work with. These include the fact that ours is a small-scale project (180 ha), the planting sites are not contiguous, and many different tree species are involved. They see the project as not being conventional for carbon credits. We have instead found a new partner, Plan Vivo, who are interested in smaller, more complex projects that focus more on biodiversity and livelihoods rather than simply carbon sequestration. However, carbon registration for small-scale and diverse projects is more complex and therefore the cost is higher and it is needed to secure a consultant to help with the process. We have held numerous meetings with Plan Vivo and attended a workshop organized by the organization in Nairobi, for better understanding of their standards and registration process. We are currently in the process of securing a consultant and preparation of the project initiation document to submit to Plan Vivo for registration of the project sites under their carbon certification program. Progress on this activity will be reported in Year 2.

5.3.1 Work with project marketing consultant to identify target audiences and appropriate channels for raising awareness of the value of native and threatened trees and develop key messages

A communication and marketing strategy, including a social media strategy has been developed. (Please refer to annexes 22 and 24)

5.4.2 Deliver training course on Ten Golden Rules for Reforestation

The training on ten golden rules of restoration was delivered by Kate Hardwick, Kew Garden, who is a co-author. The training, held in Kilifi County in January 2023, was attended by 25 people from various organizations within Kilifi working on restoration, including the project partners. (Refer to Annex 25 for the training materials).

5.4.3 Collate and review monitoring data from restoration sites (Output 1), document methodology and lessons learnt in an open access manual / similar (determined by 4.3.1)

The monitoring baseline data for all the sites is in development.

5.5.1 Work with County Government and KFS to determine which stakeholders to be involved in county-level plan development and formally invite them to be part of the process

In collaboration with the county government and Kenya Forest Service, a list of participants for the initial workshop was developed and the participants invited. This collaboration also enabled the planning of the content of the planning workshop. The people invited were county officials in charge of environment and climate change domains, Kenya Forest Service at the national level, private sector representatives from Kilifi, the Catholic Diocese of Malindi to represent faith based groups, the legal office of the county government to inform on the policy development process, community representatives from the Kaya groups and Community Forest Associations, and civil society organizations focused on conservation and tree planting in Kilifi County.

5.5.2 Hold initial workshop to develop aims, timeframe and content of the plan

An initial Kilifi County Policy Development workshop was held in Kilifi in March 2023. This was meant to be a planning workshop that brought together different plant conservation and tree planting practitioners in Kilifi. The workshop was co-hosted by the Kilifi County department of Environment and Climate Change. The directors of the environment, climate change and legal departments were represented. 29 participants (14 female). The workshop looked at the existing policies and did a gap analysis to determine which areas would be critical for the policy proposed to focus on. The idea was to focus on a tree planting policy for Kilifi County that has more focus on indigenous and threatened trees in tree planting programs in the county. A stakeholder and resource analysis were also conducted to determine the next steps in the planning process for the policy. (Please refer to annex 26 for the report on the planning workshop).

3.2 Progress towards project Outputs

Output 1: Remaining Forest fragments mapped and their potential as seed sources or tree islands better understood

During year one of the project, we have been able to map the existence of 21 forest fragments within Kilifi County. On a shared google earth project developed by the project partners, we were able to identify the location of each of the forest fragments, along with their polygons. In order to understand their potential as seed sources, we have conducted surveys in some of the restoration sites and complemented this information with internet research on existing information. The biggest forest fragment is the Arabuko Sokoke forest which covers an area of 41,600 ha. The Arabuko Sokoke forest is a good seed source for the project on account of the plant diversity in the forest. Other forest fragments that were identified as seed sources for the project in year 1 included Kaya Rabai where we have a collection of Kaya Mudzimuvya which is a National Monument and a World Heritage Site (WHS) covering 171 ha; Kaya Bomu/Fimboni covering 409 ha, which are also National Monuments and WHS; Kaya Mudzimwiru covering 147 ha, that is a national monument. We also have Kaya Ribe covering 36 ha; Kaya Kambe covering 56.5 ha; Kaya Jibana covering 140 ha, Kaya Chonyi covering 194 ha, Kaya Fungo covering 204 ha, Kaya Chivara with 150 ha, Kaya Kauma with 100 ha, and Pangani rocks with 30 ha.

The decision on the potential seed sources was based on available information on the number of plant taxa in each of the sites, traditional knowledge from the communities on the diversity within the sites, and expert information from project partners who have been conducting seed collections in the sites for years. The ongoing monitoring surveys in the sites will enable us to develop comprehensive reports on the ecological status of the sites by the end of the project. Maps showing the locations of the forest fragments within the project area are available.

In collaboration with the project partners and the local communities, we have been able to select so far six restoration sites for the project. These include parts of Kaya Chonyi (Apprx. 20 ha); Kaya Mudzimuvya (Apprx. 20 ha); Gede Tropical Nursery (25 ha); Greenhearts of Kenya

restoration site (42 ha); Pwani University restoration site (Apprx. 10 ha) and Gede Museum Forest restoration site (Apprx.15 ha). The maps for these restoration sites, and information on them have also been included in the baseline ecological survey reports and the maps shared among partners.

The output 1 indicators relevant for year 1 include:

1.1 Collation of the existing information on coastal forest patches, measured based on the amount of information that we have been able to collect from all the available sources. It has led to the identification of existing information gaps, that the project is aiming to fill by the end of Y2.

1.2 Satellite and drone images imagery have been developed and are available. There is further additions and refinements that will be done on the subsequent years, as needed. The [means of verification](#) available for output one includes a report on the remaining forest fragments, annotated satellite and drone images.

Output 2: 136 people from marginalised groups in Kilifi County have improved capacity to engage in forest restoration and protection activities and are employed in new or expanded restoration enterprises and 1,000 additional households are benefitting from trees on farms

During the first year of the project, in collaboration with the project partners, community and kaya elders, administrative leaders and local groups and organizations, the partners were able to identify 117 people to be the direct beneficiaries of the project (53 women and 64 youth). There are 20 seed collectors and monitors working under the management of Friends of Arabuko Sokoke and doing collections and monitoring the phenology of trees. There are 36 seed collectors and monitors in the Kaya forests, working under the management of the National Museums of Kenya. 2 seed collectors are working under Green Hearts of Kenya, and 2 others collected seeds under Gede Tropical Nursery. In addition, in Arabuko Sokoke, there were 6 forest scouts that were also capacity built on collection and monitoring, to have an understanding of what the Arabuko Sokoke teams are doing in the field. The primary purpose of the forest scouts is route tracking and accompanying the collectors in the field. During the first year of project, a total of 66 people raised up their knowledge in seed collection and phenology monitoring.

51 people have been working in the nurseries under contract under the various partners. However, there were 80 people trained in total: in some nurseries, there were more existing employees than those who will be paid through the project, for example in Gede tropical nursery, Pwani University and in the Kaya Forests. All of them took part to the practical sessions held in each of the nurseries.

There are 11 workers, 5 in the nurseries and 6 in seed collection, who are temporary because of the magnitude of the work that was required in the last months of the first year. So, during year 1 a total of 128 people has been employed.

3 education officers were also trained on conservation education in schools and community, and they were employed under the management of the LEAF charity.

There has not yet been an official training of restoration workers since most of the restoration work is set to begin in the second year of the project. However, in Green Hearts of Kenya, there were 3 people working as restoration workers and doing clearing of the sites. In Catholic Dioceses of Malindi, there were 6 people preparing land and digging holes for planting.

A total of 148 people received gender mainstreaming training from International Tree Foundation for the community level trainings. This included project beneficiaries and local elders from the project communities. For the partner level trainings, there were 14 people trained.

A total of 1300 households/farmers have officially been recruited and consented to planting trees on their farms beginning with the April/May rains in 2023. There are also 11 schools which have been recruited into the project and formal engagement have been done through the project partners. Conservation education with a focus on indigenous tree planting and restoration will begin in year 2, as they also take up the adopt a tree program.

The percentage of women working in the project is at 45.3% and youth at 54.7%.

The evidentiary materials can be found [here](#)

Output 3: Supply of and demand for seed and seedlings of native and threatened species increased in Kilifi County

Pwani University / The LEAF charity, Kivukoni Indigenous Tree Nursery, Gede Tropical Nursery, CFCU-NMK Nursery, Kaya Chonyi, Kaya Mudzimuvya, Chasimba, Kaya Kauma and Green Hearth of Kenya all received infrastructural improvement in their nurseries to aid in water supply, and equipment to improve the production of seedlings for the project.

A total of 141 tree species were identified and their coordinates as mother trees taken. Of these, seeds have been able to be collected from 56 species. Across the board we have 56 species growing in the nurseries of which 6 are rare and threatened species.

Please find the link to evidentiary materials [here](#).

Output 4: Restoration demonstration sites established that follow best practice, trial and monitor different restoration approaches, promote the use of native and threatened species and act as demonstration sites

A restoration advisory group made up of 6 people has been constituted and they have had one meeting in the first year of the project. However, some of the members have been present in 5 project activities including site verifications, trainings and workshops. There are also regular contacts though email, information sharing and exchange of advice from the members.

Six restoration sites have been confirmed, covering approximately 132 ha. Among the farmers/households, there is already a total 1,350 acres also committed to and signed consent given for indigenous tree planting. Plantation will start in April/May 2023 when rains start.

Additional 8.5 acres of Catholic Diocese of Malindi lands have been already committed for restoration and preliminary interventions started.

A training by the restoration consultant from Kew Gardens was conducted to the project partners and relevant stakeholders, on rapid site assessments to determine level of degradation of restoration site and matching restoration interventions, possible restoration interventions and approaches for Kilifi and the ten golden rules of restoration. This training gave the basis for participatory identification of restoration approaches/interventions for each of the sites. Consent letters have been received from three of the restoration sites and we are still awaiting written consent from the remaining three sites.

Please find the link to evidentiary materials [here](#).

Output 5: Mechanisms in place to ensure long-term sustainability of project outcomes, scalability within Kilifi County and replicability across the Eastern Africa Coastal Forest hotspot

Outside the project partnership, we have made connections with private tree planting groups including community-based organizations and private landowners. We have also partnered up with the Catholic Diocese of Malindi who have committed 8.5 acres of their own land to restoration and set up as demonstration sites. Out of their religious based forest programme, they will commit further parishes in the coming years, should the project have the capacity to work in all of the sites.

In addition, 1,350 acres of farmers land have been committed by the farmers for total of 71,000 trees to be planted.

About 10 community meetings, with an approximate attendance of 500 people in total have been conducted in the project areas. These meetings were held to create more awareness on indigenous tree planting and the Kaya Connect project. County level campaigns and launching of the marketing strategy which was prepared in year 1 will be executed in year 2, beginning April 2023.

The project is at the planning phase with the carbon registration, through Plan Vivo.

Please find the link to evidentiary materials [here](#).

3.3 Progress towards the project Outcome

Outcome: Kilifi County provides a scalable model of best practice restoration for the Eastern Africa Coastal Forest hotspot providing employment to 136 local people and conservation of 40 threatened species

This project has made substantial progress towards achieving the project outcome during year 1 of the project. 114 people have been already trained and employed in seed collection, propagation and nursery management and restoration, and 3 in education/awareness creation. 49,370 seedlings of up to 56 species (out of which 6 are threatened) are already in production.

The Ten Golden Rules of Reforestation and the methodology from Restoring Tropical Forests are being applied during the rapid site assessment to identify the restoration sites and will be followed during the restoration implementation. The indicators of the project have been effective at measuring the intended outcome of the project. The project is expected to achieve its outcome by the end of the funding period.

3.4 Monitoring of assumptions

Assumption 1: Proposed activities are still possible under COVID-19 restrictions (helped by the fact that the majority of project activities can be done outside)

Comments: this assumption carries reduced risk now. COVID-19 disruption has reduced over the past year as restrictions related to gathering people and travel have been reduced.

Assumption 2: Training is still possible under future COVID-19 restrictions (helped by the fact that most of the training can be done outside)

Comments: this assumption carries reduced risk now. COVID-19 disruption has reduced over the past year as restrictions related to gathering people have been reduced and, however, most of the training can be done outside.

Assumption 3: Access will be given to additional sites for seed collection (permission of many sites already obtained)

Comments: this assumption has reduced risk. During the year 1 we have obtained permission to access to sites, but some of them need to be renew in year 3.

Assumption 4: Water supply is available at nurseries (mitigated by working with existing nurseries but the risk could increase if rains are poor)

Comments: this assumption still holds true. Kenya has been affected by draught and rains at the coast has been scarce. However, to mitigate the risk, water tanks and rain harvest systems have been provided to nurseries.

Assumption 5: Costs of native seedlings are appealing to purchasers

Comments: this assumption still holds true. The project is managing this assumption by a marketing assessment and strategy.

Assumption 6: Water is available at sites for planted seedlings (mitigated by careful site selection and planning but the risk could increase if the rains are poor)

Comments: this assumption still holds true. Kenya has been affected by draught and rains at the coast has been scarce. Planting of trees has been postponed waiting for the rains and sites have been selected close to water sources, as much as possible.

Assumption 7: Permission will be given to restore additional sites

Comments: this assumption holds true. Interest from other stakeholders have been shown during the first year of the project and new potential restoration sites identified.

Assumption 8: Carbon markets remain strong during and after the project period (predictions look good) and interested buyers of carbon credits will be identified in the voluntary market

Comments: this assumption holds true. Interest for the carbon markets is increasing. However, our project is a small scale with respect to carbon credit, focusing more on diversity rather than number of trees planted. To reduce the risk, we are now in partnership with an organisation focus more on biodiversity and livelihoods rather than simply carbon sequestration.

3.5 Impact: achievement of positive impact on biodiversity and poverty reduction

This project aims to have a positive impact on biodiversity by promoting the incorporation of native and threatened species into ecosystem restoration, agroforestry projects and tree-planting projects.

The project will also benefit to biodiversity including threatened species of fauna and flora, from enhanced connectivity, directly and further through seedlings sales and planting by other stakeholders.

Developing a County Indigenous Tree Planting Policy will also improve protection of additional forest fragments, reducing the risk of further negative impact on biodiversity from large-scale exotic monoculture planting and invasive species planting.

In the short term, the project aims to reduce poverty, providing trainings and employment opportunities for the local communities. During the first year, the project has provided employment to 117 people (53 women and 64 youth), plus additional 11 workers as temporary. Over the long term, the project aims to reduce poverty, increasing opportunities for local communities to economically benefit from restoration employment, carbon credits, payment for ecosystem services.

4. Project support to the Conventions, Treaties or Agreements

The project is contributing to national policy, specifically:

- Kenya's NBSAP (2019–2030) Goal 2, Strategic target 22 which calls for ecosystem resilience and the contribution of biodiversity to carbon stocks to be enhanced, through conservation and restoration, including restoration of at least 30% of degraded ecosystems by 2030. This project will make a significant contribution by bringing sites under restoration using a high diversity of native and threatened species, increasing supply of good quality seed and seedlings, and establishing mechanisms to continue scaling up best practice restoration in Kilifi and the EACF;
- Kenya's 5.1 million ha Bonn Challenge pledge by bringing 180 ha under restoration, planting trees at 1,000 homesteads and 10 schools, supplying an additional 240,000 seedlings for restoration. Kenya's national-level restoration potential map designates large areas of degraded EACF in Kilifi for plantations and bamboo, but Kenya's NBSAP flags that, whilst plantations have increased in cover in recent years, all types of natural forest have decreased over the same period. This project is demonstrating that more appropriate restoration methods can be carried out in Kilifi, contributing to the 5.1m pledge and generating biodiversity and economic benefits; Kenya's Vision 2030, by rehabilitating and protecting indigenous forest, including mapping forest fragments for protection and ensuring they are formally recognised in the county-level tree planting policy, and as KBAs or AZEs; Kenya's NDC by growing 400,000 trees, regenerating an additional estimated 30,000 trees through Assisted Natural Regeneration, and engaging a carbon financing partner to quantify and formalise the contribution and ensure benefits go to communities Kenya's national vision and goals for tree conservation, co-developed by the jointly led BGCI-KFS Kenya Threatened Trees Consortium. The project is also contributing to the CBD Global Biodiversity Framework targets, particularly: Target 2, by bringing degraded land under restoration and ensuring connectivity of EACF; Target 3, by conserving important biodiversity areas, ensuring their effective and equitable management, and integrating biodiversity into wider landscapes by planting trees on farms; Target 4, by enabling the recovery and conservation of species and genetic diversity of 40 threatened tree species, including ex situ seed banking; Target 8, by mitigating and adapting to climate change through ecosystem-based approaches, and ensuring that all future tree-planting mitigation and adaptation efforts within Kilifi avoid negative impacts on biodiversity; Target 10, by ensuring areas under agriculture and forestry are managed sustainably. The project also contributes to the Global Strategy for Plant Conservation targets, which sits under the CBD. This project contributes to the Sustainable Development Goals, particularly: Target 1, by providing employment opportunities to reduce poverty; Target 13, by capturing carbon through restoration

projects; Target 15.1 by ensuring the conservation of forests, 15.2 by restoring degraded forests and increasing reforestation in Kilifi County, 15.5 by taking urgent action to halt biodiversity loss and prevent the extinction of threatened tree species.

5. Project support to poverty reduction

The direct beneficiaries of this project achieved during year 1 are a total of 117 local people with increased capacities and jobs, and specifically: 60 seed collectors from local communities trained and employed, of which 20 are from Community Forest Associations at Arabuko Sokoke Forest (CFAs), 51 nursery workers; 3 restoration workers, 3 education officers. Additional 11 temporary workers in nursery and seed collection have been employed, and 10 to build the fence of the demonstration site. In addition: 1,300 homesteads and 11 schools benefiting from native trees planted.

In the short term, the project is increasing household incomes, generating economic growth centred native trees planting and restoration.

Over the long term, the continue demand for locally sourced native seedlings will maintain the employment in seed collection, nursery management and restoration, scaling up to cover additional areas and species. The long-term benefits include also generating income from carbon credits and ecosystem services.

6. Gender equality and social inclusion

The project is helping reduce inequality between persons of different gender by:

- Providing gender-mainstreaming training, led by Kilifi County and ITF, to kaya elders and partner NGOs prior to selecting communities for project activities, and then to selected community groups: the training has been implemented during year 1 and as result 45.3% of women received training are employed;
- Creating job opportunities for young people, with 54,7% of youth being employed;
- respecting cultural traditions, for example, kaya elders have nominated people for project activities associated with kaya forests.

Please quantify the proportion of women on the Project Steering Committee.	33,3% (Out of 12 members, 4 are women)
Please quantify the proportion of project partners that are led by women, or which have a senior leadership team consisting of at least 50% women ¹ .	28,5% (Out of 7 partners, 2 are led or have senior leadership by women)

7. Monitoring and evaluation

The monitoring and evaluation are led by the project team (Project Leader and Project Manager), through quarterly progress and budget check, and by-annual meetings with the Steering Committee, to evaluate the project progress against the logframe and indicators. To ensure high attendance and minimise expenditures, the SC meetings are taking place on-line. Regular meetings are also held between BGCI team and the different partners to assess the progress and support if any challenge. The ecological baseline survey and the socio-economic baseline developed in year 1 will also support on assess indicators in year 2 and 3.

¹ Partners that have formal governance role in the project, and a formal relationship with the project that may involve staff costs and/or budget management responsibilities.

8. Lessons learnt

Livelihoods is an important aspect when it comes to restoration projects. Kaya Connect has a strong livelihood component though giving employment to 136 people which is serving households of approximately 4 – 8 people each. However, we constantly kept running into inquiries of alternative livelihoods for the larger community members, to ease the pressure on the forests. On-farm tree planting is a good strategy, but the trees will take years to mature and so the question about the gap between now and the economic trees maturing has been raised. This has necessitated the project team to start working on partnerships with alternative livelihood organizations to introduce to the community members and seek match funding for the same, to complement the restoration enterprises that are already part of the project.

The seed collectors' network has been very well set up. The biggest impediment, aside from rains, for indigenous tree planting in Kilifi, is the availability of seeds. Through this network, we have had organizations like Mandhari increasing their indigenous tree seedlings production by 112% and community nurseries have gone from only one or two indigenous trees pre-project to up to 20 species through the project so far.

Continuous training of labour is essential to achieve high levels of quality for the seedlings produced. Commercial viability for nurseries is essential to enable surviving beyond grants. Commercial uptake of indigenous seedlings should be stimulated so that production can continue beyond this project.

Environmental sensitisation and training are critical, and the baseline is very poor. Fortunately, people are very receptive once engaged.

Seed storage is a critical aspect, as well as planning: propagation needs to be constantly monthly but seed production in the forest is extremely seasonal and without proper planning and storage production cannot be sustained.

Germination and storage protocols should be developed and shared with all nurseries: there is a lot of learning needed for all the species and only collaboration between nurseries can allow the sector to achieve its objectives.

Rains in Kilifi are highly variable, and this has in many instances hindered both planting and trees being phonologically ready for collection. Therefore, we have to plan very well to ensure that when it rains, we can maximize on planting, and after the rains maximize on collections, and this can mean hyperactivity in a few months of the project on these components and then less activity to no activity in some of the months.

9. Actions taken in response to previous reviews (if applicable)

The section is not applicable for this year.

10. Risk Management

All the existing risks are as per the risks highlighted in the risk register, and the updated version has been attached. One of the main risks that we have encountered during implementation is the shortage in availability of affordable taxonomists or botanists to support the species identification with the seed collectors' network. Many of them are from outside Kilifi, and it gets very expensive to keep them in Kilifi for extended periods of time.

There being no existing propagation protocols for some of the species, there are some nurseries that are struggling so much with the propagation of some species, and they end up dying right after they have germinated. We are working to identify useful information even from outside Kenya, that will help, and conducting germination tests with the National Museums of Kenya

11. Other comments on progress not covered elsewhere

Among the reports obtained from the community engagement meetings that the project has held so far, there is a concern on more livelihood interventions for the community members, to enable a reduction in pressure from the community into the forest fragments and the restoration sites.

12. Sustainability and legacy

Kaya Connect project includes a diversity of partners from the government, CSOs and the private sector. In all the capacity building workshops and trainings the project has done, we have had representation from government officials, the private sectors and CSOs and we have shared all our capacity building materials. The project has also attracted the interest of executive authorities at the county level including the governor and the county executive committee members. These authority figures have expressed great interest and are in collaboration with the project team towards development of tree planting policy for the county and integration of the project activities into their programs to ensure continuity.

They have also engaged with the department of gender, culture and heritage at the county level, because of our work in elevating the Kaya forests. Heritage and culture have been the protective gear of the kaya forests, and we envision an outcome in which we connect the Kaya communities back to their beliefs and cultural practices, through the trees and with the collaboration of this department.

The sustainable benefits post project is still valid. We intend to connect the nurseries with markets for the seeds and seedlings before the end of the project. We are also seeking match funding and partnerships that will aid the community in further alternative livelihoods to keep pressure from the community members off the restoration sites and the forest fragments. We are in the process of engaging with Plan Vivo on the carbon markets and we envision a successful registration and possible piloting of biodiversity credits as well. However, the proceeds from these will only be possible a few years past project funding, therefore on this from, we are moving carefully to not overpromise with the project beneficiaries and partners.

We are continuing to build the capacity of all the project beneficiaries and making all the materials available to them for future reference. As we aim for behaviour change towards indigenous tree planting, and forest landscape restoration practices, we intend to ensure that the communities can continue executing the best practices at the grassroots level.

13. Darwin Initiative identity

The project has publicized Darwin Initiative through the information and education materials that have been developed. This includes infographics and flyers; signages for the project, plaques that have been designed for the nurseries; a project banner that is used in all gatherings for the project, and T-shirts given to project partners and some project beneficiaries. In all the gatherings, we ensure that we credit the contribution of the UK government, and this includes the social media posts that we have done. There is relatively good understanding and recognition of Darwin Initiative as a funding entity for conservation projects, especially among the organizations that are in the same space.

14. Safeguarding

Has your Safeguarding Policy been updated in the past 12 months?	No
Have any concerns been investigated in the past 12 months	No
Does your project have a Safeguarding focal point?	No [If yes, please provide their name and email]
Has the focal point attended any formal training in the last 12 months?	N/A
What proportion (and number) of project staff have received formal training on Safeguarding?	Past: 25% [and 1 Planned: 0% [0]

Has there been any lessons learnt or challenges on Safeguarding in the past 12 months?
Please ensure no sensitive data is included within responses.
No.

Does the project have any developments or activities planned around Safeguarding in the coming 12 months? If so please specify.

All project grant agreements signed between BGCI and partners require them to adopt and adhere to BGCI's Code of Conduct including Safeguarding Policy.
BGCI is also partnership and working with reputable organisations already well known to us or recommended by ours partners.

15. Project expenditure

Please expand and complete Table 1. If all receipts have not yet been received, please provide indicative figures and clearly mark them as Draft. The Actual claim form will be taken as the final accounting for funds.

The project at the end of year 1 has an underspent of around £4,680, compare to the budget as agreed after Change Requests discussed and approved by Darwin Initiative (reference CR22-121 and CR22-185). This underspent is mainly due to Training on education/awareness that has not been completed yet by our partner and field work and subsistence for the restoration consultant, which will be more in year 2 and 3.

Table 1: Project expenditure during the reporting period (1 April 2022 – 31 March 2023)

Project spend (indicative) since last Annual Report	2022/23 Grant (£)	2022/23 Total Darwin Costs (£)	Variance %	Comments (please explain significant variances)
Staff costs				
Consultancy costs				
Overhead Costs				
Travel and subsistence				
Operating Costs				

Capital items (see below)				
Others (see below)				
TOTAL	£188,319	£183,639	-2.48%	

These figures are draft values pending receipt of all invoices and receipts from partners.

Table 2: Project mobilising of matched funding during the reporting period (1 April 2022 – 31 March 2023)

	Matched funding secured to date	Total matched funding expected by end of project
Matched funding leveraged by the partners to deliver the project.		
Total additional finance mobilised by new activities building on evidence, best practices and project (£)		

16. OPTIONAL: Outstanding achievements or progress of your project so far (300-400 words maximum). This section may be used for publicity purposes

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

The Kaya Connect project has a vision of restoring the Eastern Africa Coastal Forest Biodiversity Hotspot, for the benefit of both biodiversity conservation and livelihood improvement. 30% of the world's tree species are threatened and there has been massive global interest in reforestation. However, the focus is usually on planting in high numbers and quickly for carbon capture. The Kaya Connect project, is more focused on the kind of trees we plant. We have a target of 150 species of indigenous trees (40 of which are rare and threatened trees), 400,000 trees propagated and planted and 180ha under restoration, and on-farm planting in 1000 households. BGI is working with government, civil society organizations, and private landowners in Kilifi County to achieve these massive restoration targets.

The Kaya connect project, intends to not only connect forest fragments, but also connect Kaya communities, back with their rich heritage and culture, that has kept the forests protected for decades. In just a few months, the generous grant from the Darwin Initiative has enabled us to build the capacity and employ 117 people from local communities in phenology monitoring, prioritization, best practices in quality seed collection, propagation of indigenous trees and nursery management. We have built a network of seed collectors, working all over the forest fragments in Kilifi County. These community members have taken forest landscape restoration into their own hands. They get into the forests for surveys and monitoring the phenology of the trees, they have learnt to identify the trees and tell traditional stories about some of them as they collect and share their seeds for propagation, and so those vulnerable trees, can regain their abundance in the wild.

We have enabled nurseries, both community nurseries and private ones, to increase their species diversity (of indigenous trees) by over 500%. Our gender mainstreaming program has also begun to have great impacts in some of the majorly patriarchal Kaya communities. Our nursery partners in Kaya Kauma, have 90% women working in the nursery, and they are being led by a youth. As we work towards behaviour change, livelihoods improvement, and biodiversity

conservation, we continue to trigger traditional knowledge and citizen science, and leading a network of community led conservation in Kilifi County, Kenya.

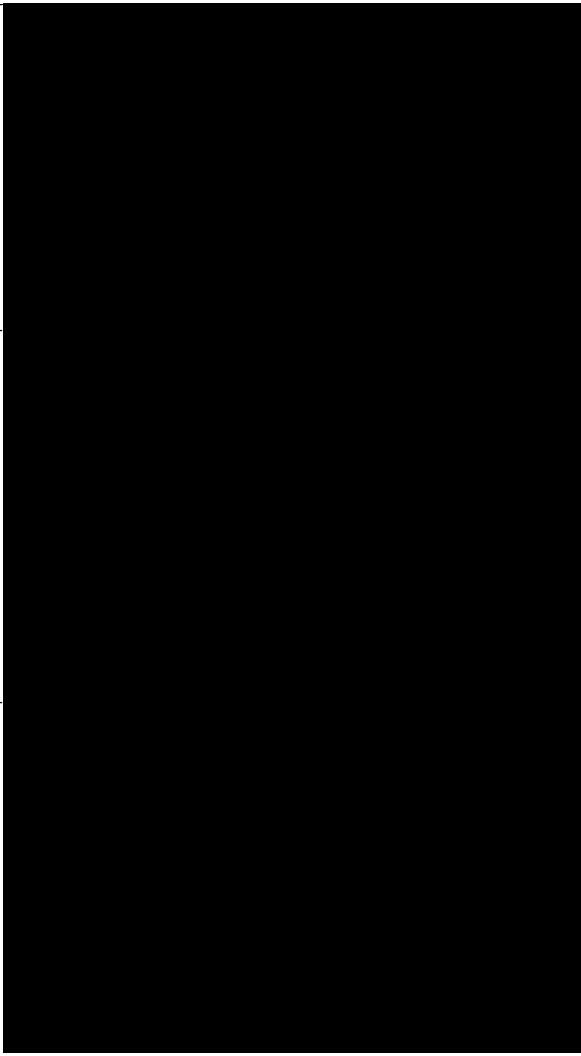

File Type (Image / Video / Graphic)	File Name or File Location	Caption, country and credit	Online accounts to be tagged (leave blank if none)	Consent of subjects received (delete as necessary)
Image		See d sorting at Ged e Tropical Nurs ery	Facebook: https://www.facebook.com/profile.php?id=100090199235799 Twitter: (1) African Botanic Garden Network (@AfricaBGN) / Twitter Facebook: Botanic Gardens Conservation International	Yes
Image		Work ongo ing at Kaya Kau ma nurs ery	Facebook: https://www.facebook.com/profile.php?id=100090199235799 Twitter: (1) African Botanic Garden Network (@AfricaBGN) / Twitter Facebook: Botanic Gardens Conservation International	Yes
Image		See d colle ctors at Kaya Cho nyi	Facebook: https://www.facebook.com/profile.php?id=100090199235799 Twitter: (1) African Botanic Garden Network (@AfricaBGN) / Twitter Facebook: Botanic Gardens Conservation International	Yes

Image		Production at Green Hearts of Kenya nursery	Facebook: https://www.facebook.com/profile.php?id=100090199235799 Twitter: (1) African Botanic Garden Network (@AfricaBGN) / Twitter Facebook: Botanic Gardens Conservation International	Yes
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Annex 1: Report of progress and achievements against logframe for Financial Year 2022-2023

Project summary	SMART Indicators	Progress and Achievements April 2022 - March 2023	Actions required/planned for next period
<p>Impact</p> <p>Patches of Eastern Africa Coastal Forest are re-connected providing conservation of threatened species and employment for local people who are working to protect, manage and restore this global biodiversity hotspot.</p>		<p>Promoting the incorporation of native and threatened species into ecosystem restoration, agroforestry projects and tree-planting project, the project has a positive impact on biodiversity of the Eastern Africa Coastal Forest. The development of a County Indigenous Tree Planting Policy is contributing to protection of forest fragments. The project is employing 136 (117 during year 1) people and it will create new opportunities for local communities from activities as restoration, carbon credit and ecosystem services.</p>	
<p>Outcome</p> <p>Kilifi County provides a scalable model of best practice restoration for the Eastern Africa Coastal Forest hotspot providing employment to 136 local people and conservation of 40 threatened species</p>	<p>0.1 County-level restoration model is developed and published by end of year 3</p> <p>0.2 By end of year 3, the model is scaling up in Kilifi county, with matched funding raised and additional sites under restoration</p> <p>0.3 By end of year 3, the model has been shared with at least 40 organisations from across the Eastern Africa Coastal Forest hotspot</p> <p>0.4 136 people trained and employed in restoration enterprises from year 1 - year 3</p> <p>0.5 40 threatened species more secure <i>in situ</i>, and incorporated into restoration by end of year 3</p>	<p>0.1 Activities to achieve this outcome have been started at preliminary level and impacts will be measure by Y3</p> <p>0.2 Activities to achieve this outcome are planned by Y3</p> <p>0.3 Activities to achieve this outcome are planned by Y3</p> <p>0.4 112 people have been trained so far in restoration and 114 people have been employed in restoration (plus 11 temporary workers)</p> <p>0.5 So far 28 threatened species have been identified and monitoring have started. This activity will continue in year 2 and 3.</p>	<p>During year 2 training in restoration techniques will be completed and more people employed.</p>
<p>Output 1. Remaining forest fragments mapped and their potential as seed</p>	<p>1.1 Existing information on coastal forest patches collated by end of Q2</p>	<p>1.1 Report on status of remaining forest patches published in Q2. Evidence provided in section 3.1 of report and Annex 6</p>	

sources or tree islands better understood	<p>1.2 Satellite imagery, drone imagery and site visits used to identify and verify important sites and mother trees, select project sites by end of year 1, and extended across coastal Kilifi by end of year 2</p> <p>1.3 County map of remnant forest patches, mother trees, priority sites for protection & restoration published, using IUCN ROAM map as base layer and indicating restoration approach, by end of year 2</p>	<p>1.2 Annotated satellite and drone imagery and reports from site visits. Evidence provided in section 3.1 of report and Annex 17.</p> <p>1.3 Planned by year 2</p>	
<i>Activity 1.1.1 Collate existing maps and species lists for forests of Kilifi County, including analysis of herbarium vouchers</i>	1.1.1 Google earth map created and species list produced (Annex 5)	1.1.1 Completed	
<i>Activity 1.1.2 Write a report on the status of remaining forest patches</i>	1.1.2 Report on the status of the remaining forest patches have been produced (see Annex 6)	1.1.2 Completed	
<i>Activity 1.2.1 Obtain satellite imagery and drone images for remnant forest patches and potential restoration sites.</i>	1.2.1 Initial draft maps have been developed and revisions on the maps are currently ongoing	1.2.1 On going. In year 2 the maps will be published on-line	
<i>Activity 1.2.2 Visit sites for verification, identify and obtain GPS points for mother trees and populations</i>	1.2.2 Site verification done in the forest fragments selected for seed collection and localization of mother trees	1.2.1 On going: to be completed in Year 2 for all species and other areas	
<i>Activity 1.2.3 Share data with project team and refine list of project sites before end of year 1</i>	1.2.3 Restoration sites identified based on criteria and validated from all partners during a workshop (Annex 17 and 18)	1.2.3 Completed	
<i>Activity 1.2.4 Scale up activities 1.2.1 – 1.2.3 across the whole of Kilifi County</i>	1.2.4 Gathering information on the remaining forest fragments and potential restoration sites along the larger Kilifi County is started	1.2.4 On going: to be finalised by year 3	
<i>Activity 1.3.1 Publish map for review</i>	1.3.1 Activity planned for Y2	1.3.1 Activity planned for Y2	

<i>Activity 1.3.2 Publish final version of map online and open access</i>		1.3.2 Activity planned for Y2	1.3.2 Activity planned for Y2
<p>Output 2. 136 people from marginalised groups in Kilifi County have improved capacity to engage in forest restoration and protection activities and are employed in new or expanded restoration enterprises and 1,000 additional households are benefitting from trees on farms</p>	<p>2.1 Based on restoration site selection (Output 1), and working with Kenya Forest Service (KFS), kaya elders, Friends of Arabuko-Sokoke Forest and other partners, 136 people (target at least 50% women and 50% youth) identified to be trained and employed, and at least 1,000 homesteads for planting identified by end of year 1</p> <p>2.2 Training on monitoring phenology and seed collection delivered to 60 people; Training on propagation and nursery management and business skills delivered to 40 additional people; Training on restoration techniques, aftercare and monitoring delivered to 30 additional people; Training on education and outreach delivered to 3 additional people; And training given to 3 additional people as seed technicians (target at least 50% women and 50% youth), by end of year 2</p> <p>2.3 All 136 trainees employed by restoration enterprises and receiving higher than average daily income of 725 Kenyan Shillings by end of year 1, and in years 2 and 3</p> <p>2.4 1,000 additional households benefitting from trees on farms (useful species and woodlots) and guidance on how to manage them, by end of year 3</p>	<p>2.1 117 people have been engaged in project for training and employment (total of 53 women and 64 youth). 1,300 homesteads have been identified for planting</p> <p>2.2 61 people (22 women and 34 youth) have been trained on monitoring phenology and seed collection; 51 people (31 women and 30 youth) have been trained on propagation and nursery management; 3 youth (2 female and 1 male) have been trained on education and outreach People will be trained in restoration techniques and as seed technicians in year 2</p> <p>2.3 60 people have been employed as seed collectors and 51 as nursery workers. 3 people have been working as restoration workers for clearing the site of Green Hearth of Kenya. 3 people as education officers. Additional 11 temporary workers (5 in the nurseries and 6 as seed collectors) have been employed in the last month of year 1. Additional 6 people have been working as forest scouts and supporting the seed collectors. 6 people working preparing the site of Catholic Diocese of Malindi.</p> <p>2.4 1,300 households identified, and planting will start beginning of year 2</p>	

<i>Activity 2.1.1 Carry out gender mainstreaming training with KFS, Kaya Elders, and other partners prior to selection of communities and homesteads to be involve in the project</i>	2.1.1 Training held in December 2022	2.1.1 Completed
<i>Activity 2.1.2 Hold meetings with KFS, Kaya elders and other partners to identify 136 people to train and employ through the project and determine their roles based on proximity to sites and interests</i>	2.1.2 117 people have been identified for training and employment	2.1.2 To be completed in year 2 with restoration techniques and seed technicians training and employment
<i>Activity 2.2.1 Provide theory and practical training on monitoring phenology and seed collection including Access and Benefit Sharing best practice to 60 people close to seed collection sites, on propagation, nursery management and business skills to an additional 40 people close to nursery sites, on restoration techniques, aftercare and monitoring to an additional 30 people close to restoration sites, on education and outreach to 3 additional people and on seed handling, germination testing and storage to and additional 3 people</i>	2.2.1 Training on monitoring phenology and seed collection have been provided to 61 people; training on propagation and nursery management have been conducted for 51 people. 3 additional people have been trained on education and outreach	2.2.1 To be competed in Year 2 with restoration techniques and seed technicians trainings
<i>Activity 2.2.2 Assess employees work and provide top-up training to all trainees as required at the start of each project year</i>	2.2.2 Activity planned in year 2	2.2.2 During the next Steering Committee (planned in May) the assessment format will be discuss and implemented in the following weeks. Based on the assessment results top-up trainings will be organised as required
<i>Activity 2.2.3 Provide certificates to each trainee for each completed course</i>	2.2.3 Certificates designed and printed	2.2.3 Certificates to be distributed beginning of year 2
<i>Activity 2.3.1 Appoint consult to carry out baseline socioeconomic survey</i>	2.3.1 Consultant to carry out a baseline socioeconomic survey has been appointed; the survey has been conducted with 285 people interviewed	2.3.2 Completed
<i>Activity 2.3.2 Provide each trainee with an employment contract specifying expected number of days work depending on the role</i>	2.3.2 117 people are employed under a contract	2.3.2 To continue in year 2 employing people in restoration and seed technicians
<i>Activity 2.3.3 Provide regular payments to each employee throughout the project</i>	2.3.3 Payments for each employee during year 1 have been provided	2.3.3 To continue in year 2
<i>Activity 2.3.4 Provide continued employment contracts to as many employees as possible before project end (depending on matched funding and success of seedling marketing) and provide reference letters to employees whose employment cannot be continued</i>	2.3.4 Activity planned for year 3	2.3.4 Activity planned for year 3
<i>Activity 2.3.5 Consultant repeats socio-economic survey</i>	2.3.5 Activity planned for year 3	2.3.5 Activity planned for year 3

<p><i>Activity 2.4.1 Carry out and repeat surveys in years 1, 2 and 3 at 100 selected homesteads recording number of trees planted, recognised benefits, and change in demand for native species</i></p>	<p>2.4.1 Activity to be implemented in year 2 and 3 (no planting in year 1)</p>	<p>2.4.1 Activity to be implemented in year 2 and 3</p>
<p>Output 3. Supply of and demand for seed and seedlings of native and threatened species increased in Kilifi County</p>	<p>3.1 Required infrastructure improvements for each nursery carried out by end of year 1</p> <p>3.2 Based on identification of priority sites for survey and collection (Output 1), 150 species, including 40 threatened species, monitored <i>in situ</i> and seed collected from year 1 to year 3</p> <p>3.3 Seed of 150 species stored & planted in nurseries, with storage and propagation protocols developed, and total 400,000 seedlings grown by end of year 3</p> <p>3.4 160,000 seedlings of 150 species supplied to project restoration sites (Output 1) by end of year 3</p> <p>3.5 86,000 seedlings of 100 species sold from nurseries by end of year 2 and a further 154,000 seedlings of 150 species by end of year 3</p>	<p>3.1 Nurseries infrastructures have been improved for 5 partners and 3 communities' nurseries (Kaya)</p> <p>3.2 141 species (out of which 28 threatened) have been already identified and seed collection from 56 species started; monitoring <i>in situ</i> for the 28 threatened species identified is on going</p> <p>3.3 Seedling production records on going; Seed bank records on going; Published propagation & storage protocols by year 3</p> <p>3.4 3107 seedlings of 42 species already procured to be planting in the restoration sites in year 2. More seedlings will be supplied for restoration in year 2 and 3</p> <p>3.5 Planned by year 2 and 3</p>
<p><i>Activity 3.1.1. Procure and install equipment for nursery improvements, including installation of Terraformation seed bank</i></p>	<p>3.1.1 Nurseries improved for all partners. New seed bank from Terraformation was not supported but the seed bank at Brackenhurst is available and it will be use as a backup and a simple seed bank at Gede Tropical Nursery has been installed</p>	<p>3.1.1 Completed</p>
<p><i>Activity 3.2.1 Obtain permission from relevant authorities, traditional leaders and private landowners to carry out survey work and collect propagation material from additional sites</i></p>	<p>3.2.1 Permission obtained where needed</p>	<p>3.2.1 To be repeated for some sites in year 2 and 3</p>

<i>Activity 3.2.2 Survey team from NMK carry out survey of additional reference forests, recording and mapping species present and recording phenological information, supplement survey data with herbarium record data, and produce target species list for each site</i>		3.2.2 A comprehensive survey has been carried out by NMK and a target species list has been produced	3.2.2 The list will be kept being update in year 2
<i>Activity 3.2.3 Trained seed collectors assigned to continue survey, monitoring and recording phenology of each target species, collecting seed when available and taking it to nurseries</i>		3.2.3 The seed collectors trained have been assigned to conduct survey, monitoring and recording phenology, and to collect seed for propagation. The activities started and will continue	3.2.3 Activity will continue during all project duration
<i>Activity 3.3.1 Trained nursery workers plant seed, care for seedlings and document propagation protocols</i>		3.3.1 3107 seedlings of 42 species are in production and propagation protocols are working in progress for 10 species	3.3.1 Activity will continue during all project duration
<i>Activity 3.3.2 Trained seed technicians carry out germination and storage testing on a portion of seed, and document germination and storage protocols.</i>		3.3.2 Most of the activity has been moved to year 2. However, germination tests and development of propagation protocols for 10 species have been started, with the support of NMK	3.3.2 Activity will continue during all project duration
<i>Activity 3.4.1 Maintain records of seed and seedling availability and provenance, price (for 3.5) and utility of each species at each nursery</i>		3.4.1 Records of seeds collected and seedlings produced has been kept at nursery level, with information for each species recorded. A data management tool to track production from all nurseries has been put in place	3.4.1 Activity will continue during all project duration
<i>Activity 3.4.2 Using target species lists and provenance of propagation material, supply the most appropriate seedlings for planting at each project restoration site</i>		3.4.2 Seedling produced during year 1 are not mature enough to be planted, but other seedling produced previously from some of the partners have been supplied and will be planted during the raining season in appropriate restoration sites.	3.4.2 Activity will continue during all project duration
<i>Activity 3.5.1 Nursery workers meet with potential seedling purchasers at nurseries, and visit their planting sites, to provide guidance on appropriate species for planting</i>		3.5.1 Activity planned in year 2 and 3	3.5.1 Activity planned in year 2 and 3
<i>Activity 3.5.2 Maintain records of seedlings sold, to who and for what purpose</i>		3.5.2 Activity planned in year 2 and 3	3.5.2 Activity planned in year 2 and 3
Output 4. Restoration demonstration sites established that follow best practice, trial and monitor different restoration approaches, promote the	4.1 Restoration advisory group formally established by end of Q2 year 1 and meeting at least twice per year	4.1 The restoration advisory group has been constituted with 6 members and the first meeting happened in December 2022. Members from the restoration advisory group also took part to the restoration site selection (Annex 17 and 18)	

<p>use of native and threatened species and act as demonstration sites</p>	<p>4.2 Sites confirmed for restoration, permission to restore obtained, baseline surveys carried out, appropriate restoration approaches identified and monitoring plan defined for each site by end of year 1</p> <p>4.3 180 ha brought under ecological restoration, including planting at least 140,000 seedlings of 150 species from Q3 year 1 to project end</p> <p>4.4 1,000 homesteads trialling planting of native and threatened trees, with at least 10 trees each (10,000 total) to further enhance connectivity, including useful species, alongside woodlots for income, by end of year 3 and 10,000 trees planted in schools to further enhance connectivity, with 1,000 students involved in planting and education activities by end of year 3</p> <p>4.5 At least 300 people from at least 50 organisations visiting restoration sites by project end</p>	<p>4.2 Delineated restoration sites (Annex 19); Written agreements demonstrating permission to restore when need, obtained (Annex 21); Baseline reports (Annex 22); Published restoration and monitoring plans (Annex 20)</p> <p>4.3 On going. First results will be reported in year 2.</p> <p>4.4 1,300 homesteads identified (see Annex 21) and 11 schools. Planting to start in year 2.</p> <p>4.5 To be reported in year 2 and 3</p>
<p><i>Activity 4.1.1 Formally invite identified representatives to sit on the restoration advisory group via phone calls, emails and requesting each member to sign a project agreement</i></p>		<p>4.1.1 6 members have been formally invited and accepted to be part of the Restoration Advisory Group (RAG), with Term of Reference shared and agreed</p> <p>4.1.1 Completed</p>
<p><i>Activity 4.1.2 Hold meetings of the advisory group at least twice per year to review restoration progress</i></p>		<p>4.1.2 The first RAG meeting has been held in December 2022</p> <p>4.1.2 Second RAG meeting planned for May 2023</p>
<p><i>Activity 4.2.1 Continue analysis and delineation of candidate sites for restoration using satellite / drone imagery and site visits</i></p>		<p>4.2.1 Selection of sites for restoration has been done based on the criteria and guidance provided by the restoration consultant (Rapid site assessment and report indications), the Restoration Advisory Group and site visits with all partners involved. 6 sites have been already selected for a total of approximately 132 hectares.</p> <p>4.2.1 During year 2 we will continue the analysis to include other site for restoration and/or woodlots.</p>

	Woodlots have been also established in partnership with other stakeholders.	
<i>Activity 4.2.2 Hold meetings with government, kaya elders, private landowners including farmers and schools, to obtain written permission to restore selected sites</i>	4.2.2 Verbal or written permission has been obtained for the selected restoration sites	4.2.2 Completed. If additional sites for restoration will be identified, the same process will be applied
<i>Activity 4.2.3 Survey team from the National Museums of Kenya (NMK) carry out baseline ecological surveys at each restoration site, documenting number of remaining natural regenerants presence of invasive plants, current and past land-use and level of degradation (following methodology from Restoring Tropical Forests: A Practical Guide”)</i>	4.2.3 The baseline ecological survey has been carried out by a team from the National Museums of Kenya and a rapid site assessment has been conducted for the restoration sites. The report has been presented during a validation workshop attended by the representatives of the restoration sites, main stakeholder, members of RAG and the restoration consultant	4.2.3 Completed
<i>Activity 4.2.4 Hold meetings with NMK survey team, landowners, kaya elders, local communities, other stakeholders and restoration advisory group to determine appropriate restoration methodology at each site and develop monitoring plan for each site</i>	4.2.4 Numerous community meetings were held with the communities and other stakeholders, site visits were organised to decide on appropriate restoration methodology and those were discussed during a validation workshop	4.2.4 Completed
<i>Activity 4.3.1 Procure equipment required to support restoration activities, including for water supply, planting and monitoring</i>	4.3.1 Few equipment needed for the restoration has been procured and one vulnerable demonstration site has been fenced	4.3.1 To be completed during year 2, based on the methodology and needs for each restoration site
<i>Activity 4.3.2 Community members (trained in Output 2) carry out initial site preparation, including invasive plant removal, and hole digging for sites that require planting</i>	4.3.2 Training (Output 2) on restoration will be organised in year 2 and after that the site preparation will start	4.3.2 People from the community will be selected to be trained and employed for the restoration work
<i>Activity 4.3.3 Plant seedlings out on sites (except those where Assisted Natural Regeneration is identified as the most appropriate restoration approach) aligning with rainy seasons (quarters shaded align with expected rainy seasons, but rain at the coast can be variable)</i>	4.3.3 Due to delay in the raining season the activity has been postpone	4.3.3 Plantation will start in April/May 2023 but the main planting activity will be done during October - December
<i>Activity 4.3.4 Carry out site maintenance, including watering, removal of invasive species</i>	4.3.4 The activity needed for each restoration site have been identified and will start in May	4.3.4 Activity will start beginning of year 2
<i>Activity 4.3.5 Collect and analyse monitoring data from all restoration sites at least twice per year (following the plan and indicators defined in 1.3)</i>	4.3.5 Since the restoration activity didn't start in year 1, this will start in year 2	4.3.5 The activity will be implemented during year 2 and 3

<p><i>Activity 4.4.1 Work with kaya elders and government to identify 1,000 homesteads and schools within the restoration area to plant trees</i></p>	<p>4.4.1 1,300 homesteads and 11 schools identified</p>	<p>4.4.1 Completed</p>
<p><i>Activity 4.4.2 Carry out focus group discussions to identify which trees farmers and schools are interested in (specific tree species and what uses they are interested in, e.g. timber, fodder, etc.)</i></p>	<p>4.4.2 Focus group carried out during the socio-economic survey and additional 6 communities meetings</p>	<p>4.4.2 Completed</p>
<p><i>Activity 4.4.3 Establish five demonstration homesteads and 1 demonstration school</i></p>	<p>4.4.3 To be implemented in year 2</p>	<p>4.4.3 To be implemented in year 2</p>
<p><i>Activity 4.4.4 Host meetings at demonstration homesteads and demonstration schools to engage additional farmers and schools and promote the benefits of planting native and threatened species</i></p>	<p>4.4.4 To be implemented in year 2 and 3</p>	<p>4.4.4 To be implemented in year 2 and 3</p>
<p><i>Activity 4.4.5 Provide interested homestead owners within the project area and schools with trees, guidance, and planting support</i></p>	<p>4.4.5 To be implemented in year 2</p>	<p>4.4.5 To be implemented in year 2</p>
<p><i>Activity 4.4.6 Collect and analyse monitoring data from homesteads and schools at least twice per year (following the plan and indicators defined in 1.3)</i></p>	<p>4.4.6 To be implemented in year 2 and 3</p>	<p>4.4.6 To be implemented in year 2 and 3</p>
<p><i>Activity 4.5.1 Identify target organisations, groups and influential people to invite to visit sites</i></p>	<p>4.5.1 The restoration sites in year 1 were still in process to be set up, so no visits have been organised. However, conservation organisations, schools and private sector to be invited next year, have been already identified</p>	<p>4.5.1 This activity has been already planned to start as soon as the restoration site are in place</p>
<p><i>Activity 4.5.2 Host visits to Kenya Forest Service staff, county government staff, tree planting organisations and corporates to demonstrate different restoration techniques and the benefits of planting native and threatened species</i></p>	<p>4.5.2 Activity to be implemented in year 2 and 3</p>	<p>4.5.2 Activity to be implemented in year 2 and 3</p>
<p>Output 5. Mechanisms in place to ensure long-term sustainability of project outcomes, scalability within Kilifi County and replicability across the Eastern Africa Coastal Forest hotspot</p>	<p>5.1 Connections made with tree planting organisations and private landowners from day 1 and throughout the project, and a county-level marketing campaign launched to promote planting native and threatened trees and availability of seed and seedlings from nurseries, from year 1 to year 3</p> <p>5.2 Carbon financing partner secured by end of year 1 to ensure continued</p>	<p>5.1 During year 1 we have started making connections with some tree planting organisations as Catholic Diocese of Malindi, who have 21 parishes across the coast of Malindi and already committed 8.5 acres to be restored. In addition, 1,350 acres of farmers land have been committed by the farmers for total of 71,000 trees to be planted.</p> <p>5.2 To be implemented in year 1</p>

	<p>economic benefits for communities beyond the timeframe of the project</p> <p>5.3 Public sensitized about the value of protecting native trees, via county media channels in years 1, 2 and 3</p> <p>5.4 Restoration approaches documented and made available in an open access manual, and training on Ten Golden Rules for Reforestation delivered to KFS staff across Kilifi County and 20 additional tree planting organisations working in Kilifi by end of year 3</p> <p>5.5 County-level tree planting policy developed with local and national government for large scale tree planting or rehabilitation projects, and zoning of areas for continued protection and future restoration by end of year 3</p> <p>5.6 Restoration model and project outcomes shared with at least 40 additional organisations from across the EACF hotspot by end of year 3</p>	<p>5.3 About 10 community meetings, with an approximate attendance of 500 people in total have been conducted in the project areas. These meetings were held to create more awareness on indigenous tree planting and the Kaya Connect project. County level campaigns and launching of the marketing strategy which was prepared in year 1 will be executed in year 2, beginning April 2023.</p> <p>5.4 Activity to be implemented in year 2 and 3.</p> <p>5.5 To be implemented in year 2 and 3</p> <p>5.6 To be implemented by year 3</p>	
<p><i>Activity 5.1.1 Work with marketing consultant to develop a marketing plan and carry out review of who to target to purchase seed or seedlings</i></p>		<p>5.1.1 A team of communication and marketing consultants has been contracted and draft strategies have been developed</p>	<p>5.1.1 Implementation plan for communication and marketing strategies has been prepared and will be implemented during year 2 and 3</p>
<p><i>Activity 5.1.2 Aligning with marketing plan, develop marketing and outreach materials for all nurseries, promoting the native and threatened species available, including printed materials, online and via media channels</i></p>		<p>5.1.2 Some marketing and outreach materials have been produced but more and tailored for each nursery will be produced in year 2 and 3</p>	<p>5.1.2 To be implemented in year 2 and 3</p>
<p><i>Activity 5.1.3 Host talks and tours at nurseries to show availability and diversity of native and threatened species available</i></p>		<p>5.1.3 Activity to be implemented in year 2 and 3</p>	<p>5.1.3 Activity to be implemented in year 2 and 3</p>

<i>Activity 5.1.4 Monitor success of marketing work, including number of people reached, number of new partners purchasing native or threatened trees who weren't before and seedling sales (3.4)</i>	5.1.4 Activity to be implemented in year 2 and 3	5.1.4 Activity to be implemented in year 2 and 3
<i>Activity 5.2.1 Connect restoration sites and partners to Terraformation, who will register the carbon project with Plan Vivo</i>	5.2.1 After the proposed partner for this component, Terraformation, has indicated they can't play this role anymore, due to the evolving characteristics of our project, which do not fit into the kind of projects they prefer to work with, we have agreed with Plan Vivo, who are interested in smaller and complex projects that focus more on biodiversity and livelihoods rather than simply carbon sequestration.	5.2.1 Connection with Plan Vivo will continue in year 2
<i>Activity 5.2.2 Ensure a fair, equitable and fully understood mechanism for sharing income is in place</i>	5.2.2 Due to the change of partner, the registration process has been delayed and this activity will start in year 2	5.2.2 Activity will be implemented in year 2
<i>Activity 5.2.3 Ensure monitoring approach provides all relevant data required for obtaining carbon credits, adapt where needed, and share monitoring data with carbon financing partner</i>	5.2.3 Due to the change of partner, the registration process has been delayed and this activity will start in year 2	5.2.3 Activity will be implemented in year 2
<i>Activity 5.3.1 Work with project marketing consultant to identify target audiences and appropriate channels for raising awareness of the value of native and threatened trees and develop key messages</i>	5.3.1 A communication and marketing strategy, including a social media strategy has been developed	5.3.1 Completed
<i>Activity 5.3.2 Based on results of 5.3.1 run media campaign via various channels (newspapers, radio, etc.)</i>	5.3.2 Activity to be implemented in year 2 and 3	5.3.2 Activity to be implemented in year 2 and 3
<i>Activity 5.4.1 Work with KFS to identify key staff to train (target 50 KFS staff), identify and approach target tree planting organisation in Kilifi that require training (target 20 organisations) and carry out baseline knowledge assessment</i>	5.4.1 The restoration sites that will be managed by Kenya Forest Service under their "Adopt a forest" program that allows from restoration actors to restore and manage part of the degraded forest land allocated to them, were not yet identified. The process of getting the approval could not be completed in the first year of the project because of prolonged government processes.	5.4.1 Activity to be implemented in year 2

	Therefore, this activity has been postponed to year 2.	
<i>Activity 5.4.2 Deliver training course on Ten Golden Rules for Reforestation</i>	5.4.2 Training delivered in January 2023, attended by 25 people. Trainer was the co-author from Kew Garden.	5.4.2 Completed
<i>Activity 5.4.3 Collate and review monitoring data from restoration sites (Output 1), document methodology and lessons learnt in an open access manual / similar (determined by 4.3.1)</i>	5.4.3 To be implemented in year 2 and 3	5.4.3 To be implemented in year 2 and 3
<i>Activity 5.4.4 Manual reviewed by restoration advisory group and trialled with focus group prior to publication</i>	5.4.4 Activity to be implemented at the end of year 3	5.4.4 Activity to be implemented at the end of year 3
<i>Activity 5.5.1 Work with County Government and KFS to determine which stakeholders to be involved in county-level plan development and formally invite them to be part of the process</i>	5.5.1 Discussion with the County Government and Kenya Forest Service has been carried on selecting stakeholders to be involved in the plan development. List of participants for the initial workshop was developed and the participants invited	5.5.1 Completed
<i>Activity 5.5.2 Hold initial workshop to develop aims, timeframe and content of the plan</i>	5.5.2 An initial workshop has been held in March 2023 with 29 participants, during which a gap analysis of the existing policy, resources and stakeholders has been done and next steps for the planning process have been determined	5.5.2 Completed
<i>Activity 5.5.3 Hold additional workshops to develop plan, collaboratively draft and review plan in between workshops, including zoning of areas using map produced in 4.4</i>	5.5.3 Activity to be implemented in year 2 and 3	5.5.3 Activity to be implemented in year 2 and 3
<i>Activity 5.5.4 Publish plan and hold workshop to share plan with stakeholders across Kilifi County</i>	5.5.4 Activity to be implemented at the end of year 3	5.5.4 Activity to be implemented at the end of year 3
<i>Activity 5.6.1 Identify tree planting and conservation organisations, corporates supporting tree planting, from across the EACF who would benefit from project model and resources</i>	5.6.1 Activity to be implemented in year 2	5.6.1 Activity to be implemented in year 2

<p><i>Activity 5.6.2 Identify relevant forums for promoting the model, including the Kenya National Landscape Scaling Conference (assuming follow up sessions will occur)</i></p>	<p>5.6.2 Activity to be implemented in year 2</p>	<p>5.6.2 Activity to be implemented in year 2</p>
<p><i>Activity 5.6.3 Hold webinars and meetings to share model and project outcomes, assessing audience engagement via polls and follow-up surveys</i></p>	<p>5.6.3 Activity to be implemented in year 2 and 3</p>	<p>5.6.3 Activity to be implemented in year 2 and 3</p>

Annex 2: Project's full current logframe as presented in the application form (unless changes have been agreed)

Project summary	SMART Indicators	Means of verification	Important Assumptions
Impact: Patches of Eastern Africa Coastal Forest are re-connected providing conservation of threatened species and employment for local people who are working to protect, manage and restore this global biodiversity hotspot.			
Outcome: Kilifi County provides a scalable model of best practice restoration for the Eastern Africa Coastal Forest hotspot providing employment to 136 local people and conservation of 40 threatened species	0.1 County-level restoration model is developed and published by end of year 3 0.2 By end of year 3, the model is scaling up in Kilifi county, with matched funding raised and additional sites under restoration 0.3 By end of year 3, the model has been shared with at least 40 organisations from across the Eastern Africa Coastal Forest hotspot 0.4 136 people trained and employed in restoration enterprises from year 1 - year 3 0.5 40 threatened species more secure in situ, and incorporated into restoration by end of year 3	0.1 Best practice manual, county-level tree planting policy, restoration demonstration sites 0.2 Grant agreements, partnership agreements for carbon finance, map and satellite/drone imagery of sites under restoration 0.3 Webinar recordings, minutes from meetings 0.4 Assessment of skills before and after training for all trainees; Records of payments made to 136 employed people 0.5 Monitoring reports, photos and survey points for trees / populations <i>in situ</i> ; Records of seedlings of each species propagated and planted	Proposed activities are still possible under COVID-19 restrictions (helped by the fact that the majority of project activities can be done outside)
Output 1 Remaining forest fragments mapped and their potential as seed sources or tree islands better understood	1.1 Existing information on coastal forest patches collated by end of Q2 1.2 Satellite imagery, drone imagery and site visits used to identify and verify important sites and mother trees, select project sites by end of year 1, and extended across coastal Kilifi by end of year 2 1.3 County map of remnant forest patches, mother trees, priority sites for	1.1 Report on status of remaining forest patches published in Q2 1.2 Annotated satellite and drone imagery and reports from site visits 1.3 Map published and available online	

	protection & restoration published, using IUCN ROAM map as base layer and indicating restoration approach, by end of year 2		
<p>Output 2</p> <p>136 people from marginalised groups in Kilifi County have improved capacity to engage in forest restoration and protection activities and are employed in new or expanded restoration enterprises and 1,000 additional households are benefitting from trees on farms</p>	<p>2.1 Based on restoration site selection (Output 1), and working with Kenya Forest Service (KFS), kaya elders, Friends of Arabuko-Sokoke Forest and other partners, 136 people (target at least 50% women and 50% youth) identified to be trained and employed, and at least 1,000 homesteads for planting identified by end of year 1</p> <p>2.2 Training on monitoring phenology and seed collection delivered to 60 people; Training on propagation and nursery management and business skills delivered to 40 additional people; Training on restoration techniques, aftercare and monitoring delivered to 30 additional people; Training on education and outreach delivered to 3 additional people; And training given to 3 additional people as seed technicians (target at least 50% women and 50% youth), by end of year 2</p> <p>2.3 All 136 trainees employed by restoration enterprises and receiving higher than average daily income of 725 Kenyan Shillings by end of year 1, and in years 2 and 3</p> <p>2.4 1,000 additional households benefitting from trees on farms (useful species and woodlots) and guidance on how to manage them, by end of year 3</p>	<p>2.1 Records of people engaged in project and project role</p> <p>2.2 Assessment of skills before and after training for all trainees; Training resources; Training course attendance records and certificates</p> <p>2.3 Records of regular salary payments to all employed staff; Baseline and end of project socio-economic surveys carried out by an independent consultant</p> <p>2.4 Baseline and end of project socio-economic surveys, including questions on recognised benefits of native species</p>	<p>Training is still possible under future COVID-19 restrictions (helped by the fact that the majority of training can be done outside)</p>
<p>Output 3</p>	<p>3.1 Required infrastructure improvements for each nursery carried out by end of year 1</p>	<p>3.1 Photos of nursery sites; Receipts to show material purchases</p>	<p>Access will be given to additional sites for seed collection (permission of many sites already obtained)</p>

<p>Supply of and demand for seed and seedlings of native and threatened species increased in Kilifi County</p>	<p>3.2 Based on identification of priority sites for survey and collection (Output 1), 150 species, including 40 threatened species, monitored <i>in situ</i> and seed collected from year 1 to year 3</p> <p>3.3 Seed of 150 species stored & planted in nurseries, with storage and propagation protocols developed, and total 400,000 seedlings grown by end of year 3</p> <p>3.4 160,000 seedlings of 150 species supplied to project restoration sites (Output 1) by end of year 3</p> <p>3.5 86,000 seedlings of 100 species sold from nurseries by end of year 2 and a further 154,000 seedlings of 150 species by end of year 3</p>	<p>3.2 Data capture forms from seed collecting trips; GPS points added to map</p> <p>3.3 Seedling production records; Seed bank records; Published propagation & storage protocols</p> <p>3.4 Nursery records of number of seedlings of each species supplied to each site</p> <p>3.5 Nursery records of who is purchasing seed or seedlings, how much and for what purpose</p>	<p>Water supply is available at nurseries (mitigated by working with existing nurseries but the risk could increase if rains are poor)</p> <p>Costs of native seedlings are appealing to purchasers</p>
<p>Output 4</p> <p>Restoration demonstration sites established that follow best practice, trial and monitor different restoration approaches, promote the use of native and threatened species and act as demonstration sites</p>	<p>4.1 Restoration advisory group formally established by end of Q2 year 1 and meeting at least twice per year</p> <p>4.2 Sites confirmed for restoration, permission to restore obtained, baseline surveys carried out, appropriate restoration approaches identified and monitoring plan defined for each site by end of year 1</p> <p>4.3 180 ha brought under ecological restoration, including planting at least 140,000 seedlings of 150 species from Q3 year 1 to project end</p> <p>4.4 1,000 homesteads trialling planting of native and threatened trees, with at least 10 trees each (10,000 total) to further enhance connectivity, including useful species, alongside woodlots for</p>	<p>4.1 List of restoration advisory group members and minutes of advisory group meetings</p> <p>4.2 Delineated restoration sites; Written agreements demonstrating permission to restore; Baseline reports; Published restoration and monitoring plans</p> <p>4.3 – 4.4 Photos and satellite / drone imagery showing restoration sites and change over time; Monitoring data from each site (including number of seedlings planted and surviving, number of seedlings naturally regenerating, and all indicators defined in 1.2);</p>	<p>Water is available at sites for planted seedlings (mitigated by careful site selection and planning but the risk could increase if the rains are poor)</p> <p>Permission will be given to restore additional sites</p>

	<p>income, by end of year 3 and 10,000 trees planted in schools to further enhance connectivity, with 1,000 students involved in planting and education activities by end of year 3</p> <p>4.5 At least 300 people from at least 50 organisations visiting restoration sites by project end</p>	<p>4.5 Records of number of people, organisation, role in organisation, from each site</p>	
<p>Output 5</p> <p>Mechanisms in place to ensure long-term sustainability of project outcomes, scalability within Kilifi County and replicability across the Eastern Africa Coastal Forest hotspot</p>	<p>5.1 Connections made with tree planting organisations and private landowners from day 1 and throughout the project, and a county-level marketing campaign launched to promote planting native and threatened trees and availability of seed and seedlings from nurseries, from year 1 to year 3</p> <p>5.2 Carbon financing partner secured by end of year 1 to ensure continued economic benefits for communities beyond the timeframe of the project</p> <p>5.3 Public sensitized about the value of protecting native trees, via county media channels in years 1, 2 and 3</p> <p>5.4 Restoration approaches documented and made available in an open access manual, and training on Ten Golden Rules for Reforestation delivered to KFS staff across Kilifi County and 20 additional tree planting organisations working in Kilifi by end of year 3</p>	<p>5.1 Records of nursery visits; Newspaper articles; Recorded radio shows; Leaflets; Records of organisations purchasing and planting native and threatened trees</p> <p>5.2 MOU/similar between partner organisations, communities and carbon financing partner</p> <p>5.3 Newspaper articles, recorded webinars, recorded radio shows, information leaflets, posters</p> <p>5.4 Published and online tools and number of copies distributed / downloaded; Assessment of skills before and after training; Training course attendance records and certificates</p>	<p>Carbon markets remain strong during and after the project period (predictions look good) and interested buyers of carbon credits will be identified in the voluntary market</p>

	<p>5.5 County-level tree planting policy developed with local and national government for large scale tree planting or rehabilitation projects, and zoning of areas for continued protection and future restoration by end of year 3</p> <p>5.6 Restoration model and project outcomes shared with at least 40 additional organisations from across the EACF hotspot by end of year 3</p>	<p>5.5 Minutes from meetings; Published policy and zoning plan</p> <p>5.6 Attendance records for webinars; Recordings of webinars; Presentations given at Kenya National Landscape Scaling Conference and other similar forums; Poll results and Q&A from webinars measuring how many organisations intend to adopt the model; Follow-up surveys with attendees</p>	
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Activities (each activity is numbered according to the output that it will contribute towards, for example 1.1, 1.2 and 1.3 are contributing to Output 1)

Output 1 Remaining forest fragments mapped and their potential as seed sources or tree islands better understood

- 1.1.1 Collate existing maps and species lists for forests of Kilifi County, including analysis of herbarium vouchers
- 1.1.2 Write a report on the status of remaining forest patches
- 1.2.1 Obtain satellite imagery and drone images for remnant forest patches and potential restoration sites.
- 1.2.2 Visit sites for verification, identify and obtain GPS points for mother trees and populations
- 1.2.3 Share data with project team and refine list of project sites before end of year 1
- 1.2.4 Scale up activities 1.2.1 – 1.2.3 across the whole of Kilifi County
- 1.3.1 Publish map for review
- 1.3.2 Publish final version of map online and open access

Output 2 136 people from marginalised groups in Kilifi County have improved capacity to engage in forest restoration and protection activities and are employed in new or expanded restoration enterprises and 1,000 additional households are benefitting from trees on farms

- 2.1.1 Carry out gender mainstreaming training with KFS, kaya elders and other partners prior to selection of communities and homesteads to be involved in the project
- 2.1.2 Hold meetings with KFS, kaya elders and other partners to identify 136 people to train and employ through the project and determine their roles based on proximity to sites and interests

- 2.2.1 Provide theory and practical training on monitoring phenology and seed collection including Access and Benefit Sharing best practice to 60 people close to seed collection sites, on propagation, nursery management and business skills to an additional 40 people close to nursery sites, on restoration techniques, aftercare and monitoring to an additional 30 people close to restoration sites, on education and outreach to 3 additional people and on seed handling, germination testing and storage to an additional 3 people
- 2.2.2 Assess employees work and provide top-up training to all trainees as required at the start of each project year
- 2.2.3 Provide certificates to each trainee for each completed course
- 2.3.1 Appoint a consultant to carry out baseline socio-economic survey
- 2.3.2 Provide each trainee with an employment contract specifying expected number of days work depending on the role
- 2.3.3 Provide regular payments to each employee throughout the project
- 2.3.4 Provide continued employment contracts to as many employees as possible before project end (depending on matched funding and success of seedling marketing) and provide reference letters to employees whose employment cannot be continued
- 2.3.5 Consultant repeats socio-economic survey
- 2.4.1 Carry out and repeat surveys in years 1, 2 and 3 at 100 selected homesteads recording number of trees planted, recognised benefits, and change in demand for native species

Output 3 Supply of appropriate seed and seedlings of native and threatened species increased sufficiently in Kilifi County to support restoration of project demonstration sites (Output 1) and planting in additional sites

Note for activities under Output 3, recent survey work has already been carried out Kaya Kauma, Kaya Fungo-Giriama, Kaya Mtswakara, Kaya Rabai, Kaya Chonyo, Arabuko-Sokoke Forest and permission to collect from all of these sites has already been obtained. The following activities will expand the survey and seed collection area and species mix;

- 3.1.1 Procure and install equipment for nursery improvements, including installation of Terraformation seed bank
- 3.2.1 Obtain permission from relevant authorities, traditional leaders and private landowners to carry out survey work and collect propagation material from additional sites
- 3.2.2 Survey team from NMK carry out survey of additional reference forests, recording and mapping species present and recording phenological information, supplement survey data with herbarium record data, and produce target species list for each site
- 3.2.3 Trained seed collectors assigned to continue survey, monitoring and recording phenology of each target species, collecting seed when available and taking it to nurseries
- 3.3.1 Trained nursery workers plant seed, care for seedlings and document propagation protocols
- 3.3.2 Trained seed technicians carry out germination and storage testing on a portion of seed, and document germination and storage protocols
- 3.4.1 Maintain records of seed and seedling availability and provenance, price (for 3.5) and utility of each species at each nursery

- 3.4.2 Using target species lists and provenance of propagation material, supply the most appropriate seedlings for planting at each project restoration site
- 3.5.1 Nursery workers meet with potential seedling purchasers at nurseries, and visit their planting sites, to provide guidance on appropriate species for planting
- 3.5.2 Maintain records of seedlings sold, to who and for what purpose

Output 4 Restoration demonstration sites established that follow best practice, trial and monitor different restoration approaches, promote the use of native and threatened species and act as demonstration sites

- 4.1.1 Formally invite identified representatives to sit on the restoration advisory group via phone calls, emails and requesting each member to sign a project agreement
- 4.1.2 Hold meetings of the advisory group at least twice per year to review restoration progress
- 4.2.1 Continue analysis and delineation of candidate sites for restoration using satellite / drone imagery and site visits
- 4.2.2 Hold meetings with government, kaya elders, private landowners including farmers and schools, to obtain written permission to restore selected sites
- 4.2.3 Survey team from the National Museums of Kenya (NMK) carry out baseline ecological surveys at each restoration site, documenting number of remaining natural regenerants, presence of invasive plants, current and past land-use and level of degradation (following methodology from Restoring Tropical Forests: A Practical Guide”)
- 4.2.4 Hold meetings with NMK survey team, landowners, kaya elders, local communities, other stakeholders and restoration advisory group to determine appropriate restoration methodology at each site and develop monitoring plan for each site
- 4.3.1 Procure equipment required to support restoration activities, including for water supply, planting and monitoring
- 4.3.2 Community members (trained in Output 2) carry out initial site preparation, including invasive plant removal, and hole digging for sites that require planting
- 4.3.3 Plant seedlings out on sites (except those where Assisted Natural Regeneration is identified as the most appropriate restoration approach) aligning with rainy seasons (quarters shaded align with expected rainy seasons, but rain at the coast can be variable)
- 4.3.4 Carry out site maintenance, including watering, removal of invasive species
- 4.3.5 Collect and analyse monitoring data from all restoration sites at least twice per year (following the plan and indicators defined in 1.3)
- 4.4.1 Work with kaya elders and government to identify 1,000 homesteads and schools within the restoration area to plant trees
- 4.4.2 Carry out focus group discussions to identify which trees farmers and schools are interested in (specific tree species and what uses they are interested in, e.g. timber, fodder, etc.)
- 4.4.3 Establish five demonstration homesteads and 1 demonstration school
- 4.4.4 Host meetings at demonstration homesteads and demonstration schools to engage additional farmers and schools and promote the benefits of planting native and threatened species
- 4.4.5 Provide interested homestead owners within the project area and schools with trees, guidance, and planting support

4.4.6 Collect and analyse monitoring data from homesteads and schools at least twice per year (following the plan and indicators defined in 1.3)

4.5.1 Identify target organisations, groups and influential people to invite to visit sites

4.5.2 Host visits to Kenya Forest Service staff, county government staff, tree planting organisations and corporates to demonstrate different restoration techniques and the benefits of planting native and threatened species

Output 5 Mechanisms in place to ensure long-term sustainability of project outputs, scalability of best practice restoration within Kilifi County and replicability across the Eastern Africa Coastal Forest hotspot

5.1.1 Work with marketing consultant to develop a marketing plan and carry out review of who to target to purchase seed or seedlings

5.1.2 Aligning with marketing plan, develop marketing and outreach materials for all nurseries, promoting the native and threatened species available, including printed materials, online and via media channels

5.1.3 Host talks and tours at nurseries to show availability and diversity of native and threatened species available

5.1.4 Monitor success of marketing work, including number of people reached, number of new partners purchasing native or threatened trees who weren't before and seedling sales (3.4)

5.2.1 Connect restoration sites and partners to Terraformation, who will register the carbon project with Plan Vivo

5.2.2 Ensure a fair, equitable and fully understood mechanism for sharing income is in place

5.2.2 Ensure monitoring approach provides all relevant data required for obtaining carbon credits, adapt where needed, and share monitoring data with carbon financing partner

5.3.1 Work with project marketing consultant to identify target audiences and appropriate channels for raising awareness of the value of native and threatened trees and develop key messages

5.3.2 Based on results of 5.3.1 run media campaign via various channels (newspapers, radio, etc.)

5.4.1 Work with KFS to identify key staff to train (target 50 KFS staff), identify and approach target tree planting organisation in Kilifi that require training (target 20 organisations) and carry out baseline knowledge assessment

5.4.2 Deliver training course on Ten Golden Rules for Reforestation

5.4.3 Collate and review monitoring data from restoration sites (Output 1), document methodology and lessons learnt in an open access manual / similar (determined by 4.3.1)

5.4.4 Manual reviewed by restoration advisory group and trialled with focus group prior to publication

5.5.1 Work with County Government and KFS to determine which stakeholders to be involved in county-level plan development and formally invite them to be part of the process

5.5.2 Hold initial workshop to develop aims, timeframe and content of the plan

5.5.3 Hold additional workshops to develop plan, collaboratively draft and review plan in between workshops, including zoning of areas using map produced in 4.4

5.5.4 Publish plan and hold workshop to share plan with stakeholders across Kilifi County

5.6.1 Identify tree planting and conservation organisations, corporates supporting tree planting, from across the EACF who would benefit from project model and resources

5.6.2 Identify relevant forums for promoting the model, including the Kenya National Landscape Scaling Conference (assuming follow up sessions will occur)

5.6.2 Hold webinars and meetings to share model and project outcomes, assessing audience engagement via polls and follow-up surveys

Annex 3: Standard Indicators

Table 1 Project Standard Indicators

DI Indicator number	Name of indicator using original wording	Name of Indicator after adjusting wording to align with DI Standard Indicators	Units	Disaggregation	Year 1 Total	Year 2 Total	Year 3 Total	Total to date	Total planned during the project
DI-A01	<p>0.4 136 people trained and employed in restoration enterprises from year 1 - year 3</p> <p>2.2 Training on monitoring phenology and seed collection delivered to 60 people; Training on propagation and nursery management and business skills delivered to 40 additional people; Training on restoration techniques, aftercare and monitoring delivered to 30 additional people; Training on education and outreach delivered to 3 additional people; And training given to 3 additional people as seed technicians (target at least 50% women and 50% youth), by end of year 2</p>	[DI-A01] Number of people from local communities completing structured and relevant training	People	<p>Women</p> <p>Youth</p> <p>Proportion of trained people employed by their host organisation at the end of the project</p>	115			115	136
					55			55	68
					67			67	68
					100%			100%	100%
DI- B02	<p>3.2 Based on identification of priority sites for survey and collection (Output 1), 150 species, including 40 threatened species, monitored in situ and seed collected from year 1 to year 3</p> <p>3.3 Seed of 150 species stored & planted in nurseries, with storage and propagation protocols</p>	[DI-B02] Number of new/improved species management plans available and endorsed*.	Number	<p>Species identified</p> <p>Threatened species and monitored <i>in situ</i></p> <p>Species with seed collection</p>	141			141	150
					28			28	40
					56			56	150

DI Indicator number	Name of indicator using original wording	Name of Indicator after adjusting wording to align with DI Standard Indicators	Units	Disaggregation	Year 1 Total	Year 2 Total	Year 3 Total	Total to date	Total planned during the project
	developed, and total 400,000 seedlings grown by end of year 3			Seedlings grown	49,370			49,370	400,000
DI-C01	3.3 Seed of 150 species stored & planted in nurseries, with storage and propagation protocols developed, and total 400,000 seedlings grown by end of year 3	[DI-C01] Number of best practice guides and knowledge products published and endorsed	Number	Species with propagation protocols under development	10			10	150
DI-D01	4.3 180 ha brought under ecological restoration, including planting at least 140,000 seedlings of 150 species from Q3 year 1 to project end	[DI-D01] Hectares of habitat under sustainable management practices	Hectares		0				180
DI-D03	5.5 County-level tree planting policy developed with local and national government for large scale tree planting or rehabilitation projects, and zoning of areas for continued protection and future restoration by end of year 3	[DI-D03] Number of policies with biodiversity provisions that have been enacted or amended	Number of policy		0				1
DI-D12	4.3 180 ha brought under ecological restoration, including planting at least 140,000 seedlings of 150 species from Q3 year 1 to project end 4.4 1,000 homesteads trialling planting of native and threatened trees, with at least 10 trees each (10,000 total) to further enhance connectivity, including useful species, alongside woodlots for income, by end of year 3 and 10,000 trees planted in schools to further enhance connectivity, with 1,000 students involved in	[DI-D12] Area of degraded or converted ecosystems that are under active restoration	Area (Hectares) Number homesteads		0 1,300			1,300	180 1,000

DI Indicator number	Name of indicator using original wording	Name of Indicator after adjusting wording to align with DI Standard Indicators	Units	Disaggregation	Year 1 Total	Year 2 Total	Year 3 Total	Total to date	Total planned during the project
	planting and education activities by end of year 3								

Table 2 Publications

Title	Type (e.g. journals, manual, CDs)	Detail (authors, year)	Gender of Lead Author	Nationality of Lead Author	Publishers (name, city)	Available from (e.g. weblink or publisher if not available online)

Checklist for submission

	Check
Different reporting templates have different questions, and it is important you use the correct one. Have you checked you have used the correct template (checking fund, type of report (i.e. Annual or Final), and year) and deleted the blue guidance text before submission?	X
Is the report less than 10MB? If so, please email to BCF-Reports@niras.com putting the project number in the Subject line.	X
Is your report more than 10MB? If so, please discuss with BCF-Reports@niras.com about the best way to deliver the report, putting the project number in the Subject line.	X
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.	X
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.	N
If you are submitting photos for publicity purposes, do these meet the outlined requirements (see section 16)?	X
Have you involved your partners in preparation of the report and named the main contributors	X
Have you completed the Project Expenditure table fully?	X
Do not include claim forms or other communications with this report.	