Applicant: **Matiku, Paul**
Organisation: **Nature Kenya**
Funding Sought: **£787,075.00**

DIR31S2\1034

Nandi’s Green Lungs: Sustainable Restoration for Thriving Biodiversity and Livelihoods

Nandi forests will be sustainably managed through policy and strategic frameworks (restoration mapping, restoration action plan, participatory forest management plans) whose adoption and implementation by trained local forest conservation institutions and government officials will lead to sustainable forest restoration and management. Poverty-driven Forest threats will be reduced by increasing local forest conservation support through awareness and improving livelihoods of forest-adjacent households through the implementation of climate resilient approaches improving livelihoods of 2000 households by 30%.

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DIR31S2\1034

Nandi’s Green Lungs: Sustainable Restoration for Thriving Biodiversity and Livelihoods

Section 1 - Contact Details

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Section 2 - Title, Ecosystems, Approaches & Summary

Q3. Project title

Nandi's Green Lungs: Sustainable Restoration for Thriving Biodiversity and Livelihoods

Please upload a cover letter as a PDF document.

Cover letter from the Lead Organisation_Nature Kenya_Darwin R31 Stage 2_Nandis Green Lungs
28/11/2024
13:20:11
pdf 258.46 KB

What was your Stage 1 reference number? e.g. DIR31S1\1123

DIR31S1\1479

Q4. Response to Stage 1 feedback

You must explicitly set out how and where you have addressed all the comments/feedback in the application form: briefly restating the feedback point, then clearly setting out how you have responded to it in the application.

We thank the Darwin reviewers for their constructive feedback, which has strengthened our proposal. Below, we outline how and where we have addressed each feedback point in the revised application.
1. Provide more information on the potential scale of alternative livelihood opportunities
We have expanded Indicator 3.1 in the logframe and provided specific details in the main proposal (Q18). The project will benefit 2,000 forest-adjacent households (approximately 10,000 individuals) through diversified livelihood opportunities. These include:
• Climate-resilient crops (sorghum, millet, cassava, sunflower): 2,000 households (≥35% women).
• Certified fodder seeds: 100 households.
• Agroforestry (5,000 crop/nitrogen-fixing trees): 500 households.
• Woodlots: 300 households.
• Honey production: 300 households (300 beehives).
• Poultry farming: 400 women-led households.
• Fish ponds: 5 ponds benefiting 200 households.
• Clean cook stoves: 2,000 stoves distributed.
These activities address local economic challenges and create opportunities for market integration. They are designed to connect beneficiaries with local and regional markets, ensuring sustainable income growth. By fostering value chain development (e.g., honey, poultry, agroforestry products), the project enables households to capitalize on their livelihoods, driving long-term economic and environmental benefits.
In addition to financial uplift, these initiatives contribute to a 30% improvement in livelihoods and a 30% reduction in fuelwood consumption ((Indicator 3.2). These outcomes reduce forest dependency, promote climate resilience, and support scalable models for other forest-dependent communities in Kenya. Activities have been tailored to align with evidence-based interventions and market opportunities, ensuring their effectiveness and long-term impact.

2. Clarify the evidence and learning drawn from past Nandi conservation projects
In Questions 15 and 27, we describe how the project builds on lessons from Nature Kenya's past initiatives (also see Supplementary S5), like UNDP PIMS NO.4178 and The Restoration Initiative in the Tana River Delta. These projects demonstrated successful outcomes in participatory restoration, biodiversity monitoring, and livelihood diversification. For example, the Tana River Delta project proved that integrating community-driven approaches with ecological restoration significantly enhances sustainability.
By incorporating these lessons, the Nandi project employs a participatory approach, blending restoration with climate-resilient livelihoods to deliver impactful, sustainable results tailored to the local context. This approach is

further detailed in Question 15.

3. Provide more detail on Nature Kenya's trust in these communities, institutional development, and legal frameworks for community conservation
We have expanded on Nature Kenya's engagement in Nandi under Supplimentary S5 and Questions 15 and 27 in the main proposal. Nature Kenya has a long-standing relationship with local communities, having established and supported Community Forest Associations (CFAs) and Site Support Groups (SSGs) in participatory forest management. These groups have been instrumental in governance training, forest restoration, and biodiversity monitoring.
Additionally, the Nandi Forest Ecosystem Management Plan (2015–2040), developed with support from Nature Kenya, provides the legal and strategic framework for conservation efforts. This plan underpins the project's foundation, ensuring alignment with local laws and institutional structures.

4. Consider including a mid-term assessment for the strategy
We have included a mid-term assessment in Activity 1.11 of the logframe to evaluate the progress and effectiveness of the Nandi Forest Ecosystem Strategy (2015–2040). This assessment will guide adaptive management, ensuring the strategy remains responsive to evolving challenges and opportunities. This addition strengthens restoration planning and aligns with the project's goals for sustainable forest management.

5. Further outline specific issues facing Nandi Forests
The problem statement (Q13) has been revised to highlight critical threats to the Nandi Forests, including:
• Deforestation: Driven by illegal logging and agricultural encroachment.
• Climate impacts: Erratic rainfall and prolonged droughts disrupt ecosystems.
• Socioeconomic challenges: Poverty and lack of alternative livelihoods compel unsustainable forest use.
• Policy gaps: Weak enforcement of conservation policies hinders forest protection.
Mitigation strategies are detailed in the methods (Q13, Q19) and the logframe. These include participatory forest management, targeted restoration, governance training, and livelihood diversification to address the identified challenges.

6. Revise indicators for clarity and ensure assumptions are robust
We revised the logframe indicators for clarity and alignment with project outcomes;
Indicator 0.2: Updated to specify that biodiversity surveys will show stabilized forest threats and stable populations of Turner's Eremomela and forest specialist bird species in 2,000 hectares of better-managed forest.
Indicator 3.2: Corrected to reflect "30% livelihoods improvement" and "30% reduction in fuelwood consumption."
Indicator 2.2: Enhanced by including seedling survival rates as a verification measure. Activity 2.5 has been updated to incorporate survival monitoring plan and action items are designed for either beating up or replacement based on the survival rate.
These adjustments ensure the indicators are realistic, measurable, and actionable, addressing concerns about assumptions and verification.

7. Training does not automatically lead to behavior change
We revised Indicator 3.1 to ensure that training translates into action. By Year 5, 2,000 households will adopt climate-resilient practices, including drought-resistant crops, woodlots, honey production, and clean cooking technologies. To foster behavior change, the project includes follow-up support, peer learning, and regular monitoring, as detailed in Question 18. These measures ensure that training outcomes are sustained through practical application and community engagement.
The revisions in our application directly address the Stage 1 feedback by clarifying indicators, strengthening methodologies, and incorporating lessons learned from past projects. These enhancements ensure the project is well-positioned to deliver its objectives of biodiversity conservation and livelihood improvement while addressing systemic challenges in the Nandi Forests.

We appreciate the opportunity to refine our proposal and look forward to advancing these critical conservation and development goals.

Q5. Key Ecosystems, Approaches and Threats

Select up to 3 biomes that are of focus, up to 3 conservation actions that characterise your approach, and up to 3 threats to biodiversity you intend to address, from dropdown lists.

Biome 1

Tropical-subtropical forests

Biome 2

Shrublands & shrubby woodlands

Biome 3

Intensive land-use systems

Conservation Action 1

Legal & Policy Frameworks

Conservation Action2

Livelihood, Economic & Moral Incentives

Conservation Action 3

Education & Training

Threat 1

Biological resource use (hunting, gathering, logging, fishing)

Threat 2

Climate change & severe weather

Threat 3

Human intrusions & disturbance (recreation, war)

Q6. Summary of project

Please provide a brief non-technical summary of your project: the problem/need it is trying to address, its aims, and the key activities you plan on undertaking.

Nandi forests will be sustainably managed through policy and strategic frameworks (restoration mapping, restoration action plan, participatory forest management plans) whose adoption and implementation by trained local forest conservation institutions and government officials will lead to sustainable forest restoration and management. Poverty-driven Forest threats will be reduced by increasing local forest conservation support through awareness and improving livelihoods of forest-adjacent households through the implementation of climate resilient approaches improving livelihoods of 2000 households by 30%.

Section 3 - Countries, Dates & Budget Summary

Q7. Country(ies)

Which eligible host country(ies) will your project be working in?

Country 1	Kenya	**Country 2**	*No Response*
Country 3	*No Response*	**Country 4**	*No Response*

Do you require more fields?

⦿ No

If you are proposing to work in an Upper Middle Income Country (see Annex A), please demonstrate your case for support with reference to one or more of the criteria in Section 2.8.

No Response

Q8. Project dates

Start date:	**End date:**	**Duration (e.g. 2 years, 3 months):**
01 April 2025	31 March 2030	5 years

Q9. Budget summary

Year:	2025/26	2026/27	2027/28	2028/29	2029/30	Total request £
Amount:	£198,675.00	£174,975.00	£145,975.00	£124,975.00	£142,475.00	£ 787,075.00

Q10. Do you have matched funding arrangements?

⦿ Yes

Please ensure you clearly outline your matched funding arrangement in the budget.

Q11. If you have a significant amount of unconfirmed matched funding, please clarify how you will deliver the project if you don't manage to secure this?

Confirmed cash co-finance of [redacted] is mainly from Nature Kenya's core funding inform of existing technical staff[redacted] and administration [redacted] Nature Kenya invests own reserves in interest earning accounts generating unrestricted income that is budgeted to deliver conservation actions. A lack of other project funding limit the level of co-finance.
[redacted]n-kind contribution from local communities represented by 2,000 households, two Site Support Groups,

and two community forest associations who will be volunteers in forest restoration, forest threat monitoring biodiversity monitoring, and other activities.

Q12. Have you received, applied for, or plan to apply for any other UK Government funding for your proposed project or similar project?

⦿ No

Section 4 - Problem statement

Q13. Problem the project is trying to address

Please describe the problem your project is trying to address in terms of biodiversity and its relationship with multi-dimensional poverty.

The Nandi Forests in Nandi County, Kenya (Supplementary S1), are vital for biodiversity conservation and the socio-economic well-being of local communities. These forests, South Nandi (24,753 ha) and North Nandi (10,500 ha) are Key Biodiversity Areas (KBAs) providing critical ecosystem services like water regulation for the Yala River watershed, which supports Lake Victoria and Yala Swamp. They are home to endangered species such as Turner's Eremomela, Leopard, Black-and-White Colobus Monkey, and Bongo, underscoring their ecological significance.

However, the forests face severe threats from deforestation, habitat degradation, and biodiversity loss. Between 2001 and 2023, South Nandi lost 10% of its tree cover, while North Nandi lost 6.5% (Supplementary S2). Key drivers include illegal logging, agricultural encroachment, and overgrazing, compounded by policy gaps, weak enforcement, and limited institutional capacity. Poverty among forest-dependent communities exacerbates the issue, as they rely on forests for energy, food, and water (Supplementary S4, S5).

This degradation threatens the livelihoods of over 10,000 people, including 40% women, who depend on forest resources for subsistence. Additionally, the local tea industry, a key economic driver, relies on the forests' microclimates, making their degradation a threat to economic stability. Turner's Eremomela, a near-threatened bird species, faces habitat loss, emphasizing the need for urgent conservation action (Supplementary S3).

Forest degradation has far-reaching implications. Locally, it exacerbates poverty, disproportionately affecting women. Regionally, it disrupts agriculture, water supply, and climate regulation. Globally, it undermines biodiversity conservation goals.

The Project's Objectives
The project integrates biodiversity conservation with poverty alleviation by;
1. Restoring 200 hectares of degraded land and improving management of 2,000 hectares of indigenous forest.
2. Implementing agroforestry, honey production, fish farming, and distributing clean cook stoves to reduce reliance on forest resources, directly benefiting
2,000 households (40% women participants).
3. Building capacity for Community Forest Associations (CFAs) and Site Support Groups (SSGs) to enhance forest management using cutting edge technology.
4. Conducting a mid-term review of the Nandi Forest Ecosystem Management Strategy (2015–2040) to refine and address emerging challenges.
5. Promoting sustainable forest use through education campaigns.

Problem Identification
This project was informed by previous GIS-based forest assessments, biodiversity surveys, and community consultations. Data from Global Forest Watch highlights severe deforestation, while consultations revealed

unsustainable practices like charcoal production driven by poverty and lack of alternatives (Supplementary S1, S2, S3, S4, S5).

By addressing the root causes of biodiversity loss and poverty, the project reverses ecological degradation while improving socio-economic resilience. It supports national and global policy goals, including forest restoration targets under the Bonn Challenge and Kenya's Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs). Strengthened governance and diversified livelihoods will ensure sustainable conservation outcomes and improve the well-being of forest-adjacent communities. Evidence from similar initiatives shows integrating forest restoration with livelihood diversification effectively breaks cycles of poverty and environmental degradation (Supplementary S5).

In collaboration with Nandi County government, Kenya Forest Service, National Museums of Kenya, and local communities, the project delivers lasting biodiversity and livelihood improvements. Strengthened governance and diversified incomes ensure sustainable conservation and economic gains for forest-adjacent communities.

Section 5 - Darwin Objectives and Conventions

Q14. Biodiversity Conventions, Treaties and Agreements

Q14a. Your project must support the commitments of one or more of the agreements listed below. Please indicate which agreement(s) will be supported.

- ☑ Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD)
- ☑ Nagoya Protocol on Access and Benefit Sharing (ABS)
- ☑ International Treaty on Plant Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture (ITPGRFA)
- ☑ Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species (CITES)
- ☑ Convention on the Conservation of Migratory Species of Wild Animals (CMS)
- ☑ United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC)
- ☑ Global Goals for Sustainable Development (SDGs)

Q14b. National and International Policy Alignment

Using evidence where available, please detail how your project will contribute to national policy (including NBSAPs, NDCs, NAP etc.) and in turn international biodiversity and development conventions, treaties and agreements that the country is a signatory of.

The project aligns with both national and international policy frameworks aimed at enhancing biodiversity conservation and climate resilience. It contributes directly to Kenya's commitment to international biodiversity and climate agreements, integrating ecosystem restoration, species conservation, and sustainable livelihoods into both national and global priorities.

The project is aligned to the Convention on Biological Diversity articles on in situ conservation (Turners eremomela conservation), sustainable use (livelihoods enhancement) and public awareness. The project is aligned to the Global Biodiversity Framework especially targets 1 (planning) 2 (restoration), 3 (30% by 2030), 4 species conservation and 14 (mainstreaming), 20-23 (capacity, gender and equity) among others.

Through the Nagoya Protocol on Access and Benefit Sharing (ABS), the project promotes equitable sharing of benefits derived from forest resources. It integrates indigenous knowledge into forest management and fosters community participation in benefit-sharing mechanisms, particularly for women, who represent 40% of the project beneficiaries. This approach supports the fair distribution of natural resources and encourages inclusive conservation practices.

The project contributes to the International Treaty on Plant Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture (ITPGRFA) by promoting agroforestry systems that conserve plant genetic diversity. The introduction of climate-resilient crops and sustainable agricultural practices enhances food security and reduces dependency on forest resources, aligning with global efforts to safeguard plant diversity.

By restoring ecosystems vital for migratory species, the project contributes to the objectives of the Convention on the Conservation of Migratory Species (CMS), promoting international cooperation for species protection.

The United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) is supported through forest restoration activities that enhance carbon sequestration and promote climate-resilient livelihoods.
The project contributes to Kenya's Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs) by supporting climate adaptation strategies and aligning with the UN Decade on Ecosystem Restoration (2021–2030). It also aligns with Kenya's commitment to restoring 5.1 million hectares of degraded land by 2030 under the Bonn Challenge and AFR100.
The project also contributes to achieving the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), particularly SDG 13 (Climate Action) through carbon sequestration and climate-smart agriculture; SDG 15 (Life on Land) by halting biodiversity loss and restoring degraded ecosystems; and SDG 17 (Partnerships for the Goals) by fostering multi-stakeholder collaborations for sustainable forest management.
At the national level, the project supports Kenya's National Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan (NBSAP), particularly Target 2, which emphasizes the sustainable management of critical ecosystems. By restoring 200 hectares of forest and managing 2,000 hectares sustainably, the project contributes to ecosystem health and resilience, improving carbon sequestration and mitigating climate change impacts. The project also supports NBSAP Targets 1 and 6, which aim to raise awareness about biodiversity and promote sustainable use through climate-resilient livelihoods like agroforestry and honey production and also Target 3, promoting the integration of biodiversity into decision-making processes.
Furthermore, the project aligns with NBSAP and Target 12 by improving the conservation status of threatened species, contributing to in-situ conservation efforts and species protection

Section 6 - Method, Change Expected, GESI & Exit Strategy

Q15. Methodology

Describe the methods and approach you will use to achieve your intended Outcome and contribute towards your Impact. Provide information on:

- **how you have reflected on and incorporated evidence and lessons learnt from past and present similar activities and projects in the design of this project.**
- **the specific approach you are using, supported by evidence that it will be effective, and justifying why you expect it will be successful in this context.**
- **how you will undertake the work (activities, materials and methods)**
- **what will be the main activities and where will these take place.**
- **how you will manage the work (governance, roles and responsibilities, project management tools, risks etc.).**

The Project builds on the lessons learned from Nature Kenya's previous and ongoing initiatives (Supplementary 5), including the UNDP PIMS NO.4178 and The Restoration Initiative in the Tana River Delta. These projects successfully restored ecosystems, increased forest cover, and mitigated environmental threats through participatory management and sustainable livelihood programs. By incorporating these experiences, the Project applies proven strategies to ensure impactful, sustainable outcomes, tailored to the local context. The Nandi County Forest Conservation Strategy provides an overarching policy framework.

The project adopts a participatory, evidence-based restoration approach, integrating methodologies like the Restoration Opportunity Assessment Methodology (ROAM) and TESSA (Toolkit for Ecosystem Service Site-based Assessment). These tools ensure that restoration activities align with both ecological priorities and local community needs. The importance of community involvement is underscored by past projects, such as in the Tana River Delta, where local communities were directly involved in identifying restoration areas and monitoring progress. This community-driven approach proved crucial for the long-term success of the projects, highlighting the need for local ownership in conservation efforts.

In addition to ecological restoration, the project integrates climate-resilient livelihood initiatives, such as beekeeping and sustainable farming. These activities have proven effective in reducing forest dependence, as demonstrated in the Tana River Delta, where income-generating alternatives helped reduce pressure on forests.

This dual focus on conservation and livelihoods ensures that communities are empowered while also benefiting from sustainable development that does not deplete the resources they depend on.

The project will restore approximately 2,000 hectares of degraded forest using a combination of indigenous tree planting, direct seeding, and facilitating natural regeneration. Research, including studies by Crook (2020), supports the effectiveness of these techniques, particularly when using native species that are ecologically suited to the local environment. This integrated approach will enhance the biodiversity and resilience of the Nandi Forests while fostering the restoration of vital ecosystem services.

Monitoring will be a key aspect of the project's approach. Volunteers will conduct monthly forest patrols, utilizing GIS and AudioMoth technology to track forest health and biodiversity. These tools have proven useful in similar projects for detecting forest disturbances such as illegal logging and poaching, and tracking species like the Turner's Eremomela, a bird species of conservation concern. The use of AudioMoths allows for continuous monitoring of forest soundscapes, providing valuable data on forest health and early warnings of environmental threats. This innovative use of technology ensures that restoration efforts are adapted and refined in response to changing conditions on the ground.

The project will be implemented in four primary outputs.
The first focuses on assessing restoration opportunities and building local capacity. A Restoration Opportunity Assessment (ROAM) will be conducted through community workshops and field surveys to prioritize restoration activities, ensuring alignment with both ecological needs and community aspirations. Stakeholder workshops will then develop/review Participatory Forest Management Plans (PFMPs) and Restoration Action Plans (RAPs), establishing clear, time-bound targets for restoration activities. These plans will guide implementation, ensuring they meet national policies and regulations.

The second output focuses on actual restoration activities. Community-managed nurseries will be established to propagate indigenous species for restoration, which will be used to reforest degraded areas. In the following phases, the project will engage in active restoration through growing, direct seeding, and facilitating natural regeneration based on the findings from the ROAM. The project will also conduct monthly forest patrols using GIS and AudioMoth devices to monitor biodiversity and forest health. These patrols will provide valuable feedback on the progress of restoration efforts and early detection of disturbances.

The third output promotes livelihood diversification to reduce pressure on the forest. A baseline survey will be conducted to assess the current livelihood needs of households near the forest, followed by the development of a livelihood enhancement plan. The plan will promote activities such as honey production, crop-tree nurseries, and farm forestry, which provide sustainable alternatives to forest resource exploitation. Training workshops will support local communities in implementing these activities, ensuring the long-term viability of alternative livelihoods.

The fourth output focuses on knowledge sharing and community outreach. Awareness campaigns will raise understanding of sustainable forest management and emphasize the role of local communities in forest restoration. Materials will be developed in local languages to ensure broad accessibility, and lessons learned will be shared to contribute to wider knowledge on forest restoration.

A dedicated project team, comprising local community representatives, environmental experts, and project managers, will oversee implementation. A steering committee, including stakeholders such as Nature Kenya, CFAs, and SSGs, will provide strategic oversight and ensure alignment with the project's goals.

Q16. Capability and Capacity

How will the project support the strengthening of capability and capacity of identified local and national partners, and stakeholders during its lifetime at organisational or individual levels? Please provide details of what form this will take, who will benefit (noting GESI considerations), and the post-project value to the country.

The project will significantly enhance the capability and capacity of local and national stakeholders through a multi-faceted approach. Local institutions, such as Community Forest Associations (CFAs) and Site Support Groups (SSGs), will receive comprehensive training in governance, financial management, forest restoration, and biodiversity monitoring. This will empower them to effectively lead sustainable forest management and restoration initiatives. By the project's end, 2,000 local members, including 35% women, will be equipped with the skills to manage forest resources and implement restoration plans, directly impacting 10,000 people.

To further strengthen local capacity, individual households will benefit from training in climate-resilient farming techniques, such as growing drought-resistant crops and establishing agroforestry systems. This will reduce reliance on forest resources, improve food security, and enhance livelihoods. Women, in particular, will be empowered through income-generating activities like chicken rearing and beekeeping, improving economic stability and household welfare.

The project's capacity-building activities will foster greater community engagement in conservation, ensuring long-term sustainability. Local institutions will be equipped with the tools and knowledge to continue forest management beyond the project's duration. Additionally, lessons learned will be disseminated widely through community awareness campaigns, exchange visits, and national media, informing future policies and practices for sustainable forest management.
Furthermore, the project will empower communities to influence policy decisions by engaging with policymakers, building relationships with government officials, participating in policy processes, and advocating for community-based solutions.

By strengthening local capacity and fostering collaboration with national stakeholders, the project will contribute to Kenya's commitments to climate change mitigation and biodiversity conservation, providing lasting value to both local communities and the country as a whole.

Q17. Gender Equality and Social Inclusion (GESI)

All applicants must consider whether and how their project will contribute to promoting equality between persons of different gender and social characteristics. Please include reference to the GESI context in which your project seeks to work. Explain your understanding of how individuals may be disadvantaged or excluded from equal participation within the context of your project, and how you seek to address this. You should consider how your project will proactively contribute to ensuring individuals achieve equitable outcomes and how you will ensure meaningful participation for all those engaged.

We will ensure gender and wider social inclusion by recognising socially-determined roles, rights and responsibilities of men and women and the relationship between them and improving the terms on which individuals and groups take part in society—improving the ability, opportunity, and dignity of those disadvantaged on the basis of their identity.
Nature Kenya gender policy aims to integrate gender in to institutional operations by:
1. Promoting gender equity in staffing
2. Strengthening the role of women in senior management
3. Giving equal opportunity to both men and women based on qualifications
4. Ensuring, as guided by Kenya constitution, that the threshold for gender equity is attained within the organization
5. Integrating gender in all programs planning and implementation
• We will ensure that at least 35% of participants in training and decision-making processes are women. Local institutions, such as Community Forest Associations (CFAs) and Site Support Groups (SSGs), will receive capacity-building support to promote gender-responsive governance and leadership, empowering women to take on

leadership roles in forest management and restoration activities.
• We will prioritize support for women-led households by promoting income-generating activities like beekeeping, poultry farming, and sustainable agriculture. These activities will enhance women's economic independence and reduce their reliance on forest resources.
• We will engage marginalized groups, including youth and persons with disabilities, by ensuring inclusive consultations and providing tailored support. This will ensure that all stakeholders, regardless of gender or social characteristics, are included in the project's planning and implementation.

By actively promoting GESI throughout the project, we will ensure equal access to training, resources, and decision-making processes, allowing all individuals to benefit from and contribute to the project's conservation and livelihood improvement goals.

By prioritizing GESI principles, our project will contribute to a more equitable and sustainable future for all.

Q18. Change expected

Detail the expected changes and benefits to both biodiversity and multi-dimensional poverty reduction, and links between them, that this work will deliver. You should identify what will change and who exactly will benefit a) in the short-term (i.e. during the life of the project) and b) in the long-term (after the project has ended).

When talking about how people will benefit, please remember to give details of who will benefit, differences in benefits by gender or other layers of diversity within stakeholders, and the number of beneficiaries expected. The number of communities is insufficient detail – number of households should be the largest unit used.

This project is expected to deliver significant benefits to both biodiversity and multi-dimensional poverty reduction, creating lasting impacts for local communities and the environment. The main outcomes will include enhanced biodiversity through forest restoration and improved forest management, alongside substantial improvements in the livelihoods of forest-adjacent households, contributing to poverty reduction. These changes will benefit approximately 10,000 people, focusing on both short-term and long-term gains.

Short-term benefits (during the life of the project)
1. The restoration of up to 2,000 hectares of degraded forest will directly enhance biodiversity by creating habitats for diverse plant and animal species. This includes a significant comeback for native flora and fauna, with restored areas providing opportunities for species to repopulate. Over 35% of the community forest guardians involved in this process will be women, ensuring gender-inclusive participation in conservation efforts.
2. In the short term, 2,000 forest-adjacent households (approximately 10,000 individuals) will benefit from the introduction of climate-resilient livelihood options. These livelihoods will reduce the pressure on forest resources and enable families to diversify their income sources. It is expected that household well-being will improve by 30%, as alternative income streams - such as agroforestry, and sustainable farming provide more stable and sustainable financial support.
3. Local government and institutions will be trained in sustainable forest management and biodiversity monitoring. This will enhance their ability to manage and protect local forests, ensuring the ongoing health of these ecosystems. These institutions will implement best practices in forest management over 2,000 hectares, improving the resilience and productivity of the region’s forests.
Long-term benefits (after the project ends)
1. By the end of the project, the restored and better-managed forests will have resulted in the natural regeneration of up to 2,000 hectares of forest, increasing overall forest cover by approximately 7%. This will contribute to long-term biodiversity conservation, with more resilient ecosystems supporting diverse wildlife and plant species.
2. The climate-resilient livelihoods implemented during the project will continue to benefit local communities for years to come. As households move away from unsustainable reliance on forest resources, they will maintain improved living standards, contributing to long-term poverty reduction. Ongoing community involvement in

forest management will ensure that the benefits of the restoration work continue to be felt.
3. The project will result in empowered local communities, particularly women, who will have a stronger voice in decision-making processes regarding forest management and conservation. This empowerment will foster long-term participation in environmental governance, ensuring sustainable forest management practices are maintained beyond the project's lifespan.
Beneficiaries
• 2,000 forest-adjacent households (approximately 10,000 people) will benefit from improved livelihoods and climate-resilient practices, leading to a reduction in multi-dimensional poverty.
• Over 35% of the community forest guardians and participants in livelihood training will be women, ensuring gender equity in conservation efforts and economic opportunities.
• Local and county-level institutions will strengthen their capacity to manage and protect forests, leading to improved long-term forest governance

Q19. Pathway to change

Please outline your project's expected pathway to change.

Uncontrolled grazing, poverty, and limited livelihood options force communities to exploit their forests. Disengagement and policy failures worsen the situation. Empowering communities with knowledge, skills, and sustainable alternatives can reduce their reliance on forest resources and create a cycle of ecological and social well-being.
Interventions
1. Building Knowledge and Empowering Communities (Year 1-2)
Develop a restoration plan integrating local knowledge (Output 1) and train communities, especially women, in forest management and monitoring (Output 2).
2. Taking Action for Change (Year 2-4)
Trained community members will become stewards, using technology to track threats and measure restoration progress (Output 2). Additionally, introduce climate-resilient livelihoods like women-led chicken farming (Output 3), reducing pressure and improving food security
3. Long-Term Impact (Year 3-5+)
Sustainable livelihoods and clean cookstoves (Output 3) will decrease forest reliance, creating a positive cycle. Finally, share project knowledge through workshops and publications (Output 4), enabling others to replicate this successful model for lasting impact.
Expected Outcome
1. Increased forest cover and enhanced biodiversity lead to a healthier ecosystem.
2. Sustainable livelihood practices reduce pressure on these resources, ensuring their long-term sustainability.
3. Empowered communities with strong governance structures that actively promote women's participation in decision-making central to this transformation

Q20. Sustainable benefits and scaling potential

Q20a. How will the project reach a point where benefits can be sustained post-funding? How will the required knowledge and skills remain available to sustain the benefits? How will you ensure your data and evidence will be accessible to others?

The project ensures long-term sustainability by empowering local communities with knowledge and skills in forest management, biodiversity monitoring, and climate-smart livelihoods. Through training in restoration techniques, sustainable land-use practices, and advanced monitoring, we equip community members to continue conservation efforts post-funding.

Existing forest management groups (CFAs and SSGs) will manage restoration activities, supported by Forest Management and Restoration Action Plans. Collaborating with the County Government of Nandi, the project will advocate for the integration of participatory forest safeguards into local policies and budgets, securing long-term support.

By blending traditional knowledge with modern science and engaging local stakeholders, the project will foster community ownership. Data and evidence will be shared on accessible platforms, ensuring that findings are available to other projects, policymakers, and researchers for continued knowledge exchange and action.

Q20b. If your approach works, what potential is there for scaling the approach further? Refer to Scalable Approaches (Landscape, Replication, System Change, Capacitation) in the guidance. What might prevent scaling, and how could this be addressed?

The project's participatory forest restoration model, which integrates local communities in biodiversity monitoring and climate-smart livelihoods, has strong potential for scaling through replication and capacitation. The approach aligns with national policies and can be expanded to other degraded landscapes in Kenya, supporting Land Degradation Neutrality targets and the Bonn Challenge. Training and capacity-building efforts will create a knowledge base to drive similar initiatives in surrounding areas.
By sharing lessons and best practices, the project can catalyze system change in forest restoration and community engagement in Kenya. Challenges to scaling may include limited funding, resistance from stakeholders, and weak policy enforcement. These can be mitigated through strategic partnerships, advocacy, and adaptive management.
Nature Kenya's network and landscape restoration focus offer opportunities for replication. Lessons learned will be shared via county dialogues, national workshops, and public forums, contributing to policy development and promoting the adoption of climate-smart practices.

If necessary, please provide supporting documentation e.g. maps, diagrams, references etc., as a PDF using the File Upload below.

Supporting Documentation_DIR31S2_1034
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pdf 1.3 MB

Section 7 - Risk Management

Q21. Risk Management

Please outline the 7 key risks to achievement of your Project Outcome and how these risks will be managed and mitigated, referring to the Risk Guidance. This should include at least one Fiduciary, two Safeguarding, and one Delivery Chain Risk.

Risk Description	Impact	Prob.	Gross Risk	Mitigation Header	Residual Risk
Fiduciary (financial): funds not used for intended purposes or not accounted for (fraud, corruption, mishandling or misappropriated). Funds may not be used for intended purposes or may be misappropriated due to fraud, corruption, or mishandling	Insignificant	Unlikely	Minor	Nature Kenya has strong financial controls, regular audits, and transparent reporting mechanisms. Staff are trained in financial management, anti-corruption, and fraud prevention. Zero tolerance for fraud, corruption, and financial mismanagement is enforced.	Minor

Safeguarding: risk of sexual exploitation abuse and harassment (SEAH), or unintended harm to beneficiaries, the public, implementing partners, and staff. Reputation damage, legal consequences, and harm to beneficiaries	Insignificant	Rare	Medium	A robust safeguarding policy in place. All staff will receive mandatory safeguarding training. A dedicated safeguarding focal point will be appointed to monitor and respond to any concerns	Low
Safeguarding: risks to health, safety and security (HSS) of beneficiaries, the public. Implementing partners, and staff. Physical injury, illness, or death	Minor	Possible	Medium	A comprehensive Health, Safety, and Security (HSS) plan in place and will be implemented. Staff will receive training on risk assessment, emergency response, and first aid. Regular safety assessments will be conducted to identify and mitigate potential risks.	Low
Delivery Chain: the overall risk associated with your delivery model Reduced project impact, increased costs, and missed opportunities	Insignificant	Likely	Medium	A detailed project implementation plan will be developed and regularly monitored. A robust monitoring and evaluation system will be put in place to track progress and identify potential issues early on	Low
Risk 5 Political Instability Delays, disruptions, and potential security threats	Insignificant	Possible	Medium	Regular monitoring of the political situation and a flexible approach to implementation will be adopted. Contingency plans will be developed to address potential disruptions	Low
Risk 6 Natural Disasters Damage to infrastructure, loss of equipment, and delays in implementation	Moderate	Possible	Medium	A comprehensive risk assessment will identify potential natural disaster risks. Emergency response plans will be developed and regularly tested	Low
Risk 7 Community Resistance Delays, protests, and potential damage to project infrastructure	Moderate	Rare	Medium	Strong community engagement and consultation will be conducted throughout the project cycle. Efforts will be made to address community concerns and build trust	Low

Q22. Project sensitivities

Please indicate whether there are sensitivities associated with this project that need to be considered if details are published (detailed species location data that would increase threats, political sensitivities, prosecutions for illegal activities, security of staff etc.).

⦿ No

Section 8 - Workplan

Q23. Workplan

Provide a project implementation timetable that shows the key milestones in project activities.

Darwin R31 stage2 Workplan South North Nandi (25.11.24)_Final
29/11/2024
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pdf 370.61 KB

Section 9 - Monitoring and Evaluation

Q24. Monitoring and evaluation (M&E)

Describe how the performance of the project will be monitored and evaluated, making reference to who is responsible for the project's M&E.

Darwin Initiative projects are expected to be adaptive and you should detail how the monitoring and evaluation will feed into the delivery of the project including its management. M&E is expected to be built into the project and not an 'add' on. It is as important to measure for negative impacts as it is for positive impact. Additionally, please indicate an approximate budget and level of effort (person days) to be spent on M&E.

(Max 500 words)
Monitoring and evaluation (M&E) will be integral to the project's design and implementation to ensure adaptive management and accountability. Nature Kenya's Policy and Advocacy Manager (Caroline Ng'weno) will take overall project leadership including implementation, monitoring and reporting roles ensuring delivery according to the activity plan and indicators in the indicator framework and producing annual reports as required. A project's monitoring and evaluation framework will be developed to include clear indicators aligned with project objectives, activities, and expected outcomes. Caroline Kabilu (Internal Monitoring and Evaluation) will take overall responsibility supported by Programmes Assistant (Esther Mutanu) both of whom will analyse project reports to assess the extent to which indicators are achieved, convene monitoring and evaluation meetings and report back to project leaders. These indicators will measure ecological, social, and institutional impacts, such as forest restoration progress, species population trends (e.g., Turner's Eremomela), and community engagement effectiveness.

Species Monitoring will be led by the Species and Sites Manager (Paul Gacheru) who will develop and train local groups in the application of species monitoring protocols. The National Museums of Kenya scientists will work with Mr Paul Gacheru to ensure comprehensive start line and end line data sets that will assess species population changes.

Nature Kenya Local Action Manager (James Mutunga) will monitor Organisational Capacity of local groups based on organisational capacity assessment at start following by training and repeat capacity assessment at the end. Socio economic parameters will be led by Kenya Forestry Research Institute (KEFRI) who will assess baselines

and end lines to determine change.
Approach to Monitoring and Evaluation
1. Baseline Assessment will be conducted at the project's start to establish reference points for forest cover, biodiversity, and community participation.
2. Ongoing Monitoring through regular field visits, biodiversity surveys Community monitors trained during the project will play a key role in data collection.
3. Performance Tracking and results will be measured against targets, and quarterly reviews will assess progress and identify any adjustments needed for adaptive management.
4. Learning and sharing of lessons learned will be documented and shared with stakeholders, including government agencies and local communities, to inform future conservation initiatives.
The project will actively monitor for potential unintended consequences; such as conflicts over land use or increased pressure on other natural resources. Conflict resolution mechanisms and stakeholder engagement will address such issues promptly.
Approximately [redacted]% of the project budget has been be allocated to Monitoring and evaluation activities, covering tools, personnel, training, and internal evaluations and 260 person days are estimated.
Monitoring and Evaluation findings will inform project decisions, ensuring flexibility and responsiveness to emerging challenges. For example, if biodiversity data indicate declining species populations, restoration efforts or community awareness campaigns will be intensified.

Total project budget for M&E (£) **(this may include Staff and Travel and Subsistence Costs)**	[redacted]
Total project budget for M&E (%) **(this may include Staff and Travel and Subsistence Costs)**	[redacted]
Number of days planned for M&E	260

Section 10 - Logical Framework & Standard Indicators

Q25a. Logical Framework (logframe)

Darwin Initiative projects will be required to monitor and report against their progress towards their Outputs and Outcome. This section sets out the expected Outputs and Outcome of your project, how you will measure progress against these and how we can verify this.

- Darwin R31 stage2 Logframe South and North Nandi (25_11_2024_Final)
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Impact:

Nandi forests are sustainably managed by and for empowered forest-adjacent households implementing restoration and climate - resilient livelihoods approaches to increase forest cover, biodiversity, and local livelihoods

Outcome:

Implementation of sustainable forest restoration and climate resilient livelihoods by trained local institutions and forest adjacent households increase forest cover, biodiversity, and livelihoods of 10,000 people in the Nandi forests

Project Outputs

Output 1:

Restoration Opportunity Assessment Methodology (ROAM), Participatory Forest Management Plans, Restoration Action plans developed and mainstreamed into the county government and local institutions result in increased participation in forest management and restoration by empowered local communities (≥ 35% are women)

Output 2:

South and North Nandi forests are better managed by trained local government and institutions in restoration, forest management, and biodiversity monitoring resulting in 200ha of degraded forest restored, improved management practices across 2,000ha of indigenous forest, and an increase in biodiversity in restored or better-managed areas

Output 3:

Implementation of Climate-resilient livelihood options by trained forest-adjacent households improve the livelihoods of 2,000 forest-adjacent households (c.10,000 people) reducing reliance on forest resources and resulting in increased local support for forest conservation

Output 4:

Disseminate lessons and experiences locally, nationally, and globally

Output 5:

No Response

Do you require more Output fields?

⦿ No

Activities

Each activity is numbered according to the Output that it will contribute towards, for example, 1.1, 1.2, 1.3 are contributing to Output 1.

1.1 Engage ROAM expert and develop ROAM development framework
1.2 Carry out consultations needed to development ROAM report
1.3 Carry out consultations needed to validate the ROAM report
1.4 Prepare and publish the ROAM report
1.5 Carry out Socio economic studies needed to inform the ROAM and participatory forest management plans (PFMPs)
1.6 Carry out biodiversity surveys needed to inform the ROAM and PFMPs
1.7 Organize consultations needed to develop restoration action plans in a participatory manner
1.8 Document traditional knowledge and gender differentiated roles in forest management and restoration and define in particular the role of women in forest management
1.9 Convene dialogues with county and local leaders to popularize ROAM, PFMPs and restoration plans to facilitate their adoption

1.10 Support local groups to advocate their issues to county government for enhanced representation in decision making
1.11 Conduct a mid-term assessment to evaluate the progress and effectiveness of the Nandi Forest Ecosystem Strategy (2015-2040).
2.1 Carry out organisational capacity assessments (OCA) of local groups (CFAs/SSGs and others)
2.2 Organise seminars to train 4 community forest associations and 2 Site Support groups in organizational development following Nature Kenya training tools
2.3 Organise seminars/workshops to train local groups in tree nursery management and forest restoration
2.4 Provide support to tree nurseries to produce 200,000 seedlings
2.5 Facilitate local groups (CFAs/SSGs and others) to plant trees and monitor their survival.
2.6 Engage Kenya Forest Service to provide restoration technical backstopping
2.7 Engage GIS experts to work with Nature Kenya experts to produce forest cover change detection maps
2.8 Train local groups and forest rangers in disturbance forest assessment
2.9 Carry out participatory forest disturbance assessment and produce report
2.10 Organise seminars to train local groups in detailed monitoring of Turners Eremomela
2.11 Support the Museum to carry out baseline and end line biodiversity assessment including forest specialists
3.1 Establish links with county government agricultural extension staff
3.2 Develop training schedules on climate resilient farming informed by Climate Smart Agriculture experiences
3.3 Develop criteria and use it to identify households to be involved in climate smart farming and project interventions
3.4 Carry out socio-economic survey on uptake of climate resilient tactics
3.5 Develop ecosystem based adaptation action plan prioritising interventions for uptake by the project
3.6 Organise training based on farmer field school's approaches to reach out to 2,000 households
3.7 Train local groups/beneficiaries in income generating activities (not everything will be about money but improving the welfare of the people.
3.8 Develop criteria and identify beneficiaries of income generating activities
3.9 Provide support to farmers to engage in climate resilient farming (drought resistant, fast growing, highly adaptive crop/livestock varieties
3.10 Train farmers to establish tree nurseries for agro-forestry trees and for woodlots to reduce pressure on forest (fruit trees, woodlots for fuel wood etc)
3.11 Support income generating activities including honey, crop trees, chicken, and fish
3.12 Source and provide 2,000 clean cook clay liners to 2,000 forest adjacent households
3.13 Carry out socio-economic baseline and end line surveys on the income and livelihoods activities
4.1 Document, produce and disseminate lessons learned using diversified approaches (print/electronic etc.)
4.2 Conduct community awareness campaigns through public meetings, local radio, and social media platforms.
4.3 Facilitate exchange visits for CFAs to successful sustainable forest management sites, fostering knowledge exchange and adoption of best practices in forest conservation.
4.4 Engage media and publish articles on project outcomes in local media, including Nature Net, 5 radio broadcasts, Kenya's KBAs Status and Trends Report by year 3.
4.5 Present findings at conferences/webinars targeting policymakers, NGOs, and

environmental professionals to promote project results and sustainable forest management strategies.
4.6 Partner with local authorities to celebrate global environmental days (e.g., World Environment Day) annually, showcasing project milestones and engaging the community in conservation activities.

Q25b. Standard Indicators

Standard Indicator Ref & Wording	Project Output or Outcome this links to	Target number by project end	Provide disaggregated targets here
DI-A01: Number of people in eligible countries who have completed structured and relevant training	Output indicator 2.1 / Output 2	443	186 Women, 257 men
DI-A05: Number of trainers trained under the project reporting to have delivered further training	Output indicator 2.3 /Output 2	20	10 women, 10 men, trainers delivering sessions to CFAs/SSGs and local community members
DI-B07: Number of policies with biodiversity provisions that have been enacted or amended	Output indicator 1.2 /Output 1	2	Policies integrating ROAM and PFMPs, including gender-sensitive provisions
DI-D01a: Area under Sustainable Management Practices	Outcome 0.1	2,000	200 hectares direct planting; 600 hectares direct seeding; 1,200 hectares' natural regeneration.)
DI-D03: Number of people with enhanced livelihoods	Outcome 0.3 ; Output indicator 3.1 /Output 3	10,000	≥3,500 women; 2,000 households (≥35% women-led) Activities: agroforestry, livestock, clean cook stoves, honey production, fish farming
DI-D07: Number of threatened species with improving conservation status	Outcome 0.2	1	Turners Eremomela Monitoring by SSGs/National Museum
DI-C01: Number of best practice guides and knowledge products published and endorsed	Output indicator 4.1 /Output 4	6	Number of media articles published

No Response	Output indicator 4.1 /Output 4	3,000	Number of people attending awareness events disaggregated by gender
No Response	*No Response*	*No Response*	*No Response*
No Response	*No Response*	*No Response*	*No Response*
No Response	*No Response*	*No Response*	*No Response*
No Response	*No Response*	*No Response*	*No Response*
No Response	*No Response*	*No Response*	*No Response*
No Response	*No Response*	*No Response*	*No Response*

If you cannot identify three Standard Indicators you can report against, please justify this here.

No Response

Section 11 - Budget and Funding

Q26. Budget

Please complete the appropriate Excel spreadsheet, which provides the Budget for this application and ensure the Summary page is fully completed. Some of the questions earlier and below refer to the information in this spreadsheet.

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Q27. Alignment with other funding and activities

This question aims to help us understand how familiar you are with other work in the geographic/thematic area, and how this proposed project will build on or align with this to avoid any risks of duplicating or conflicting activities.

Q27a. Is this new work or does it build on existing/past activities (delivered by anyone and funded through any source)?

⦿ Development of existing/past activities

Please provide details:

This project builds on a strong foundation of past and ongoing conservation initiatives in the Nandi Forests (See Supplementary S5). Between 1999 and 2016, Nature Kenya established and empowered 2 Site Support Groups, developed strategic plans, and supported Community Forest Associations (CFAs) Chesumei, Kimondi/Iruru, and Kobujoi - in participatory forest management, though these plans lapsed in 2019).
Building on this momentum, this project applies the Restoration Opportunities Assessment Methodology (ROAM) to identify degraded areas for restoration and ensure alignment with local development plans.
A 2019 GEF-funded IFAD/AGRA project further strengthened these efforts, enhancing the capacity of smallholder

farmers and CFAs to adopt sustainable land and forest management practices. This project advances the implementation of the North and South Nandi Forest Strategic Ecosystem Management Plan (2015–2050), driving long-term sustainability.

Q27b. Are you aware of any current or future plans for work in the geographic/thematic area to the proposed project that may duplicate or cut across this proposed project?

⦿ No

Q28. Value for Money

Please demonstrate why your project is good value for money in terms of impact and cost-effectiveness of each pound spend (economy, efficiency, effectiveness and equity). Why is it the best feasible project for the amount of money to be spent?

The project design is robust taking into account value for money hinged on account of economy, efficiency, effectiveness and equity in the investment. This considers sustainability upfront to ensure post project funding operations.

1. Economy: Only two field staff will be hired. Existing skills and knowledge within Nature Kenya and partners will be utilised leading to significant financial resource savings. Only basic equipment limited to 40 audio-moth (acoustic device), computers, GPS units and a simple field car for a total of 4.4% of BCF funding will be purchased. Existing Nature Kenya cars will be used for travels from Nairobi to the field while salaries of Government officials will not be covered by this project.
2. Efficiency: Nature Kenya already has contacts on the ground at community and County Government level forming a key foundation for early start of project implementation.
3. Effectiveness: The project is building on past efforts including the Nandi County Forest Strategic Management plan for the period up to 2040. The work of the Site Support Groups and the Community Forest Associations and Government agencies increases the effectiveness of this project
4. Equity: The project has considered equitable participation of each partner within their institutional strengths. Engaging local community groups and forest adjacent dwellers especially women and the poorest of the poor will go a long way in ensuring that no one is left behind.
5. The project achieves measurable outcomes, including restoring 200 hectares of degraded forest, enhancing biodiversity, and managing 2,000 hectares sustainably.

Q29. Capital items

If you plan to purchase capital items with Darwin Initiative funding, please indicate what you anticipate will happen to the items following project end. If you are requesting more than 10% capital costs, please provide your justification here.

Capital items to be purchased are limited to only key essentials: 5 laptop computers [redacted] 5 desktop computers @[redacted]and a field car (4x4 Suzuki) estimated at [redacted]Two desktops and two laptops will be used by the two field staff who will need to portable computer during field work. The two forests are vast and there is need to have a means of mobility. The car being purchased will continue operations at Nature Kenya post project. Capital costs total only 4.4% of the BCF spending.

Section 12 - Safeguarding and Ethics

Q30. Safeguarding

All projects funded under the Biodiversity Challenge Funds must ensure proactive action is taken to promote the welfare and protect all individuals involved in the project (staff, implementing partners, the public and beneficiaries) from harm. In order to provide assurance of this, projects are required to have specific procedures and policies in operation.

Please outline how your project will ensure:

(a) beneficiaries, the public, implementing partners, and staff are made aware of your safeguarding commitment and how they can confidentially raise a concern,

(b) safeguarding issues are investigated, recorded and what disciplinary procedures are in place when allegations and complaints are upheld,

(c) you will ensure project partners also meet these standards and policies.

Indicate which minimum standard protocol your project follows and how you meet those minimum standards, i.e. CAPSEAH, CHS, IASC MOS-PSEA. If your approach is currently limited or in the early stages of development, please clearly set out your plans to address this.

The CHS, IASC MOS-PSEA and CAPSEAH inspire Nature Kenya's safeguarding policies. The following associated policies and procedures are meant as guidelines that are part of Nature Kenya operational procedures: Safeguarding Policy; Code of Conduct; Anti-Bullying and Harassment Policy; Dealing with Safeguarding Reports; Disclosure of malpractice in the workplace (whistleblowing); Anti-bribery guidelines; Anti-slavery and Human Trafficking Policy; Complaints procedure; Procedures for reporting and response to safeguarding concerns; Guidance for safeguarding in employee and volunteer recruitment; healthy and safety and Protection from Sexual Exploitation and Abuse (PSEA) policy.

Safeguarding: Understanding of Nature Kenya's safeguarding policies by staff and sub-contractors is enhanced as follows:
• Nature Kenya monthly staff is used to increase understanding on procedures including safeguarding matters
• Annually, Site Support Groups (CBOs) working with Nature Kenya at 26 sites are trained on safeguarding during annual forum convened by Nature Kenya
• Nature Kenya safeguarding policies are now annexed to contracts/sub-contractors
• Staff appointment letters/contracts include adherence to Nature Kenya procedures including safeguarding

Supply chain management: Nature Kenya has learned from others and developed due diligence framework with key objectives including:
• Undertake third party due diligence assessments in a consistent and pragmatic manner proportional to the risk of the agreement/arrangement;
• Strengthen risk management processes through identification and assessment of partner risks prior to selection and agreement finalization;
• Assist third parties to satisfy Nature Kenya finance and administration procedures and safeguarding policies;
• Safeguard Nature Kenya image in the entire supply/delivery chain.

Nature Kenya reaffirms that terrorism and violent extremism conducive to terrorism cannot and should not be associated with Nature Kenya members, staff, partners, beneficiaries, collaborators and all forms of stakeholders in the Nature Kenya finance and action delivery chain. Human resource due diligence includes interviews, references, checks with previous employers and where necessary certificate of good conduct.

Defra recommend you appoint a safeguarding focal point to ensure the project's PSEAH work is taken forward. This can be a separate member of staff or a current member of staff who spends a proportionate amount of time for safeguarding and PSEAH activities. Please name this individual here - this person should also be included in your overall staff list at Q33 and in your budget.

[redacted]

Q31. Ethics

Outline your approach to meeting the key principles of good ethical practice, as outlined in the guidance.

Our project adheres to core ethical principles, ensuring transparency, inclusivity, respect for human rights, and accountability. Aligned with UK human rights obligations, Kenyan policies, and international standards, we

prioritize human rights and community empowerment. Leveraging Nature Kenya's relationships with local communities and the government, we build trust and leadership, ensuring informed consent for all community interactions.
1. Biodiversity surveys will follow ethical research standards, with voluntary, culturally appropriate consent from communities.
2. Marginalized groups, including women, youth, and indigenous peoples, will be included in decision-making, ensuring equitable benefit-sharing.
3. Regular updates on project progress, finances, and outcomes will be shared, contributing to transparency.
4. Our conservation actions will be non-invasive, sustainable, and safe, prioritizing long-term environmental and community benefits.
5. We will adopt sustainable practices that minimize ecological impact, with a focus on long-term conservation and community engagement.
6. Transparent communication, active participation, and equitable benefit distribution will guide the project.
By adhering to these principles, we aim to create lasting, positive impacts on biodiversity and local communities, ensuring the sustainability of conservation efforts beyond the project period

Section 13 - British Embassy or High Commission Engagement

Q32. British embassy or high commission engagement

It is important for UK Government representatives to understand if UK funding might be spent in the project country/ies.

Please indicate if you have contacted the relevant British embassy or high commission to discuss the project and attach details of any advice you have received from them. Please note that some embassies or high commissions may not be able to respond to you but your project will not be penalised for a lack of response.

⦿ Yes

Please attach evidence of request or advice if received.

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Section 14 - Project Staff

Q33. Project staff

Please identify the core staff (identified in the budget), their role and what % of their time they will be working on the project.

Name (First name, Surname)	Role	% time on project	1 page CV or job description attached?
Paul Matiku	**Project Leader**	11	Checked
Caroline Ng'weno	Project Manager Policy/Advocacy/Trainer	20	Checked

Paul Gacheru	Biodiversity Survey Lead/ Trainer	15	Checked
James Mutunga	Local Action Manager/ Community Trainer	12	Checked

Do you require more fields?

⦿ Yes

Name (First name, Surname)	Role	% time on project	1 page CV or job description attached?
Denvas Gekonde	Finance Manager: Finance oversight, oversee financial planning, budgeting, and compliance with donor guidelines	8	Checked
Cecilia Mbaluto	Financial controller, audit, cashier; Oversee financial operations, conduct audits, and ensure resource allocation.	11	Checked
Caroline Kabilu	Programme Support/internal Monitoring and Evaluation	12	Checked
John Mwacharo	Communication: Develop materials, coordinate media campaigns, and report outcomes to stakeholders	7	Checked
New Officer	Site Project Manager - Community Mobilizer	100	Checked
New Officer	Project officer - Livelihood Diversification	100	Checked
Joshua Sese	GIS Mapping and Data Collection	30	Checked
Esther Kyungu	Facilitate Meetings logistics	20	Checked

Please provide 1 page CVs (or job description if yet to be recruited) for the project staff listed above as a combined PDF.

Staff CVs merged Darwin Nandi proposal 29.11.24_compressed
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pdf 166.32 KB

Have you attached all project staff CVs?

⦿ Yes

Section 15 - Project Partners

Q34. Project Partners

Please list all the Project Partners (including the Lead Organisation who will administer the grant and coordinate delivery of the project), clearly setting out their roles and responsibilities in the project including the extent of their engagement so far.

This section should demonstrate the capability and capacity of the Project Partners to successfully deliver the project. Please provide Letters of Support for all project partners or explain why this has not been included. The order of the letters must be the same as the order they are presented in below.

Lead Organisation name:	Nature Kenya
Website address:	https://naturekenya.org/
Why is this organisation the Lead Organisation, and what value to they bring to the project? (including roles, responsibilities and capabilities and capacity):	Nature Kenya is the Lead Organization for this project due to its extensive experience in implementing large-scale conservation initiatives. With a proven track record in leading and managing externally funded projects, including multiple Darwin projects, Nature Kenya brings valuable expertise in community-driven conservation, ecosystem management, and biodiversity restoration. Nature Kenya has been active in the Nandi Forests since 1999 (Supplementary S5), facilitating the development of the Nandi Forest Ecosystem Management Plan (2015-2040) and supporting the establishment of Community Forest Associations (4 CFAs) and Site Support Groups (2 SSGs). These community structures have played a critical role in tree growing and monitoring seedling survival using Nature Kenya tool kit, forest management, and livelihood programs, such as beekeeping and sustainable agriculture. Nature Kenya will oversee project administration, grant management, and coordination of activities, ensuring that community-led initiatives align with conservation objectives. The organization's experience in policy development, capacity building, and stakeholder engagement, combined with its strong relationships with local communities and government agencies, ensures the effective delivery and sustainability of project outcomes. With its extensive knowledge of biodiversity conservation and ecosystem services, Nature Kenya will guide the integration of local communities into the conservation process, ensuring long-term environmental and socio-economic benefits
International/In-country Partner:	⦿ In-country
Allocated budget (proportion or value):	*No Response*
Representation on the Project Board (or other management structure):	⦿ Yes
Have you included a Letter of Support from the Lead Organisation?	⦿ Yes

Do you have partners involved in the Project?

⊙ Yes

1. Partner Name:	County Government of Nandi
Website address:	https://nandi.go.ke/
What value does this Partner bring to the project? (including roles, responsibilities and capabilities and capacity):	The County Government of Nandi plays a key role in conserving and managing the North and South Nandi forests, as mandated by the 2010 Constitution of Kenya, which devolves forest management and related functions to counties. This mandate ensures sustainable use of ecosystem services, such as water, carbon sequestration, biodiversity, tourism, and timber, essential for local communities and future generations. The County Government will; • Lead the creation of forest policies and restoration strategies aligned with national and international frameworks like the National Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan (NBSAP). • Integrating biodiversity into the County Integrated Development Plans (CIDP) and budgets, prioritizing forest conservation. • Mobilizing resources and funds for forest restoration and sustainable livelihoods. • Facilitating community participation, especially marginalized groups, in forest management and restoration. • Collaborating with stakeholders, including the Kenya Forest Service (KFS), to combat illegal activities and protect forests. • Driving the implementation of the North and South Nandi Forests Strategic Ecosystem Management Plan (2015-2040), ensuring long-term ecological integrity and restoration goals are met. This collaborative effort supports sustainable forest management and conservation in the region.
International/In-country Partner:	⊙ In-country
Allocated budget:	[redacted]
Representation on the Project Board (or other management structure):	⊙ No
Have you included a Letter of Support from this partner?	⊙ Yes

2. Partner Name:	National Museums of Kenya
Website address:	https://museums.or.ke/

What value does this Partner bring to the project? (including roles, responsibilities and capabilities and capacity):	The National Museums of Kenya (NMK) and Nature Kenya have a long-standing partnership dedicated to biodiversity conservation and research in Kenya. Building on previous successes in the Nandi Forests, including NMK's significant contributions to understanding the region's unique biodiversity, this collaboration will leverage the expertise of NMK's leading ornithologists and ecologists to further advance conservation efforts. NMK will contribute to the project by developing and implementing biodiversity monitoring protocols, training community forest guardians to conduct bird surveys, particularly focusing on the critically endangered Turner's Eremomela, using advanced audio-moth technology, and conducting baseline and end-line biodiversity assessments to evaluate the project's impact. The collected data will be integrated into the Kenya Bird Atlas database, contributing to national and global conservation efforts. This partnership demonstrates the power of collaboration in safeguarding Kenya's rich biodiversity.
International/In-country Partner:	⦿ In-country
Allocated budget:	*No Response*
Representation on the Project Board (or other management structure):	⦿ No
Have you included a Letter of Support from this partner?	⦿ Yes

3. Partner Name:	Kenya Forest Service
Website address:	www.kenyaforestservice.org

What value does this Partner bring to the project? (including roles, responsibilities and capabilities and capacity):	The Kenya Forest Service (KFS) is a crucial partner in this project, bringing extensive expertise in forest management, policy development, and community engagement. KFS will play a pivotal role in overseeing the restoration of 200 hectares of degraded land within the North and South Nandi forests. This includes providing technical guidance, ensuring alignment with national forest policies, and contributing to Kenya's broader tree cover and National Forest Programme goals. KFS will be instrumental in developing and mainstreaming Participatory Forest Management Plans (PFMPs) and Restoration Action Plans into local and county government policies. This will foster long-term sustainability and empower local communities. Additionally, KFS will lead capacity-building initiatives for Community Forest Associations (CFAs) and Site Support Groups (SSGs), training them in essential skills such as forest management, governance, and restoration techniques. Furthermore, KFS will provide technical support for forest cover mapping, disturbance assessments, and biodiversity monitoring. Leveraging its strong partnerships with local communities and government agencies, KFS will ensure robust engagement and project ownership. By combining its institutional capacity, technical expertise, and extensive local networks, KFS is poised to drive significant forest restoration efforts, enhance biodiversity, and improve the livelihoods of over 10,000 people in the Nandi region.
International/In-country Partner:	⦿ In-country
Allocated budget:	[redacted]
Representation on the Project Board (or other management structure)	⦿ No
Have you included a Letter of Support from this partner?	⦿ Yes

4. Partner Name:	Community Forest Associations (Kobujoi, Chesumei, Kimondi/Iruru, and North Nandi Escarpment)
Website address:	*No Response*

What value does this Partner bring to the project? (including roles, responsibilities and capabilities and capacity):	The four Community Forest Associations (CFAs) are key stakeholders in this project, bringing a wealth of experience, local knowledge, and legal mandate under the Forest Act 2005. Registered with the Registrar of Societies and living adjacent to the forests, these CFAs derive their livelihoods from forest resources and actively engage in conservation. Since 2008, they have partnered with Nature Kenya and work closely with the Kenya Forest Service (KFS) to promote sustainable forest management and biodiversity conservation in Nandi Forests. The CFAs will restore 2,000 hectares of degraded forest through tree planting, seedling care, and monitoring activities. As forest guardians, they will leverage participatory forest management approaches, enhance forest protection, and act as agents of the government in ensuring forest sustainability. The project will build their capacity through training in forest restoration, nursery establishment, and tree planting. Additionally, they will be equipped with audio monitoring tools to detect and address forest threats. Their active involvement strengthens community engagement in conservation, ensures the survival of planted trees, and enhances local livelihoods while fostering collaboration with the government for long-term forest sustainability
International/In-country Partner:	⦿ In-country
Allocated budget:	*No Response*
Representation on the Project Board (or other management structure):	⦿ No
Have you included a Letter of Support from this partner?	⦿ Yes

5. Partner Name:	Site Support Groups
Website address:	https://www.facebook.com/sonabicgroup/
What value does this Partner bring to the project? (including roles, responsibilities and capabilities and capacity):	Both the South Nandi Biodiversity Conservation Group and Murguiywet are registered community-based organizations that educate, advocate, monitor biodiversity, and engage in livelihood improvement activities within their local communities. These groups will play a critical role in the project by participating in forest management and restoration, championing biodiversity monitoring, and implementing poverty reduction interventions. They will be trained in forest restoration, nursery establishment, and management, and will establish tree nurseries to plant trees in degraded forest areas and on farms. By mobilizing local communities, these groups will contribute to the long-term sustainability of the Nandi Forests, ensuring the protection of biodiversity and the well-being of local populations.
International/In-country Partner:	⦿ In-country
Allocated budget:	[redacted]

Representation on the Project Board (or other management structure):	⦿ No
Have you included a Letter of Support from this partner?	⦿ Yes

6. Partner Name:	*No Response*
Website address:	*No Response*
What value does this Partner bring to the project? (including roles, responsibilities and capabilities and capacity):	*No Response*
International/In-country Partner:	○ International ○ In-country
Allocated budget:	*No Response*
Representation on the Project Board (or other management structure):	○ Yes ○ No
Have you included a Letter of Support from this partner?	○ Yes ○ No

If you require more space to enter details regarding Partners involved in the project, please use the text field below.

No Response

Please provide a combined PDF of all letters of support.

Patners Support Letters_Nandi Forests, Kenya
29/11/2024
08:01:29
pdf 1.51 MB

Section 16 - Lead Partner Capability and Capacity

Q35. Lead Organisation Capability and Capacity

Has your organisation been awarded Biodiversity Challenge Funds (Darwin Initiative, Darwin Plus or Illegal Wildlife Trade Challenge Fund) funding before (for the purposes of this question, being a partner does not count)?

⦿ Yes

If yes, please provide details of the most recent awards (up to 6 examples).

Reference No	Project Leader	Title

31-018	James Joshua Mutunga	Strengthening policy, capacity, climate resiliency to conserve Mutitu and Mumoni
26 - 003	Paul Matiku	Securing the long-term future of Kenya's freshwater wetland
25 - 031	Paul Matiku	Partnering with Business for Restoration of Mt Kenya ecosystem services
25 - 015	Serah Munguti	Balancing development and conservation in Kenya's largest freshwater wetland
No Response	*No Response*	*No Response*
No Response	*No Response*	*No Response*

Have you provided the requested signed audited/independently examined accounts?

⊙ Yes

Section 17 - Certification

Certification

If this section is incomplete the entire application will be rejected.

Please note if you do not upload the relevant materials below your application may be made ineligible.

On behalf of the

Trustees

of

Nature Kenya – The East Africa Natural History Society

I apply for a grant of

£787,075.00

I certify that, to the best of our knowledge and belief, the statements made by us in this application are true and the information provided is correct. I am aware that this application form will form the basis of the project schedule should this application be successful.

(This form should be signed by an individual authorised by the applicant institution to submit applications and sign contracts on their behalf.)

- I have enclosed CVs for key project personnel, cover letter, letters of support, a budget, logframe, Safeguarding and associated policies, and project workplan.
- Our last two sets of signed audited/independently verified accounts and annual report (covering three years) are also enclosed.

Checked

Name	DR. PAUL MATIKU
Position in the organisation	EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Signature (please upload e-signature)	Certification_NK Nandis Green Lungs 25.11.24 28/11/2024 12:49:14 pdf 103.2 KB
Date	25 November 2024

Please attach the requested signed audited/independently examined accounts.

NK Year 2022 Audit Accounts report compressed
28/11/2024
12:51:01
pdf 933.82 KB

NK Year 2023 Audit accounts Report
28/11/2024
12:50:46
pdf 5.57 MB

Please upload the Lead Partner's Safeguarding Policy, Whistleblowing Policy and Code of Conduct as a PDF. Optionally you can also upload your Health, Safety and/or Security policy or Security Plan here.

Nature Kenya Health safety security policy (2024)
28/11/2024
12:53:24
pdf 141.17 KB

Code of Conduct (from NK safeguarding policies)
28/11/2024
12:53:09
pdf 141.2 KB

Disclosure of Malpractice in the Workplace Policy (Whistle blowing)
28/11/2024
12:52:52
pdf 112.5 KB

Nature Kenya safeguarding policies 16.10.2020
28/11/2024
12:52:26
pdf 444.05 KB

Section 18 - Submission Checklist

Checklist for submission

	Check
I have read the Guidance, **including the "Darwin Initiative Guidance", "Monitoring Evaluation and Learning Guidance", "Standard Indicator Guidance", "Risk Guidance", and "Finance Guidance".**	Checked
I have read, and can meet, the current Terms and Conditions **for this fund.**	Checked
I have provided actual start and end dates **for the project.**	Checked
I have provided the budget based on UK government financial years **i.e. 1 April – 31 March and in GBP.**	Checked
I have checked that our budget is complete, **correctly adds up and I have included the correct final total at the start of the application.**	Checked
The application been signed by a suitably authorised individual **(clear electronic or scanned signatures are acceptable).**	Checked

I have attached the below documents to my application: **• a cover letter from the Lead Organisation**	Checked
• **a completed logframe as a PDF using the template provided and using "Monitoring Evaluation and Learning Guidance" and "Standard Indicator Guidance".**	Checked
• **a budget (which meets the requirements above) using the template provided.**	Checked
• **a signed copy of the last 2 annual report and accounts (covering three years) for the Lead Organisation, or provided an explanation if not.**	Checked
• **a completed workplan as a PDF using the template provided.**	Checked
• **a copy of the Lead Organisation's Safeguarding Policy, Whistleblowing Policy and Code of Conduct (Question 30).**	Checked
• **a copy of the Lead Organisation's** Health, Safety and/or Security policy or Security Plan **(Question 30)**	Checked
• **1 page CV or job description for all the Project Staff identified at Question 33, including the Project Leader, or provided an explanation of why not, combined into a single PDF.**	Checked
• **a letter of support from the Lead Organisation and partner(s) identified at Question 34, or an explanation of why not, as a single PDF.**	Checked
I have been in contact with the FCDO **in the project country/ies and have included any evidence of this. If not, I have provided an explanation of why not.**	Checked
The additional supporting evidence is in line with the requested evidence, amounts to a maximum of 5 sides of A4, and is combined as a single PDF.	Checked
(If copying and pasting into Flexi-Grant) I have checked that all my responses have been successfully copied into the online application form.	Checked
I have checked the Darwin Initiative website **immediately prior to submission to ensure there are no late updates.**	Checked
I have read and understood the Privacy Notice on the Darwin Initiative website.	Checked

We would like to keep in touch!

Please check this box if you would be happy for the lead applicant (Flexi-Grant Account Holder) and project leader (if different) to be added to our mailing list. Through our mailing list we share updates on upcoming and current application rounds under the Biodiversity Challenge Funds. We also provide occasional updates on other UK Government activities related to biodiversity conservation and share our regular newsletter. You are free to unsubscribe at any time.

Checked

Data protection and use of personal data

Information supplied in the application form, including personal data, will be used by Defra as set out in the **Privacy Notice**, available from the Forms and Guidance Portal.

This **Privacy Notice must be provided to all individuals** whose personal data is supplied in the application form. Some information may be used when publicising the Darwin Initiative including project details (usually title, lead organisation, project leader, location, and total grant value).

Project Title: **Nandi's Green Lungs: sustainable restoration for thriving biodiversity and livelihoods**

Project Summary	**SMART Indicators (including disaggregated targets)**	**Means of Verification**	**Important Assumptions**
Impact: Nandi forests are sustainably managed by and for empowered forest-adjacent households implementing restoration and climate - resilient livelihoods approaches to increase forest cover, biodiversity, and local livelihoods (Max 30 words)			
Outcome: Implementation of sustainable forest restoration and climate resilient livelihoods by trained local institutions and forest adjacent households increase forest cover, biodiversity, and livelihoods of 10,000 people in the Nandi forests (Max 30 words)	0.1 Change detection through GIS mapping at the start and end of the project show Nandi North/South Forests' cover increased by 7% (c.2,000ha) due to sustainable forest management and restoration of 200ha (direct planting), 600ha (direct seeding), and 1,200ha (natural regeneration) achieved by end of year 5 0.2 Disturbance and biodiversity surveys at start and end of the project show forest threats have stabilized and populations of threatened *Eremomela turneri* species and proportion of forest specialists versus generalists' bird species remain stable in areas where forest (c.2,000ha) is being actively better managed and monitored by community-led	0.1 Progress reports; land change detection maps; 0.2 Forest disturbance survey reports; Biodiversity survey reports; progress reports;	We assume National and county governments remain supportive of sustainable forest management and enhanced law enforcement Development in the past has taken place by displacing forests with agriculture. We assume that the Government is committed to saving the remaining forest for the invaluable ecosystem services including tea micro climate amelioration. Kenya is also signatory to Climate Change mitigation obligations. Greening production is part of Kenya's objectives. We assume that Kenya and the Nandi County Government are committed to deliver these international obligations. We have no doubt that climate resilient livelihoods approaches will be adopted as farmers are already beginning to see the benefits.

	forest guardians throughout years 1 to 5 0.3 Socio-economic surveys at the start and end of the project show livelihoods of 2,000 households improved by 30% as a result of climate resilient livelihoods approaches	0.3 Socio-economic survey reports (with responses dis aggregated by gender)	We also assume the Kenya Forest Service is committed to devolve forest management to local communities. Already existing partnerships with the Kenya Forest Service (KFS) indicate that Community Forest Associations (CFAs) are considered to core to forest management agenda. The KFS has demonstrated their commitment in forest restoration and management through local communities although funding remains low. This project will generate lessons to inform future decision making on participatory forest management. The existing strategic ecosystem management plan for the Nandi North/South Forests (2015 – 2040) still remains relevant as a guide for strategic forest management. This project will go a long way in implementing elements of this management plan by engaging all stakeholders (local communities, government, NGOs, etc.) on sustainable forest management in the region
Outputs: **1**.Restoration Opportunity Assessment Methodology	1.1 By end of year 2, the Restoration Opportunity Assessment Methodology	1.1 Participatory Restoration Opportunity Assessment	We assume that the biggest problem hindering restoration is lack of knowledge on areas for

(ROAM), Participatory Forest Management Plans, Restoration Action plans developed and mainstreamed into the county government and local institutions result in increased participation in forest management and restoration by empowered local communities (≥ 35% are women)	(ROAM) report (covering c.28,500ha) informs the development/review of Participatory Forest Management Plans (PFMP) and Restoration Action Plan, integrating gender and Traditional Knowledge relevant to forest management practices 1.2 By end of year 3, county Government/Kenya Forest Service adopts new restoration policies (Restoration Opportunity Assessment Methodology (ROAM), Participatory Forest Management plans; (PFMPs), that are implemented with local community groups (4 CFAs (240 members: 84 women, 156 men), and 2 SSGs (203 members;102 women, 101 men)	Methodology (ROAM) report; PFMPs/Restoration plans 1.2 Progress reports; minutes of county/KFS/CFAs meetings;	restoration. The ROAM methodology tested in Tana and Cherangany has demonstrated added value of using a scientific approach in restoration mapping. Since the ROAM methodology is participatory, we assume that local stakeholders will enhance their restoration ownership for improved restoration success.
2.South and North Nandi forests are better managed by trained local government and institutions in restoration, forest management, and biodiversity monitoring resulting in 200ha of degraded forest restored, improved management practices across 2,000ha of indigenous	2.1 By end of year1, 2 community forest associations and 2 Site Support groups (443 members --186 women, 257 men) are trained in leadership, governance, financial management, conflict resolution and sustainable forest management practices	2.1 Progress reports; Training reports; attendance records disaggregated by gender	We assume that the provision of training for local government and institutions in restoration, forest management, and biodiversity monitoring is what is needed to better manage the South/North Forests as will lead to high participation rates, strong commitment from participants to

forest, and an increase in biodiversity in restored or better-managed areas	resulting to 6 tree nurseries (200,000 indigenous tree seedlings) and improved management practices across 2000ha of indigenous forest by end of year 5 2.2 By end of end of year 5 change detection through GIS mapping shows 200ha has been restored, 2000ha is regenerating, and threats on c.28500ha have stabilized 2.3 Biodiversity surveys by National Museum and trained (20 local monitors; (10 women, 10 men) at start and end of the project show that threatened *Turners Eremomela* bird species and forest specialists bird species populations remain stable by the end of year	 2.2 GIS change detection maps; maps of restored areas/records of seedlings planted and their survival rate 2.3 Biodiversity survey reports; progress reports;	apply the knowledge gained, and adequate allocation of resources for implementation.
3. Implementation of Climate-resilient livelihood options by trained forest-adjacent households improve the livelihoods of 2,000 forest-adjacent households (c.10,000 people) reducing reliance on forest resources and resulting in increased local support for forest conservation	3.1 By end of Year 5, 2,000 trained households (≥ 35% women) are implementing climate-resilient livelihoods drought-resistant food crops (sorghum, millet, cassava, sunflower); 100 households in certified fodder seeds; 500 households in 5,000 crop trees/nitrogen fixers (includes fruit trees); 300 households	3.1 Training reports; participant lists by gender; progress reports;	We assume that poor hungry forest adjacent dwellers are unlikely to engage in sustainable forest management. The trained forest-adjacent households involved in livelihoods enhancement actions will actively adopt and implement the climate-resilient livelihood options provided by the project

	in woodlots; 300 households in honey(300 beehives); chicken 400 women led households in Chicken; 5 fish ponds benefiting 200 households and 2000 clean cook stoves/liner 3.2 Socio-economic surveys at the start and end of the project show 30% livelihoods improvement due to project interventions and 30% reduction in fuel wood consumption due to adoption of clean cook stoves	 3.2 Reports socio economic reports disaggregated by gender	and that these options will prove to be economically viable and generate sustainable income for the participating households.
4. Disseminate lessons and experiences locally, nationally, and globally	4.1 By end of the project, 3,000 people (national/local decision makers) are made aware about Nandi North/South forest values through events and diversified awareness materials (International World Days, print/electronic/social media, local radio) 4.2 Lessons learned video disseminated widely (websites, media, decision makers, local communities)	4.1 Reports on awareness meetings by type and gender; Progress reports 4.2 Lessons learned video available for inspection	If people are not aware, they are unlikely to demand accountability for forest conservation. Creating awareness will create a strong interest from local, national, and global stakeholders that will translate into improved forest support and management.

Project Title: **Nandi's Green Lungs: sustainable restoration for thriving biodiversity and livelihoods**

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. Each activity should start on a new line and be no more than approximately 25 words.)

Output 1: Restoration Opportunity Assessment Methodology (ROAM), Participatory Forest Management Plans, Restoration Action plans developed and mainstreamed into the county government and local institutions result in increased participation in forest management and restoration by empowered local communities (≥ 35% are women)

1.1 Engage ROAM expert and develop ROAM development framework
1.2 Carry out consultations needed to development ROAM report
1.3 Carry out consultations needed to validate the ROAM report
1.4 Prepare and publish the ROAM report
1.5 Carry out Socio economic studies needed to inform the ROAM and participatory forest management plans (PFMPs)
1.6 Carry out biodiversity surveys needed to inform the ROAM and PFMPs
1.7 Organize consultations needed to develop restoration action plans in a participatory manner
1.8 Document traditional knowledge and gender differentiated roles in forest management and restoration and define in particular the role of women in forest management
1.9 Convene dialogues with county and local leaders to popularize ROAM, PFMPs and restoration plans to facilitate their adoption
1.10 Support local groups to advocate their issues to county government for enhanced representation in decision making
1.11 Conduct a mid-term assessment to evaluate the progress and effectiveness of the Nandi Forest Ecosystem Strategy (2015-2040).

Output 2: Improved forest health and management achieved, by trained local government and institutions in restoration, forest management, and biodiversity monitoring result in 200ha of degraded forest restored, improved management practices across 2000ha of indigenous forest, and an increase in biodiversity in restored or better-managed areas

2.1 Carry out organisational capacity assessments (OCA) of local groups (CFAs/SSGs and others)
2.2 Organise seminars to train 4 community forest associations and 2 Site Support groups in organizational development following Nature Kenya training tools
2.3 Organise seminars/workshops to train local groups in tree nursery management and forest restoration
2.4 Provide support to tree nurseries to produce 200,000 seedlings
2.5 Facilitate local groups (CFAs/SSGs and others) to plant trees and monitor their survival.
2.6 Engage Kenya Forest Service to provide restoration technical backstopping
2.7 Engage GIS experts to work with Nature Kenya experts to produce forest cover change detection maps
2.8 Train local groups and forest rangers in disturbance forest assessment
2.9 Carry out participatory forest disturbance assessment and produce report

2.10 Organise seminars to train local groups in detailed monitoring of *Turners Eremomela*
2.11 Support the Museum to carry out baseline and end line biodiversity assessment including forest specialists

Output 3: Implementation of Climate-resilient livelihood options by trained forest-adjacent households improve the livelihoods of 2,000 forest-adjacent households (c.10,000 people) reducing reliance on forest resources and resulting in increased local support for forest conservation

3.1 Establish links with county government agricultural extension staff
3.2 Develop training schedules on climate resilient farming informed by Climate Smart Agriculture experiences
3.3 Develop criteria and use it to identify households to be involved in climate smart farming and project interventions
3.4 Carry out socio-economic survey on uptake of climate resilient tactics
3.5 Develop ecosystem based adaptation action plan prioritising interventions for uptake by the project
3.6 Organise training based on farmer field school's approaches to reach out to 2,000 households
3.7 Train local groups/beneficiaries in income generating activities (not everything will be about money but improving the welfare of the people.
3.8 Develop criteria and identify beneficiaries of income generating activities
3.9 Provide support to farmers to engage in climate resilient farming (drought resistant, fast growing, highly adaptive crop/livestock varieties
3.10 Train farmers to establish tree nurseries for agro-forestry trees and for woodlots to reduce pressure on forest (fruit trees, woodlots for fuel wood etc.)
3.11 Support income generating activities including honey, crop trees, chicken, and fish
3.12 Source and provide 2,000 clean cook clay liners to 2,000 forest adjacent households
3.13 Carry out socio-economic baseline and end line surveys on the income and livelihoods activities

Output 4: Disseminate lessons and experiences locally, nationally, and globally

4.1 Document, produce and disseminate lessons learned using diversified approaches (print/electronic etc.)
4.2 Conduct community awareness campaigns through public meetings, local radio, and social media platforms.
4.3 Facilitate exchange visits for CFAs to successful sustainable forest management sites, fostering knowledge exchange and adoption of best practices in forest conservation.
4.4 Engage media and publish articles on project outcomes in local media, including Nature Net, 5 radio broadcasts, Kenya's KBAs Status and Trends Report by year 3.
4.5 Present findings at conferences/webinars targeting policymakers, NGOs, and environmental professionals to promote project results and sustainable forest management strategies.
4.6 Partner with local authorities to celebrate global environmental days (e.g., World Environment Day) annually, showcasing project milestones and engaging the community in conservation activities.