



## FAO-GEF Project Implementation Report

2021 – Revised Template

Period covered: 1 July 2020 to 30 June 2021



## 1. Basic Project Data

## General Information

<b>Region:</b>	East Africa
<b>Country (ies):</b>	Kenya
<b>Project Title:</b>	Capacity, Policy and Financial Incentives for PFM in Kirisia Forest and integrated Rangelands Management
<b>FAO Project Symbol:</b>	GCP/KEN/073/GFF
<b>GEF ID:</b>	5083
<b>GEF Focal Area(s):</b>	BD-2, CCM-5, SFM/REDD+-1, SFM/REDD+-2
<b>Project Executing Partners:</b>	Kenya Forest Service, Kenya Forest Research Institute, Kenya Wildlife Service and County Government of Samburu
<b>Project Duration:</b>	5 years
<b>Project coordinates:</b> ( <a href="#">Ctrl+Click here</a> )	<i>Naramat Forest Block</i> - Easting-137467.16 m N, Northing-128448.37 m N - Easting-235073.15 m E, Northing-131804.35 m N <i>Naillepunye Forest Block</i> - Easting-239880.00 m E, Northing-142277.96 m N - Easting-248677.24 m E, Northing-137467.16 m N <i>Nkarro Forest Block</i> - Easting-256470.85 m E, Northing-112869.97 m N 1. Easting-261147.63 m E, Northing-104559.59 m N

## Milestone Dates:

<b>GEF CEO Endorsement Date:</b>	03 August 2016
<b>Project Implementation Start Date/EOD :</b>	25 <sup>th</sup> January 2017
<b>Proposed Project Implementation End Date/NTE<sup>1</sup>:</b>	30 <sup>th</sup> June 2021
<b>Revised project implementation end date (if applicable)<sup>2</sup></b>	24 <sup>th</sup> July 2022
<b>Actual Implementation End Date<sup>3</sup>:</b>	N/A

## Funding

<b>GEF Grant Amount (USD):</b>	USD 2,823,439
<b>Total Co-financing amount as included in GEF CEO Endorsement Request/ProDoc<sup>4</sup>:</b>	USD 8,675,178

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<sup>1</sup> As per FPMIS

<sup>2</sup> In case of a project extension.

<sup>3</sup> Actual date at which project implementation ends - only for projects that have ended.

<sup>4</sup> This is the total amount of co-financing as included in the CEO document/Project Document.

Total GEF grant disbursement as of June 30, 2021 (USD m):	USD 1,571,539
Total estimated co-financing materialized as of June 30, 2021 <sup>5</sup>	USD 3,231,387.88

#### Review and Evaluation

Date of Most Recent Project Steering Committee Meeting:	14 <sup>th</sup> October, 2020
Expected Mid-term Review date <sup>6</sup> :	N/A
Actual Mid-term review date:	Completed
Mid-term review or evaluation due in coming fiscal year (July 2021 – June 2022) <sup>7</sup> :	Yes or No X
Expected Terminal Evaluation Date:	July 2020
Terminal evaluation due in coming fiscal year (July 2021 – June 2022):	Yes X or No
Tracking tools/ Core indicators required <sup>8</sup>	Yes – Tracking Tools

#### Ratings

Overall rating of progress towards achieving objectives/ outcomes (cumulative):	<i>Satisfactory</i>
Overall implementation progress rating:	<i>Satisfactory</i>
Overall risk rating:	<i>Medium</i>

#### Status

Implementation Status (1 <sup>st</sup> PIR, 2 <sup>nd</sup> PIR, etc. Final PIR):	4 <sup>th</sup> PIR
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#### Project Contacts

<sup>5</sup> Please see last section of this report where you are asked to provide updated co-financing estimates. Use the total from this Section and insert here.

<sup>6</sup> The MTR should take place about half point between EOD and NTE – this is the expected date

<sup>7</sup> Please note that the FAO GEF Coordination Unit should be contacted six months prior to the expected MTR date

<sup>8</sup> Please note that the Tracking Tools are required at mid-term and closure for all GEF-4 and GEF-5 projects. Tracking tools are not mandatory for Medium Sized projects = < 2M USD at mid-term, but only at project completion. The new GEF-7 results indicators (core and sub-indicators) will be applied to all projects and programs approved on or after July 1, 2018. Also projects and programs approved from July 1, 2014 to June 30, 2018 (GEF-6) must apply core indicators and sub-indicators at mid-term and/or completion

## 2021 Project Implementation Report

Contact	Name, Title, Division/Institution	E-mail
<b>Project Manager / Coordinator</b>	Kambaki Lalaikipiani, National Project Manager - GEF 5, FAO Kenya	<a href="mailto:Kambaki.Lalaikipiani@fao.org">Kambaki.Lalaikipiani@fao.org</a>
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<b>Budget Holder</b>	Carla Mucavi FAO Representative, FAO Kenya	<a href="mailto:Carla.Mucavi@fao.org">Carla.Mucavi@fao.org</a> ; <a href="mailto:FAO-KE@fao.org">FAO-KE@fao.org</a>
<b>GEF Funding Liaison Officer</b>	Chris Dirkmaat, Executive Officer, OCB Paola Palestini, GEF Technical Adviser, OCB	<a href="mailto:Chris.Dirkmaat@fao.org">Chris.Dirkmaat@fao.org</a> <a href="mailto:Paola.Palestini@fao.org">Paola.Palestini@fao.org</a>

2. Progress Towards Achieving Project Objectives and Outcome (DO)

*(All inputs in this section should be cumulative from project start, not annual)*

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Project objective and Outcomes (as indicated at CEO Endorsement)	Description of indicator(s) <sup>9</sup>	Baseline level	Mid-term target <sup>10</sup>	End-of-project target	Level at 30 June 2021	Progress rating <sup>11</sup>
<b>Objective(s):</b> Strengthened biodiversity conservation and enhance carbon sequestration through participatory sustainable forest management systems in dryland public and communal lands						
<b>Outcome 1:</b> Strengthened capacities of Kenya Forest Service (KFS) and Community Forest Associations (CFAs) in Participatory Forest Management (PFM)	Area of degraded forest habitats undergoing reforestation, restoration and/or natural regeneration and their GHG emissions avoided	0 Ha	5,000 ha restoration	10,000 ha with 1,324,441 tCO <sub>2</sub> eq (direct) avoided	<p>Restoration is expected to use a combination of approaches (including natural regeneration through participatory management, as well as enrichment planting of local species (trees and other species). So far nearly one third of the restoration was met. Indeed 3,000 ha is under restoration through natural regeneration supported by the newly established and functional CFAs.</p> <p>Restoration Implementation was delayed as it was decided that it was crucial to first establish the three CFAs prior to the reforestation/restoration activities to ensure the use of best practices, and participatory identification, planning and management of areas under restoration, enabling therefore sustainability of results.</p> <p>While natural regeneration has started, the project will be developing a detailed forest wide restoration strategy and implementation of restoration approaches will continue targeting the remaining 7,000 ha. The work will start in the coming phase of LoAs with Kenya Forest Service and Kenya Water Towers Agency starting in the end of July 2021, as well as through direct implementation.</p>	S

<sup>9</sup> This is taken from the approved results framework of the project. Please add cells when required in order to use one cell for each indicator and one rating for each indicator.

<sup>10</sup> Some indicators may not identify mid-term targets at the design stage (refer to approved results framework) therefore this column should only be filled when relevant.

	<p>Areas of forest under protection management regime and their GHG emissions avoided</p>	<p>0 Ha CFA - 20% KFS (Maralal)- 35.5% KWS (Maralal)- 40%</p>	<p>15,000 Ha under protection 25% increase in capacity from baseline</p>	<p>91,452 ha with 630,912 tCO2eq (direct) avoided 50% increase in capacity scores over baseline measured by UNDP capacity scorecard</p>	<p>This outcome is linked and complementary to the above outcome on restoration. The Kirisia Forest Ecosystem Management Plan (2019-2029) is finalized. 3 Community forest associations established and functional with community scouts managing the grazing and protection of critical sites.</p> <p>CFA constitutions are being implemented to regulate forest operations and the use of forest resources.</p> <p>The capacity of the three CFAs and their respective User Groups has been strengthened. Learning exchange and knowledge transfer visits to performing and best practice CFAs has been carried out.</p> <p>The capacity of both CFAs and KFS has been improved and the dysfunctional relationships between them has been drastically smoothed out. Volunteer scouts and a couple of other user groups have been recruited and registered as members of CFAs across all the three forest blocks.</p> <p>The CFAs have <b>voluntarily</b> initiated tree planting drives in green spaces administered by public institutions (e.g. Schools etc.), identified/recruited forest scouts, formed grazing management committees, continued with community sensitization through own public meetings and initiated their own mechanisms of controlling movement in and out of forest by livestock. Thus, clearly showcasing their improved capacities.</p>	<p>S</p> <p>S</p>
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<sup>11</sup> Use GEF Secretariat required six-point scale system: **Highly Satisfactory (HS)**, **Satisfactory (S)**, **Marginally Satisfactory (MS)**, **Marginally Unsatisfactory (MU)**, **Unsatisfactory (U)**, and **Highly Unsatisfactory (HU)**.

					<p>KFS Maralal forest station has been equipped with a tractor (110 HP) and Trailer, procured for forest management/conservation activities.</p> <p>In the coming period one advanced mapping drone for detailed mapping of Kirisia forest (to detect restoration and degradation priority areas and land use change mapping) and an advanced surveillance drone (to detect poachers and forest fires) will be handed over to the project government partners.</p> <p>The biodiversity assessment of Kirisia forest has been achieved and the report has been developed to inform protection and management of endangered/threatened fauna and flora</p> <p>Naramat CFA has informally negotiated for some user rights with KFS and they have generated some income from the same which was used to procure a motorbike and for grading of a 4KM access road for use in the monitoring of the forest</p> <p>Significant levels of natural regeneration have been observed (approximately 3,000 Ha) since the establishment of the community forest associations which are co-managing the forest together with Kenya Forest Service. Areas have been set aside for protection and indigenous tree seedlings are germinating in the areas e.g. cedar, podo, african olive etc.</p>	
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	Area under SFM and their GHG emissions avoided	0 Ha	5,000 Ha under SFM	17,000 ha with 980,348 tCO <sub>2</sub> eq (direct) avoided	The development of Kirisia Forest Ecosystem Management Plan (2019-2029) put the entire forest of 91,452 ha under forest protection: The plan has been ratified by KFS, County Government and local communities. The coming LoA with KFS (starting late July 2021) will develop the 5 year participatory forest management plans (2022-2027) and the forest management agreements in which a minimum of 17.000 Ha of forest Utilization zones e.g. plantations, grazing areas, firewood collection etc will be identified and put under SFM. The PFMPs and FMAs which will act as the legal document and plan for co-management and sustainable forest management of the three forest blocks constituting Kirisia forest and will thus formalize protection of the forest and SFM for 17.000 Ha.	
<b>Outcome 2:</b> Integrity of the key (Kirimon) wildlife migration corridor connecting Kirisia wildlife refuge to the Samburu heartland secured	Percentage of the key (Kirimon) wildlife corridors being managed under conservancies with protection agreements established	0 community conservancies agreements in the key (Kirimon) wildlife migratory corridor connecting Kirisia forest to the Samburu Heartland  Nkoteiya Conservancy 42%	Draft community conservancy management plan  25% increase	1 community conservancy established in the key (Kirimon) wildlife migratory corridor with agreements being honoured that protect wildlife  50% increase in capacity scores over baseline	With support from the project partner NRT, the county government has enacted The Community Conservancy Fund Act, 2020 to give the Community Conservancies autonomy to operate independently with the leadership of an independent Board. This autonomy will inform the basis for future engagement with the Community Conservancies  The establishment of a position/office of County Conservancies Coordinator has guided on the support given to the wildlife rangers/scouts with salaries by the County Government.  Major mapping of high value biodiversity areas has been completed and the important biodiversity areas have been mapped and will inform the next steps in the engagement by partners. Some rare biodiversity has been discovered through the project assessments and further highlights the importance of Kirisia Forest as a biodiversity hotspot. This includes <i>Adolphus mathewsensis</i> ,	S

				measured by UNDP capacity scorecard	which previously only has been sighted in the Ngeng valley in the Mathews	
<b>Outcome 3:</b> Income from honey, and other NWFPs providing financial incentives for PFM and conservation and increase household income by more than 25% for participating households	% increase in household incomes from NWFPs	KES 42,561 (Average income per annum/HH from Forest products)	15% income increase from NWFPs over baseline for participating households	25% income increase from NWFPs over baseline for participating households	<p>Existing NWFP value chains have been assessed and 3 value chains have been identified for further development in the next reporting period. The support is in progress and an assessment will be conducted once the activity has been completed.</p> <p>An assessment on sustainable charcoal production and capacity development of Samburu Charcoal Producer Association (CPU) were undertaken</p> <p>The project will enter into an LoA arrangement with the CFAs to undertake livelihood activities which include honey production and processing, poultry, and kitchen garden interventions. The forthcoming LoA will support the procurement of micro-processing and harvesting equipment for honey and wax.</p> <p>Due to the rare voluntary relocation of people from Kirisia forest, various other stakeholders have developed interest in Kirisia and have committed to support CFAs with beehives and other livelihood interventions.</p> <p>Project partners KFS, Kenya Water Towers Agency, WFP &amp; World Vision Kenya have delivered beehives, harvesting and processing equipment to Samburu beekeeper's cooperative to be distributed to the farmer groups around Kirisia and User Groups under the CFAs.</p> <p>The CFAs/user groups have set several apiaries in their respective blocks and some have harvested</p>	MS

				<p>high volumes of honey and wax which is delivered to the cooperative for processing.</p> <p>The 30 members of Tamiyoi Bee-Keepers forest User Group (Naramat CFA) Has harvested 500 Kg honey and sold it for 500,000 Kes, giving an estimated profit of 16,670 Ksh per member and an increase of 39% compared to the standard baseline</p> <p>The 30 members of Millimani-Lporos Bee-Keepers forest user group (Naramat CFA) has harvested 140 kg honey and sold it for 140,000 Ksh, giving an estimated profit of 4670 Ksh per member and an increase of 11% compared to the standard baseline.</p> <p>Community tree nurseries have been established to allow the project, project partners and other stakeholders to procure tree seedlings for restoration and agroforestry directly from the community.</p> <p>The Development of tourist material for Kirisia forest to raise awareness about tourist attractions, environment and culture of Kirisia forest among exiting and new tourist has been implemented and materials produced and printed to be shared with relevant partners for use.</p> <p>The LoA to develop the Samburu Tourism Strategic Plan nearly completed and will be established in the following phase</p>	
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<p><b>Outcome 4:</b> Knowledge systems inform adaptive management in PFM</p>	<p>Lessons available from PFM inform policy implementation</p>	<p>National PFM policy as informed by lessons but more needed to expand beneficiary from PFM by communities</p>	<p>Lessons on CFAs available</p>	<p>County Government has adopted lessons in local level PFM</p>	<p>Gender considerations from the Kirisia gender assessment has been mainstreamed in all project activities</p> <p>Community Based Carbon Monitoring System for Kirisia Forest has been established and community resource persons trained in close collaboration with the CFAs. It recommends for Kirisia Forest Community Monitoring Programme to be hinged and aligned to the National Forest Monitoring System as well as to strengthen the capacity of CFAs and community resource persons so that they can improve the accuracy and efficiency of data collection for the forest monitoring system. The carbon value due to the regeneration and rehabilitation of the forest was clearly documented to show the monetary value that can accrue from this conservation initiative.</p> <p>Kirisia carbon assessment/baseline has been completed and the report is available</p> <p>Project M&amp;E updated</p> <p>Mid-term review report findings have been discussed and the recommendations are being implemented and applied in the planning and implementation of activities in the remaining phase of the project.</p>	<p>S</p>
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<p><b>Outcome 5:</b> Subsidiary legislation and guidelines for County level implementation of the PFM National Policy of 2005 in place informed by Community Bio-cultural community protocols</p>	<p>Number of County level strategies and plans supporting participatory PFM developed</p>	<p>0 County Strategies/plan /policies on PFM and environmental management</p> <p>2005 Forestry Bill allows PFM but not harmonized with County policies</p>	<p>Policy and legal gap analysis completed, gaps identified and recommendations for addressing them available</p>	<p>80% of community management structures have legal documents that empower them with control of access and with management, harvesting and marketing rights</p>	<p>Legislation and guidelines for participatory forest management submitted to government for approval</p> <p>Awareness booklet and awareness comic book (for schoolchildren) has been completed and printed for distribution to the relevant stakeholders for use in awareness and education on conservation</p> <p>Kirisia Forest Community Bio-Cultural Protocol developed and will be published in the coming phase of the project. The BCP will inform future policy developments.</p> <p>The project has participated in the development and review of the County Rangelands &amp; Planned Grazing Policy</p> <p>The roadmap and ToR for the Forest Policy and climate Change has been developed and a policy expert to be recruited in close collaboration with County department of Environment, NR &amp; Energy.</p> <p>Awareness and advocacy meetings with County and National political leaders on the importance of sustainable forest management in the Kirisia landscape has been continued</p> <p>Awareness created among the local community on participatory forest management and the role of CFAs through the local FM radios.</p> <p>The CFAs in partnership with the other partners have picked the role of sensitization through community barazas and local FM radio talks. This initiative enabled to reach out to a large audience within Kirisia and other water towers in the county.</p>	<p>MS</p>
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Action plan to address MS, MU, U and HU ratings

Outcome	Action(s) to be taken	By whom?	By when?
<p><b>1:</b> Strengthened capacities of KFS and CFA in PFM and HNRM</p>	<p>Scaling up strengthening PFM capacities must become the key focus in all project activities. E.g. capacity development, communications, knowledge management, policy and bio-enterprises.</p> <p>The project must start focusing on the exit strategy and long-term sustainability of PFM activities and must build attractive incentives balance into PFM plan, agreement and through enterprise development, broadening opportunity for sustainable forest products and services. On that, it should be explored if CFAs can receive a share of the sale of confiscated illegal produce, which it could then use to incentivise Community Scouts. Kirisia forest can act as a national pilot. They could have national implications of they prove successful.</p> <p>Project also need to focus considerable efforts on making sure PFM efforts (Direct implemented, implemented by partners and also those activities implemented due to increased attention of the project) in Kirisia forest follow FAO guidelines and safeguards.</p>	<p>Project Manager, KFS Project focal point and FAO Kenya GEF team.</p>	<p>Y5Q4</p>
<p><b>2:</b> Integrity of the Kirisia ecosystem as a wildlife refuge improved to continue playing the critical role of maintaining the Samburu Heartland as a functioning ecosystem, and habitat for wildlife.</p>	<p>The project should select priorities among project outcomes to make sure that resources are not spread too thin. HNRM plans should be supported through a facilitative role to other service providers engaging in the same e.g. NRT. This will require a review and possibly adjustments in the activities, outputs and outcome for this component, for example reducing the number of conservancies that will be targeted to something more realistic as well as being more explicit in what the project can feasibly provide for community conservancies.</p>	<p>Project Manager, PSC, Project focal points and FAO Kenya GEF team.</p>	<p>Y5Q2</p>
<p><b>3:</b> Income from honey, and other NWFPs providing financial incentives for PFM and conservation and increase household income by more than 25% for participating households</p>	<p>Together with PFM, Livelihood and income generating activities must be priorities in the remaining period of the project. There must be synergise between these activities. E.g. Secure significant new user rights for communities within the PFM management plan, agreement and County level legislation/policy and expand scope of potential enterprises and ways to add value beyond the 3 NWFPs currently earmarked. Where government, controlled pilots resist new user rights can be recommended to 'test' the approach</p>	<p>Project Manager, FAO Kenya GEF Team, KFS project focal point</p>	<p>Y5Q4</p>

	<p>at a small scale first. These can be linked to Outcome 5. Demonstration is often the best way to build confidence/trust in an approach for example have a pilot on sustainable firewood use and marketing</p> <p>The project should also investigate the possibility of enabling CFAs to retain a share of the revenue from confiscated illegal forest produce. This creates incentives for forest monitoring and create much needed income for the CFAs.</p> <p>Focus on carbon financing and tourism, although important, should play a smaller role as the short time sustainability of this may not be realistic. Instead the project should focus more on building formal enterprises on/from existing informal enterprises to harness skills, demand and market links. Examples were herbal medicines for humans and cattle, firewood sales and charging outside pastoralist an access fee for grazing. It was recommended that a CFA/PFM marketing site be set up and promoted in Maralal where PFM products can be differentiated from non-PFM</p>		
<p><b>4:</b> Knowledge systems inform adaptive management in PFM</p>	<p>The project management team need to strengthen both the internal and external communication and knowledge management efforts. E.g. capturing human interest stories, best practices, innovative approaches and success stories. An internal mechanism for sharing of knowledge is needed.</p> <p>Focus on knowledge products as outputs of LoAs and possibly <b>hiring a technical knowledge Management consultant</b> to help the project capture, analyse, document, package and communicate key lessons. Produce various information products on PFM on different formats for different audiences; participatory video, online content, posters, leaflets, simple guidelines highlighting PFM, the, rationale, rights, responsibilities, process etc. Also need to share evidence of impact of PFM, evidence will help build trust in the approach. E.g. Lessons generated around CFA formation. The KM consultant should work hand in hand with the communications expert.</p>	<p>Project Manager, project partner focal points, FAO GEF and communications team.</p>	<p>Y5Q4</p>

	<p>Use/adapt PFM documentation for Outcome 1 capacity building and Outcome 5 influencing policy. Prioritize consolidation and documentation of indigenous knowledge and management practices and skills for use in management planning, bylaws etc. and promote within the younger generation (participatory video).</p> <p>Need to priorities among the deliverables. E.g. reconsider the need of a community resource centre, to allow to focus on high impact communication/knowledge products with a long-term sustainability</p> <p>Include in LoAs a minimum of one knowledge product per partner/FAO. Also focus on publishing data and stories in scientific publications (FAO) and other news outlets.</p>		
<p><b>5:</b> Subsidiary legislation and guidelines for County level implementation of the PFM National Policy of 2005 in place informed by Community Bio-cultural community protocols</p>	<p>The project needs to develop a strategy for policy influence and strengthening of strategic partnership with especially the County government with a clear position on how it would like to influence policy and outcomes. The project should focus on policies in a way that aim to strengthen community authority and rights in policy/plan contents and community voice in policy/plan development process. Direct engagement of community members will lead to higher relevance and buy-in of the policies by the communities themselves.</p>	<p>Project manager and FAO Kenya GEF team</p>	<p>Y5Q4</p>

## 3. Progress in Generating Project Outputs (Implementation Progress, IP)

*(Please indicate progress achieved during this FY as planned in the Annual Work Plan)*

Outputs <sup>12</sup>	Expected completion date <sup>13</sup>	Achievements at each PIR <sup>14</sup>					Implement. status (cumulative)	Comments Describe any variance <sup>15</sup> or any challenge in delivering outputs
		1 <sup>st</sup> PIR	2 <sup>nd</sup> PIR	3 <sup>rd</sup> PIR	4 <sup>th</sup> PIR	5 <sup>th</sup> PIR		
Output 1.1; Kirisia CFA empowered to provide community leadership PFM of 91,452 ha of Kirisia forest in strong and widely representative partnership with KFS	Q1 Y5	<p>Project partners and institutions involved in PFM has been sensitized on the project approach</p> <p>The work to reorganize Kirisia CFA and establish three new CFAs to better encompass community concerns and forest management</p>	<p>Three new CFAs have been established and registered.</p> <p>CFAs and KFS Capacity has been strengthened</p>	<p>The three CFAs (Naramat, Nkarro and Nailepunye) Capacity built and exchange visit to best practice CFA carried out.</p> <p>CFAs has started recruiting members among the forest adjacent communities. However, membership is below 50% but rising.</p> <p>Capacity of both CFAs and KFS has been strengthened and the dysfunctional relationships between them has been</p>	<p>The capacity of the three CFAs and their respective User Groups has been strengthened. Learning exchange and knowledge transfer visits to performing and best practice CFAs has been carried out.</p> <p>CFAs have recruited members among the forest adjacent communities and membership has increased to about 60%. Data collection for registration of project/CFA beneficiaries will be conducted in the next reporting period.</p> <p>The capacity of both CFAs and KFS has been improved and the dysfunctional relationships between them has been drastically smoothed out. Volunteer scouts and a couple of other user groups</p>		70%	<p>Considerable effort has been focused on establishing the three new CFAs which was unforeseen at the beginning of the project. The CFAs are now formed and development of official forest management agreements is underway. These unforeseen activities have delayed and/or refocused other activities in the project</p>

		nt is underway.		<p>drastically improved.</p> <p>The CFAs has voluntarily initiated tree planting activities, public meetings and voluntary relocation from the forest. Thus, clearly showcasing their improved capacities.</p> <p>Contract initiated to provide (in the coming phase) each CFA with one business-oriented tree nursery. Thus, allowing the CFAs to raise the needed seedlings used internally and by KFS and other stakeholders</p>	<p>have been recruited and registered as members of CFAs across all the three forest blocks</p> <p>The CFAs have voluntarily initiated tree planting drives in public institutions, identified/recruited forest scouts, formed grazing management committees, continued with community sensitization through own public meetings and initiated their own mechanisms of controlling movement in and out of forest by livestock. Thus, clearly showcasing their improved capacities.</p> <p>The project supported each CFA to establish one business-oriented tree nursery. This will allow for the CFAs to raise the needed seedlings to be used internally and by KFS and other stakeholders to</p>			
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<sup>12</sup> Outputs as described in the project logframe or in any updated project revision. In case of project revision resulted from a mid-term review please modify the output accordingly or leave the cells in blank and add the new outputs in the table explaining the variance in the comments section.

<sup>13</sup> As per latest work plan (latest project revision); for example: Quarter 1, Year 3 (Q1 y3)

<sup>14</sup> Please use the same unity of measures of the project indicators, as much as possible. Please be extremely synthetic (max one or two short sentence with main achievements)

<sup>15</sup> Variance refers to the difference between the expected and actual progress at the time of reporting.

					undertake restoration activities both in the forest/rangelands as well as at the CFA members' homes			
Output 1.2: KFS and CFAs provided with operational capacity to implement forest management, protect forests from fire, put 91,452 ha under Forest Protection:	Q 2 Y 5	Work to establish three new forest stations/CFAs underway	Sites for three new forest stations/CFAs Offices & Fire Towers identified and mapped	Sites for CFA offices have been identified and negotiations are underway.  Sites for three forest stations/outposts and two fire towers identified and construction will begin in the coming phase.	The sitting and designs for the construction of forest ranger outposts and fire towers have been completed. The procurement for the construction of one outpost in Nkarro and two fire towers (one each) in Naramat and Nailiepunye CFAs. The Kenya Forest Service (KFS) will support the other two outposts and one fire tower through co-financing arrangement  Tractor (110 HP) and Trailer has been procured to be used for forest management/conservation activities.  Naramat CFA has informally negotiated for some user rights with KFS and they have generated some income from the same which was used to procure a motorbike and for grading of a 4KM access road for use in the monitoring of the forest	60%	According to policy, each CFA requires a forest station, so as there is 3 CFAs, there has to be three compared to the envisaged 1 at the design stage of the project when there was only 1 CFA (not operational). KFS will finance the shortage of the two outposts through co-financing.	
Output 1.3: Forest Management		Work to update maps and	Zonation of Kirisia forest has been	Kirisia Ecosystem Management Plan endorsed by the	Kirisia Ecosystem Management Plan (2019-2029) ratified, printed and	70%	The development of Ecosystem management plan (2019-2029) has been	

<p>Plan upgraded to Kirisia Ecosystem Management Plan</p>	<p>Q4Y5</p>	<p>zoning of Kirisia Forest Underway</p> <p>Work to update Kirisia forest management plan to Kirisia Ecosystem Management Plan underway</p> <p>Biodiversity Assessment of Kirisia forest underway</p>	<p>done and forest maps updated</p> <p>Kirisia forest management plan updated and developed to one Forest Ecosystem Plan. Three CFA constitutions developed and disseminated</p> <p>Biodiversity assessment of Kirisia forest is underway</p>	<p>head of KFS and the Ministry of Environment.</p> <p>CFA constitutions officially endorsed</p> <p>CFAs disseminating Ecosystem management plan and constitutions to local communities.</p> <p>Coming phase will focus on translating Kirisia ecosystem management plan to three forest management plans between KFS and Naramat CFA, Nkarro CFA and Nailepunye CFA, Acting as the forest management agreement between KFS and the local community.</p>	<p>circulated to the relevant partners for implementation</p> <p>CFA constitutions are being implemented to regulate forest operations and the use of forest resources</p> <p>CFAs disseminating Ecosystem management plan and constitutions to local communities.</p> <p>The Ecosystem Management Plan has been completed and the development of the three five year participatory forest management plans (2022-2027) and forest management agreements (2022-2027) between KFS and Naramat CFA, Nkarro CFA and Nailepunye CFA is underway.</p> <p>In the next phase the three CFAs will ratify these agreements with KFS on behalf of the local communities.</p> <p>The biodiversity assessment of Kirisia forest has been achieved and the report has been developed for use to protect</p>		<p>completed. Five year Participatory Forest Management Plans (2022-2027) for the three CFAs is underway and it will give rise to the signing of Forest Management Agreements (2022-2027) between KFS and CFAs. These plans will integrate forest and biodiversity conservation and monitoring functions.</p>
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					endangered/threatened fauna and flora			
Output 1.4: Design and implement a forest rehabilitation/ reforestation program which puts 10,000 ha under regeneration and 17,000 under SFM	Q 4 Y 5	Zoning of priority areas for forest rehabilitation and regeneration underway	Zoning of priority areas for forest rehabilitation and regeneration underway  Sites for forest restoration/ regeneration and establishment of tree nurseries has been identified.	Zoning of priority areas for forest rehabilitation and regeneration underway  Sites for forest restoration/ regeneration and establishment of tree nurseries has been identified.  Priority areas for natural regeneration, active rehabilitation have been identified and by-laws are being established to form the basis of forest rehabilitation.  The process is ongoing for CFAs to establish one tree nursery in each forest block	As a result of the prolonged rains and the various plans and strategies employed by all the partners and CFA leadership to enhance the management of Kirisia Forest, there has been improvement in the forest health and natural regeneration. This has occurred across the three forest blocks  The LoA for restoration and for negotiation of sites for forest regeneration and strengthening of tree nurseries has been identified.  The project supported each CFA to establish one business-oriented tree nursery. This will allow for the CFAs to raise the needed seedlings to be used internally and by KFS and other stakeholders to undertake restoration activities both in the forest/rangelands as well as at the CFA members' homes	50%	One tree nursery has been established in each CFA to support livelihoods and restoration. More training and infrastructure s required to strengthen the capacity of the groups.  Zones for restoration identified  With the voluntary move out of community members residing within the forest and the participatory forest management plans/agreements in place; further natural regeneration will occur	
Output 2.1: Important dispersal areas and	Q 2 Y 4	Mapping of critical wildlife migratory	Identification and Mapping of critical wildlife	Establishment of a position/office of County Conservancies	With support from NRT, the county government has enacted The Community Conservancy Fund Act, 2020	80%	Biodiversity mapping nearly complete and the Kirisia-Nkoteiya wildlife corridor secured	

<p>wildlife migratory corridors mapped and protection negotiated with land users/owners</p>		<p>corridors underway  Mapping of high value biodiversity underway</p>	<p>migratory corridors have been accomplished  Mapping of high value biodiversity areas underway</p>	<p>Coordinator and support of some of the wildlife scouts with salaries by the County Government.  Major mapping of high value biodiversity areas underway.  Mapping of important biodiversity areas is underway and will form the basis of the partnership with the new community conservancies</p>	<p>to give the Community Conservancies autonomy to operate independently with the leadership of an independent Board. This autonomy will inform the basis for future engagement with the Community Conservancies  The establishment of a position/office of County Conservancies Coordinator has guided on the support given to the wildlife rangers/scouts with salaries by the County Government.  Major mapping of high value biodiversity areas has been completed and the important biodiversity areas have been mapped and will inform the next steps in the engagement by partners.</p>		<p>Project to focus only on one corridor and community conservancy to avoid spreading too thin.</p>
<p>Output 2.2: Support the establishment of a new conservancy proposed by the County Government</p>	<p>Q1Y5</p>	<p>Work to establish new community conservancies underway  The project is facilitating KWS to ensure that</p>	<p>Work to establish and or support new community conservancies underway  The project has facilitated KWS to ensure that new and</p>	<p>The project has supported Nkoteiya community conservancy to fully develop a conservancy management plan and sign the management agreement with KWS. Two more conservancies will</p>	<p>The project has supported Nkoteiya community conservancy to fully develop a conservancy management plan and sign the management agreement with NRT, KWS and other development partners. The project continues to work with NRT and support KWS to ensure that new and existing conservancies</p>	<p>60%</p>	<p>Project to focus on securing the Kirisia-Nkoteiya wildlife corridor (one conservancy).  Other project partners are conducting considerable work with community conservancies in other areas in Samburu.</p>

		new conservancies understand national legislation	existing conservancies understand national legislation	be supported in the following phase.  The project continues to support KWS to ensure that new and existing conservancies understand national legislation	understand national legislation			
Output 3.1: Promoting high volume buying market linkages for honey and smoothening supply chains	Q1Y5	N/A	Assessment and capacity strengthening for Samburu Bee-keepers Cooperative has been done.  Project partner Kenya Water Towers Agency has delivered beehives and processing equipment to Samburu beekeepers' cooperation. The project will bank and enhance	Project partner Kenya Water Towers Agency has delivered beehives and processing equipment to Samburu beekeeper's cooperation. The project will continue to bank and enhance these activities and various other stakeholders has committed to support CFAs with beehives.	Project partners KFS, Kenya Water Towers Agency, WFP & World Vision Kenya have contributed with co-financing to the project through the delivery of beehives, harvesting and processing equipment to Samburu beekeeper's cooperative to be distributed to the farmer groups around Kirisia and User Groups under the CFAs.  The CFAs/user groups have set several apiaries in their respective blocks and some have harvested high volumes of honey and wax which is delivered to the cooperative for processing.  The project will enter into an LoA arrangement with	60%	The user groups require organization, more training and honey handling equipment to enable convenient delivery to the cooperative for processing	

			these activities.		<p>the CFAs to undertake livelihood activities which include honey production and processing, poultry, and kitchen garden interventions. The forthcoming LoA will support the procurement of micro-processing and harvesting equipment for honey and wax</p> <p>Due to the rare voluntary relocation of people from Kirisia forest, various other stakeholders have developed interest in Kirisia and have committed to support CFAs with beehives and other livelihood interventions.</p>		
Output 3.2; Tourism development model developed, to deliver benefits to the local communities	Q4Y5	Development of tourist material for Kirisia forest to raise awareness about tourist attractions, environment and culture of Kirisia forest among exiting and	The inception workshop for stakeholders to develop the roadmap for Samburu County Tourism Strategic Plan has been accomplished and once the plan is finalized, it will inform the fundraising	Contract to develop Samburu Strategic Tourism Plan nearly completed and will be established in the following phase	<p>The Development of tourist material for Kirisia forest to raise awareness about tourist attractions, environment and culture of Kirisia forest among exiting and new tourist has been implemented and materials produced and printed to be shared with relevant partners for use.</p> <p>The LoA to develop the Samburu Tourism Strategic Plan nearly completed and will be finalized in the following reporting period.</p>	60%	<p>Focus will be shifted to support community members with more tangible livelihood activities and support existing enterprises to reduce pressure on the forest and generate income for the community and the forest management.</p> <p>Some resources has been shifted to focus on livelihood developments.</p>

		new tourist underway	<p>strategy for the county.</p> <p>The workshop identified and delivered on the existing opportunities , high-end infrastructure , top &amp; signature experiences, environment and culture for Samburu County.</p>				
Output 3.3: Other NWFPs with potential identified and strategy for commercial exploitation designed and implementation started	Q4Y5	<p>Work underway to establish the feasibility of sustainable biomass energy production</p> <p>Work underway to establish a strategy for sustainable biomass production and</p>	<p>The feasibility study of sustainable biomass energy production has been completed.</p> <p>The feasibility of other NWFPs in the Kirisia landscape completed</p>	<p>Joint report (with a GEF-6 project implemented by FAO Kenya) on potential bio-enterprise completed.</p> <p>Three tree nurseries to be constructed (one for each CFA) in the following phase to provide seedlings for restoration and income for the CFAs</p>	<p>Three tree nurseries have been established (one for each CFA) for propagation of seedlings for restoration and income for the CFAs and their User Groups</p> <p>The CFAs/user groups have set several apiaries in their respective blocks and some have harvested high volumes of honey and wax which is delivered to the cooperative for processing.</p>	70%	Focus will be shifted to support community members with further tangible livelihood activities and support existing enterprises to reduce pressure on the forest and generate income for the community and forest management.

		<p>management in the Kirisia landscape</p> <p>Work underway to establish three NWFPs business strategies</p>						
Output 4.1: A community carbon monitoring mechanism, developed	Q4Y5	A gender assessment for Kirisia Forest developed	A gender assessment for Kirisia forest ecosystem informing project implementation	<p>Gender considerations from the Kirisia gender assessment has been mainstreamed in all project activities</p> <p>Community Based Carbon Monitoring System for Kirisia Forest has been established in close collaboration with the CFAs. It recommends for Kirisia Forest Community Monitoring Programme to be hinged and aligned to the</p>	<p>Gender considerations from the Kirisia gender assessment has been mainstreamed in all project activities</p> <p>Community Based Carbon Monitoring System for Kirisia Forest has been established and community resource persons trained in close collaboration with the CFAs. It recommends for Kirisia Forest Community Monitoring Programme to be hinged and aligned to the National Forest Monitoring System as well as to strengthen the capacity of CFAs and community resource persons so that they can improve the accuracy and efficiency of data collection for the forest monitoring system.</p>		75%	Gender assessment, carbon assessment and biodiversity assessment were completed and the recommendations in the reports for all these assessments will be incorporated in the PFMPs and FMAs

				<p>National Forest Monitoring System as well as to strengthen the capacity of CFAs and community resource persons so that they can improve the accuracy and efficiency of data collection for the forest monitoring system. The carbon value due to the regeneration and rehabilitation of the forest would be clearly documented to show the monetary value that can accrue from this conservation initiative.</p> <p>Kirisia carbon assessment nearly finished</p>	<p>The carbon value due to the regeneration and rehabilitation of the forest was clearly documented to show the monetary value that can accrue from this conservation initiative.</p> <p>Kirisia carbon assessment/baseline has been completed and the report is available</p>			
Output 4.2: Knowledge management system set up, informed by project review and	Q3Y5	N/A	N/A	<p>Project M&amp;E updated</p> <p>Mid-term review completed</p>	<p>Project M&amp;E updated</p> <p>Mid-term review report findings have been discussed and the recommendations are being implemented and applied in</p>		70%	The project team reviewed the MTR report in depth, provided the management response and taken the necessary action to implement recommendations.

evaluations (Project M&E formulated, MTR and FE undertaken)					the planning for the next phase			
Output 4.3: Participatory communication for PFM and Traditional Knowledge developed and documented	Q4Y5	Gender assessment		<p>Kirisia awareness booklet</p> <p>Kirisia Children awareness comic</p> <p>Ecosystem management plan</p> <p>Nkoteiya community conservancy management plan</p> <p>Nkoteiya Natural resource assessment</p> <p>Wildlife corridor mapping</p> <p>Sustainable charcoal production report</p> <p>NTFP value chain assessment report</p>	<p>BCP developed</p> <p>Kirisia Biodiversity survey</p>		50%	Following the MT recommendations the activity was changed to only focus on documents produced
Output 5.1: Subsidiary legislation and guidelines for participatory	Q3Y5	Awareness material and Bio-cultural protocol underway	Awareness creation achieved and Bio-Cultural Protocol booklet	Legislation and guidelines for participatory forest management submitted to	Legislation and guidelines for participatory forest management submitted to government for approval		65%	Work progressing well, project supporting Samburu County assembly and Government to develop needed PFM legislation

<p>forest management submitted to government for approval</p>			<p>developed for the Samburu Community and Kirisia forest ecosystem</p> <p>Kirisia Forest Ecosystem Gender Analysis has been established and is readily available to inform policy and management development</p>	<p>government for approval</p> <p>Bio-cultural protocol, awareness booklet and awareness comic book (for schoolchildren) in final stages ready for printing.</p>	<p>Bio-cultural protocol, awareness booklet and awareness comic book (for schoolchildren) has been completed and printed for distribution to the relevant stakeholders for use in awareness and education on conservation</p> <p>The project has participated in the development and review of the County Rangelands &amp; Planned Grazing Policy</p> <p>The roadmap and ToR for the Forest Policy and climate Change has been developed and a policy expert to procure in close collaboration with County department of Environment, NR &amp; Energy.</p>		<p>The policy expert is expected to deliver the two new policies for the county government before the end of 2021.</p>
<p>Output 5.2 Advocacy/Awareness, County and National government lobbied to adopt proposed policy reforms</p>	<p>Q3Y5</p>	<p>Awareness and advocacy meeting with County and National political leaders on the importance of sustainable forest</p>	<p>Awareness and advocacy meeting with County and National political leaders on the importance of sustainable forest management in the Kirisia landscape has</p>	<p>Awareness and advocacy meeting with County and National political leaders on the importance of sustainable forest management in the Kirisia landscape has been continued</p> <p>Awareness creation among</p>	<p>Awareness and advocacy meetings with County and National political leaders on the importance of sustainable forest management in the Kirisia landscape has been continued</p> <p>Awareness creation among the local community on participatory forest management and the role of</p>	<p>70%</p>	<p>Work is progressing well. CFAs taking up more and more responsibility to raise awareness among the local community.</p>

		management in the Kirisia landscape.	been continued	the local community on participatory forest management and CFAs through the local FM.	CFAs through the local FM radios.  The CFAs in partnership with the other partners have picked the role of sensitization through community barazas and local FM radio talks. This initiative enabled to reach out to a large audience within Kirisia and other water towers in the county.			
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4. Information on Progress, Outcomes and Challenges on Project Implementation

Please briefly summarize main progress achieving the outcomes (cumulative) and outputs (during this fiscal year):
<p><b>Further capacity development of the three new Community Forest Associations (CFA) in Kirisia forest</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ CFA constitutions validated</li> <li>▪ Community scouts recruited and regular operations carried out to regulate the forest use</li> <li>▪ CFA Knowledge exchange visit carried out to Mount Kenya Forest to learn from best practices in community forest management in Kenya</li> <li>▪ CFAs supported to carry out voluntary tree planting and formation of grazing committees and control of movement of livestock In the forest</li> <li>▪ CFAs has negotiated user rights with KFS which is generating revenues for the CFA which is to be spent on motorbikes and murrum road rehabilitation (co-finance)</li> <li>▪ CFAs and KFS supported to improve the previously dysfunctional relationships and relationships are now on good terms yielding very good collaboration.</li> </ul>

- CFAs and KFS sensitized to integrate the HNRM plans and grazing agreements as an integral part of the PFMPs
- Community advocacy was boosted on the need of PFM and the PFMP process through school outreach, local FM and community barazas

**LoAs:**

- LoA signed with KFS to develop the participatory forest management plans and the forest management agreements for the three CFAs as well as to develop and implement a restoration strategy for the forest
- LoA signed with East Africa Wildlife Society to develop organizational capacity of the CFAs and develop viable livelihood activities
- LoA signed with Kenya Water Towers Agency to rehabilitate forest springs

**Infrastructure support**

- Tractor (110 HP), tipping trailer and fire fighting water bowser (under way) has been procured and currently in transfer to KFS
- The design and co-finance agreement for the construction of forest fire towers and ranger/scout outposts in the three CFA blocks (one of each in each block) has been completed and procurement of the works underway
- Concept for rehabilitation of 20 Km murrum roads developed and co-finance with KFS agreed

**Reports and assessments**

- Biodiversity assessment of Kirisia Forest completed
- Bio-cultural Protocol for Samburu/Kirisia forest completed
- Kirisia Awareness booklet complete
- Kirisia children awareness comic book complete

**Policy and management**

- Samburu County Government supported (through project partner NRT) to enact The Community Conservancy Fund Act, 2020
- Project has supported the establishment of a position/office of County Conservancies Coordinator which enabled the County government to pay salaries to wildlife rangers/scouts
- The project has supported the development and review of the County Rangelands & Planned Grazing Policy
- Advocacy and sensitization on forest management and the work to develop the Samburu Forest Policy/bill and climate Change policy/bill underway

**Livelihood development**

The project has developed three community managed and business-oriented tree nurseries (one for each CFA) to supply the project with indigenous tree seedlings for forest restoration as well as to supply the surrounding communities with agroforestry and fruit seedlings on a commercial basis. The project has secured co-finance (through project partners KFS, KWTA, WFP, world vision) which supported the CFA user groups with beehives, harvesting and processing equipment. User groups have enhanced honey production and are currently increasing revenues. LoA development with the three CFAs underway to support the CFAs and forest user groups to develop livelihoods in the honey, poultry and kitchen garden/tree nursery value chains. The CFAs will also be directly supported through procurement of tools, input, equipment and processing machinery and also be supported to develop business plans for these value chains

**Restoration**

- CFAs have been supported to conduct forest restoration, implement various plans and strategies developed in the Kirisia Forest Ecosystem Management Plan and to develop social fencing of areas to allow for natural regeneration. Forest areas previously settled are regenerating naturally and the forest is showing improvement in forest health and biodiversity as an increased natural regeneration is occurring across all forest blocks
- The forest fires and illegal activities in the forest have reduced due to the enhanced capacity of KFS and the regular surveillance by the community scouts

**What are the major challenges the project has experienced during this reporting period?**

- While the GoK and group ranches members were resolving the conflicting boundaries of Kirisia Forest and those of the adjacent group ranches especially on the northern part of the forest; activity implementation was halted to allow for the smooth process of consultations with the interested parties. However, the boundary dispute was resolved amicably.
- The project was put on temporary hold awaiting an assessment/investigation of the moving out of community members residing within Kirisia forest
- Invasion by the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> generation swarms of Desert Locust in some parts of Kirisia Forest which destroyed some species of trees
- Occurrence of COVID-19 pandemic resulting in the postponement of project planned activities and meetings as well as the field visits by the project partners and consultants
- Delays in the development, review and closure of the LoAs by partners due to the Covid-19 restrictions and lockdown

### Development Objective (DO) Ratings, Implementation Progress (IP) Ratings and Overall Assessment

Please note that the overall DO and IP ratings should be substantiated by evidence and progress reported in the Section 2 and Section 3 of the PIR. For DO, the ratings and comments should reflect the overall progress of project results.

	FY2021 Development Objective rating <sup>16</sup>	FY2021 Implementation Progress rating <sup>17</sup>	Comments/reasons <sup>18</sup> justifying the ratings for FY2021 and any changes (positive or negative) in the ratings since the previous reporting period
Project Manager / Coordinator	S	S	Project implementation was initially delayed due to the political environment both nationally in Kenya and locally in Samburu County. The perceptions of the project became favourable and direct implementation and project partner implementation had picked and progressed well. The recent incursion of Covid-19 Pandemic and the associated restrictions negatively impacted the smooth pace of implementation and slowed the trajectory to the achievement of results in the reporting period
Budget Holder	S	S	The Project experienced delays during inception phase but through the project's effort a consensus was secured and all stakeholders especially the local community embraced the project. The project is in the direct course for closure
GEF Operational Focal Point			<i>Optional Ratings/comments</i>

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<sup>16</sup> **Development/Global Environment Objectives Rating** – Assess how well the project is meeting its development objective/s or the global environment objective/s it set out to meet.

For more information on ratings, definitions please refer to Annex 1.

<sup>17</sup> **Implementation Progress Rating** – Assess the progress of project implementation. For more information on ratings definitions please refer to Annex 1.

<sup>18</sup> Please ensure that the ratings are based on evidence

<p><b>Lead Technical Officer<sup>19</sup></b></p>	<p>S</p>	<p>S</p>	<p><i>Despite delays due to COVID-19 disruptions and the related issues of relocation of people outside the forest, the project is on track. While recognizing the complexity of the project and its innovative participatory processes, the collaborative spirit and commitment of the project team, partners, CFAs and communities have been outstanding and growing along the project life and put a solid basis for the project to achieve its overall objectives by its closure date. The mid-term review coupled with the mission report of FAO’s Safeguards consultant have provided the opportunity to take note of the strength of the project and its achievements thus far and discuss challenges and identify corrective measures to address them. This process has allowed prioritization on completing fewer outputs (Including consolidating the CFAs work and their sustainability and sustainable livelihoods to benefit communities, as a basis for the project exist strategy.</i></p>
<p><b>FAO-GEF Funding Liaison Officer</b></p>	<p>S</p>	<p>S</p>	<p><i>Having to divert time and resources to replace the pre-existing unaccepted CFA with three new CFAs (unexpected but necessary) has meant that the project is proceeding slower than anticipated in delivering its outputs and work towards its 5 outcomes. However, overall, the turning around of a conflict situation and one of distrust over the CFA to one where there is positive support for the 3 CFAs and clear motivation for forest protection/management as well as clear indication of empowerment among community members – is on its own a great success story and the way these particular CFAs are operating is a very unique situation in Kenya (voluntary movement of pastoralists out of the forest) showcasing significant progress on PFM capacity. This FY, the project despite COVID 19 restrictions and the Desert locust emergency, has worked hard to get itself back on track, however even though progress has been made, as highlighted in the MTR recommendations, a consolidation and prioritisation would be required to avoid the project spreading too thin over the breadth and quantity of targets to reach in the next year. Focus should be placed on PFM completion for the three CFAs and ‘exit plan’ formulation to build a degree of self-sustainability before the project ends (enterprise incubation, attractive incentives). A no cost extension will also likely be required.</i></p>

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<sup>19</sup> The LTO will consult the HQ technical officer and all other supporting technical Units.

## 5. Environmental and Social Safeguards (ESS)

Under the responsibility of the LTO (PMU to draft)

This section of the PIR describes the progress made towards complying with the approved ESM plan, when appropriate. Note that only projects with **moderate** or **high** Environmental and Social Risk, approved from June 2015 should have submitted an ESM plan/table at CEO endorsement. This does not apply to **low** risk projects. Please add recommendations to improve the implementation of the ESM plan, when needed.

Social & Environmental Risk Impacts identified at CEO Endorsement	Expected mitigation measures	Actions taken during this FY	Remaining measures to be taken	Responsibility
<b>ESS 1: Natural Resource Management</b>				
<b>ESS 2: Biodiversity, Ecosystems and Natural Habitats</b>				
<b>ESS 3: Plant Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture</b>				
<b>ESS 4: Animal - Livestock and Aquatic - Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture</b>				
<b>ESS 5: Pest and Pesticide Management</b>				
<b>ESS 6: Involuntary Resettlement and Displacement</b>				
	ESIA Report recommendations	Report shared with KFS	KFS to establish Social safeguards focal point and grievance and redress mechanism	KFS
<b>ESS 7: Decent Work</b>				
<b>ESS 8: Gender Equality</b>				
<b>ESS 9: Indigenous Peoples and Cultural Heritage</b>				
<b>New ESS risks that have emerged during this FY</b>				

In case the project did not include an ESM Plan at CEO endorsement stage, please indicate if the initial Environmental and Social Risk classification is still valid; if not, what is the new classification and explain.

Overall Project Risk classification (at project submission)	Please indicate if the Environmental and Social Risk classification is still valid <sup>20</sup> . If not, what is the new classification and explain.
Moderate	Still Valid

<i>Please report if any grievance was received as per FAO and GEF ESS policies. If yes, please indicate how it is being/has been addressed.</i>
No

## 6. Risks

### Risk ratings

RISK TABLE
<p><i>The following table summarizes risks identified in the <b>Project Document</b> and reflects also <b>any new risks</b> identified in the course of project implementation. Please make sure that the table also includes the Environmental and Social Management Risks captured by the Environmental and social Management Risk Mitigations plans. The <u>Notes</u> column should be used to provide additional details concerning manifestation of the risk in your specific project, <b>as relevant</b>.</i></p>

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<sup>20</sup> **Important:** please note that if the Environmental and Social Risk classification is changing, the ESM Unit should be contacted and an updated Social and Environmental Management Plan addressing new risks should be prepared.

	Risk	Risk rating <sup>21</sup>	Mitigation Actions	Progress on mitigation actions <sup>22</sup>	Notes from the Project Task Force
1	The benefits for communities under SFM in Leroghi Forest too small to serve as an effective incentive for communities to invest in forest management.	Medium	Through KFS/CFA partnership, the communities will benefit from environment friendly bio enterprises agreed in the new management plan. The awareness raising targeting decision-makers has been included in the design to mitigate this risk.	Kirisia CFAs have been established to facilitate efficient, economical and sustainable forest management. A number of NTFP value chains are being supported	
2	The displaced pastoralists living in Leroghi Forest will resist the adoption of the new range management systems and the new rules for access and use of the natural resources of Leroghi Forest.	Medium	The local communities holding the traditional tenure rights to Leroghi Forest will be empowered and will be structured within the CFA. The CFA will be responsible for enforcing the new rules governing access and use that are negotiated between KFS and the CFA. This arrangement will build upon, and reinforce, traditional Samburu governance systems.	In-depth and sensitive sensitization of all community and government partners has been conducted and all stakeholders have been bought in the process. Transparent and free election of CFA board has been completed.	
3	There is a risk that the ecological characteristics of Leroghi and group ranch forests will make forest regeneration too difficult and too expensive to make participatory SFM a viable option.	Low	The highest value tree, cedar, is the one with the greatest natural capacity for regeneration on the deforested areas and is the most resistant to livestock. Protection from livestock will be critical and will be done in consultation with respective CFAs. It is expected that once tree cover of indigenous species is re-established, one will also re-establish the ecological conditions needed for natural regeneration of both native flora and fauna	Natural regeneration occur in areas with protection and ecological integrity is still enough for revival of the ecosystem	

<sup>21</sup> GEF Risk ratings: Low, Moderate, Substantial or High

<sup>22</sup> If a risk mitigation plan had been presented as part of the Environmental and Social management Plan or in previous PIR please report here on progress or results of its implementation. For moderate and high risk projects, please Include a description of the ESMP monitoring activities undertaken in the relevant period".

	Risk	Risk rating <sup>21</sup>	Mitigation Actions	Progress on mitigation actions <sup>22</sup>	Notes from the Project Task Force
4	There is a risk that in those areas where overgrazing is a key constraint to forest regeneration, it will not be possible to integrate herders and to protect recently harvested areas from grazing long enough to ensure adequate regeneration.	Medium	This is recognized to be a difficult challenge but with support from CFAs and community elders, such livestock control is feasible.	Herders are sensitized and by-laws are being developed. The project is developing information material and working with community conservancies to reduce the pressure on the forest.	
5	Extreme climatic events associated with climate change (CC) may affect vegetation regeneration	Low	The creation of empowered community managers with adaptive management capacities may be the best strategy for adapting to CC. It is the present conditions of uncontrolled, open access, and unsustainable use of dryland forests that makes them the most susceptible to climate change.		
6	The project interventions will not be sustainable. Communities do not continue to control deforestation and degradation and to manage the forests sustainably after the end of the project.	Low	Project results will be sustained through empowerment of CFAs to manage the forest sustainably while deriving their livelihoods. Communities will know that they may lose their legal rights to harvest and market forest products if they do not meet their legal responsibilities.	Economic incentives, information and management capacity of surrounding communities and government partners are strengthened. Political will has been secured and all partners are on board.	

	Risk	Risk rating <sup>21</sup>	Mitigation Actions	Progress on mitigation actions <sup>22</sup>	Notes from the Project Task Force
7	<b>COVID-19 Pandemic:</b> The project field activities may be disrupted / delayed due to frequent lockdowns and restrictions on travel and face to face meetings. This may cause delays in procurement of goods and services. The pandemic might also result in more people losing their jobs and livelihoods hence overexploitation of natural resource may occur especially on the fragile ecosystems	Medium	Identify and implement activities that can be done by the project staff and partners while keeping safe from COVID-19. Embrace safe working procedures/policies put in place by FAO and the government. The promotion of livelihoods based on diversification of sustainable harvesting and processing of NTFPs is a key strategy of the project to build resilience and sustain biodiversity. The project will make further efforts in adapting marketing strategies to support communities/ producers' access to market as needed despite disruptions.	There is enhanced use of technologies for virtual meetings and Webinars. Maintaining strict adherence to the Covid-19 regulations to enable some field activities to take place. Consider for a no-cost extension for LoAs with partners to allow for smooth finalization of activities.	The country has been on and off the lockdowns and movement in the capital city and neighbouring counties that led to halting of some project activities. The nationwide curfew is still in effect
8	<b>Desert Locust</b> The project field activities may be disrupted/delayed due to the invasion of desert locust in East Africa. The desert locust have destroyed large areas of agricultural, rangeland and forested areas in Kenya which may result in decreased livelihood activities and restoration. However, the desert locust normally occurs with 100 years interval.	Medium	Extensive field operation and collaboration with the Government of Kenya to identify infected areas and spray the swarms to contain the desert locust and remove it from Kenya and neighbouring countries.	Due to the interventions of FAO, the desert locust has been contained in Kenya and no longer poses as a threat to project implementation.	

Project overall risk rating (Low, Moderate, Substantial or High):

FY2020 rating	FY2021 rating	Comments/reason for the rating for FY2021 and any changes (positive or negative) in the rating since the previous reporting period
High	Medium	The new classification is medium due to the voluntary movement of people out of Kirisia forest and have settled in their respective group ranches. The National Government have participatorily resolved and fixed the forest boundaries with the group ranches.

7. Adjustments to Project Strategy –

Only for projects that had the Mid-term review (or supervision mission)

If the project had a MTR review or a supervision mission, please report on how the MTR recommendations were implemented as indicated in the Management Response or in the supervision mission report.

MTR or supervision mission recommendations	Measures implemented
<p><b>Recommendation 1:</b> Undertake an independent rapid assessment of the movement of people, establish grievance redress mechanisms, safeguards and where necessary mitigation strategies.</p>	<p>An independent assessment of Environmental and Social Safeguards has been undertaken by an independent consultant and the report informed the way forward on the environmental and social safeguards and mitigation measures. It recommended that the project and executing agencies should magnify the structure, function and suitability of the project grievance redress mechanisms so as to arrest risks and challenges before escalation.</p>
<p><b>Recommendation 2:</b> With the delay at the beginning combined with a very ambitious spread of outcomes, prioritize and consolidate a focus on getting the PFM process complete with new rights, responsibilities and benefits of communities secure.</p>	<p>The development of the participatory Forest Management Plans (PFMPs) has begun. These plans will give rise to legally binding Forest Management Agreements (FMAs) for each of the three CFAs in Kirisia forest. KFS and FAO will facilitate CFAs to have a strong and informed voice in the negotiations and development of the forest management agreements.</p> <p>Forest Management Agreements shall include a strong focus on real incentives for the local community members to get engaged in the PFM process and shall also include tangible and sustainable rights for forest adjacent communities to utilize natural resources within the forest in a sustainable manner.</p>
<p><b>Recommendation 3:</b> Focus more strongly on communicating, reorienting and capacity building of government stakeholders on the rationale, principles and procedures of PFM, so that the ‘reconnection’ message is clear and institutionalized by project end.</p>	<p>Revision of project communication strategy to focus on the Key theory of change of Participatory Forest Management more explicitly</p> <p>The process for the development of a participatory video on the success of the establishment of the three CFAs in Kirisia forest, the process, the benefits and the impact. Including stakeholders from the community, local and national government, partners and FAO. The video will be informative to guide further PFM negotiations and management in Kirisia and elsewhere. This video will clearly showcase the legal process of PFM, PFM rights and responsibilities and many more</p>

**Adjustments to the project strategy.**

Please note that changes to outputs, baselines, indicators or targets cannot be made without official approval from PSC and PTF members, including the FLO. These changes will follow the recommendations of the MTR or the supervision mission.

Change Made to	Yes/No	Describe the Change and Reason for Change
Project Outputs	YES	<p>Based on the recommendations of the Midterm review and approval from the project steering committee the following outputs were Cancelled.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Output 1.5:</b> Design and implement HNRM plans for 50,000 ha of rangelands. The HNRM and planned grazing plans have been integrated and mainstreamed into the Participatory Forest Management Plans (PFMPs) being developed under the LoA signed between FAO and KFS</li> <li>• <b>Output 2.3:</b> Equipment and materials for wildlife monitoring and protection within and outside the Forest to cover the Kirisia ecosystem</li> <li>• <b>Output 4.3:</b> Resource centre established and operationalize local traditional knowledge documented</li> </ul> <p>Following activities were reduced or edited in scope and changed as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Outcome 1: Changed</b> from “Strengthened capacities of KFS and CFA put PFM and HNRM” to “Strengthened capacities of KFS and CFA put PFM”.</li> </ul> <p><i>To reflect the removal of output 1.5.</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Output 1.2: Changed</b> from “KFS provided with operational capacity to implement forest management, protect forests from fire, put 45,000 ha under Forest Protection” to “KFS and CFAs provided with operational capacity to implement forest management, protect forests from fire, put 91,452 ha under Forest Protection”</li> </ul> <p>To reflect the recommendations of the MTR to focus on forest landscapes rather than the surrounding rangelands</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Output 1.3: Changed</b> from “Forest Management Plan upgraded to Kirisia Ecosystem Management Plan with a biodiversity monitoring program” to “Forest Management Plan upgraded to Kirisia Ecosystem Management Plan”</li> </ul> <p>To reflect the recommendations to focus on forest management and forest landscapes</p>

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Outcome 2: Changed</b> from “Integrity of the Kirisia ecosystem as a wildlife refuge improved to continue playing the critical role of maintaining the Samburu Heartland as a functioning ecosystem, and habitat for wildlife” to “Integrity of the key (Kirimon) wildlife migration corridor connecting Kirisia wildlife refuge to the Samburu heartland secured”</li> </ul> <p>To reflect the MTR recommendations to focus on forest landscapes and PFM and the removal of output 2.3.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Output 2.1:</b> Important dispersal areas and migratory corridors mapped and protection negotiated with land users/owners (<b>title remains</b>)</li> </ul> <p>Changed to focus on the Kirimon wildlife corridor instead of the entire Samburu Heartlands to reflect the MTR recommendations to focus on forest landscapes and PFM</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Output 2.2: Changed</b> from “Support to 3 existing and establishment of 6 new conservancies proposed by the County Government (government co-finance)” to “Support the establishment of a new conservancy proposed by the County Government”</li> </ul> <p>To reflect the MTR recommendations to focus on forest landscapes and PFM and the complexity of establishment of community conservancies and instead focus on the Key wildlife corridor “Kirimon”</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Output 4.1: Changed</b> from “A carbon, biodiversity and livelihoods monitoring plan designed, implemented, lessons being used to inform adaptive management and Carbon accounting” to “: A community carbon monitoring mechanism developed”</li> </ul> <p>To reflect the MTR recommendations to focus on forest landscapes and PFM</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Output 4.3: Changed</b> from “Resource centre established and operationalized, local traditional knowledge documented (Co-finance)” to “Participatory communication for PFM and Traditional Knowledge developed and documented”</li> </ul> <p>To reflect the MTR recommendations to remove to output on establishment of a resource center and focus on PFM and therefore rather focus on the various reports, information materials and documents supported, developed and/or disseminated</p> <p>All alterations have been based on the recommendations of the MTR and approved by the PSC. All alterations have been made to prioritize the participatory forest management implementation and sustainability and livelihood development activities for sharing benefits from the forests</p>
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		biodiversity and incentivize continuation of forest conservation, sustainable management and restoration.
Project Indicators/Targets	YES	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Outcome 1:</b> <i>“Strengthened capacities of KFS and CFA put PFM”</i></li> </ul> <p>Target changed from 45,000 Ha to 91,452 Ha under forest protection</p> <p>Target of 50,000 ha under HNRM removed</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Output 1.1:</b> <i>“Kirisia CFA empowered to provide community leadership PFM of 91,452 ha of Kirisia forest in strong and widely representative partnership with KFS”</i></li> </ul> <p>Target changed from 70% to 60% of CFA community coverage</p> <p>Target added for the establishment of three CFAs</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Output 1.2:</b> <i>“KFS and CFAs provided with operational capacity to implement forest management, protect forests from fire, put 91,452 ha under Forest Protection”</i></li> </ul> <p>Target changed From 6 rangers to 100 KFS/community rangers/scouts involved in monitoring and management of Kirisia Forest</p> <p>Target changed from 45,000 Ha to 91,452 Ha under forest protection</p> <p>Target added for the establishment of three fire fighting towers</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Output 1.3:</b> <i>Forest Management Plan upgraded to Kirisia Ecosystem Management Plan</i></li> </ul> <p>Target changed to <i>“An Ecosystem Management Plan in place”</i> removing the carbon and biodiversity monitoring programme within</p> <p>Target changed from 20 forest management plans to 3 PFMP (to reflect the reality on the ground, the whole forest will be covered) integrated with community carbon monitoring mechanisms.</p> <p>Target added for the development and ratification of three forest management agreements (FMAs)</p> <p>Target changed to <i>“baseline community carbon mechanism available”</i> from the original <i>“Data for MRV, BD and program monitoring available”</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Output 1.4:</b> <i>Design and implement a forest rehabilitation/ reforestation program which puts 10,000 ha under regeneration and 17,000 under SFM</i></li> </ul>

		<p>Target changed to also include “natural regeneration” for the 10,000 Ha</p> <p>Target added for the development of a restoration strategy for Kirisia Forest</p> <p>Target changed for the 17,000 Ha under SFM to be zoned and included in the PFMPs and FMAs</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Outcome 2:</b> “Integrity of the key (Kirimon) wildlife migration corridor connecting Kirisia wildlife refuge to the Samburu heartland secured”</li> </ul> <p>Target changed from 12 conservancies to 1 Community conservancy established in the Kirimon Wildlife corridor. This to reflect the recommendations in the MTR</p> <p>Target of reduced poaching removed</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Output 2.1:</b> Important dispersal areas and migratory corridors mapped and protection negotiated with land users/owners</li> </ul> <p>Target changed from agreements/MoUs to focus on Community conservancies, KWS, CGoS and NRT in the Kirimon wildlife corridor instead of KFS, CFAs and AWF. This to reflect the realities on the ground and the recommendations of the MTR to focus on PFM</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Output 2.2:</b> “Support the establishment of a new conservancy proposed by the County Government”</li> </ul> <p>Target changed from 6 new and 3 existing conservancies to 1 community conservancy established</p> <p>Target changed from 80% of Kirisia landscape to 30% of Kirimon wildlife corridor. This to reflect the MTR recommendations to focus o PFM.</p> <p>Target for Community Conservancy management plan for enhanced institutional capacity with MoU/agreements signed added</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Output 3.1:</b> Promoting high volume buying market linkages for honey and smoothening supply chains</li> </ul> <p>Target for “Smoothened supply chains with 25% increase in higher value markets”. This is covered by target “Increased honey production by 25% of current baseline”</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Output 4.1:</b> “ A community carbon monitoring mechanism developed”</li> </ul> <p>Target of 1 integrated plan implemented; removed</p>
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## 8. Stakeholders Engagement

Please report on progress, challenges, and outcomes on stakeholder engagement (based on the description of the Stakeholder engagement plan included at CEO Endorsement/Approval (when applicable))

If your project had a stakeholder engagement plan, specify whether any new stakeholders have been identified/engaged:

N/A

If a stakeholder engagement plan was not requested for your project at CEO endorsement stage, please list all stakeholders engaged in the project

Various stakeholders are actively engaged in the project, including :

- Ministry of Environment and Forestry (MoEF) being the chair of the Project Steering Committee
- County Government of Samburu
- Kenya Forest Service (KFS)
- Kenya Wildlife Service (KWS)
- Kenya Forestry Research Institute (KEFRI)
- Suyian Trust
- National Museums of Kenya (NMK)
- Kenya Tourism Board (KTB)
- Kenya Water Towers Agency (KWTA)
- East Africa Wildlife Society (EAWS)
- Northern Rangeland Trust (NRT)
- CFAs and Community conservancies
- Community members
- Private Sector Partner
- Individual Consultants

Briefly describe stakeholders' engagement events, specifying time, date stakeholders engaged, purpose (information, consultation, participation in decision making, etc.) and outcomes.

Stakeholders' engagements and timelines were as follows;

- To participate in Project Steering Committee (PSC) Meeting 2019 in Maralal on the 14<sup>th</sup> October 2020.
- Knowledge Exchange/Transfer Visit to Learn from Best Practices in Co-Management of Forests from Mt. Kenya Region CFAs on 22<sup>nd</sup> – 27<sup>th</sup> Feb. 2021
- CFAs Appraisal and Capacity Needs Assessment mission on the 7<sup>th</sup> – 17<sup>th</sup> Sept. 2020
- Introduction of the new Land Technical Officers to group ranch/community land committee members and to assess the progress of the group ranches towards transition to Community Land on the 1<sup>st</sup> – 4<sup>th</sup> July 2020
- FAO/GEF Kirisia PFM Project Implementing Partners Workshop on Development of Letters of Agreement in Nanyuki on 31<sup>st</sup> Jan. – 5<sup>th</sup> Feb. 2021
- Identification of tree nursery forest user groups, capacity needs and priorities for the establishment of tree community managed tree nurseries on the 13<sup>th</sup> -17<sup>th</sup> July 2020
- Training workshop for Tree Nursery User Groups on tree nursery management in Maralal on 19<sup>th</sup> -22<sup>nd</sup> January 2021
- FAO/GEF mission on the development of PFMPs inception and scoping mission for CFAs on 13<sup>th</sup> – 18<sup>th</sup> June 2021

Please indicate if the project works with Civil Society Organizations and/or NGOs

In the same spirit of collaboration and networking between the CFAs and GEF-5 project partners, Naramat CFA was linked with the Agency for Technical Cooperation and Development (ACTED) Programme in Samburu to

recruit and engage 160 Charcoal Burners and 40 scouts on Cash for Work engagement for a period of 42 days. This partnership brought two-fold benefits to Kirisia Forest; it gave livelihood support to the vulnerable households living next to the forest as well as reducing pressure on the harvesting of forest products.

As a result of the voluntary movement out of Kirisia Forest and the meaningful engagement by the project, many players were attracted to the good work and they joined the partnership in supporting the ongoing conservation work. Thus, the Kirisia Forest CFAs/User Groups benefited from 1000 Beehives and assorted quantity of honey & product harvesting tools through partnerships with WFP, World Vision Kenya and Water Towers Agency.

**Please also indicate if the private sector has been involved in your project and provide the nature of the private sector actors, their role in the project and the way they were involved**

The project engaged a private sector trust to undertake a baseline survey of the biodiversity status of Kirisia forest ecosystem and to compile a report on the Kirisia Forest Bio-Cultural Protocols

The project is actively involving the local community in the implementation of the project and as beneficiaries of the project activities. The community is mainly involved through the three community forest associations, both as partners and beneficiaries. The project has and will continue to, support forest user groups (producer/user groups) in development of livelihoods.

The REDD+ Expert conducted trainings for CFA members on the establishment of Permanent Sample Plots in Kirisia Forest to support the development of Community Based Carbon Monitoring System; this trainings strengthened the community capacity to complement the traditional role of KFS experts to establish Sample Plots and the community resource persons replaced the Temporary Sample Plots with Permanent Sample Plots in some sections of Kirisia Forest

## 9. Gender Mainstreaming

**Information on Progress on gender-responsive measures as documented at CEO Endorsement/Approval in the gender action plan or equivalent (when applicable)**

**Was a gender analysis undertaken or an equivalent socio-economic assessment? Please briefly indicate the gender differences.**

- A gender analysis was produced at the inception stage of the project. Results and recommendations of the gender analysis is being mainstreamed at all stages of the project
- Socio-economic baseline has been produced, disaggregating data on livelihoods, forest use etc based on sex among other factors.

**Does the M&E system have gender-disaggregated data? How is the project tracking gender impacts and results?**

- The project has revised the Monitoring and Evaluation framework including gender disaggregated data
- Baseline has been updated with gender disaggregated data to inform project activities and allow for comparison during evaluations and reviews

**Does the project staff have gender expertise?**

- All staff in the project has undergone gender training and the FAO gender focal point is part of the management team.

**If possible, indicate in which results area(s) the project is expected to contribute to gender equality:**

- closing gender gaps in access to and control over forest resources
- improving women’s participation and decision making in CFA management (the project is actively promoting active participation of women in the membership and leadership of the three CFAs supported by the project)
- Supporting women groups in NTFPs enterprises and promoting commercialization on traditionally women dominated NTFPs (e.g. the project is supporting the CFAs to establish three commercial tree nurseries using established women and youth groups as the basis for the nurseries. This to promote women’s participation both in the Samburu economy and the leadership in forest utilization and conservation, a traditionally male dominated domain).

**10. Knowledge Management Activities**

Knowledge activities / products (when applicable), as outlined in knowledge management approved at CEO Endorsement / Approval
<p><b>Does the project have a knowledge management strategy?</b> As at now project does not have a knowledge management strategy.</p> <p><b>If not, how does the project collect and document good practices? Please list relevant good practices that can be learned and shared from the project thus far.</b></p> <p>Good practices: The project has had a remarkably success in transforming the narrative regarding Participatory Forest Management and Community Forest Associations among forest adjacent communities around Kirisia forest. The transformation of the narrative was needed as the view towards PFM and CFAs were hostile at the beginning thus the project embarked on a widespread and sensitive communication/sensitization campaign including officers from KFS, County Government, Community and FAO Kenya. This led to the buy-in from local leaders, community representatives, politicians and government officials and allowed for the formation of the three new CFAs and formalization of forest co-management between KFS and the local community. The success can be showcased by the successful election of CFA officials which elected both male and female representatives to the key positions in the CFAs (Samburu community is a strictly patrilineal society). The elections gathered more than 5,000 local community representatives. The project will recruit a Knowledge management specialist to capture and organize the lessons learnt and knowledge management products and a strategy for their dissemination and use.</p> <p><b>Does the project have a communication strategy? Please provide a brief overview of the communications successes and challenges this year.</b> Yes; the project has a communication strategy. The communication strategy is built on the following overall objectives;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• To create awareness on the importance of Kirisia Forest to the people of Samburu and neighboring counties.</li> <li>• To document indigenous knowledge and use it for partnership in managing the forest</li> <li>• To begin to foster lasting equitable collaboration with the partners in managing and protecting the forest for future</li> </ul> <p>The project has managed to produce an awareness booklet for adults and an awareness comic book for schoolchildren to be used to increase awareness of the importance of Kirisia forest.</p> <p>The project manager together with representatives from the local CFAs and KFS have participated in a number of radio talks on the local FM to increase awareness of the project and the importance of Kirisia forest</p>

Widespread media coverage of the establishment of the new CFAs and the voluntary move out from local community members residing within Kirisia Forest.

Main challenges include capturing newsworthy events and human-interest stories, especially so when these occur through activities implemented through contracts with project partners such as KFS and FSK.

Please share a human-interest story from your project, focusing on how the project has helped to improve people's livelihoods while contributing to achieving the expected global environmental benefits. Include at least one beneficiary quote and perspective, and please also include related photos and photo credits.



Kirisia Forest  
Ecosystem Restorati



CFA Members and Scouts planting tree seedlings at Naramat CFA Block.



Naramat CFA members engaged in rehabilitation works on forest roads and gullies



Hundreds of young Red Cedar, Olive and Juniperus procera regenerating hidden in the thick shade of their protector plants; some are popping up in old charcoal kilns.

Please provide links to publications, leaflets, video materials, related website, newsletters, or other communications assets published on the web.

<https://www.standardmedia.co.ke/business/news/article/2001374477/cs-tours-kirisia-forest-happy-with-reclamation-process>

<http://fsk.or.ke/2021/06/restoring-the-beauty-of-kirisia-forest/>

<https://www.bing.com/videos/search?q=youtube+videos+-+Kirisia+Forest&&view=detail&mid=DDCF50ED3449A543B5DFDDCF50ED3449A543B5DF&&FORM=VRDGAR&ru=%2Fvideos%2Fsearch%3Fq%3Dyoutube%2Bvideos%2B-%2BKirisia%2BForest%26%26FORM%3DVIDVXX>

<https://www.bing.com/videos/search?q=youtube+videos+-+Kirisia+Forest&&view=detail&mid=877F0BDABDCDCDEE568E3877F0BDABDCDCDEE568E3&&FORM=VRDGAR&ru=%2Fvideos%2Fsearch%3Fq%3Dyoutube%2Bvideos%2B-%2BKirisia%2BForest%26%26FORM%3DVIDVXX>

Does the project have a communication and/or knowledge management focal point? If yes, please provide their names and email addresses

Lydia Limbe, (communication officer) [Lydia.Limbe@fao.org](mailto:Lydia.Limbe@fao.org)

### 11. Indigenous Peoples Involvement

Are Indigenous Peoples involved in the project? How? Please briefly explain.

If applies, please describe the process and current status of on-going/completed, legitimate consultations to obtain Free, Prior and Informed Consent (FPIC) with the indigenous communities

N/A

Do indigenous peoples have an active participation in the project activities? How?

N/A

12. Innovative Approaches

Please provide a brief description of an innovative<sup>23</sup> approach in the project / programme, describe the type (e.g. technological, financial, institutional, policy, business model) and explain why it stands out as an innovation.

The multi-agency collaboration with the partners, the project secured the consensus and a common vision for Kirisia Forest by all stakeholders from community groups, traditional elders, county government and the political leadership.

As a result of the prolonged rains and the various plans and strategies employed by all the partners and CFA leadership to enhance the management of Kirisia Forest; a high forest health improvement has been recorded in the reporting period as evidenced by the recharge of rivers and increased water flow periods, return of wild animal species (Elephants, Elands, Zebras, Lions & the spotted Hyena) and the improved bee swarming & colonization in areas that have not been their havens before.

Communities that lived in the forest for more than 20 years accepted to voluntarily leave the forest to return back and join other members in their own group ranches

As a result of the voluntary movement out of Kirisia Forest and the meaningful engagement by the project, many players were attracted to the good work and they joined the partnership in supporting the ongoing conservation work. Thus, the Kirisia Forest CFAs/User Groups benefited from 1000 Beehives and assorted quantity of honey & product harvesting tools through partnerships with WFP, World Vision Kenya and Water Towers Agency.

13. Possible impact of the Covid-19 pandemic on the project

Please indicate any implication of the Covid-19 pandemic on the activities and progress of the project. Highlight the adaptative measures taken to continue with the project implementation.

**Are the outcomes/outputs still achievable within the project period?**

The project field activities schedules have been affected and may still be interfered with, due to frequent lockdowns and restrictions on travel for face to face meetings. This may cause delays in procurement of goods and services. The pandemic might also result in more people losing their jobs and livelihoods hence overexploitation of natural resource may occur especially on the fragile ecosystems

**Will the timing of the project MTR or TE be affected/delayed?**

The TE will continue as expected though most of the 5<sup>th</sup> year activities will be running then hence the TE will be carried under a busy schedule to close up the LoAs.

**What is the impact of COVID-19 on project beneficiaries, personnel, etc.**

The pandemic has affected procurement processes for project activities and partners engagement through LoAs. Teleworking is only possible for office-based work or zoom meetings that do not require physical meetings. As for field activities the output of staff has been affected as they cannot achieve their work plans in full.

The covid-19 pandemic has also affected the accessibility of markets and buyers of NTFP products and the project has therefore chosen to focus project interventions in livelihood developments on products with demand in local markets (Maralal)

<sup>23</sup> Innovation is defined as *doing something new or different in a specific context that adds value*

**Are there good practices and lessons learned to be shared?**

There is enhanced use of technologies for virtual meetings and Webinars.

Maintaining strict adherence to the Covid-19 regulations to enable some field activities to take place. Consider regular monitoring and communication and for a no-cost extension for LoAs with partners to allow for smooth finalization of activities.

## 14. Co-Financing Table

Sources of Co-financing <sup>24</sup>	Name of Co-financer	Type of Co-financing	Amount Confirmed at CEO endorsement / approval	Actual Amount Materialized at 30 June 2021	Actual Amount Materialized at Midterm or closure (confirmed by the review/evaluation team)	Expected total disbursement by the end of the project
National Government	Kenya Forest Service (KFS)	In kind	500,000	300,000.00	149,223.88	500,000
National Government	Forestry Research Institute (KEFRI)	In kind	500,000	173,741.39	173,741.39	173,741.39
National Government	Kenya Wildlife Service (KWS)	In kind	500,000	278,434.67	208,826.00	350,000
National Government	Kenya Water Towers Agency (KWTA)	In kind	-	6,000.00	-	100,000
National Government	Ministry of Environment and Forestry	In kind	-	200,000	-	500,000
Multi-Lateral	FAO	In kind/Cash	1,200,000	1,401,911.32	1,236,980.58	2,000,000
Local Government	County Government of Samburu	In kind	2,515,000	319,417.00	300,000.00	500,000
TNC	Northern Rangeland Trust (NRT)	In kind	-	5,000.00	97,483.00	200,000
TNC	Suyan Trust	In kind	-	10,000.00	-	50,000
NGO	East Africa Wild Life Society	In-kind	-	-	-	50,000
NGO	ACTED	In kind	-	150,000.00	-	200,000
NGO	World Vision Kenya	In kind	-	21,000.00	-	50,000

<sup>24</sup> Sources of Co-financing may include: Bilateral Aid Agency(ies), Foundation, GEF Agency, Local Government, National Government, Civil Society Organization, Other Multi-lateral Agency(ies), Private Sector, Beneficiaries, Other.

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NGO	The BOMA project	In Kind	-	126,000	-	210,000
UN Agency	WFP	In kind	-	36,000.00	-	50,000
CBO	Community Forestry Associations	In kind	485,436.89	203,883.50	-	500,000
<b>TOTAL</b>			<b>5,700,436.89</b>	<b>3,231,387.88</b>	<b>2,166,254.85</b>	<b>5,433,741.39</b>

Please explain any significant changes in project co-financing since Project Document signature, or differences between the anticipated and actual rates of disbursement

## Annex 1. – GEF Performance Ratings Definitions

**Development/Global Environment Objectives Rating** – Assess how well the project is meeting its development objective/s or the global environment objective/s it set out to meet. **DO Ratings definitions:** **Highly Satisfactory (HS)** - Project is expected to achieve or exceed **all** its major global environmental objectives, and yield substantial global environmental benefits, without major shortcomings. The project can be presented as “good practice”); **Satisfactory (S)** - Project is expected to achieve **most** of its major global environmental objectives, and yield satisfactory global environmental benefits, with only minor shortcomings); **Moderately Satisfactory (MS)** - Project is expected to achieve **most** of its major relevant objectives but with either significant shortcomings or modest overall relevance. Project is expected not to achieve **some** of its major global environmental objectives or yield some of the expected global environment benefits); **Moderately Unsatisfactory (MU)** - Project is expected to achieve of its major global environmental objectives with major shortcomings or is expected to achieve only **some** of its major global environmental objectives); **Unsatisfactory (U)** - Project is expected **not** to achieve **most** of its major global environment objectives or to yield any satisfactory global environmental benefits); **Highly Unsatisfactory (HU)** - The project has failed to achieve, and is not expected to achieve, **any** of its major global environment objectives with no worthwhile benefits.)

**Implementation Progress Rating** – Assess the progress of project implementation. **IP Ratings definitions:** **Highly Satisfactory (HS):** Implementation of all components is in substantial compliance with the original/formally revised implementation plan for the project. The project can be resented as “good practice”. **Satisfactory (S):** Implementation of most components is in substantial compliance with the original/formally revised plan except for only a few that are subject to remedial action. **Moderately Satisfactory (MS):** Implementation of some components is in substantial compliance with the original/formally revised plan with some components requiring remedial action. **Moderately Unsatisfactory (MU):** Implementation of some components is not in substantial compliance with the original/formally revised plan with most components requiring remedial action. **Unsatisfactory (U):** Implementation of most components is not in substantial compliance with the original/formally revised plan. **Highly Unsatisfactory (HU):** Implementation of none of the components is in substantial compliance with the original/formally revised plan.