



FAO-GEF Project Implementation Report

2023 – Revised Template

Period covered: 1 July 2022 to 31 March 2023

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1. Basic Project Data

General Information

Region:	East Africa
Country (ies):	Kenya
Project Title:	Capacity, Policy and Financial Incentives for PFM in Kirisia Forest and
	integrated Rangelands Management
FAO Project Symbol:	GCP/KEN/073/GFF
GEF ID:	5083
GEF Focal Area(s):	BD-2, CCM-5, SFM/REDD+-1, SFM/REDD+-2
Project Executing Partners:	Kenya Forest Service, Kenya Water Towers Agency, East African Wildlife
	Society, Northern Rangelands Trust, County Government of Samburu and
	Community Forest Associations.
Initial project duration (years):	5 Years
Project coordinates:	N/A
This section should be completed	
ONLY by:	
a) Projects with 1st PIR;	
b) In case the geographic coverage of	
project activities has changed since	
last reporting period.	

Project Dates

GEF CEO Endorsement Date:	3 rd August 2016
Project Implementation Start	25 th January 2017
Date/EOD:	·
Project Implementation End	30 th Jun 2021
Date/NTE¹:	
Revised project implementation End	31 st March 2023
date (if approved) ²	

Funding

GEF Grant Amount (USD):	2,823,439
Total Co-financing amount (USD) ³ :	8,675,178
Total GEF grant delivery (as of	2,797,486
March 31, 2023 (USD):	
Total GEF grant actual expenditures	2,689,778
(excluding commitments) as of	
March 31, 2023 (USD) ⁴ :	
Total estimated co-financing	4,165,199.20
materialized as of March 31, 2023 ⁵	

¹ As per FPMIS

 $^{^{\}mathrm{2}}$ If NTE extension has been requested and approved by the FAO-GEF Coordination Unit.

³ This is the total amount of co-financing as included in the CEO Document/Project Document.

 $^{^{\}rm 4}$ The amount should show the values included in the financial statements generated by IMIS.

⁵ Please refer to the Section 13 of this report where updated co-financing estimates are requested and indicate the total co-financing amount materialized.

M&E Milestones

Date of Last Project Steering	29 th March 2023
Committee (PSC) Meeting:	
Expected Mid-term Review date ⁶ :	N/A
Actual Mid-term review date (if	February 2020
already completed):	
Expected Terminal Evaluation Date ⁷ :	March 2023
Tracking tools (TT)/Core indicators (CI)	No
updated before MTR or TE stage	
(provide as Annex)	

Overall ratings

Overall rating of progress towards	Satisfactory
achieving objectives/ outcomes	
(cumulative):	
Overall implementation progress	Satisfactory
rating:	
Overall risk rating:	Moderate

ESS risk classification

Current ESS Risk classification:	Medium
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Status

Implementation Status	Final PIR
(1 st PIR, 2 nd PIR, etc. Final PIR):	

Project Contacts

Contact	Name, Title, Division/Institution	E-mail
Project Coordinator (PC)	Philip Kisoyan GEF- Coordinator FAO Kenya	Philip.Kisoyan@fao.org
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Lead Technical Officer (LTO)	Christophe Besacier, Forestry Officer (NFO),	Christophe.Besacier@fao.org
GEF Technical Officer, GTO (ex Technical FLO)	Bégat, Pierre Jacques Rene Gaston (OCBD)	Pierre.Begat@fao.org

⁶ The Mid-Term Review (MTR) should take place after the 2nd PIR, around half-point between EOD and NTE. The MTR report in English should be submitted to the GEF Secretariat within 4 years of the CEO Endorsement date.

⁷ The Terminal Evaluation date should be discussed with OED 6 months before the project's NTE date.

2. Progress towards Achieving Project Objective(s) (Development Objective)

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

Please indicate the project's main progress towards achieving its objective(s) and the cumulative level of achievement of each outcome since the start of project implementation.

Project or Development Objective	Outcomes	Outcome indicators ⁸	Baseline	Mid- term Target ⁹	End-of-project Target	Cumulative progress ¹⁰ since project start Level (and %) at 30 June 2023	Progress rating ¹¹
Strengthene	Outcome 1:	Area of	0 Ha	5,000 ha	10,000 ha with	The project contributed to secure a consensus and	S
d biodiversity	Strengthened	degraded,		under	1,324,441	the common vision for Kirisia forest by all	
conservation	capacities of	forest habitats		restorati	tCO2eq (direct)	stakeholders from community groups, traditional	
and enhance	Kenya Forest	undergoing		on	avoided.	elders, county government and the political	
carbon	Service (KFS)	reforestation,				leadership.	
sequestration	and	restoration					
through	Community	and/or natural				Kirisia Umbrella CFA established and registered.	
participatory	Forest	regeneration					
sustainable	Associations	and their GHG				In collaboration with the NG Interior department	
forest	(CFAs) in	emissions				and Suyan Trust, Kirisia CFA acquired a well-	
management	Participatory	avoided				equipped office space.	
systems in	Forest					Constructed two station houses for	
dryland	Management					Rangers/community scouts and provision of 6 ranger	
public and	(PFM)					camping tents for the 3 blocks has commenced.	
communal							
lands						Tractor (110 HP), Trailer, 5000Ltr Capacity Water	
						Boozer and motorbikes have been	
						transferred/handed over to KFS (4), CGS (1) and KWS	

⁸ This is taken from the approved results framework of the project.

⁹ 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.

¹⁰ Please report on results obtained in terms of Global Environmental Benefits and Socio-economic co-benefits as well.

¹¹ Use GEF Secretariat required six-point scale system: **Highly Satisfactory** (HS), **Satisfactory** (S), **Moderately Satisfactory** (MS), **Moderately Unsatisfactory** (MU), **Unsatisfactory** (U), and **Highly Unsatisfactory** (HU). Refer to Annex 1.

Areas of forest under protection management regime and their GHG emissions	0 Ha CFA - 20% KFS (Maralal) - 35.5%	15,000 Ha under protectio n 25% increase	91,452 ha with 630,912 tCO2eq (direct) avoided 50% increase in capacity scores over baseline	(1) to be used for forest management / conservation activities. The membership recruitment drive was initiated by the CFAs and the membership increased by 60%. Capacity for Kirisia CFA and KFS has been strengthened and the dysfunctional relationships between them has been drastically improved. Volunteer forest scouts and a couple of other user groups have been recruited and registered as members CFAs across all the three forest blocks. Restoration strategy through 8,093 ha of natural regeneration and 48,563 ha of enrichment planting has been achieved as well as the promotion of fruit trees and agroforestry initiatives at the household level since the establishment of the community forest association which is co-managing the forest together with Kenya Forest Service. A total of 38,983 indigenous tree seedlings of assorted species that covered 39 Ha were sourced from the tree nurseries within the three forest blocks. Improvement on river-recharge has been observed. Three (3) Water Resource Users Associations in Kirisia Water Tower established. Three model springs identified participatorily and protected.	S
forest under protection	CFA -	Ha under	630,912 tCO2eq	Three (3) Water Resource Users Associations in	S
_		n	50% increase in	Kirisia Water Tower established.	
their GHG	(Maralal)		capacity scores		
avoided	KWS (Maralal) - 40%	in capacity from	measured by UNDP capacity scorecard	Two (2) forest view towers for forest fires management and ecotourism have been constructed.	
		baseline		Procured and handed over 2 monitoring Drones to KFS	
				Grading of 20 kms of forest roads in Kirisia is underway.	
				Procured assorted firefighting equipment.	

Ecosystem.

			Naramat Block has formally negotiated with KFS for access rights to utilize a 5 Acre space in the forest for the establishment of an apiary and a tree seedling nursery and they have generated an income of Kshs. 700,000 from the sale of honey and seedlings which was used to procure a motorbike and for grading of a 4KM access road for use in the monitoring of the forest.	
			The REDD+ expert carried out the assessment of avoided emissions due to the project shown that, from 2019 to 2022; the total avoided emissions from deforestation and degradation 2,947,068 tCO2eq and the total enhancement of carbon stocks amounted to 1,012,816 tCO2eq. The Total of Project Emission offsets is the sum of avoided emissions from deforestation and forest degradation and those from enhancement of carbon stocks which equals to 3,959,884 tCO2eq The bee keeping and the indigenous tree species propagation activities by the community tree nursery at Naramat block was documented and it featured in the State of World Forests Conference that took place in May 2022 in South Korea.	
Area under SFM and their GHG emissions avoided	5,000 Ha under SFM	17,000 ha with 980,348 tCO2eq (direct) avoided	Pasture and browse drastically improved even in the face of a severe drought – Kirisia Forest hosted thousands of livestock throughout the period of the drought. Herbal medicine flourished as well. The Samburu County Sustainable Forest Management & Tree Growing Policy has been developed and the related bills passed & enacted into Act of the County Assembly The Kirisia Participatory Forest Management Plan and FMA developed, launched and signed between Kenya Forest Service and the forest adjacent community and FMA ratified.	S

				Kirisia CFA has informally negotiated for some user rights with KFS and the CFA generated some income from the same which they used to procure a motorbike and graded an access road for use in the monitoring of the forest Priority areas for natural regeneration and active	
				rehabilitation have been mapped and the community scouts have been stationed to protect	
				and monitor for improved regeneration.	
Rangelands being managed by HNRM plans	О На	50% of rangelan ds under HNRM plans	50,000 ha rangelands under HNRM plans with 25% increase in	Pasture and browse drastically improved even in the face a severe drought – Kirisia Forest hosted thousands of livestock throughout the period of the drought. Herbal medicine flourished as well. Nkoteiya Community Conservancy hosts a major	S
			productivity of degradation over baseline.	wildlife migratory corridor linking Kirisia Forest to Laikipia and Isiolo Landscapes (Kirisia – Nkoteiya CC – Laikipia/Isiolo Counties). This corridor was mapped and secured from human settlement. The project supported the conservancy to develop the Conservancy Management Plan that secured 6,880 Ha of land under HNRM regime.	
				A total of 26 Ha of degraded land was rehabilitated and improved through reseeding at Opiroi sublocation and 16, 200 Ha of land for restoration sites were fenced off at Tamiyoi and Doldol tree nursery sites.	
				Kirisia forest restoration plan has been developed and restoration of degraded areas established.	
				The Samburu County Climate Change Policy has been developed and the related bills passed & enacted into Act of the County Assembly so as to guide the current and future development and management of rangelands by the County Government and partners.	

					5 tree nurseries have been established.	
					Rolled out an agroforestry campaign in Kirisia Ecosystem that reached out to 1,328 farmers who benefited from 88,340 fuel, timber & fodder and 17,264 fruit tree seedlings.	
					5 business-oriented tree nurseries have been established for the CFAs to raise the needed seedlings that were used internally by CFAs and by KFS as well as other stakeholders to undertake restoration activities both in the forest/rangelands as well as for agroforestry at the household level	
Outcome 2: 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	O community conservancies agreements in the key (Kirimon) wildlife migratory corridor connecting Kirisia forest to the Samburu Heartland	Draft communi ty conserva ncy manage ment plan 25% increase in wildlife in Kirisia Landscap e	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 measured by UNDP capacity scorecard	as well as for agroforestry at the household level. The Community Conservancy Fund Act, 2020 was enacted 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 by all partners 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 informs thethe current and future 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 Adolphus mathewsensis, which previously only has been sighted in the Ngeng valley in the Mathews	S

Outcome honey, other Market providing financial incential process and incential househousehousehousehousehousehousehouse	h from household incomes from NWFPs ng hal wes for hid wation rease hold by han 25%	KES 42,5 61 (Average income per annum/H H from Forest products)	income increase from NWFPs over baseline for participa ting househol ds	25% income increase from NWFPs over baseline for participating households	Existing NWFP value chains have been assessed and 3 value chains namely honey, Poultry and Kitchen gardens have been identified and are being developed in partnership with East African Wildlife Society, KFS and the CFAs. An assessment on sustainable charcoal production and capacity development of Samburu Charcoal Producer Association (CPU) were undertaken. The project has supported the CFAs to undertake livelihood activities which include honey production and processing, poultry, and kitchen garden interventions. The project has also factored in the support on the procurement of 135 beehives, microprocessing and harvesting equipment for honey and wax for the 3 CFAs. The rare voluntary relocation of people from Kirisia forest has attracted various other stakeholders including WVK, BOMA Project and Suyan Trust who developed interest in Kirisia and have committed resources to support CFA capacity development and other livelihood interventions. Five 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	S
					resources to support CFA capacity development and other livelihood interventions. Five Community tree nurseries have been established to allow the project, project partners and other stakeholders to procure tree seedlings for	
					The tourist material for Kirisia forest has raised awareness on 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.	

					The development of the Samburu Tourism Strategic Plan achieved and the plan launched. The Tourism Strategic Plan is focused on the strategies to revive the tourism circuits connecting Samburu County with Marsabit, Isiolo and Baringo Counties as well as on marketing of the existing tourist attraction sites.	
Outcome 4: Knowledge systems inform adaptive management in PFM	Lessons available from PFM inform policy implementati on	National PFM policy as informed by lessons but more needed to expand beneficia tion from PFM by communi ties	Lessons on CFAs available	County Government has adopted lessons in local level PFM	Kirisia Forest Ecosystem Gender Analysis has been established and is readily available to inform policy and management development. Participatory Forest Management Plan and FMA developed, signed, launched & disseminated. Samburu County Tourism Strategic Plan developed, printed & disseminated. Kirisia carbon assessment/baseline has been completed and the report is available for use by CFAs and partners Project M&E framework has been updated. Mid-term review report findings and its recommendations have been implemented and applied in the planning and implementation and informed lessons learnt for sustainability of CFA activities.	S
Outcome 5: Subsidiary legislation and guidelines for County level implementatio n of the PFM National Policy of 2005 in place informed by Community Bio-cultural	Number of County level strategies and plans supporting participatory PFM developed	O County Strategie s/plan/p olicies on PFM and environ mental manage ment 2005 Forestry Bill	Policy and legal gap analysis complete d, gaps identifie d and recomm endation s for addressi	80% of community management structures have legal documents that empower them with control of access and with management, harvesting and marketing rights	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. 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. The project has participated in the development and review of the Samburu County Rangelands & Planned Grazing Policy	S

community	allows	ng them	
protocols	PFM but	available	The Samburu County Climate Change and Forest
i i	not		Conservation Management Policies have been
	harmoniz		developed with the support of a policy expert
	ed with		recruited by GEF-5 Project in close collaboration with
	County		County Government department of Environment, NR
	policies		& Energy. The project partners were also involved
			throughout the process of developing the two
			policies and they have contributed valuable
			resources in terms of finances and expertise.
			Awareness and advocacy meetings with County and
			National political leaders on the importance of
			sustainable forest management in the Kirisia
			landscape has been continued
			Awareness created among the local community on
			participatory forest management and the role of
			CFAs through the local FM radios and community
			engagement meetings.
			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 a reach out to a large audience within Kirisia
			and other water towers in the county.
			All (100%) of existing community management units
			A.K.A community forest user groups have been
			mapped during the establishment of the Kirisia CFA
			and have been incorporated in the CFA management
			structure as user groups and have been given the
			right in management, access rights and utilization of
			their respective resource e.g. grazing rights,
			firewood, honey production, sand harvesting, eco-
			tourism etc.

Measures taken to address MS, MU, U and HU ratings on Section 2

Outcome	Action(s) to be taken	By whom?	By when?
N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A

3. Implementation Progress (IP)

(Please indicate progress achieved during this FY as per the Implementation Plan/Annual Workplan)

Outcomes and Outputs ¹²	Indicators (as per the Logical Framework)	Annual Target (as per the annual Work Plan)	Main achievements ¹³ (please DO NOT repeat results reported in previous year PIR)	Describe any variance ¹⁴ in delivering outputs
Outcome 1:0				
Strengthened capacities of stak	eholders implement PFM in	the main land tenure categories	of dryland forests delivers 2,935,701 tCO2eq;	
Output 1.1.	- Coverage of CFA	- Over 60% of community	Kirisia Umbrella CFA established and registered.	
Kirisia CFA empowered to	membership for the	coverage		
provide community leadership	target area;	- 3 CFAs established and	In collaboration with the NG Interior department	
PFM of 91,452 ha of Kirisia forest in strong and widely representative partnership	- No CFAs	leadership democratically elected	and Suyan Trust; Kirisia CFA acquired a well-equipped office space.	
with KFS			Kirisia CFA has formally negotiated for user rights with KFS and the CFA generated income from	
			honey which was used to procure a motorbike and grading of an access road for use in the monitoring of the forest.	
			The membership recruitment drive was initiated by the CFAs and the active membership increased	
			from 0 to 10,600Men to women ratio is approximately 4:6.	
			Women are actively engaged in the decision making in the CFA and hold official positions in the	

 $^{^{\}rm 12}$ Outputs as described in the project Logframe or in any approved project revision.

¹³ Please use the same unit of measurement of the project indicators as per the approved Implementation Plan or Annual Workplan. Please be concise (max one or two short sentence with main achievements)

¹⁴ Variance refers to the difference between the expected and actual progress at the time of reporting.

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	- Number of Rangers/ Scouts at Kirisia Forest Station increased and trained; - Areas of coverage under protection by the rangers and scouts	- At least 100 KFS and community Rangers/scouts involved in monitoring and management of Kirisia forest 50,000 Ha degraded restored - 3 fire towers constructed	leadership as in accordance with the constitutional requirements of 1/3 of either gender. Capacity for Kirisia CFA and KFS has been strengthened and the dysfunctional relationships between them has been drastically improved. Volunteer forest scouts and a couple of other user groups have been recruited and registered as members CFAs across all the three forest blocks. Rolled out the agroforestry campaign in Kirisia Ecosystem that reached out to 1,328 farmers who benefited from 88,340 fuel, timber & fodder and 17,264 fruit tree seedlings. Procured and handed over 2 monitoring Drones to KFS Grading of 20 kms of forest roads in Kirisia is underway. Constructed two station houses for Rangers/community scouts and provision of 6 ranger camping tents for the 3 blocks has commenced. Procured assorted firefighting equipment. Kirisia CFA established and PFMP and FMA in place for SFM in the 91,452 HA of Kirisia Forest.	
Output 1.3: Forest Management Plan upgraded to Kirisia Ecosystem Management Plan	 Number of management plan upgraded; Number of forest management plans with incentives for communities and partnership; 	forest management plans operational integrated with community carbon monitoring mechanism, participation of forest adjacent communities and incentive mechanism	The Samburu County Climate Change Policy has been developed and the related bills passed & enacted into Act of the County Assembly The Samburu County Sustainable Forest Management & Tree Growing Policy has been developed and the related bills passed & enacted into Act of the County Assembly	

		- Three Forest Management Agreements signed between CFAs and KFS Baseline data for community carbon monitoring mechanism available;	The project supported the development and review of the Samburu County Rangeland Management & Planned Grazing Policy as well as the related Act. The Samburu County 2022 – 2031 Tourism Strategic Plan developed, ratified and launched. The Kirisia Participatory Forest Management Plan and FMA launched and ratified.	
Output 1.4: Design and implement a forest rehabilitation/ reforestation program which puts 10,000 ha under regeneration and 17,000 under SFM	Area of land under the program developed	 10,000 ha improved tree/seedling cover with 1,324,441 tCO2eq (direct) avoided; 1 restoration strategy developed for Kirisia Forest 17,000 ha of forest resources zoned for SFM in the participatory forest management plans including areas outside the forest with 980,348 tCO2eq (direct) avoided; 	Rolled out an agroforestry campaign in Kirisia Ecosystem that reached out to 1,328 farmers who benefited from 88,340 fuel, timber & fodder and 17,264 fruit tree seedlings. Three (3) Water Resource Users Associations in Kirisia Water Tower established. Three model springs identified participatorily and protected. Priority areas for natural regeneration and active rehabilitation have been mapped and the community scouts have been stationed to protect and monitor for improved regeneration. 5 business-oriented tree nurseries have been established for the CFAs to raise the needed seedlings that were used internally by CFAs and by KFS as well as other stakeholders to undertake restoration activities both in the forest/rangelands as well as for agroforestry at the household level. Natural regeneration occurring though out the entire forest ecosystem and change map showing natural regeneration occurring in approximately	

Output 1.5: Design and implement HNRM plans for 50,000 ha of rangelands.	 Number of HNRM plans implemented; Area of rangelands under the HNRM plan developed; 	 There is no HNRM plan; Lack of sustainable rangeland management skills (Baseline points to be confirmed at inception); Low productivity of rangelends (to be established at inception); 	12,000 HA. Assisted forest restoration took place in 180 Ha. The "Kirisia Ecosystem Restoration Strategy" has been developed and in cooperated in the Kirisia PFMP. The entire Kirisia Forest Ecosystem of 91,542 HA has been zoned in the Kirisia PFMP/FMA and various uses and rights identified for each e.g. core protection zone, grazing zones, plantation zones, areas for sand harvesting; firewood collection etc. Formed and established grazing management committees in all the locations adjacent to Kirisia Forest and the traditional/elders governance system reactivated. CFAs and KFS sensitized to integrate the HNRM plans and grazing agreements as an integral part of the PFMP that covers the whole of the 91,452 Ha of Kirisia forest. Advocacy for communities and school children on	
			PFM and the PFMP processes was created through school outreaches, local FM radios and community barazas.	
Outcome 2.0: Integrity of the k	ey (Kirimon) wildlife migratio	n on corridor connecting Kirisia wil	dlife refuge to the Samburu heartland secured	
Output 2.1 Important dispersal areas and wildlife migratory corridors mapped and protection negotiated with land users/owners	- Information material on dispersal areas and wildlife migratory corridors for negotiation; - Number of agreements / MoUs	1 regulatory framework established with agreements/ MoUs among Community Conservancies, KWS, County Government of Samburu, NRT land users/owners for the key (Kirimon) wildlife migratory corridor;	Mapping of high value biodiversity areas undertaken Mapped the Important biodiversity Areas which resulted to the designation of Kirisia Forest as an Important Bird/Biodiversity Area.	

			Ecotourism facilities for Nkoteiya Eco-lodge improved	
Output 2.2 Support the establishment of a new conservancy proposed by the County Government	-Number of conservancies supported; -Percentage of the key (Kirimon) wildlife corridor being managed under community conservancy	Samburu County has a total of 12 conservancies at various stages of development, 6 conservancies existing, 6 in intitial stages. None of them have migratory corridor protection agreements; - 30% of Kirimon wildlife corridor under management	 1 community conservancy established and trained for participatory enhanced community wildlife management. Identified, mapped and established 2 critical wildlife migratory corridors that link Kirisia Forest and other Ecosystems. Nkoteiya Community Wildlife Conservancy Management Plan as a wildlife corridor developed and currently being implemented and used for fundraising by NCC Community Conservancy management plan for enhanced institutional capacity with MoU/agreements signed 70% of the members of Kirimon group ranch agreed to set aside 5000 Ha of the total 15,715 Ha of Kirimon group ranch as Nkoteyia Community Conservancy reaching a total percentage of 31.8% of the total area. 	
Output 2.3: Equipment and materials for wildlife monitoring and protection within and outside the Forest to cover the Kirisia ecosystem	Number of Incidents of poaching for various species in the dispersal areas;	Equipment and infrastructure are inadequate to undertake any meaningful management operations for wildlife monitoring and protection;	Through the advocacy from the GEF-5 project to the partners, a Toyota Landcruiser was procured by GoK for KFS Maralal Forest Station to support the activities of the project. Procured 2 drones for monitoring and surveillance in both forests and wildlife areas. Firefighting equipment have been procured and handed over to KFS. Tractor, motorbikes, water bowser and tipping trailer procured and handed over to KFS, KWS and Samburu County government for improved monitoring and management.	

Outcome 3.0	Income from honey, and ot	ther NWFPs providing financial in	ncentives for PFM and conservation and increase household			
	income by more than 25% for participating households					
Output 3.1 Promoting high volume buying market linkages for honey and smoothening supply chains	- Increase in production of honey; - Increase in quantity of honey reaching market;Business plans for a honey processing refinery in place	- Increased honey production by 25% of current baseline; - A business strategy completed and fundraising in progress;	-Capacity of producer groups developed -Increased the production of honey through the provision of 225 beehives and assorted number of honey harvesting and processing gears to CFA honey user groups. The increase in honey production improved the participating households' earnings per annum per household from Kes. 42,571 to Kes. 59,861 which translates to an increase of 40%. -Supported the livelihood activities - honey production and processing by CFAs as well as agroforestry programme rolled out. Market linkages for the CFA user groups honey have been created via the social media forums, WFDs and WBDs celebrations where the CFA/honey user group members are invited/facilitated to participate and exhibit their work and products			
Output 3.2 Tourism development model developed, to deliver benefits to the local communities	- Tourism development strategy in place with a clear plan for mobilizing resources;	- A final tourism strategy available in tandem with improved forest and natural resources management and equitable sharing of benefits from future returns on tourism;	-Increased the bed capacity of Nkoteiya CC through provision of Camping Tents and Water Solar Heating equipment for the hotel. The increased capacity has enabled the conservancy to sign an agreement with an investor to further expand the capacity of the camp and raise awareness of the camp to promote influx of tourists to the conservancy. -Exposure and Learning Tours for CFA/User Group and Nkoteiya CC Board Members. -The Samburu County 2022 – 2031 Tourism Strategic Plan developed, ratified and launched.			

			- Initiated and finalized the process of designating Kirisia Forest as an Important Bird Area/Important Biodiversity (IBA)	
Output 3.3: Other NWFPs with potential identified and strategy for commercial exploitation designed and implementation started	Income generation strategy for identified NWFPs (using the Market Analysis and Development Approach);	Identified NWFPs are commercially available for income generation;	Rolled out an agroforestry campaign in Kirisia Ecosystem that reached out to 1,328 farmers who benefited from 88,340 fuel, timber & fodder and 17,264 fruit tree seedlings. 5 tree nurseries have been established for propagation of seedlings for restoration and income for the CFA User Groups Support to Organizational Governance of the 3 CFAs, Capacity Development on Livelihood	
Outcome 4.0	Knowledge systems inform	adaptive management in PFM	Activities and Community Forest Restoration	
Output 4.1: A community carbon monitoring mechanism, developed	- Number of community carbon monitoring mechanisms developed; - Number of permanent sample plots;	3 community carbon monitoring plans integrated in PFMPs 3 permanent sample plots established	Participatory Forest Management Plan and FMA developed, printed, launched and disseminated. Community Based Carbon Monitoring System for Kirisia Forest has been established and community resource persons trained in close collaboration with the CFAs. Kirisia Forest Carbon Monitoring System has been hinged and aligned to the National Forest Monitoring System. The strengthened capacity of CFAs and community resource persons improved the accuracy and efficiency of data collection for the forest monitoring system. The carbon value due to the regeneration and	
			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. The carbon monitoring report has been handed over to KFS and to the County Department of Environment & NRM. Samburu County Tourism Strategic Plan developed, printed, launched& disseminated.	
Output 4.2: Knowledge management system set up, informed by project review and evaluations (Project M&E formulated, MTR and FE undertake	 Number of Knowledge management systems set up Number of project evaluations conducted 	Final Evaluation (FE)	The project supported the development and/or enactment of several County level legislation, policies, strategies and plans supporting PFM. These include the Samburu County Tourism Strategic Plan (2022–2031); Samburu County Climate Change and Forest Conservation Management Policy which supports good management and conservation of natural resources; and the Community Conservancy Fund Act, 2020 which was enacted to give the Community Conservancies autonomy to operate independently under the leadership of an independent Board. These policies and legislations are valuable instruments that continue to inform the work of county policy makers. The policies represent the legal basis that allows the county governments to direct resources to implement SFM and related activities and to develop and enact laws and regulations. There is also a strong political goodwill from the national government which is likely to continue supporting the implementation of the new strategic plans and instruments on forest and wildlife conservation. These institutional achievements are robust enough to continue delivering benefits beyond the end of this project. Final Evaluation ToR Available	

			The final Project Terminal Evaluation Report	
		A. I	available	
Output 4.3:	Number of	At least 10 documentations	Kirisia CFA acquired and established an office	
Participatory communication	documentation	describing best practices,	space.	
for PFM and Traditional	collected/developed	lessons, indigenous		
Knowledge developed and		knowledge	Terminal Evaluation ToR	
documented			Community Capacity Building Booklet developed, printed & disseminated.	
			Bio-Cultural Protocols for Samburu Community in Kirisia developed, printed & disseminated.	
			Participatory Forest Management Plan developed, printed, launched & disseminated.	
			Forest Management Agreement (FMA) launched	
			and signed between KFS and Kirisia CFA	
			Samburu County Tourism Strategic Plan	
			developed, printed, launched & disseminated.	
			The strategy on designating Kirisia Forest as	
			Important Bird/Biodiversity Area (IBA) has been	
			ratified by the Global Secretariat and Kirisia Forest	
			as IBA has been listed in the Global IBA Website	
Outcome 5.0	Subsidiary legislation and o	uidelines for County level imple	mentation of the PFM National Policy of 2005 in plac	e informed by
Outcome 5.0	Community Bio-cultural co	·	mentation of the Frist National Folicy of 2005 in place	e informed by
Output 5.1:	Number of policies,	- At least 1 final bio-cultural	The Samburu County Climate Change Policy has	
Subsidiary legislation and	guidelines and protocols	community protocols	been developed and the related bills passed &	
guidelines for participatory	developed for approval;	available;	enacted into Act of the County Assembly	s
forest management submitted	developed for approval,	,	enacted into Act of the county Assembly	
to government for approval		- 3 county level policies related to PFM and NRM	The Samburu County Sustainable Forest Management & Tree Growing Policy has been	
		- 2 county-specific legislation	developed and the related bills passed & enacted	
		to guide the implementation	into Act of the County Assembly.	
		of the PFM policy of 2005	into rise of the country rissembly.	
		developed for approval;	The Samburu County 2022 – 2031 Tourism	
		F	Strategic Plan developed, ratified and launched.	

			The Kirisia Participatory Forest Management Plan and FMA developed to be launched and FMA ratified. The Bio-Cultural Protocols Booklet for Samburu Community in Kirisia has been developed, printed and disseminated.
Output 5.2: Advocacy/Awareness, County and National government lobbied to adopt the proposed policy reforms	Number of local community groups involved in advocacy;	- 60% of local community groups represented in the project site CFAs represented in county	Awareness and advocacy meetings with the community members, County and National political leaders on the importance of sustainable forest management in the Kirisia landscape has been done and it will continue in the remaining period. Awareness creation and information dissemination among the local community on participatory forest management and the role of CFAs through the local FM radios. 60% of the community reached through direct community meetings and through the vernacular FM radio talk shows

4. Summary on Progress and Ratings

Please provide a summary paragraph on progress, challenges and outcomes of project implementation consistent with the information reported in sections 2 and 3 of the PIR (max 400 words)

Project progress and outcomes of project implementation;

Kirisia Umbrella CFA was established and registeredand in collaboration with the National Government Interior Ministry and Suyan Trust, Kirisia CFA has acquired a well-equipped office space. Kirisia CFA has formally negotiated for user rights with KFS and the CFA generated income from honey, tree nurseries and tourism activities and used the income to support the activities of community scouts, procure a motorbike and graded an access road for use in the monitoring of the forest. Membership recruitment drive was initiated by the CFAs and the membership increased from 0 to 10,600 members. Capacity for Kirisia CFA and KFS has been strengthened and the dysfunctional relationships between them has been drastically improved. The volunteer forest scouts and a couple of other user groups have been recruited and registered as members of CFAs across all the three forest blocks.

A Tractor (110 HP), Trailer, 5000Ltr Capacity Water Boozer and motorbikes have been transferred/handed over to KFS (4), CGS (1) and KWS (1) to be used for forest management/conservation activities. Two (2) forest view towers for forest fire management and ecotourism have been constructed and the project procured and handed over 2 monitoring Drones to KFS. A 20 kms of forest access road was graded to ease forest monitoring and surveillance. The project also supported the construction of two station houses for Rangers/community scouts and provision of 6 ranger camping tents for the 3 blocks and procured assorted firefighting equipment and handed over to KFS.

The Samburu County Climate Change and Samburu County Sustainable Forest Management & Tree Growing Policies were developed and the related bills passed & enacted into Act of the County Assembly. The project supported on the development and review of the Samburu County Rangeland Management & Planned Grazing Policy as well as the related Act. The Samburu County 2022 – 2031 Tourism Strategic Plan developed, ratified and launched. The Kirisia Participatory Forest Management Plan and FMA developed to be launched and FMA ratified. The Bio-Cultural Protocols Booklet for Samburu Community in Kirisia has been developed, printed and disseminated.

The project rolled out an agroforestry campaign in Kirisia Ecosystem that reached out to 1,328 farmers who benefited from 88,340 fuel, timber & fodder and 17,264 fruit tree seedlings. Three (3) Water Resource Users Associations in Kirisia Water Tower established and three model springs identified participatorily and protected. Priority areas for natural regeneration and active rehabilitation have been mapped and the community scouts have been stationed to protect and monitor for improved regeneration. 5 business-oriented tree nurseries have been established for the CFAs to raise the needed seedlings that were used internally by CFAs and by KFS as well as other stakeholders to undertake restoration activities both in the forest/rangelands as well as for agroforestry at the household level.

The project supported the formation and establishment of grazing management committees in all the locations adjacent to Kirisia Forest and the traditional/elders' governance system reactivated. The CFA and KFS sensitized to integrate the HNRM plans and grazing agreements as an integral part of the

PFMPs. Advocacy meetings for communities and school children on PFM and the PFMP processes was created through school outreaches, local FM radios and community barazas.

The project and partners identified, mapped and established 2 critical wildlife migratory corridors that link Kirisia Forest and other Ecosystems. Nkoteiya Community Wildlife Conservancy Management Plan as a wildlife corridor developed and currently being implemented by NCC and mapping of high value biodiversity areas was also done. Mapped the Important biodiversity Areas which resulted to the designation of Kirisia Forest as an Important Bird/Biodiversity Area and ecotourism facilities for Nkoteiya eco-lodge improved. The procured 2 drones for monitoring and surveillance in both forests and wildlife areas.

Increased the production of honey through the provision of 225 beehives and assorted number of honey harvesting and processing gears to CFA honey user groups. The project supported the livelihood activities - honey production and processing by CFAs as well as agroforestry programme rolled out. Market linkages for the CFA user groups honey have been created via the social media forums, WFDs and WBDs celebrations where the CFA/honey user group members are invited/facilitated to participate and exhibit their work and products. The Samburu County 2022 – 2031 Tourism Strategic Plan developed, ratified and launched. Awareness and advocacy meetings with the community members, County and National political leaders on the importance of sustainable forest management in the Kirisia landscape has been continued in the reporting period. Awareness creation and information dissemination among the local community on participatory forest management and the role of CFAs through the local FM radios.

Challenges;

The delays in the development, review and closure of the LoAs by partners due to the Covid-19 restrictions and lockdowns. The prolonged drought - resulting to conflict over resource use in Kirisia forest and halted restoration activities.

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.

	FY2023 Development Objective rating ¹⁵	FY2023 Implementation Progress rating ¹⁶	Comments/reasons ¹⁷ justifying the ratings for FY2023 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 effect of this hitch was transferred to the successive fiscal years hence the general delay. 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 as well as the prolonged drought in Kenya and the project area has negatively impacted the smooth pace of implementation and slowed the trajectory to the achievement of results in the reporting period. However, the project was very successful in terms of awareness creation and securing the consensus amoung the various forest stakeholders, this achievement is key to aly the ground work for long term restoration of the forest. The project won the FAO 2022 Achievement Award for the strong community involvement in forest management.
Budget Holder	S	S	The project activities during this period under review were mainly focussed on securing the gains achieved by the project. The project strengthened the stakeholder foundation framework for long term sustainable management of Kirisia forest.
GEF Operational Focal Point ¹⁸			Ratings/comments

¹⁵ **Development Objectives Rating** – A rating of the extent to which a project is expected to achieve or exceed its major objectives. For more information on ratings and definitions, please refer to Annex 1.

¹⁶ **Implementation Progress Rating** – A rating of the extent to which the implementation of a project's components and activities is in compliance with the projects approved implementation plan. For more information on ratings and definitions, please refer to Annex 1.

¹⁷ Please ensure that the ratings are based on evidence

¹⁸ In case the GEF OFP didn't provide his/her comments, please explain the reason.

Lead Technical	S	S	The project has managed to ensure all enabling conditions have been put in place, such as policies and restoration action plans and through the registration of the Kirisia CFA and the FMA validation, long-term impact can be ensured through partnerships.
Officer ¹⁹			The project has managed to deliver against all components of the project and valuable lessons should be shared (incl through national partners and FLR knowledge base under finalization by KEFRI under TRI project). The project also handed over important equipment necessary for long-term monitoring and implementation of FLR actions.
GEF Technical Officer, GTO (ex Technical FLO)	S	S	In the reporting period, the project managed to deliver on outstanding activities and launched the terminal evaluation process. Terminal evaluation results and lessons learned should be duly shared and be used to inform especially other ongoing FAO-GEF projects in Kenya (GEF ID 9556 & 10598).

 $^{^{\}rm 19}$ The LTO will consult the HQ technical officer and all other supporting technical Units.

5. Environmental and Social Safeguards (ESS)

This section is under the responsibility of the LTO (PMU to draft)

Please describe the progress made to comply with the approved ESM plan. Note that only projects with <u>moderate</u> or <u>high</u> Environmental and Social Risk, approved from June 2015 should have submitted an ESM plan/table at CEO endorsement. This does not apply to <u>low</u> risk projects. Please indicate if new risks have emerged during this FY.

Social & Environmental Risk Impacts identified at CEO Endorsement	Expected mitigation measures	Actions taken during this FY	Remaining measures to be taken	Responsibility
ESS 1: Natural Resource Management				
ESS 2: Biodiversity, Ecosystems and Natural Habita	ts			
ESS 3: Plant Genetic Resources for Food and Agricu	lture			
ESS 4: Animal - Livestock and Aquatic - Genetic Res	ources for Food and Agricultur	е		
ESS 5: Pest and Pesticide Management				
ESS 6: Involuntary Resettlement and Displacement				
	ESIA Report recommendations	Report shared with KFS	KFS to establish Social safeguards focal point and grievance and redress mechanism	KFS
ESS 7: Decent Work				
ESS 8: Gender Equality				
ESS 9: Indigenous Peoples and Cultural Heritage				

New ESS risks that have emerged during this FY							

In case the project did not include an ESM Plan at CEO endorsement stage, please indicate:

Initial ESS Risk classification (At project submission)	Current ESS risk classification Please indicate if the Environmental and Social Risk classification is still valid ²⁰ . If not, what is the new classification and explain.
Moderate	Moderate

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.
No

²⁰ **Important:** please note that if the Environmental and Social Risk classification has changed, the ESM Unit (<u>Esm-unit@fao.org</u>) should be contacted. The project shall prepare or amend an Environmental and Social Management Plan (ESMP) or other ESS instruments and management tools based on the new risk classification (please refer to page 13 https://www.fao.org/3/cb9870en/cb9870en.pdf)

6. Risks

The following table summarizes risks identified in the Project Document and reflects also any new risks identified during the project implementation (including COVID-19 related risks). The last column should be used to provide additional details concerning manifestation of the risk in the project, as relevant.

	Type of risk	Risk rating ²¹	Identified in the ProDoc Y/N	Mitigation Actions	Progress on mitigation actions	Notes from the Budget Holder in consultation with Project Management Unit
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	Yes	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	

²¹ Risk ratings means a rating of the overall risk of factors internal or external to the project which may affect implementation or prospects for achieving project objectives. Risk of projects should be rated on the following scale: Low, Moderate, Substantial or High. For more information on ratings and definitions please refer to Annex 1.

	Type of risk	Risk rating ²¹	Identified in the ProDoc Y/N	Mitigation Actions	Progress on mitigation actions	Notes from the Budget Holder in consultation with Project Management Unit
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	Yes	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	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	
3	There is a risk that the ecological characteristics of Leroghi and group ranch forests will make forest	Low	Yes	governance systems. 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	has been completed. Natural regeneration occur in areas with protection and ecological integrity is still enough for revival of the ecosystem	

	Type of risk	Risk rating ²¹	Identified in the ProDoc Y/N	Mitigation Actions	Progress on mitigation actions	Notes from the Budget Holder in consultation with Project Management Unit
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	Yes	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	Yes	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.	The National and County Government are supported to develop Climate Change & Rangeland Management Policies and the related Legislations to enable mechanisms to be put in place to combat land degradation and strengthen mechanisms to cope with the effects/impact caused by extreme climate	

	Type of risk	Risk rating ²¹	Identified in the ProDoc Y/N	Mitigation Actions	Progress on mitigation actions	Notes from the Budget Holder in consultation with Project Management Unit
6	COVID-19 Pandemic: 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	No	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.

	Type of risk	Risk rating ²¹	Identified in the ProDoc Y/N	Mitigation Actions	Progress on mitigation actions	Notes from the Budget Holder in consultation with Project Management Unit
7	Desert Locust 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	No	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):

FY2022	FY2023	Comments/reason for the rating for FY2023 and any changes (positive or negative) in the rating since the previous			
rating	rating	reporting period			
Medium	Medium	This 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. Follow-up on Mid-term review or supervision mission (only for projects that have conducted an MTR)

If the project had an MTR or a supervision mission, please report on how the recommendations were implemented during this fiscal year as indicated in the Management Response or in the supervision mission report.

MTR or supervision mission				
recommendations	Measures implemented during this Fiscal Year			
Recommendation 1:				
Undertake an independent rapid assessment of the movement of people, establish grievance redress mechanisms, safeguards and where necessary mitigation strategies.	The project has intentionally focused on including members of the community who were voluntary moving out of the forest in livelihood activities such as tree nurseries and agroforestry campaign. Community shouts has also been supported to be more involved in the patrolling of the forest through joint patrolling with KFS to ensure that the communities utilizing the forest are respected and that their voice is heard by KFS.			
Recommendation 2: 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,	The development of the participatory Forest Management Plans (PFMPs) has been completed. These plans have given legally binding Forest Management Agreements (FMAs) for each of the Kirisia CFA. KFS and FAO have facilitate CFAs to have a strong and informed joint voice in the forest management by joining the three CFAs into one umbrella CFA which is the requirement as per the 2005 forest act (one CFA per forest station). Forest Management Agreements includes a strong focus on real incentives			
responsibilities and benefits of communities secure.	for the local community members to get engaged in the PFM process and also include tangible and sustainable rights for forest adjacent communities to utilize natural resources within the forest in a sustainable manner.			
Recommendation 3: 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.	Project stakeholders demonstrated strong ownership (commitment, interest, and part of) of the Project interventions and achievements and therefore there is a likelihood that accrued benefits and results of the project will continue to be useful and will remain even after the end of the Project. The project supported the development and/or enactment of several County level legislation, policies, strategies and plans supporting PFM. These include the Samburu County Tourism Strategic Plan (2022–2031); Samburu County Climate Change and Forest Conservation Management Policy which supports good management and conservation of natural resources; and the Community Conservancy Fund Act, 2020 which was enacted to give the Community Conservancies autonomy to operate independently under the leadership of an independent Board. These policies and legislations are valuable instruments that can continue informing the work of county policy makers. The policies represent the legal basis that allow the county governments to direct resources to implement SFM and related activities and to develop and enact laws and regulations. There was also a strong political goodwill from the national government which is likely to continue supporting the implementation of the new strategic plans and instruments on forest and wildlife conservation. These institutional achievements are robust enough to continue delivering benefits beyond the end of this project.			

Has the project developed an Exit	No
Strategy? If yes, please summarize	NO

8. Minor project amendments

Minor amendments are changes to the project design or implementation that do not have significant impact on the project objectives or scope, or an increase of the GEF project financing up to 5% as described in Annex 9 of the GEF Project and Program Cycle Policy Guidelines²². Please describe any minor changes that the project has made under the relevant category or categories and provide supporting documents as an annex to this report if available.

Category of change	Provide a description of the change	Indicate the timing of the change	Approved by
Results framework			
Components and cost			
Institutional and implementation arrangements			
Financial management			
Implementation schedule	NTE	From 31 st December 2022 to 31 st March 2023	BH / GEF CU
Executing Entity			
Executing Entity Category			
Minor project objective change			
Safeguards			
Risk analysis			
Increase of GEF project financing up to 5%			
Co-financing			
Location of project activity			
Other minor project amendment (define)			

²² Source: https://www.thegef.org/council-meeting-documents/guidelines-project-and-program-cycle-policy-2020-update

9. Stakeholders' Engagement

Please report on progress and results and challenges on stakeholder engagement (based on the description of the Stakeholder engagement plan) included at CEO Endorsement/Approval <u>during this reporting period</u>.

Stakeholder name Type of partnership		Progress and results on Stakeholders' Engagement	Challenges on stakeholder engagement			
Government institutions						
Ministry of Environment and Forestry (MoEF) being the chair of the Project Steering Committee	Provide leadership and political good will to the project and all partners Chairing the PSC meetings	Chaired the Project Steering Committee (PSC) Meeting 2021 in Maralal on the 2 nd Dec. 2022.	-			
County Government of Samburu	Environmental/NRM conservation and tourism	- Participated in all the project activities in the reporting period - Provided leadership in the development of the County CC & Forest Management Policies and the related legislations - Participated & provided the technical expertise in the agro-forestry program	-			
Kenya Forest Service (KFS)	- Coverage & Management of forests - Lead agency in the implementation of GEF-5 Project	- Implementing an ongoing LoA on PFMPs and Restoration of Kirisia forest - Sensitization Meetings for the Election and/or Nomination of Local Planning Team Members for the 3 CFAs in Kirisia Forest	-			
Kenya Wildlife Service (KWS)	Wildlife Management in the country and county	- Knowledge Exchange/Transfer Visit for Nkoteiya Community Conservancy Board to Learn from Best Practices in the Management of Community Conservancies - Benchmarking Tour for learning of best practice by key partners in the development of Samburu County Tourism Strategic Plan to Maasai Mara Conservancies and Game Reserve	-			
National Environmental Management Authority (NEMA)	Environmental Management and Governance	Participated in all the project activities in the reporting period - Provided technical expertise in the development of the County CC & Forest Management Policies and the related legislations	-			
Kenya Water Towers Agency (KWTA)	Coverage and management of Water Towers	Implementing the LoA on the protection of water springs in Kirisia Forest	-			

NGOs ²³			
East Africa Wildlife Society (EAWLS)	- Train the CFAs and User Groups on enterprise development - develop viable enterprises for the CFAs/User Groups	Implementing an LoA on CFAs Enterprises Development	-
BOMA Project	Implementing livelihood and NRM program for women in Kirisia	Implemented an going NRM Project in Kirisia forest	-
Private sector entities			•
Suyan Trust	- Creating awareness through environmental education/advocacy - Protection of Kirisia forest as a water tower through tree planting and alternative livelihoods	- Supported livelihood interventions for CFAs and the scouts - Facilitated the scouts and CFAs to protect the forest from fires	-
Northern Rangelands Trust (NRT)	Sustainable management of rangelands and wildlife in the Samburu Landscape	Supported on the development of livelihood interventions for women and youth - Supported the implementation of the Nkoteiya Community Conservancy Management Plan - Provided leadership in the development of the Samburu Tourism Strategic Plan	-
Others ²⁴			T
Kirisia CFA with 3 forest blocks (Naramat, Nkarro & Nailiepunye)	Legal/registered Local Community Structures to represent the forest adjacent communities in the co-management of Kirisia Forest	Implementing 3 LoAs on organizational development and governance, forest restoration and agroforestry	-

²³ Non-government organizations

²⁴ They can include, among others, community-based organizations (CBOs), Indigenous Peoples organizations, women's groups, private sector companies, farmers, universities, research institutions, and all major groups as identified, for example, in Agenda 21 of the 1992 Rio Earth Summit and many times again since then

10.Gender Mainstreaming

Information on Progress on Gender-responsive measures as documented at CEO Endorsement/Approval in the gender action plan or equivalent (when applicable) <u>during this reporting period.</u>

Category	Yes/No	Briefly describe progress and results achieved during this reporting period.
Gender analysis or an equivalent socio- economic assessment made at formulation or during execution stages.	Yes	- 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.
Any gender-responsive measures to address gender gaps or promote gender equality and women's empowerment? Indicate in which results area(s) the proje design stage):	Yes ct is expec	- Ensure the 2/3 gender rule is observed in constituting the community leadership and engagement structures e.g. CFA leadership Committee, Community Forest Scouts, sted to contribute to gender equality (as identified at project
 a) closing gender gaps in access to and control over natural resources 	Yes	- closing gender gaps in access to and control over forest resources
b) improving women's participation and decision making	Yes	- 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)
c) generating socio-economic benefits or services for women	Yes	- Supporting women groups in NTFPs enterprises and promoting commercialization on traditionally women dominated NTFPs (e.g. the project is supporting the CFAs to establish four 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 resources utilization and conservation, a traditionally male dominated domain).
M&E system with gender-disaggregated data?	Yes	- 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
Staff with gender expertise	Yes	All staff in the project has undergone gender training and the FAO gender focal point is part of the management team.
Any other good practices on gender	No	

11. Knowledge Management Activities

Knowledge activities / products (when applicable), as outlined in Knowledge Management Approach approved at CEO Endorsement / Approval, <u>during this reporting period</u>.

Does the project have a knowledge management strategy? 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.

As at now, the project does not have a knowledge management strategy. 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 the decision made 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.

Does the project have a communication strategy? Please provide a brief overview of the communications successes and challenges this year.

Yes; the project has a communication strategy. The communication strategy is built on the following overall objectives;

- To create awareness on the importance of Kirisia Forest to the people of Samburu and neighboring counties.
- To document indigenous knowledge and use it for partnership in managing the forest
- To begin to foster lasting equitable collaboration with the partners in managing and protecting the forest for future

The project has managed to produce an awareness booklet for adults and an awareness comic book for school going children to be used to increase awareness of the importance of Kirisia forest.

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

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

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. Please indicate any Socioeconomic Co-benefits that







were generated by the project. Include at least one beneficiary quote and perspective, and please also include related photos and photo credits.

Establishment of Clonal Garden for fruit trees at Songoroi Tree Nursery







Evidence of return of wildlife in Kirisia and within the restored migratory corridors linking Kirisia and other Landscapes





Kirisia Forest designated as Important Bird Area / Important Biodiversity Area



Poultry hubs established in three locations around Kirisia forest to improve livelihoods of forest dependent women and youth





Tree nursery trainings, grafting trainings and establishement of fruit tree clonal gardens in Women led tree nurseries around Kirisia Forest



The Chairman of Kirisia Community Forest Asociation recievening the FAO Global Achievement Award 2022 from FAO Director General

Please provide links to related website, social media account

http://datazone.birdlife.org/site/factsheet/kirisia-forest-iba-kenya

https://minorityafrica.org/we-paid-the-price-how-a-voluntary-forest-restoration-in-kenya-ended-a-decades-long-security-problem/

https://twitter.com/FAOKenya/status/1641068751406628865

https://twitter.com/FAOKenya/status/1640396276163289089

https://twitter.com/FAOKenya/status/1640389380681465858

	https://twitter.com/FAOKenya/status/1583361029794598912 https://twitter.com/FAODG/status/1580847928020590592
	https://twitter.com/FAOKenya/status/1580482374638669824
	https://twitter.com/FAOKenya/status/1575768745183567878
	https://twitter.com/FAOKenya/status/1574359744147771392
	https://twitter.com/FAOKenya/status/1568102315239899136
Please provide a list of publications, leaflets, video	Online // Date of the control of the
materials, newsletters, or other communications assets	https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=DWtslaGVf_U
communications assets published on the web.	Offline publications
	Kirisia Gender Analysis
	GEF-5 Baseline report
	Kirisia Ecosystem Management plan
	Kirisia/Leroghi Participatory Forest Management Plan
	Kirisia/Leroghi Participatory Forest Management Plan: Popular Version
	Kirisia/Leroghi Forest Management Agreement
	Kirisia Ecosystem Restoration Strategy
	 Samburu County Sustainable Forest Management & Tree growing policy.
	Samburu County Sustainable Forest Management & Tree growing Act
	Samburu County Climate Change Policy
	Samburu County Climate Change Act
	 Samburu County Rangeland Management and Planned Grazing Policy Samburu County Tourism Strategic Plan
	Kirisia Forest Biodiversity Baseline Report
	Kirisia/Samburu Bio-cultural Protocol Report
	Kirisia Forest Awareness booklet
	Kirisia Forest Childrens Awareness comic book
	Nkoteiya Community Conservancy Management Plan
	Kirisia Forest Wildlife Corridor Report
	Community Based Carbon Monitoring System for Kirisia (Leroghi) Forest
	Aloe Income Generation Strategy
	Sustainable Charcoal Production Strategy
	Project Mid Term Review
	Project Terminal Review
	Environmental and Social Impact Assessment (ESIA) Report
Please indicate the	Othieno, Joseph (FAOKE), (National Communication Specialist)
Communication and/or	Joseph.Othieno@fao.org
knowledge management focal	
point's name and contact	
details	

12. Indigenous Peoples and Local Communities Involvement

Are Indigenous Peoples and local communities involved in the project (as per the approved Project Document)? If yes, please briefly explain.

If applicable, 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. Securing Free Prior and Informed Consent is critical for implementation of sustainable forest management projects and it has been a continuous process in the engagement of the CFA and community leaders in the implementation of all project activities.

Gender roles in forest management and utilization of forest products as well as indigenous knowledge in forest management has been deeply analyzed and has provided much needed information on how to engage communities in the sustainable forest management and utilization in a traditional pastoral setting.

From the baseline studies, it has been been established that Kirisia forest is the critical nesting site for Rüppell's Vulture (*Gyps rueppelli*) classified as critically endangered bird species in the IUCN Red list. The project used this information to support habitat protection measures and to designate and register Kirisia Forest as a globally recognized Important Bird Area/Important Biodiversity Area (IBA). This process called for intensive community engagement and involvement in order to generate information that enabled the achievement of this project milestone. Indigenous knowledge and their institutions memory was incorporated in forest management plans.

Do indigenous peoples and or local communities have an active participation in the project activities? If yes, briefly describe how.

Local communities have been actively involved in the implementation of the project. Large-scale sensitization and consultation meetings were held with communities around the forest to identify the best design of implementation of PFM. Communities elected the leadership of the community forest association, and the CFA has been actively involved in most project activities e.g. forest restoration, livelihood development, agroforestry campaign, development of forest management plan and forest management agreement. The community was also given three contracts to directly implement activities within the project.

13. Co-Financing Table

Sources of Co- financing ²⁵	Name of Co- financer	Type of Co- financing ²⁶	Amount Confirmed at CEO endorsement / approval	Actual Amount Materialized at 31 March 2023	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	
National Government	Forestry Research Institute (KEFRI)	In kind	500,000	173,741.39	173,741.39	
National Government	Kenya Wildlife Service (KWS)	In kind	500,000	278,434.67	208,826.00	
National Government	Kenya Water Towers Agency (KWTA)	In kind	-	6,000.00	-	
National Government	NG-CDF – Samburu West Constituency	In kind		24,500.00	-	
National Government	Kenya Forest Working Group	In kind	800,000	-	-	
Multi-Lateral	FAO	In kind	3,446,178	2,803,822.64	1,236,980.58	
County Government	County Government of Samburu	In kind	2,515,000	319,417.00	300,000.00	

²⁵Sources of Co-financing may include: GEF Agency, Donor Agency, Recipient Country Government, Private Sector, Civil Society Organization, Beneficiaries, Other.

https://www.thegef.org/sites/default/files/documents/GEF_FI_GN_01_Cofinancing_Guidelines_2018.pdf

²⁶Grant, Loan, Equity Investment, Guarantee, In-Kind, Public Investment, Other (please refer to the *Guidelines on co-financing* for definitions

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	Northern	In kind	-	5,000.00	97,483.00	
TNC	Rangeland Trust					
	(NRT)					
TNC	Suyan Trust	In kind	-	50,400.00	-	
	Community	In kind	414,000	203,883.50		
СВО	Forestry				-	
	Associations					
		TOTAL	8,675,178	4,165,199.20	2,166,254.85	

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

Annex 1. – GEF Performance Ratings Definitions

Development Objectives Rating	g. A rating of the extent to which a project is expected to achieve or exceed its major objectives.
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	Project is expected to achieve its major global environmental objectives with major shortcomings or is expected to achieve only some of its
(MU)	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

<u>Implementation Progress Rating</u> . A rating of the extent to which the implementation of a project's components and activities is in compliance with the project's approved implementation plan.				
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	Implementation of some components is not in substantial compliance with the original/formally revised plan with most components			
(MU)	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.			

<u>Risk rating</u> will assess the overall risk of factors internal or external to the project which may affect implementation or prospects for achieving project objectives. Risk of projects should be rated on the following scale:			
High Risk (H)	There is a probability of greater than 75% that assumptions may fail to hold or materialize, and/or the project may face high risks.		
Substantial Risk (S)	There is a probability of between 51% and 75% that assumptions may fail to hold or materialize, and/or the project may face substantial risks		
Moderate Risk (M)	There is a probability of between 26% and 50% that assumptions may fail to hold or materialize, and/or the project may face only moderate risk		
Low Risk (L)	There is a probability of up to 25% that assumptions may fail to hold or materialize, and/or the project may face only low risks		

Annex 2.

GEO LOCATION INFORMATION

The Location Name, Latitude and Longitude are required fields insofar as an Agency chooses to enter a project location under the set format. The Geo Name ID is required in instances where the location is not exact, such as in the case of a city, as opposed to the exact site of a physical infrastructure. The Location & Activity Description fields are optional. Project longitude and latitude must follow the Decimal Degrees WGS84 format and Agencies are encouraged to use at least four decimal points for greater accuracy. Users may add as many locations as appropriate. Web mapping applications such as OpenStreetMap or GeoNames use this format. Consider using a conversion tool as needed, such as: https://coordinates-converter.com Please see the Geocoding User Guide by clicking here

Location Name	Latitude	Longitude	Geo Name ID	Location & Activity Description

Please provide any further geo-referenced information and map where the project interventions is taking place as appropriate.