Project Implementation Report (PIR)

01/07/2023– 30/06/2024

Reviving High Quality Coffee to Stimulate Climate Adaptation in Smallholder Farming Communities in the Democratic Republic of the Congo and Uganda

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A. Basic Data

Project Information	
IUCN Project ID	P03474
GEF ID	GEF ID 10432
Title	Reviving high quality coffee to stimulate climate adaptation in smallholder farming communities
Country(ies)	Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC) & Uganda
Regional Programme	Regional
Global Thematic Programme	Climate Change
Joint Agency (if relevant)	International Union for Conservation of Nature
Executing Agency(ies)	Nestlé-Nespresso (note with TechnoServe (TNS) as an implementer in DRC and Kyagalanyi Coffee Limited (KCL) as an implementer in Uganda)
Project Type	Medium Sized Project

Project Description
The project *Reviving High Quality Coffee to Stimulate Climate Adaptation in Smallholder Farming Communities Opportunity* aims to increase incomes and improve resilience to climate change for smallholder coffee farming households in **South Kivu, DRC** and in the **Masaka region of Uganda**. With the advance of climate change and its impacts on DRC and Uganda's vulnerable rain-fed, agricultural sectors, it is imperative that coffee farming households (smallholder farmers) have the knowledge and resources to ensure their farms are resilient and can protect their livelihoods into the future.

The goal of this GEF project is to reduce poverty and improve resilience to climate change for 3,500 smallholder coffee farming households in South Kivu, Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC), and for 2,200 smallholder coffee farming households in Masaka, Uganda. While the two interventions share the objectives and outcomes below, there are some small differences between the two sites: the DRC project has an additional focus on improving household nutrition, while the project in Uganda has an additional component supporting energy efficient cookstoves.

The project was initiated by Nestlé-Nespresso and receives execution support from TechnoServe in DRC and Kyagalanyi Coffee Limited (KCL) in Uganda. The project has 3 Components:

1) **Component 1**: Resilient agricultural livelihoods
2) **Component 2**: Equitably support smallholder coffee farming households through Nespresso's responsible sourcing approach
3) **Component 3**: Knowledge sharing

The Components support the following Outcomes:

- **Outcome 1.1:** Increased climate resilience of coffee farming households in DRC and Uganda
- **Outcome 2.1**: Enhanced capacity of women in the coffee supply chain to translate their participation into economic empowerment
- **Outcome 2.2**: Direct access to the coffee supply chain through the AAA Sustainable Quality program supporting coffee farmers with the commitment for long term sourcing intention
- **Outcome 3.1**: Information and learnings from the projects are shared to inform other programs and initiatives by relevant stakeholders |

Project Contacts	
Portfolio Manager (Implementing Agency)	Joshua Schneck
Global Thematic Lead (Implementing Agency)	Elena Mendoza
Project Manager (Executing Agency)	Andrew KOVARIK (TechnoServe – DRC) Geert Jan Heusinkveld, sustainability manager, Kyagalanyi Coffee Ltd (KCL)

	Deo Kisali, Masaka scheme manager Kyagalanyi Coffee Ltd (KCL)
GEF Operational Focal Point	Jason Spensley, Senior Specialist, Climate Change

B. Overall Ratings

Overall Development Outcomes Rating[1]	Satisfactory
Overall Implementation Rating[2]	Satisfactory
Overall Risk Rating[3]	Moderate risk

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[1] This section will use the scale used by the GEF and outlined in Annex L of this document: 1) Highly satisfactory, 2) Satisfactory, 3) Moderately Satisfactory, 4) Moderately Unsatisfactory, 5) Unsatisfactory, 6) Highly Unsatisfactory

[2] Idem

[3] This section will use the scale used by the GEF and outlined in the Annex of this document: 1) High Risk, 2) Substantial Risk, 3) Moderate Risk, 4) Low Risk

C. Outcomes achievements and outputs delivery

To date, the project has performed well, despite flooding in DRC and other operational challenges including a late start in Uganda due to a change in location and delayed contracting between IUCN, Nestlé-Nespresso and the implementer (Kyagalanyi Coffee Limited – KCL), resulting in key planting seasons being missed. The Uganda project started operations late but is now progressing well. The project in DRC began implementation in June 2022 and has been outperforming targets and has completed implementation with the final training module ending in April 2024 for the 2022 cohort. **Financial and administrative closeout in DRC will be completed by October 30th, 2024.** Local engagement is strong in both the DRC and Uganda, with both communities and government agencies showing a keen interest and appreciation for the work.

Additional detail on project-supported work in DRC:

The DRC project has been **out-performing** project objectives and targets. Since its **launch in June 2022**, the project increased climate resilience of coffee farming households through organization of monthly agronomy trainings through two farmer field-based AAA Academy cohorts.[4] With project support, AAA Agronomists deliver lessons every month to small, self-selected **Focal Farmer Groups (FFGs)** of roughly 25 farming households. **AAA Agronomists** were recruited from the local communities and trained. Notably, nearly half of the AAA Agronomists are women. **Since July 2022, the project has trained 4,360 households[5] to apply climate-resilient practices, and 4,809 farmers including 2,501 female farmers (52%) on regenerative agriculture practices** and the project has **established 156 FFG demonstration plots in South Kivu**. The AAA Academy provided monthly trainings session to coffee farming households (HH) on regenerative agricultural practices that increased biodiversity, enriched soil health, improved watersheds, and enhanced ecosystem services. The climate resilient trainings included topics such as composting, rejuvenation, IPM, erosion control and climate resilience.

During the reporting period the project provided training on improved land cover on smallholder coffee farms and surrounding landscapes. In October 2023 training the 2022 Cohort was trained on Soil erosion prevention and shade trees and woodlot nurseries planting, 72 FFGs were trained to produce *Albizia gummifera* (shade) and *Markhamia lutea* (woodlot) seedlings. Albizia and Markhamia are tree species native to eastern Congo and adapted to the local environment and soils, which were selected due its suitability for farmer needs. After the tree-planting training in March 2024, a total of 7,451 *Markhamia* seedlings and 4,281 *Albizia* seedlings were distributed to 779 (392 women) for planting on their own farms.

For the training cohort launched in 2022, the project completed three training modules to stimulate uptake in essential nutrition behaviors through a pilot training on household nutrition and kitchen gardens. After contextualizing the nutrition training modules for DRC, the project began the introductory nutrition training module, *Household Nutrition and Balanced Diet* in April 2023. Additional trainings on planting kitchen gardens took place in August and September 2023. A total of 1,922 (1,084 women) producers attended at least one of the three trainings.

Additional detail on project-supported work in Uganda:

The project started late in Uganda (the delayed inception workshop was held in **April 2023**), as Nestlé-Nespresso requested a change from the original location, from the Mt Elgon area to the Masaka region. The reason for this change was a change in demand from Nespresso based on the coffee profile. The new area (Masaka) faces fewer potential ESMS risks - the Masaka site has larger more professional farmers and operates in a less forested area.

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[4] The 2021 Minova Cohort was started in July 2021 and GEF funding for activities began in June 2022 and ended in July 2023. The 2022 Kalehe cohort started in July 2022 and in Avril 2024. 2,551 households were trained on regenerative practices (49% women) under the 2021 Minova cohort and 1,809 households were trained under the Kalehe 2022 Cohort.

[5] This is for all trainings, the definition of trained is that Households have attended at least half of the topics presented

At this moment, outputs / outcomes are expected to stay broadly the same. The outputs and outcomes for the Masaka project were aligned to the new geographical area, budget, workplan, and the shorter overall project duration. Furthermore, there were delays in contracting between the parties, which resulted in the project missing the main planting window. The project has now started, and has identified and recruited relevant resources, including staff, to begin delivering the objective. The project is now making good progress: KCL has a field team in place, led by scheme manager, supported by a project coordinator, a gender coordinator and field officers. Regular project progress calls are held at field office level as well as meetings with involvement of the KCL Kampala team. KCL aims to implement the project in line with the workplan.

Please fill in the table below building on your result framework.

Objective 1: Resilient agricultural livelihoods							
Outcomes *(Copy and paste outcomes from Result Framework)*	**Indicators**	**Baseline**	**Midterm Target**	**End of project Target**	**Periodic Result (01/07/2023-30/06/2024)**	**Result to Date (from project start)**	**Progress rating (HS, S,MS,MU,U, SU)**
Outcome 1.1: Increased climate resilience of coffee farming households in DRC and Uganda	NA	NA	NA	NA	Program continues to perform.	Program has performed well to-date.	**HS**
Outputs *(Copy and paste outputs from Result Framework)*	**Indicators**	**Baseline**	**Midterm Target**	**End of project Target**	**Periodic Result (01/07/2022-30/06/2023)**	**Result to Date (from project start)**	**Implementation status (%)**
Output 1.1. Coffee farming households have the skills and knowledge to apply regenerative, climate resilient, agriculture practices	**Target 1.1**: In DRC 3,500 coffee farming households are trained (at least 40% women) In Uganda 2'200 coffee farming households are trained	0	NA	**DRC:** 3,500 coffee farming HH (40% women) **UG:** 2,200 coffee farming HH (40% women)	**DRC:** C2021 Minova – 2,551 HH attended training (48% women) C2022 Kalehe – 1,809 HH trained (58% women) **Total – 4,360 HH trained** **Uganda (UG):** Number of farming households trained: 2,200 in 171 group trainings delivered with 3,183 attendees. 2,120 male (399 youth), 1'063 females.	**DRC:** C2021 Minova – 2,551 HH attended training (48% women) C2022 Kalehe – 1,809 HH trained (58% women) **Total – 4,360 HH trained** **Uganda:** 2,200 HH trained.	**HS**

	(at least 40% women)						
Output 1.2 Demonstration (demo) plots and model farms are implemented throughout the landscapes to promote climate resilient coffee production	**Target 1.2** In DRC, 80 demo plots will be established In Uganda, 88 demo plots and 9 model farms will be established [Note: For the project in Masaka KCL had agreed to focus on model farms and agreed on establishment of 30 model farms]	0	NA	**DRC:** 80 demo plots **UG:** [to be updated: 88 demo plots, 9 model farms]	**DRC: 156 demo plots** **Uganda:** KCL is finalising agreements regarding the 30 model farms that are under the project. In the next 6-month report KCL will share an update on the model farms and their locations. Regarding individual farm trainings & assessments, this is an ongoing exercise as part of the individual household trainings for Rainforest Alliance (RA) verification and the Nespresso AAA TASQ assessment. In the next 6-month report KCL will share an update based on the list of farmers that are under the project. KCL has established 30 model farms. These model farms were set up in collaboration with the owners of the farm. Each farm has been outfitted with a signpost.	**DRC:** 156 demo plots **Uganda:** 30 model farms	**HS**
Output 1.3 Improved land cover on smallholder coffee farms and surrounding landscapes	**Target 1.3** In DRC 2,000 coffee farming households receive training on nurseries for indigenous	0	NA	**DRC:** C2021 Minova 2,000 C2022 Kalehe 1,500	**DRC:** **2,548 farmers including 1,420 female farmers** were trained on woodlot establishment for cohort 2022 **3,011 farmers including 1,663 female farmers** were trained on	**DRC:** **4,057 famers (including 1,953 female)** were trained on climate change and shade tree nurseries for cohort 2021 **3,011 farmers (including 1,663 female)** were trained on	**S**

| | shade trees, including access to shade tree seedlings (including for on-farm woodlots to complement incomes) In DRC: 1,500 coffee farming households are provided a refresher agronomy course including shade tree production and management to complement an existing training

In Uganda: reforestation of 150 acres in critical areas in the landscape, 1'650 coffee farming households improve erosion | | | **UG:** 150 acres, 1'650 HH work on erosion control, 1'760 HH use environmental tools, 2'200 energy saving stoves | climate change and shade tree nurseries for cohort 2022

Uganda:
KCL has started with setting up 2 coffee nurseries / mother gardens in the Masaka area. Locations have been identified and rental agreements signed. KCL also has rejuvenated its existing Robusta mother garden in Nakanyonyi north of Kampala. The idea is to use cuttings from this mother garden for the nurseries in Masaka, UCDA (government) approval permitting. KCL is also assessing the purchase of cuttings in the Masaka region, from UCDA (government) approved nurseries.

Regarding managing erosion control on farms: famers will be identified from the total number of project farmers. In the next 6-month report KCL will share an update based on the list of farmers that are under the project.

Regarding the use of farm environment improvement tools: A service provider for the environmental tools concept development has been identified and contracted. Research and cocreation activities were carried | climate change and shade tree nurseries for cohort 2022

Total – 7,068 farmers (including 3,616 female) trained on climate change and shade trees

3,768 farmers (including 1,817 female) were trained on woodlot establishment for cohort 2021

2,548 farmers (including 1,007 female) were trained on woodlot establishment for cohort 2022

Total – 6,316 farmers (including 3,237 female) were trained on woodlot establishment

Uganda:

151 trained on erosion control (9%)

Energy saving stoves, target achieved in year one with 44% of the target of 2'200 | |

	control on farms, 1'760 coffee farming households use farm environment improvement tools, 2'200 energy saving stoves are constructed

[Note: the reforestation aspect was removed from the Uganda project after it was shifted to Masaka] | | | | out in the last quarter of 2023. Based on that, tools were designed and are now ready for production and use. KCL plans to have the production finished by mid-August.

Regarding the construction of energy savings stoves: Stoves construction organisation was identified. Staff / coffee youth team training in preparation, as well as the stove building offer for farmers. Total target to be adjusted considering increased cost of materials.

In collaboration with a sub-contractor KCL has set up a coffee nursery in Lwengo district, Masaka area. A rental agreement with the subcontractor was signed.

KCL has rejuvenated its existing Robusta mother garden in Nakanyonyi north of Kampala. The idea was to use cuttings from this mother garden for the nurseries in Masaka. Unfortunate UCDA (government) did not approve this. KCL is considering establishing a mother garden, budget permitting, while continuing with the production of seedlings.

Regarding managing erosion control on farms, 14 Trainings on | | |

				integrated soil fertility management covering topics on Mulching, use of cover crops, shade management and fertilizer application were delivered, training 156 farmers. Regarding the construction of energy savings stoves: a stove construction organisation was identified and contracted. Staff and coffee youth teams were trained, and stoves were constructed. Number of stoves constructed: 973 energy savings stoves have been constructed.		
Output 1.4 Uptake of essential nutritional behaviors amongst coffee farming households in the Kalehe territory of DRC	**Target 1.4** 1,500 coffee farming households in DRC (with a target of 40% women) – who have already participated in AAA Academy – participate in a 12-month	0	NA	**DRC:** 1,500 (HH, 40% women)	**DRC: 3,008 producers (**including 1,661 female) were trained on household nutrition **Uganda:** not applicable	**DRC: 3,008 producers (**including 1,661 female) were trained on household nutrition **Uganda:** not applicable	**HS** **DRC:** 201% **UG:** N/A

	training program that includes modules focused on improving household nutrition (intercropping, kitchen gardens, consumption of nutritious foods)						

DRC:

The monthly AAA Academy trainings conducted at the Focal Farmer Group demonstration plots resulted in the full achievement of all training targets related to Targets 1.1 – 1.4 (trainings on regenerative agriculture, shade and woodlot production, and nutrition and kitchen gardens). The AAA Academy trainings on climate change, shade tree and woodlot production and seedling distribution to complement income. The household nutrition trainings led to the establishment of kitchen gardens where farmers planted amaranth, carrots, papaya, onion and orange fleshed sweet potato. In general adoption of kitchen gardens by households was favorable, leading to improved dietary practices and increased household income. The project also started development of a case study on the household nutrition activity and its approach, in March 2024. The study will be completed before the end of the project in October 2024.

Uganda:

KCL recruited a project agronomy coordinator as well a project gender coordinator responsible for the agronomy and gender project aspects respectively. They started in their jobs from early July 2023. The project is supported by the existing KCL agronomy coordinators, field officers and assistant field officers

in the Masaka scheme. Extra staff for the scheme will be considered in the new KCL FY to start from October 1 2024. Overall project supervision is done by the Masaka scheme manager and the sustainability manager.

KCL has set up 30 model farms where relevant group trainings are being delivered. KCL has updated its Robusta training materials, both content and design. Training materials for staff will be produced in the next month and we aim to have it distributed in August. In 2023, 220 group trainings were delivered in Masaka.

KCL has set up 30 model farms where relevant group trainings are being delivered.

Individual farmer trainings are an ongoing exercise as part of the KCL individual household trainings for Rainforest Alliance (RA) verification and Nespresso AAA TASQ assessment. In 2023, 2'200 farmers were trained on an individual basis at household level.

KCL has rejuvenated its existing Robusta mother garden in Nakanyonyi north of Kampala. The idea was to use cuttings from this mother garden for the nurseries in Masaka. Unfortunately, the government (Uganda Coffee Development Authority – UCDA) did not approve this. KCL is still considering establishing the mother garden in Masaka, budget permitting, while continuing with the production of seedlings with the sub-contractor.

Erosion control is an activity that KCL started implementing recently with 156 farmers have been trained in 14 trainings on practices like mulching, use of cover crops and introducing trenches to the farms to reduce soil erosion.

The service provider for the environmental tools concept development was identified and contracted. Research and co-creation activities were carried out in the last quarter of 2023. Based on that, tools were designed and are now ready for production and use. KCL plans to have the production of tools finished by mid-August 2024.

A company to produce the energy saving stoves was identified and contracted. Staff and coffee youth team members were trained, and stoves were constructed. To date, 983 energy saving stoves have been constructed in smallholder farmer homes.

Objective 2: Equitably support smallholder coffee farming households through Nespresso's responsible sourcing approach							
Outcomes	Indicators	Baseline	Midterm Target	End of project Target	Periodic Result (01/07/2022-30/06/2023)	Result to Date (from project start)	Progress rating (HS, S,MS,MU,U,SU)
Outcome 2.1: Enhanced capacity of women in the coffee supply chain to translate	Target 2.1: Coffee farming households are trained on gender issues	0		DRC: 3,500 (40% women) UG: 88 VSLAs	DRC: C2022 – 2,856 with 1,543 (54%) women farmers UG: 44 gender groups identified and 44 VSLAs established.	DRC: C2021 – 2,842 with 1,393 women (49%) farmers C2022 – 2,856 with 1,543 (54%) women farmers	HS

their participation into economic empowerment	(3,500 in DRC and 1,760 in UG) and have increased access to technical and financial resources to achieve gender empowerment (including 88 Village Savings and Loans – VSLAs established in Uganda)			established, 1,760 HH participate in a gender program & use gender tools	Total nr of VSLA members: 1'390 (535 females)	**Total** – 5,698 with 2,936 women farmers (52%) **UG:** 44 VSLAs 1'390 Members	
Outcome 2.2: Direct access to the coffee supply chain through the AAA Sustainable Quality program supporting coffee farmers with the commitment for long term sourcing intention	**Target 2.2:** 2,000 farmers are part of the AAA program in DRC 2'200 farmers are part of the AAA program in Uganda	0		DRC: 2,000 UG: 2'200	**DRC:** 2023 (paid in 2024): 2,405 farmers including 680 women benefited from $43,200 in premium payments by supplying Nespresso. **UG:** At the start of 2023 5'004 AAA farmers were part of the AAA value chain in Masaka. The project focuses on 2'200 out of these farmers. All of these farmers have access to the AAA Sustainable Quality program supporting coffee farmers with the commitment for long term sourcing intention.	**DRC:** 2022 (paid in 2023): 3,528 farmers including 1,042 women benefited from $87,566.52 in premium payments by supplying Nespresso. 2023 (paid in 2024): 2,405 farmers including 680 women benefited from $43,200 in premium payments by supplying Nespresso. **UG:** At the start of 2023 5'004 AAA farmers were part of the Nespresso AAA value chain in Masaka. The project focuses on 2'200 farmers. All of these 6'000 farmers have	**HS**

						access to the AAA Sustainable Quality program supporting coffee farmers with the commitment for long term sourcing intention.	
Output 2.1.1 Women and men have the knowledge, skills, attitudes and resources to enhance their economic resilience in coffee farming landscapes	**Target 2.1.1:** Women and men from 3,500 coffee farming households (target 40% women) participate in training programs that includes modules focused on gender equality in the coffee chain in DRC 88 VSLAs are established in UG, 1'760 HH participate in a gender program and use gender tools	0		**DRC:** 3,500 (40% women) **UG:** 88 VSLAs established, 1'760 HH participate in a gender program & use gender tools	**DRC:** C2022 – 2,856 with 1,543 (54%) women farmers **UG**: team has been established and local change agents have been identified and started work in October 2023. Change agents play a key role in delivering this Output and supporting VSLAs. 44 VSLA were set up with 1'390 members.	**DRC:** C2021 – 2,842 with 1,393 women (49%) farmers C2022 – 2,856 with 1,543 (54%) women farmers **Total** – 5,698 with 2,936 women farmers (52%) UG: 44 VSLAs, 1'390 VSLA Members	**HS**

| Output 2.2.1: Women and male farmers have access to the Nespresso supply chain, and have stable, long-term demand and receive premium prices for the coffee they produce | Target 2.2.1: 2,000 farmers in DRC project area are part of the Nespresso supply chain

2'200 farmers are part of the AAA program in Uganda | 0 | | DRC: 2,000 farmers

UG: 2'200 | **DRC:** 2023 (paid in 2024) - 2,405 farmers including 680 women benefited from $43,200 in premium payments by supplying Nespresso.

UG: At the start of 2023 5,004 AAA farmers were part of the AAA value chain in Masaka. KCL aims to increase this to 6,000 by the end of 2023. The project focuses on 2,200 out of these 6,000. All of these 6,000 farmers have access to the AAA Sustainable Quality program supporting coffee farmers with the commitment for long term sourcing. | **DRC:** 2022 (paid in 2023) 3,528 farmers including 1,042 women benefited from $87,566.52 in premium payments by supplying Nespresso.

UG: At the start of 2023 5,004 AAA farmers were part of the AAA value chain in Masaka. KCL aims to increase this to 6,000 by the end of 2023. The project focuses on 2,200 out of these 6,000. All of these 6,000 farmers have access to the AAA Sustainable Quality program supporting coffee farmers with the commitment for long term sourcing. | **HS** |

Narrative report

[_____]

*Please develop a qualitative narrative description of the achievements under this objective and how the outputs contributed to these changes **during the reporting period (01/07/2023-30/06/2023)**. Describe evidence for changes in policy, regulation, standards, awareness, capacity, behaviors, and practices.*

Evidence can come in the form of a timeline of key events and outcomes, trends in outcome indicators before, during and at the end of the project, or a comparison between stakeholders or areas supported by the project against those not supported by the project with proper accounting for baseline differences between these. In addition, you should explain whether other plausible explanation for the change can be rejected.

(Delete the above guidance after reporting)

DRC:

Nespresso provides premium sustainability payments to farmer supplies based upon the quantity of green coffee purchased. Cooperatives track the purchase and work with TechnoServe to provide final supplier lists to Virunga Coffee and Nespresso to ensure that all farmers that supplied Nespresso received payments. In 2024, Nespresso paid out $43,200 to 2,405 farmer suppliers for coffee produced in 2023. **Premium payments averaged $17.96/participant.**

Three AAA Academy Trainings on Gender Safe Spaces included:

a) Gender Safe Spaces 1: Exploring what it means to be male or female.
b) Gender Safe Spaces 2: Exploring the value of men's and women's work at the farm level and within the household.
c) Gender Safe Spaces 3: Exploring how we collaborate, communicate and make decisions.

Uganda:

KCL recruited a project agronomy coordinator as well a project gender coordinator responsible for the agronomy and gender project aspects respectively. They started in their jobs from early July 2023. The project is supported by the existing KCL agronomy coordinators, field officers and assistant field officers in the Masaka scheme. Extra staff for the scheme will be considered in the new KCL FY to start from October 1 2024. Overall project supervision is done by the Masaka scheme manager and the sustainability manager.

KCL identified 22 change agents (CAs) from the registered farmers. The CAs are the ones that will set up the gender groups and VSLAs and offer guidance and training to member households. Training sessions for the CAs were delivered in September 2023. After the training the CAs started with the identification of interested individuals / groups to become part of the gender activities. this was followed by the actual set up and training of the groups/VSLAs.

Objective 3: Knowledge sharing							
Outcomes *(Copy and paste outcomes from Result Framework)*	Indicators	Baseline	Midterm Target	End of project Target	Periodic Result (01/07/2022-30/06/2023)	Result to Date (from project start)	Progress rating (HS, S,MS,MU,U,SU)
Outcome 3.1: Information and learnings from the projects are shared to inform other programs and initiatives by relevant stakeholders							N/A (not started)

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| Output 3.1. Knowledge products on project experiences and lessons learned are developed and shared | | 0 | | DRC: 1 case study

UG: 1 case study | **DRC:** 1 story produced for the GEF website

UG: 0 [1 story to be produced during 2024] | **DRC: 2023** 1 story produced for the GEF website

UG: 0 | 0%

(N/A) |

Narrative report

[_____]

Please develop a qualitative narrative description of the achievements under this objective and how the outputs contributed to these changes during the reporting period (01/07/2022-30/06/2023). Describe evidence for changes in policy, regulation, standards, awareness, capacity, behaviors, and practices.

Evidence can come in the form of a timeline of key events and outcomes, trends in outcome indicators before, during and at the end of the project, or a comparison between stakeholders or areas supported by the project against those not supported by the project with proper accounting for baseline differences between these. In addition, you should explain whether other plausible explanation for the change can be rejected.

(Delete the above guidance after reporting)

DRC:

As a part of the July 1st, 2023 to June 30th, 2024 reporting period, the project began the case study to develop a knowledge product on the Household Nutrition Activity. TechnoServe began data collection for the report in March and is currently reviewing and revising the report. The report will be ready to share by the project's end in October 2024.

Uganda:

In August /September 2024 KCL will work with the project partners to draft a first blog/story. KCL aims to start the preparation for the case study in the second half of 2024.

GEF Core Indicators

Please report on GEF core indicators that are relevant to your project using guidance provided by GEF on the implementation of the GEF-8 results measurement framework

Table 1. Eleven GEF Core Program Indicators

Indicator # As per GEF portal	Indicator	Baseline	Project Target	Progress to date (from project start)	Mean of Verification
1	Terrestrial protected areas created or under improved management This indicator will be reported as the aggregate total of the following Sub-Indicators. • Terrestrial protected areas newly created • Terrestrial protected areas under improved management effectiveness	NA	NA	NA	
2	Marine protected areas created or under improved management This indicator will be reported as the aggregate total of the following Sub-Indicators. • Marine protected areas newly created • Marine protected areas under improved management effectiveness	NA	NA	NA	
3	Area of land and ecosystems under restoration This indicator will be reported as the aggregate total of the following Sub-Indicators. • Area of degraded agricultural lands under restoration • Area of forest and forest land under restoration • Area of natural grass and woodlands under restoration • Area of natural grass and woodlands under restoration	NA	NA	NA	
4	Area of landscapes under improved practices (excluding protected areas) This indicator will be reported as the aggregate total of the following Sub-Indicators. • Area of landscapes under improved management to benefit biodiversity	NA	NA	NA	

	• Area of landscapes under third-party certification incorporating biodiversity considerations • Area of landscapes under sustainable land management in production systems • Area of High Conservation Value or other forest loss avoided • Terrestrial OECMs supported				
5	**Area of marine habitat under improved practices to benefit biodiversity** This indicator will be reported as the aggregate total of the following Sub-Indicators. • Fisheries under third-party certification incorporating biodiversity considerations • Large Marine Ecosystems with reduced pollution and hypoxia • Marine OECMs supported	**NA**	**NA**	**NA**	
6	Greenhouse gas emissions mitigated This indicator will be reported through the following Sub-Indicators • Greenhouse gas emission mitigated in the AFOLU sector • Greenhouse gas emission mitigated outside of the AFOLU sector • Carbon sequestered or emissions avoided in the AFOLU sector (Direct) • Carbon sequestered or emissions avoided in the AFOLU sector (Indirect) • Emissions avoided outside AFOLU sector (Direct) • Emissions avoided outside AFOLU sector (Indirect) • Energy saved • Increase in installed renewable energy capacity per technology	**NA**	**NA**	**NA**	

7	**Shared water ecosystems under new or improved cooperative management** This indicator will be reported through the following Sub-Indicators • Level of Regional Legal Agreements and Regional Management Institutions to support its implementation • Level of Transboundary Diagnostic Analysis and Strategic Action Program (TDA/SAP) formulation and implementation • Level of National/Local reforms and active participation of Inter-Ministerial Committees • Level of engagement in IW:LEARN through participation and delivery of key products	**NA**	**NA**	**NA**	
8	**Globally over-exploited fisheries moved to more sustainable levels**	**NA**	**NA**	**NA**	
9	**Chemicals of global concern and their waste reduced** This indicator will be reported through the following Sub-Indicators • Solid and liquid Persistent Organic Pollutants (POPs) removed or disposed (POPs type) • Quantity of mercury reduced • Hydrochlorofluorocarbons reduced/phased out • Countries with legislation and policy implemented to control chemicals and waste • Low-chemical/non-chemical systems implemented, particularly in food production, manufacturing and cities • POPs/Mercury containing materials and products directly avoided • Highly Hazardous Pesticides eliminated • Avoided residual plastic waste	**NA**	**NA**	**NA**	

10	**Persistent organic pollutants to air reduced** This indicator will be reported through the following Sub-Indicators • Countries with legislation and policy implemented to control emissions of POPs to air • Emission control technologies/practices implemented	NA	NA	NA	
11	**People benefiting from GEF-financed investments** This indicator will be reported as the aggregate total of the following Sub-Indicators. • Female • Male	0	**DRC: 3,500 (40% women)** **UG: 2'200 (40% women)**	**DRC:** C2021 Minova – 3,953 farmers trained including 1,937 female farmers trained (49%) C2022 Kalehe – 2,679 farmers trained including 1,503 female farmers trained (56%) **Total – 6,632 farmers trained including 3,440 female farmers trained (52%)** **Uganda:** 2'200 in 171 group trainings delivered with 3'183 attendees. 2'120 male (399 youth), 1'063 females.	*Monthly training attendance scorecards.*

D. Ratings and Overall Assessments

Role	YEAR Development Objective Progress Rating[6]	YEAR Implementation Progress Rating[7]
Project Manager / Coordinator	*Overall Assessment*	*Overall Assessment*
	Highly Satisfactory	*Highly Satisfactory*
	Please provide justification for overall assessment	*Please provide justification for overall assessment*
	The project in DRC is performing highly satisfactorily. It is now coming to an end. *The project in Uganda started with a delay due to reasons communicated. The implementing agency has caught up with most of the deliverables.*	*The project in DRC is performing highly satisfactorily. The project in Uganda was late in starting – this was out of the control of the implementing agency.* *The project in Uganda started with a delay due to reasons communicated. The implementing agency has caught up with most of the deliverables.*
IUCN GEF GCF Portfolio Manager for Centers	*Overall Assessment*	*Overall Assessment*
	Satisfactory	*Satisfactory*
	Please provide justification for overall assessment	*Please provide justification for overall assessment*
	Despite good progress across many components of the project, this rating reflects the minor amendment to remove the reforestation component from Target 1.3.	*Despite good progress across many components of the project, this rating reflects implementation delays as a result of site changes in Uganda.*
Nespresso	*Overall Assessment*	*Overall Assessment*
	Highly Satisfactory	*Highly Satisfactory*
	Please provide justification for overall assessment	*Please provide justification for overall assessment*
	The DRC component continues to over-perform. The Uganda component has made impressive and significant achievements during the year.	*The DRC component is coming to an end – implementation has been good despite challenges that the project faced, it over-delivered.* *The Uganda component is making good progress after a delayed start, and we are happy with the progress this year in terms of implementation.*

E. Adjustments

Please provide comments on delays this reporting period in achieving any of the following key project milestones: inception workshop, mid-term review, terminal evaluation and/or project closure.

DRC:
There have been no delays in key project milestones. Note that the project commenced prior to the CEO Endorsement, as the co-funding had already been provided to the implementer.

Uganda:
The project had a delayed start, as the location had to be changed and this meant that the planting season was missed. The project is now on track.

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[6] This section will use the scale used by the GEF and outlined in Annex of this document: 1) Highly satisfactory, 2) Satisfactory, 3) Moderately Satisfactory, 4) Moderately Unsatisfactory, 5) Unsatisfactory, 6) Highly Unsatisfactory

[7] Idem

Project Minor 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 Project and Program Cycle Policy Guidelines.

Please tick each category for which a change occurred in the fiscal year of reporting and provide a description of the change that occurred in the textbox. You may attach supporting documents as appropriate within this PIR submission.
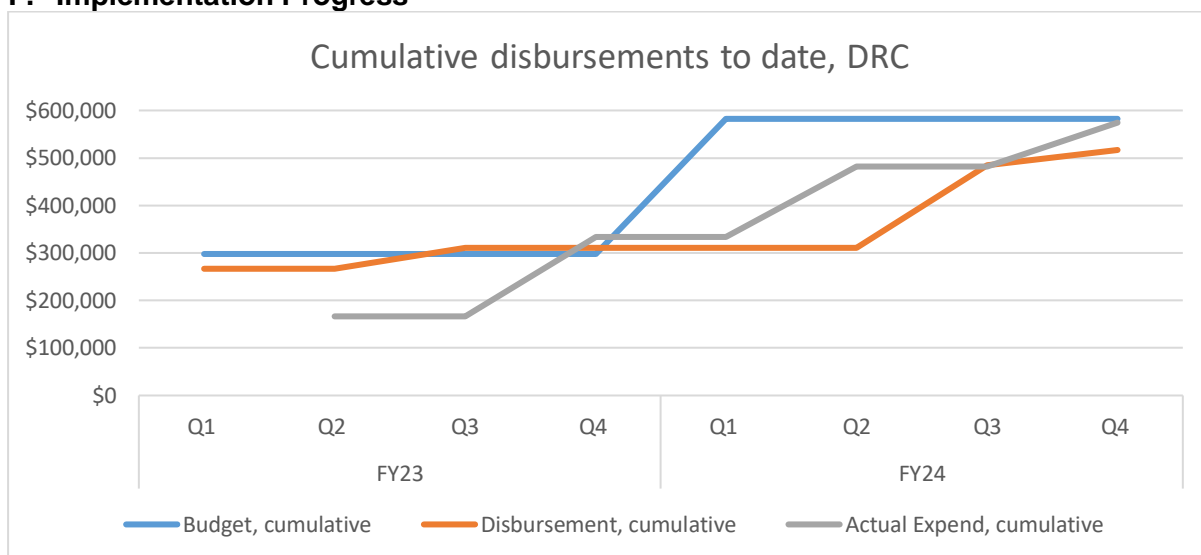
x	Results framework
x	Components and cost
	Institutional and implementation arrangements
X	Financial management
x	Implementation schedule
	Executing Entity
	Executing Entity Category
	Minor project objective change
	Safeguards
	Risk analysis
	Increase of GEF project financing up to 5%
	Co-financing
x	Location of project activity
	Other

Minor amendments	*Change description*
Results framework	Target 1.3 (Uganda): reforestation of 150 acres in critical areas in the landscape, 1'650 coffee farming households improve erosion control on farms, 1'760 coffee farming households use farm environment improvement tools, 2'200 energy saving stoves are constructed The reforestation component of Target 1.3 was removed from the Uganda project after the site was shifted to Masaka, due to the Masaka region *Robusta* value chain having different climate adaptation priorities compared to those of the Mt. Elgon *Arabica* value chain. Participants in the kick-off meeting discussed how *Robusta* production is also a priority for the Government of Uganda, which has been breeding, developing and disseminating this more climate resilient variety in the country. The budget for this work ($170k for reforestation of shade trees) has been redirected towards other priorities more relevant to the Masaka *Robusta* growing area. The Government of Uganda participants in the Inception Meeting were supportive of the project, including the changes. To this date, the Government of Uganda continues to be supportive, and they and other local stakeholders including Uganda Coffee Development Authority (UCDA) and Uganda National Coffee Research Institute have been engaged, e.g., in providing high-quality climate-resilient *Robusta* planting material.

Components and cost	Changes to Uganda budget proposed by KCL: establishment of climate-smart Robusta coffee varieties. This was approved.
Financial management	DRC: Budget realignment against line-item categories; No budget ceiling adjustment.
Implementation schedule	Due to the project being moved from Mt Elgon to Masaka, the project start was delayed. It took time to change the contract, and it resulted in missing planting / implementation windows. After the project implementation agreement was signed, an Inception Meeting took place in April 2023.
Location of project activity	At the end of 2022, and before the Uganda component of the project was started, Nespresso requested that the project be changed from the original project site in Uganda (Mt Elgon) to another project location (Masaka – Rolling Hills Cluster). This was due to Nespresso wishing to shift its focus from purchasing Arabica coffee to purchasing Robusta in Uganda. This was discussed between the parties prior to the implementing agreement being signed between IUCN, KCL and Nespresso (in Q1 2023).

Add description of amendments here

F. Implementation Progress

Cumulative disbursements to date, DRC

Cumulative Disbursements	
Cumulative general ledger delivery against total approved amount (in Project Document) - %	DRC - 85.6%

Per 1 July 2024 Instalment 1: USD 179,560 and Instalment 2: USD 107,730 have been paid. This is a total of USD 287,290, which is 46% of the total approved amount to be contributed by GEF.

Based on the recent finance report covering 1 March 2023 29 February 2024 24% of the total budget was delivered |
| Cumulative general ledger delivery against expected delivery as of this year - % | DRC - 93.8%
Per 1 July 2024 Instalment 1: USD 179,560 and Instalment 2: USD 107,730 have been paid. This is a total of USD 287,290, which is 46% of the total approved amount to be contributed by GEF.

Based on the recent finance report covering 1 March 2023 29 February 2024 57% of the total budget for the first 12 months was delivered. |

Cumulative disbursement as of 30 June 2023 (note: amount to be updated in later August)	DRC - USD $485,184 **Uganda:** Instalment 1: USD 179,560 Instalment 2: USD 107,730

Key Financing Amounts	
PPG Amount	DRC: USD $19,976 UG: USD 0
GEF Grant Amount	DRC: USD 566,766 (inclusive of above) UG: USD 615'541 (inclusive of above)
Planned Co-Financing	DRC: USD 15,541 UG (KCL): USD 150'000 NN: USD 160,884
Co-Financing to date	DRC - USD $15,541 (100%) UG KCL: USD 50,000 NN:UG USD 53,000

Key Project Dates	
PIF Approval Date	July 2, 2020
CEO Endorsement Date	June 16, 2022
Project Document Signature Date (Project start date)	June 16, 2022
Date of Inception workshop (Project launch)	DRC: July 29, 2022 Uganda: April 4, 2023
Expected date of mid-term review	DRC: July 31, 2023 Uganda: July 12, 2023
Actual date of mid-term review	August 2, 2023
Expected date of Terminal Evaluation	February 2025
Original planned closing date	October 31, 2024
Revised Planned closing date	Uganda: to be discussed 31 December 2025

Dates of Project Steering Committee / Board Meetings during reporting period (June to July)
Internal Kick-Off Call with DRC - June 29th, 2022
GEF/IUCN, Nespresso, TechnoServe Quarterly Update – July 12th, 2023
GEF (IUCN) Nespresso Steering Committee meeting (all parties) – October 24th, 2023
GEF (IUCN) Nespresso Steering Committee meeting (all parties) – December 18th, 2023
GEF (IUCN) Nespresso Steering Committee meeting (all parties) – April 17th, 2023
Nespresso - GEF - TNS update (Quarterly update) – July 12th, 2023
Nespresso - GEF - KCL update (Quarterly update) – July 12th, 2023

G. Critical Risk Management

Please complete the table below (Only risk with High or Medium rating / level should be recorded) by using the information in the Project Risk register (excel file provided with PIR templates). If a project risk register has already been completed for the project, please provide any updates for High or Medium risk from this reporting period – e.g. changing in risk rating, risk owners or additional risk identified etc. in the table below.

Risk Category[8]	Risk description	Rating / Level (H, M)	Mitigation measures undertaken in this reporting period	Risk Owner	Updates / Changes
Operational	Natural Disaster (Earthquake, landslides, etc)	M	Updated TNS DRC Security Plan	TNS Country Manager	None
Operational	Weather, pest & disease	M	KCL is working with UCDA to develop and distribute more resilient varieties through this project	KCL	None

Project overall risk rating (Low, Moderate, Substantial or High). *Please see Annex – Ratings definition for guidance.*

2023 rating (H, S, M, L)	2024 rating (H, S, M, L)	Comments/reasons for the rating for 2023 and any changes (positive or negative) in the rating since the previous reporting period
Moderate	Moderate	DRC: 2022 Earthquake (volcanic activity), 2023 landslides.

H. Gender

Progress in advancing Gender equality and women's empowerment
Please note that all projects approved since GEF 6 are required to carry out a gender analysis and provide gender-responsive measures to address differences, identified impacts and risks, and opportunities through a Gender Action Plan (GAP) or equivalent.

Does this project specifically target woman or girls as direct beneficiaries?

DRC:
 	
The project targets women during all aspect of implementation of the AAA Academy. This includes:
• Agronomy attendance scorecards reflect high participation by female farmers sustained, including 49% of the 2021 Cohort trained and 56% of the 2022 Cohort trained.
• Selection of AAA Agronomist to have an equal representation of men and women trainers
• Training of TechnoServe Agronomy staff on the KIT Catalysts for Gender Transformative Change (CGTC). As part of the KIT training, 13 agricultural trainers participated in a training session to empower them to begin to implement their Gender Action Learning Plans (GALPs). During the session, the GALPs were reviewed and adapted to the context and the coffee value chain.
• Three AAA Academy Trainings on Gender Safe Spaces that included:
    o Gender Safe Spaces 1: Exploring what it means to be male or female.
    o Gender Safe Spaces 2: Exploring the value of men's and women's work at the farm level and within the household.
    o Gender Safe Spaces 3: Exploring how we collaborate, communicate and make decisions.
• Three training on household nutrition were launched for the 2022 Cohort in April 2023 and completed in September 2024

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[8] IUCN risk categories: Strategic, Financial, People management, Operational, Legal/Compliance, Information systems, External

Uganda:

The project will provide additional training and support to women and girls. 1'760 Households are expected to participate in gender training programs, and to use gender tools. This program component also includes the establishment of 88 VSLAs, targeted to women.

Village Savings and Loans Associations (VSLAs) are established with a focus on women's' economic empowerment including an incentivization mechanism for the best performing VSLAs:
- Weekly meetings
- Trainings to 22 Gender Change Agents/ per Year
- 250 HHs with Farm improvement reward
- 10 VSLAs to get extended capital/per year

Households participate in a gender program and use gender tools:
- Household vision journey
- Gender for justice diamond tool
- Gender action tree
- Coffee farm vision
- Gender analysis tools

In case a gender analysis was not undertaken during project preparation (PPG), has it been carried out in this reporting period? If yes, what were the main findings? If an analysis during project design had been undertaken, but further updates have been carried out during the reporting period, please indicate this below. Please also report on additional site level gender analyses if they were undertaken during this reporting period.

DRC:

We have used the *Gender Analysis of Smallholder Coffee Sector in South Kivu, DRC Recommendations for Nespresso Acitivties in DRC* from October 2022 to design project activities. Implementation of project activities under **Outcome 2.1 -** Enhanced capacity of women in the coffee supply chain to translate their participation into economic empowerment is inline with these recommendations and has been successful in alignment with number of key recommendation from the report including:

1. Bridging the Gender Gap in Coffee Farming
    1.1. **Sustain high female participation in agronomy training** by employing TNS gender practices in registration and retention that draw on experience of working with coffee farmers across various countries in Africa
    1.2. **Strengthen gender transformative methods in the agronomy training** by increasing emphasis on women's decision-making power and role in joint planning in the farm business and incorporating new methods for facilitating dialogue between and among women and men. The training has included:
    1.2.1. Applying 'TNS Safe Spaces methodology' that facilitates dialogue and learning between and among women and men through discussions in single- and mix-sex groups; and

Developing program staff capacity to ensure effective and sustainable implementation
    4.1. **Build knowledge, skills and attitudes of staff** through a capacity development process that will enable them to perform their daily work in ways that supports gender equality and women's economic empowerment

Uganda: the project site was moved from Mt Elgon to Masaka. The implementer has engaged with local communities and is recruiting local change agents in the Masaka area to ensure successful implementation of this component.

Please describe progress in implementing the Gender Action Plan (GAP); you could also add the GAP in form of a GAP progress report as annex. Please also specify results achieved this reporting period through implementing gender-responsive measures. Results reported can include site level results working with local communities as well as work to integrate gender considerations into national policies, strategies and planning. Please explain how the results reported addressed the different needs of men or women, changed norms, values and power structures, and/or contributed to transforming or challenging gender inequalities and discrimination.
DRC: The three gender safe spaces trainings provided to 5,698 including 2,703 women farmers (47%) in the AAA Academy have increased emphasis on women's decision-making power and role in joint planning in the farm business and incorporating new methods for dialogue and learning between and among women and men through discussions in single-sex and co-ed groups. In Uganda, 44 VSLA's have been established. The VSLA's have 535 male members and 855 female members.
Please report on gender-sensitive indicators and sex-disaggregated targets as established in the results framework
DRC: All AAA Academy training activities including agronomy training, shade tree and woodlot production, gender equity training and household nutrition have a training target of 40% female participation in the training. From attendance lists and training scorecards female participation in training is around 47 to 48 percent depending on the activity. Uganda: 44 VSLA were established, 535 are males and 855 are females.

I. Implementing the Stakeholder Engagement Plan

The GEF Stakeholder Engagement Policy Guidelines[9] requires that Agencies prepare a Stakeholder Engagement Plan to describe how Stakeholders will be engaged in the project, and means of engagement throughout the project/program cycle. Agencies should include information on progress, challenges and outcomes of stakeholder engagement in their annual Project Implementation Reports.

Either provide the Stakeholder Engagement Plan and its respective progress report as <u>annex</u> or complete the below table by specifying the engagement strategies and achievements for the most important stakeholder groups. This can include demonstrating how different stakeholders were engaged in decisions on project governance (e.g. as member of the steering group), in the management or monitoring of the project or in programmatic activities. Forms of engagement include direct consultation or exchange with representative groups as well as indirect forms such as through media or other communication channels. Please also specify how the engagement is documented to provide evidence of such activities.

Please note that the data may be used for reporting to the GEF or IUCN web site, and for other internal and external knowledge and learning efforts. The global thematic programme involved should review and edit/elaborate on the information entered here. All projects must complete this section. Please enter N/A in cells that are not applicable to your project.

Information on progress, challenges and outcomes of Stakeholder Engagement
Civil society organisations

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[9] Stakeholder Engagement Policy Guidelines (SD/GN/01), December 20, 2018

N/A
Local communities
Both TNS and KCL engage with local communities regularly in the context of the implementation of these projects. TNS included local community leaders in the setup of AAA academy trainings in DRC as well as engaging youth from the local communities as Farmer Trainers to provide the monthly AAA Academy trainings.
Indigenous Peoples
N/A
Private sector
Both TNS and KCL engage with Nestlé-Nespresso. TNS engages with OFI as a coffee exporter in DRC. KCL is associated with Volcafe, a leading coffee trader.
Other relevant stakeholders as identified in the projects' Stakeholder Analysis
In April 2021 KCL compiled a draft stakeholder engagement plan for Uganda, based on the project location as initially agreed, being Mount Elgon.

J. Environmental and Social Safeguards

This section of the PIR describes the progress made towards complying with the Environmental and Social Management Plans or other safeguard tools, when appropriate. Note that this only applies to projects classified as moderate or high risk, not to low risk projects.

For reporting progress on the implementation of ESMS plans or tools, please either provide the ESMP Monitoring Table as annex (see ESMP guidance note and template[10]) or complete the below table.

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[10] https://www.iucn.org/sites/dev/files/esms_esmp_guidance_note_and_template.docx

Progress of implementing the Environmental and Social Management Plan (ESMP) or other safeguard tools			
Environmental and Social Risks	**Risks identified by ESMS Screening or during any update of ESMP since project start[11]**	**Actions taken during this FY; explain in particular how you engaged with groups affected by the identified risks**	**Are the measures considered sufficient? Are there any outstanding issues relevant for next FY?**
Adverse gender-related impacts	Gender-based violence.	In both DRC & Uganda, the implementers implemented appropriate procedures to combat gender-based violence. Both KCL & TNS have implemented non-discrimination policies to meet Nespresso's requirements on this topic. In DRC, TNS has conduct three gender safe space trainings in the AAA Academies. In Uganda, KCL staff in the Nespresso cluster will take part in the Nespresso gender training. The first module of this training will take place in October 2023. KCL has also started to recruit project staff to commence the gender project activities including gender training and related activities for farmers.	No outstanding issues.
Risks of affecting vulnerable groups	Coffee practices and supply to Nespresso aggravates economic situation of sharecroppers by reducing land available for sharecropping or increasing work demanded by concessionaire from sharecropper	The project works with existing farmers and does not intend to expand farming area. Due diligence is done prior to engaging farming households to ensure that the project understands how they source labour. Additionally, compliance with Nespresso sourcing requirements regarding forced labour (e.g., sharecroppers / concessionaries) is a condition for engagement of the farmers. In DRC annual audits of wet mills are conducted to ensure compliance with Nespresso sourcing requirements concerning forced labor.	No outstanding issues.
	Food security risks when shifting from food crops to coffee.	Farmers in both landscapes grow food crops as well as coffee. There is no widespread replacement of food crops by the project. In DRC, the project has a component on household nutrition where this is specifically targeted. In Uganda one of the practices promoted is intercropping (food crops in between rows of coffee) and shade trees. Matoke (banana), an important staple crop, is one of the most used shade trees in coffee farming in Masaka area.	No outstanding issues.

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[11] Add n/a if the respective risk issues has neither been identified during the ESMS screening nor in any update of the ESMP.

	Risk of discrimination against vulnerable farm households in terms of access to training and agronomic services	Both projects focus their efforts on smallholder farmers – they are proactively targeted by this project. TechnoServe complete a Gender and Social Inclusion Strategy for DRC in 2021 with Nespresso and USAID funding. Under the strategy our approach is to Conduct targeted outreach that in all of our training programs in DRC. As such under GEF we promote equitable access to trainings through the following actions. • Seek out women and other underrepresented groups • Promote the program in places where women and socially excluded groups meet, work, or congregate. Approach women and socially excluded groups while being mindful of their constraints • Promote the program using female organizations or informal groups • Ask men who are interested in the program to include women family members in the conversation. Explain how both men and women participating will help the household • Solicit input from both men and women about the best training times and locations	No outstanding issues.
Risk of undermining human rights	Risk of unjustified preferential treatment when selecting sites (villages, washing stations etc.) and individual farmers to join the program.	Farmers are invited to participate in programs. This is done on an open basis and there is no preferential treatment. All farmers in the respective geographical area that are willing and interested to improve their coffee growing ability in order to be able to meet the high-quality requirements of Nespresso and agronomical support..	No outstanding issues.
Community health, safety and security risks	Risk of fuelling conflicts between communities or social groups due to economic successes of selected individuals/households/communities.	In both sites, farming households are part of larger sustainable sourcing initiatives that aim to be present for the long-term. This provides an opportunity for all local farmers to engage as they wish. The risk of community violence due to favouritism is low. In DRC, Coffee Washing Stations are required to maintain a complaints register and a committee of three cooperative member (1 staff and two coop members) are required to review all compliants.	No outstanding issues.

	Risk of fuelling conflicts between communities or social groups due to economic successes of selected individuals/households/communities.	In both sites, farming households are part of larger sustainable sourcing initiatives that aim to be present for the long-term. This provides an opportunity for all local farmers to engage as they wish. The risk of community violence due to favoritism is low. In DRC, Coffee Washing Stations are required to maintain a complaints register and a committee of three cooperative member (1 staff and two coop members) are required to review all complaints.	No outstanding issues.
	Risk of violence and incidents affecting civilians associated with the project (e.g. farmers, participants of trainings) (moderate)	There is low risk of violence to civilians / farmers from the project. In DRC, security risks are constantly monitored through messaging from ISOS, weekly updates in staff meetings and regular updating of the DRC Country Security plan, office are closed and work is stopped when there is potential risk to staff. All staff also receive compulsory ISOS trainings on *Civil Unrest* and *Travel Risk Awareness.* The DRC security plan was updated in June 2023, February 2024 and again in May 2024.	No outstanding issues.
Labour and working conditions	Security risks for project workers (low)	There are low security risks for participation in the project. Note that while there may be violence in some areas of DRC due to armed conflict, this is not associated specifically with this project. In DRC, security risks are constantly monitored through messaging from ISOS, weekly updates in staff meetings and regular updating of the DRC Country Security plan, office are closed and work is stopped when there is potential risk to staff. All staff also receive compulsory ISOS trainings on *Civil Unrest* and *Travel Risk Awareness.* The DRC security plan was updated in June 2023, February 2024 and again in May 2024.	No outstanding issues.
	Risk of child labour (low)	Both projects monitor the issue of child labour. Implementing appropriate policies and actions is a condition of supplying Nespresso. In DRC, TNS implements a social responsibility training that covers issues surrounding child protection and farm labour. A poster is distributed to participants that encourages school attendance, and strongly discourages engagement of minors from farm work and dangerous practices. TechnoServe **also assisted Nespresso commissioned Fair Labor Association research mission in June 2024.**	No outstanding issues.

		In Uganda KCL implements a project focusing on the topic of child labour aiming to strengthen farmers' capacity and livelihood strategies that support their children's development and education and do not involve child labour with focus on young workers between 14 and 18.	
New risks emerged	DRC: landslides Uganda: climate change	In DRC: adverse weather & land management have resulted in landslides, which have displaced local communities. The project worked with other local stakeholders to support communities to mitigate (by improved land management) and address these issues. In Uganda some parts of the geater Masaka area have been affected by longer than average periods of drought and high temperatures. KCL has been working with communities and farmers on building resilience. This is also one of the important components of the current project.	No outstanding issues.
ESMS Standards[12]	**Required management measures/plans (when standard triggered)**	**Actions taken during this FY; explain in particular how you engaged with groups affected by the identified risks**	**Are the measures considered sufficient? Are there any outstanding issues relevant for next FY?**
Involuntary Resettlement & Access Restrictions ☐ yes ☐ no ☐ TBD	☐ Resettlement Action Plan ☐ Resettlement Policy Framework ☐ Action Plan to Mitigate Impacts Access Restriction ☐ Access Restrictions Mitigation Process Framework ☐ Other:	N/A	N/A
Indigenous Peoples ☐ yes ☐ no ☐ TBD	☐ Indigenous Peoples Plan ☐ Indigenous Peoples Planning Framework ☐ Other:	Note that a quick scan was done at the onset of the project in DRC. GEF had 3 Academies where Batwa community members participate. The AAA Academy training informs producers of international best practices to ensure they meet required social responsibilities. TechnoServe also provides training to cooperatives and coffee washing stations conducting annual audits of washing stations to ensure that employees do not face discrimination. In 2023, all coffee washing stations passed these audits with no cases of discrimination for staff reported. In Uganda, the project site changed from Mt Elgon (where the Benet are present) to the Masaka area, where there are no indigenous communities.	N/A

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[12] Please check the respective box to indicate the decision at Screening stage: whether a standards has been triggered or not, or the decision was deferred to the implementation phase. If the latter, please explain the status of this decision.

Cultural Heritage ☐ yes ☐ no ☐ TBD	☐ Chance Find Procedures ☐ Other:	N/A	N/A
Biodiversity & Sustainable Use Natural Resources ☐ yes ☐ no ☐ TBD	☐ Pest Management Plan ☐ Other:	The species selection for reforestation, model farms, demonstration plots and seedling supplies to farmers as well as for seedling promotion and distribution by both KCL & TNS was done in consultation with the local implementing partners. *Markhamia lutea* was selected as the tree species for woodlots. Markhamia is a tree species native to eastern Congo and adapted to the local environment and soils, which was selected due its suitability for farmer needs. *Albizia gummifera* was selected as the tree species for shade trees. Albizia is a tree species native to eastern Congo and adapted to the local environment and soils, which was selected due its suitability for farmer needs.	N/A

Project Risk Category (as per ESMS Screening)	☐ Low Risk ☐ Moderate Risk ☐ High Risk
Have findings during implementation triggered any changes to the **Project Risk Category**? If yes, explain the issues and the new rating.	No
List all risk issues that are now rated as **high risk** (if any)	None
Has a list of relevant **host country regulations** on environmental and social matters been established? What is the status of the project's compliance with the applicable laws and regulations?	Both projects are aware of local host country regulations and abide by these. For example: ▪ DRC: the implementer, TNS, maintains a good relationship with local government and received approval for the framework agreement process in February 2024 with the Ministry of Plan. TNS follows & abides with all relevant local laws & regulations. ▪ TNS renewed their agreement with the Ministry of Agriculture on June 17th, 2024. Specifically we are compliant with the following regulations on environmental and social matters from Constitution of the Third Republic of the Democratic Republic of Congo, adopted on 18 February 2006: Article 53 states: ▪ Every person has a right to a healthy environment, which is favourable to his/her full development. ▪ The environment must be protected. ▪ The state must look after the protection of the environment and the health of the people.

	Article 123 of the Constitution makes provision for laws on, inter alia, the protection of the environment, the sustainable development of the natural resources of the country, and protection of vulnerable groups. Article 203 allows for cooperative governance by central government and the provincial administrations ''to protect the environment, natural sites and landscapes, and the conservation of such sites …. [as well as] the protection of vulnerable groups." Article 51 ensures the protection and promotion of vulnerable groups and all minorities. Uganda: KCL maintains a good relationship with government, including the Uganda Coffee Development Authority (UCDA) on appropriate planting material, as well as licensing of nurseries and warehouses.
In case any changes of regulations have occurred since project design, have these changes been reflected in project implementation?	N/A

In addition, please indicate whether any grievances as per IUCN and GEF ESS policies have been received during this reporting period. If yes, please answer the below questions and attach the grievance log as annex in order to describe status and progress of the case. The latter should also be done in case grievances had been received in earlier reporting period.

Explanation:
In DRC, TechnoServe maintains grievance policies and procedures in line with international best practice, given their relationship with international customers and donor agencies in the region. In Uganda, the project only recently started implementation due to contracting delays, and no grievances have been registered. Note that KCL receive grievances on a regular basis (approximately 10 per month) through their official HR & grievance process. These are promptly dealt with, and no specific grievances exist regarding this project.

Please explain the grievance
No grievance was received during this reporting period.

Please indicate how it is being/has been addressed
n/a

K. Knowledge Management

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

Does the project have a knowledge management strategy? How does the project collect, document and share good practices? Please list relevant good practices from this year that can be learned and shared from the project.
DRC: The project's third objective includes knowledge sharing. Under Target 3.1, one case study will be developed and shared on the DRC project participation. As a part of the July 1st, 2023 to June 30th, 2024 reporting period, the project began the case study to develop a knowledge product on the Household Nutrition Activity. TechnoServe began data collection for the report in March and is currently reviewing and revising the report. The report will be ready to share by the project end in October 2024. KCL: This activity will begin later in the implementation phase.

Does the project have a communication strategy? Please provide a brief overview of the communications successes and challenges this year.
DRC: The project does not have a communication strategy. During the reporting period, the project is developing a project overview for inclusion on Panorama. KCL: The project intends to communicate its initial results in Q3 2024, e.g., through a blog / article.

Communication material

Please provide a list of publications, project website, project page on the IUCN website, any other facebook, twitter, flickr or youtube account related to the project, as well as hyperlinks to any media coverage of the project, for example stories written by an outside source. Please upload any supporting files, including photos, videos, stories, and other documents.
GEF-published blog in the April 2023 GEF Newsletter, *Climate-resilient coffee farming is changing lives in DRC:* https://www.thegef.org/newsroom/feature-stories/climate-resilient-coffee-farming-changing-lives-drc We are planning on developing a project summary for inclusion on Panorama.

Lessons learned

Please share any particular lessons learnt in the context of project implementation (e.g. successfully tested tools, unexpected positive or negative impacts) and/or lessons learnt regarding one of your key outcomes
N/A

Communicating impact

Tell us the story of the project focusing on how the project has helped to improve people's lives and biodiversity and how it contributed to the target(s) pledged through internal conventions (UNCCD LDN, UNFCCC NDCs, CBD NBSAPs, SDGs, etc) and/or national policies

N/A

Nyavura Lwakuno Georgette, is a coffee farmer supervised by agricultural trainer Jolie Magadju in the Chibanja village in Kalehe Ihusi. As part of the 2022 Kalehe cohort, Georgette was trained on vegetable gardening and chose to begin producing amaranth to feed her household. With the household nutrition kitchen garden training provided to Georgette by Global Environment Facility in partnership with International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN), Nespresso, and TechnoServe, she is now able to feed her family and also sell the excess vegetables to pay her children's school and health care fees.

What is the most significant change that has resulted from the project this reporting period?

The establishment of kitchen gardens in August and September 2023 under the 2022 Kalehe cohort supported coffee producers in Kalehe to create kitchen gardens to fight malnutrition in their families. Many of the trained farmers proceeded to plant kitchen gardens with amaranth, carrot, orange fleshed sweet potato, onions and papaya around their homes. Trainees reported that the kitchen gardens improved nutrition outcomes for children while excess production was sold off to provide additional income. In total, 1,922 producers (including 1,084 female) were trained on household nutrition.

Annex - Ratings definitions

Implementation Progress Ratings

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 presented 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.

Global Environment Objective/Development Objective Ratings

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 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.

Development/Adaptation Objective Ratings (For LDCF/SCCF/GCF Adaptation)

Highly Satisfactory (HS): Project is expected to achieve or exceed all its major development/adaptation objectives, and yield substantial adaptation benefits, without major shortcomings. The project can be presented as "good practice".

Satisfactory (S): Project is expected to achieve most of its major development/adaptation objectives, and yield satisfactory adaptation benefits, with only minor shortcomings.

Marginally Satisfactory (MS): Project is expected to achieve most of its major relevant development/adaptation objectives, but with either significant shortcomings or modest overall relevance. Project is expected not to achieve some of its major development objectives or yield some of the expected adaptation benefits.

Marginally Unsatisfactory (MU): Project is expected to achieve its major development/adaptation objectives with major shortcomings or is expected to achieve only some of its major adaptation objectives.

Unsatisfactory (U): Project is expected not to achieve most of its major development/adaptation objectives or to yield any satisfactory adaptation benefits.

Highly Unsatisfactory (HU): The project has failed to achieve, and is not expected to achieve, any of its major development/adaptation objectives with no worthwhile adaptation benefits.

Risk ratings

Risk ratings will assess the overall risk of factors internal or external to the project that may affect implementation or prospects for achieving project objectives. Risks 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 and/or the project may face substantial risks.

Modest 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 modest risks.

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 modest risks.

The table below illustrates how the risk categories used by GEF and IUCN align with one another.	
GEF risk categories	**IUCN risk categories**
Climate	External
Environment & Social	Part of ESMS risk assessment
Political and Governance	External
Macro-economic	External
Strategies and policies	Strategic
Technical design of project or program	Operational
Institutional capacity for implementation and sustainability	Operational
Fiduciary: financial management and procurement	Finance
Stakeholder engagement	Part of ESMS risk assessment
Other	People management; Legal / Compliance; Information systems
Financial risks for NGI projects	N/A

The table below illustrates how the risk rating/level used by GEF and IUCN align with one another.	
GEF risk rating / level	**IUCN risk rating / level**
High	High
Substantial	High
Moderate	Medium
Low	Low