



**PROJECT IDENTIFICATION FORM (PIF)**

**PROJECT TYPE: Full-sized Project**

**TYPE OF TRUST FUND: GEF Trust Fund**

**PART I: PROJECT IDENTIFICATION**

Project Title:	Enhancing Wildlife Conservation in the Productive Southern Kenya Rangelands through a landscape approach		
Country:	Kenya	GEF Project ID:	4827
GEF Agency:	UNDP	GEF Agency Project ID:	4490
Other Executing Partner(s):	Ministry of Forestry & Wildlife, National Environment Management Authority, Kenya Wildlife Service and African Conservation Centre	Submission Date:	March 23 2012
GEF Focal Area:	Biodiversity	Project Duration:	60 Months
Parent program:	N/A	Agency Fee:	399,091

**A. FOCAL AREA STRATEGY FRAMEWORK:**

Focal Area Objectives	Expected FA Outcomes	Expected FA Outputs	Indicative GEF	Indicative Co Fin (\$)
<b>BD- 2:</b> Mainstream BD Conservation and Sustainable Use into Production Landscapes,	Outcome 2.1: Increase in sustainably managed landscapes and seascapes that integrate biodiversity conservation.	Output 1. Policies and regulatory frameworks for production sectors (pastoralism, agriculture, tourism )	1,000,000	9,000,000
	Outcome 2.2: Measures to conserve and sustainably use biodiversity incorporated in policy and regulatory frameworks.	Output 2. Landscape level land-use plans that incorporate biodiversity and ecosystem services valuation for the greater Amboseli ecosystem (covering over 500,000 ha)	1,808,509	9,000,000
<b>BD-1:</b> Improve Sustainability of PA Systems	Outcome 1.1: Improved management effectiveness of existing and new protected areas.	Output 1. New protected areas (covering xx ha) that cover unprotected ecosystems and improve management effectiveness of 100,00 ha of existing PAs	1,000,000	8,000,000
Project management cost			182,400	2,000,000
Total project costs			3,990,909	28,000,000

**B. PROJECT FRAMEWORK**

Project Title: Biodiversity of the greater Amboseli is protected from existing and emerging threats through building an effective collaborative governance framework for multiple use management of mountain landscapes						
Project Components	Grant Type	Expected Outcomes	Expected Outputs	Trust Fund	Indicative Grant (\$)	Indicative Co-financing (\$)
Effective governance framework for Multiple Use and threat removal outside PAs		<p>Capacitated institutions drive policy change to redress the balance of rights, responsibilities and benefits of conservation more equitably between the government, communities and the private sector leading to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>Maasia community empowered through policies to balance conservation and economic development objectives;</i></li> <li>• <i>Institutional and legal basis for increased participation of the Maasai in tourism industry, with a fairer share of the tourism benefits;</i></li> <li>• <i>Increased level of participation of the community in national rangelands policy formulation and implementation</i></li> </ul>	<p>1) National, regional and local institutions for facilitating a more inclusive planning and conservation of the Amboseli ecosystem established and made operational in the ecosystem: these are;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Government level national rangelands management commission is emplaced, coordinating at least 5 related Ministries;</li> <li>• Independent, national level Kenya Wildlife Conservation Forum emplaced, with at least 10 active member organisations;</li> <li>• Stakeholder-led process identifies existing rangeland management organisations and engages interest in the creation of a Southern Rangelands Trust (SRT), modelled on best practice achieved by the Northern Rangelands Trust and conservancies in southern Africa;</li> <li>• The Southern Rangelands Trust (SRT) is created in chapters, with 5 local chapters in place; likely to be Amboseli, Mara, Loita, Tsavo and Coastal;</li> <li>• Institutional management capacity of one pilot chapter of SRT, the Amboseli Ecosystem Trust, developed until operational, based on best practices;</li> <li>• Wildlife conservation policy and practices recommendations for the greater Amboseli informed by on-the ground reality and considerations for the longer term harmonious co-existence of wildlife, livestock and economic development.</li> </ul>		1,000,000	9,000,000

Landscape based multiple use/management delivers multiple benefits to the widest range of users, reducing threats to wildlife from outside the ecosystem	TA	Co- management framework for the buffer zones of the 3 core Parks (Amboseli, Chyulu, Tsavo west) covering 4,500km2 in place involving group ranches (communities), private sector and KWS, NGOs and other relevant stakeholders resulting in: (i) maintenance of wildlife populations at landscape level; (ii) security for wildlife movements across land units and water and range access; (iii) compatibility of land uses in adjacent communities with overall biodiversity management goals; (iv) containment of threats from infrastructure placement and tourism impacts	An integrated land use plan for the Wildlife Dispersal Areas formulated and implementation initiated, clearly delineating different zones of use, providing specific regulations, standards and code of practices: implementation leads to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>i) Key corridors of connectivity between the 3 core Parks (Amboselli, Tsavo, Chyulu) and the surrounding areas (group ranches) secured through a) identification and mapping key HVBA and forest fragments in the project landscape; b) elevating the legal status of identified critical biodiversity areas outside PAs; c) rehabilitation/ eco-restoration of critically degraded areas (with co- finance).</li> <li>ii) Minimum utilization levels for wildlife corridors particularly for agriculture, livestock, settlements and tourism development areas/zoned in multiple use areas;</li> <li>iii) Protection of swamps, river systems and Chyulu hills water catchment stabilize water availability to wildlife and human use;</li> <li>iv) Farmers in Kimana Ranch and Chyulu Hills complying with biodiversity friendly farming practices reducing pressure from agriculture as evidenced by stabilization in agriculture fields, increase in volumes and duration of stream flows, no net loss of natural forest blocks in critical corridors;</li> </ul>	1,308,509	9,000,000
Increased benefits from tourism shared more equitably		Greater socio-economic benefits from tourism in the Amboseli ecosystem flow to a broader range of stakeholders, including communities, through development of high quality and sustainable tourism that optimizes benefits locally and nationally within agreed limits of acceptable use	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>v) A negotiated ecosystem-wide tourism development plan formulated and implementation initiated, to support sustainable tourism development and infrastructure development outside the core PAs;</li> <li>vi) Tourism returns to local communities enhanced through formation and operationalization of at least 3 wildlife conservancies (Kimana, Kuku and Mbirikani);</li> <li>vii) Partnerships between the private sector and group ranches on tourism outside the core PAs increased and made more equitable through development of new and innovative tourism products and other incentives (such as tax breaks), and renewed branding and marketing;</li> <li>viii) PES for green water credits operation and earning money to land users on the Chyulu hills(co-finance);</li> </ul>	1,500,000	8,000,000
4. Project management				182,400	2,000,000
Total				3,990,909	28,000,000

#### C. INDICATIVE CO-FINANCING FOR THE PROJECT BY SOURCE AND BY NAME IF AVAILABLE, (\$)

Sources of Co-financing	Name of Co-financier	Type of Co-financing	Amount (\$)
Government	KWS	Grant	10,000,000
Government	KWS	Grant	10,000,000
Implementing Agency	UNDP	Grant	1,000,000
Private sector	Ecotourism operators	Grant	2,000,000
Non-Governmental Organizations	MWCT and ACC	Grant	5,000,000
<b>Total co-finance</b>			<b>28,000,000</b>

#### D. GEF RESOURCES REQUESTED BY AGENCY, FOCAL AREAS AND COUNTRY

GEF AGENCY	TYPE OF TRUST FUND	FOCAL AREA	Country	Project amount (a)	Agency Fee (b) <sup>2</sup>	Total c=a+b
UNDP	GEF	BD	Kenya	3,990,909	399,091	4,390,000 <sup>1</sup>

<sup>1</sup> Excludes USD \$ 100,000 for PPG and PPG Fees

## **PART II: PROJECT JUSTIFICATION**

### **A. DESCRIPTION OF THE CONSISTENCY OF THE PROJECT WITH:**

#### **A.1. THE GEF FOCAL AREA STRATEGIES:**

1. Despite the high returns from wildlife based tourism and the large baseline of investment in protected area management in Kenya, tension between conservation and development persists in the greater Amboseli ecosystem, where the ecological viability of the PA estate to sustain healthy populations of wildlife is threatened by loss of animal dispersal areas, migratory corridors and drought refugia. The greater Amboseli is part of the Maasai lands in the Southern Kenya rangelands where communities continue to perceive conservationists as using a protectionism and segregation approach, contrary to their preferred approach of integration of people and nature, to deliver both development and conservation benefits. Here, the high returns from tourism have bypassed the local communities who have borne the high cost of conservation, not only from lost opportunities from the rangelands, but also from damage to crops, livestock and lives, visited on them by legally protected wildlife. Additional pressure from growing populations, nationally and locally, has heightened the fear of losing the remaining rangelands, particularly given the inadequate security of tenure for group ranches. This has provided a portent incentive for subdividing group ranches, converting them into fenced cultivated land, at the expense of the ecosystem's ability to provide for both wildlife conservation and livelihoods.
2. The project will contribute to GEF Biodiversity Focal Area Strategic Objectives one: Improve sustainability of Protected Area (PA) systems; and two; Mainstream biodiversity, conservation and sustainable use into production landscapes: It will provide a resource governance model that allows communities and conservationists to utilize revitalized skills, and, guided by a knowledge based landscape planning, take advantage of modified policies and market based incentives to balance resource use and resource conservation across the greater Amboseli, to secure a broader range of benefits for the onsite and offsite dependents, in a more equitable and sustainable manner. Facilitated by the project, the stakeholders will map out and secure wildlife dispersal areas, connectivity corridors between the core PAs of Amboseli, Tsavo and Chyulu, and expand the Kimana animal sanctuary to offer greater protection of selected species (SO 1). They will also catalyze a shift from the current sector-focused planning to a more integrated land use planning system. This will ensure that different production activities across economic sectors factor in considerations for long-term biodiversity conservation; thus increasing productivity of livestock and agriculture while protecting environmental services, including the watershed services of the Chyulu hills (SO2). Collectively, these measures will improve the ecological integrity of the mosaic of protected areas to sustainably support long-term conservation, while nested in a productive landscape that provides greater opportunities for economic development of the Maasai community.

#### **A.2. NATIONAL STRATEGIES AND PLANS OR REPORTS AND ASSESSMENTS UNDER RELEVANT CONVENTIONS:**

3. The Government of Kenya is committed to protecting biodiversity. The major policy tool guiding national development in all sectors is the National Development Plan (NDP), which takes into consideration all other plans and strategies from various sectors. Of relevance are the Poverty Reduction Strategy Paper, the Economic Recovery Strategy Paper, the National Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan. Others include the Kenya Wildlife Service Strategic Plan and the Forest Masterplan. The project is aligned with the National Forest Policy, the Wildlife Policy and Environmental Policy and Strategies. The National Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan (2000) stresses the importance of conserving natural forests within a representative and effectively managed national protected area estate in order to maintain species diversity and endemism. The NBSAP further stresses the need to develop a representative and sustainable national PA system. The Environmental Management & Coordination Act, 2000, and Forest Act, 2005 provide for the establishment of Community Conservation Areas (CCAs) with the intention that such areas be co-managed by the Government, local communities and, where feasible, the private sector (for example Land Trusts). Kenyan law has provision for the creation of conservancies as it stands, both from communal lands such as group ranches as well as through private ownership. With the success of the newly introduced national Constitution, a number of bills are expected to be updates including the Wildlife act and the Land Act. These are expected to be finalized in process during the latter part of 2010 and in draft form offer an encouraging picture for the legal status of conservancies in the future

### **B. PROJECT OVERVIEW:**

#### **B.1. DESCRIBE THE BASELINE PROJECT AND THE PROBLEM THAT IT SEEKS TO ADDRESS:**

4. Kenya's drylands ecosystems are an important part of the African savannah, recognized as the host to the world's greatest diversity of ungulates. Indeed, Kenya's wildlife is one of the richest and most diversified in Africa, and constitutes a unique natural heritage of great national and global importance. The savannah boasts of over 40 different species, with antelopes being especially diverse, including eland, impalas, gazelles, oryx, gerenuk, and kudu. The

habitat is home to the world famous buffalo, wildebeest, plains zebra, rhinos, giraffes, elephants, and warthogs. The Greater Amboseli Ecosystem is of particular interest because it hosts a high spectrum of fauna and flora, spread across several important National Parks, including the Amboseli National Park, a UNESCO Man and the Biosphere site since 1991. Located in southern Kenya, between Amboseli and Tsavo National Parks and at the foothills of Mount Kilimanjaro, the ecosystem consists of six Maasai group ranches with a combined area of 5583 km<sup>2</sup>, and Amboseli National Park (390 km<sup>2</sup>) (map in annex 1). The area supports approximately 50,000 Maasai pastoralists, 280,000 head of livestock and an estimated 70,000 head of wildlife. Amboseli National Park was established as a nature reserve in 1968, and gazetted as a National Park in 1974.

5. Geologically, the ecosystem covers part of a dry Pleistocene lake basin, which has a temporary lake that floods during years of heavy rainfall (Lake Amboseli). The area falls in the rain-shadow of Mount Kilimanjaro and receives only about 300 -500 mm of rain/year, placing it amongst the driest places in Kenya. However, water flowing underground from Mount Kilimanjaro wells up here in a series of lush swamps that provide dry-season water and forage for wildlife, comprising of attractive *Acacia xanthophloea* woodlands. On the other hand, the *Acacia xanthophloea* woodlands and other woody vegetation have declined markedly over the last 20 years, due in part to soil salinization following a natural shift in the water table, hastened by heavy browsing pressure from elephants. The park has a rich bird fauna, with over 400 bird species recorded, including over 40 birds of prey, and many species of global conservation concern occur, including *Falco naumanni* (on passage), small numbers of non-breeding *Ardeola idae* (mainly May–October) and *Phoenicopterus minor* (present in variable numbers, up to a few thousand). Regionally threatened species include *Anhinga rufa* (scarce non-breeding visitor); *Casmerodius albus* (usually present in small numbers); *Thalassornis leuconotus* (occasional visitor).
6. The six communally-owned group ranches surrounding the core park are critical wet-season dispersal areas for wildlife, and their management has direct influence on the ecological stability of the park. They are also host to the world renowned migratory routes including Serengeti-Mara and other lesser known routes through Amboseli into Kilimanjaro. These ecologically important areas harbour diverse and complex grassland savannah ecosystems which are also connected eastwards to both Tsavo East and Mkomazi National Park and the Maasai steppe rangelands in northern Tanzania and linked westwards to the Loita hills, Maasai Mara Game Reserve and the wider Serengeti ecosystem. The Chyulu Hills is a vital water catchment feeding into Mzima Springs and providing the only permanent source of water into the Tsavo West National Park. The Mzima pipeline provides water to an estimated 7 million people along the coastal towns, including Mombasa. The heavy presence of fauna and flora biodiversity, combined with the picturesque surroundings (dominated by the imposing Mount Kilimanjaro), has made Amboseli a major tourist destination, attracting over 200,000 visitors each year.
7. **Threats to biodiversity in the Amboseli-Chyulu-Tsavo ecosystem:** Although the Amboseli-Chyulu-Tsavo ecosystem is the bedrock of Kenya’s tourism, the biodiversity therein is threatened by declining ecological integrity of the ecosystem, habitat degradation, loss of migration and dispersal areas and insularisation, poaching for commercial or subsistence purposes, encroachment of incompatible land uses, and, an escalating human-wildlife conflicts. The table below summarizes the threats to the ecosystem and the impacts to connectivity within the ecosystem and between the ecosystem and surrounding areas.

**TABLE 1: KEY THREATS TO THE INTEGRITY OF THE AMBOSELI ECOSYSTEM**

Threat	Location of threat (annex 1,2,3)	Impact
<b>Within the Amboseli ecosystem</b>		
Farming, settlement and land subdivision	Dispersal areas south of Amboseli NP	Wildlife corridors to and from the Kilimanjaro forest are being lost
Settlement	Loitokitok Pipeline	Migrations between Amboseli and Mbirikani dispersal areas as well as access to the Chyulu Hills are being curtailed
Subdivision, crop farms and fences	Namelok and Kimana	Wildlife and especially elephant movements to and from Amboseli are being curtailed
Farming and irrigation	Kimana and Lenker Swamps	Swamps critical to livestock and wildlife populations on Kimana, Kuku and Mbirikani Group Ranches are being eliminated. Also wildlife sanctuaries and tourism facilities on all three ranches are also threatened by the loss of both swamps.
Unplanned tourism development	Kimana individual plots	Wildlife and especially elephant movements to and from Amboseli are being curtailed
<b>Between Amboseli ecosystem and adjoining ecosystems</b>		
Loss of forest cover on the	Chyulu Hills	Ecological link with the Amboseli ecosystem is being severed.

upper Chyulus, as well as farming and settlement on the lower slopes		
Settlement and farms along the corridor at the base of the Chyulus	Tsavo West	Wildlife movements that connect Tsavo West to Amboseli through Kuku and Mbirikani Group Ranches are being Severed
Subdivision and settlement	Selengei	The link between the Amboseli and Eastern Kaputei populations of migratory herbivores is being severed
Farming and fencing	Kilimanjaro	The last remaining link in the ecological gradient running down the northern face of Kilimanjaro to Amboseli as well as an elephant and ungulate corridor between the mountain forest and lowlands is being severed
Loss of water down the Ngaserai furrow	Ngaserai	There is a slump in dry season wildlife numbers, reducing the flow of animals to and from Amboseli
Land subdivision in Matapato	Rift Valley	Wildlife movements, especially elephants, west to the rift valley is being severed
Water off take from the rivers and swamps fed by the Chyulus and Kilimanjaro	Rivers and swamp systems	Drought refuge vital for livestock and wildlife in the Amboseli meta-ecosystem is being lost and habitat diversity created in large part by gravitational water flow from Chyulus and Kilimanjaro is being degraded.

8. The Maasai pastoralists have inhabited the rangelands of southern Kenya for roughly over three hundred years, over which they developed a nomadic pastoral lifestyle that allowed them to co-exist with the wildlife, with many traditional range management practices aimed at maximizing human wellbeing while protecting the integrity of the ecosystem. Seasonal migration and the *ololili*, (dry season refugia) are particularly well suited to sustainable exploitation of the rangelands by both wildlife and people. However, land use change started in the 1960s with the formation of group ranches, meant to allow members to gain collective group title to their land. The group ranch concept represented a new approach to pastoral development and was a first attempt to radically transform a nomadic subsistence production system into a sedentary, commercially oriented system. But with 70% of the wildlife living outside the official parks in dispersal areas, the group ranches formed a critical wildlife dispersal areas and migration corridors for wildlife. Subdivision of the ranches began a new phase in the mid-1970s, as group ranches were subdivided into private parcels. By 1990, forty of the original fifty-two group ranches in Kajiado had subdivided. Unfortunately, the subdivision is often accompanied by fencing, overgrazing, extension of agriculture and unplanned human settlements. The process continues today, with group ranch committees voting to subdivide entire ranches into small parcels of 24 to 40 hectares to be dispersed among ranch members and the trend is towards increasing fragmentation of the ecosystem.
9. The consequence has been large scale disconnection of ecological habitats **within the ecosystem and between the ecosystem and other adjoining ecosystems** which reduce its viability to continue supporting the vast biodiversity and livelihoods due to blockage of wildlife migratory corridors, loss of habitat, shrinkage of wildlife dispersal areas and interference of interactions between predators and prey relationships, herbivores and grasslands, all of which are ecologically significant for both habitats and wildlife. Many of Amboseli's species, particularly eland, oryx, impala and reedbuck, would become extinct if links to the larger metapopulation in the Chyulu Hills, Kaputei, Tsavo, Kilimanjaro, Ngaserai and possibly the Rift Valley were severed. Insularization of protected areas and habitat fragmentation would hasten the extinction of species, directly reducing biodiversity. If the protected areas have no dispersal areas, genetic drift and inbreeding may occur, leading to population instability, loss of ecological integrity and possibly local extinction. These extra-ecosystem linkages are also necessary to buffer Amboseli against extreme droughts and climatic change.
10. The changes have equally threatened the ability of the ecosystem to support the livelihoods of the Maasai community sustainably. The formation of group ranches and the subsequent subdivisions have been accompanied by widespread sedenterization of the pastoralists, loss of grazing lands, reduced livestock mobility and overgrazing. The movement from a semi nomadic to a sedentary lifestyle and the shrinking access to land has reduced the sufficiency of traditional livelihoods strategies, weakened traditional resource governance institutions and increased vulnerable to drought and climate change. In addition to destroying natural habitats and altering the character of rangeland landscape, agricultural expansion also fuels the human-wildlife conflicts as wild animals destroy crops more frequently than they harm livestock. A recent study reported that over 40% of group ranch members experience crop damages annually by wildlife compared to only about 21% who experience livestock losses. Annual combined losses of both crops and livestock to wildlife become of more significance and of great concern to local communities as over 64% of community members incur both crop and livestock losses annually.

11. Vulnerability to effects of drought and climate change is reported to have dramatically increased for people, livestock and wildlife. Notably, approximately 75% of wildlife and 85% of livestock were lost in the last drought of 2009 in the rangelands of the Amboseli ecosystem. Access to other basic natural resources is also getting difficult with time. The Maasai community is heavily dependent on plant resources for traditional medicinal care, for shelter, for fuel, for fencing among other uses (Kiringe and Okello, 2005). This dependence is increasing as other land uses clear natural vegetation, particularly for agricultural use. It is now reported that the Maasai have to walk further and longer to access various plant resources for basic use. Clean drinking and domestic water is becoming scarce too as agriculture diverts the available rivers and springs for horticultural production (Ogolla and Mugabe, 1996). Water shortage is exacerbated by the low rainfall with little alternative rain water. Water flow in rivers is also becoming less due to hydrological and deforestation activities in the catchments area of Mt. Kilimanjaro and Chyulu hills. Coupled with the losses of crops, livestock and human life to wildlife, these emerging challenges result in reduced support for conservation.
12. **Baseline program:** The baseline for the proposed project constitutes the conservation efforts by three sectors, described below, with a combined value of more than 50 million USD. These are: i) the government, primarily through the Kenya Wildlife Service; ii) the academic Sector, primarily through the Amboseli Conservation Program and the African Conservation centre; and, iii) the group ranches, primarily through the Maasai Wilderness Conservation Trust (MWCT).
13. **Government – KWS investment program: over US\$ 80 million in the last 5 years alone:** Kenya has established an extensive network of protected areas to conserve biodiversity, covering over 11% of the land area of 586,600 km<sup>2</sup>. These comprise 51 terrestrial National Parks and National Reserves (44,400 km<sup>2</sup>) administered by the Kenya Wildlife Service (KWS), and set up to protect wilderness areas harbouring large mammals. The network of protected areas is concentrated in the Southern Maasai rangelands which harbour the highest densities of large mammals in the country, and the target of the proposed project. KWS is the custodian of Kenya's National Parks and National Reserves, with an overall mandate to conserve and manage wildlife in Kenya. Due to the close link between economic development and tourism in Kenya, KWS is a core partner in the Government's strategy on formulation and implementation of strategies for tourism and the sustainable exploitation of natural resources for economic recovery, employment and wealth creation. KWS controls approximately 8% of the total landmass of the country comprising of 22 terrestrial national parks, 4 marine national parks, 28 terrestrial national reserves, 6 marine national reserves and 5 national sanctuaries. In addition to this, KWS currently controls 125 game stations outside protected areas. Within these parks and stations are infrastructural developments like office and residential blocks, training institutes, workshops, research centers, bandas, hotels, shops and restaurants, boreholes, road networks, airstrips and related plant and equipment. KWS's annual budget exceeds USD 30 million; a third of which goes to the Amboseli-Chyulu-Tsavo ecosystem, where it supports security against poaching (personnel, equipment, gadgets and vehicles); community wardens and community rangers for the Community Based Conservation (CBC); schools, roads, community enterprise projects, water projects, targeted fencing, and control of problem animals within the Human-Wildlife Conflict program. A substantial part of the budget supports ecosystem planning, applied research on carnivores, the habitat integrity, livelihoods, veterinary and disease surveillance, ecological research and monitoring (vegetation composition, structure, trends); species monitoring (site specific species conservation plans for lions, wild beast, giraffe, elephants). The rest of the budget supports overall financial and human resource management (and related infrastructure). With support of several development partners, KWS has produced a ten year Amboseli Ecosystem Management Plan (2010-2018), which includes preliminary zones for various land uses (annex 2).
14. **Academia -The African Conservation Center (ACC) and the Amboseli Conservation Program (ACP) – USD 5 million;** As stated on its website, ACP has been involved in the conservation of Amboseli and its wildlife for the last four decades. Beginning with parks planning in the 1970s, ACC has been deeply involved in setting up community-based programs in Amboseli, establishing community wildlife sanctuaries; community scouts associations, and the Amboseli Tsavo Group Ranch Wildlife Association. ACP continued to pursue and champion human and wildlife studies and in the mid-1980s its outreach activities were formally incorporated into the African Conservation Centre, based in Nairobi. ACC continuous the ACP's dedication to using research to sustain the integrity of the Amboseli ecosystem, and applying its findings to the betterment of conservation nationally and internationally. Its stated goals are: to conduct research on African ecosystems; to develop tools for identifying the threats to biodiversity; to develop conservation policies and practices that benefit local communities; to build local and national consensus and capacity for conservation; to promote sound environmental governance and practices; and, to forge national and international collaboration for conserving biodiversity. Its current program of work involves regular monitoring of habitats, vegetation dynamics, land-use changes, drought, and socio-economic change. It still undertakes periodic animal counts and has helped to establish electric fences to protect irrigated farms at Namelok and restore woodland refuges in the national park.

15. **The Maasai community - the case of Wilderness Conservation Trust (MWCT) – US\$ 10 million** - MWCT is a grass roots community conservation trust established by the Maasai community of Kuku Group Ranch, covering 1133km<sup>2</sup> of land which borders Tsavo West and Chyulu National Parks. For the last 10 years, MWCT has promoted community access to direct benefits from wildlife and sustainable natural resource management (including revenue from ecotourism activities, local employment, health and education), to stem the spread of unsustainable subsistence agriculture, with its negative impacts on ecological viability of the ecosystem. Employing 200 people, it is led by a Maasai president and supported by professional conservation practitioners anchored in the community and abroad, to ensure that the well being of the community is achieved through the sustainable management of their natural resources. MWCT provides the communities a valuable opportunity to successfully leverage conservation benefits through biodiversity conservation (wildlife security, monitoring and mitigating human-wildlife conflict), climate change adaptation and mitigation (carbon credit projects and alternative fuel sources) and local capacity building. MWCT is indeed the first organization to successfully negotiate a conservation area deal on a Maasai Group Ranch, within the Amboseli Chyulu migration corridor, and has two such conservation areas in Kuku Ranch. These conservation areas demonstrate economically viable land use alternatives to conservation incompatible practices. MWCT is also negotiating the creation of a community black rhino sanctuary within the conservancies. It is also in the process of developing a PES for water catchment rehabilitation on the Chyulu hills. This is in addition to the PES for biodiversity which they have been running for over 3 years, through the *Wildlife Pays* programme, which compensates communities for livestock damaged by wildlife. This scheme is financed through a levy collected from tourists who visit the ecotourism lodge leased from the group ranch.
16. **The long term solution and barriers to achieving it:** To conserve Amboseli ecosystem's threatened species and habitats, and especially the charismatic elephants and expansive swamps, and promote sustainable development of the ecosystem for the benefit of the present and future generations. The Amboseli ecosystem has little arable potential, but it has enormous national and global heritage and touristic value, which PAs alone cannot secure in the long term. The solution to the conservation challenge lies in embracing a landscape approach to conservation and development, allowing the ecosystem to provide a broad range of benefits to the broad range of interests dependent on it, including wildlife, pastoralists, off-site communities (water) and indeed the environment. This will only be achieved if there is meaningful involvement of the local communities in the landscape approach, given the better legacy of coexistence over millennia of joint use of the land. Although there are currently numerous projects partially addressing conservation and the consequences of land subdivision and ecosystem fragmentation in the landscape, their effectiveness has been limited by the barriers described below:
17. **Barrier 1: Weak institutional and policy framework for collaborative governance of natural resources and delivery of multiple benefits equitably amongst relevant stakeholders:** this barrier originated from the strong centralized controls over wildlife that arose with the advent of modern nation states across Africa. Although many rural communities depended on natural resources (and wildlife) for livelihoods, many emerging nations adopted a western model of conservation that separated wildlife into protected areas (such as national parks) where people were excluded and often forcefully removed from their former lands without compensation. The agenda for the conservationists was to conserve biodiversity, and differed from that of the local communities, which was to regain control over natural resources and improve their lives. The model was totally alien to the use and interactions Africans had with such resources, and did not accommodate customary rights of African communities to continue using wildlife and protect their families, crops and livestock from attack.
18. This conservation model was supported by a regime of national policies (still in existence) that introduced an acute conflict between people and wildlife on the one hand, and a tussle between governments, communities and conservationists over who owns and/or has rights to use of wildlife on the other. Indeed the prevailing policy environment is still heavily stacked in favor of government, business and international conservation agencies and against communities; and government policy is far too restrictive and local voices far too weak for the future of wildlife to be secure. By denying age-old rights, governments and conservationists have stigmatized wildlife conservation by placing the cost burden on rural communities, without adequate compensation.
19. The foregoing is compounded by the interplay of communal land ownership and population growth. Although the Maasai bordering the Amboseli-Chyulu-Tsave parks have some security of tenure through group ranches, majority do not feel that this form of ownership is secure enough, in the face of the rapid population growth in the country and amongst the Maasai. Kenya's population is five times higher than the 1940s levels, driving land shortage, poverty, inequality and conflict with wildlife. Livestock holdings among pastoralist have fallen from fifteen per capita to five in southern Kenya. The faltering subsistence economies cast millions of pastoralists into the fringes of the market economy. Without secure land rights, the rural communities want subdivision of the open commons to privatize and develop their lands, ward off land grabbers and keep out wildlife.

20. **Barrier 2: Limited application of landscape level, knowledge based land use planning and management that maximizes biodiversity conservation needs:** The landscape in the Amboseli-Chyulu-Tsavo west ecosystem comprises of the world famous Amboseli National Park and about six Maasai communally owned group ranches (GR) which act as both resident and wildlife dispersal area from Amboseli National Park, Tsavo West and Chyulu national parks. These resources are linked as wildlife, livestock and people need land, water and pasture for survival or benefit. Rainfall is a critical limiting factor in biotic productivity here, and water distribution affects how the Maasai and wildlife utilize land across the landscape. Under these circumstances, a comprehensive ecosystem-wide knowledge based land use plan would be required as the basis of resource exploitation. The Kenya Wildlife Service has recently concluded a ten year Amboseli Ecosystem management Plan (2010-2018, annex 2), which details the program of work on Ecological Management of the National Parks, Tourism Development and Management, Community Partnership and Education, Security and Ecosystem Operations. While the management plan is forward looking and innovative, it focuses more on the management of the core PAs and does not comprehensively address threats emanating from the competing land use in the group ranches.

21. Furthermore, planning and decision making by related sectors, agencies and communities of the Amboseli-Chyulu-Tsavo west ecosystem take place based on limited/fragmented information. Knowledge and capacity constraints also limit production sectors from pursuing alternate ecologically benign revenue mobilization options, e.g. farm tourism and crop diversification. Where it is applied, knowledge has tended to be segmented with the expertise and resources from various sectors focusing on only part of the system instead of a unified goal; thus ecologists tend to only look at the ecological factors, conservation authorities at wildlife populations, and NGO's, private sector conservationists focusing on the socio-economics, and often giving handouts. This has led to extension of agriculture and livestock activities into migratory corridors, reducing the ecological integrity of the 3 NPs; as exemplified in the table of threats and their impacts (e.g. in Kimana, Mbirikani, Kuku ranches and Chyulu Hills).

22. **Barrier 3: Inadequate balance in rights, responsibilities and access to economic benefits from tourism by communities:** Amboseli ecosystem is one of the most important tourism destinations in Kenya receiving over 130,000 visitors annually. Unfortunately, the Maasai have not benefitted much from the proceeds of this tourism, due to limited tourism infrastructure outside the core PAs, poor financial endowment limiting their opportunities for participation and investment, and low levels of expertise in tourism enterprises. The predominant tourism activity in the ecosystem is wildlife viewing and photography against the backdrop of the majestic Kilimanjaro, the tallest mountain in Africa on the Kenya/Tanzania border. The concentration of wildlife in swamps in the Park and Kimana wildlife sanctuary is a major attraction especially during the dry season, leading to tourist congestion in these two wildlife focal areas. While wildlife disburses throughout the ecosystem during the wet season, this has not changed the pattern of distribution of visitors due to lack of roads and other tourism infrastructure in the group ranches. This is exacerbated by the fact that development of tourism facilities within the Amboseli Ecosystem has been largely investor driven and therefore not coordinated. As such, most development is concentrated in a few places without any effort to distribute it more evenly throughout the wider ecosystem. The low levels of education and limited technical expertise among the Maasai has exacerbated the skewed distribution of benefits even when tourism spreads into the group ranches. Some land owners have adopted tourism as an alternative land use through the establishment of sanctuaries and leasing of concession areas to private investors. Nevertheless, of the leases and tenancy agreements of the lodges, campsites, and tourist enterprises have been poorly negotiated and prepared, with the result that they are in favor of the lessee rather than the landowners. Since a viable and sustainable wildlife tourism sector depends primarily on maintaining connectivity between the Park and adjacent ranches to allow wildlife to access forage, it is vital that local communities receive tangible benefits for them to continue supporting wildlife tourism.

**B. 2. INCREMENTAL COST REASONING AND THE ASSOCIATED GLOBAL ENVIRONMENTAL BENEFITS:**

23. The project seeks to reorient the baseline to effectively redress the current tension between conservation and development; which can be advanced considerably by departing from the protectionism and segregation mode of conservation, and moving towards a continuum that promotes better coexistence of people and nature; one that re-balances the rights, responsibilities and benefits of natural resource management between conservation and local development more equitably. The project objectives will be met through three closely related components as described below:

24. **Component 1: Effective governance framework for Multiple Use of the Greater Amboseli ecosystem (encompassing the Amboseli-Chyulu-Tsavo west landscapes):** under this outcome, the project will facilitate the formation and capacitation of institutions which will drive policy change to redress the balance of rights, responsibilities and benefits of conservation more equitably between the government, communities and the private



sector. The project will therefore facilitate the formation of national, regional and local collaborative governance institutions and strengthen their vertical and horizontal linkages so that they can empower the communities to better participate in balancing conservation and economic development, thereby ensuring sustainability of the Amboseli ecosystem with its 3 NPs. The institutions are:

- i) National Rangelands Commission – to be established; this will be a government level institution similar to those catering for human rights (Kenya Human Rights Commission); it will benefit all communities living in wildlife conservation areas in the country.
- ii) Kenya Wildlife Conservation Forum – this institution has already been established, but it is very new. Modelled along the non-government Kenya Forestry Working Group, the Forum will bring together interest groups to lobby for community friendly wildlife conservation. This will also benefit all communities living in wildlife important areas in the country.
- iii) Southern Rangelands Trust (SRT) – to be established, modelled along the successful Northern Rangelands Trust, which works for community friendly wildlife conservation in the northern rangelands. The SRT will benefit all communities living in wildlife important areas in the entire southern rangelands, including the Maasai Mara, Tsavo East, etc.
- iv) Amboseli Ecosystem Management Trust – To be established in line with the implementation of the KWS-led ten-year Amboseli Ecosystem Management Plan. This institution will focus on the 5,583km<sup>2</sup> of the Amboseli ecosystem.

25. The National Rangelands Management Commission and the Kenya Wildlife Conservation Forum will lead the review of wildlife conservation policy to ensure that it corrects the historical imbalance in accessing benefits from conservation and the establishment of the third institution, the Southern Rangelands Trust (SRT). The SRT will in turn be facilitated to establish local chapters in Amboseli, Mara, Loita, Tsavo and Coastal region. These chapters will be linked to the traditional resource management institutions and will be provided with capacity to function, as well as strategies for ensuring sustainability. These chapters will, in a collaborative knowledge based manner, facilitate the identification of a future land holding model for the southern rangelands. They will for example explore the possibility of systematic sub-division while retaining the connectivity of rangelands for both livestock and wildlife. Subdivision does not necessarily prevent wildlife from using group ranches as dispersal areas, except if fences and persecution of wildlife through HWC increases. There are indeed cases where land owners in subdivided GRs are combing their land to form private wildlife sanctuaries, thereby benefitting wildlife and cattle movement while protecting the lands from land grabs. This has contradicted the notion that subdivision automatically ends the use of group ranches by wildlife. Wildlife sanctuaries by individual or group of organized individual land owners are likely to succeed than those owned jointly in communal ownership as a way of helping communities benefit from wildlife. Under this component, the project will support the local chapters to identify business models that overcome the current challenges in order for communities to fully benefit from ecotourism (detailed further in component 3). The component will establish the systems that will ensure that, in the long run, the role of government in conservation becomes smaller and supportive as local initiatives take root, and are effective in bridging disparate interests to provide a common framework for conserving biodiversity in perpetuity.

26. The national institution will benefit all communities living in rangelands, particularly rangelands supporting conservation based tourism. The Amboseli-level institutions will benefit the Amboseli ecosystem (Amboseli, Tsavo west and Chyulu National Parks and the 6 group ranches that form the buffer zones, including the farming community on Chyulu Hills). The long-term financing of the regional governance systems will be secured through contributions by regional membership: like in the Northern Rangelands Trust, the SRT will draw membership from group ranches and/or village based groups. The leadership of SRT will also lobby the County governments to mainstream the SRT into county planning and budgeting, given the importance of revenue from tourism in the country budgets. Like the Kenya Forestry Working Group, the Kenya Wildlife Forum draws membership and strength from national institutions, civil society, and academia. In addition to contributions from the membership, the secretariat will develop programmes and raise funds for implementing them, including the consideration for the establishment of a trust. The long-term financing of the Amboseli Ecosystem Management Trust is sufficiently catered for in the implementation of the ten-year Amboseli Ecosystem Management Plan. This will be complemented by contribution from the private sector and local institutions, coordinated by the Secretariat. The long-term financing of the National Coordination Mechanism (Commission) will be negotiated PPG and reported at CEO endorsement.

27. In order to ensure that these institutions wield enough weight to secure sustainable and equitable PA governance, their formation will be informed by lessons generated from establishing and running similar institutions in other sectors. For instance the Kenya Wildlife Forum is modelled in the same way as the successful Kenya Forestry Working Group; the Southern Rangelands trust will be modelled after the Northern Rangelands Trust, which is successfully facilitating

community participation and beneficiation from biodiversity in the northern rangelands; the Kenya Rangelands Commission will be informed by the Kenya Human Rights Commission, which has been successful in advancing human rights issues in Kenya, including the processes following the troubled 2007 elections. The regional and local institutions will work with the new county governments (established under the new constitution), whose structures are also newly emerging, giving the PA governance institutions a fair chance of exerting influence, especially since most of the County revenue will most likely be from wildlife based tourism.

**28. Component 2: Reducing threats from the wider landscape:** this outcome will support the application of the concept of multiple use management for the delivery of multiple benefits to the widest range of users, including people, animals and the environment, as a means of reducing threats to the PAs from the competing land uses in the wider ecosystem. This will be achieved through the formulation of a co-management framework for the buffer zones of the 3 core Parks (Amboseli, Chyulu, Tsavo west) covering 30,000km<sup>2</sup>. Further detailed planning will be undertaken for areas of high biodiversity to be afforded higher protection status, with a more detailed prescription of appropriate land uses and management practices in order to secure key corridors of connectivity between the 3 core Parks (Amboseli, Tsavo, Chyulu) and the surrounding areas (group ranches), watershed services and rehabilitation /eco-restoration of critically degraded areas (with co- finance). Building on the KWS-led ten-year Amboseli Ecosystem Management Plan, the project will support the implementation of the integrated land use plan in the following hotspots:

- Dispersal areas south of Amboseli NP where farming, settlement and land subdivision are blocking wildlife corridors to and from the Kilimanjaro forest.
- Along the Loitokitok pipeline where settlements are threatening migrations between Amboseli and Mbirikani dispersal areas as well as access to the Chyulu Hills.
- In Namelok and Kimana where subdivision, crop farms, fences and unplanned tourism are blocking elephant movements to and from Amboseli.
- In Kimana and Lenker swamps where farming and irrigation are threatening swamps critical to livestock and wildlife populations, hence tourism businesses on Kimana, Kuku and Mbirikani Group Ranches.
- On Chyulu Hills where loss of forest cover on the upper Chyulus, as well as farming and settlement on the lower slopes is threatening the ecological links (and processes) between Chyulu and Amboseli National Parks.
- At the base of the Chyulu Hills where settlement and farms along the corridor are blocking wildlife movements that connect Tsavo West to Amboseli through Kuku and Mbirikani Group Ranches.
- In Selengei where subdivision and settlement are threatening the link between the Amboseli and Eastern Kaputei, hence the migration of herbivores between the two.
- In Ngaserai where loss of water down the Ngaserai furrow reduces water availability in the dry season, reducing wildlife numbers and the flow of animals to and from Amboseli.
- In Matapato where land subdivision is curtailing wildlife movements, especially elephants, west to the rift valley.
- Collectively, these measures will result in compatibility of land uses in adjacent communities with overall biodiversity management goals, stabilize water availability to wildlife and human use, security for wildlife movements across land units and water and range access; and, ultimately to the maintenance of wildlife population the landscape level.

**29. Component 3: Increased benefits from tourism shared more equitably:** this outcome will support the increase of carefully planned and sustainable tourism activities in the outside the 3 PAs and stronger participation of the Maasai communities in the business to ensure that communities access greater socio-economic benefits from tourism. This will be achieved through the development of high quality and sustainable tourism that optimizes benefits locally and nationally within agreed limits of acceptable use. The project will therefore facilitate the formulation of a negotiated ecosystem-wide tourism development plan, and support the 6 group ranches to access capital to undertake the required infrastructure development (baselines and sources of capital to be confirmed during PPG). It will also facilitate the formation of community conservation areas in three group ranches – Kimana, Mbirikani and Kuku, for the purpose of boosting tourism, and based on lessons generated from Southern Africa (Namibia, Zimbabwe CAMPFIRE, etc.). It will also support the development of new tourism products to diversify wildlife viewing and photography. Products that draw tourists further into the buffer zones while enhancing visitor experience and cash injection into the local economies will be prioritized. Potential opportunities for such activities include cultural tourism, volunteer tourism, horse riding, walking and bird watching among others. These activities are well developed in some of the group ranches with conservancies and they will be developed further through the project. To escalate them, the project will facilitate formation of fairer partnerships between the private sector and group ranches in joint-ventures and support renewed branding and marketing. Finally, a PES for green water credits will be supported (by co-finance) to incentivize restoration of the Chyulu Hills water catchment.

### B.3. SOCIO-ECONOMIC BENEFITS AT ALL LEVELS, GENDER DIMENSIONS, GLOBAL ENVIRONMENT BENEFITS.

30. The proposed project will increase the integrity of the Amboseli ecosystem and its ability to support both wildlife and tourism, the second largest contributor to Kenya's economy, accounting for 21% of total foreign exchange earnings

and 12% of the GDP. It will also increase economic beneficiation for the communities, boosting local economies, household income and wealth creation (reducing poverty). The contribution of the industry has multiplier effects in other sectors of the economy such as agriculture, horticulture, transport and communications. Other benefits include the protection of water catchments and genetic resources.

31. Women play a critical role in livestock husbandry and natural resources management in Maasailand, both as beneficiaries but often as victims of the effects of reduced productivity. In recognition of this fact, the project will undertake a gender analysis during the PPG, which will identify critical issues related to access and control of land and other natural resources, particularly as they relate to selected project initiatives. A gender strategy will be formulated to ensure that consequent project implementation takes gender issues into consideration, promoting a more effective targeting of initiatives, a more equitable access to project benefits and disaggregated data for monitoring. In addition, the project will actively empower women and other excluded groups, particularly those at high risk of suffering from the effects of rangeland degradation and climate change vulnerabilities. This will be achieved through social mobilization utilizing Women Self Help Groups (SHGs) and such other community based structures. These groups will benefit from skill development (education/training), access to financial resources and markets for sustainably produced/harvested NTFPs.

**B.4. INDICATE RISKS, INCLUDING CLIMATE CHANGE RISKS AND MEASURES THAT ADDRESS THESE RISKS:**

Risk	Level	Mitigation
Threat of continued subdivision of the Group Ranches accompanied by fencing, overgrazing, extension of agriculture and unplanned human settlements.	M	Subdivision is driven by the fear of losing land in the absence of secure title, higher returns from marginal agriculture compared to conservation (tourism); further fencing is encouraged by a lack of compensation for crop and livestock losses in the absence of any returns from wildlife. Cost benefit analysis consistently show that for most of the rangelands (such as the Amboseli ecosystem), conservation based tourism yields higher returns per unit of land than marginal agriculture; the challenge is accessing those higher benefits for the majority of the community. All three outcomes of the project will address these failures: outcome 1 will provide policy base and institutions for a more balanced distribution of rights, responsibilities and benefits from conservation based tourism; outcome 2 will provide the land use plan with clear zonation of use levels and the minimum standards, as well as stronger enforcement; outcome 3 will create the conditions for stronger participation of the community in tourism with a higher return from conservation accruing to the communities. Collectively, these outcomes will ensure that the Maasai play a stronger role and access more benefits from conservation than from the marginal agriculture, hence the incentives for maintaining the traditional production system which is more compatible with conservation. There is already evidence of land owners coming together to form conservancies, removing fences and pooling their privately owned lands, where the benefits of such action has yielded financial benefits in Kimana.
Slow operationalization of the legislation legalizing conservancies as the vehicle for co-management	L	The government of Kenya is showing an increasing support for an ecosystem /landscape approach to rangeland /wildlife management through greater cohesion on a policy level initiated by the 2010 referendum, and resultant Constitution as well as new Wildlife and Land acts which have empowered communities to manage their own lands and access revenues considerably. Although the current legislation covers co-management of community conservation areas through conservancies or community forests the challenge is operationalization; this project will create institutions and empower them to advance operationalization, using lessons from within Kenya and abroad.
Declining tourism revenue unable to stimulate the necessary paradigm shift from unsustainable to sustainable wildlife management	M	The project has at its heart a strong focus on developing the financial aspects of rangeland and wildlife management, recognising that it is financial sustainability that will play a key role in ecological sustainability. The role of component t 3 underlines this approach.
Delays caused by the complexities in establishing the institutions required for the southern rangelands.	L	The project is supported in its initiation by the already considerable successes of the Northern Rangelands Trust. There is thus president and widespread support amongst government, pastoralist communities and the private sector for an initiative of this kind.
Climate change could lead to both changed distributions of BD components, and changes in demands on biodiversity-based resources.	M	A focus on landscape level management (as opposed to small areas); with sufficient buffer zone protection militates against climate change. The maintenance of a landscape approach in Kenya’s southern rangeland areas is good adaptation strategy and fits well with the concept of adapting land use to improve resilience to climate change.

**B.5. KEY STAKEHOLDERS INVOLVED IN THE PROJECT INCLUDING THE PRIVATE SECTOR, CIVIL SOCIETY ORGANIZATIONS, LOCAL AND INDIGENOUS COMMUNITIES, AND THEIR RESPECTIVE ROLES**

STAKEHOLDER	RELEVANT ROLES
Tier 1 stakeholders constitute Maasai communities and their associations, Amboseli Trust for Elephants (ATE); Amboseli-Tsavo Game Scouts Association (ATGSE); Amboseli-Tsavo Group Ranch Conservation Association (ATGRCA); Maasailand Preservation Trust (MPT);	Share lessons, and primary beneficiaries; also bear responsibility for implementation of many of the activities
Tier 2 stakeholders will be those providing co-finance. They include Amboseli Conservation Project/African Conservation Center; East African Wildlife Society (EAWLS) Ewaso Nyiro South	Active role in the project /active partnerships

Development Authority (ENSDA); Kajiado District Council (KDC); Loitokitok District Council; Maasai and other local communities; Ministry of Livestock Development; Ministry of Environment and Mineral Resources; Ministry of Lands (ML); Nature Kenya (NK); South Rift Association of Land Owners (SORALO)	
Tier 3 stakeholders will be private sector Hoopoe Adventure Tours; Kenya Association of Tour Operators (KATO); Hotel Operators; Ker & Downey Safaris – Tour Operator; Richard Bonham Safaris – Tour Operator; Southern Cross Safaris – Tour Operator	Share lessons and participate in business ventures
Tier 4 - African Wildlife Foundation (AWF); National Museums of Kenya (NMK); World Wide Fund for Nature (WWF), Kenya Forest Service (KFS)	Share lessons, contribute on technical matters and assist in disseminating and upscaling good practices
Tier 5 will include African Conservation Centre (ACC); Kenya Wildlife Service (KWS); National Environment Management Authority (NEMA); Amboseli Ecosystem Trust (AET); Ministry of Forests and Wildlife (MFW), MWCT	Executing / implementing the project

## **B.6. OUTLINE THE COORDINATION WITH OTHER RELATED INITIATIVES:**

32. The project will be implemented through the Kenya Wildlife Service, in close collaboration with the Maasai Wilderness Conservation Trust and other partners (such as the African Conservation Center). KWS has a range of national, district and county level government initiatives focusing on ecosystem and rangelands management and livelihoods enhancement activities. Being the key government agency responsible for wildlife conservation, KWS will ensure that the project collaborates closely with other related initiatives in Kenya and more broadly in Eastern Africa. It will in particular ensure that the project is linked with and draw synergies from the wide range of donor supported initiatives in the Amboseli, including the European Union, the FORD Foundation, SNV, DGIS Netherlands Development Organisation and the United States Agency for International Development. The Netherlands Embassy has been a notable donor for the Amboseli Ecosystem and has funded core activities of both the African Conservation Centre (ACC) and the African Wildlife Foundation (AWF). Community participation will be secured through the local chapters of the Southern Rangelands Trust. The process of forming the local chapters will be used to inform communities of the project initiatives, community responsibilities and the benefits from the project, which will provide an opportunity for coordination of the project with local level activities, including those of individual land and livestock owners and managers. A number of GEF projects have sought to improve natural resources management in Kenya, but none have focused specifically on an integrated approach to the southern rangelands, nor on strengthening the PA network in the Greater Amboseli Ecosystem specifically, nor have they addressed the need for a national and regional level of coordination in wildlife and rangelands management. The project will build on the natural resources management systems pioneered under the GEF-UNDP Cross Borders Project, which involved Kenya, Tanzania and Uganda. Further, GEF provided funding under the GEF IV RAF allocation to Kenya for an ongoing initiative to strengthen management of Nairobi National Park and its surrounds. While this works with KWS, it targets an area to the north of the Amboseli ecosystem. The Kenya GEF Operational Focal Point is seeking to improve synergies between GEF projects; while each have discrete objectives, efforts are being made to cross fertilize good practices between these initiatives.

## **C: THE GEF AGENCY'S COMPARATIVE ADVANTAGE TO IMPLEMENT THIS PROJECT:**

### **C.1 Indicate the co-financing Amount the GEF Agency is Bringing to the Project.**

UNDP is leveraging a total of \$28 million of co-financing including \$16 million in cash; 1 million from its own core funds.

### **C.2 Project fit into UNDP Program and staff capacity in the country to support implementation**

33. UNDP has invested heavily in the management of protected areas in East Africa with GEF funded and other initiatives in Tanzania and Uganda as well as in Kenya. Strengthening Protected. UNDP is a founder member of the Kenya Protected Areas Planning Committee, whose members include NEMA, PA authorities and the donor community. This project is in line with one of UNDP's signature programs on biodiversity, which focuses on unleashing the economic potential of Protected Areas so that they are better able to fulfil their management functions, are sustainably financed, and contribute to sustainable development. Indeed, UNDP is supporting some 1,000 GEF financed PA projects aimed at strengthening PA management effectiveness, and PA financial sustainability. The portfolio is global and has a combined area of 130 million hectares. UNDP will ensure that lessons learned from this work are applied to the proposed project.

34. Interventions proposed under this project are also in line with Kenya's efforts to meet its commitments under MEAs while meeting national environmental goals under three thematic areas – biodiversity conservation, land degradation and climate change (adaptation), as well as with the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs), especially MDG-7 on "Environmental Sustainability". This is in line with the country's effort to tackle the twin realities of high income poverty and food insecurity in rural Kenya, in support of UNDAF outcome 3.2 on facilitating better environmental

stewardship. Specifically the project will support the Kenya Country Program outputs that contribute to the UNDAF outcome outlined below: (a) integration of environmental issues in poverty reduction and national development plans; (b) enhanced capacity to generate and use disaggregated environmental data at all levels; (c) support to enforcement and compliance with national environmental laws and guidelines; (d) increased support to infrastructure and forest protection protocols; (e) integration of energy services and efficiency in all sectors; and (f) support to the design of climate change adaptation and mitigation strategies.

35. The UNDP Kenya CO has sufficient capacity to handle this project with a dedicated team (with three Programme Officers having a combined experience of more than 40 years) dealing with natural resources management. The project will also benefit from technical expertise of staff from other work clusters such as climate change, governance and poverty reduction. Further, UNDP has also been selected as the Implementing Agency for this project during the GEF Portfolio identification exercise and the confirmed during the GEF National Dialogue Initiative conducted by the government in 2011. This project, together with UNDP as IA, was prioritized by the National Portfolio Identification exercise following a detailed in-country consultation, led by the OFP.


**PART III: APPROVAL/ENDORSEMENT BY GEF OPERATIONAL FOCAL POINT AND GEF AGENCY**

ix) Record of Endorsement of GEF Operational Focal Point (S) on Behalf of the Government

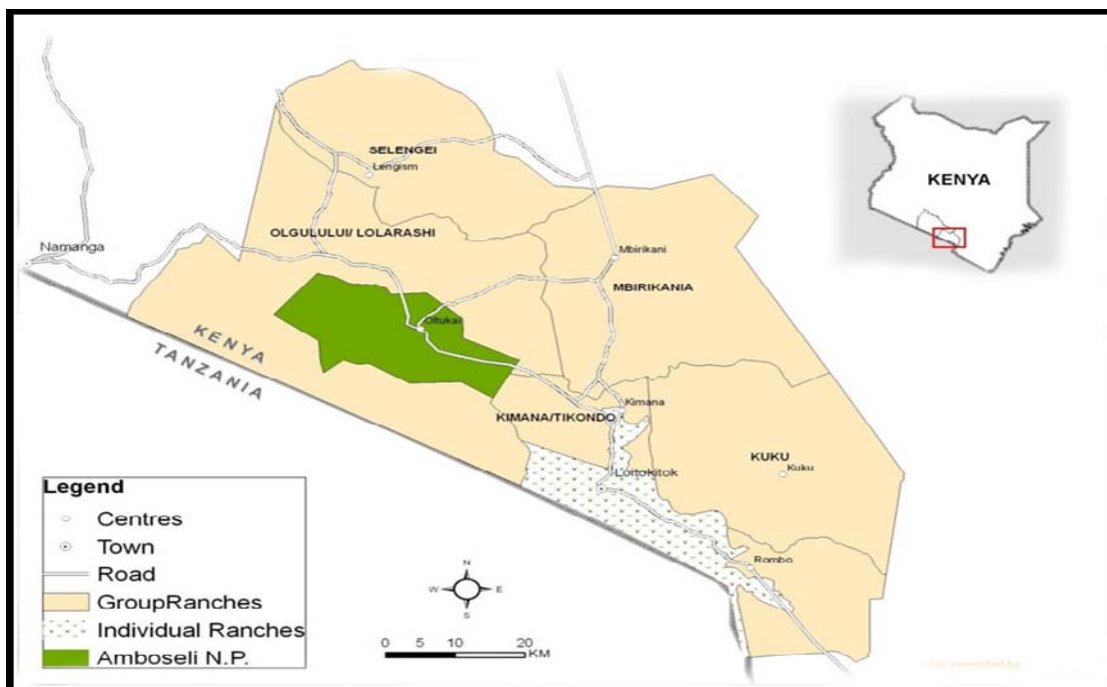
NAME	POSITION	MINISTRY	DATE
TBC	DR MACHARIA, OFP & DIRECTOR GENERAL, NEMA	MINISTRY OF FORESTRY AND WILDLIFE	13 FEB 2012

**B. GEF AGENCY CERTIFICATION**

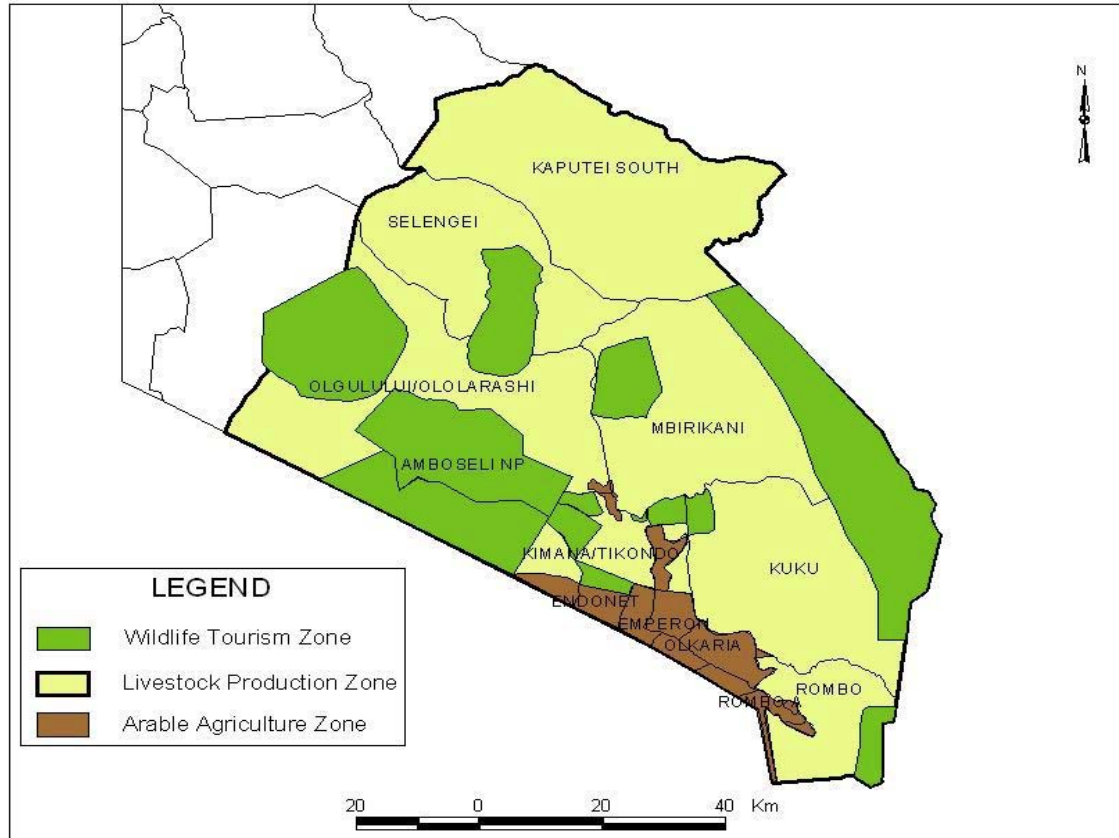
The PIF is in accordance with GEF policies and procedures and meets the GEF criteria for project identification and preparation.

Agency Coordinator, name	Signature	Date	Project Contact Person	Telephone	Email Address
Yannick Glemarec, UNDP/GEF Executive Coordinator		23 Mar 2012	Veronica Muthui – RTA, EBD	Tel: +27 12 3548124	<a href="mailto:veronica.muthui@undp.org">veronica.muthui@undp.org</a>

**ANNEX 1: AMBOSELI ECOSYSTEM AND GROUP RANCHES**



## ANNEX 2: Amboseli Ecosystem Land Use Zones



**ANNEX 3: MAP OF THE AMBOSELI ECOSYSTEMS SHOWING LINKAGES TO THE CHYULU HILLS ECOSYSTEM**

