

CEPF Final Project Completion Report

Organization Legal Name:	Kijabe Environment Volunteers
Project Title:	Bolstering Payment for Water Ecosystem Services at Kikuyu Escarpment Ecosystem
Grant Number:	CEPF-103577
CEPF Region:	Eastern Afromontane
Strategic Direction:	3 Initiate and support sustainable financing and related actions for the conservation of priority KBAs and corridors.
Grant Amount:	\$102,900.06
Project Dates:	January 01, 2018 - September 30, 2019
Date of Report:	November 23, 2019

Implementation Partners

List each partner and explain how they were involved in the project

- 1. Kenya Forest Service (KFS) - Assisted in ensuring the legality and ownership of water user rights by the Community Forest Associations (CFAs) and Water Resource Users Associations (WRUAs).**
- 2. County government Kiambu - It provided forums for Buyer and Seller dialogues.**
- 3. Water Resource Authority – It engaged stakeholders in policy direction for water PES and offering guidance in the development of the water Kitty.**
- 4. Community Forest Associations - They protected and rehabilitated and enriched the forest and safeguard the quantity and quality of water in the rivers.**
- 5. Water Resource Users Associations - They protected, rehabilitated and enriched the forest and safeguarded the quantity and quality of water in the rivers.**
- 6. Business and companies - These Downstream companies supported upstream communities to continue sustaining the water ecosystem service**
- 7. Universities and research institutions - They sat in the PES steering committee marketed the initiative to their respective areas and implemented some interventions identified.**
- 8. Civil society groups in rallying for project support, replication of lessons and marketing the initiative.**

Conservation Impacts

Summarize the overall impact of your project, describing how your project has contributed to the implementation of the CEPF ecosystem profile

The project initiated steps towards realizing sustainable financing through PES initiative at Kikuyu Escarpment. The project intended to broker contractual agreements between potential water seller (upstream local community) and the water buyers (downstream users). However, it did not manage to enter into agreements. The project achieved substantial success across various components. The significant results include early non-contractual financing mechanisms that are delivering funds for conservation and companies that adopted biodiversity-friendly practices

Strengthened and expanded partnerships: The project resulted in formation of Kiambu water catchment and conservation Fund. The platform championed PES linkages with partners other partners. More partners joined the initiative and the linkages between buyers and sellers became stronger. The businesses like Karirana Tea estate supported forest activities with over \$3,500 apart from participating in the forest conservation activities.

Community institutions (CFAs and WRUAs) strengthened governance structure: The community institutions gained knowledge and skills in governance, leadership, financial management and negotiations through trainings. The WRUAs and CFAs Networks within the county were strengthened. The Community institutions are now able to engage and negotiate with business either on their own or through their alliances

Influencing County policies on PES: The project allowed the community institutions, public, private sectors and other NGOs to influence enabling conditions for the implementation of PES. The platform was able to input into county water policy, energy and climate change policy as well as joining the environment and land court users committee in the county. In addition, KENVO collaborated with other initiatives in the county.

Strengthen KENVO: The KENVO organizational capacity was improved. Some of the capacities included understanding and commitment to gender issues, networks and partnerships. For instance, KENVO organized a joint workshop with Flora and Fauna to Capacity build CEPF grantees in East Africa in biodiversity mainstreaming, networking and gender Development. Other Improvement included strategic plan, Gender toolkit, Semiannual report on stakeholder’s engagement, Strengthening KENVO Advisory board, Gender tracking tool and Civil Society Tracking Tool Performance, and conservation agreement training.

Communication of lessons and sharing of lessons: Lessons were shared with partners and stakeholders. This was done during the Rwanda Integrated water conference, regional center of expertise in sustainable development meeting held at Nairobi, Africa creative economic summit held at Nairobi, site support groups meetings held at Machakos, mentorship sessions held at KENVO with Corporates and Universities, 2 way exchange to WCS Tanzania and during the project evaluation.

Biodiversity impacts demonstrated by planting of over 10,000 seedlings with corporates among them county government, East Africa Breweries, Kenya water Tower, Ruiru/Juja water and sewerage company, young Jains, Hindu religious council, Barb charities and institute of quantity surveyors Kenya carry out riparian conservation through tree planting

Planned Long-term Impacts - 3+ years (as stated in the approved proposal)

Impact Description	Impact Summary
PES scheme on Water allows sustainable flow and quality of water to downstream communities, companies and farms served by Kikuyu Escarpment KBA catchment. This is because the KBA is restored and sustainably	The managers of water and sewerage companies responsible of providing water to the citizens were involved in the project to help in monitoring water quality and quantity once interventions upstream have

managed to provide ecosystem services	been done. The documentary done at the start of the project shall also be used to monitor if the water volume /quality in some of the areas covered has improved
Improved protection and management actions by stakeholders and partners are implemented to guarantee conservation benefits on 12,000 hectares within the Kikuyu Escarpment KBA.	The protected area was brought under improved management through zoning from revised management plans, active protection by CFAs and tree planting by partners (county governments and partners). The active areas were brought under improved management through community patrolling, policing, and reporting of illegal activities. Both the private and public sector including the County Government gradually embraced the Initiative. By building the capacity of sellers through training in leadership, governance and financial management, the sellers are better armed to engage the private sector to support conservation of the KBA, thus creating a fertile ground towards achieving the long-term goal. This project has contributed to ensuring that a follow up project is implemented contributing to the impact of conservation projects taking place to support better management of Forest Reserve.
More businesses agree to enter into PES schemes for increased financial contributions towards water shed management	The buyers have been engaged through meetings and platform already created. Although money has been transferred on adhoc basis. Additionally the County Government of Kiambu have so far 50,000 (approximately USD 20,000) seedling in catchment and riparian areas in order to secure water supply. All these seedlings have been purchased from the community institutions

Planned Short-term Impacts - 1 to 3 years (as stated in the approved proposal)

Impact Description	Impact Summary
Business transfer to WRUAS and CFAs \$5,000 to protect the Kikuyu Escarpment Watershed by end of 2019	The business transferred \$15,000 to the Catchment for the forest restoration work. However this was on adhoc basis. This will be firmed to make transfer long term fit for PES model. With the PES initiative in place, a platform created, the platform will sustain building rapport for achievement of this impact through bringing more businesses on board
2 new partners enter into long term commitments from downstream water users and upstream water protectors lead to sustainable water flows from Kikuyu Escarpment KBA	Engagement of potential buyers happened within the project period, however contractual agreement were not achieved. The Kiambu Water Catchment and Conservation Fund will oversee PES and that business making adhoc finance enter into long term commitments
Capacity of CFAS/WRUAs to engage more corporate entities for PES enhanced	The capacity of community institutions was improved. The CFAs and WRUAs capacity built through training in

	negotiations skills, leadership and governance as well as conflict resolution and financial management. With enhanced capacity the community institution are expected to continue engagement with corporate.
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Describe the success or challenges of the project toward achieving its short-term and long-term impact objectives

Success

The main goal of the project was to initiate a PES for water in Kikuyu Escarpment Forest Reserve. The project provided negotiation platforms for water 'sellers' and 'buyers' to meet and negotiate. With the initiative in place, capacity of KENVO staff built as the project was implemented the agreements will be realized. The continued interaction with the community and potential buyers in platform is vital for the long term as it shall promote the use of best practices, identified by the initiative. This shall in turn attract more investment or buyers of ecosystem services. The engagement of potential buyers and county led to the identification of potential funding opportunities, for example the county government, that shall potentially invest in this or other ecosystem services through water fund and other catchment activities. In addition, the forum synd accepted to fund follow up project activities such as sustaining the platform created especially to lobby for favorable policies. The implementation of the project also created understanding of PES and its implication for the sellers and the buyers. Sellers learned that they do have a product to sell and buyers learned they need to 'purchase' these ecosystem services for the sustainability of their businesses. The County government and national government agencies embraced the initiative.

Challenges

There were some challenges among them delayed entering into agreements with businesses. Other challenges include

- Insufficient awareness on potential businesses on important of catchment and PES schemes
- Policy framework supportive of PES schemes
- Lack of incentives to business to contribute towards restoration of catchment
- Stakeholder unaware of key role played by WRUAs/ CFAs in conservation
- Low Commitment from business to ward catchment restoration

Significant movement of staff from KENVO including the project manager and finance manager happened in the last year of the project implementation. However, the project manager become a board member.

Were there any unexpected impacts (positive or negative)?

As result of the project, community institutions CFAs/WRUAs became more active and began engaging the business community. The public institutions (County Government and National Government) recognized the important role played by these community institutions and is engaging them in the various conservation initiatives in the County. The County Government started addressing conservation of riparian areas and conservation of hotspots areas identified for conservation action because of sensitization created by the project. Other positive unexpected impacts included KENVO members and staff joining key docket in the County Government in the environment and natural resources docket and the Athi water service board projects.



Project Components and Products/Deliverables

Describe the results from each product/deliverable:

Component		Deliverable		
#	Description	#	Description	Results for Deliverable
1	Expand and strengthen linkages, partnerships and alliances with Private sector	1.2	Updated list of corporate buyers	The list of buyers was updated with additional target buyers from Tatu city, and more companies from Thika region. The list of buyers continue to be updated. Among the added, corporate included the Kenya Water tower agency.
2	Strengthen Institutional and Operational capacities for local organizations WRUAs ad CFAs and government to manage PES	2.1	Capacity assessment reports for WRUAS/CFAs	Capacity assessment is completed for the community forest associations and water resource users associations. The capacity building plans were drawn
3	Facilitates Information flow, communication and Monitoring	3.1	Monitoring report on contracts compliance	Though monitoring of the project in general has been taking place, monitoring on the adherence of the contracts has not taken place since the contracts are yet to be drawn. With the ground work laid the platform created will be in charge of monitoring tools to ensure adherence
1	Expand and strengthen linkages, partnerships and alliances with Private sector	1.3	Information package for PES given to businesses	The new identified businesses were presented with information package on PES and fact sheets, business cases etc, produced, the businesses continue to be presented with information package on PES and fact sheets. The project developed an inventory on buyers within the project areas. The information was collected using a predesigned questionnaire which the interviewers used to conduct a face to face interview with the sellers. The inventory further captured data on the name of the leaders and their contacts as well as exact location and area of operation of each business group.
1	Expand and strengthen linkages, partnerships and alliances with Private sector	1.4	Strategic plans and programmes for partnerships developed	The strategic plan put in place. The Plan outlines the overall direction KENVO wishes to take for its internal growth and also in enhancing its capacity to be a credible stakeholder in the management of resources within the kikuyu Escarpment forest for better livelihoods. The Board was also put in place and will provide oversight and evaluation of the delivery of the plan. The KENVO Board

				sets policies and ensures that the organization keeps to its strategic direction. a long-term guide to its actions
2	Strengthen Institutional and Operational capacities for local organizations WRUAs ad CFAs and government to manage PES	2.2	Training report including agenda, manuals and list of participants dis-aggregated by gender	Training's were conducted among them negotiations, leadership, governance, and financial management and resource mobilizations. The list of participants+ in meeting and other project events are kept disaggregated by gender. In addition, during meetings and workshops, the soft copy materials were distributed to stakeholders.
3	Facilitates Information flow, communication and Monitoring	3.2	Articles on best practices in PES	An article on best practice was printed in the Kanyoni newsletter and widely shared with stakeholders. Lessons on PES power point presentation was produced for Kikuyu Escarpment and share with partners. In addition an article at PANORAMA - Solutions for a Healthy Planet platform https://panorama.solutions/en/solution/payment-water-ecosystem-service-kikuyu-escarpment-forest-kenya
5	Strengthen KENVO	5.1	Civil Society Tracking Tool (CSTT)	Baseline for CEPF Civil Society tracking tool was carried out following the guidance of the CEPF Secretariat and submitted in the first year of the project
1	Expand and strengthen linkages, partnerships and alliances with Private sector	1.1	Inception meetings report	The meeting was organized to facilitate stakeholders and partners to participate fully in implementation of the Project. The meetings involved presentations and discussions geared towards informing the partners and stakeholders on the project, briefing them on stakeholders engagement plan and how to raise grievances. The meeting was held on 1st February 2018 at KENVO resource center with the aim of informing the partners and stakeholders of the project and issues that related to their involvement in project delivery. The participants were NGOs, CFAs,WRUAs County Government and Water Service Providers. In addition the participants gave critical areas for interventions and issues in their respective areas
1	Expand and strengthen linkages, partnerships and alliances with Private sector	1.5	Records and minutes of Boresha Kamiti and Kieni initiative	The regional initiatives were merged and the minutes continue be kept. The initiatives hold regular meetings. This is to strategize on pes direction and policy direction KENVO.
1	Expand and strengthen linkages,	1.6	Meeting agenda with Kiambu and	This have been accomplished a steering committee formed to steer the process (Tors for the committee attached and report on the committee). They visited the

	partnerships and alliances with Private sector		Nairobi county water funds	Narobi water funds and explained on the process and possible areas for linkages.
3	Facilitates Information flow, communication and Monitoring	3.3	Report on best practice forum	Lessons were shared with partners and stakeholders. This was done during the Rwanda Integrated water conference, regional center of expertise in sustainable development meeting held at Nairobi, Africa creative economic summit held at Nairobi, site support groups meetings held at Machakos, mentorship sessions held at KENVO with Corporates and Universities, 2 way exchange to WCS Tanzania and during the project evaluation
5	Strengthen KENVO	5.2	Gender Tracking Tool	Baseline and end of project Gender tracking tool have been completed. A significant movement towards gender incorporation was realized. These have been carried out following the guidance of the CEPF Secretariat and submitted.
4	County Water Policy	4.1	Memoranda containing ideas for incorporation into water policy	The project manager sat on the technical committee charged with formulating water policy at the county and gave ideas for incorporation into water policy
1	Expand and strengthen linkages, partnerships and alliances with Private sector	1.7	Legal contracts between buyers and sellers	Not achieved. Two business cases were developed for each site (i.e. Kamiti catchment and Kamae-Kieni catchment) in a participatory process. Negotiation teams for the sellers have also been trained in negotiation skills to build their capacity to engage the buyers.
5	Strengthen KENVO	5.3	Semi-Annual Report on the Implementation of Stakeholders Engagement Plan	3 semiannual stakeholder engagement reports were produced and final one completed. They demonstrates how stakeholders were engaged in the project implementation.
5	Strengthen KENVO	5.4	Communication Plan	Lessons were shared with partners and stakeholders. This was done during the Rwanda Integrated water conference, regional center of expertise in sustainable development meeting held at Nairobi, Africa creative economic summit held at Nairobi, site support groups meetings held at Machakos, mentorship sessions held at KENVO with Corporates and Universities, 2 way exchange to WCS Tanzania and during the project evaluation
5	Strengthen KENVO	5.5	METT for Kikuyu	The met was not conducted in the duration of the project. The project managers found it hard carry on their own.

			Escarpment Forest reserve	The platform created will be explained to the project managers etc
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Please describe and submit any tools, products, or methodologies that resulted from this project or contributed to the results.

The tools and product generated in course of project implementation include lesson sharing Rwanda water conference, baseline survey reports for 2 sites at Kikuyu escarpment forest covering Kinale and Gatamaiyu watershed, Stakeholder mapping tool - questionnaire used during the survey Mapping potential buyers. Training workshop report and notes on negotiation skills and governance and finance management training for community groups

Lessons Learned

Describe any lessons learned during the design and implementation of the project, as well as any related to organizational development and capacity building.

Consider lessons that would inform:

- Project Design Process (*aspects of the project design that contributed to its success/shortcomings*)
- Project Implementation (*aspects of the project execution that contributed to its success/shortcomings*)
- Describe any other lessons learned relevant to the conservation community

1. Stakeholders understanding and potential and opportunities for PES: There are potential and opportunities for PES based on ecosystem water ecosystem service (important catchment) willing buyers and sellers of ecosystem. The scale however need to be bigger to cover the transactions costs and should cover the whole watershed/ water tower. The project covered Kikuyu Escarpment a section of the larger Aberdare forest.

The understanding of the PES concept among the stakeholders takes time. It is better to communicate differently to different stakeholders. It also takes time to convince stakeholders on the essence of payment for ecosystem

2. Long term process: It take a long time to actualize from the various stages identification, design and implementing. These require resources commitment in all the stages. it requires time for baseline studies, awareness raising, engaging buyers, engaging sellers and developing payment mechanisms, contracting process, agreements and monitoring

3. Role for all: It is good to engage everybody who has role in the PES. This includes private sector, water utilities, academia, county and national government, research institutions among others. It is better to create and maintain a platform for engagement.

3. Community institutions: There was no difference between working in with forest user groups versus water user groups. Most of them have cross memberships. The upstream and downstream communities are more or less homogenous communities. The other aspect among the community groups is Business fail to trust community institutions viewing them like they are not credible entities.

There is need to train the community on governance, leadership, negotiations and financial management to be able to engage.

4. **Business:** Most businesses commit to the scheme but fail to pay. It is good to maintain the interest of buyers in a platform. In addition most businesses claim they pay tariffs and taxes and should not pay more. We have facilitated the businesses to interact with catchment to realize the linkages between profitability and upstream activities and also engage the county and national government to give the business incentives for participating in the schemes

5. **Organization:** Strengthen and build the capacity of the intermediary organization to deliver the PES. KENVO assumed the role of a intermediary, an educator (to convince buyers that the services have value), and of a PES expert. Are all these roles appropriate for KENVO [or similar NGOs]? The role are appropriate in watershed. However where the pes tranverse large area In a different scaled PES (e.g., multi-watershed or national), a consortium of ngos should play the role

6. **KBA concept :**The KBA concept can not apply to geographic concept of PES. The PES need to linked to watershed in the scope

Sustainability / Replication

Summarize the success or challenges in ensuring the project will be sustained or replicated, including any unplanned activities that are likely to result in increased sustainability or replicability.

Creation of wider partnership and networks in the implementation of the project: The project was able to bring on board the CFAS and WRUAs, commercial enterprises, social enterprises, institutions of higher learning, County Government of Kiambu, National Government agencies like Kenya Forest Service(who have termed the initiative as innovative is ensuring conservation and community benefits), Kenya Forestry Reserch Inistitute, National Enviroment Authority among others. All these stakeholders are able to engage in one forum and discuss issues as they are as well as propose interventions.

Improved institutional capacity:- Through the various trainings, the community institutions have been strengthened through training of their leaders. Moreso most of the CFAs and WRUAs involved in the project are also recieving further capacity building by GIZ under the Kiambu Water Stewardship program.

Intervention by the County Government of Kiambu in some of the hotspots identified for urgent conservation action at the beginning of the project- So far the 5000 indigeneous seedling have been planted in two hotpots which are sources of River karemeno and River Kamiti, while more than 10,000 trees have been issued to farmers for planting on riparian land. The County Government is also in the process of marking out riparian area under private land for conservation purspose as well as providing protection for water sources such as wetlands which in the past have been interfered with resulting to poor quality and quantity of water.

Internal capacity development within KENVO- various staffs have been involved in the project from design stage to implementation thus improving their knowledge in project cycle management while others have participated in trainings organised or financed by CEPF thus acquiring immeasurable knowledge to improve on organizations sevice delivery. The CSTT is also an essential tool that has helped the organisation to assess her internal capacity and identify gaps where intervetion is need. Equiping of the office has also enhance efficiency.

Leverage: Sourcing additional funding to continue with activities, We managed to get some funds to continue with some activities



Challenges: Some of the challenges include; Not managing to have a contract agreement with any potential buyer by the end of the project is a major challenge, however KENVO have put in place coordination mechanisms. The project will continue following up with those that had been engaged and willing to be involved to ensure sustainability of the project. The following were additional challenges and what was done to address them

Insufficient awareness on potential businesses on importance of catchment and PES schemes. These were addressed by Meetings to raise awareness, visiting individual businesses

Policy framework supportive of PES schemes- Working with county government to inputs into policy formulation and lobby in other parties

Lack of incentives to business to contribute towards restoration of catchment- Explaining to the business, exploring with county government

Stakeholder unaware of key role played by WRUAs/ CFAs in conservation- Bring them together in meetings and platforms

Low Commitment from business to ward catchment restoration- Sensitizing businesses on importance of conservation

Safeguards

If not listed as a separate Project Component and described above, summarize the implementation of any required action related to social, environmental, or pest management safeguards

The project adhered to the safeguards on Environmental aspects where there was no adverse impact on the environment and social aspects, where the project did not have adverse impacts on the local community. In forest restoration, the project did not use any herbicides, insecticides and any other poisoning. The project complied with the project's safeguard policy.

Additional Comments/Recommendations

Use this space to provide any further comments or recommendations in relation to your project or CEPF

Baseline studies and feasibility on the PES site is important. The baseline and feasibility should outline the biodiversity resources within the catchment including flora and fauna, describing habitat types and ecosystem characterization including degraded hotspots as the primary entry for intervention activities, undertaking socio-economic survey of the catchment area in order to establish the core causal (socio-cultural and economic) factors that are contributing to the degradation of catchments, mapping land use practices in the catchment, the hotspots within the catchment and providing information on pollution types and sources, water quality, abstraction levels and water demand focusing on the major water users. These are key to convincing the potential buyers and

establish baseline information that can be used to assess the impact of the initiative in the long term. There is also need for project evaluation mid term by consultant , the lessons of which can inform the implementation of the remaining part.

Additional Funding

Provide details of any additional funding that supported this project and any funding secured for the project, organization, or the region, as a result of CEPF investment

Total additional funding (US\$)

\$8,000.00

Type of funding

Please provide a breakdown of additional funding (counterpart funding and in-kind) by source, categorizing each contribution into one of the following categories:

- A Project Co-Financing (other donors or your organization contribute to the direct costs of this project)*
- B Grantee and Partner Leveraging (other donors contribute to your organization or a partner organization as a direct result of successes with this CEPF funded project)*
- C Regional/Portfolio Leveraging (other donors make large investments in a region because of CEPF investment or successes related to this project)*

B. Grantee and partner leveraging (other donors contribute to your organization or a partner organization as a direct result of successes with this CEPF funded project). US Dollars 8,000 from Forum financed by Sweden NGO organization part of which will support the platform created by the project.

Information Sharing and CEPF Policy

CEPF is committed to transparent operations and to helping civil society groups share experiences, lessons learned, and results. Final project completion reports are made available on our Web site, www.cepf.net, and publicized in our newsletter and other communications.

1. Please include your full contact details (Name, Organization, Mailing address, Telephone number, E-mail address) below

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