

## C.E.P.F SMALL GRANT FINAL PROJECT

### COMPLETION REPORT

#### I BASIC DATA

**Organization Legal Name:** Mabuwani Women Group

**Project Title (as stated in the grant agreement):** Agro forestry Activities around Arabuko Sokoke

**Implementation Partners for This Project:** Consultations with Kenya Forestry Research Institute (KEFRI); Nature Kenya, Forest Department, Kenya Wildlife Service (KWS) and Agriculture Officer (Ministry of Agriculture)

**Project Dates (as stated in the grant agreement):** July 1, 2005 to December 31, 2006

**Date of Report (month/year):** March 25, 2007

#### II OPENING REMARKS

**Provide any opening remarks that may assist in review of this report.**

This is the third and final Report for the project. All the planned activities have been completed, through the contribution of the members, against the final funding disbursement to be received on submission of this report. The group report is for the activities conducted between February 2006 and December 2006. The prevailing weather in the area was favorable to the implementation of the agroforestry activities as compared to the previous project durations.

#### III NARRATIVE QUESTIONS

**1. What was the initial objective of this project?**

- ◆ Enhance Agro forestry activities in the area.
- ◆ To maintain environmental conservation and awareness in the area.
- ◆ To contribute towards poverty reduction through sale of seedlings, fruits and seeds.

**2. Did the objectives of your project change during implementation if so, please explain why and how?**

No.

**3. How was your project successful in achieving the expected objectives?**

### **A-Enhanced agro forestry**

More than 23,000 seedlings produced and planted in the short rains of October-November 2006. The seedlings are of:

- ◆ 12,000 *Casuarina equisetifolia* seedlings
- ◆ 5500 Blue gum
- ◆ 3500 Mango seedlings
- ◆ 800 Herbal species
- ◆ 2000 Pad mahogany (*Azelia quanzensis* - mbambakofi)

### **Other activities done:**

Horticultural plants (vegetable) were also produced and planted by members and neighboring households. These included:-

- ◆ 3,050 seedlings of brinjals planted
- ◆ 5,470 seedling of tomatoes planted
- ◆ 100 seedling of piper have been planted

Sorghum, Oats, Cotton and Maize demonstration planting was done on the group's 1 acre plot.

The group continues to maintain the project plot, make new seed beds and looking for different types of seeds. The group is also grafting of different types of plants e.g. mangoes, cashew nuts trees



A community member and her family in their farm after the rains viewing the dark green trees

## ***B - Environmental conservation awareness***

- (a) Through our project partners who gave us knowledge by attending seminars;
- (b) By visiting different types of groups who were doing different activities such as:-
  - (i) Herbal trees at Gede forest
  - (ii) Bee-keeping at Jeribuni group
  - (iii) Horticulture at Magangani and Vitendo groups
- (c) 10 members have adopted to bee keeping and hope to encourage the others soon so long as honey is at high demand.
- (d) The widows who were given free trees to plant by the project have not all but most of them put up their own nurseries.

This resulted in the achievement of about 20 project members having their own participation as per the objectives.

- (i) 15 members have their own nurseries
- (ii) All members of the project have in their farms planted different sort of trees as a result of knowledge from project potential partners
- (iii) A herbal practitioner is based on the groups farm prepares herbal medicines for the community.

The community has gained knowledge on conservation and that a wider percentage has been able to plant trees from the project in addition to the herbal Aloe vera plant which does better within the surrounding of the project environment and has a high demand. About 200 villagers have their own activities in their farms (hot cultural, agro forest and forest nurseries)

## ***C - Poverty reduction***

There has been a survival of about 60% of the more than 40,000 trees planted in the farmers woodlots this will each be valued at about KShs 500/= as poles in the next five years. This puts the potential cash income to the community at KShs 12,000,000 at the year 2012. The minimum planting per member was 250 trees.

The mango and cashew trees will also start to produce in fruits at the same time 2012; the earliest possible production is after three years for the varieties planted.

The group is also producing neem based products e.g. neem soap, neem perfume and neem jelly which has given the project an outstanding outlook.

17,500 seedlings of tomatoes have been raised and half of them have been planted in the project farm and the rest distributed the members and the community, this will provide income when sold in the local market.

## **4. Did your team experience any disappointments of failures during implementation? If so, please explain and comment on how the team addressed these disappointments and or failures.**

- (a) True our members faced some disappointments especially from individual people who promised to buy some seedlings but then they failed.

This on the other hand became an encouragement to all members to plant most of the trees on their farms and await their sales as poles. The remaining were distributed to schools and widows.

(b) There was a duration of low flow of water from the main pipe. Members had to fetch water from a distance of about one and a half kilometers, due to the determination and the project team work we managed to keep our seedling in a health condition as they never missed water for irrigation.

**5. Describe any positive or negative lessons learned from this project that would be useful to share with other organization interested in implementing a similar project.**

Any project in a community with skillful partners will always be successful in achieving its goals.

For younger projects when promises with other organization or people are not fulfilled there is a high chance of that the project fails.

When a project fulfills its goals the community will be encouraged to follow and even give a support.

It would be important to have a herbal practitioner to work with the project members who would enable to show them the use of the herbal plants.

Community members being introduced to the project lessons should be closely looked after otherwise there would fall along the way as the project needs thorough determination in implementing its activities.

**6. Describe any follow up activities related to this project.**

Some sub groups which have been formed to deal with conservation in keeping seedlings, bee keeping has made the community to reduce poverty.

**7. Please provide any additional information to assist CEPF in understanding any other aspects of your completed project.**

(1) The group is now looking forward to scale up production of products on neem plant (Mwarobaini) e.g. Neem soap, neem jelly and perfume.

(2) Aloe Vera being an outstanding medic plant is on a wide range and can be viewed in all farms of the area we have about 2,060 planted in different farms

**IV. ADDITIONAL FUNDING**

**Provide details of any additional donors who supported the project and any funding second for the project as a result of the CEPF grant in success of the project.**

The group has not received any other funding from other donor except the CEPF though members have struggled to make sure the project continues and our close partners have encouraged us to proceed providing technical support for free to our project.

**Provide details of whether project will continue in future and if so, how any additional funding already secured or fundraising plan will help ensure its sustainability.**

It is our prayer that our project continues by the following aims

- (1) The great target of planting many seedlings of different types of species.
- (2) The caring of the already planted trees in the project plot and in the project members gardens (Shambas).
- (3) Introduce poultry keeping in the project plot.
- (4) The group has stored many trees to sell in future for the sustainability of the project.
5. The group is praying for more organization to support us so as to support our sub-groups.

#### **V. ADDITIONAL COMMENTS AND RECOMMENDATIONS.**

The Mabuwani women group Agroforestry and forest conservation project gives a high appreciation to the CEPF organization towards the funds that they gave to our group which did many activities in our community area. This is to say in our area (location) it is the only outstanding women group which up to now has a plot of one, Acre fenced with a permanent built store and water tap and some different plants of different species to learn more about how to conserve nature.

#### **VI. INFORMATION SHARING**

CEPF aims to increase sharing of experiences, lessons learned and results among our grant recipients and the wider conservation donor communities. One way we do this is by making the text of final project completion report available on our [www.cepf.net](http://www.cepf.net) and by marketing these reports in our news letter and other recommendations. Please indicate whether in this way

YES.

1. Through the performance of different activities in our community, especial during the project awareness we have many talents with our people the only problem for using these talented people is how to support such people to use their talents to educate others so that they can be self reliance.
2. Our group has learnt that it is important to conserve the Arabuko Sokoke forest when the rangers from forestry and forest department will have removed their hostility in caring the forest and realize that the community is the one to care for the forest whereby in return the community will be benefiting from the forest instead of spoiling the forest.

**For example the community will:-**

1. Get firewood for use at their homes and for market in a better way
2. Get poles for building at homes and for market.
3. Get honey for use and market
4. Get herbs for use as medicine.

Also the community will be able to seat together and see if at all there will be some tree reduction so that more plants can be replanted.

The Mabuwani women Group is so thankful for the small grant received from CEPF which has done a lot for a short time and it is asking if possible be given once more chance to continue enhance groups which have emerged through this group.



One of the group members inspects his farm after the heavy rains

**For more information you can visit or contact:-**

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