



# Sustainable Development Verified Impact Standard

## The Kasigau Corridor REDD+ Project Phase II – The Community Ranches



Document Prepared by Wildlife Works Carbon

<b>Project Title</b>	The Kasigau Corridor REDD+ Project Phase II – The Community Ranches
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<b>Project Location</b>	Kenya, Taita Taveta County, Coast Province
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<b>Project Lifetime</b>	01 January 2010 – 31 December 2039; 30-year lifetime
<b>Monitoring Period of this Report</b>	01 January 2022 – 31 December 2022
<b>History of SD VISTA Status</b>	SD VISTA Validation and Verification pending
<b>Other Certification Programs</b>	The Project was validated under the VCS & CCB Standards in 2011 and also achieved initial verification in 2011. The Project has been subsequently verified under the VCS & CCB Standards through its 8th Monitoring Period, through the end of 2021. The Project ID is 612.
<b>Expected Future Assessment Schedule</b>	It is expected that the Project will verify under the VCS, CCB & SD VISTA Standards annually.

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# 1 SUMMARY OF SDG CONTRIBUTIONS

Table 1: Summary of SDG Contributions

Row number	Quantitative Project Contributions during Monitoring Period	Contributions during Project Lifetime	SDG Target	SDG Indicator	Net Impact on SDG Indicator	Section Reference	Claim, Asset or Label
1)	Households earnings above (KES): <1,500 3% 1,500-5000 18% 5,000-10,000 40% 10,000-20,000 11% 20,000-50,000 4% >50,000 0% These amounts reflect good/normal years based on our most-recent household-level survey in the Project Zone, suggesting an increasing	The number of households in the lowest and highest income brackets decreased since the last monitoring period. <sup>1</sup>	1.1	Self-defined: Total amount of income earned by household	Increased	Section 3.1 Impact #1	Claim
2)	99% (28,710) of households with on farm production for home use and 29% (8,410) of households sold produce for cash	99% (28,710) of households with on farm production for home use and 29-30% (8,410) of households sold produce for cash. <sup>1</sup>	2.3	Self-Defined: proportion of households with on-farm production for home use and/or sale	Increased	Section 3.1 Impact #2	Claim

3)	<p>In addition to improved services at the local health facilities renovated through the WWCT, the Voi Diagnostic Lab at Moi District Hospital, based on the previous 3-year averages, tested <math>\approx</math> 12,000 patients who undertook <math>\approx</math> 31,000 tests in 2022.</p>	<p>At the Voi Diagnostic Lab the number of patients has been steadily growing, due to growing referrals across the County and neighboring counties. It has grown from handling about 425 patients per month since opening in March 2014 to nearly 1000 patients monthly currently, each undergoing between 1-8 tests depending on the procedure.<sup>1</sup></p>	3.8	3.8.1 Coverage of essential health services	Increased	Section 3.1 Impact #3-4	Claim
4)	<p>4,441 students for whom access to, or quality of, education was improved (bursary scheme) 19 training workshops held for skills/personal development (354 staff members involved)</p>	<p>26,688 students for whom access to, or quality of, education was improved (bursary scheme) 39 training workshops held for skills/personal development (597 staff members involved).<sup>1</sup></p>	4.3	Self-defined: Number of people for whom access to, or quality of, education was improved (Number of students, bursary); Number of training workshops held for skills/personal development	Increased	Section 3.1 Impact #5-6	Claim
5)	<p>17 classroom construction projects and classroom renovations and 9 projects on education infrastructure</p>	<p>54 classroom construction projects and classroom renovations and 42 projects on education infrastructure</p>	4.A	Self-defined: Number of classrooms constructed or other school renovations and number of education infrastructure installed	Increased	Section 3.1 Impact #7	Claim

6)	25% of those in managerial positions are women	25% of those in managerial positions are women. <sup>1</sup>	5.5	5.5.2 Proportion of staff managers who are women	Increased	Section 3.1 Impact #8	Claim
7)	7 water projects involving installation of gutters, supply of water tanks and installation of water pipelines benefitting over 19,414 community members in multiple villages and schools.	Since 2012, 53 water-related projects have been implemented across KCRPII including pipelines, storage tanks, rock catchments, gutters and water pans for harvesting across all the project locations in community areas and schools, estimated to reach a total of about 91,432 community members.	6.1	Self-defined; Number of population using safely managed drinking water services	Increased	Section 3.1 Impact #9	Claim
8)	<1% primary level; 2% secondary; 1% tertiary	<1% primary level; 2% secondary; 1% tertiary. <sup>1</sup>	8.6	Self-defined: Proportion of youth not in education, employment or training	Decreased	Section 3.1 Impact #10	Claim
9)	About a half of the population (53,500) who would be beneficiaries from the livelihood improvements at household level is female.	About a half of the population (53,500) who would be beneficiaries from the livelihood improvements at household level is female. <sup>1</sup>	10.0	Self-defined: Number of people (% women) with improved livelihoods or income generated	Increased	Section 3.1 Impact #11-12	Claim
10)	66% community members (70,620) understand the link between environmental protection, REDD & livelihoods	66% community members (70,620) understand the link between environmental	12.8	Self-defined: Percentage of community members who understand the	Implemented activities to increase	Section 3.1 Impact #13	Claim

		protection, REDD & livelihoods. <sup>1</sup>		link between environmental protection, REDD+ and livelihoods.			
11)	The Project has produced 1,642,971 tCO <sub>2</sub> e of net emission reductions from avoided deforestation compared to the reference level during this current monitoring period.	The Project has produced 18,163,638 tCO <sub>2</sub> e of net emission reductions from avoided deforestation compared to the reference level during the Project's lifetime	13.0	Tonnes of greenhouse gas emissions avoided or removed <sup>3</sup>	Increased	Section 4.1 Impact #17 VCS verification report for the period 01/01/2021-12/31/2021	SD VISTA-labeled VCU
12)	493 community awareness meetings/events/activities on REDD+ with 4 meetings held in schools	1,021 community awareness meetings/events/activities on REDD+ with 172 meetings held in schools	13.3	Self-defined: Number of community awareness meetings/events/activities on REDD+	Increased	Section 3.1 Impact #14	Claim
13)	99% of the 169,741.38 ha Project Area is forest area.	99% of the 169,741.38 ha Project Area is forest area.	15.1	15.1.1 Forest area as a proportion of total land area	Maintained	Section 4.1 Impact #18	Claim

14)	Approximately 9 species listed under some category of threat in the IUCN Red List were repeatedly spotted across the Project Area	Approximately 9 species listed under some category of threat in the IUCN Red List were repeatedly spotted across the Project Area	15.5	Self-defined: Presence of HCV species listed under some category of threat globally in the latest IUCN Red List	Maintained	Section 4.1 Impact #19	Claim
15)	129 Rangers are employed; Vehicle and foot patrols covered a distance of 103,793 km.	129 Rangers are employed; Vehicle and foot patrols covered a distance of 206,537 km.	15.7	Self-defined: Take urgent action to end poaching and trafficking of protected species of flora and fauna and address both demand and supply of illegal wildlife products	Increased	Section 4.1 Impact #20-21	Claim
16)	The project maintained support for the three local community institutions (Locational Carbon Committee, Bursary Committees and Community-based Organizations) which continues to instill a stronger sense of self-determination.	The project maintained support for the three local community institutions (Locational Carbon Committee, Bursary Committees and Community-based Organizations) which continues to instill a stronger sense of self-determination.	16.7	Self-defined: Ensure responsive, inclusive, participatory and representative decision-making at all levels	Maintained	Section 3.1 Impact #15	Claim
17)	47 agriculture-related training courses or extension events with 698 participants	145 agriculture-related training courses or extension events with 2,486 participants	17.7	Self-Defined: Promote the development, transfer, dissemination and diffusion of environmentally sound technologies to developing countries on favourable terms,	Increased	Section 3.1 Impact #16	Claim

			including on concessional and preferential terms, as mutually agreed			
18)						

Note: 1 indicates that there is no cumulative data available and the presented value is from the VCS/CCB MR; 3 As measured against the baseline (without-project) scenario . Population data including population and number of households comes from the 2019 national census.

## 2 PROJECT DESIGN

### 2.1 Project Objectives, Context and Long-term Viability

#### 2.1.1 Summary of Project Sustainable Development Objective(s)

The Project is located in Southeastern Kenya; in the Coast Province about 2 hours' drive from the port town of Mombasa along the Nairobi-Mombasa highway. The Project's Eco-Region is typified by a dryland forest ecosystem, dominated by acacia and commiphora drought-resistant species. The majority of people in the area descend from the Taita tribe, with significant populations of Duruma, Kamba and other less-prevalent tribes.

Wildlife Works' Kasigau REDD+ Project is split into two Phases, Phase I – Rukinga Sanctuary and Phase II – The Community Ranches. While both projects are registered individually as unique projects under the VCS & CCB Standards of the Verra Program, they are effectively managed as a single project on the ground and at the administrative level.

This Project Description Document (PD) covers Phase II of the project and addresses the forest conservation of 13 blocks of land owned by Indigenous Community Ownership Groups. Each one of the thirteen blocks being owned by different legal entities formed years ago by the Communities and the Government of Kenya to hold legal title to the land.

The 13 blocks of land covered under this Phase II of the Kasigau Corridor REDD Project total 169,741 hectares and are;

- Taita Ranch, which is 35,612 ha known as LR 12264 owned by Taita Ranching Company Ltd a collection of indigenous local shareholders.
- Mgeno Ranch which is 21,232 ha known as LR 12178 and owned by Mgeno Ranching (DA) Company Ltd., a collection of indigenous local shareholders.
- Maungu Ranch which is 21,619 ha known as LR 12179, and owned by Maungu Ranching (DA) Company Ltd. a collection of indigenous local shareholders.
- Kasigau Ranch which is 21,186 ha known as LR 12180, and owned by Kasigau Ranching (DA) Company Ltd., a collection of indigenous local shareholders.
- Wangala Ranch which is 2,023.5 ha known as LR 12262 and owned by Livingstone and Alphonse Ikonge, local indigenous shareholders.
- Kambanga Ranch which is 12,948 ha known as FR 195/6 and owned by Kasigau Ranching (DA) Company Ltd., a collection of indigenous local shareholders.
- Dawida Ranch which is 4,046.86 ha known as LR 14208 and owned by Dawida Ranching Group Company Ltd., a collection of indigenous local shareholders.
- Washumbu Ranch which is 14,501 ha known as LR 14206 and owned by Washumbu (DA) Ranching Company Ltd., a collection of indigenous local shareholders.

- Amaka Ranch which is 5,998 ha known as LR 14207 and owned by Amaka Development Limited., a collection of indigenous local shareholders
- Sagalla Ranch which is 17,402 ha known as LR 12177 and owned by Sagalla Ranchers Limited, a collection of indigenous local shareholders.
- Ndara Ranch which is 1834.77 ha known as LR 12176 and owned by Eliud Timothy Mwamunga, a local indigenous stakeholder.
- Choke Ranch which is 5076 ha known as LR 12199/3 and owned by Raymond Joel Mwangola a local indigenous shareholder.
- Kutima Ranch which is 5076 ha known as LR 12199/4 and owned by Kutima Investments Limited, a collection of indigenous local shareholders.

These Group ranches are part of that land that forms a corridor (the Kasigau Wildlife Corridor) between the Tsavo East National Park and the Tsavo West National Parks to the South East of the Taita Hills, and area of high conservation value and the northern most extent of the Eastern Arc Mountain range. Lands within the Project boundary are classified as tropical dryland forest<sup>1</sup> for at least 20 years and has been primary forest throughout recorded history<sup>2</sup>.

The objective of the project is to protect in perpetuity the dryland forests that make up the project area and that form a wildlife dispersal and migration corridor between Tsavo East and Tsavo West National Parks, to conserve the important biodiversity found in those forests, to provide alternative sustainable development opportunities for the local communities that live adjacent to the forests and to prevent the Emissions that would otherwise occur were those dryland forests to be converted to subsistence agriculture using the Slash and Burn methods typical to this area of Kenya.

A primary focus of the Project Activities is to provide improved livelihoods either through direct employment with the Project or introduction of new or improved income-generating activities. At the end of 2022, Wildlife Works retained a workforce of 354 across the Project Area. In addition to the core project operations, revenue from carbon credit sales is also provided to the Wildlife Works Carbon Trust (WWCT) and is used to fund self-determined community projects.

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<sup>1</sup> UN IPCC, Good Practice Guidance for LULUCF, Table 3A.1.8;

<sup>2</sup> The earliest record that has been located is dated 1895 which identifies the area as forested [Hobley 1895 – Upon a Visit to Tsavo and the Taita Highlands – The Geographical Journal 1895 Vol 5 No 6 pp 545-561]

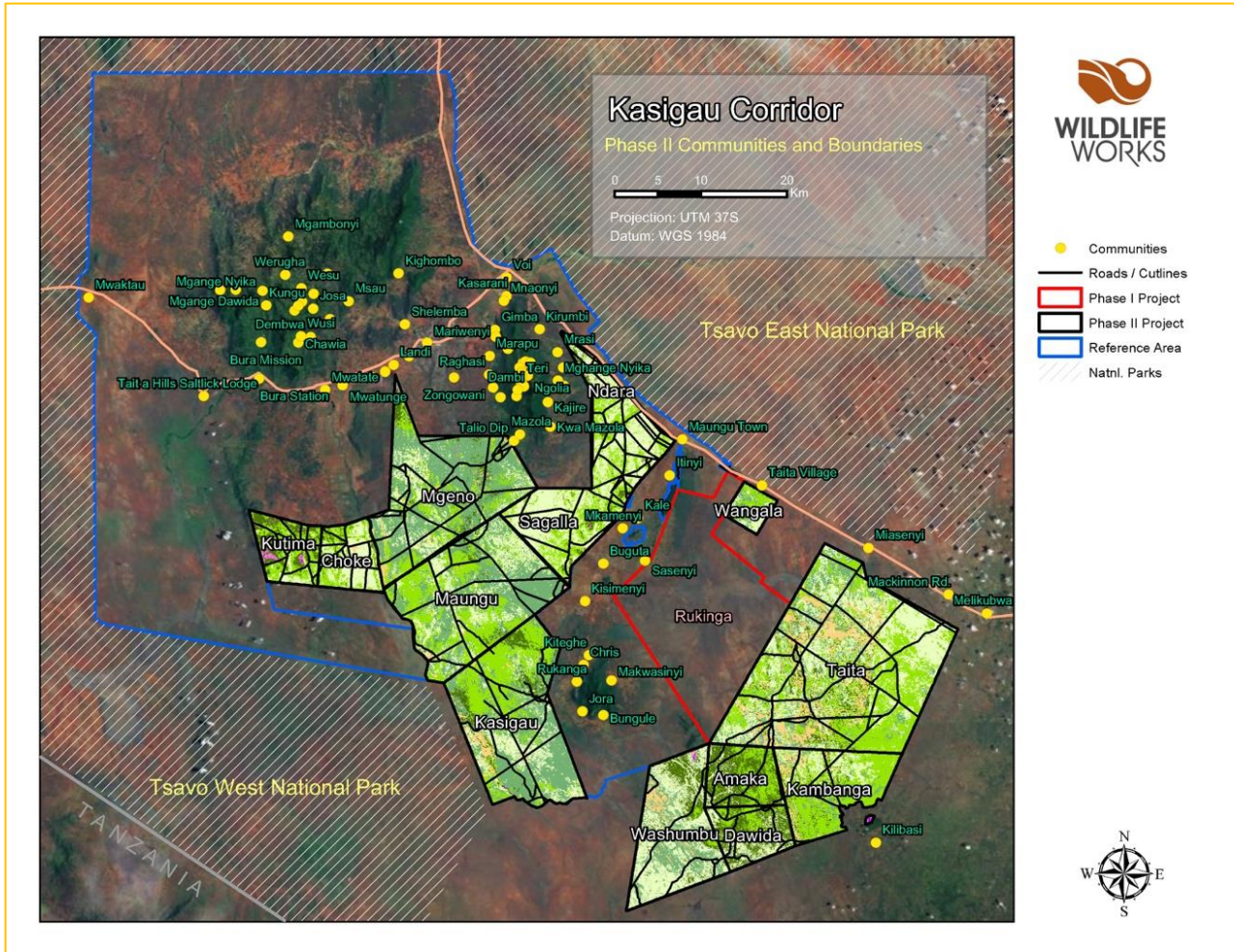


Figure 1: The Project Zone - Communities within the scope of influence of the Kasigau Corridor REDD Project Phase II – Rukinga Sanctuary Project Area.

The KCRPII provides many benefits that will help achieve Kenya’s stated Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). In 2015, Kenya joined the global community in adopting its SDGs, a set of 17 universal goals covering the thematic areas of environmental, economic and social development. They are structured to help drive national funding and policy decisions. In 2016, Kenya implemented the Vision 2030 plan, a long-term development plan with the goal of transforming Kenya into a newly industrializing, middle-income country that provides a high quality of life to all its citizens by 2030, within a clean and secure environment. These two sustainable development plans are coordinated in their goals and thematic areas. The climate, community and biodiversity benefits provided by KCRPII, and detailed in sections 3, 4 and 5, all contribute to achieving the global and national sustainable development goals detailed in these two plans. These contributing benefits are monitored through KCRPII’s climate, community and biodiversity monitoring plans. SDGs that KCRPII will directly contribute to include:

- Goal 1: No Poverty
- Goal 2: Zero Hunger

- Goal 3: Good Health and Well-being
- Goal 4: Quality Education
- Goal 5: Gender Equality
- Goal 6: Clean Water and Sanitation
- Goal 8: Decent Work and Economic Growth
- Goal 10: Reduced Inequalities
- Goal 12: Responsible Consumption and Production
- Goal 13: Climate Action
- Goal 15: Life on Land
- Goal 16: Peace Justice and Institutions
- Goal 17: Partnerships for the Goals

The Project's climate benefits include the avoided emission of 1,642,971tCO<sub>2</sub>e during this second monitoring period. The Project will generate substantial community and biodiversity co-benefits. New and sustainable livelihood opportunities, such as direct employment, alternative income generating activities (IGAs) and initiatives to stimulate investment in businesses will be designed to reduce pressure on the environment while significantly increasing community well-being. Additional programs will address food security, improve health and education facilities, as well as raise environmental awareness. Biodiversity co-benefits will be achieved through greater protection of the ecosystem predominantly by means of increased security and improved monitoring. The Project will also be protecting critical habitat for significant populations of many IUCN red-listed species, including African elephant (*Loxodonta Africana*), Grevy's zebra (*Equus grevyi*), Lion (*Panthera leo*), African Wild Dog (*Lycaon pictus*), Leopard (*Panthera pardus*), Cheetah (*Acinonyx jubatus*), Secretary bird (*Sagittarius serpentarius*), Martial Eagle (*Polemaetus bellicosus*), Bateleur (*Terathopius ecaudatus*) and several vulture species.

### 2.1.2 Description of the Project Activity

Wildlife Works has been engaged in the region since 1998. Unlike NGOs that set up projects, then leave and pay infrequent visits to see how things are going, Wildlife Works has had a hands-on approach since the very beginning. We employed over 100 local people in a range of activities that have continued and have been expanded upon as a result of carbon financing generated by the project. Wildlife Works has implemented a wide range of sustainable development initiatives in the Kasigau Corridor since the start of the project. These initiatives collectively form the basis of our carbon offset leakage avoidance strategy.

As it has been over 10 years since the project start date, the project has reassessed its baseline as required by the SD VISta standard. As part of the on-going adaptive project management and on-going consultation with project communities SBIA workshops are held every 2 years, with the project focal issues and theory of change reassessed every five years. During these workshops monitored project

impacts and results are shared with project communities and stakeholders and jointly discuss general aspects of the project implementation and make any amendments to the key goals and processes. During these meetings community representatives from the various project locations are also able to interact, exchange ideas and experiences about the project implementation processes, institutional functions and other lessons learned, and provide feedback to the project. These SBIA workshops have confirmed that the original project baseline as validated under the VCS, CCB and SD VISTA standards is still valid for the entire project area based on the current status of the project communities and stakeholders well-being, natural capital and ecosystem services. The SBIA workshops that have additionally reassessed project focal issues and the theory of change have been held in 2017 and 2023. During the 2017 it was discovered that only one focal issue, that of Poor governance, that had been identified at project development was no longer identified as a significant issue by the workshop members and was replaced by a new focal issue of food insecurity. In the 2023 SBIA workshop all focal issues and the project's theory of change were confirmed by workshop participants as still valid and pressing issues. This process demonstrates that the project baseline is still valid and represents the current context and status of the project communities and stakeholders and that of the broader environmental and biodiversity circumstances in the project area.

The major project activities include:

**Wildlife Works Eco-Factory:** At the onset, our core project, was the construction of the Eco-factory, where we employed over 150 people from the community in the construction phase. Women from the community were then trained and employed in the sewing and production of organic cotton clothing which was exported to the US and Europe for sale on the internet and in fashion boutiques.

The Eco-factory has continued to show stable growth in recent years towards breaking even. Supported by the international marketing and design team based in California, production was rejuvenated during this 2022 reporting period, with the number of employees maintained at eight. Wildlife Works maintained its relationship with the SOKO eco-factory from Mombasa including running of the Stitching Academy in Maungu Town, where potential seamstresses continue to receive specialized skills and training that enable them to directly work in any eco-factory at Wildlife Works' EPZ, or elsewhere. Besides training as seamstresses, these women also acquired new skills for several printing and other support positions, like sales and marketing.

To support production in the EPZ, a printing arm has been established and has grown to nine employees. In addition, the printing arm acts as a local production factory outside of the EPZ and is able to supply local demand, further growing production and local jobs. Wildlife Works established several shop outlets in the big cities and key tourist destinations of Kenya (Nairobi, Mombasa and Lamu) to grow local sales and develop employment opportunities.

The small Wildlife Works soap factory is still ongoing, with diversified production and maintained the three staff members. Different soaps are produced using locally sourced additives and extracts like jojoba oil, coconut milk and lime and sold to niche markets in Nairobi and Mombasa, mainly consisting of lodges and hotels. Production remains constrained by seasonality and availability of the required additives like jojoba oil.

**Project Product Sales and Marketing:** Wildlife Works' core mission is to harness the strengths of the marketplace for conservation. Thus, improving access to markets through use of technology remains a critical component of our enterprise development model. Wildlife Works continues to build and improve access to markets for various products in KCRPI using technology, such as through the Wildlife Works' Export Processing Zone (EPZ) for apparel and Hadithi umbrella CBO for community handicrafts. As of December 2022, 46 local community members (75% women) were trained or employed in Wildlife Works' eco-factory at the EPZ, mainly as seamstresses but also in several printing and other support positions like sales and marketing. The local community-based umbrella organisation, Hadithi, under KCRPII now provides marketing and sales support to 55 craft groups, comprising over 1,548 members, mostly women. Through Hadithi, a substantial amount of revenue from salaries or sales accrues to these local communities, especially directed to women, which greatly empowers them and their societies in general. In 2017 for instance, Hadithi spent KES 4.165 million on crafts made by women's group, paid cash in hand to the individual women. This figure rose to KES 8.925 million in 2018, again paid cash in hand to the individual women. In 2019, KES 12,680,551 was spent on crafts cash in hand to the women (approximately \$USD 127,500), growing to KES 14,675,675 (USD 146,200) in 2020 and KES 22,910,700 (USD 200,971) in 2021. In the 2022 reporting period, Hadithi sales under KCRPII grew to KES 14,105,777 (USD 113, 527). Besides sales, Hadithi continues to provide training to its members especially on quality and design. In 2022, Hadithi opened a fully equipped leather workshop Buguta in a bid to add leather value to baskets and went live on three online marketplaces; maison et objet (as part of the NEST offer), powered by people, and Etikora, thereby expanding its online presence in four places.

**Organic Greenhouses:** The greenhouse project contains two components: (i) the tree nursery and selling point, and (ii) agricultural greenhouses. The greenhouse team responsible for implementing and managing both components was maintained at 19 staff members at the end of the 2022 reporting period. Production has grown and diversified beyond the sale of grafted fruit tree seedlings (like citrus, mango and avocado) to include sale of organically produced vegetables and ornamental plants for landscaping purposes. Production has grown and diversified beyond the sale of grafted fruit tree seedlings (like citrus, mango and avocado) to include sale of organically produced vegetables and ornamental plants for landscaping purposes. The selling point established along the main Nairobi-Mombasa Highway continues to grow sales.

Wildlife Works runs a Greenhouse tree planting program under which there is a seedling purchase program. The objective is to stock the indigenous tree nursery, buying seedlings of specified trees from the community members, nurturing them to the point they can be out planted, and providing them for free back to the community, mainly through schools and community groups for reforesting the landscape.

Of the indigenous trees bought from the community and nurtured at the Wildlife Works' greenhouse, the five most common species are *Vachellia robusta*, *Gardenia volkensii*, *Vachellia nilotica*, *Terminalia prunoides* and *Sclerocarya birrea*. Of the fruit trees grafted and nurtured at the Wildlife Works' greenhouse, the Mango and Avocado root stocks, followed by Apple Mango, Valencia Late and Minneola citrus were the most common plants.

Lastly, throughout the year, the Women Group with the community greenhouse (Bungule) was provided with follow-up support from the Wildlife Works' Greenhouse and Community Outreach Departments on a broad range of their activities.

**Dryland farming scheme:** Another project activity is working with the Kenyan Agricultural Research Institute (KARI) to cultivate a climate appropriate plant called jojoba that provides a cash crop through its seeds and is extremely drought tolerant. We have been studying the impact of various levels of plant maintenance and irrigation on plant seed and oil productivity, with the idea that we can provide local farmers root stock to establish their own plants, and they can know how much they can likely make if they are willing to put a certain level of effort into the plant maintenance.

**School Construction and Bursary Scheme:** When we started working in the area, there were almost no schoolrooms, and no books, no desks, none of the infrastructure needed for children to have a hope of a decent education. We began with a school building program, and over the years we have partnered with the community and various donors we have identified, to build 17 classrooms throughout the district. We also have built desks and our original Kenyan manager Alice Ndiga launched a school bursary program, that has sent dozens of local children through private high school, and several on to college.

**Ecotourism:** Wildlife Works established and continues to operate an ecotourism operation in the center of the Rukinga Sanctuary. The Kivuli Camp, provides employment for safari guides and other service jobs, and a market for local produce. Wildlife Works continues to support management of Kivuli Camp, and development of Satao Camp at Kivuko on Taita Ranch. During the reporting period, a total of 560 guests were booked at Kivuli Camp, spending a total of 716 nights and 2,294 bed-nights.. Kivuli Camp remains fully operational and hosts a mix of foreign and local guests including tourists and educational visitors.

**Wildlife Works Carbon Project Monitoring:** We conduct annual monitoring of our carbon inventory by revisiting a statistical sample (20% annually, 100% every five years) of our permanent fixed plots each year to check for degradation or changes in existing stocks, and by acquiring remote sensed imagery to support the absence of large scale deforestation or boundary changes.

We trained some of our staff to perform the tree inventory, and recruited local tree experts from the surrounding communities, who could tell the difference between all the *Commiphora* and *Acacia* species present on the sanctuary.

**Forest and Biodiversity Monitoring:** The Monitoring Department has four permanent staff for undertaking social and biodiversity surveys and assessments or collating data on various project impacts collected by other departments; additional staff/volunteers/interns are engaged during survey periods. The Wildlife Works' Research Camp has been maintained since 2012 and was expanded between 2014-2016 with the establishment of camping grounds, which was furnished and equipped into a fully functional and independent camping facility able to house short-term guests and visiting researchers.

**Wildlife Works Rangers:** Wildlife Works has instituted several permanent initiatives to enhance security, especially around poaching including increasing our ranger force to about 130 (with about 10% being women) who undertake daily foot and driving patrols from 4 outposts distributed across KCRP-Phase II. All ranger outposts (bases) are maintained to ensure they remain under good state of repair, especially in terms of reliable solar power and water supply. Because Wildlife Works rangers remain an unarmed force, a working relationship with the KWS Special Operations Teams initiated in 2012 has been maintained and mainstreamed. Currently, KWS has several permanent mobile teams based in the ranches along the Kasigau Corridor (most of which are within the REDD+ Project). The project still operates two gyrocopters to enable aerial surveys almost on a daily basis collecting vital information for security and biodiversity monitoring purposes. This has resulted in both improved monitoring of High Conservation Value species as well as enhanced detection of incidents; over 35% of all incidents recorded during the reporting period were originally detected from an aerial patrol. Lastly, Wildlife Works has engaged Sensing Clues (<https://sensingclues.org/>), to develop and adopt their Cluey App which helps capture and relay ground and aerial patrol data near real-time. This makes it safer for the ranger teams working on the ground and more effective in responding to incidents, especially those detected from the air.

**Eco-Charcoal Production Facility:** Wildlife Works established and maintains an eco-charcoal facility that was moved to a larger production area near McKinnon Road township at an area reserved for this production by Taita Ranch. Nine staff members run all the current operations spanning harvesting, carbonation, briquetting and sales. At present, the team can press 1,000-1,500 0.5 kg briquettes every week. The business plan was further supported by the Kenya National Research Fund towards scaling up through mechanization of production and improving sales and marketing. During the reporting period, the mechanized briquette press a grinder and mixer were sourced for producing smaller pillow-shaped briquettes, in addition to an improved kiln which was fabricated and tested on-site. Full mechanization of the production process will enable scaling up to semi-commercial status.

*Support in establishing the Tsavo and Rukinga Conservancies:* Progress towards establishing and formal registration of the Tsavo Conservancy has slowed down since 2018-2019 due to bureaucratic uncertainties around the registration process under Kenya's devolved governance structure. The Kenya Wildlife Conservancy Association has since ironed out the process with KWS and County Governments so it can be picked up again. Nonetheless, Wildlife Works remains committed to supporting the process once it is back on track, and in the meantime is actively laying the groundwork, including raising the profile and building the reputation of the area through its involvement with developing Kivuli and Satao Camps which are likely to be the Conservancy's hub.

**Wildlife Works Health Projects:** Wildlife Works is committed to supporting community projects as we feel these can be the most important tools to developing self-sufficient and self-governing communities. One of our main focuses is on education, especially for women and girls, but also for male students. During the reporting period-2022, our health education programme that targeted children from vulnerable families and held 9 sexual health and sanitation training sessions for 1,546 girls and boys on sexual health, sanitation and drug abuse in various schools within KCRP-Phase II. Additionally, 685 re-usable sanitary pads were distributed to the girls.

**Community Wildlife Scouts:** Wildlife Works maintains a community-based wildlife monitoring scheme, currently expanded to 7 areas within KCRP-Phase II: Zongowani; Talio Dip/Mazola; Kajire/Kishamba; Jora; Bungule; Kamtonga; and Ngambenyi. In each of these sites, a community member records all incidences of key wildlife (High Conservation Value) sightings and human-wildlife conflict. In addition to collecting information that can feed into the national compensation scheme (run by KWS), these data show trends and patterns of crop-raiding and livestock predation, which Wildlife Works uses plan for swift response actions (e.g., deploying deterrents) and other mitigation measures. In the reporting period, a total of 583 incidents were recorded involving five main species. Elephants and Spotted Hyena dominated, comprising about 67% and 20% of all the reported incidents, respectively. Other important species were Leopard (4%), Lion (3%) and Baboon (2%).

### 2.1.3 Implementation Schedule

Date	Milestone(s) in the Project's Development and Implementation
01 January 2010	Project Start Date
01 January 2010	Start of Project Activity, protection of forest from deforestation and degradation.
Predates project start (2010) - Present	Tree Nursery
Since project start (2010) - Present	Jojoba propagation
Since project start (2010) - Present	Wildlife Works Greenhouse and selling point
Since project start (2010) - Present	Reforestation of Mt. Kasigau and surrounding area
Since project start (2010) - Present	Wildlife Carbon Trust: School Construction and Renovations, Infrastructure provision, Bursary Scheme, Agri-business, and Water and health-related Projects.
Since project start (2010) - Present	Community Wildlife Scouts
Since project start (2010) - Present	Forest and Biodiversity Monitoring
Since project start (2010) - Present	Project Product Sales and Marketing

Since project start (2010) - Present	Security and Ranger Patrols
Since project start (2010) - Present	REDD+ Carbon Inventory Monitoring
Expansion completed in October 2011 Print factory opened in November 2011	Eco Factory Expansion and Print Factory
27 April 2011	CCB Validation
13 May 2011	VCS Validation
13 May 2011	VCS Verification M1
25 May 2011	CCB Verification M1
Built in 2012 – Maintained to the Present	Group Ranch Office Renovations / Construction
30 November 2012	VCS Verification M2
5 December 2012	CCB Verification M2
2012 - Present	Support to Community Based Organizations: Sagalla Conservation and Development Forum (SCDF), Mwatate District Stakeholders' Forum (MDSF) and Mwachabo Development Forum (MDF), Marungu Hill Conservancy Forum (MHC), Kasigau Development Trust (KDT) and Mackinnon Road CBO.
Started in testing phase 2011, moved to new facility on Taita Ranch early 2013 – Present	Wildlife Works Eco-Charcoal Production Facility
New building operating from 2013 – Present	Wildlife Works Soap Factory
21 May 2013	VCS & CCB Verification M3
2013 - Present	Local Production Clothing Factory
2013 – Present (some operations)	Wildlife Works Health Projects

disrupted by COVID-19)	
2014 - Present	Support to Establishing / Maintaining the Tsavo Conservancy
02 September 2015	VCS & CCB Verification M4
24 August 2018	VCS & CCB Verification M5
Officially opened in 2019 - Present	Ecotourism Projects: Kivuko Eco Camp in Taita
12 June 2020	VCS & CCB Verification M6
06 December 2021	VCS & CCB Verification M7
16 May 2022	Date Project Submitted for Listing under the SD VISta program of Verra.
22 - 29 June 2022	VCS/CCB M8 and SD VISta Validation & Verification Field Audit
21 December 2022	VCS & CCB Verification M8
14 February 2023	SDVIsta Validation and Verification

#### 2.1.4 Project Proponent

<b>Organization Name</b>	Wildlife Works Carbon
<b>Role in the Project</b>	Project Proponent
<b>Contact Person</b>	Jeremy Freund
<b>Title</b>	VP Carbon Development
<b>Address</b>	495 Miller Ave, Suite 100, Mill Valley CA 94941-5837 USA
<b>Telephone</b>	+1-415-332-8081
<b>Email</b>	jeremy@wildlifeworks.com

#### 2.1.5 Other Entities Involved in the Project

No other entities are involved in KCRPII.

#### 2.1.6 Project Location

KCRPII is located in Southeastern Kenya, in Taita Taveta County, Coast Province. It is approximately 150 km northwest of the city of Mombasa. As part of the 2010 ratification of the Kenyan Constitution, counties were introduced as new geographical administrative units. These counties number the same

as the old districts (47), but there were significant governance changes following the elections of 2013, including devolution to a new two-level governance system, which sees only national and county governments.

The Project Area covers all the land known as the Community Ranches, which consists of 13 group-owned ranches and conservancy land totaling 169,741.38 ha (419,440 acres). Specifically, the Project consists of the following ranches and conservancies.

- Taita Ranch, which is 35,612 ha known as LR 12264 owned by Taita Ranching Company Ltd a collection of indigenous local shareholders.
- Mgeno Ranch which is 21,232 ha known as LR 12178 and owned by Mgeno Ranching (DA) Company Ltd., a collection of indigenous local shareholders.
- Maungu Ranch which is 21,619 ha known as LR 12179, and owned by Maungu Ranching (DA) Company Ltd. a collection of indigenous local shareholders.
- Kasigau Ranch which is 21,186 ha known as LR 12180, and owned by Kasigau Ranching (DA) Company Ltd., a collection of indigenous local shareholders.
- Wangala Ranch which is 2,023.5 ha known as LR 12262 and owned by Livingstone and Alphonse Ikonge, local indigenous shareholders.
- Kambanga Ranch which is 12948 ha known as FR 195/6 and owned by Kasigau Ranching (DA) Company Ltd., a collection of indigenous local shareholders.
- Dawida Ranch which is 4,046.86 ha known as LR 14208 and owned by Dawida Ranching Group Company Ltd., a collection of indigenous local shareholders.
- Washumbu Ranch which is 14,501 ha known as LR 14206 and owned by Washumbu (DA) Ranching Company Ltd., a collection of indigenous local shareholders.
- Amaka Ranch which is 5,998 ha known as LR 14207 and owned by Amaka Development Limited., a collection of indigenous local shareholders.
- Sagalla Ranch which is 17,402 ha known as LR 12177 and owned by Sagalla Ranchers Limited, a collection of indigenous local shareholders.
- Ndara Ranch which is 1834.77 ha known as LR 12176 and owned by Eliud Timothy Mwamunga, a local indigenous stakeholder.
- Choke Ranch which is 5076 ha known as LR 12199/3 and owned by Raymond Joel Mwangola a local indigenous shareholder.
- Kutima Ranch which is 5076 ha known as LR 12199/4 and owned by Kutima Investments Limited, a collection of indigenous local shareholders.

These community ranches and conservancies are part of that land that forms a corridor (the Kasigau Wildlife Corridor) between Tsavo East National Park and Tsavo West National Parks to the east of the Marungu range. The Project and reference areas are clearly delineated in Project area map below (Figure 2). GIS vector files representing the boundaries have been made available to the Project

validator and are also available on the VCS Website. Lands within the Project boundary are classified as tropical dryland forest<sup>3</sup> for at least 20 years and has been primary forest throughout recorded history<sup>4</sup>.

The Project is located in Southeastern Kenya; in the Coast Province about 2 hours' drive from the port town of Mombasa along the Nairobi-Mombasa highway. The Project's Eco-Region is typified by a dryland forest ecosystem, dominated by *Acacia* and *Commiphora* drought-resistant species. Most people in the project zone are Taita, with moderate populations of Duruma and Kamba, plus several other less-prevalent tribes. More detailed information concerning the social, economic and geographic attributes of the Project Zone can be found in the Project's CCB PDD.

There have been no changes to the Project Area location or maps since the publication of the VCS and CCB Project Documents (PDs).

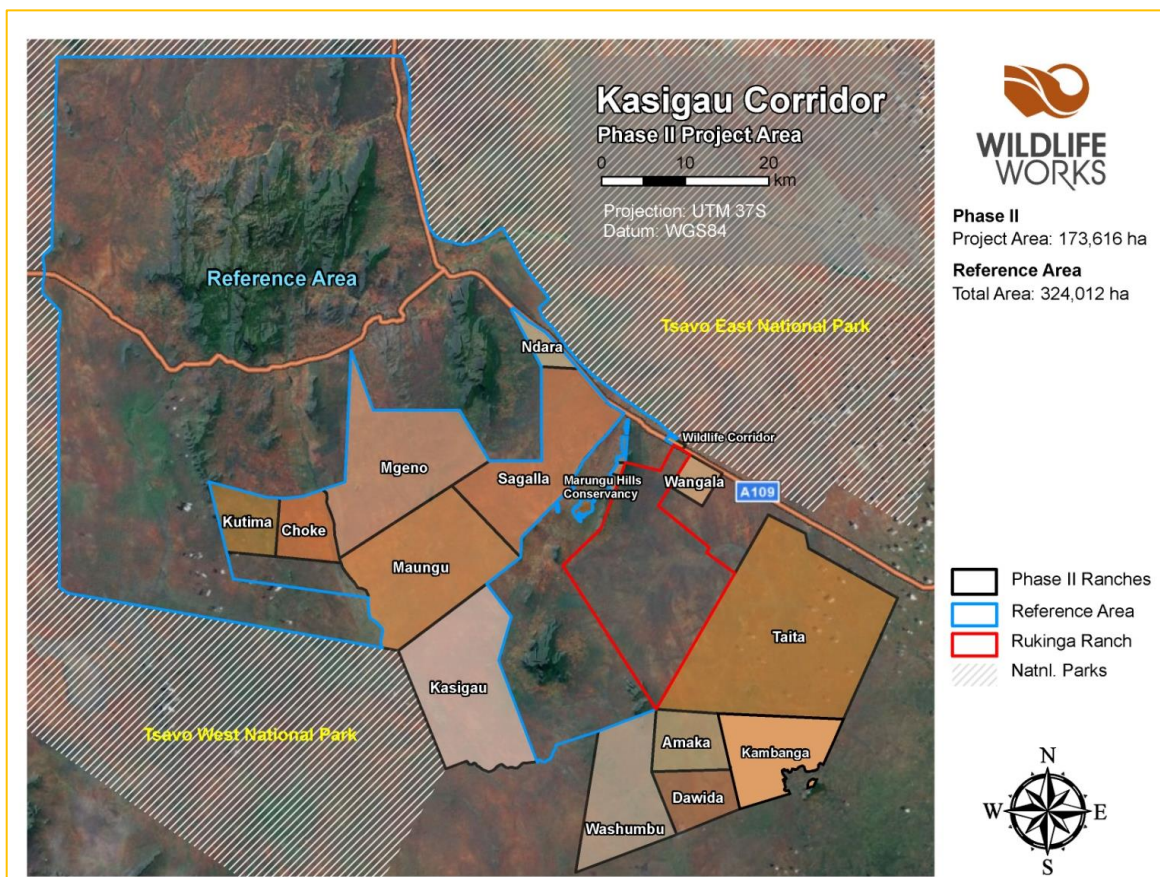


Figure 2: The Kasigau Corridor REDD Project Phase II – The Community Ranches Project Area and Reference Area Spatial Boundaries.

The community group ranches are part of that land that forms a corridor (the Kasigau Wildlife Corridor) between Tsavo East and Tsavo West National Parks, located to the South East of the Taita Hills, an area

<sup>3</sup> UN IPCC, Good Practice Guidance for LULUCF, Table 3A.1.8;

<sup>4</sup> The earliest record that has been located is dated 1895 which identifies the area as forested [Hobley 1895 – Upon a Visit to Tsavo and the Taita Highlands – The Geographical Journal 1895 Vol 5 No 6 pp 545-561]

of high conservation value and the northern most extent of the Eastern Arc Mountain range (see map above).

There are several Kenyan Administrative Locations (sub-districts) associated with the Project Area, with a total population of over 350,000 people. Approximately 15,000 people reside within 5 km of the Project boundaries within the two Locations (Marungu and Kasigau) included in the KCRPII Project Zone. Figure 3 displays the combined Project Zone for both KCRPI and KCRPII projects, which stipulates locations of the communities directly involved with / affected by KCRPII.

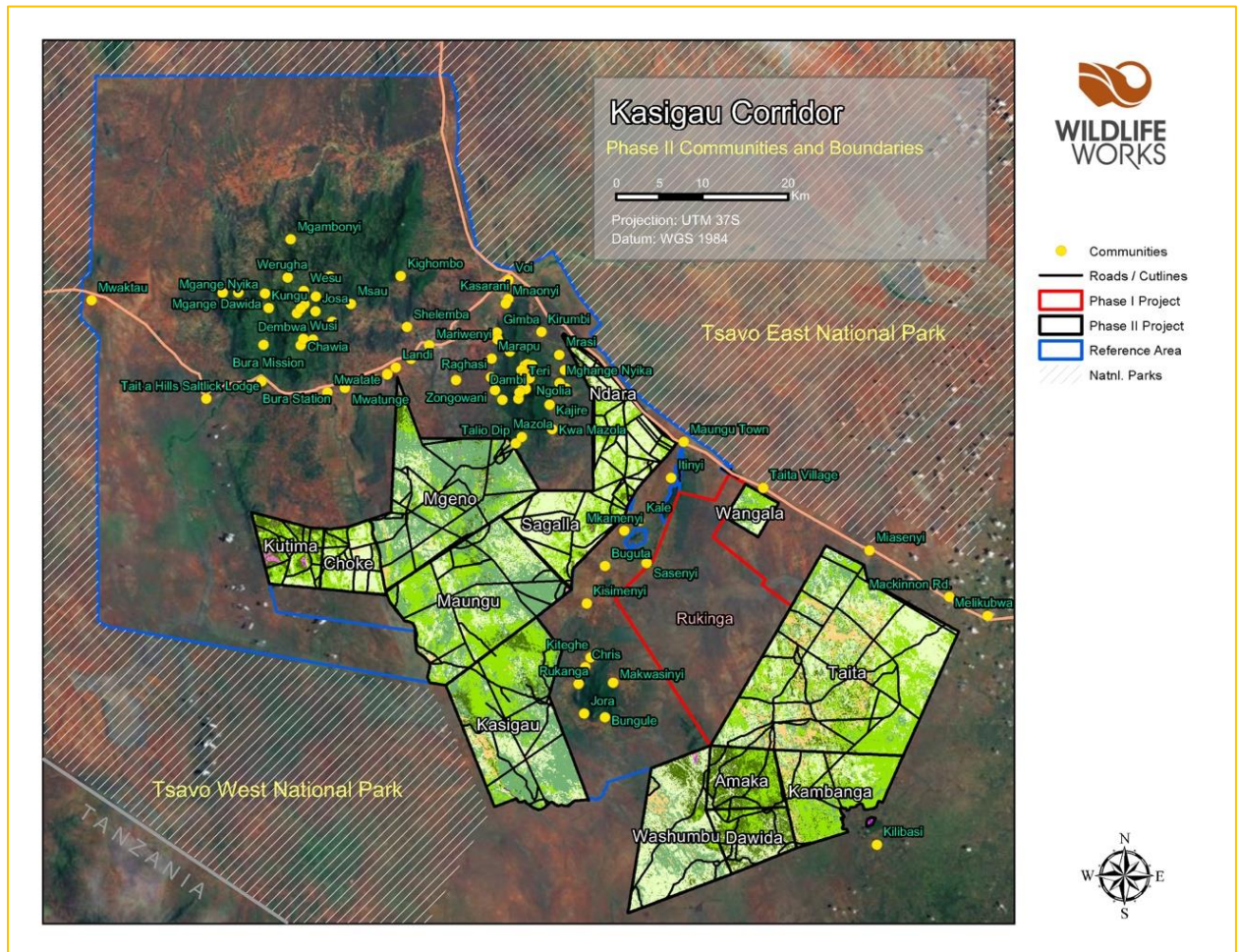


Figure 3: The Project Zone - Communities within the scope of influence of the Kasigau Corridor REDD Project Phase II – The Community Ranches Project Area.

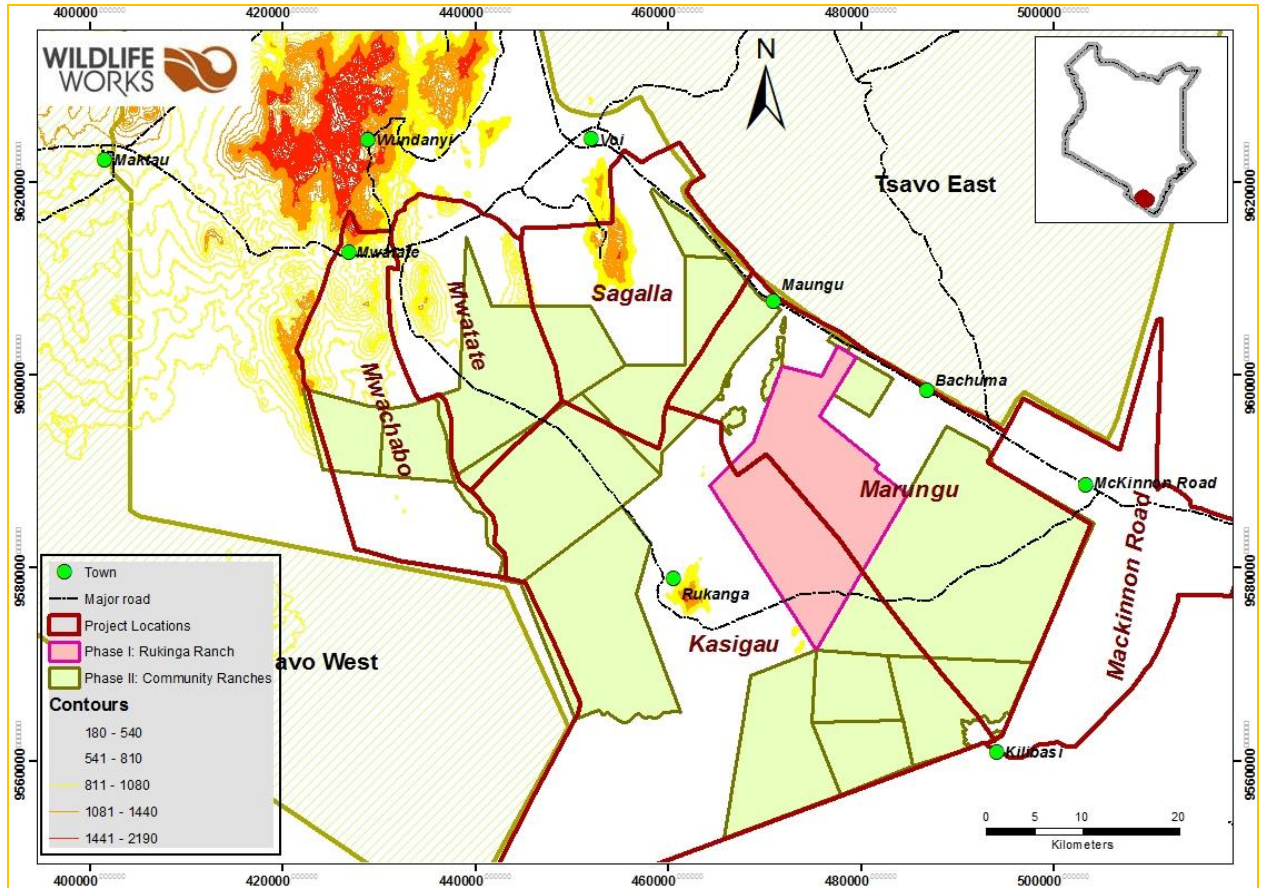


Figure 4: The six Locations in the Project Zone with which the project works with.

### 2.1.7 Project Description Deviations

There are no Project Description deviations from the Project's SD VISTA PD. Deviations related to the Project's VCS/CCB PD are documented in the VCS/CCB Monitoring Report.

### 2.1.8 Threats to the Project

Identified major threats that could impact the Project are as follows:

- Changes in legislation – government expropriating land through e.g. a compulsory purchase for development scheme. As the Government of Kenya has been supportive of KCRPII and there is no recent history of expropriation of private conservation lands, this risk is considered very low. We will continue to seek international press for our Project, as keeping it in the spotlight promotes awareness, and reminds the Government of the value it is adding to the country of Kenya.
- Income – risk that revenue from the sale of carbon credits falls short of Projected sales or credit prices to sustain the Project's solvency. Financial sustainability was modeled at extremely conservative carbon offset credit sale values and volumes. This Project is a very popular Project with high potential value in the marketplace. The likelihood of financial insolvency is therefore deemed to be very low.

- Crop failure - substantial and repeated crop failure in surrounding communities could lead to increased poaching and use of the forests for financial benefit. This risk is high. The majority of alternative economic development efforts are aimed at mitigating this risk. Revenues from carbon credit sales derived from the protection of the forest has increased the options for the creation of additional alternative, non-destructive jobs. This has enabled us to employ more community members, and to further decrease the number of community members solely reliant on subsistence agriculture. The funding from carbon sales has additionally enabled the expansion of our dryland-farming scheme. We have implemented the use of Jojoba crop and diverse citrus trees (oranges and lemons) as cash crops incorporated within our pilot climate-smart agriculture systems.
- Invasion of cattle grazers due to famine in adjacent communities, or lack of grazing elsewhere - Although an influx of cattle would affect herbaceous vegetation (grasses) in the Project area, it would not result in a significant carbon stock change. This risk is considered to be moderate, especially as Somalis have used the land in this area to feed and water their cattle over the years, sometimes with permission from landowners and sometimes without. However, given the increasing aridity in the area, we believe Somali cattle herders will be forced to look elsewhere for rangelands. We will apply carbon funding to increase ranger patrolling to better protect the Project Area from illegal incursion. In addition, 13 community outreach meetings were held in-person in 2022 involving KCRPII, which covered a diversity of ranch management issues including grazing, water and habitat improvement, security and mining.
- Drought – drought is an increasing reality in this region of Kenya. We anticipate that climate change will worsen this problem throughout the Project crediting period. Drought inherently introduces two additional risks:
- Wildlife – drought places severe stress on wildlife in the Project Area. However, many of the species living in this ecosystem are extraordinarily drought-adapted, and have little problem surviving for extended dry spells. For those that aren't, we plan to continue to provide emergency water sources at all the ranches in the Project Area. More detail on this issue is provided in the CCB PDD in Section GL1.2. During 2022, the KCRP ranger force has been increased to over 100 (about 10% women). In addition, we have maintained a large watchmen pool (currently 129) in order to free up rangers for wildlife security matters. Rangers maintain approximately 10 daily foot and car patrols from 8 outposts distributed across the Project area.
- Cash crops – drought will render the survival of cash crops, such as Jojoba and citrus more difficult. These high value cash crops will be planted sparingly so as to minimize water demand. Additionally, they require much less water than a comparable maize field, and can survive higher temperatures, provided they receive some water. Farmers will be able to provide this in order to preserve the financial value of the crop under Project funding. During M9, activities were implemented to reduce community dependence on livestock and land through alternative IGAs, promote cultivation of drought resistant crops, improve storage facilities and management of crops, water harvesting and water storage, raise awareness of the danger of fires.
- Fire – grass fires are common in the region due to intense heat and dry conditions. Naturally occurring fires are extremely rare, with the majority caused by humans, either accidental or

intentionally set. Our strategy is to continue educating the local population, especially the youth, about the dangers of burning fallows, which is often done to improve grazing for their animals. Fires tend to burn the grasses and shrubs, but move very quickly, and typically don't kill trees, as native species are generally grass-fire tolerant. Wildlife Works maintains and operates two gyrocopters that fly over the Project area on an almost daily basis, collecting vital information for security and biodiversity monitoring. In addition, training activities held during 2022 included the topic of firefighting.

- Increased Human-wildlife conflict – Increased presence of large fauna within the project area, specifically elephants, could lead to conflict with community members and staff if the elephants wander outside of the project area. Community members may also view wildlife negatively if there are instances of Wildlife Works staff members being injured by wildlife. If negative interactions between wildlife and humans increase this could pose a threat to the biodiversity benefits the project provides by way of community members killing or injuring wildlife. We deem this to be a minimal threat to the project due to the extensive mitigation strategies we employ. Those strategies include active patrols and response, testing various deterrents, staff training, improved farming methods, and creating boreholes for water within the project area.

In addition, as described in Section 2.1.9, Wildlife Works utilizes carbon funding provided by the REDD+ Project to make investments in job creation and income generating activities within the communities. It is Wildlife Works' intention to create a lasting culture of employment and financial health in the Project's sphere of influence. Carbon revenues have and will continue to change the face of the surrounding communities, and through KCRPII, Wildlife Works has effectively raised awareness about the link between forest / wildlife protection and the availability of sustainable employment. The implementation and permanence of these activities contribute to the mitigation of the threats to the Project outlined in Section 2.1.8.

### 2.1.9 Benefit Permanence

KCRPII is a component of a comprehensive conservation effort being executed by Wildlife Works since 1998. It is our intention to utilize carbon funding provided by the REDD+ Project to make necessary investments in job creation and income generation activities to maintain financial stability into the foreseeable future. We have demonstrated the effective management of carbon proceeds throughout the first 9 VCS/CCB verification periods, achieving consecutive successful verifications, making it the most advanced REDD+ Project validated under VCS and CCB. The Project has executed carbon rights agreements in the Project area and received carbon proceeds through the sale of credits in the voluntary market as an operational REDD+ Project. As a result, landowners now realize the value of their carbon. It is our intention to get these CRAs registered as full easements against the title deed of the land, although there is no perfected mechanism under Kenyan law yet. Our approach to transfer knowledge and our assistance in creating conservation institutions within the community speak to our desire to ensure climate, community and biodiversity benefits continue in perpetuity. Simultaneously, the carbon funding from the KCRPII provides many benefits that contribute towards achieving the SDGs outlined in Kenya's Vision 2030 plan. Specific examples include employment of local community members by the project, expansion of the dryland-farming scheme, continuation of bursary payments,

classroom construction, various water projects, community outreach meetings, and protection of the project area by the Project Rangers, and community monitors.

It is Wildlife Works' intention to create a lasting culture of employment and financial health in the Project's sphere of influence. To that end, every job created thus far, and every job slated for creation in the future upon receipt of carbon funding, is designed to last not only throughout the Project's crediting period, but well beyond. Through job training, such as in our EcoFactory, members of the surrounding communities are currently building their capacity and gaining new skills that will last into the foreseeable future. Carbon revenues have and will continue to change the face of the surrounding communities, and through KCRPII, Wildlife Works has effectively raised awareness about the link between forest / wildlife protection and the availability of sustainable employment. We have made detailed job creation information available to the public and included many of the metrics in the various versions of this document. For every Project activity, as one of the performance indicators, we will be tracking the number of jobs created as a direct result of that activity. Employment information is reported in each MR throughout the Project lifetime. The types of job created by KCRPII activities, whenever possible, are full-time, permanent positions, designed to last well beyond the project crediting period.

## 2.2 Stakeholder Engagement

### 2.2.1 Stakeholder Consultation and Adaptive Management

We have always had an open-door policy at Wildlife Works, and members of the community interested in learning more, or with questions, suggestions and/or grievances can drop by or offices us at any time. We have initiated a formal community contact process, and will track any suggestions made and the resolution within the project implementation plan moving forward. We have also implemented a community liaison team, slated to constantly travel around the project area, which will hold community meetings, or "barazas", to sensitize the community to the project's goals, and to give them a chance for providing feedback. Laurian Lenjo, office, personnel and community relations manager, who himself is from the local community is responsible for this process, and he works closely with Lara Cowan to organize and conduct these meetings. A list of meetings held and attendees is always made, and retained in the Wildlife Works office.

As part of annual project verification, the project's annual Monitoring Report is posted with Verra for a 30 day public comment period where interested members of the public are open to submit comments directly to Verra. All public comments are subsequently relayed to Wildlife Works and must be responded to and addressed and taken into consideration by the VVB audit team.

In addition, as many local community members either don't have access to the Internet or are not fluent in English, Wildlife Works provided an impartial commenting service. Flyers and posters were distributed at the following locations:

1. Chiefs and Sub- Chiefs offices
2. Public meetings (Swahili: "barazas")

3. Schools
4. Newsletter Outlets (e.g. Voi town, Maungu Town, etc.)

Flyers contained information informing the public that they could make comments on the KCRPII project through the CCBA website. Should they not have access to the internet, or needed translation services, they were advised to either come to Wildlife Works head office to use the internet service, or alternatively, write hard copies of their comments and to bring them to Wildlife works for posting, and if necessary, translation.

No significant Project changes have resulted from these on-going consultations, but various changes and modifications have occurred, mainly concerning the processes of community engagement and project implementation e.g., election of member to various committees involved in the distribution of community allocations. Communities and stakeholders have provided numerous comments on how to ensure fairness, increase downward accountability and reduce the possibility of corruption in the benefit sharing program. This has led to WWC ensuring greater transparency, for instance in process followed for the election of committee members, or regarding the names of students being provided with bursaries and the names of companies receiving contracts and their amounts.

### 2.2.2 Anti-Discrimination

Wildlife Works operates within all local and national employment laws and has been doing so for over 16 years in the country of Kenya. The company is committed to recruiting, hiring, and promoting qualified minorities, such as women and individuals with disabilities within the surrounding community and within the workplace.

Wildlife Works maintains equal opportunity hiring practices and has established formal hiring processes and procedures that are implemented by the Project Office. These include policies and procedures for Employee Recruitment & Selection, Equity and Diversity, and Equal Employment Opportunity & Affirmative Action. We ensure that the entirety of the KCRPII Project Area is well represented, promoting equal opportunity for training for those that may lack necessary skills, but wish to be involved.

When employment opportunities arise, the positions are advertised / announced so it reaches all the locations within the Project area through local administrators (Chiefs), community-based organizations (CBOs) and our community relations department. Positions are advertised for a minimum of one month (30 days), after which suitable candidates from all locations are shortlisted according to the information listed on their application. As many suitable candidates as possible are invited for interviews. We conduct transparent interviews with the objective of filling the position with optimal candidates, but priority is given to women and disadvantaged groups, ensuring they are well represented and given a fair chance, as described in Wildlife Works' HR Policies.

Wildlife Works' policy is to be an equal opportunity employer. We do not, as part of recruitment, discriminate based on gender, age, race and ethnicity or entertain any form of discrimination. The company is committed to ensuring that all employee requisitions, interviewing, and hiring are performed in an effective manner with the objective to fill positions with the best available candidates.

The purpose of the Recruitment & Selection policy is to ensure that a transparent and unbiased recruitment and selection process is followed, and that it results in the appointment of the best candidate, based solely on merit and best-fit with the organisational values, philosophy, and goals in mind.

Wildlife Works' Equity & Diversity policy is to provide equal employment, educational and social opportunities for all employees, without regard to race, colour, religion, sex (including pregnancy), national origin, age, status, disability, political affiliation, sexual orientation, gender identity or genetic information at any given time. Wildlife Works is committed to the principle of excellence, with respect for all.

Wildlife Works prohibits discrimination and any form of harassment, provides equal employment opportunity without regard to race, HIV / AIDS status, pregnancy, mental status, colour, religion, gender, trade affiliation, ethnicity or national origin, political or other opinion disability, sexual orientation or preferences of age. The company is committed to recruiting, hiring, and promoting qualified minorities, such as women and individuals with disabilities within the surrounding community and within the workplace.

### 2.2.3 Worker Training

Wildlife Works has always provided training for its employees in Kenya, starting from the early days when we built a factory and taught local women how to sew from first principles. We have trained local wildlife rangers, factory workers and supervisors, organic greenhouse workers, personnel managers, and forest inventory specialists (plot sampling teams). We have developed robust training programs for Wildlife Works rangers, factory workers and greenhouse workers.

The most recent specialized hires have been for the Biodiversity Monitoring Team, which involves geo-location of animal sightings, detailed inventory management and reporting and skilled field techniques. Each department works to cross-train employees, so that to the fullest extent possible, all members of a department can perform relevant tasks required by the department. Therefore, while there may be specialized tasks, tools used or processes utilized in a department, we strive for breadth of knowledge for all employees, with the aim of affording all departmental employees with the capacity to perform all tasks required and cover any position needed. Additionally, we design our training systems to promote employee mobility within the company.

### 2.2.4 Equal Work Opportunities

Wildlife Works operates within all local and national employment laws and has been doing so for over 16 years in the country of Kenya. The company is committed to recruiting, hiring, and promoting qualified minorities, such as women and individuals with disabilities within the surrounding community and within the workplace.

Wildlife Works maintains equal opportunity hiring practices and has established formal hiring processes and procedures that are implemented by the Project Office. These include policies and procedures for Employee Recruitment & Selection, Equity and Diversity, and Equal Employment Opportunity &

Affirmative Action. We ensure that the entirety of the KCRPII Project Area is well represented, promoting equal opportunity for training for those that may lack necessary skills, but wish to be involved.

When employment opportunities arise, the positions are advertised / announced so it reaches all the locations within the Project area through local administrators (Chiefs), community-based organizations (CBOs) and our community relations department. Positions are advertised for a minimum of one month (30 days), after which suitable candidates from all locations are shortlisted according to the information listed on their application. As many suitable candidates as possible are invited for interviews. We conduct transparent interviews with the objective of filling the position with optimal candidates, but priority is given to women and disadvantaged groups, ensuring they are well represented and given a fair chance, as described in Wildlife Works' HR Policies.

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### 2.2.5 Workers' Rights

Wildlife Works operates within all local and national employment laws and has been doing so for over 16 years in the country of Kenya. Like any business, Wildlife Works is subject to periodic audits by the Government Employment Officer. We have passed all inspections, whether from local officials or International agencies such as Verite. Relevant Laws and Regulations that are applicable to the project are summarized in section 2.3.9 of this document.

Kenya's has ratified many of the elements of the ILO Freedom of Association and Protection of the Right to Organize Convention, 1948 (No. 87). We are required to provide our workers with the freedom of association. We are required to honor a dispute process as laid out in the act. We currently have no

collective bargaining agreement in place nor are we required to do so. We have never had a dispute with any employee that resulted in any collective action, lock out etc. and we have no disputes at all at this time, and we believe that we are in full compliance with this Act. To ensure that employees are aware of their rights under the Act, the following language is included in all employment contracts issued by Wildlife Works in Kenya.

“Wildlife Works, EPZ Ltd. acknowledges the importance of the recently enacted Labor Relations Act 2007, and therefore we wish to inform you that you are entitled to Freedom of Association, and specifically to join the Kenya Textile Workers Union (KTWU) should you so choose. Should you choose to join the KTWU, all membership dues and agency fees for the Union will be payable directly by you.”

### 2.2.6 Occupational Safety Assessment

As outlined in the company’s Occupational Health and Safety Policy and Procedures Manual, Wildlife Works is committed to worker safety. In the field of wildlife management, it is impossible to remove all risks associated for rangers who spend every day in the bush with wild animals. Furthermore, due to the illegal ivory trade, armed poachers are present in the Project Area, Wildlife Works’ rangers receive ongoing trainings, and we are in the process of training more instructors within the ranger base. WWC is also investigating technologies that could be employed to identify nearby wildlife and alert rangers to their presence; however, no such technology has been found to be viable and/or useful in identifying risks. Despite well-planned ranger patrols and the wealth of experience rangers have in the bush, the position is inherently dangerous. Therefore, we insure all our full-time employees under the National Health Insurance Fund (NHIF) and the National Social Security Fund (NSSF), which also covers spouse and children. In addition, as a company policy, we provide each employee with up to Ksh 10,000 worth of medical allowance at the local doctor in the nearby town of Voi.

As part of our partnership with PUMA, we underwent a PumaSafe Audit. This was to ensure that the Wildlife Works EcoFactory met PUMA’s standards for workers’ rights, and health and safety. As part of this audit a first-aid room was built and equipped, as was a staff kitchen and canteen. The Kenyan Red Cross held two training sessions in first aid and personal health, training 40 EcoFactory workers, rangers and greenhouse staff.

Table 2: An assessment of the hazards associated with key jobs performed in the KCRPII.

Hazard	Mitigation
<b>Sewing Factory Employees</b>	All risks are identified in training manual provided to Validator along with how to avoid risk.
Needle sticking fingers	Finger guards are provided, sharps bin is provided for safe disposal of needles that are replaced
Inhalation of fibers	Face masks are provided
Fire	Fire exits clearly marked, no smoking in factory, firefighting stations in factory, three doors out of facility

<b>Greenhouse Employees</b>	All risks are identified in training manual provided to Validator along with how to avoid risk.
Exposure to Chemicals	Only non-toxic chemical free organic materials used in Greenhouse therefore no toxic or caustic chemical exposure. Rubber gloves and protective eye gear provided if needed.
Inhalation Hazard	Only non-toxic chemical free organic materials used in Greenhouse therefore no toxic or caustic chemical exposure. Masks provided during spraying of organic pesticides.
Temperature Extremes	Frequent breaks and availability of water during hot conditions. Shade cloth covering of work area.
Slip, Trip and Fall	Ensure work is clear of all slip or trip hazards before work begins.
Lifting	Use proper lifting techniques, always get help for lifting heavy objects.
Cuts	Wear gloves, keep tools sharp and always be aware of the proximity of fingers to blades when making cuts.
Electric Shock	There is no electricity at all at the Organic Greenhouse.
Pinching and Crushing Points	Wear gloves, keep tools sharp and always be aware of the proximity of fingers to blades when making cuts.
Inclement/Adverse Weather	Organic Greenhouse located adjacent to Ranger station, so employees can retreat indoors in adverse weather.
Snakes, Animals	Keep greenhouse floor clear of organic debris for clear visibility, always be aware of the possibility for snakes, spiders, scorpions to be present, and do not approach or touch if seen.
<b>Wildlife Works Rangers</b>	All risks are identified in Ranger training manual provided to Validator along with how to avoid risk.
Elephants, Lions, Buffaloes, Snakes etc.	Training is given in how to approach, identify and stay a safe distance from potentially dangerous animals. First Aid training is provided in cuts, limb fractures, snakebites, dehydration and other possible health risks. Team design of 6 minimizes risk.
Poachers	Training is given in how to track, and peacefully apprehend poachers if possible and how to avoid confrontation with armed and aggressive poachers. Team design of 6 minimizes risk.

Sun Exposure, thorns etc.	Rangers are all provided with uniforms with long sleeves and long trousers and brimmed hats and boots. Lots of drinking water available at Ranger posts.
<b>Wildlife Works Plot Sampling Team</b>	All risks are identified in Plot Sampler training manual provided to Validator along with how to avoid risk.
Elephants, Lions, Buffaloes, Snakes etc.	Training is given in how to approach, identify and stay a safe distance from potentially dangerous animals. First Aid training is provided in cuts, limb fractures, snakebites, dehydration and other possible health risks. Team is designed to have sufficient numbers to improve lookout and minimize risk.
Poachers/Charcoalers	Team is instructed to avoid contact with any poachers or people producing charcoal. If the presence of any poacher or charcoaler is detected, the team is to immediately leave the area and notify the Head of Security when they are in a safe position.
Sun Exposure, thorns etc.	Each plot team member is all provided with uniforms with long sleeves and long trousers and boots. They are to bring lots of drinking water, which is available in the field at Ranger posts or other company and Ranch outposts.
Injuries from debris or tools during Soil Sampling	The plot team is also provided with personal protective equipment to help mitigate injuries. This includes safety glasses and long sleeves and trousers to protect against flying debris while digging. Additionally, they are provided with boots to protect their feet during digging.
WW/Tsavo Soap Factory	All risks are identified in Soap Factory Safety training manual provided to Validator along with how to avoid risk.
Lye	Comprehensive instructions are given on how to mix lye safely, and goggles and gloves are provided for employees.
Oils, Gas heating	Vegetable oils are only heated to 50-55o C, so are only hand warm. Gas stove is simple self-igniting LPG camp stove.

### 2.2.7 Feedback and Grievance Redress Procedure

The grievance redress mechanism enables individual stakeholders, groups or communities across KCRPII to contact us if they have an inquiry, a concern or a formal complaint regarding any element related to the environmental and social performance of the Project. It is mainstreamed into our broader stakeholder engagement process. The Community Engagement and Outreach Manager is responsible for receiving, registering and processing all grievances. We have established procedures to help us screen, investigate and determine resolution and redress options, as well as systems to communicate

decisions taken and progress on pending actions. This helps ensure the grievance mechanism remains accessible and trusted.

Stakeholders across KCRPII have five ways of registering their complaints or concerns, which they do either orally or through writing:

- i. **Open-door company policy:** Wildlife Works maintains an open-door policy for all community members whereby they are free, if they would wish to, to walk in and personally register a complaint with the appropriate member of staff, including senior management. Wildlife Works retains its main operating base within the Project area to ensure accessibility of key members of staff and management to community members.
- ii. **Through the Chief's Office:** the REDD+ Project area covers six administrative locations each headed by a Chief. Wildlife Works strives to engage these key leaders in all our operations involving the communities e.g., to organize community meetings during our SBIA workshops. They are also key arbiters in cases where Wildlife Works are unable to resolve an issue or complainant. Grievance forms are also available at Chief's offices, and Wildlife Works meets with the Chiefs periodically to collect completed forms. When forms are dropped into REDD+ Project's suggestion boxes outside Chief's Offices, we adhere to the chain of custody procedure described below.
- iii. **Suggestion boxes:** Wildlife Works has installed suggestion boxes across the Project area at Chief's Offices. Chief's Offices are established such that they are accessible to most members in a Location. They are opened once a month by a team comprising a community representative, a Chief or Chief's representative, and a Wildlife Works staff member. All comments and complaints are registered, and the team agrees on how to respond to them depending on the issue and following the procedures and guidelines.
- iv. **During community meetings:** as mentioned above, the Chief is involved in setting up various community meetings (termed "Barazas" in Swahili) and community members are free to air any complaints or feedback during these meetings. Wildlife Works maintains records and minutes for all meetings and follows up with the individual complainants in the case of specific grievances, or with the Chief's Office for general complaints.
- v. **Online via the CCB/VCS websites:** this is especially during the Public Comments Period when Project audits – validation and/or verification – are conducted. Members of communities with access to the internet can register any complaints/feedback directly. Those without such access can use any of the procedures above to register complains or comments, especially through the CBO or Chief's Office using paper grievance forms.
- vi. A total of 41 comments were received from the Project communities in the monitoring period. All submissions were made through suggestion boxes. Of these, the majority were compliments (43%) and suggestions (34%); the rest were a clarification, requests and a complaint. The complaint was related to Elephants being a problem in Busho village in Mackinnin location. The issue was addressed through awareness creation on Human Wildlife Conflict and how people can co-exist with wildlife by both community liaison and security departments. The issue also forwarded to KWS through security department for further action.

## 2.2.8 Stakeholder Access to Project Documentation

Information on the Project is detailed in the VCS/CCB Project Descriptions, documents which are made publicly available on the Verra website. Further, Climate, Community, Biodiversity, and SDG Impact monitoring results are described in the project's VCS/CCB & SD VISTA Monitoring Reports submitted for project verification which are also made publicly available. Hard copies of these documents are all available for review at the Project Office. Additionally, monitoring report summaries are also written for each monitoring period and provided to communities throughout the Project Area in English and Swahili. The monitoring report has additionally been posted to the CCB website for public review and comment.

In addition, the following steps were taken to ensure all stakeholders have access to the project's Monitoring Reports and are aware of and provided a means to comment on the document during the public comment period:

- An executive summary of the monitoring report was made available in English and Swahili at the Project office and distributed to the CBOs, LCCs and Project communities.
- WWC community relations staff actively communicated to community members the start of the Public comment period at recent community outreach meetings and encouraged them to file comments. Community relations officers will also make note of any verbal comments and ensure their registration.
- A computer was made publicly available at the Project office for submitting comments directly to the CCB website. All Public comments received in writing are provided to the VVB.

The results from monitoring plan implementation are disseminated to the communities either through community meetings or barazas or the annual / biennial SIA Community Workshops. The last SIA workshop was held in March 2021 where results from the 2020 Household Survey were presented to and discussed by the workshop participants which served as the validation exercise for the key findings from that survey. Implementation issues were also discussed including clarifying any issues around LCC functions other implementational issues. The next Community Workshop is slated for 2023, where data from the 2022 Household Survey is expected to be discussed.

### 2.2.9 Information to Stakeholders on Assessment Process

Project community members and stakeholders are informed about the VCS/CCB verification process, and SD VISTA assessment process by the Community Engagement and Outreach Manager during periodic community meetings, notices posted in prominent locations and through publicly available information available online via the Verra website. The project's Community Engagement and Outreach Manager and their team hold regular community meetings to communicate project information and educate community members and stakeholders on REDD+ in general and the SD Vista, CCB and VCS standards. While the Project is only now implementing the second monitoring period SD VISTA standard (M2), it was validated under the VCS and CCB standards over 12 years ago and is currently on the 9th verification under these standards. Therefore, the communities and stakeholders have become accustomed to the verification process and the opportunities it has for public comment and meeting with the audit team. The Community Engagement and Outreach Manager strives to inform communities and stakeholders of the project public comment period and audit site visits 1-2 weeks before they

occur to ensure adequate notice is provided. For this second SD VISta verification, an announcement of the verification field audit, and the public comment period was posted among the project communities on March 25, 2023. The project additionally posts notices written in Kiswahili, the prominent local language, in prominent locations, such as sign boards outside of chief's huts, that state the dates of the public comment period, the dates of the audit field visit and contact information for project and the auditor. The sign states that anyone wishing to learn more about the project and its impacts can contact the project at the provided contact information, or if they wish to speak directly to the audit team, they can schedule a meeting through project staff or directly with the auditor through the contact information provided. These notices are posted at least 2 weeks before the audit site visit. The project information is also posted publicly on the Verra website during the public comment period. Members of communities with access to the internet can register any complaints/feedback directly or can utilize project computers to do so. Those without such access can use any of the procedures above to register complaints or comments, especially through the CBO or Chief's Office using paper grievance forms. The audit team addresses any comments received by Verra, or grievances and comments received by the project or communicated directly to the auditor.

## 2.3 Project Management

### 2.3.1 Avoidance of Corruption

Wildlife Works has an established Code of Conduct policy, Version 1.0, Jun 2019, that outlines the standard of behavior expected of employees of the company. The policy is designed to assist staff to understand their responsibilities and obligations and provide guidance on expected behavior in the workplace. The Code of Conduct policy applies to all Wildlife Works employees and management. Part II, 18 – Financial Integrity of the policy addresses anti-corruption.

By signing of on the Code of Conduct policy, all Wildlife Works employees agree to non-corrupt behavior, including, not using their position to unlawfully or wrongfully enrich themselves or any other person, to not seek or accept cash or benefit that may compromise their integrity, be accountable for the efficient and effective use of funds, and maintain proper documentation and records of financial transactions. In addition, Part II, 20 – Gifts and Benefits in Kind of the Policy prohibits all Wildlife Works employees of accepting any type of gift specified by the Ethics and Anti-Corruption Commission. Gifts of money may not be accepted in any circumstances, and all gifts or donations must be declared to the company.

### 2.3.2 Recognition of Property Rights

The Project Area covers all the land known as the Community Ranches, which consists of 13 group-owned ranches and conversancy land totaling 169,741.38 ha (419,440 acres). Each one of the thirteen blocks being owned by different legal entities formed years ago by the Communities and the Government of Kenya to hold legal title to the land. The 13 Group Ranches that make up the project area boundary are identified in section 2.3.1 above.

Currently and historically, there have not been any communities within the boundaries of the protected area. Therefore, the Project does not currently, and never has, required the relocation of any people.

The Project will never re-locate any people that could encroach on the Project Area lands, although we work to actively prevent encroachment. Prior to the project start date, members of the community and/or immigrants had illegally cleared almost 4,000 hectares of the Project Area for farmland, but those individuals involved had returned to their home province or relocated to the newly formed Sasenyi Valley Land Cooperative of their own volition prior to the project start date.

### 2.3.3 Free, Prior and Informed Consent

Wildlife Works conducted a Full Free, Prior and Informed Consent (FPIC) campaign with stakeholders (ranch owners and community members) during the Project's development phase (please see the CCB PDD Section 5.3). Additionally, as part of continuous engagement and consultation, the Project Proponent continually holds meetings with Project stakeholders and the surrounding communities to update them on the Project and receive any new comments, requests, suggestions or grievances. See also the description of ongoing stakeholder consultation activities described in Section 2.2.1 of this document.

### 2.3.4 Restitution and/or Compensation for Affected Resources

The 13 group ranches are privately owned under leasehold ownership from the Government of Kenya, with one exception, being Amaka Ranch, which is classified as freehold land. Prior to the Project's validation against the VCS & CCB Standards, Wildlife Works Carbon has legally binding Carbon Agreements with all 13 Community Ownership Groups.

Currently and historically, there have not been any communities within the boundaries of the protected area. Therefore, the Project does not currently, and never has, required the relocation of any people. The Project will never re-locate any people that could encroach on the Project Area lands, although we work to actively prevent encroachment.

### 2.3.5 Property Rights Removal/Relocation of Property Rights Holders

Currently and historically, there have not been any communities within the boundaries of the protected area. Therefore, the Project does not currently, and never has, required the relocation of any people. The Project will never re-locate any people that could encroach on the Project Area lands, although we work to actively prevent encroachment. Prior to the project start date, members of the community and/or immigrants had illegally cleared almost 4,000 hectares of the Project Area for farmland, but those individuals involved had returned to their home province or relocated to the newly formed Sasenyi Valley Land Cooperative of their own volition prior to the project start date.

### 2.3.6 Identification of Illegal Activities

The illegal activities that may be conducted in the Project Area include poaching of animals, both for animal products, such as elephants for their tusks, or for bush meat. Additionally, hardwood trees may be cut down for charcoal production or for building poles. Land could also be cleared for small-scale farms by members of the surrounding communities.

No project benefits are derived from illegal activity. Wildlife Works has established a long and successful track record of monitoring the Project Area for any illegal activities and halting them. As described in other sections of this report, our rangers have caught many poachers and charcoal burners before they were able to do significant damage to the ecosystem and have established a close working relationship with Kenyan government authorities. Wildlife Works always uses non-violent practices when dealing with perpetrators of illegal activities in the Project Area. In fact, the majority of charcoal producers that were arrested for illegal activity are now employed with Wildlife Works in jobs that benefit the environment. Neither the Project, nor members of the community related to the Project, benefit in any way from these illegal activities.

### 2.3.7 Ongoing Conflicts or Disputes

There are no existing known or ongoing unresolved disputes over ownership and rights to the project area lands, emission reduction claims, or SDG Impacts generated by the project.

The 13 group ranches are privately owned under leasehold ownership from the Government of Kenya, with one exception, being Amaka Ranch, which is classified as freehold land. Prior to the Project's validation against the VCS & CCB Standards, Wildlife Works Carbon has legally binding Carbon Agreements with all 13 Community Ownership Groups.

Any potential disputes brought to the attention of Wildlife Works would be handled through the Grievance and Redress procedures described in section 2.2.7

### 2.3.8 National and Local Laws and Regulations

Wildlife Works operates within all local and national employment laws and has been doing so for over 16 years in the country of Kenya. Like any business, Wildlife Works is subject to periodic audits by the Government Employment Officer. We have passed all inspections, whether from local officials or International agencies such as Verite.

Laws relevant to this Project are as follows:

#### **EMPLOYMENT LAWS**

##### **Export Processing Zone's Act (Cap. 547)**

As an Export Processing Zone (EPZ) company, we are exempted from the standard Labor Laws of Kenya. Instead, we must conform to those laws that have been deemed applicable to General Provisions of the Employment Act (Cap 226-229) or amended for EPZs as covered by the Export Processing Zone's Act (Cap. 547).

##### **National Health Insurance Fund**

N.H.I.F was established on 12<sup>th</sup> July 1966 by an Act of Parliament (Cap 255) of the Laws of Kenya, and later became a state corporation on the 15<sup>th</sup> February 1999 through an Act of Parliament no.9 of 1998. The objective of its establishment is to enable majority of Kenyans to access healthcare services at supplemented costs. Contribution to the fund are compulsory for all persons whose income is

Ksh.1000/= and above. To ensure our full compliance with this regulation a Wildlife Works representative visits the NHIF offices in Voi monthly. Our monthly payroll is submitted and the NHIF staff calculates our monthly contribution, which is then paid in full. Additionally, we are subject to random checks by the NHIF inspector, who makes unannounced visits to our facility to inspect our books. We have always been found to be in full compliance of this act.

#### **The National Social Security Fund Act (Cap 258)**

The National Social Security Fund Act of 1965 created this fund for the benefit of the members. It is a compulsory savings scheme into which the employer pays a statutory contribution for every employee who is a member. We physically go to the NSSF offices in Voi monthly to submit our monthly payroll on a NSSF form, and we pay the monthly dues. We are subject to strict audit checks by the NSSF inspector who visits our facility every two months and on passing the audit provides us with an official letter indicating we are in compliance. We have always been found to be in full compliance of this act.

#### **Pay As you Earn (P.A.Y.E)**

Section 37 of the Income Tax Act.

The “Pay as You Earn” method of deducting income tax from salaries and wages applies to weekly wages, monthly salaries, annual salaries, bonuses, commissions and directors’ fees (whether the director is resident or non-resident). We are required to go to the Kenya Commercial Bank (KCB) on a monthly basis to pay the withheld tax from our employees’ wages and salaries. The bank takes one folio from our KRA receipt book, and stamps the other two folios, one of which we then take to the KRA office in Voi and provide it to them.

#### **The Factories and Other Places of Work Act (Cap 514)**

The Factories Act deals with the health, safety and welfare of an employee who works in a factory or other place of work. This Government department has never audited our facilities, as it is very small and covers the entire country. However, we have good reason to believe we are in full compliance with this act as a result of a third-party audit of our factory and operations performed by the independent NGO Verite, from the USA.

#### **FairTrade**

As of 2012, the 3 Wildlife Works EcoFactories are now certified Fairtrade USA.

#### **The Work Injury Benefits Act (Cap. 236)**

This Act ensures that companies have systems in place to provide any employees who are injured on duty with adequate compensation from the employer. We are required to maintain private insurance to cover our responsibility under this act.

#### **Regulation of Wages and Conditions of Employment Act (Cap. 229)**

This act sets the conditions of work and the minimum wage guidelines. The EPZ Act supersedes this act with regard to minimum wage and in fact the EPZ minimum wage guidelines are slightly higher than the National Employment Act guidelines.

#### **Labor Relations Act, 2007 (Acts No. 14)**

This is the new version of the old Trade Unions Act and the Trade Disputes Act, revised to harmonize the old Trade Acts with Kenya's recent ratification of many of the elements of the ILO Freedom of Association and Protection of the Right to Organize Convention, 1948 (No. 87). We are required to provide our workers with the freedom of association. We are required to honor a dispute process as laid out in the act. We currently have no collective bargaining agreement in place nor are we required to do so. We have never had a dispute with any employee that resulted in any collective action, lock out etc. and we have no disputes at all at this time, and we believe that we are in full compliance with this Act. To ensure that employees are aware of their rights under the Act, the following language is included in all employment contracts issued by Wildlife Works in Kenya.

“Wildlife Works, EPZ Ltd. acknowledges the importance of the recently enacted Labor Relations Act 2007, and therefore we wish to inform you that you are entitled to Freedom of Association, and specifically to join the Kenya Textile Workers Union (KTWU) should you so choose. Should you choose to join the KTWU, all membership dues and agency fees for the Union will be payable directly by you.”

## 2.4 Grouped Projects

The KCRPII Project is not a Grouped Project.

# 3 BENEFITS FOR PEOPLE AND PROSPERITY

## 3.1 Impacts on Stakeholders

Impact #1	Households earnings above. (KES):
	<1,500 3%
	1,500-5000 18%
	5,000-10,000 40%
	10,000-20,000 11%
	20,000-50,000 4%
	>50,000 0%
Type of Impact	This is a positive impact, that is actual and direct.
Affected Stakeholder Group(s)	Local communities-Present and future
Resulting Change in Well-being	Increased household income

Impact #2	99% of households with on farm production for home use and 29% of households sold produce for cash
Type of Impact	This is a positive impact, that is actual and direct.
Affected Stakeholder Group(s)	Local communities-Present and future
Resulting Change in Well-being	Increased household income and food security

Impact #3	In addition to improved services at the local health facilities renovated through the WWCT, the Voi Diagnostic Lab at Moi District Hospital, based on the previous 3-year averages, tested $\approx 12,000$ patients who undertook $\approx 31,000$ tests in 2022.
Type of Impact	This is a positive impact, that is actual and direct.
Affected Stakeholder Group(s)	Local communities-Present and future
Resulting Change in Well-being	Improved access to quality healthcare services

Impact #4	$\approx 12,000$ patients who undertook $\approx 31,000$ tests in 2022
Type of Impact	This is a positive impact, that is actual and direct.
Affected Stakeholder Group(s)	Local communities-Present and future
Resulting Change in Well-being	Improved access to quality healthcare services

Impact #5	4,441 people for whom access to, or quality of, education was improved
Type of Impact	This is a positive impact, that is actual and direct.
Affected Stakeholder Group(s)	Local communities-Present and future
Resulting Change in Well-being	Increase in education opportunities for youth and local community members, leading to the increased capacity of individuals in project communities

Impact #6	19 training workshops held for skills/personal development (354 staff members involved)
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Type of Impact	This is a positive impact, that is actual and direct.
Affected Stakeholder Group(s)	Local communities-Present and future
Resulting Change in Well-being	Increase in education opportunities for local community members, leading to the increased capacity of individuals in project communities

Impact #7	17 classrooms constructed or other school renovations
Type of Impact	This is a positive impact, that is actual and direct.
Affected Stakeholder Group(s)	Local communities-Present and future
Resulting Change in Well-being	Increase in education opportunities for local community members, leading to the increased capacity of individuals in project communities

Impact #8	25% of those in managerial positions are women
Type of Impact	This is a positive impact, that is actual and direct.
Affected Stakeholder Group(s)	Local communities-Present and future
Resulting Change in Well-being	Increase in female employment opportunities in the project and reduced inequality for women in employment and leadership opportunities.

Impact #9	In 2022, 7 water-related projects have been implemented across KCRPII including pipelines, storage tanks, rock catchments, gutters and water pans for harvesting across all the project locations in community areas and schools, estimated to reach a total of about 19,414 community members.
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Type of Impact	This is a positive impact, that is actual and direct.
Affected Stakeholder Group(s)	Local communities-Present and future
Resulting Change in Well-being	Increase access to safe drinking water

Impact #10	<1% primary level; 2% secondary; 1% tertiary of students not in school due to lack of fees
Type of Impact	This is a positive impact, that is actual and direct.
Affected Stakeholder Group(s)	Local communities-Present and future
Resulting Change in Well-being	Increased access to education

Impact #11	66% of our respondents from the household survey reported improved livelihoods or income generated
Type of Impact	This is a positive impact, that is actual and direct.
Affected Stakeholder Group(s)	Local communities-Present and future
Resulting Change in Well-being	Increased access to education, employment, and social amenities

Impact #12	About a half of the population who would be beneficiaries from the livelihood improvements at household level is female.
Type of Impact	This is a positive impact, that is actual and direct.

Affected Stakeholder Group(s)	Local communities-Present and future
Resulting Change in Well-being	Increased access to education, employment, and social amenities for women

Impact #13	497 community and school awareness meetings/events/ activities on REDD+
Type of Impact	This is a positive impact, that is actual and direct.
Affected Stakeholder Group(s)	Local communities-Present and future
Resulting Change in Well-being	Increase in the project area communities awareness of sustainable development, environmentalism and protection of wildlife.

Impact #14	66% community members understand the link between environmental protection, REDD & livelihoods
Type of Impact	This is a positive impact, that is actual and direct.
Affected Stakeholder Group(s)	Local communities-Present and future
Resulting Change in Well-being	Improve the awareness of climate change and conservation and increase capacity on climate change mitigation.

Impact #15	3 local institutions created or strengthened to improve efficiency and accountability
Type of Impact	This is a positive impact, that is actual and direct.
Affected Stakeholder Group(s)	Local communities-Present and future

Resulting Change in Well-being	Promotes a stronger sense of self-determination within the community
Impact #16	46 agriculture-related training and courses for extension events
Type of Impact	This is a positive impact, that is actual and direct.
Affected Stakeholder Group(s)	Local communities-Present and future
Resulting Change in Well-being	Through trainings in improved agricultural methods there will be an increase in resource-use efficiency and greater adoption of clean and environmentally sound technologies in agriculture in the project area communities.

### 3.2 Stakeholder Impact Monitoring

Table 3. Indicator results from the KCRPII community monitoring plan for people and prosperity (specific to VCS/CCB M9)

Focal Issue	Direct Result	#	Indicator description	Type	Lead	Results	Notes
Education	Increased enrollment	14	# awareness meetings/events/activities on REDD+ and education matters in schools	Output	Community Liaison	4	In 2021, although schools had resumed, external meetings in schools were still impacted by lingering COVID-19 protocols and restrictions.
		15	# students supported by the WW bursary scheme	Output	WWCT	4,441 students supported	Partial scholarships were awarded to 4,441 students under KRCPII in 2022

		16	Amount of money spent on WW bursary scheme	Output	WWCT	KES 29,845,200	Approximately USD 385,386
		17	% students not in school due to lack of fees	Impact	BSMT	<1% primary level; 2% secondary; 1% tertiary	Our household-level survey shows that fees in these areas are mostly footed by the households themselves. Still, from our most-recent survey, 36% of the households interviewed said they had received support from Wildlife Works. In comparison, 25% households mentioned government and 7% NGOs.
		18	Performance of pupils supported (full scholarship)	Impact	Community Liaison	47 of 51 passed	29 attained the university entry cut-off mark (full scholarships discontinued in 2016). Monitoring performance of partially supported

							students has started for students supported while on their final year of high school, but no final exams were held in 2021.
	Better education infrastructure	19	# classrooms constructed or other school renovations	Output	Ops/W WCT	17 schools	Projects mainly involved classroom and toilets construction and renovation, providing students and teachers a better learning environment.
		20	# and type of education infrastructure installed	Output	Ops/W WCT	9 schools	The school projects involved construction of Modern Kitchens, construction of VIP toilets, construction of compound fence and supply of desks.
		21	# pupils using the infrastructure built	Outcome	Community Liaison	1,548	Including students and teachers using the

							classrooms and other facilities built in the schools.
		27	# and diversity of wildlife in the Project ranches year-round	Impact	BSMT	All HCVs	High Conservation Value species seen regularly in Project Area including Grevy's zebra and African elephant, (both confirmed breeding), African Wild Dog, Secretarybird, Bateleur, and Martial eagle White-backed and White-headed vultures, plus Cheetah and Lions with cubs
<b>Governance</b>	Good leadership	28	# and location of Notice Boards and Suggestion Boxes used for KCRPII purposes	Output	WWCT	4	Located at Chief's Offices and other central areas that are recommended by the community members.
		29	# community awareness meetings/events/	Output	Community Liaison	493	Meetings included community

			activities on REDD+ and other matters				(barazas), various project committees' meetings, presentations and trainings
		30	# complaints or questions on project implementation and LCC's functioning filed and acted upon	Outcome	WWCT	48	All feedback was received through Suggestion Boxes. While most were suggestions or compliments, there were a few complaints regarding elephant raiding in community areas and some villages not yet connected with water supply. The issues were resolved through the security and community relations departments respectively.
		31	% community understanding link between environmental	Output	BSMT	66%	From our latest household-level survey,

			protection, REDD & livelihoods				most community members cited various livelihood-related benefits from interaction with KCRPII including education-related support, employment, tree seedlings and water
<b>Poverty</b>	Diversified livelihoods & food security	32	# agro-processing, value-addition, storage initiatives	Output	Ops/W WCT	0	
		33	Proportion of households with on-farm production for home use or sale	Impact	BSMT	94%	From our most recent household survey, over 90% of all on-farm products were consumed by the household or used on farm; about 29% also selling part of their on-farm produce for cash
		34	# agriculture-related training courses or extension events	Output	Greenhouse	46	The 2022 visits (on site), involved a total of 698 community

							members from schools and various community groups
		35	# new/improved practices on farms	Output	Ops/B SMT/Greenhouse use	1	Several climate-smart agriculture (e.g., Zai pits and U-bands) and other water conservation techniques have been rolled out at Wildlife Works demonstration farm in Kale.
		36	# community (agri-business) greenhouses established	Outcome	Greenhouse	1	The Bungule women groups continue to receive follow-up support mainly on planting and care of vegetables and seedlings, but also on group organisation, dynamics and financial management
	Increased and stable income	37	# local community members employed at WW	Output	HR	354	There were 55 new employees at the end of

							<p>this monitoring period, of whom about 28% were female, 99% are Kenyan, with about 85% being local (i.e., from the Project Zone and or Taita Taveta County)</p>
		38	# training courses/workshops held for skill/personal development	Output	HR	19	<p>The 19 training sessions involved 354 staff members trained mostly on health and safety, fire fighting and specialized training like First Aid.</p>
		39	total amount and sources of income earned by household	Impact	BSMT	<1,500 3%	<p>These amounts reflect good/normal years based on our most-recent household-level survey in the Project Zone, suggesting an increasing</p>

							proportion of community members earning above 10,000 (54%) compared to the baseline (23%).
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### 3.3 Net Positive Stakeholder Well-being Impacts

The community project activities undertaken and summarized under the VCS/CCB MR Section 2.2 were all determined by the community themselves (through their elected representatives to the LCCs); LCCs are the community organizations with executive authority on making decisions on community projects to be undertaken. Their decisions are based on the SBIA workshop outcomes, specifically on the main (focal) issues that the Project has undertaken, as described under the VCS/CCB MR Section 4.1.1.

Consequently, based on the theory of change logic, we argue that the Project is having positive impacts to the local communities by addressing the main problems they identified e.g., through water and health projects, school infrastructure improvement, bursary schemes, employment and income-generating activities, agri-business schemes etc. Whereas most of the community impacts are long term, the results chain demonstrates how they will be realized from the current project activities

## 4 BENEFITS FOR THE PLANET

### 4.1 Impacts on Natural Capital and Ecosystem Services

Impact #17	The Project has produced 18,163,638 tCO <sub>2e</sub> of net emission reductions from avoided deforestation compared to the reference level during from Project start.
Type of Impact	This is a positive impact, that is actual and direct.
Affected Stakeholder Group(s)	Forest ecosystems, biodiversity, endangered species, air quality, carbon sequestration
Resulting Change in Well-being	The project is taking urgent action to combat climate change by avoiding significant emissions of CO <sub>2e</sub> by stopping deforestation

Impact #18	169,741.38 ha of the Project Area under conservation management
Type of Impact	This is a positive impact, that is actual and direct.
Affected Stakeholder Group(s)	Forest ecosystems, biodiversity, endangered species, air quality, carbon sequestration
Resulting Change in Well-being	Through the protection of the project area the area will have increased levels of resilience and adaptive capacity to climate related hazards and natural disasters.

Impact #19	Over 9 species listed under some category of threat in the IUCN Red List were repeatedly spotted across the Project Area
Type of Impact	This is a positive impact, that is actual and direct.
Affected Stakeholder Group(s)	biodiversity, endangered species
Resulting Change in Well-being	Increased protection of biodiversity and preserving and protecting threatened species from extinction.
Impact #20	129 Rangers employed
Type of Impact	This is a positive impact, that is actual and direct.
Affected Stakeholder Group(s)	biodiversity, endangered species
Resulting Change in Well-being	Reduce the amount of poaching and trafficked wildlife within the Project Area.
Impact #21	103,793 km covered by vehicle and foot patrols.
Type of Impact	This is a positive impact, that is actual and direct.
Affected Stakeholder Group(s)	biodiversity, endangered species
Resulting Change in Well-being	Reduce the amount of poaching, trafficked wildlife, and illegal charcoal production within the Project Area.

## 4.2 Natural Capital and Ecosystem Services Impact Monitoring

Table 4. Indicator results from the KCRPII community monitoring plan.

Focal Issue	Direct Result	#	Indicator description	Type	Lead	Results	Notes
<b>Human-wildlife conflicts</b>	Adequate vegetation and water	1	# water holes scooped within the Project Zone for wildlife and/or cattle	Output	Ops	4	Scooping of Nyoka Dam, Bendera Dam, Lokidori Dam and Juliana Dam.
		2	# wildlife/cattle using the water holes year-round	Outcome	BSMT	0	
		3	# persons accessing new water sources	Outcome	WWCT	19,414	7 water-related projects in 2022 including, piping, storage tanks and harvesting*
	Reduced encroachment and poaching	4	# rangers and security guards employed	Output	HR	129	Maintained an average of 78 rangers and 23 security guards during 2022
		5	# training courses held for skills development	Output	HR	19	General training for 370 WW staff on diverse issues including fire fighting, fundamentals of management, tax

							management, First Aid and Health and Safety Training.
		6	# outposts established and operational	Output	Security	4	All the ranger base posts in KRCPII remain fully operational and received continuous improvement including water tanks and other amenities*
		7	# patrols and/or distance travelled	Outcome	Security	1,125 walk and drive patrols from six base stations, covering 103,793 km; 421 aerial patrol days / tracks covering 89,069 km	In addition to regular foot and driving patrols, we maintained the aerial surveillance using two resident gyrocopters, and incorporated near real-time monitoring and communication by trialing the Sensing Clues' Cluey App ( <a href="https://sensingclues.org/cluey">https://sensingclues.org/cluey</a> )

		8	# poachers and illegal charcoal producers arrested	Outcome	Security	41	Including wildlife poachers, transporters and charcoal producers
		9	# snares recovered	Outcome	Security	97	Predominantly medium (74%) but a few large and small snares too
		10	# carcasses/injured animals recorded	Impact	Security	105	Carcasses of Dikdik. Common Zebra, Eland, Lesser Kudu, Buffalo, Elephant and one injured Buffalo recorded
		11	# hectares deforested, excised or converted into farmland	Impact	RS/GIS	285.51 ha	
	Better wildlife containment	12	# and type of deterrents deployed	Output	Ops	1 metal strip fence	A 2.8 km long fence was previously deployed and was maintained at Ngambenyi during this period.
		13	# human-wildlife conflict encounters	Impact	Sec/B SMT	3	Based on ranger patrol data for 2022, mostly comprising

							elephant-caused crop damage
<b>Environmental degradation</b>	Increased tree cover in landscape	22	# and types of trees propagated in the WW nursery	Output	Ops/GH	≈48,896	Mean monthly #: 34,793 indigenous and 14,103 fruit trees were under propagation at any one time in the organic greenhouse
		23	# trees planted and surviving beyond the 3rd year outside KCRPII	Outcome	GH	≈2,423	Of the 16,155 seedlings planted in 2021 in community sites, random monitoring returned about 46% survival after the 1 <sup>st</sup> year, projected to decline to about 15% by 3 <sup>rd</sup> year.
		24	% households obtaining fuelwood and other needs from the Project ranches	Impact	BSMT	≈11%	From the most recent household-level survey, about 11% of the respondents said they obtained some livelihood needs from

							communal areas, ranches and other off-farm sources
	Improved forest quality and cover	25	# charcoal bags and kilns recorded	Outcome	Sec/B SMT	107	In 2021, there were 6 encounters of charcoal bags and 101 charcoal kilns recorded in KCRPII
		26	# log heaps recorded	Outcome	Sec/B SMT	136	In 2022, there were 100 log heap incidents recorded
		27	# and diversity of wildlife in the Project ranches year-round	Impact	BSMT	All HCVs	High Conservation Value species seen regularly in Project Area including Grevy's zebra and African elephant, (both confirmed breeding), African Wild Dog, Secretarybird, Bateleur, and Martial eagle White-backed and White-headed vultures, plus Cheetah and

							Lions with cubs
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### 4.3 Net Positive Natural Capital and Ecosystem Services Impacts

Based on the situation and without-Project analyses (please refer to details in the KCRP VCS/CCB PD Section 5.1), most of the key drivers to the defined Focal Issues were projected as being likely to worsen in the absence of the KCRPII, including increased human-wildlife conflict and increased environmental degradation. Thus, the Project activities undertaken as described under Section 4.1 above will directly or indirectly result in clear biodiversity and ecosystem services benefits compared to a without-Project scenario where all these key factors get worse.

Consequently, wildlife dependent on these forest habitats would be adversely affected by these changes, both through habitat loss or increased poaching due to decreased income security. Thus, the Project directly helps the biodiversity both by reducing emissions hence mitigating climate change, and also as an adaptation strategy to these anticipated changes by maintaining critical habitats in good condition for these species. Additionally, corridors will make it possible for the wide-ranging species to move in case of drastic changes.

Quantification of the emission reductions generated by the Project is based on the validated baseline. The project baseline reassessment date was 01 January 2022 after the ten-year requirement for baseline reassessment and exemptions granted to the project by Verra. The project received an exemption from the baseline reassessment requirement from Verra allowing us to postpone this until the 10th monitoring period (calendar year 2023). This exemption is based on the project's intent to nest into the Kenyan national REDD+ programme, which is not yet complete. The table below shows the final quantification of KCRPII emission reductions for its second monitoring period (VCS/CCB M9).

Component	Value (tCO <sub>2</sub> e, unless otherwise indicated)
<b>Baseline deforestation percentage (%), M9</b>	39.90%
<b>Project Emission, M9</b>	0
<b>Project Reversal, M9</b>	0
<b>Uncertainty Deduction, M9</b>	0
<b>Emissions from Leakage, M9</b>	0
<b>Baseline emissions, M9</b>	1,888,472
<b>ERs to Buffer Pool, (13%), M<sub>0</sub></b>	245,501
<b>Buffer Pool Return, (15%), M9</b>	371,953
<b>Total emission reductions (ERs), M9</b>	1,642,971
<b>Standard error of the total carbon stock, M9</b>	2,779,233.06
<b>Total Error (%), M9</b>	9.0 %

## 5 OPTIONAL: CLIMATE MODULE

Prior to seeking validation and verification under the SD VISTA Standards, KCRPII has been validated and verified under both the VCS and CCB standards, with the Project producing 18,163,638 tCO<sub>2</sub>e verified emissions reductions and removals since Project start. The project plans to continue verifying greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions reductions and removals under the VCS standard annually. Please see KCRPII's joint VCS and CCB monitoring reports and project description document (available on the Verra project portal) for more information on project methodology, monitoring, verified carbon units, and net emissions reductions.