



## Seventh Operational Phase of the GEF Small Grants Programme in Kenya

### Part I: Project Information

GEF ID

10359

Project Type

FSP

Type of Trust Fund

GET

CBIT/NGI

☐ CBIT

☐ NGI

Project Title

Seventh Operational Phase of the GEF Small Grants Programme in Kenya

Countries

Kenya

Agency(ies)

UNDP

Other Executing Partner(s)

UNOPS

Executing Partner Type

Others

**GEF Focal Area**

Multi Focal Area

**Taxonomy**

Biomes, Lakes, Tropical Dry Forests, Mangroves, Desert, Biodiversity, Focal Areas, Protected Areas and Landscapes, Productive Seascapes, Terrestrial Protected Areas, Coastal and Marine Protected Areas, Community Based Natural Resource Mngt, Productive Landscapes, Mainstreaming, Agriculture and agrobiodiversity, Fisheries, Climate Change, Climate Change Adaptation, Ecosystem-based Adaptation, Livelihoods, Community-based adaptation, Innovation, Climate resilience, Climate Change Mitigation, Technology Transfer, Renewable Energy, Agriculture, Forestry, and Other Land Use, Energy Efficiency, Forest, Drylands, Forest and Landscape Restoration, Land Degradation, Land Degradation Neutrality, Land Productivity, Land Cover and Land cover change, Carbon stocks above or below ground, Sustainable Land Management, Sustainable Forest, Restoration and Rehabilitation of Degraded Lands, Sustainable Pasture Management, Improved Soil and Water Management Techniques, Sustainable Livelihoods, Sustainable Agriculture, Community-Based Natural Resource Management, Income Generating Activities, Ecosystem Approach, Influencing models, Demonstrate innovative approach, Convene multi-stakeholder alliances, Stakeholders, Indigenous Peoples, Civil Society, Non-Governmental Organization, Community Based Organization, Beneficiaries, Local Communities, Private Sector, Type of Engagement, Participation, Partnership, Consultation, Information Dissemination, Communications, Awareness Raising, Education, Public Campaigns, Behavior change, Gender Equality, Gender Mainstreaming, Sex-disaggregated indicators, Women groups, Gender-sensitive indicators, Gender results areas, Participation and leadership, Knowledge Generation and Exchange, Capacity Development, Capacity, Knowledge and Research, Knowledge Generation, Knowledge Exchange, Learning, Theory of change, Adaptive management, Field Visit, Workshop

**Rio Markers****Climate Change Mitigation**

Climate Change Mitigation 0

**Climate Change Adaptation**

Climate Change Adaptation 1

**Duration**

48 In Months

**Agency Fee(\$)**

252,294

**Submission Date**

10/7/2019

## A. Indicative Focal/Non-Focal Area Elements

Programming Directions	Trust Fund	GEF Amount(\$)	Co-Fin Amount(\$)
BD-1-1	GET	1,770,484	2,066,700
LD-1-4	GET	885,242	1,033,300
Total Project Cost (\$)		2,655,726	3,100,000

## B. Indicative Project description summary

### Project Objective

To enhance and maintain socio-ecological resilience of selected landscapes and seascapes through community-based initiatives in selected ecologically sensitive areas of Kenya for global environmental benefits and sustainable development.

Project Component	Financing Type	Project Outcomes	Project Outputs	Trust Fund	GEF Amount(\$)	Co-Fin Amount(\$)
Resilient rural landscapes for sustainable development and contribution to global environmental protection	Technical Assistance	<p>1.1 Ecosystem services and biodiversity within targeted landscapes and seascapes are enhanced through multi-functional land-use systems.</p> <p>1.2: The sustainability of production systems in the target landscapes is strengthened through integrated agro-ecological practices.</p> <p>1.3 Livelihoods of communities in the target landscapes and seascapes are improved by developing eco-friendly, climate-adaptive, small-scale community enterprises with clear market linkages</p>	<p>1.1.1: Community level small grant projects in the selected landscapes that restore degraded land, improve connectivity, support innovation in biodiversity conservation and optimization of ecosystem services (including reforestation of riparian gallery forests, enhanced connectivity for wetlands and priority conservation areas; water catchment protection; participatory monitoring of species; restoration of biological corridors)</p> <p>Output 1.2.1. Targeted community projects enhance the sustainability and resilience of production systems, including soil and water conservation practices, silvopastoral and agroforestry systems; agro-ecological practices and holistic grazing.</p> <p>1.3.1. Targeted community projects promoting sustainable livelihoods, green businesses and market access, including ecotourism; solid waste management and conversion; beekeeping; green value-added agro-businesses integrated into value chains, micro-processing.</p>	GET	2,237,940	2,617,822



Landscape governance and adaptive management for upscaling and replication	Technical Assistance	<p>2.1 Multistakeholder governance platforms strengthened/in place for improved governance of target landscapes and seascapes for effective participatory decision making to enhance socio-ecological landscape resiliency</p> <p>2.2 Knowledge from community level engagement and innovative conservation practices is systematically assessed and shared for replication and upscaling across the landscapes, across the county, and to the global SGP network</p>	<p>2.1.1 A multi-stakeholder governance platform in each target landscape develops and executes multi-stakeholder agreements for execution of adaptive landscape management plans and policies and enhanced community participation in land-use decision making and management</p> <p>2.1.2 A landscape strategy developed by the corresponding multi-stakeholder platform for each target landscape to enhance socio-ecological resilience through community grant projects</p> <p>2.2.1 Landscape/seascape learning supports community level project management, capacity building, project monitoring and learning</p> <p>2.2.2 Knowledge from community project innovations is identified during participatory evaluations, codified and disseminated to multiple audiences, for replication and upscaling.</p>	GET	291,323	334,559
Sub Total (\$)					2,529,263	2,952,381
Project Management Cost (PMC)						
GET					126,463	147,619
Sub Total(\$)					126,463	147,619
Total Project Cost(\$)					2,655,726	3,100,000

**C. Indicative sources of Co-financing for the Project by name and by type**

Sources of Co-financing	Name of Co-financier	Type of Co-financing	Investment Mobilized	Amount(\$)
GEF Agency	UNDP	In-kind	Recurrent expenditures	250,000
Government	County government of Baringo	Grant	Investment mobilized	50,000
Government	County government of Baringo	In-kind	Recurrent expenditures	150,000
Government	County government of Kwale	In-kind	Recurrent expenditures	150,000
CSO	The Nature Conservancy	Grant	Investment mobilized	300,000
CSO	Northern Rangelands Trust	In-kind	Recurrent expenditures	300,000
CSO	Grantees	Grant	Investment mobilized	250,000
CSO	Grantees	In-kind	Recurrent expenditures	1,650,000
<b>Total Project Cost(\$)</b>				<b>3,100,000</b>

**Describe how any "Investment Mobilized" was identified**

The county government of Baringo is in support of the operations of community wildlife conservancies, and has been channeling financial and technical resources towards their programs. It is envisioned that the support will continue in GEF 7, especially given that SGP will avail grants for strengthening conservancy governance structures and their management tools. The county governments of Baringo and Kwale have been active participants in building the SGP project portfolios in their respective counties. SGP will continue to work closely with members of staff of both counties, and tap into the goodwill generated in GEF 6, to sustain efforts of building socio-ecological resilience in the selected landscapes. The Northern Rangelands Trust (NRT) and the Nature Conservancy (TNC) have been actively supporting local communities in the rangelands of northern Kenya over the last decade, by supporting the establishment of community wildlife conservancies. They will be key partners of SGP in GEF 7 in building capacity of women's groups to engage in activities that generate alternative income. UNDP, as the implementing agency of the project, will provide co-financing of USD 250,000 in-kind. The Team Leader of the Environment and Resilience Unit represents the RR on the National Steering Committee, while members of the Unit offer technical advice and occasionally attend SGP workshops. SGP has access to UNDP equipment including vehicles and colour printers. All amounts, while negotiated or based on prior phase figures (counterpart contributions), shall be confirmed at CEO Endorsement.

## D. Indicative Trust Fund Resources Requested by Agency(ies), Country(ies), Focal Area and the Programming of Funds

Agency	Trust Fund	Country	Focal Area	Programming of Funds	Amount(\$)	Fee(\$)	Total(\$)
UNDP	GET	Kenya	Biodiversity	BD STAR Allocation	1,770,484	168,196	1,938,680
UNDP	GET	Kenya	Land Degradation	LD STAR Allocation	885,242	84,098	969,340
<b>Total GEF Resources(\$)</b>					<b>2,655,726</b>	<b>252,294</b>	<b>2,908,020</b>

**E. Project Preparation Grant (PPG)****PPG Amount (\$)**

84,000

**PPG Agency Fee (\$)**

7,980

<b>Agency</b>	<b>Trust Fund</b>	<b>Country</b>	<b>Focal Area</b>	<b>Programming of Funds</b>	<b>Amount(\$)</b>	<b>Fee(\$)</b>	<b>Total(\$)</b>
UNDP	GET	Kenya	Biodiversity	BD STAR Allocation	56,000	5,320	<b>61,320</b>
UNDP	GET	Kenya	Land Degradation	LD STAR Allocation	28,000	2,660	<b>30,660</b>
<b>Total Project Costs(\$)</b>					<b>84,000</b>	<b>7,980</b>	<b>91,980</b>

## Core Indicators

### Indicator 3 Area of land restored

Ha (Expected at PIF)	Ha (Expected at CEO Endorsement)	Ha (Achieved at MTR)	Ha (Achieved at TE)
6000.00	0.00	0.00	0.00

### Indicator 3.1 Area of degraded agricultural land restored

Ha (Expected at PIF)	Ha (Expected at CEO Endorsement)	Ha (Achieved at MTR)	Ha (Achieved at TE)
6,000.00			

### Indicator 3.2 Area of Forest and Forest Land restored

Ha (Expected at PIF)	Ha (Expected at CEO Endorsement)	Ha (Achieved at MTR)	Ha (Achieved at TE)

**Indicator 3.3 Area of natural grass and shrublands restored**

Ha (Expected at PIF)	Ha (Expected at CEO Endorsement)	Ha (Achieved at MTR)	Ha (Achieved at TE)

**Indicator 3.4 Area of wetlands (incl. estuaries, mangroves) restored**

Ha (Expected at PIF)	Ha (Expected at CEO Endorsement)	Ha (Achieved at MTR)	Ha (Achieved at TE)

**Indicator 4 Area of landscapes under improved practices (hectares; excluding protected areas)**

Ha (Expected at PIF)	Ha (Expected at CEO Endorsement)	Ha (Achieved at MTR)	Ha (Achieved at TE)
15000.00	0.00	0.00	0.00

**Indicator 4.1 Area of landscapes under improved management to benefit biodiversity (hectares, qualitative assessment, non-certified)**

Ha (Expected at PIF)	Ha (Expected at CEO Endorsement)	Ha (Achieved at MTR)	Ha (Achieved at TE)
10,000.00			

Indicator 4.2 Area of landscapes that meets national or international third party certification that incorporates biodiversity considerations (hectares)

Ha (Expected at PIF)	Ha (Expected at CEO Endorsement)	Ha (Achieved at MTR)	Ha (Achieved at TE)

Type/Name of Third Party Certification

Indicator 4.3 Area of landscapes under sustainable land management in production systems

Ha (Expected at PIF)	Ha (Expected at CEO Endorsement)	Ha (Achieved at MTR)	Ha (Achieved at TE)
5,000.00			

**Indicator 4.4 Area of High Conservation Value Forest (HCVF) loss avoided**

Ha (Expected at PIF)	Ha (Expected at CEO Endorsement)	Ha (Achieved at MTR)	Ha (Achieved at TE)

**Documents (Please upload document(s) that justifies the HCVF)**

Title	Submitted
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**Indicator 5 Area of marine habitat under improved practices to benefit biodiversity (excluding protected areas)**

Ha (Expected at PIF)	Ha (Expected at CEO Endorsement)	Ha (Achieved at MTR)	Ha (Achieved at TE)
12,000.00			

**Indicator 5.1 Number of fisheries that meet national or international third party certification that incorporates biodiversity considerations**

Number (Expected at PIF)	Number (Expected at CEO Endorsement)	Number (Achieved at MTR)	Number (Achieved at TE)



Type/name of the third-party certification

Indicator 5.2 Number of Large Marine Ecosystems (LMEs) with reduced pollutions and hypoxia

Number (Expected at PIF)	Number (Expected at CEO Endorsement)	Number (achieved at MTR)	Number (achieved at TE)
0	0	0	0

LME at PIF

LME at CEO Endorsement

LME at MTR

LME at TE

Indicator 5.3 Amount of Marine Litter Avoided

Metric Tons (expected at PIF)	Metric Tons (expected at CEO Endorsement)	Metric Tons (Achieved at MTR)	Metric Tons (Achieved at TE)

Indicator 11 Number of direct beneficiaries disaggregated by gender as co-benefit of GEF investment

	Number (Expected at PIF)	Number (Expected at CEO Endorsement)	Number (Achieved at MTR)	Number (Achieved at TE)
Female	3,000			
Male	3,000			
Total	6000	0	0	0

Provide additional explanation on targets, other methodologies used, and other focal area specifics (i.e., Aichi targets in BD) including justification where core indicator targets are not provided

These indicators were derived based on the past decades of experience with SGP grants; knowledge of the target landscapes where SGP is active; knowledge of the landscape resilience strategy which targets focal-area specific outcomes, and knowledge of the developing pipeline of community-based proposals from conversations, draft proposals, and other informal means. Using these factors, the Core Indicator targets are estimated and then questioned and vetted by UNDP GEF staff

## Part II. Project Justification

### 1a. Project Description

The Seventh Phase of the GEF Small Grants Program in Kenya to be financed through this project, aims to empower communities and organizations in the three selected locations of Kenya – the World Heritage Site of the Kenya Lakes System in the Great Rift Valley, the marine ecosystem of Southern Kenya in Kwale County, and the arid rangelands of northern Kenya - to take collective action through a participatory landscape planning and management approach aimed at enhancing socio-ecological resilience by producing global environmental and local sustainable development benefits. SGP in two of the locations mentioned above, namely the Kenya lakes system of the Great Rift Valley and the marine ecosystem of southern Kenya, has been supporting the communities in GEF 6 that reside in the production land/seascapes of the two ecosystems. SGP in GEF 7 will build on experiences and lessons learned in GEF 6, and continue to support communities in the two locations by up-scaling activities currently being implemented by local communities. There are three rift valley lakes that are enlisted as World Heritage Sites (Lake Nakuru, lake Elementatita and Lake Bogoria), and in GEF 6, SGP has focused on Lake Bogoria, the northernmost lake and with the highest population of lesser flamingos. The communities living in the production landscape of Lake bogoria have prioritized the following initiatives for enhanced socio-ecological resilience of their landscape and for contribution towards the conservation of Lake Bogoria: (i) strengthening the governance and management of three community wildlife conservancies; (ii) rehabilitation of the riverine catchment of three rivers and (iii) development of a honey value chain. These are initiatives that will be replicated in GEF 7 in the arid and semi-arid rangelands of northern Kenya, where the local communities have also established community wildlife conservancies as an alternative land use for better management of natural resources, can enhance their traditional bee-keeping practices, and will implement riverine conservation to protect scarce water sources. In the marine Shimoni-Vanga seascape, SGP is supporting collaboration between the county government and beach management units (BMUs) to expand and safeguard locally-managed-marine areas (LMMAs) through enhanced monitoring, control and surveillance. This activity will be upscaled in GEF 7, as more BMUs are brought on board and as the institutional framework of the BMUs is bolstered for increased effectiveness of LMMA protection. The third location (the northern rangelands) is a new landscape, which is in close geographical proximity to the Lake Bogoria landscape, and also possesses many similar qualities, such as the semi-arid nature of the landscape, a sparse and economically poor population dependent on pastoralism as a livelihood and home to threatened species of wildlife. The northern rangelands are expansive, covering over 50% of Kenya's land mass. SGP will therefore focus its activities in the production landscape of three national reserves that form a contiguous landscape in the southern belt of the northern rangelands and share several resources including wildlife. The reserves are: Samburu National Reserve, Buffalo Springs National Reserve and Shaba National Reserve, whose combined total area is 585km<sup>2</sup>, and is commonly referred to as the Samburu-Isiolo Conservation Area (SICA).The ecosystem is home to rich biodiversity, including threatened species such as elephant and beisa oryx, endangered species, such as grevy's zebra and wild dog, and vulnerable species such as the lion.

### 1) Global Environmental / Adaptation Problems, Root Causes and Barriers

#### Background:

Kenya is renowned for its spectacular wildlife, but the grandeur and diversity of its landscapes are often overlooked. The constellation of climates and tapestry of landforms make Kenya a biodiversity hotspot of the African continent and among the richest regions on earth for the diversity of its mammals, birds and other vertebrates. The rich biodiversity is partly attributed to the diversity of landscapes, ecosystems, habitats and the convergence of at least seven biogeographic units. Kenya is home to five hot spots of globally important biodiversity and 61 important bird areas (IBAs). These unique and biodiversity-rich regions include the Indian Ocean Islands of Lamu and Kisite; the coastal forests of Arabuko-Sokoke and the lower Tana River; the Afro-montane forests of Mount Kenya, Aberdare and Mount Elgon; Kakamega's Guineo-Congolian equatorial forest; and the Northern dry lands that form part of the distinct Horn of Africa biodiversity region. These ecosystems collectively contain high levels of species diversity and genetic pool variability with some species being endemic or rare, critically endangered, threatened or vulnerable (NEMA 2009a).

Kenya is home to over 6,500 plant species, more than 260 of which are found nowhere else in the world. With 1,083 bird species recorded and over 350 species of mammals, Kenya ranks second among African countries in species richness for these animal groups. More species of large mammals are concentrated in its rangelands than in virtually any other African country. Forests occupy about 2.6% of the land surface of Kenya of which an estimated 1.24 million hectares are indigenous closed-canopy forests. In spite of the small land surface covered by trees, forest ecosystem services are of paramount importance to the country. Forests in Mount Kenya, the Aberdares Range, the Mau Complex, Mt. Elgon, and the Cherangani Hills form the upper catchment of all major rivers and provide, among other things, drinking water, irrigation, and 70% of the electricity output of the country. Forest lands, including some 139,000 ha of coastal forests and 53,000 hectares of mangroves, are the habitat of hundreds of plants and animal species and harbor high endemism. Another very important ecosystem in Kenya is the wetland. Although they occupy approximately 3-4% of Kenya's land area, wetlands play a critical role in sustaining the integrity of the country's water resources and agricultural productivity. They are nutrient rich and productive most of the year. During the dry seasons, wetlands are the only places where the local communities are able to access quality pasture and their margins support production of vegetables and other quick maturing crops for household consumption. They also control floods and clear water of pollutants through filtration.

The focus of the proposed project will be in three ecologically-sensitive areas, which were selected based on global environmental, socio-economic and other strategic criteria described below. They are: (i) the rangelands of northern Kenya, (ii) the World Heritage Site of the Kenya Lake System in the Great Rift Valley and (iii) the seascape of southern Kenya. SGP Kenya has been supporting local communities in GEF 6 in the lake system of the rift valley and in the seascape, to increase their capacity in managing the natural resources of the production landscape and seascape from which they derive their livelihoods. However, after only 2.5 years of technical and financial support, the capacity of the local communities is enhanced but not sufficient to sustain the achievements of GEF 6. Therefore, the strategy of GEF 7 is to continue supporting key community organizations in the mentioned landscape and seascape, and to apply lessons learned and best practices for replication in nearby land and seascapes, namely in the northern rangelands of Kenya.

SGP's work in the production landscape of Lake Bogoria, a rift valley lake listed as an Important Bird Area and a Ramsar site, and located in the semi-arid rangelands of Baringo county, will pave the way for replication of successful community initiatives in the northern rangelands of Kenya. Surrounded by an area of rapidly growing population, the lake is under considerable threat from surrounding pressures, which include siltation from soil erosion, increased abstraction of water in the catchment, degradation of land, deforestation, growth in human settlements, overgrazing, tourism and pollution from nearby towns.

Some of the key interventions in GEF 6 have been (i) strengthening community wildlife conservancies, (ii) establishing lucrative bioenterprises, such as a honey value chains and (iii) rehabilitating degraded river catchments. These fledgling initiatives will be strengthened in GEF 7 and also replicated in the nearby production landscapes of the northern rangelands.

The Shimoni Vanga seascape has been the focus of SGP marine conservation in GEF 6. Although there have been a range of local initiatives supported by SGP within the marine ecosystem of the Shimoni-Vanga seascape of the southern coastal area of Kenya, the main thrust has been on strengthening the Beach Management Units (BMUs) to conduct monitoring, control and surveillance (MCS) of locally managed marine areas; referred to locally as *tengefus*. Tengefus, which are ecologically sensitive and harbour the highest concentration of biodiversity, recognize the power and rights of fishing communities to manage their marine resources primarily to conserve fisheries and secure sustainable sources of income. The progress in GEF 6 of building the capacity of BMUs to effectively conduct MCS and other relevant tasks is noteworthy but still insufficient. In GEF 7, SGP will therefore continue supporting BMUs and other local communities to effectively co-manage the Shimoni-Vanga seascape in partnership with the county government.

### 1) *The arid rangelands of northern Kenya*

Arid counties cover 70% of the country, are home to 38% of the population, but have the lowest development indicators and the highest incidence of poverty in the country. Eighteen of the 20 poorest constituencies in Kenya, where 74% - 97% of people live below the poverty line, are in Northern Kenya. Isolation, insecurity, weak economic integration, limited political leverage, and a challenging natural environment combine to produce high levels of risk and vulnerability. This is partly the result of conscious public policy choices taken in Kenya's past, which favoured investment of resources to areas of the country that have abundant natural resources, good land and rainfall, transport and power facilities, and people receptive to and active in development. Pastoralism, the main livelihood of the region was perceived as environmentally destructive, with little or no contribution to the national economy. As a result of the skewed investment, the development levels in northern Kenya are considerably lower than in other parts of the country: the transport network is thin, disjointed, and in places non-existent. An area covering nearly 400,000 km<sup>2</sup> of land has less than 2,000 km of tarmac, much of which is in disrepair. Access to the national grid is concentrated in very few areas, the water infrastructure is undeveloped, and access to ICTs is comparatively low. Lack of security due to ethnic conflict and stock theft coupled with high levels of degradation and erosion, have contributed to the complexity of the challenges in the region.

The prevailing production systems are pastoralism, agro-pastoralism, irrigated agriculture and increasingly, wildlife conservation. Despite the significant contribution of dry lands to the country's formal and informal economies, national awareness about them remains awfully low. As a result, the wealth of dry land biodiversity and indigenous knowledge is not well documented, and has received much less support and advocacy in conservation arenas, media and other national forums.

Because dry lands are not well-incorporated in the conservation debate, it is difficult to provide a definitive picture of their biodiversity status and trends. The absence of comprehensive and regular inventorying of biodiversity resources has led to a lack of information in this area. It is recommended that the issues relating to dry lands biodiversity be addressed from two parallel fronts; addressing potential and actual biodiversity loss through documentation, advocacy, capacity building and improvement of the operating environment; as well as highlighting and scaling up the success stories.

Most protected areas such as game reserves and national parks are found in the ASALs. This gives the region a comparative advantage in tourism, an industry that is usually Kenya's highest foreign exchange earner and contributes approximately 12% to Kenya's GDP. Pastoralism, conservation and bio-diversity are intimately linked. More than 70% of Kenya's wildlife are found outside protected areas on land occupied by pastoralists. With the right incentives in place, research shows that wildlife numbers and diversity can be higher in areas adjacent to national parks than within the parks themselves.

In the lower edges of the northern rangelands, in the counties of Samburu and Isiolo, 3 national reserves next to each other jointly form a continuous ecosystem of 525 km<sup>2</sup> rich in flora and fauna biodiversity. Samburu National Reserve, managed by the county government of Samburu, covers a total of 165 km<sup>2</sup> and is separated in the south from the Buffalo Springs National reserve by the Ewaso Nyiro river. To the north east of Buffalo Springs lies the Shaba National Reserve, both of which are administered by the Isiolo County government. With so much open protected land available, wildlife traverse safely between the reserves, including rare northern species of reticulated giraffes, vulturine guinea fowls and Grevy's zebras, all of which are unique to the region. These animals are joined by other rare species, including Somali ostriches, beisa oryx and gerenuks. Also available is wildlife that is present in many of Kenya's other protected areas. Foragers and grazers include elephants, hippos, olive baboons, buffalos, Grant's gazelles, to name a few. And large predators, such as the lion, leopard and cheetah also make their home in the reserves.

Birdlife is abundant with over 450 species recorded. Birds of the arid northern bush country are augmented by a number of riverine forest species. Lesser Kestrel and the Taita Falcon are species of global conservation concern and they both utilize the reserves. Five species categorized as vulnerable have been recorded in the reserves. These are African Darter, Great Egret, White-headed Vulture, Martial Eagle and the Yellow-billed Ox-pecker. The Pancake tortoise (*malacochersus tornieri*); a critically endangered species under CITIES –is found in the reserve.

Wildlife is the bedrock of the tourism industry, but numbers are declining. Research by the Kenya Wildlife Service shows that wildlife populations inside Kenya's national parks are declining at a similar rate to those outside the parks. Between 1989 and 2003 six species declined markedly in the Maasai Mara National Reserve: by 95% for giraffe, 80% for warthogs and 76% for hartebeest. The losses, which are similar in other protected areas are linked to pressures from the growing local populations surrounding the reserve, and their consequent sedentarisation and adoption of less environmentally sustainable livelihoods; including overgrazing, hunting and firewood collection.

i Ochieng/UNEP

## 2) *World Heritage Site of the Kenya Lake System in the Great Rift Valley*

The Kenya Lake System is composed of three alkaline lakes and their surrounding territories: Lake Bogoria, 10,700 ha; Lake Nakuru, 18,800 ha; and Lake Elementaita, 2,534 ha. These lakes are found on the floor of the Great Rift Valley where major tectonic and/or volcanic events have shaped a distinctive landscape. Some of the world's greatest diversity and concentrations of bird species are recorded within these relatively small lake systems. The World

Heritage Site is home to 13 globally threatened bird species and some of the highest bird diversity in the world. It is the single most important foraging site for the Lesser Flamingo anywhere, and a major nesting and breeding ground for Great White Pelicans. Furthermore the three sites are Important Bird Areas (IBAs) and are also Ramsar sites constituting wetlands of international importance. The lakes have a combined hectareage of 32,034 hectares, including the area covered by the water bodies of the three lakes, together with the riparian area of Lake Elementaita, the area covered by Lake Nakuru National Park, and the area covered by Lake Bogoria National Reserve. Surrounding these areas, and in between the lakes are settlements of local people, many of whom eke out a living from farming, charcoaling, and small-scale mining.

The Kenya Lake System was inscribed on the World Heritage list in 2011 as per the following criteria:

Criterion (vii): The Kenya Lake System presents an exceptional range of geological and biological processes of exceptional natural beauty, including falls, geysers, hot springs, open waters and marshes, forests and open grasslands concentrated in a relatively small area and set among the landscape backdrop of the Great Rift Valley. The natural setting of all three lakes surrounded by the steep escarpment of the Rift Valley and associated volcanic features provides an exceptional experience of nature.

Criterion (ix): The Kenya Lake System illustrates ongoing ecological and biological processes which provide valuable insights into the evolution and the development of soda lake ecosystems and the related communities of plants and animals.

Criterion (x): The Kenya Lake System is the single most important foraging site in the world for the Lesser Flamingo with about 1.5 million individuals moving from one lake to the other and provides the main nesting and breeding grounds for Great White Pelicans in the Great Rift Valley. The lakes' terrestrial zones also contain important populations of many mammal and bird species that are globally or regionally threatened. They are home to over 100 species of migratory birds and support globally important populations of Black-Necked Grebe, African Spoonbill, Pied Avocet, Little Grebe, Yellow Billed Stork, Black Winged Stilt, Grey-Headed Gull and Gull Billed Tern. The property makes a critical contribution to the conservation of the natural values within the Great Rift Valley, as an integral part of the most important route of the African-Eurasian flyway system where billions of birds are found to travel from northern breeding grounds to African wintering places.

Surrounded by an area of rapidly growing population, the lake system is under considerable threat from surrounding pressures. These threats include siltation from increased abstraction of water in the catchment for consumption and irrigation, land degradation and soil erosion from unsustainable agricultural practices and systems, deforestation due to land clearance for agriculture as well as timber and fuel wood harvesting, growth in human settlements, overgrazing, wildlife hunting and poaching, mismanaged tourism and pollution coming from Nakuru town.

### **3) *Marine ecosystem in southern Kenya***

Kenya's coastline stretches 600Km (GoK, 2017), along the Western Indian Ocean. One of the most distinctive features of the Kenyan coastline is its almost continuous fringing coral reef that runs parallel to the coast. The relatively narrow continental shelf, which suddenly drops up to 4,000 m, a depth only allowing for limited abundance of corals, while coral growth is best supported at depths from sea surface to about 20–25 m deep where light is able to penetrate (Obura, et.al, 2000). Coral reefs support a wide variety of reef dependent fish, which include important demersal finfishes such as emperors, snappers, rock cods and surgeonfish amongst others. They are also important habitats for crustaceans and invertebrates such as crabs, molluscs, lobsters, prawns, shells, sea-cucumbers, squids and octopus. These fisheries are important to the artisanal fishery mostly using low technology gear such as gillnets, shark nets, hook and line, beach seines, spear guns and basket and fence traps and propelled by simple fishing vessels such as out-rigger canoes, sail boats and low-powered engines. The artisanal sector is estimated to employ over 10,000 fishers directly and indirectly providing a livelihood to another 60,000 (Ochiewo, 2004).

Another distinction of the Kenya coastline is the mangrove stands scattered along the coastal belt in the inter-tidal zones in estuaries and along creeks. They are mainly concentrated on the northern coast around the Lamu archipelago, Tana delta and Mida Creek in Malindi. Smaller mangrove forest patches are found in the mouths of semi-perennial and seasonal coastal rivers on the south coast in Shimonji-Vanga, Funzi and Gazi Bays, and Port-Reitz, Tudor, Mtwapa and Kilifi. The total area of mangroves in the country has been estimated to be about 45,590 ha, which represents a decline of 18% in area between 1985 and 2010 (Kirui et al., 2012). Despite their importance, these fragile ecosystems have been subjected to enormous pressures and threats over the last few decades leading to degradation manifested by permanent habitat alteration and loss; shortage of building materials and firewood (Kairo et al., 2001). Key threats to causing degradation of mangroves in the country are: encroachment by settlements mainly in urban centres; over-exploitation for wood products by local communities; clearance for alternative land use especially salt mining in Malindi; pollution in the form of oil spills, and solid and effluent discharges; weak enforcement of laws to protect mangrove areas; aquaculture development mainly by community based groups; siltation; potential threats from climate change; and lack of mangrove management plans.

The Kenya State of the Coast Report (GoK, 2017) identified destructive fishing, overfishing, pollution, shoreline change and erosion, habitat alteration and destruction, invasive species and climate change as major threats to marine ecosystems in Kenya. Major human activities contributing to these threats are fishing, farming, shipping, coastal mining (including salt mining), coastal developments and tourism. Unsustainable exploitation of fisheries and other living resources has been identified by Payet and Obura (2004) as a major environmental concern in East Africa. Fishers along the coast continue using destructive gear, mainly seine net and ring net (in shallow waters) resulting in degradation of benthic habitats such as corals and seagrasses.

1b. *Project Map and Coordinates.* Please see Annex A.

### ***The problem to be addressed***



Global environmental degradation proceeds unimpeded in the three selected locations of Kenya – the World Heritage Site of the Kenya Lakes System in the Great Rift Valley, the marine ecosystem of Southern Kenya in Kwale County, and the arid rangelands of northern Kenya – due to the weaknesses in organizational capacities of communities and community organizations to collectively take action in building and maintaining resilience of these socio-ecological landscapes. Local resource dependent rural and coastal poor communities are at the receiving end of the negative and devastating effects of habitat destruction and biodiversity loss.

Rural communities draw on their experience and inherent resilience to mitigate and adapt to climate change, as they recognize the crucial importance of protecting natural resources and ecosystems that provide sustenance. Biodiversity conservation and sustainable land and resource management are integral building blocks of resilience. However, with diminishing resources communities face different challenges in light of the fact that sustaining socio-ecological resilience of landscapes can only be maintained by smallholder organizations and networks with the resources, commitment and capacities to carry out continuous, long-term processes of innovation and adaptive management. For these community actions to achieve sufficient scale to impact socio-ecological resilience in a meaningful way they must be adopted and implemented by communities across the landscape. Within the landscape, smallholder organizations must act within a common strategic framework that integrates ecological, social and economic outcomes with the goal of reaching a tipping point in adoption and implementation of individual and collective management innovations leading to landscape resilience.

Collective action by communities and civil society organisations may be geared towards addressing (1) unsustainable livelihood practices, (2) low community participation in conservation and development policies, and (3) poor natural resource management that fails to take into consideration community contributions to conservation and development. Solutions to these problems would lead to biodiversity conservation and sustainable land management, including agro-ecosystem management and integrated water resources management, and ultimately contribute to climate change adaptation and optimization of ecosystem services. These are pursued in the context of local sustainable development.

Community organizations and civil society support groups need to act in synergy to achieve impacts at the scale of landscapes and seascapes, and generate support among the different stakeholders at landscape/seascape levels to engage provincial, regional and national levels. To act effectively, community organizations and civil society support groups require the motivation, capacities, knowledge, financing and enabling factors and opportunities to work individually and collectively. With the use of SGP funds, as well as cofinancing, community organizations and NGOs build their adaptive management capacities through learning by doing i.e. through analysis of their priorities and problems; identification of potential innovations to address them; project design, implementation, monitoring, and evaluation of results and performance; and renewed analysis and planning based on lessons learned.

To a large extent, community based organizations in the target landscapes often lack essential adaptive management capabilities in the areas of (1) identifying the full effects of unsustainable livelihood practices, (2) the technical know how, innovation and experimentation capacities in converting to sustainable, alternative sustainable livelihood practices, (3) the technical know-how in monitoring contributions to conservation, (4) effectively lobbying government for changes in policy that would harmonise conservation and development, and (5) organizational abilities to become effective agents for the

coordinated, long term development or maintenance of socio-ecological landscape resilience. Community organizations are empowered by determining priorities and measures for action, developing strategies and plans, carrying them out, reflecting on impacts and knowledge gained, and planning and preparing next steps.

In summary, *the essential problem to be addressed by this project* is that the necessary collective action in Kenya for adaptive management of resources and ecosystem processes for sustainable development and global environmental benefits is hindered by organizational weaknesses of the communities living and working in affected landscapes and seascapes to act collectively and strategically to lobby for changes in policy in building social and ecological resilience.

**The solution to the problem** is for community organizations and civil society support groups in the three selected landscapes and seascapes in Kenya – the World Heritage Site of the Kenya Lakes System in the Great Rift Valley, the marine ecosystem of Southern Kenya in Kwale County, and the arid rangelands of northern Kenya - to develop and implement adaptive landscape and seascape management strategies that build social, economic and ecological resilience based on the production of global environmental and local sustainable development benefits including health and well-being. To pursue achievement of the outcomes of these adaptive landscape management strategies, community organizations will implement grant projects reviewed and approved by the SGP National Steering Committee (NSC), framed and supported by multi-stakeholder agreements involving local government, the private sector, NGOs and other partners, and evaluated as part of the broader collective process of adjusting management strategies to new information, knowledge, capacities and conditions.

To ensure long-term conservation of ecosystem services, sequestration of carbon, sustainable natural resource management and human well-being, there is an obvious need to involve local communities and provide them with appropriate incentives. A critical long-term solution for this is, therefore, to ensure that sufficient institutional and local capacities are available to harness innovative financing opportunities as incentives to local land users to conserve ecosystem function and resources and sustainably manage landscapes/seascapes. However, a great deal of coordinated and concerted effort is required in community capacity building to overcome the following barriers.

**Barriers to achieving this solution include:**

*Barrier 1:* Community organizations in the target landscapes and seascapes lack a larger, more long-term vision and strategy for ecosystem and resource management and suffer from weak adaptive management capacities exemplified by the proliferation of unsustainable livelihood practices and the lack of know-how in pursuing alternative sustainable livelihoods which contribute to conservation.

Communities in general engage in unsustainable farming, grazing and fishing practices as they are driven by pressures of poverty and lack the necessary know-how to engage in alternative sustainable farming and fishing. Local stakeholders may believe that sustainable farming, grazing and fishing are more expensive, generate lower yields and are inaccessible to the poorer segments of communities. This lack of know-how makes quick profits generated from

unsustainable practices (timber and wildlife poaching) more attractive to engage in as the returns are relatively large and have a quick turnaround.

Barrier 2: Community organizations in the target landscapes and seascapes have insufficient capacities and voice to efficiently and effectively advocate policy changes at the local and national levels to support landscape and seascape resilience.

Local and national policies which adversely affect the sustainability of community efforts in protection and restoration need to be analysed, critiqued and changed or enhanced. Without the necessary policy change, community efforts in landscape and seascape protection will be weak and ineffective. Community organisations need to increase their capability to analyze and critique policy and advocate reforms to challenge land and mangrove conversion, raise questions regarding the potential incompatibility of development and conservation policies, and reform generally poor or weak governance over natural resources.

Barrier 3: Community organizations do not coordinate with others in taking collective action in favor of landscape resilience outcomes built on global environmental benefits and the strengthening of social capital.

To achieve meaningful impacts on ecosystem processes and functions to favor landscape resilience it is indispensable that community organizations act collectively and in synergy. This requires coordination among communities within an agreed strategic framework as well as a recognition of the importance of developing social capital through organizational interactions within networks and with external agents. Currently, multistakeholder partnerships in the critical land/seascapes addressed by this project require further strengthening, particularly in regard to new communities receiving support from SGP for the first time.

Barrier 4: Community organizations lack the financial resources to motivate and support land and resource management practices and sustain or scale up successful experiences.

Community organizations rarely if ever have sufficient capital to take risks with innovations of untested or un-experienced technologies, methods or practices. At initial stages of familiarization and limited testing of new factors, grant funding is sufficient to buy down most perceived risk, especially when accompanied by targeted technical assistance. Once risk is perceived to have diminished sufficiently, and with a concomitant rise in capacities, community organizations may feel comfortable accepting low-interest loans.

These barriers result in the continued practice of unsustainable farming, grazing and fishing and poor coordination among stakeholders in the landscapes, driven by inadequate training and skills, lack of awareness and information, inadequate funding and incentives and poor infrastructure. Community-driven development (CDD) and integrated landscape management (ILM) are necessary for enhanced socio-ecological resilience i.e. human well-being, food security,

climate change mitigation and conservation of biodiversity and ecosystem services at community level and replicated at a larger landscape scale.

## 2) Baseline scenario and any associated Baseline Projects

### The GEF Small Grants Programme in Kenya

GEF SGP started operations in Kenya in 1993 and since then has funded over four hundred community projects in various parts of the country. Through these projects, SGP has delivered substantial global environmental benefits through implementation of a strategy that has continually evolved to reflect lessons learnt and to take advantage of emerging opportunities. Initially, Country Programme coverage was national, with a majority of grants addressing biodiversity conservation and sustainable livelihoods. Over the years the number of climate change and land degradation projects has increased along with a smaller number of chemicals projects. In the early years of the program, community projects from different parts of the country were funded as individual projects, and had no relation to each other. The impact was localized and only the residents of the immediate area benefitted. Several years later, SGP adopted a more strategic approach; in a given year, the SGP Kenya team would select a site of ecological and social significance and plan together with the communities the projects that would be funded over a two-year period to enhance biodiversity conservation and sustainable use and to mitigate some of the threats. This approach was implemented in western Kenya on Rusinga Island, where various groups (women's groups, youth groups, schools, fisher groups, etc.) worked together to raise tree cover on the island through agro-forestry and forest rehabilitation projects. In a different year, in the southern part of the country along the Kenya-Tanzania border, an international waters project was collaboratively implemented by several community groups to protect the waters of Lake Jipe, which straddles the border of the two countries. This approach was adopted by the SGP Kenya program in modeling the COMPACT Initiative (further described below), and which the Program has continued to adapt and improve, learning from lessons that have emerged over the years.

In 2001, SGP Kenya became one of six Country Programmes piloting a landscape-level approach to biodiversity conservation in and around World Natural Heritage Sites (WHS) through the Community Management of Protected Areas Conservation (COMPACT) project. COMPACT, a partnership between SGP, the UN Foundation and UNESCO, promoted a rigorous approach to producing a bottom-up baseline assessment, conceptual model and site strategy for planning and future monitoring and evaluation purposes. The World Heritage Site selected in the country was Mount Kenya where SGP established a local consultative body (LCB) and a multistakeholder donor/partner forum bringing together the principal public, private and community-based stakeholders to steer the identification, planning and implementation of SGP activities around Mount Kenya. These activities are still operational after almost 15 years. SGP has funded the implementation of a large portfolio of multifocal community projects addressing the most pressing challenges faced by the Mt. Kenya forest ecosystem. While SGP cannot claim the full credit, a UNEP and KFWG aerial survey four years after COMPACT establishment found that the rate of forest degradation and loss around Mt. Kenya WHS had significantly declined. Community awareness about the importance of Mt. Kenya's forests and the means to protect them was enhanced as a result of the multiple campaigns and capacity development activities.

During GEF 5, SGP consolidated the gains achieved in Mt. Kenya, expanding its coverage to other communities in the surrounding regions that had not received support in prior years, focusing on replication of best practices and the implementation of the Forest Act. It has also applied the COMPACT approach to community-managed conservation areas in both terrestrial and marine ecosystems and expanded its area of influence to the Laikipia ecosystem, where pastoral communities and their herds, as well as wildlife, depend on Mt. Kenya's ecosystem services and on the water management practices of stakeholders in the catchment area. Wildlife also depends on the maintenance of corridors between Mt. Kenya and the lower Laikipia rangelands, thus the need to work with communities in both ecosystems.

In GEF 6, SGP Kenya built on the experiences and lessons learned in GEF 5, to strengthen the landscape and seascape approach. The boundaries of three specific production landscapes and seascapes that surround ecosystems of global biodiversity significance were identified in collaboration with communities and other stakeholders. This provided a distinct area in which the operations of SGP in GEF 6 were to take place, and hence the hectareage that would benefit from expected outputs and outcomes was determined. At each of the three sites, the World Heritage Site of the Kenya Lakes System in the Great Rift Valley, the marine ecosystem of Southern Kenya in Kwale County, and the sacred Kaya forests of Kilifi county, three national NGOs were competitively selected to perform the role of strategic partner; to work closely with the SGP Kenya secretariat in mobilizing local communities and assisting them to develop proposals; liaising closely with the county government; and providing overall coordination of SGP-funded activities at the respective land/sea-scape. One of the first tasks of the strategic partner was to conduct participatory workshops with local communities to assess the resilience of the land/sea-scape using indicators that evaluate the following:

- Ecosystems protection and the maintenance of biodiversity
- Agricultural biodiversity
- Knowledge, learning and innovation
- Social equity and infrastructure.

The main purpose of the indicators is to assist communities in developing resilience- strengthening strategies that encourage local innovation, ecosystem protection and beneficial interactions between different land/seascape components. The strategies were compiled and used for developing a land/seascape strategy, which provides guidance for the typology of community-driven projects that can be implemented to increase/sustain resilience.

The establishment of a multi-stakeholder platform at each land/seascape has been another key activity driven by the strategic partner, in collaboration with the SGP secretariat. Although the concept of the multi-stakeholder platform is yet to fully take root at each of the sites, discussions have begun in earnest, and the county government, the institution that is most favoured by other stakeholders to take the lead, is in support. The members of the multi-stakeholder platform contributed towards the development of the land/sea-scape strategy for their respective sites, and also provided technical input in the development of proposals by local communities.

An innovative approach that SGP Kenya has taken in GEF 6 is to (i) facilitate forging of partnerships between CSOs and private sector to broaden the scope of renewable energy uptake by local communities at household level and (ii) to promote the use of renewable technologies for productive use. This differs from earlier phases, where the role of private sector was minimal, and the use of renewable technology was mainly for domestic use and not for generating income. Approximately nine projects have been approved for funding under this category which are bound to improve the welfare of the communities significantly. For instance, one project will set up a solar-powered cooling center, to reduce spoilage of milk and hence increase volumes of milk that can be sold by pastoralist women; another avails solar lamps on a friendly payment plan to school girls in rural and remote areas to enable them study and do school assignments in the safety of their homes, while another converts a diesel-powered machine to a solar one for pumping water for drinking and watering livestock.

Another 40 projects have been approved for funding under the focal areas of biodiversity conservation and land degradation. In the Lake Bogoria production landscape, the focus is on operationalizing community wildlife conservancies, establishing a honey value chain and supporting rehabilitation of river catchments. In the Shimoni-Vanga seascape, the Beach Management Units (BMUs) are building their capacities to expand their locally managed marine areas (LMMAs) and to manage them better by engaging tools and techniques for monitoring, control and surveillance (MCS). The local communities within the production landscapes of the sacred kaya forests, are strengthening the governance structures of the local elders, marking the boundaries of the forests, and supporting alternative livelihoods, such as eco-tourism and agro-ecology.

Communities supported by SGP Kenya can boast of many international and national awards among which are eight Equator Initiative Awards, three SEED awards, one Tusk Award, two NETFund Green Innovation Awards, and one Eco-warrior Conservancy of the Year Award. In addition, persons working for organizations that implement SGP-funded projects have also won a range of awards, including scholarships and certificates of recognition.

Over the years, the Country Program has developed distinct series of projects with similar objectives, methods, and impacts. These groups of projects have begun to acquire a critical mass of practitioner organizations that provides fertile ground for collaboration and synergies. The adoption of the practice of a geographical focus from GEF 5 - 6 has enabled the synergistic approach which has not only achieved planned outcomes such as enhanced biodiversity conservation, but has also supported alternative income and employment for communities, leading to the evolution of empowered, self-confident communities capable of voicing their concerns about ecological and land management matters.

However, changing individual community projects to coordinated multi-community initiatives, where a critical mass of producers can achieve economies of scale and weight in the market, still requires support, as the growth in capacities of the community organizations involved proceeds from year to year with ecological and biological seasonality, analysis of experience and identification of lessons learned, and the ensuing adoption, testing and assessment of adaptive management measures.

SGP will establish linkages with initiatives that are on-going (or those about to begin) in each landscape/seascape, to reduce duplication and to explore opportunities for collaboration. Below is a short description of some of the initiatives:

In the *Shimoni-Vanga seascape*, the World Bank is in the process of developing a project titled: Kenya Marine Fisheries and Socio-Economic Development Project (KEMFSED). The project will be implemented along the entire Kenyan coast. Some of the key objectives of the project include: (i) support to the Government of Kenya in strengthening governance and management of Kenya's renewable marine resources towards ensuring long-term sustainability of fish stocks. Governance of marine fisheries will be strengthened through an improved policy and regulatory framework, and implementation of specific measures intended to protect marine resources; (ii) to strengthen livelihoods in coastal communities through provision of a combination of technical and financial support. This will include demand-driven sub-projects and complementary capacitybuilding and training of beneficiaries. Women, youth and vulnerable and marginalized groups (VMGs) will be specifically targeted by creating opportunities along the value chain.

In the *Lake Bogoria landscape*, RECONCILE, a national NGO with expertise in land-use rights and drylands management, is supporting participatory range land management by hosting a range of trainings. The topics of the trainings include pasture management, range land re-seeding and rangeland management policy. The project is implemented within selected areas of the County, including the production landscape of Lake Baringo. Their partner of choice within the landscape is Irong conservancy; one of the conservancies targeted for support by SGP in GEF 7. Another project being implemented in the same landscape is by the NGO: Pamoja for Transformation. This project documents sustainable indigenous land management practices, especially on bee-keeping and herbal medicine.

The Northern Rangelands Trust (NRT) is a well-established and well-funded NGO, that focus' its operations in the *northern rangelands* of Kenya by supporting local communities to convert the land-use of their communally-owned land from a group ranch to a community wildlife conservancy. The Northern Rangelands Trust has an expanding membership of Community Conservancies (community-led conservation initiatives), all located in northern Kenya. Collectively these conservancies are home to approximately 60,000 pastoralists of different ethnic origin including Samburu, Rendille, Laikipiak Maasai and Meru. Each Community Conservancy hosts a unique suite of wildlife and plant species which serve to focus the community's conservation and development goals. Some of the functions of a conservancy: (i) ensures the conservation goals of the community are met through development of by-laws governing the use of natural resources (ii) provides security to the Conservancy's residents, its wildlife and its visitors; (iii) acts as the development arm for the community by developing wildlife-based enterprises, from tourism to small businesses; (iv) promotes improved rangeland management and livestock grazing systems by and between communities. NRT mobilizes resources from a variety of donors to assist communities to establish the institutional functioning of a conservancy by purchasing vehicles, security radio equipment, training of rangers and hiring conservancy managers and paying salaries of employed staff. The Samburu-Isiolo Conservation Area, which SGP targets for support in GEF 7, is surrounded by several conservancies, all of which receive support in varying degrees from NRT. Communities that reside within the production landscape of the Samburu-Isiolo Conservation Area (SICA) and who will receive support from SGP, are also members of the conservancies.

### 3) The proposed alternative scenario, GEF focal area strategies, with a brief description of expected outcomes and components of the project

GEF incremental funding and cofinancing will be applied to overcome the barriers listed above and to add value, where appropriate and possible, to existing initiatives by government, the private sector or CSOs in the three selected landscapes/seascape - the Lake System in the Great Rift Valley, the rangelands of northern Kenya, and the marine ecosystem of southern Kenya. It will contribute to the long-term solution of collective action and adaptive management by community organizations of important land/seascapes for social, economic and ecological resilience based on sustainable development initiatives that produce global environmental benefits. GEF funding will provide small grants to NGOs and community organizations to develop land/seascape management strategies and implement community projects in pursuit of strategic land/seascape level outcomes related to biodiversity conservation, sustainable land management, climate change mitigation and adaptation and integrated water resources management. Funding will also be available for initiatives to build the organizational capacities of specific community groups as well as land/seascape level organizations to plan and manage complex initiatives and test, evaluate and disseminate community level innovations. Resources will also be made available through the SGP strategic grant modality to upscale proven technologies, systems or practices based on knowledge gained from analysis of community innovations from past experience during previous phases of the SGP Kenya Country Programme.

Formal multistakeholder groups will be consolidated and strengthened in each selected land/seascape, incorporating local government, national agencies and Ministries, NGOs, the private sector and other relevant actors. These partnerships will provide technical assistance, strategic guidance and financial support, where possible, to community organizations for individual community initiatives, as well as landscape level projects and strategic upgrading projects. In GEF 7, SGP Kenya will build on the successes of previous phases, and implement projects based on best practices and lessons learned. In addition, SGP Kenya will take advantage of the opportunities availed by Kenya's devolution policy to establish/strengthen dialogue forums for county government representatives and non-state actors. This will be accomplished through support for capacity building of the community, county government leadership and other key stakeholders to develop and implement adaptive management strategies to enhance socio-ecological landscape resilience and global environmental benefits.

In GEF 7, SGP will support communities in three different geographic areas to enhance the socio-ecological resilience of the production land/sea-scapes in which they reside. SGP is actively strengthening local groups in two of the areas in GEF 6; namely (i) the Kenya lakes system in the Great Rift Valley and (ii) the Shimoni-Vanga seascape in southern Kenya. The third area; the arid and semi-arid rangelands of northern Kenya will draw heavily from the experiences and lessons learned within the lake system and replicate a significant number of activities. Lake Bogoria, which is one of the three lakes that comprise the Kenya lakes system, was the lake targeted to receive support for conservation in GEF 6. Lake Bogoria, the most northern of the three lakes, situated in a semi-arid area, and whose surrounding population is largely poor with pastoralism as the key livelihood, has qualities and features that are in many ways similar to the ones found in the northern rangelands. Furthermore, the lands are geo-spatially interconnected as they form wildlife migration corridors, especially for elephants. Therefore, it is likely that some of the activities that are being implemented in the Lake Bogoria landscape, such as strengthening community wildlife conservancies, protecting riverine catchment, and supporting community-led enterprises, will also be implemented in the northern rangelands landscape of the Samburu-Isiolo Conservation Area, but with the added benefit of lessons learned.

SGP has invested considerable resources in GEF 6 to establish a functional land/sea-scape approach at three sites. Three well-established NGOs, who have been operating at the sites for many years, are familiar with the issues, are well known by the local communities and work with the county government, were competitively selected to be strategic partners of the SGP. The strategic partners conducted baseline analyses and assessments of the socio-ecological resilience of the land/sea-scapes in a participatory manner by including local community groups and other key stakeholders. The information collected was



used to develop land/sea-scape adaptive strategies that included a section on the typology of projects that can be implemented by local groups to address the challenges they had identified. It is on the basis of the strategies that the Call for Proposals was drafted and advertised. The strategic partners have also been instrumental in establishing multi-stakeholder platforms at the three sites, which are chaired by the county government and deputized by CSOs. They have also assisted local groups to develop proposals suitable for submission to the SGP secretariat. Coordination of the activities at each site, public events such as eco-fairs, and liaising with the county government is spear-headed by the strategic partners. The county government is appreciative and supportive of the GEF 6 -funded initiatives, and SGP will take advantage of the goodwill and buy-in to enhance sustainability and impact in GEF 7 at two of the sites where SGP is currently operational in GEF 6, namely the Kenya lakes system in the Great Rift Valley and the Shimoni-Vanga seascape.

### *The Kenya Lakes System in the Great Rift Valley*

Three lakes - Elementaita, Nakuru and Bogoria - were inscribed jointly on the World Heritage list in 2011 due to their outstanding universal values. Each of the lakes has significant biodiversity value with its own unique characteristics and local environmental conditions. In GEF 6, SGP has concentrated its efforts in supporting the local communities that live within the production landscape of Lake Bogoria. Lake Bogoria, the deepest and most northern of the three lakes, sometimes hosts the highest concentration of lesser flamingoes. At one point, approximately 2 million flamingoes were recorded on the lake. A strategic partner, in the form of a well-established NGO, was competitively selected to take the lead in the establishment of a multi-stakeholder platform and to conduct a situation analysis as well as an assessment of the resilience of the landscape. The information collected was used by the strategic partner to develop a landscape strategy, which guides the National Steering Committee of the SGP and the members of multi-stakeholder platform on the most suitable projects to be implemented by CSOs. There are 21 community-driven projects that financed with competitively awarded grants to implement activities that collaboratively address threats to the landscape. Examples of these projects include (i) building the capacity of community wildlife conservancies to strengthen their governance structures and to improve management of the natural resources within the conservancies; (ii) facilitating the establishment of a honey value chain by bringing together bee-keeping groups, a processing unit run by the private sector and a marketing and branding facility; (iii) rehabilitating the riverine catchments of the three rivers that drain into Lake Bogoria; namely Waseges, Esmos and Lobo rivers. Most of the community groups implementing projects have received a grant for the first time. Although they are making good progress on implementation of the projects, the groups are still relatively weak, and will require continued technical and financial support in GEF 7 to sustain the progress achieved. In addition, the county government, and other key stakeholders are increasingly receptive to the strategic approach employed by SGP to address enhanced resilience of the socio-ecological landscape, and it would be essential to build on the goodwill and growing trust in GEF 7.

### *The marine ecosystem in southern Kenya*

The area of the marine ecosystem in the southern coast is very large with many fisher associations. It was therefore decided that in GEF 6 SGP would focus on the Shimoni-Vanga fisheries co-management area, which lies at the southernmost tip of the Kenyan coastline and borders Tanzania. The national government, in collaboration with the county government of Kwale and key stakeholders, developed a joint co-management plan for the Shimoni-Vanga seascape, which brings together the marine area of seven adjacent BMUs. The seascape extends 12 nautical miles towards the open sea and covers a total of 86,000ha. The area is endowed with rich biodiversity and fisheries resources that provide important sources of livelihood and food security to the local communities. The Kisite-Mpunguti Marine National Park and Reserve (KMMNP&R) is situated within the larger co-management area and thus partially complements the co-management initiative. Seven (7) BMUs co-manage the fisheries resources with the State Department for Fisheries and the Blue

Economy (SDF&BE) and the Kwale County Government. These BMUs are: Shimoni, Mkwiro, Wasini, Kibuyuni, Majoreni, Vanga and Jimbo. The Shimoni-Vanga seascape is endowed with diverse fisheries resources that include crustaceans (shrimps, lobsters and crabs), pelagic and demersal fishes, cephalopods (octopus, squids and cuttlefish) and other molluscs (e.g sea cucumbers), which are threatened by overfishing, persistent resource use conflicts especially in the shared fishing grounds, destructive fishing practices and the negative impacts of climate change. In GEF 6, the BMUs within this seascape received grants to conserve varied marine resources, such as corals, mangroves and seagrass, as well as to improve management of their locally-managed marine areas (LMMAs) by taking a coordinated approach towards monitoring, control and surveillance (MCS). The ability to enhance MCS at a BMU level, and then to coordinate it at the seascape level, was identified as an essential strategy by local communities and the county government to manage the seascape. But because governance structures of BMUs are still weak, and they lack adequate capacity to address the socio-ecological issues, it is important to continue to support them to build their capacities in GEF 7 to sustain fisheries governance and well-being of user communities, and to address remaining gaps.

### *The rangelands of northern Kenya*

The rangelands of northern Kenya are expansive, and constitute approximately 70% of the nation's land mass. The communities herein are primarily pastoral (high mobility of pastoralists and livestock, with limited crop farming). The rangelands are generally marked by low human development (high levels of poverty, low literacy) and low population density but a high growth rate and poor infrastructure. However, they are also endowed with a variety of natural resources, key among them being wildlife biodiversity, forests, wetlands, various minerals and diverse cultural characteristics. Within this expansive territory, SGP will work within the production landscape of the Samburu-Isiolo Conservation Area. The conservation area covers approximately 535 km<sup>2</sup> and is comprised of three national wildlife reserves, namely Buffalo Springs, Samburu and Shaba National Reserves which have also been identified as important bird areas (IBAs). The three reserves are ecologically contiguous and share many resources including threatened and endangered wildlife, such as elephants (near-threatened) lion (vulnerable), Grevy's zebra (endangered), wild dog (endangered), Beisa Oryx (near-threatened) and pancake tortoise (endemic and vulnerable). The functional ecosystem includes the three reserves as well as the neighbouring community lands which form critical wildlife dispersal areas. Ecological integrity at the Samburu-Isiolo Conservation Area (SICA) faces many threats, the most significant being the sustained flow of the Ewaso Ngiro River (ENR) that has in the last few years has been drying up as a result of upstream abstraction and increasingly unpredictable rains. The flow of the river and presence of springs creates a safe haven for many endangered and rare species, including elephants and Grevy's zebra. The springs currently face threats from tourism development and lack of knowledge on their flow dynamics. SGP in GEF 7 will support the Community Partnership and Management Program as highlighted in the SICA Management Plan which aims to support and promote the participation and empowerment of communities adjacent to SICA to sustainably conserve and utilise the rich natural resource base in the area. Key actions include: promoting local wildlife-related enterprises; training community members in entrepreneurship; supporting conservation-minded businesses; employment of community scouts; establishment of wildlife conservancies for purposes of exploiting tourism opportunities; establishment and strengthening of community conflict resolution committees, and creating awareness among local communities on HWC mitigation.

Despite the harsh socio-economic conditions of northern Kenya, aggravated by impacts and uncertainties of climate change, local communities have resolved to take advantage of existing opportunities and to seek solutions towards improved socio-economic lifestyles. The emergence and growth of community wildlife conservancies is empowering local people to develop sustainable enterprises and livelihoods related to conservation, and to lead in peace and conflict resolution efforts. However, to increase the effectiveness of the conservancies much more needs to be done to build the capacity of the local community

governance structures, increase the direct and indirect benefits at household level, and upscale land management interventions. Inclusive conservation has been mentioned as one of the delivery mechanisms of mainstreaming biodiversity in landscapes and seascapes. Community wildlife conservancies, which are owned, governed and managed by local communities, are a good entry point to promote inclusive conservation.

For most of Kenya's development history, northern Kenya has been largely ignored, primarily because the wealth of the rangelands was misunderstood and under-rated. However, in recent years, significant quantities of gas, oil and minerals have been discovered, illiciting new interest in these areas. There are also large, infrastructural projects that are planned for the counties of northern Kenya, which will herald unprecedented changes. One such project is LAPSSSET; a flagship project of Kenya's Vision 2030 whose objectives are "To improve access and connectivity between Kenya, Southern Sudan and Ethiopia as well as to stimulate economic activity in the northern and eastern parts of Kenya." The corridor, which includes an oil pipeline, a highway and a railway line, is expected to be one of the driving engines of development in northern Kenya. While some see it as a great and viable opportunity, a majority are worried about the long-term impacts of the project on their rights, cultures and livelihood. SGP will explore opportunities to initiate community-government dialogue to address emerging concerns vital to socio-ecological resilience.

The Kenya SGP Country Program has selected two components in each landscape based on the consolidation of community experiences and lessons learned from the on-going and previously supported projects in GEF 5 and 6 for forthcoming replication, upscaling and mainstreaming. Project experiences and best practices will be systematized and knowledge generated for discussion and dissemination to local policy makers and national/subnational advisors, as well as landscape level organizations, NGOs and other networks.

***Component 1: Resilient landscapes and seascapes for sustainable development and global environmental protection.***

The GEF 7 SGP Country Programme recognizes that communities and non government organisations need to work in cooperation with other sectors in order to reach the intended outcomes in the target landscapes and seascapes. This is primarily expressed through the strengthening of multi-stakeholder governance platforms in the target landscapes/ seascapes. Multistakeholder discussions will lead to landscape agreements, adaptive landscape management strategies, and a typology of community level projects developed and agreed by multistakeholder groups.

SGP will build on the land/sea-scape approach that was mainstreamed in the programming of the portfolio development in GEF 6 at each site. The land/sea-scape approach has proved to be an efficient and strategic way of supporting local organizations to contribute towards conservation efforts and at the same time promote synergy among other on-going initiatives. SGP will build on this experience and apply lessons learned during implementation of GEF 7. The first step taken in GEF 6 was the competitive selection of strategic partners; one for each site. The strategic partners are well-established NGOs that have been operating at the site, and are familiar with the conservation challenges. They are also known by the county governments as well as the local communities. The primary role of the strategic partner is one of coordination, and their responsibilities are: (i) conduct a baseline analysis and an assessment of the socio-ecological resilience of the land/sea-scap, (ii) use the information to develop an adaptive land/sea-scape strategy; (iii) assist local organizations to develop proposals for submission to the SGP secretariat (iv) take the lead in establishment of a multi-stakeholder platform; (v) mentor the grantees during project

implementation (vi) liaise with the county government and (vii) create channels for communicating the progress and impact of the GEF-funded projects through eco-fairs, newsletters and policy dialogues. The adaptive land/sea-scape strategy forms the basis for developing a Call for Proposals, which is disseminated online and also advertised in the local dailies. The proposals developed by CSOs in response to the Call for Proposals are submitted to the SGP secretariat and subsequently reviewed by the National Steering Committee (NSC). The NSC determines the projects that will receive grants, after conducting due diligence. At each of the sites, capacity building takes place at two levels; (i) at the individual project level which requires specific expertise e.g. application of agro-ecological principles, or entrepreneurial skills, or coral rehabilitation etc. The other level is at land/sea-scape level where one national NGO per site builds the capacity of all the grantees on common issues, such as organizational development, governance, financial management, participatory monitoring, proposal development, use of social media for development and resource mobilization.

At two of the sites selected for SGP intervention in GEF 7, the Shimoni-Vanga seascape and the Lake Bogoria production landscape, the processes described above have been undertaken. As implementation of GEF 7 begins, a review of the entire process will be done to identify gaps as well as areas that need strengthening, so that while those are addressed, best practices and lessons learned will be applied to the new and third landscape of the northern rangelands.

***Outcome 1.1:*** Ecosystem services and biodiversity within the targeted landscapes and seascapes are enhanced through multi-functional land-use systems

Output 1.1.1: Community level small grant projects in the selected land/sea-scapes that restore degraded landscapes, improve connectivity, support innovation regarding biodiversity conservation and optimization of ecosystem services including but not limited to: maintaining habitat connectivity between areas critical for the dispersal of the Greater Kudu around Lake Bogoria and the elephant in the Samburu-Isiolo Conservation Area; poaching control; conservation and restoration of native forests through natural regeneration and sustainable use of non-timber forest products (e.g., honey, fibers, essential oils); implementation of community conservancy land-use plans; management of fish spawning areas including mangrove and coral reef protection; control of illegal fishing gear and respect of no-take zones.

***Outcome 1.2:*** The sustainability of production systems in the target landscapes is strengthened through integrated agro-ecological practices.

Output 1.2.1: Targeted community projects enhancing the sustainability and resilience of production systems, including soil and water conservation practices, agro-ecological practices and holistic grazing systems. The outcome addresses sustainable land management in the Lake Bogoria and northern rangelands production landscapes. It focuses on the needs of pastoral communities and smallholder farmers, particularly their food security. By adopting an integrated landscape management approach SGP will increase socio-economic and ecosystem resilience to drought and other climate-related shocks.

**Outcome 1.3:** Livelihoods of communities in the target landscapes and seascapes are improved by developing eco-friendly, climate-adaptive small-scale community enterprises with clear market linkages

This outcome addresses the need to support communities in realizing the economic benefits of sustainably managing ecosystems and natural resources. This is an essential component of the project's sustainability and replication strategy. SGP recognizes that communities face significant challenges in identifying eco-friendly business opportunities on their own and when they do, they may lack the capacities to develop the product or access/develop a market for it. Communities also face significant challenges in obtaining credit or other forms of financial support to start their businesses. SGP's approach is to help communities address these challenges through three main strategies: i) help communities establish fair and equitable partnerships with the private sector; ii) identify goods or services that may add value to existing economic activities or that could be up-scaled/expanded and develop business plans; and iii) help communities access the necessary financial services. Helping establish partnerships between local community entrepreneurs and the private sector will help transfer business skills that cannot be acquired through short-term training.

Output 1.3.1: Targeted community projects promoting sustainable livelihoods, green businesses and market access, including ecotourism; solid waste management, recycling and conversion; beekeeping; green value-added agro-businesses integrated into value chains, micro-processing.

## ***Component 2 - Landscape governance and adaptive management for upscaling and replication***

**Outcome 2.1:** Multistakeholder governance platform(s) strengthened/in place for improved governance of target landscapes and seascapes to enhance socio-ecological resilience/ for effective participatory decision making to enhance landscape resiliency. The multi-stakeholder platforms that have been established at the Lake Bogoria landscape and the Shimoni-Vanga seascape in GEF 6, will be assessed on their effectiveness and operational success. Remedial measures to strengthen them will be identified and applied. The multi-stakeholder platform to be established for the Samburu-Isiolo Conservation Area in the northern rangelands will benefit from the lessons learned during multi-stakeholder platform establishment in GEF 6. Lessons identified during implementation of the different landscape strategies, agreements and landscape portfolios of projects will be codified and presented to a Community-NGO-Government policy dialogue forum that will be established and conducted regularly.

Output 2.1.1: A multi-stakeholder governance platform in each target landscape develops/strengthens and executes multi-stakeholder agreements for execution of adaptive landscape management plans and policies; development of value-chain improvement strategies for resilience enhancing products; and enhanced community participation in land use decision making and management

Output 2.1.2 A landscape strategy developed/improved by the corresponding multi-stakeholder platform for each target landscape to enhance socio-ecological resilience through community grant projects

**Outcome 2.2:** Knowledge from community level engagement and innovative conservation practices is systematically assessed and shared in the form of case studies for replication and upscaling across the landscapes, across the country, and to the global SGP network

Knowledge products (including multimedia recordings, peer-to-peer visits, systematization of best practices, media coverage, amongst other methods) will focus on sharing knowledge and information on: watershed restoration processes; know-how to convert and enhance productivity while contributing to sustainable landscapes; how to strengthen community participation in governance schemes, in vulnerable areas to climatic variability and climate change; water management practices; soil management practices; access to micro-credit as a community initiative; scaling up innovative businesses; etc.

This knowledge will be further systematized and codified for dissemination at the landscape level through policy and innovation platforms, community landscape management networks and multistakeholder partnerships, and knowledge fairs and other exchanges; at the national level through the National Steering Committee, strategic partnerships and their networks, and national knowledge fairs where appropriate; and globally through the SGP global network of SGP Country Programs and UNDP's knowledge management system.

The knowledge management approach will have as a primary product a case study summarizing lessons learned and best practices from each target landscape: the Lake System in the Great Rift Valley, the rangelands of northern Kenya, and the marine ecosystem of southern Kenya, based on evaluation of implementation results and their contributions to global environmental benefits, local development objectives and landscape level outcomes, including the development of social capital.

Case studies will be conducted at two levels: First, individual grantees will be supported to reflect on their grant implementation experience and distill lessons. An external expert will facilitate this activity, including documenting community views. Second, NGOs implementing land/seascape strategic grants as strategic partners, will prepare case studies summarizing the land/seascape planning and implementation efforts, including the contribution of individual grant activities to achieving the land/seascape objectives. These case studies will also apply a participatory approach involving all members of the multi-stakeholder platforms, grantees and their support organizations. Best practices will be identified and documented as part of the process. Understanding the extent to which community and environmental resilience has been enhanced will be an important aspect of case study preparation. Dissemination will be done at various levels including local, county, watershed, land/seascape and national levels within available resources. The means of dissemination will be identified as project implementation progresses, with the objective of reaching a large audience, but also through means adapted to specific target groups, in particular women and youth. County governments at each of the sites will be key target audiences for dissemination of community-led innovative conservation practices, as they are now responsible for planning and implementing development priorities of their constituencies. Line Ministries will also be targeted to ensure SGP experiences inform future policies in the country, in particular, those directly supportive of community management of natural resources and the environment.

Output 2.2.1: Case studies and analysis of best practices for adaptive landscape/seascape resilience developed and disseminated to multiple audiences.

Case studies will be conducted at two levels: First, individual grantees will be supported to reflect on their grant implementation experience and distill lessons. An external expert will facilitate this activity including documenting community views. Second, NGOs implementing land/seascape strategic grants (possibly with external support) will prepare case studies summarizing the land/seascape planning and implementation efforts, including the contribution of individual grant activities to achieving the land/seascape objectives. These case studies will also apply a participatory approach involving all members of the multi-stakeholder platforms, grantees and their support organizations. Best practices will be identified and documented as part of the process. Understanding the extent to which community and environmental resilience has been enhanced will be an important aspect of case study preparation. Dissemination will be done at various levels including local, county, watershed, land/seascape and national levels within available resources. The means of dissemination will be identified as project implementation progresses, with the objective of reaching a large audience, but also through means adapted to specific target groups, in particular women and the youth.

Output 2.2.2: Strategic initiatives are supported to upscale successful SGP project experience and practice

Criteria for identification of *strategic initiatives* for upscaling will be developed jointly by both the National Steering Committee (NSC) of the SGP and strategic partners. Criteria will include, but not be limited to the following: (i) relevance and priority for the county government, (ii) applicability at county-wide level; (iii) involvement of large numbers of the community and beneficiaries; (iv) goodwill and support by relevant national institutions. Some of the initiatives implemented in GEF 6 that are emerging as possible candidates for replication and upscaling in GEF 7 include; (i) strengthening the governance and managerial capabilities of community wildlife conservancies; (ii) developing and strengthening a honey value chain, and (iii) expansion and protection of locally-managed-marine areas (LMMAs) through monitoring, control and surveillance (MCS).

In GEF 6, SGP has supported three budding community wildlife conservancies within the production landscape of Lake Bogoria. Conservancies have developed in Kenya as a tool for creating democratic natural resource use institutions, building social cohesion, accessing benefits from wildlife and building strategies for diversifying livelihoods while protecting endangered species and securing wildlife habitats critical in functioning ecosystems. The county government is keen to support the establishment and strengthening of many more community conservancies within the county as an alternative land-use. Furthermore, the Samburu-Isiolo Conservation Area in the northern rangelands is surrounded by community wildlife conservancies. SGP will support the conservancies to improve their management of natural resources and hence effectiveness and consequently reduce pressure on the resources within the conservation area.

An activity that has been practiced traditionally by pastoralist communities is bee-keeping. The honey has been primarily for domestic consumption, however, increasingly, the communities are producing honey for sale and for consumption in areas far from the source. But processing, packaging, branding, marketing and sale are not professionally done. In GEF 6, SGP is working with local communities to establish a honey value chain in which various parties have differentiated roles and collaboratively produce and sell improved qualities and quantities of honey. This is another strategic initiative that can be upscaled with additional farmers/honey producers brought on board and it can also be replicated in the Samburu-Isiolo conservation Area in the northern rangelands, where pastoralists have engaged in bee-keeping for many years.

A third initiative that may be considered for upscaling is the expansion and protection of LMMAs. LMMAs are under the jurisdiction of Beach Management Units (BMUs); an umbrella organization that brings together various user-groups within an identified beach landing site. The BMUs within the Shimoni-vanga seascape are conserving corals, mangroves and promoting eco-tourism. But the one common activity they have prioritized and are engaged in, with the support of the county government, is the monitoring, control and surveillance of their LMMAs. Because of the relatively low capacity of the BMUs in this seascape (a reflection of the state of BMUs along the entire length of the 600km coastline), there is need in GEF 7 to continue to build their capacity and to upscale their operations in a bid to conserve their fisheries (and hence food security and income) and sustainability.

#### ***4) Alignment with GEF focal area and/or Impact Program strategies***

The Kenya SGP UCP in GEF-7 is aligned with GEF-7 Programming Directions and strategic priorities. In the Land Degradation Focal Area, the project will promote good landscape governance, especially in view of Kenya's emerging commitments to Land Degradation Neutrality and efforts in securing livelihoods of smallholders; build capacity at local and landscape levels to restore and maintain functional landscapes while conserving biodiversity; and promote lessons learning and knowledge exchange and south-south cooperation within the global SGP portfolio of UCPs.

While preparing and planning for GEF 6, SGP Kenya concluded that while there is merit in funding individual community initiatives it is essential to help establish a framework that enables integration of multiple interventions in the land/seascape, as well as cross-fertilization, replication and up-scaling of successful experiences. According to Reed et al.,[1] "Integrated Landscape Approaches" provide a basic framework for balancing competing demands and integrating policies for multiple land uses within a given area" including combining conservation and development aims. As such, integrated land/seascape approaches involving a wide range of stakeholders allow for more inclusive and equitable development planning, reduced conflict, achieving economies of scale to boost production and market access, and addressing environmental challenges – conserving biodiversity, arresting land degradation - across political and community boundaries. SGP therefore adopted a land/seascape approach as its overarching strategy for GEF 6.

In GEF 7, SGP will continue with the land/seascape approach in the three sites selected for enhancing biodiversity efforts, two of which will be a continuation and up-scaling of GEF 6. Within these landscapes, SGP will develop and implement land/seascape adaptive strategies that will mainstream biodiversity in the following ways:

- *Improve production practices to be more biodiversity-positive with a focus on sectors that have significant biodiversity impacts (agriculture and fisheries):* The local communities of lake Bogoria are predominantly pastoralists. However, in recent years, they are adopting a more sedentary lifestyle and taking up farming, while still keeping their herds of livestock. However, the farming techniques in use are outdated, wasteful of the meagre water resources, and contribute to soil erosion. Moreover, traditional grazing practices have been abandoned, resulting in extensive areas of land that are degraded due to overgrazing, cutting of trees for charcoal and invasion by alien species. To improve management of the land/seascapes and to mainstream biodiversity, the project will take a step-by-step approach to expose smallholder farmers to agroecological production principles and practices, determine which products and



practices may be implemented in their lands, and help them meet the incremental cost of establishing new crops and changing their production methods. In addition, the project will promote adoption of grazing practices that increase resilience of rangelands, improve productivity, and allow cattle herds to graze along wildlife.

· *Inclusive conservation:* As a signatory to the Convention on Biodiversity, Kenya, as a state party has committed to designate 17% of its terrestrial land and 10% of its marine seascape for conservation by 2020. Indigenous territories and community conserved areas (ICCAs), which harbor significant biodiversity, and are managed and governed by local people, contribute towards attainment of this target. Examples of ICCAs are (i) community wildlife conservancies, found around Lake Bogoria and in the northern rangelands and (ii) locally managed marine areas, such as those that have been established by the Beach Management Units of the Shimoni-Vanga seascape. SGP will upscale its work of GEF 6, by further enhancing the capacity of indigenous people and local communities for improved conservation within their ICCAs.

#### *Land Degradation and linkage to the Land Degradation Neutrality (LDN) targets*

Recent studies extrapolating on local findings of spatial and temporal patterns of land degradation in Kenya estimate it is increasing in severity and extent in many areas and that over 20 per cent of all cultivated areas, 30 per cent of forests, and 10 per cent of grasslands are subject to degradation.<sup>[2]</sup> Soil erosion risk mapping revealed that almost all the counties in Kenya are at risk from one form of land degradation or other. The problem is serious because high land degradation is likely to occur on about 61.4% the total area of Kenya, while very high degradation affects 27.2% of the land. Land degradation affects especially the ASALs, where the soils are highly erodible and combined with high intensity storms, creates conditions for excessive runoff and soil erosion<sup>[3]</sup>. The impacts of land degradation and desertification include a reduction in crop and pasture productivity and fuelwood and non-timber forest products, which are closely linked to poverty and food insecurity. The damage to soil, loss of habitat, water shortages, and siltation reduce biodiversity and ecosystem services and have economic consequences.

In an effort to arrest the high levels of land degradation experienced in most parts of the country, and as a committed member state of the Convention to Combat Desertification, the Kenya government has drafted its voluntary land degradation neutrality (LDN) targets. The LDN report is still in draft form, and is currently not available for public review.

LDN is an important UNCCD concept defined as “a state whereby the amount and quality of land resources necessary to support ecosystem function and services and enhance food security remain stable or increase within specified temporal and spatial scales and ecosystems.” With the GEF funds available for addressing land degradation, SGP will align its sustainable land management activities with the national, voluntary LDN targets.

The GEF has allocated funding for a LD Impact Program that will be implemented by IUCN under the theme of Food Systems, Land Use and Restoration. This project will be in the southern counties of Kajiado and Narok, which is a different part of the country from which SGP intends to implement GEF 7 activities. SGP will be in the northern parts of the country. However, both areas have several similarities; they are semi-arid, the ecosystems are similar and the livelihoods of the local populations are also alike. This creates an opportunity for cross-learning and information exchange.

The SGP Kenya Upgrading Country Programme (UCP) will focus in GEF 7 on support to community-driven planning and management of critical selected landscapes aimed at achieving global environmental and local sustainable development benefits. Community organizations will enhance their adaptive management capacities, cultivate resilience by strengthening their capacities for innovation across the landscape and throughout the local economy, and privilege no-regrets actions and initiatives. The SGP UCP will support community organizations in the most vulnerable and least developed areas of Kenya to take collective action through a participatory landscape planning and management approach aimed at enhancing socio-ecological resilience from innovative livelihoods producing local and global environmental benefits.

The SGP UCP aims to address challenges to biodiversity loss and land degradation through strengthened community structures and institutions that lead to enhanced landscape governance for resilience and global environmental benefits. The programme focuses on food and livelihood security of the local community by promoting agro-ecological practices and cropping systems, participatory land use planning and forest conservation-based livelihoods of the local communities.

The Kenya SGP UCP in GEF 7 is aligned with the Biodiversity Focal Area Strategy as it engages communities in landscape strategies that “mainstream biodiversity across sectors as well as landscapes and seascapes” and addresses the “direct drivers to protect habitats and species”. The SGP Country Programme will also work with community organizations to “enhance on-the-ground implementation of SLM.”

### ***1) Incremental cost reasoning and expected contributions from the baseline, the GEFTF and co-financing***

In the three selected land/seascapes – the World Heritage Site of the Lakes System in the Great Rift Valley, the marine ecosystem of Southern Kenya in Kwale County, and the semi-arid rangelands of northern Kenya, global environmental degradation would proceed unimpeded without the GEF support of the Small Grants Programme. This is because of the weaknesses in organizational capacities of communities and community organizations to collectively take action in building and maintaining the resilience of these socio-ecological landscapes. Current institutional support to counteract biodiversity loss and land degradation is significantly weak, and where policies are appropriately targeted e.g. Community Managed Areas, financial support is unforthcoming and technical assistance is erratic and not holistically oriented (involving an integrated approach to social, economic and ecological factors).

Biodiversity conservation and sustainable land and resource management are integral building blocks of resilience. Rural communities draw on their experience and inherent resilience to mitigate and adapt to climate change, as they recognize the crucial importance of protecting natural resources and ecosystems that provide sustenance, however, with diminishing resources and without external support this remains an enormous challenge. Land/seascape resilience also requires strong civil society organizations and networks with the resources, commitment and capacities to carry out continuous, long-term processes of innovation and adaptive management. For these community actions to achieve sufficient scale to impact socio-ecological resilience in a meaningful way they must be adopted and implemented by communities across the landscape.

In the absence of GEF support towards SGP, the local communities would not have the requisite capacity to address the barriers listed in the section above, and attainment of Global Environmental Benefits would be significantly hampered.

GEF incremental funding and co-financing will be applied to overcome the barriers and further strengthen the positive experiences under the components mentioned above and to add value, where appropriate and possible, to existing initiatives by the government, the private sector or CSOs in the identified landscapes in the three priority biogeographic regions; the the Lake System in the Great Rift Valley, the rangelands of northern Kenya, and the marine ecosystem of southern Kenya. The target landscapes will be further specified, studied and analyzed during project preparation.

GEF incremental funding and co-financing will contribute to the long-term solution of adaptive management of the targeted landscapes in Kenya for social, economic and ecological resilience, human well-being, and strengthening of community agency. GEF funding will provide small grants to NGOs and Community-Based Organizations to develop sustainable landscape management strategies and implement community projects in pursuit of strategic landscape level outcomes related to biodiversity conservation and climate change adaptation. Funding will also be available for initiatives that build the organizational capacities of specific community groups as well as landscape level organizations to plan and manage complex initiatives and test, evaluate and disseminate community level innovations. Resources will also be made available through the SGP strategic grant modality to upscale proven technologies, systems or practices based on knowledge from analysis of community innovations from experience gained during previous phases of the SGP Kenya Country Programme.

Networking and convergence are identified as effective tools where Government and private agencies join hands with other partners for further replication and upscaling of the innovations piloted through SGP. Formal multi-stakeholder groups will be consolidated in each landscape that will incorporate local government, CBOs, NGOs, the private sector and other relevant actors. These partnerships will provide technical assistance, strategic guidance and financial support, where possible, to community-based organizations for individual community initiatives, as well as landscape level projects and strategic upgrading projects. Formal partnership agreements will be agreed and signed with communities as projects are identified and aligned with landscape level outcomes.

The financing arrangements for this project include grants from local organizations, and grants and in-kind contributions from governments and other agencies.

## **5) Global environmental benefits (GEFTF)**

Global environmental benefits (GEB) generated by the Kenya SGP Country Programme as a result of the project proposed here can be estimated over the short term as a result of potential aggregated impacts from future individual grant projects. However, overall benefits sustained over the longer term will be a function of the synergies created between projects through programmatic approaches such as the land/seascape management approach proposed here. Under this approach, community groups, local authorities and NGOs will form multistakeholder partnerships and develop and implement landscape resilience

strategies based on outcomes linked to biodiversity conservation and ecosystem services, sustainable land management, climate change mitigation, and water resource management, all of which are shaped and defined by their relation to local priorities for food security, income generation and the development of social capital for the global environment and socio-ecological resilience. These landscape strategies will define the types and numbers of community projects required to meet the selected outcomes; at that point, once the strategies have been developed by the communities in each landscape, a more credible, detailed accounting of potential global environmental benefits will be possible. At the same time, the project's multistakeholder partnerships will explicitly develop strategic projects (defined by SGP as up to USD 150,000) to upscale successful SGP-supported technologies, practices or systems identified from previous phases of the SGP Kenya Country Programme. Prospective GEB from these initiatives will be more precisely defined during project preparation and the initial stages of implementation.

The Kenya SGP Country Programme will focus on the specific strategy of assisting communities to manage their land/seascapes adaptively to enhance socio-ecological resilience. This line of work is expected to result in landscapes under adaptive management for global environmental benefits and local sustainable development. A reasonably precise measure of the areas (in hectares) to be brought under adaptive management for global environmental benefits will be made as a part of project preparation. Greater food security and/or generation of employment and income for resource-dependent communities from sustainable management of ecosystem processes and marketing of biodiversity and other resources will provide the primary economic incentive to these communities, individually and collectively, to conserve biodiversity and optimize ecosystem services. Community organizations will build their capacities to plan and manage resources adaptively and in synergy with each other, thus contributing to the sustainability of biodiversity conservation, land management and climate mitigation and adaptation. The knowledge obtained from analysis of project experiences and lessons learned will be socialized through SGP's well-established national network of stakeholders – from NGOs, academia, government, private sector, media and the international development community - and used in upscaling successful initiatives. Multistakeholder landscape level “policy and innovation platforms” will be established to analyze lessons learned from project and programme performance and identify and discuss potential policy applications with local policy makers and national/subnational policy advisors

*The Kenya SGP Upgraded Country Programme will also contribute concretely to the Aichi targets as follows:*

- Target 1 - By 2020, at the latest, people are aware of the values of biodiversity and the steps they can take to conserve and use it sustainably.
- Target 4 - By 2020, at the latest, Governments, business and stakeholders at all levels have taken steps to achieve or have implemented plans for sustainable production and consumption and have kept the impacts of use of natural resources well within safe ecological limits.
- Target 7 - By 2020 areas under agriculture, aquaculture and forestry are managed sustainably, ensuring conservation of biodiversity.
- Target 18 - By 2020, the traditional knowledge, innovations and practices of indigenous and local communities relevant for the conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity, and their customary use of biological resources, are respected, subject to national legislation and relevant international obligations, and fully integrated and reflected in the implementation of the Convention with the full and effective participation of indigenous and local communities, at all relevant levels.

- Target 20 - By 2020, at the latest, the mobilization of financial resources for effectively implementing the Strategic Plan 2011-2020 from all sources and in accordance with the consolidated and agreed process in the Strategy for Resource Mobilization should increase substantially from the current levels. This target will be subject to changes contingent on resources needs assessments to be developed and reported by Parties.

## 6) *Innovation, sustainability and potential for scaling up.*

*Innovation* – The SGP Kenya Country Programme in OP7 proposes to deepen participatory, multistakeholder, landscape planning and management in the selected landscapes with the aim of enhancing social and ecological resilience through community-based, community-driven projects to conserve biodiversity, optimize ecosystem services, and manage land – particularly agro-ecosystems – and water sustainably (with potential carbon sequestration benefits). This adaptive landscape planning and management process continues to be innovative in the context of the three rural land/seascapes given that the participants become more and more familiar with global environmental issues, landscape management and socio-ecological resilience. This process is adaptive in that it incorporates new information, experience and lessons but also evolves together with the organizational capacities of communities in the landscapes. Given the systemic complexity of the socio-ecological environment in these landscapes, stakeholders continue to strengthen their abilities to analyze trends in land and resource use as well as their consequences, to plan strategically at landscape level but also at community level and to adapt through learning-by-doing to new circumstances, information and resources. This project will particularly continue to support innovation in developing and applying practical solutions to issues of gender equality in terms of access to resources and project benefits.

SGP Kenya will foster the adoption and application of a landscape approach in each of the three ecologically sensitive areas in which it proposes to implement the project; that is the Kenya Lake System of the Great Rift, the rangelands of northern Kenya and the marine ecosystem of southern Kenya. With the experience gained from having implemented the COMPACT Initiative<sup>[4]</sup> around the Mt. Kenya World Heritage site for slightly over a decade, plus the knowledge and experience gained from landscape initiatives in other SGP countries<sup>[5]</sup>, this project will promote a participatory, multistakeholder process that will facilitate joint planning, implementation and management of activities. From the very onset of the planning process, communities will be invited to participate, so as to build ownership and a deeper understanding of and commitment to the desired outcomes. Coordinated community projects in the landscape will generate ecological, economic and social synergies that will produce greater and potentially longer-lasting global environmental benefits. The capacities of community organizations will be strengthened through a learning-by-doing approach in which the project is a vehicle for innovation and acquiring practical knowledge and organizational skills in a longer-term adaptive management process

*Sustainability* – the Kenyan Constitution, revised in 2010, set the stage for the current process to begin of devolution of key government responsibilities and functions to the county level. Institutional structures are being put in place to facilitate the operationalization of a two-tier devolved governance system. During implementation of this project in GEF 7, SGP Kenya will seek to establish strong partnerships with county governments, who understand the value of maintaining and enhancing landscape resilience through biodiversity and ecosystem conservation, sustainable land management and climate mitigation/adaptation, and who are willing to invest in the implementation of the project at the landscape level because the outputs and outcomes will contribute towards realizing the development and environmental objectives of the County. It is envisioned that such a partnership forged with a County government will contribute towards the sustainability and up-scaling objectives of the GEF SGP in Kenya.

At the same time, the sustainability of landscape management processes and community initiatives is predicated on the principle – based on SGP experience – that global environmental benefits can be produced and maintained through community-based sustainable development projects. Previous phases of the SGP Kenya Country Programme have identified and promoted clear win-win opportunities with community initiatives and clusters of initiatives in areas such as marine conservation with a focus on mangrove conservation and establishment of community-managed marine areas, improved sustainable land management practices, sustainable forest management and non-timber forest products, fuel efficient stoves, renewable energy technologies, including biodigestors and solar energy applications and others. Sustainability of landscape planning and management processes will be enhanced through the formation of multistakeholder partnerships, involving local government, national agencies and institutions, NGOs, the private sector and others at the landscape and community levels and the adoption of multistakeholder partnership agreements to pursue specific landscape level outcomes. NGOs with proven capacities will be called upon to support community projects and landscape planning processes, and technical assistance will be engaged through government, NGOs, universities, academic institutes and other institutions.

*Potential for scaling up* - successful interventions under each thematic area can be replicated/upscaled in other landscapes and biogeographic regions of the country facing similar issues of development and environmental protection and management. Through improved financial capacities, grantees may ensure progressive innovation and broader adoption. Resources will be made available through the SGP strategic project grant modality to finance key elements of the upscaling initiatives to reduce the risk to other donors and investors. Multi-stakeholder partnerships will identify potential upscaling opportunities, analyze and plan upscaling processes, engage established microcredit and revolving fund mechanisms to finance upscaling components, design and implement the upscaling programme, and evaluate its performance and impacts for lessons learned for adaptive management, policy discussion and potential extension of the model to other areas of the country. Identification of specific potential upscaling initiatives will take place during project preparation.

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[1] Reed J., Deakin L. and Sunderland T. What are 'Integrated Landscape Approaches' and how effectively have they been implemented in the tropics: a systematic map protocol. *Environmental Evidence: The official journal of the Collaboration for Environmental Evidence*, 2015.

[2] Muchena, F. N. (2008). "Indicators for Sustainable Land Management in Kenya's Context". GEF Land Degradation Focal Area Indicators, ETC-East Africa. Nairobi, Kenya

[3] Report of the Land Degradation Assessment in Kenya, Ministry of Environment and Natural Resources, March 2016

| COMPACT (*Community Management of Protected Areas Conservation*) is an initiative that was designed to complement and add value to existing conservation programmes, by supporting community-based initiatives that increase effectiveness of biodiversity conservation and improve livelihoods of local people. See, for example, [whc.unesco.org/document/134265](http://whc.unesco.org/document/134265) *Engaging Local Communities in Stewardship of World Heritage: a methodology based on the COMPACT experience*.

| For example, SGP implements the Japan-financed COMDEKS initiative in 20 countries around the world; it focuses on community-based landscape planning and management for socio-ecological resilience. For more information, please see <https://comdeksproject.files.wordpress.com/2014/10/communities-in-action-comdeks-web-v2.pdf>.

**1b. Project Map and Coordinates**

Please provide geo-referenced information and map where the project interventions will take place.

1b. *Project Map and Coordinates.* Please see Annex A for maps of the three project landscapes, as well as textual coordinates, below.

**1) Samburu-Isiolo Conservation Area (SICA)**

The Samburu-Isiolo conservation area (SICA) is comprised of 3 separate national reserves (Samburu, Shaba and buffalo Springs) in the northern rangelands that are in close proximity to each other. The coordinates of each of the reserves are as follows:

Buffalo springs national reserve

0.6401° N, 37.8300° E

0°31'17"N 37°37'03"E / 0.521479°N 37.61737°E

Samburu national reserve

0.5775° N, 37.4916° E

0°36'44.84" N 37°31'55.68" E

Shaba national reserve

0.6401° N, 37.8300° E

0°38'24"N 37°49'48"E / 0.640037°N 37.830005°E

**2) Lake Bogoria national reserve**

Lake Bogoria is one of the rift valley lakes that is enlisted as a world Heritage site as well as a Ramsar site and an IBA. Its coordinates are as follows:

0° 14' 25.1700' N and 36° 6' 21.1716' E

**3) Shimoni-Vanga Seascape**

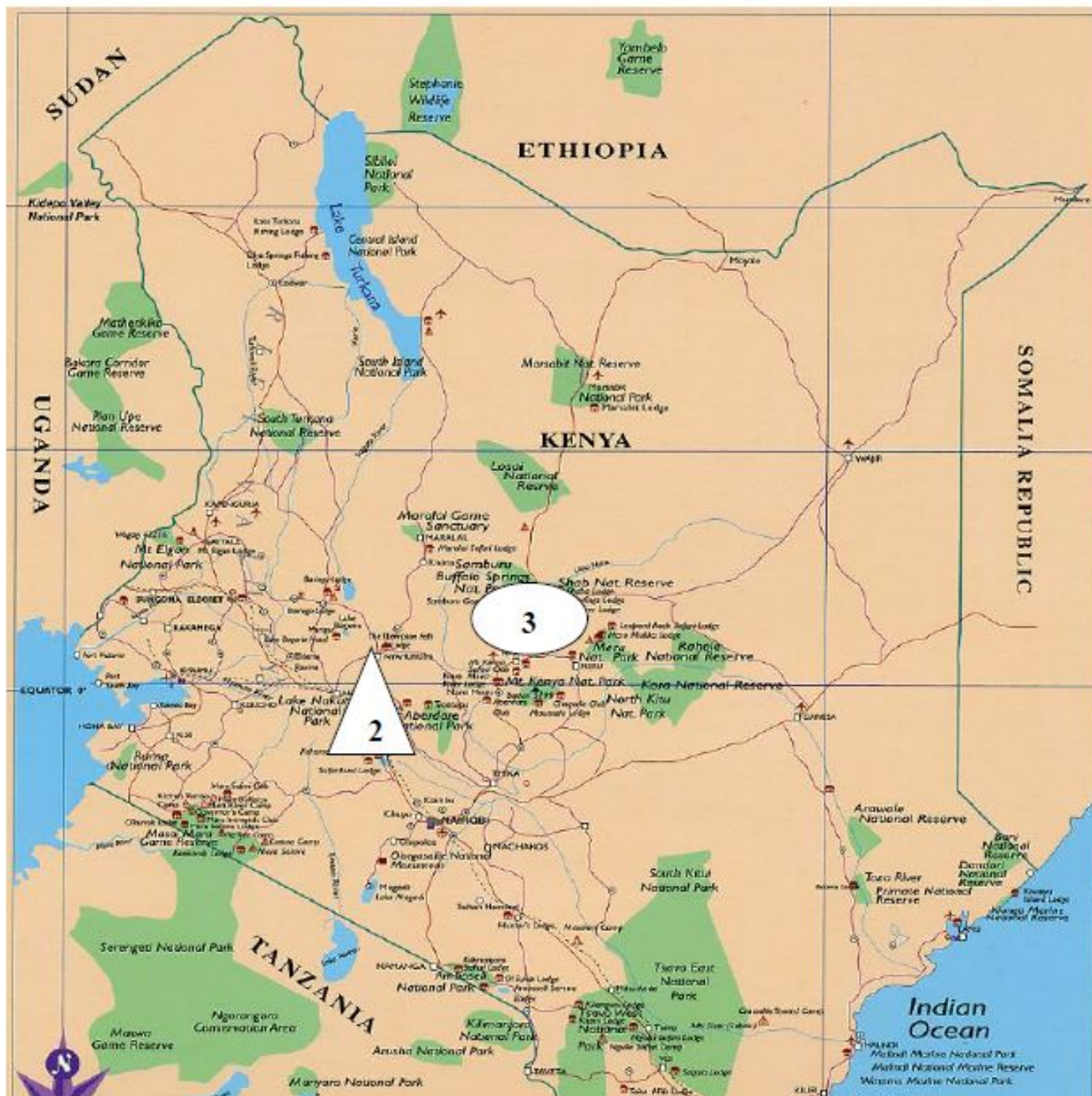
The most northern town of the seascape is Shimoni and the most southern town is Vanga. The coordinates of the 2 towns are below.

Shimoni - 4.6472° S, 39.3804° E

Vanga - 4.6607° S, 39.2194° E



## PROGRAM/PROJECT MAP







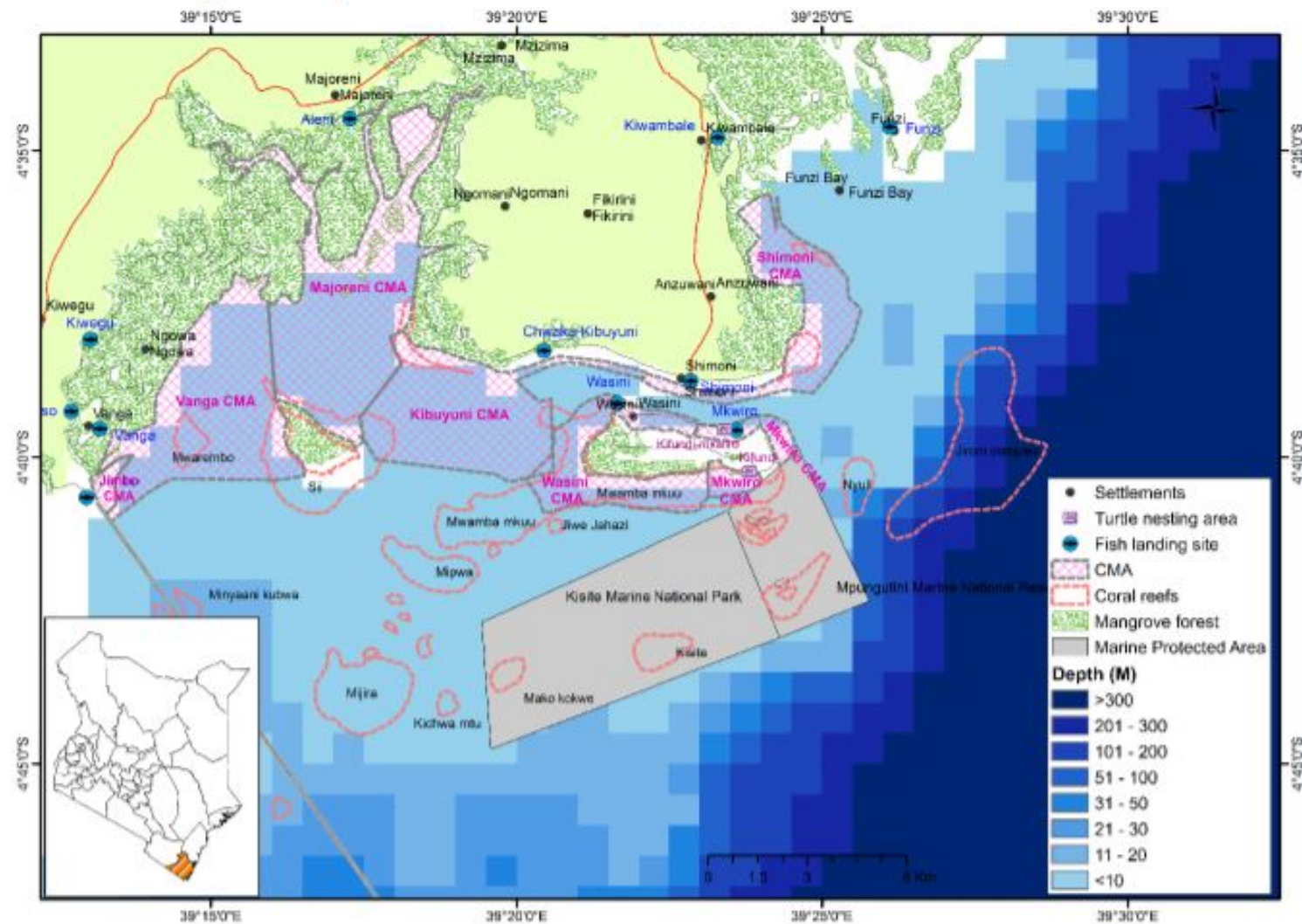
### Key

1 - Shimoni-Vanga Production Seascape

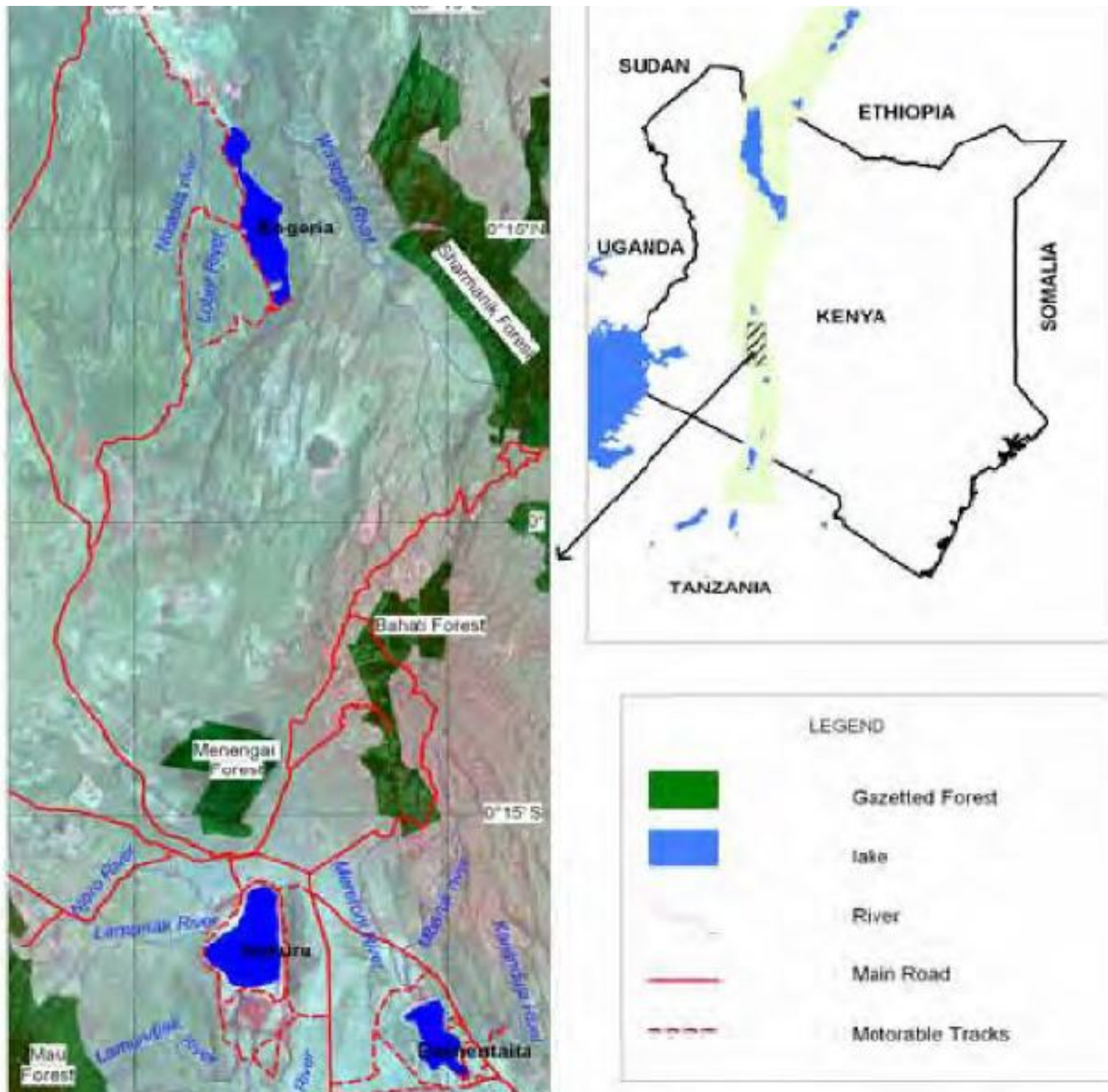
2 - Great Rift Valley Lake System;

3 - Samburu-Isiolo Conservation Area - SICA (Samburu-Buffalo Springs and Shaba National Reserves)

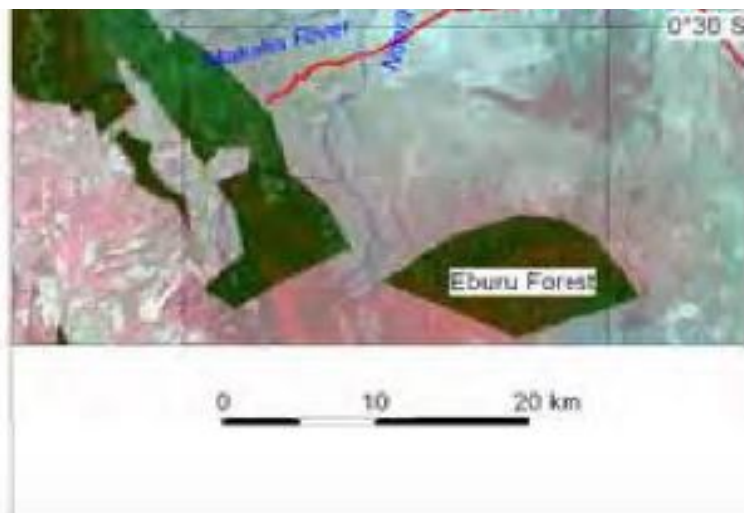
## Shimoni-Vanga seascape



## Kenya Great Rift Lake System





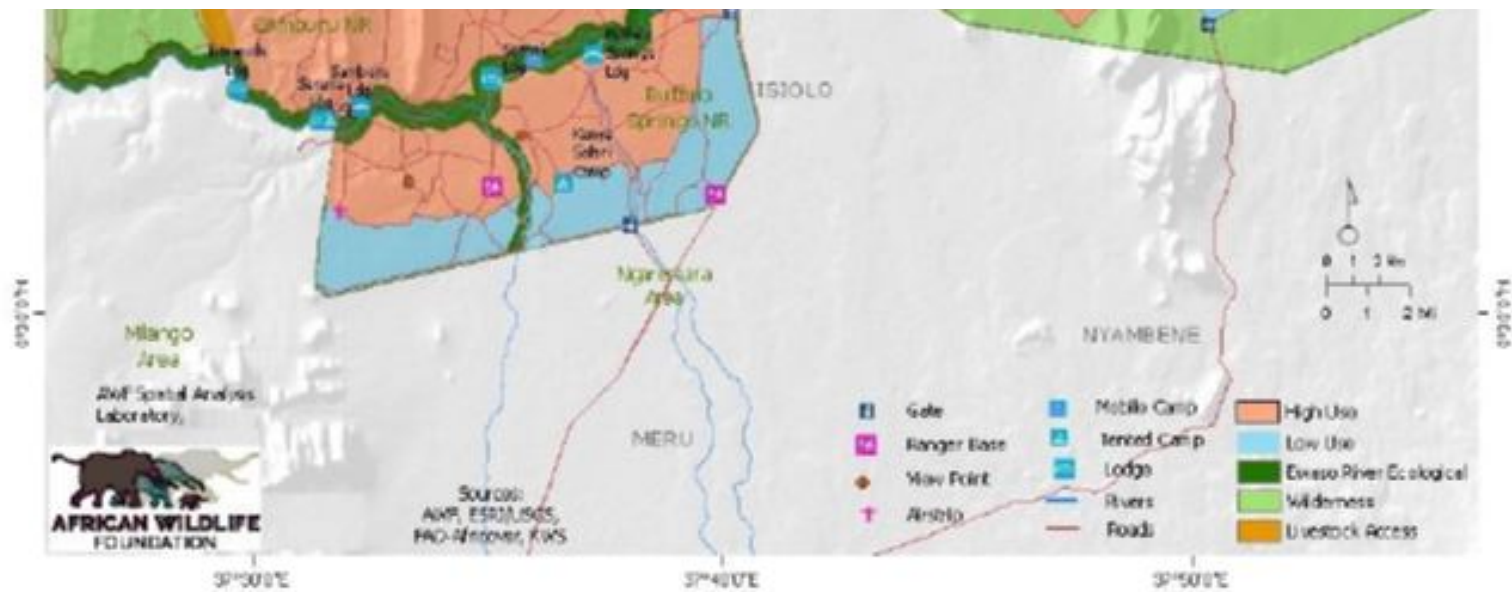


Coordinate system: Geographical  
Datum: Arc 1960

Map by: Dennis Milewa (NMK)  
Peter Hongo (KWS)

## Samburu-Isiolo Conservation Area (SICA)





## 2. Stakeholders

Select the stakeholders that have participated in consultations during the project identification phase:

Indigenous Peoples and Local Communities Yes

Civil Society Organizations Yes

Private Sector Entities Yes

If none of the above, please explain why:

In addition, provide indicative information on how stakeholders, including civil society and indigenous peoples, will be engaged in the project preparation, and their respective roles and means of engagement.

The primary stakeholders of the Kenya SGP Country Programme are the community-based organizations and local communities who will receive grants to produce benefits to local sustainable development and the global environment. Women, minority groups and youth will be especially invited to participate in the landscape planning and management processes as well as to submit project proposals for specific initiatives.

NGOs, whose work has been to support CBOs and communities in pursuing local sustainable development, are also important stakeholders. These will include those NGOs who have the interest and capacities to provide key support services to community-based projects, including technical assistance and capacity development. These NGOs will be identified during the process of project formulation and implementation to initiate with approval of this proposal.

Key stakeholders and their indicative responsibilities for the implementation of the proposed project are outlined as follows:

**Community organizations:** Principal participants in landscape planning exercises; partners in the multistakeholder partnerships for each landscape; signatories to community level partnership agreements; implementing agents of community and landscape level projects. The project will pay special attention to organizations run by and for women, minority groups, indigenous peoples, persons with disabilities and youth. Examples of the kinds of community groups that would implement projects are; Water River Users Associations (WRUAs), Community Forest Associations (CFAs), and Beach Management Units (BMUs) all of which are gazetted in the Water Act, the Forest Act and the Fisheries Act respectively, as community associations for co-management of natural resources.

**SGP National Steering Committee:** Functions as Project Steering Committee; reviews and approves land/seascape strategies; advises regarding multistakeholder partnership composition and TORs; approves criteria for project eligibility for each land/seascape based on proposals by multistakeholder partnership and SGP Operational Guidelines; reviews and approves projects submitted by SGP Country Programme Manager.

**SGP Country Programme Manager (National Coordinator), and team:** Responsible for the overall implementation and operations of the SGP Kenya Country Programme, acting as secretary to the National Steering Committee, mobilizing cofinancing, organizing strategic partnerships with government and non-governmental organizations, and in general for managing the successful achievement of Country Programme Objectives as described in the Project Document.

**NGOs:** Lead and facilitate participatory baseline assessments and landscape planning processes, as requested; partners in multistakeholder partnerships for each land/seascape; signatories to community level partnership agreements; provide technical assistance to community organizations for implementation of their projects; potential participant on policy and innovation platforms.

**Local governments:** Participate in baseline assessments and landscape planning processes; partners in multistakeholder partnerships for each land/seascape; primary participant on policy and innovation platforms. In each of the Counties in which the project will be operational, partnership will be established/strengthened with the relevant County Executive Committees (CECs) to facilitate leveraging of funds, linkages with county development plans and promote scale-up/replication of community projects.

**National agencies:** Partners in multistakeholder partnerships for each land/seascape; as relevant or appropriate, provide technical assistance to community organizations for implementation of their projects; primary participants on landscape policy and innovation platforms. All national agencies with mandates to develop natural resource-based activities, and those with conservation and regulatory functions will be consulted to provide policy inputs, technical assistance and implementation support. Examples include the Kenya Wildlife Service, the State Department of Fisheries, the Kenya Forest Service, and the Ministry of Agriculture.

**Private sector:** Partners in multistakeholder partnerships for each landscape; signatories to community level partnership agreements, as appropriate; potential participant on policy and innovation platforms.

**Academic institutions:** Assist in participatory baseline assessments and landscape planning processes; partners in multistakeholder partnerships for each landscape; provide technical assistance to community organizations for implementation of their projects; potential participants on policy and innovation platforms.

### 3. Gender Equality and Women's Empowerment

**Briefly include below any gender dimensions relevant to the project, and any plans to address gender in project design (e.g. gender analysis).**

Although the Kenya Constitution is said to be one of the most progressive constitutions that has an expansive Bill of Rights as one of its critical features (as well as a set of national values and principles of governance), the Global Gender Gap Report 2017 ranks Kenya 76 out of 144 globally with significant inequalities between males and females in education attainment, health outcomes, representation in parliament and participation in the labour market. In most parts of the country, including the three selected land/seascapes, changes to societal attitudes and cultural beliefs around gender roles, norms and female empowerment at the community and household levels have been slow especially due to systemic gender barriers fueled by deeply held and persistent stereotypes. Limited access to land and credit constrains the full participation of women in the economy, particularly as producers and business owners.

Despite the introduction of the gender equality requirements into property and inheritance laws, there is still a significant gender gap in access to land. For instance, while over 80% of Kenyan women are engaged in small holder farming, only 1% own land in their own right, access less than 10% of available credit, and less than 1% of agriculture credit. Traditional practices governing inheritance, acquisition of land and benefits accruing to land produce continue to favour men.

Female poverty in the country is exacerbated by gender-based violence and the fact that women are disproportionately affected by HIV/Aids. Women's empowerment is hindered by polygamy, early marriage and other harmful cultural practices and their ability to access the justice system is limited by legal costs, traditional justice systems, illiteracy and ignorance of rights.

Gender will be considered throughout this project's design and implementation. SGP has been pioneering and highly recognized for mainstreaming gender equality and women's empowerment in every step of the program cycle. A gender focal point is designated within the SGP National Steering Committee to ensure review of gender considerations in the review and selection of each project. The project will prioritize work with women's groups, particularly livelihood groups and public health volunteer groups. The Country Programme team, as part of project preparation, will undertake a gender analysis and gender action plan, and formulate a specific strategy to engage women/girls groups as primary actors in landscape/seascape management.

During project preparation, consultations with community groups and NGOs during landscape strategy formulation will take place in ways that ensure women's comfortable participation, depending on their preference for mixed or separate groups.

The Country Programme team will work with the gender focal point on the National Steering Committee to identify potential project ideas for initial discussions with women's and girls' groups. CSOs that have relevant experience will be engaged to support women's/girls' groups in defining grant project objectives and designing grant project activities. Women's/girls' groups will evaluate their projects' performance to identify lessons and knowledge for adaptive management as well as gender specific policy recommendations.

Once a gender analysis is conducted and a gender action plan developed, some of the measures that will be considered to counter the situation described above, include:

- Women's representation in decision-making bodies: SGP will strive for maximum representation and participation of women in the multi-stakeholder platforms to be established for each land/seascape and in any governing structure related to project implementation.



- Ensuring that private sector partners engaged in SGP-supported activities understand and are committed to helping address gender inequalities and meet the needs of women: This is relevant to all types of activities but is particularly important to energy related activities given private sector involvement in most energy grants.
- Taking affirmative action when calling for grant proposals: Achieving some of the project logframe targets require the Country Program Team to proactively reach out to women's groups and organizations in each of the geographic areas.
- Reflecting project experiences and results related to gender equality and women's empowerment in knowledge management activities and products.

**Does the project expect to include any gender-responsive measures to address gender gaps or promote gender equality and women empowerment? Yes**

**closing gender gaps in access to and control over natural resources; Yes**

**improving women's participation and decision-making; and/or Yes**

**generating socio-economic benefits or services for women. Yes**

**Will the project's results framework or logical framework include gender-sensitive indicators?**

Yes

#### 4. Private sector engagement

Will there be private sector engagement in the project?

Yes

Please briefly explain the rationale behind your answer.

Private sector engagement is a clearly envisioned output in the area of supporting biodiversity friendly and sustainable livelihoods. The need to support communities in realizing the economic benefits of sustainably managing ecosystems is acknowledged. Efforts will be made to identify promising eco-enterprises and to build on existing community economic activities which will be enhanced by the forging/strengthening of partnerships with the private sector. Helping establish partnerships between local community entrepreneurs and the private sector will help transfer business skills that cannot be acquired through short-term training. NGOs do not usually possess the type of skills and competencies required for successful businesses, but they can be useful brokers in building the relationship between communities and business groups. Two examples of the role of private sector include: in the Lake Bogoria landscape, SGP and the strategic partner facilitated the development of a partnership between bee-keeping farmers and a private company that has set up a honey processing plant that will purchase honey from farmers at an agreed price, and process and package the honey. Another entity will market the honey. Given that honey production is a wide-spread activity within the county and in the northern rangelands in general, this activity will be upscaled and the role of the private sector firmly embedded.

Communities in the Samburu-Isiolo Conservation area production landscape have traditionally made and worn jewellery and belts from beads. This is primarily the work of women. It is anticipated that in GEF 7, women's groups will receive training to improve the quality of the beadwork and in addition, forge a partnership with a private company that can market and sell the products through various outlets.

## 5. Risks

Indicate risks, including climate change, potential social and environmental risks that might prevent the Project objectives from being achieved, and, if possible, propose measures that address these risks to be further developed during the Project design (table format acceptable)

<i>Risk Description</i>	<i>Impact and Probability (1-5)</i>	<i>Significance (Low, Moderate, High)</i>	<i>Comments</i>	<i>Description of assessment and management measures as reflected in the Project design.</i>
Risk 1: Project activities are proposed within or adjacent to critical habitats and/or environmentally sensitive areas, including legally protected areas (e.g. nature reserve, national park)	I = 1 P = 5	Low	Some of the project interventions will purposefully be carried out to strengthen the buffer zones of PAs.	The project purposefully targets vulnerable areas and threats around PAs in order to ensure improved resilience. The measures to avoid this becoming a risk is that specific ecosystem challenges have been identified and will be targeted by SGP projects. Resilience indicators are incorporated in the results framework to ensure that SGP projects build resilience in implementation sites
Risk 2: The project will include afforestation, reforestation	I = 1 P = 5	Low	Some project initiatives include planting of agro-forestry, fruit trees, or native species for various uses	The proposed afforestation is relatively small and is designed to increase food security, build resilience, and potentially support alternative uses for wastewater. Trainings will be provided by and to local community groups for sustainable management.
Risk 3: Elements of project could potentially provide safety risks to local communities	I = 1 P = 1	Low	Project interventions may include agricultural, forestry and animal waste management and associated training	The project proposes to mitigate mismanagement of waste by providing adequate training, equipment and support for the purposes of decreasing any potential risk, harm and environmental degradation.
Risk 4: Women's groups/leaders may raise gender equality concerns regarding the Project during the stakeholder engagement process	I = 3 P = 1	Low	No proposals are accepted or approved without thorough review by the NC and NSC of the quality of consultations and participation of proponent organizations and communities.	A full Gender Analysis and Action Plan will be produced during project preparation.
	I = 4 P = 1	Moderate	Moderate risk due to potential effects on IP rights, lands, territories and traditional livelihoods  No proposals are accepted	In depth consultations with IPs will be carried out as they develop their proposals and prepare their projects. All project proposals are subject to review and approval by the National

<p>Risk 5: IPs may not be sufficiently consulted on or involved in activities that impact their lands, territories and/or culture</p>			<p>no proposals are accepted or approved without thorough review by the NC and NSC of consultations and participation of proponent organizations and communities.</p>	<p>and approval by the Steering Committee and technical experts. Potential social impacts of projects are assessed by the National Coordinator and the NSC as part of proposal development, and actions to mitigate risk are incorporated into each proposal prior to approval. A comprehensive Stakeholder Engagement Plan will be prepared for the full project.</p>
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## 6. Coordination

**Outline the institutional structure of the project including monitoring and evaluation coordination at the project level. Describe possible coordination with other relevant GEF-financed projects and other initiatives.**

### *Management, monitoring and evaluation*

The National Steering Committee (NSC), comprised of government and non-government organizations with a non-government majority, a UNDP representative, and individuals with expertise in the GEF Focal Areas, is responsible for determining the overall strategy of the SGP in the country as well as for grant evaluation, selection and approval. The NSC also contributes to bridging community-level experiences with national policy-making. The SGP Operational Guidelines guide overall project implementation in Kenya consistent with past best practice. The UNDP Resident Representative appoints the National Steering Committee (NSC) members.

The SGP Country Program team, comprised of a Country Program Manager (National Coordinator) and a Program Assistant, is responsible for the day-to-day operations of the program. UNDP will provide overall program oversight and take responsibility for standard GEF project cycle management services beyond assistance and oversight of project design and negotiation, including project monitoring, periodic evaluations, troubleshooting, and reporting to the GEF.

The SGP Upgraded Country Programme portfolio is managed by a UNDP-GEF Global Coordinator, who provides oversight by supporting and monitoring implementation and promoting the sharing of lessons learned and best practice among UCPs and between UCPs and the Global Programme. SGP's Central Program Management Team (CPMT) will monitor this Country Program project for its compliance with core policies and procedures of the SGP as a GEF Corporate Program.

The UNDP Country Office is responsible for ensuring that the project meets its objective and delivers on its targets. The Resident Representative signs the grant agreements with beneficiary organizations on behalf of UNOPS. It also provides other types of support at the local level, as required. UNDP is represented on the NSC, and actively participates in grant monitoring activities. CBOs and NGOs will submit proposals in response to calls for proposals by the NSC, which will consider and approve the grants in specific thematic and geographic areas relevant to the SGP Kenya strategy. Individual grantee projects are monitored and evaluated through monthly, interim and final reports, in addition to frequent field visits conducted by NSC members, UNDP CO team in addition to the Country Program team.

Project results will be monitored annually and evaluated periodically during project implementation to ensure the project effectively achieves these results. Project-level monitoring and evaluation will be undertaken in compliance with UNDP requirements as outlined in the UNDP POPP and UNDP Evaluation Policy. The UNDP Country Office will ensure UNDP M&E requirements are met in a timely fashion and to high quality standards. Additional mandatory GEF-specific M&E requirements (as outlined below) will be undertaken in accordance with the GEF M&E policy and other relevant GEF policies.<sup>[1]</sup>

In addition to these mandatory UNDP and GEF M&E requirements, other M&E activities deemed necessary to support project-level adaptive management will be agreed during the Project Inception Workshop and will be detailed in the Inception Report. This will include the exact role of project target groups and other stakeholders in project M&E activities, including the GEF Operational Focal Point and others assigned to undertake project monitoring.

***SGP Country Programme Manager:*** The Country Programme Manager (CPM) is responsible for day-to-day project management and regular monitoring of project results and risks, including social and environmental risks. The Country Programme Manager will ensure that all project staff maintain a high level of transparency, responsibility and accountability in M&E and reporting of project results. The CPM will inform the National Steering Committee, the UNDP Country Office and the UNDP-GEF Global Coordinator of any delays or difficulties as they arise during implementation so that appropriate support and corrective measures can be adopted.

The CPM will develop annual work plans based on a multi-year work plan, including annual output targets to support the efficient implementation of the project. The CPM will ensure that the standard UNDPGEF and GEF M&E requirements are fulfilled to the highest quality. This includes, but is not limited to, ensuring the results framework indicators are monitored annually in time for evidence-based reporting in the GEF PIR, and that the monitoring of risks and the various plans/strategies developed to support project implementation (e.g. ESMP, gender action plan, stakeholder engagement plan etc.) occur on a regular basis.

***National Steering Committee:*** The National Steering Committee (NSC) will take corrective action as needed to ensure the project achieves the desired results. The NSC will hold project reviews to assess the performance of the project and appraise the Annual Work Plan for the following year. In the project's final year, the NSC will hold an end-of-project review to capture lessons learned and discuss opportunities for scaling up and to highlight project results and lessons learned with relevant audiences. This final review meeting will also discuss the findings outlined in the project terminal evaluation report and the management response.

***UNOPS, as Project Implementing Partner,*** will provide country programme implementation services, including human resources management, budgeting, accounting, grant disbursement, auditing, and procurement. UNOPS is responsible for SGP's financial management and provides periodic financial reports to UNDP.

***UNDP Country Office:*** The UNDP Country Office will support the Country Programme Manager as needed, including through annual supervision missions. The annual supervision missions will take place according to the schedule outlined in the annual work plan. Supervision mission reports will be circulated to the project team and National Steering Committee within one month of the mission. The UNDP Country Office will initiate and organize key GEF M&E activities including the annual GEF PIR, the independent mid-term review and the independent terminal evaluation. The UNDP Country Office will also ensure that the standard UNDP and GEF M&E requirements are fulfilled to the highest quality.

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*Possible coordination with other relevant GEF-financed projects and other initiatives.*

The SGP since its inception in Kenya has worked collaboratively with both government-financed and donor-funded projects in the country. For GEF 7, SGP will endeavor to collaborate with the following on-going GEF-financed projects:

1. FAO/GEF: *Capacity, Policy and Financial Incentives for PFM in Kisira forest and Integrated Rangelands Management*. The global environmental objective of the project is to strengthen biodiversity conservation and enhance carbon sequestration through participatory sustainable forest management systems in dryland public and communal lands. Its development objective is to improve livelihoods of communities from dryland forest-based products and services. Kisira forest is in Samburu County, one of the counties in which SGP will operate.
2. FAO/GEF: *Restoration of arid and semi-arid lands (ASAL) of Kenya through bio-enterprise development and other incentives under The Restoration Initiative*. The Kenya TRI project adopts an integrated approach to address deforestation, land degradation and biodiversity loss, targeting policy and institutional capacity while supporting community-led forest and landscape restoration (FLR) and the development of alternative livelihoods. The project's overall objective is to restore deforested and degraded lands through the FLR approach and enhance the socio-economic development of local communities through the development of bioenterprises of Non-Timber Forest Products and Services (NTFPS) in ASALs
3. UNEP/GEF: *Enhancing Integrated Natural Resource Management to Arrest and Reverse Current Trends in Biodiversity Loss and Land Degradation for Increased Ecosystem Services in the Tana Delta, Kenya* The objective of this project is to strengthen integrated natural resource management and restoration of degraded landscapes in the Tana Delta, and systemically scale up best practices and lessons learned to other priority landscapes in Kenya.

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[1] See [https://www.thegef.org/gef/policies\\_guidelines](https://www.thegef.org/gef/policies_guidelines)

## 7. Consistency with National Priorities

### Is the Project consistent with the National Strategies and plans or reports and assessments under relevant conventions

Yes

If yes, which ones and how: NAPAs, NAPs, ASGM NAPs, MIAs, NBSAPs, NCs, TNAs, NCSAs, NIPs, PRSPs, NPFE, BURs, INDCs, etc

**The Government of Kenya's Vision 2030** is the country's development blueprint for the period 2008 - 2030. The main goal of the Vision's social pillar is "a just and cohesive society enjoying equitable social development in a clean and secure environment". The Vision states that a clean and secure environment is an essential ingredient to achieve the MDGs and to sustain its economic pillar. The document outlines the importance of the energy sector and the promotion of renewable energy sources. A mid-term goal for environment is to increase forest cover from less than 3% in 2008 to 4%, a recognition that national development is dependent on the maintenance of forest ecosystem services.

The **Strategic Plan 2013 – 2017 of the Ministry of Environment, Water and Natural Resources**, is under review for renewal and validation. However, SGP will contribute towards the following strategic objectives which are likely not too change significantly: (i) enhance conservation and management of forests, wildlife and biodiversity resources for green growth and sustainable development; (ii) enhance management of water resources in a sustainable manner, protect and conserve water and ensure increased water quality and availability for socio-economic development; (iii) create and coordinate partnerships and collaboration for resource mobilization, capacity development and devolvement necessary for sustainable management of environment, water and natural resources.

The **Land Degradation Assessment** in Kenya states that the causes of land degradation in Kenya are both natural and human induced. They include biophysical (natural) factors related to climatic conditions and extreme weather events such as droughts and floods, and catchment factors such as steep slopes and highly erodible soils. However, it is the human activities that pose greatest threat, and these include unsustainable land management practices (anthropogenic) including such factors as destruction of natural vegetation, over-cultivation, overgrazing, poor land husbandry and excessive forest conversion.

The report goes on to outline the following SLM interventions for national scale rehabilitation and/or prevention of degradation, which have been aggregated under three broad categories, i.e. (i) Tree planting and reclamation of catchment areas, (ii) Soil and water conservation on croplands (including agronomic measures), and (iii) Rehabilitation of degraded rangelands<sup>[1]</sup>

In GEF 7, SGP will focus its attention on the rehabilitation of degraded rangelands within the production landscapes of Lake Bogoria national reserve (a rift valley lake enlisted as a World heritage Site) and the Samburu-Isiolo Conservation Area (SICA). The Kenyan Government, in collaboration with key stakeholders, has been developing its voluntary LDN targets over a period of 2 years. ***And although the final report is yet to be made public***, it is assumed that



LDN targets have been identified under the theme of rangelands rehabilitation. SGP will affiliate its SLM strategy with national priorities linked to LDN, and contribute towards the country's achievement of its LDN targets in the following ways:

- Create awareness among local communities about the voluntary LDN targets and establishing platforms for dialogue between county governments and non-state actors to enhance buy-in, and strengthen collaboration among the parties.
- Conduct gender analysis of the LDN initiatives in the selected production landscapes and identify gaps that require to be addressed in order to empower women and reduce gender inequalities.
- Assist small holder farmers and pastoralists to develop proposals and implement projects that are aligned to the LDN strategy and that improve local livelihoods and well-being.
- Develop/adopt a community-based monitoring tool that will guide local communities and their partners in conducting participatory monitoring of their activities, and inculcate adaptive management.

In the biodiversity focal area, the project responds to the *National Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan (NBSAP)* launched in 2000 by the National Environment Secretariat. In the next four years the project will focus on assisting communities to contribute to the first three goals of the NBSAP which are (i) maintaining a high quality environment for sustainable livelihoods for all Kenyans; (ii) guaranteeing inter and intra-generational sustainable use of natural resources; and (iii) maintaining ecological and ecosystem processes. The new National Oceans and Fisheries Policy (2008) and Kenya Wildlife Services' regulations related to marine protected areas provide the framework for SGP's interventions in coastal and marine areas.

**The National Action Program (NAP) - A Framework for Combating Desertification in Kenya in the context of the UNCCD** issued by the National Environment Secretariat in 2002, has been the guiding framework to address land degradation in the country. The NAP priority areas are grouped into three main components: (1) an enabling environment for sustainable land management; (2) sectoral interventions and investments; and (3) cross-sectoral programs. This SGP project will support community-based interventions in all three components of the NAP. The Kenya Policy for Land was adopted by Parliament on 3 December 2009. The vision of the Policy is to "guide the country towards efficient, sustainable and equitable use of land for prosperity and posterity". The Policy establishes land use planning principles which take into account environmental and conservation issues. It also promotes sustainable production principles across all relevant sectors that are essential to food security and the attainment of food self-sufficiency. This new policy provides an up-to-date framework for SGP interventions in the land degradation focal area.

**The draft national wetlands conservation and management policy** recognizes the importance of the variety of wetlands in the provision of goods and services which support agriculture, tourism, industry, biodiversity conservation, and socio-economic and cultural activities. The policy seeks to foster an integrated approach that would promote conservation and sustainable use of wetlands.

SGP will align GEF 6 CC activities with the **National Climate Change Action Plan** launched by the Ministry of Environment and Mineral Resources in 2012. SGP grants in GEF 7 will contribute to removing barriers for the adoption of renewable energy technologies at the community level and in micro and small-scale enterprises as called for by the Response Strategy.

The **20 Aichi biodiversity targets** are categorized into five strategic goals, and in GEF 7, SGP will contribute to each of the goals, by addressing at least one target in each category, as highlighted below:

*Strategic Goal A; Target 1*

- By 2020, at the latest, people are aware of the values of biodiversity and the steps they can take to conserve and use it sustainably.

*Strategic Goal B; Target 5 and Target 6*

- By 2020, the rate of loss of all natural habitats, including forests, is at least halved and where feasible brought close to zero, and degradation and fragmentation is significantly reduced.
- By 2020 all fish and invertebrate stocks and aquatic plants are managed and harvested sustainably, legally and applying ecosystem-based approaches, so that overfishing is avoided, recovery plans are in place for depleted species, and vulnerable ecosystems are within safe ecological limits.

*Strategic Goal C; Target 11*

- By 2020, at least 17% of terrestrial and inland water, and 10% of coastal and marine areas, especially areas of particular importance for biodiversity and ecosystem services, are conserved through effectively and equitably-managed, ecologically representative and well connected systems of protected areas.

*Strategic Goal D; Target 14*

- By 2020, ecosystems that provide essential services, including services related to water and contribute to health, livelihoods and well-being, are restored and safeguarded, taking into account the needs of women, indigenous and local communities, and the poor and vulnerable.

*Strategic Goal E; Target 18*

- By 2020, the traditional knowledge, innovations and practices of indigenous and local communities relevant for the conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity, and their customary use of biological resources, are respected, subject to national legislation and relevant international obligations.

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[1] Report of the Land Degradation Assessment in Kenya, Ministry of Environment and Natural Resources, March 2016

## 8. Knowledge Management

**Outline the Knowledge management approach for the Project, including, if any, plans for the Project to learn from other relevant Projects and initiatives, to assess and document in a user-friendly form, and share these experiences and expertise with relevant stakeholders.**

Knowledge management, including the dissemination of best practices and lessons learned, will remain an important element of the GEF-SGP Kenya Country Programme during its Seventh Operational Phase, and it is the subject of *Output 2.2.1: Case studies and analysis of best practices for adaptive landscape/seascape resilience developed and disseminated to multiple audiences*.

**Part III: Approval/Endorsement By GEF Operational Focal Point(S) And Gef Agency(ies)**

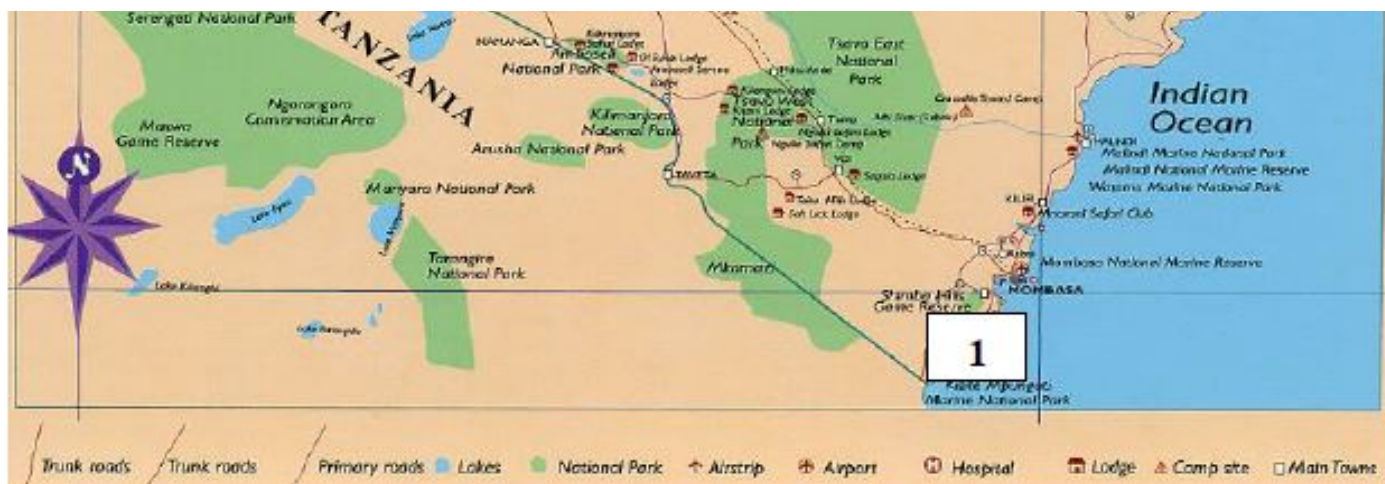
**A. RECORD OF ENDORSEMENT OF GEF OPERATIONAL FOCAL POINT (S) ON BEHALF OF THE GOVERNMENT(S): (Please attach the Operational Focal Point endorsement letter with this template).**

<b>Name</b>	<b>Position</b>	<b>Ministry</b>	<b>Date</b>
Dr.Ibrahim M. Mohamed, CBS	Principal Secretary	MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTY	3/6/2019

**ANNEX A: Project Map and Geographic Coordinates**

Please provide geo-referenced information and map where the project intervention takes place

**Annex A****PROGRAM/PROJECT MAP**



### Key

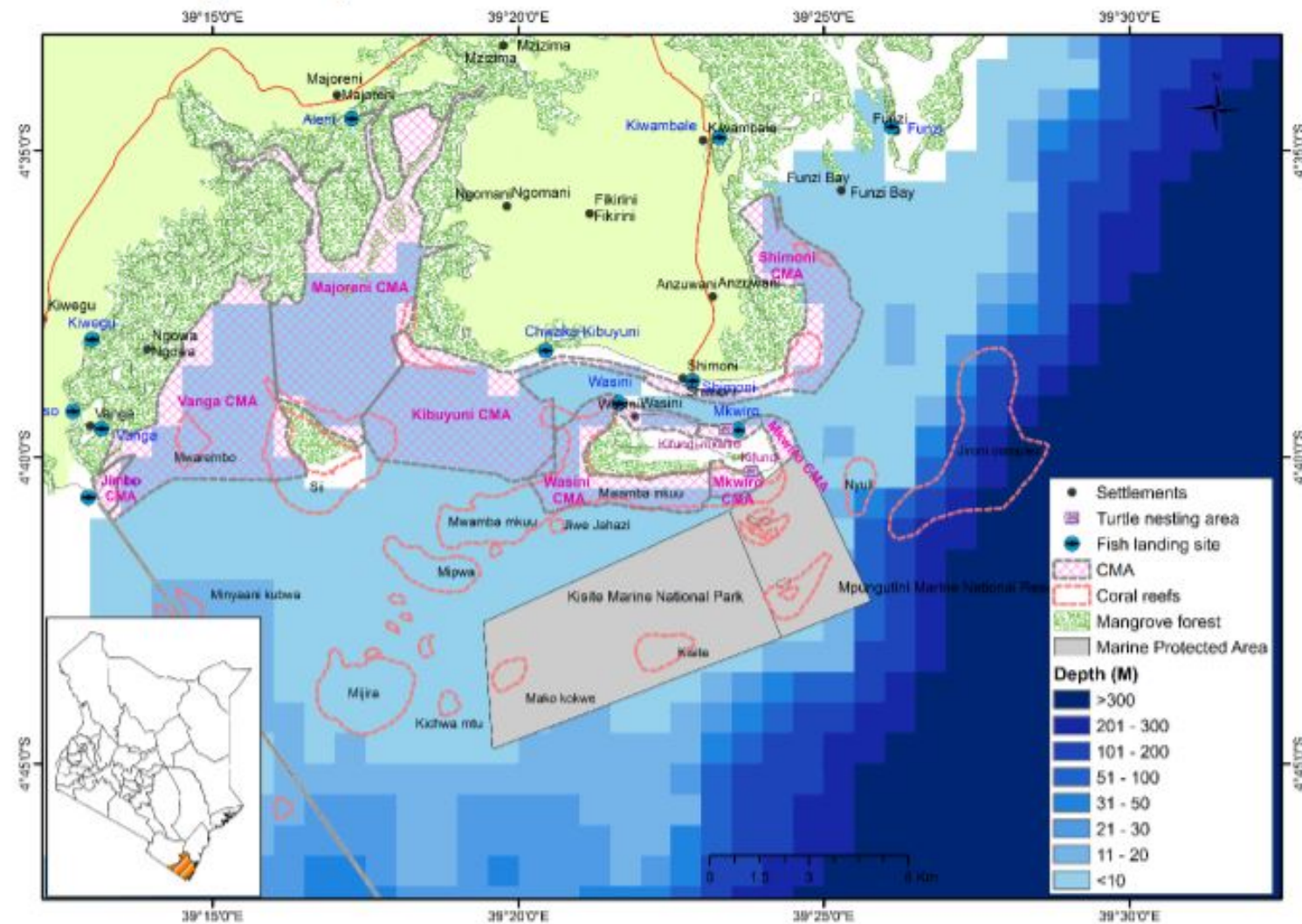
1 - Shimoni-Vanga Production Seascape

2 - Great Rift Valley Lake System;

3 - Samburu-Isiolo Conservation Area - SICA (Samburu-Buffer Springs and Shaba National Reserves)

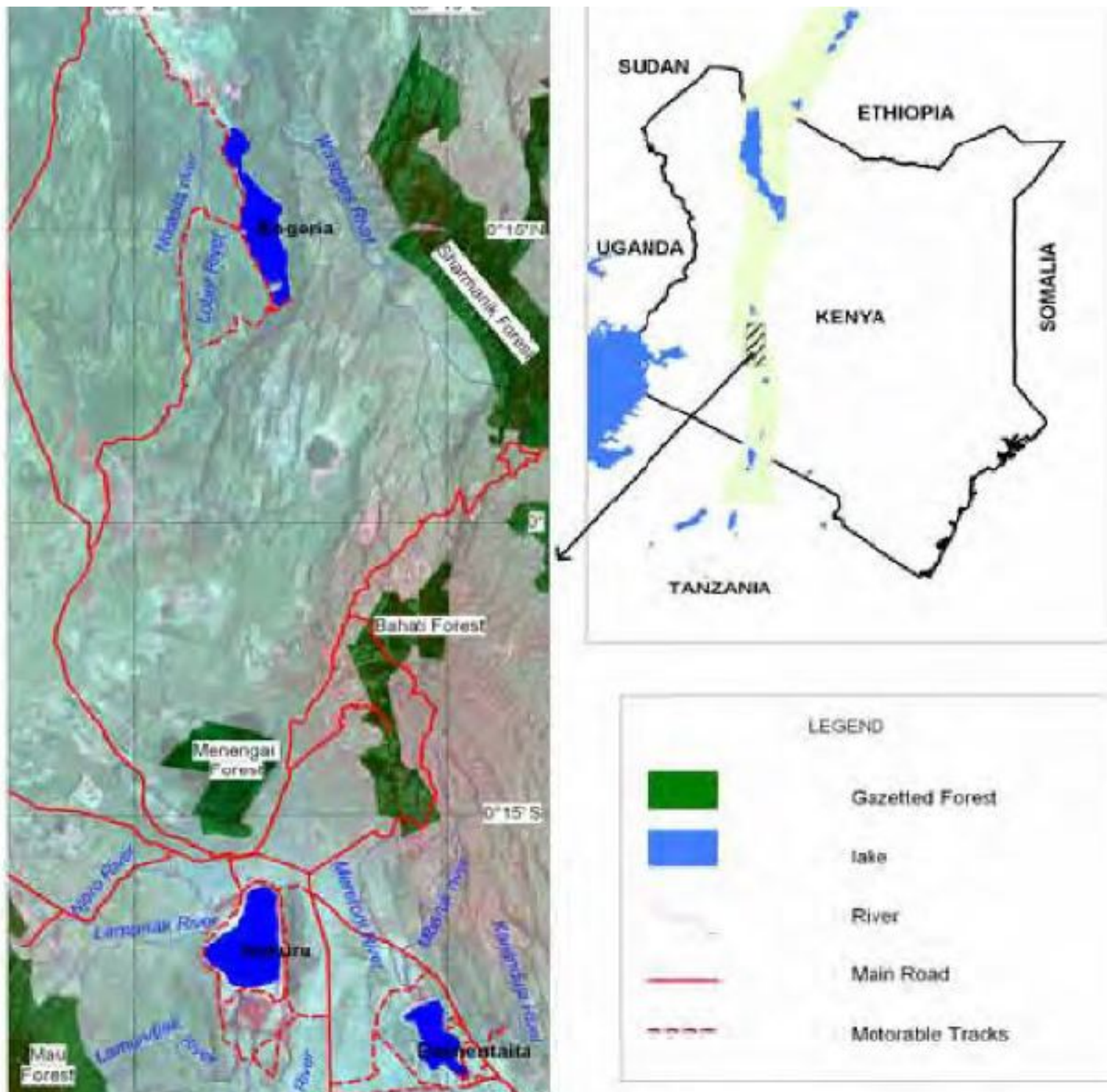


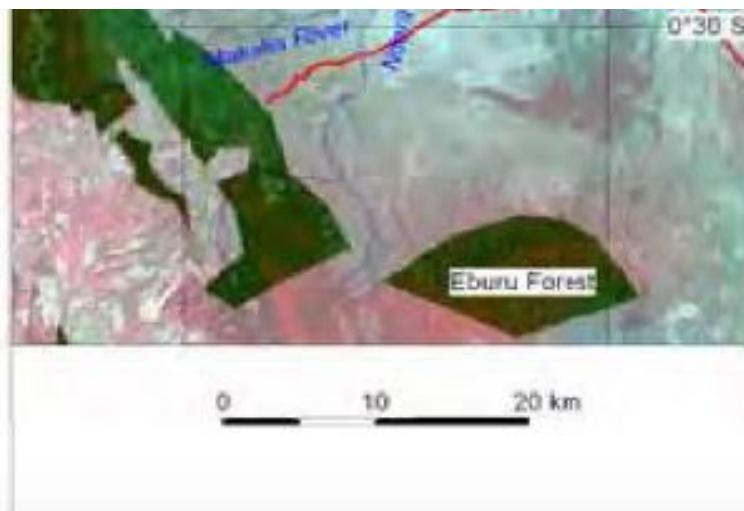
## Shimoni-Vanga seascape



## Kenya Great Rift Lake System







Coordinate system: Geographical  
Datum: Arc 1960

Map by: Dennis Milewa (NMK)  
Peter Hongo (KWS)

## Samburu-Isiolo Conservation Area (SICA)



