

2019

Project Implementation Review (PIR)

**Rangelands Southern Kenya**

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# Basic Data

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| **Project Information** | |
| UNDP PIMS ID | 4490 |
| GEF ID | 4827 |
| Title | Enhancing Wildlife Conservation in the Productive Southern Kenya Rangelands through a landscape approach |
| Country(ies) | Kenya, Kenya |
| UNDP-GEF Technical Team | Ecosystems and Biodiversity |
| Project Implementing Partner | Government |
| Joint Agencies | *(not set or not applicable)* |
| Project Type | Full Size |

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| **Project Description** |
| The Government of Kenya has made significant investments in most protected areas (PAs) in the country. However, despite the high returns from wildlife based tourism and the large baseline of investment in protected area management in Kenya, conflicting interests between conservation and development persist in the greater Amboseli landscape, where the ecological viability of the PA estate to sustain healthy populations of wildlife is threatened by loss of animal dispersal areas, migratory corridors and drought refugia. The greater Amboseli landscape is part of the Maasai lands of the Southern Kenya rangelands where communities continue to experience conservation in terms of protectionism and a segregation approach-- contrary to their preferred approach of integration of people and nature--to deliver both development and conservation benefits. The long-term solution proposed by this project is to conserve the Amboseli landscape’s threatened species and habitats, and especially the charismatic elephants and expansive swamps, and simultaneously promote sustainable development of the ecosystem for the benefit of the present and future generations. The Amboseli landscape has little arable potential, but it has enormous national and global heritage and tourism value, which PAs alone cannot secure in the long term. The solution to the conservation challenge lies in embracing a landscape approach to conservation and development, allowing the ecosystem to provide a broad range of benefits and services to the broad range of interests dependent on it, including wildlife, pastoralists, off-site communities (water) and indeed the environment. This will only be achieved if there is meaningful involvement of the local communities in the landscape approach, given the better legacy of coexistence over millennia of joint use of the land. This proposed project in the Greater Amboseli landscape in Kenya satisfies the requirements for GEF financing under GEF Biodiversity Focal Area, Strategic Objective one: Improve sustainability of Protected Area systems and two; Mainstream biodiversity, conservation and sustainable use into production landscapes. It will provide a resource governance model that allows communities and conservationists to utilise revitalised skills, and, guided by a knowledge based landscape planning, take advantage of modified policies and market based incentives to balance resource use and resource conservation across the greater Amboseli, to secure a broader range of benefits for the onsite and offsite dependents, in a more equitable and sustainable manner. The project partners (Kenya Wildlife Service, Maasai Wilderness Conservation Trust, African Conservation Centre, Big Life and Nature Kenya) will, according to designated roles and responsibilities; support national efforts to secure conservancy management, set up a series of conservancies across the landscape, map out and secure wildlife dispersal areas, secure connectivity corridors between the core PAs of Amboseli, Tsavo and Chyulu Hills, to offer greater protection of selected species (GEF BD SO 1). The partners will also catalyse a shift from the current sector-focused planning to a more integrated land use planning system; thus increasing productivity of livestock and agriculture while protecting environmental services, including the watershed services of the Chyulu Hills (GEF BD SO2). The project will comprise three complementary components, which will be cost-shared by the GEF and co-financing. Each addresses a different barrier and has discrete outcomes and are defined as follows:  Component 1: Effective governance framework for multiple use and threat removal outside PAs.  Component 2: Landscape based multiple use/management delivers multiple benefits to the widest range of users, reducing threats to wildlife from outside the ecosystem.  Component 3: Increased benefits from tourism shared more equitably. |

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| **Project Contacts** | |
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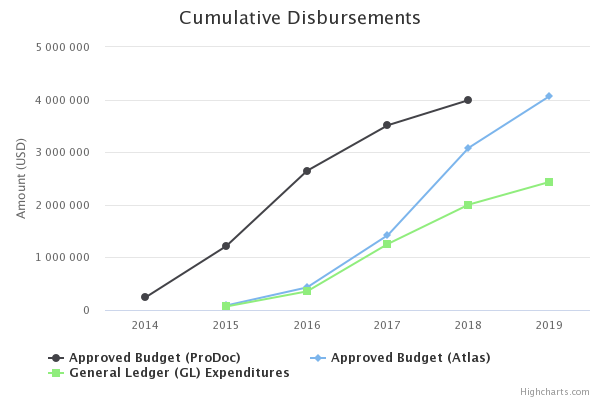
# Overall Ratings

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| Overall DO Rating | Moderately Satisfactory |
| Overall IP Rating | Moderately Satisfactory |
| Overall Risk Rating | High |

# Development Progress

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| **Description** | | | | | | |
| **Objective**  **To mainstream biodiversity conservation and sustainable use into production landscapes in the Greater Amboseli landscape and improve the sustainability of Protected Area systems.** | | | | | | |
| **Description of Indicator** | **Baseline Level** | **Midterm target level** | **End of project target level** | **Level at 30 June 2018** | **Cumulative progress since project start** |
| Increased area of conservancies within the productive landscapes with streamlined management guidelines. | Some buffer zones under biodiversity set-asides but without any systematic management regime for biodiversity conservation. | *(not set or not applicable)* | The 5,500km2 of buffer zones of the core parks under a systematic management framework. | 3926km2 of buffer zones under Ranch Management Plans and/or Grazing Plans developed by the project: Eselengei 748 km2, Kimana1,259 km2, Mbirikani 1,259 km2 and Kuku 660km2. These were developed in a highly participatory manner with the communities and other stakeholders widely consulted. The plans are now under validation and will be adopted by the community and stakeholders. However, some of the planned activities are already being implemented and will be ongoing for 10 years | 4,238 Km2 of buffer zones under systematic management regime for biodiversity conservation.  Additional area of 309Km2 from:  Pastoral Rangeland-for both livestock and wildlife-covers approximately 208Km2 or 54% of Rombo Group Ranch (RGR)  Rombo Conservancy-Comprising approximately 101Km2 acres or 26% of RGR.  12 additional leaseholds in Kimana Conservancies comprising 3 Km2 |
| METT scores improved in selected PAs:  Amboseli NP  Chyulu Hills NP | 66  52 | *(not set or not applicable)* | 75  65 | As at 10th May 2018, Amboseli NP scored 70 and Chyulu Hills scored 63. This is due to the improved management at the two PAs. | No repeat METT assessments since 10th May 2018.  Scores remain: - Amboseli NP scored 70 and Chyulu Hills scored 63. |
| - | - | *(not set or not applicable)* | - | *(not set or not applicable)* | *(not set or not applicable)* |
| **The progress of the objective can be described as:** | | **On track** | | | | |
| **Outcome 1**  **Effective governance for multiple use and threat removal outside PAs** | | | | | | |
| **Description of Indicator** | **Baseline Level** | **Midterm target level** | **End of project target level** | **Level at 30 June 2018** | **Cumulative progress since project start** |
| Financial sustainability score (%) for national systems of protected areas:  Component 1: Legal, Regulatory and Institutional frameworks.  Component 2: Business planning and tools for cost effective management.  Component 3: Tools for revenue generation. | 46.67%    52.5%    36.62% | *(not set or not applicable)* | 55%    60%    45% | No repeat assessment done yet because of the difficulty in accessing the information that informed the baseline data and the methodology used. PMU is working on access to the data sets for repeat assessment. | No repeat financial sustainability assessment done since start of the project. |
| National level institutions formalised for empowerment of local communities | 1 (KWCA) | *(not set or not applicable)* | 2 (CRMC and KWCA) | KWCA was legally registered in April 2013 under the Societies Act as a national umbrella body for wildlife conservancies in Kenya: membership includes 13 Regional Associations and 160 conservancies with an approximate area of 6,313,787 hectares.  KWCA empowered through guidelines developed by KWS and stakeholders to operationalize the provisions in the Wildlife Management and Conservation Act 2013 for conservancies and wildlife utilisation as land-use in Kenya.  Amboseli Ecosystem Trust (AET) established as the regional umbrella of the conservancies in the Southern Rangelands.  The Kajiado County Wildlife Conservation Committee (CWCC) that works under the KWS is in place and addresses issues of human wildlife conflict.  Both AET and CWCC constituted as per the Kenyan wildlife sector policy and legislation are undertaking the tasks which CRMC was to undertake. | Mandates for CWCC expired nationally and has not been renewed. New financially sustainable outfits being explored by the Ministry of Tourism and Wildlife.  KWCA is increasingly recognized as the key national institution to enable empowerment of local communities and capacity enhancement of conservancies, and KWCA engages in most community conservation related actions. (For an overview see: https://kwcakenya.com/news/publications ) |
| Number of capacity building and training programmes in place (Eco monitoring, Security & Livelihoods) | 3 in each currently established conservancy (Big Life, ACC & MWCT) | *(not set or not applicable)* | At least 5 with streamlined curriculum | Ecological monitoring – study plots established and community rangers and scientists regularly collect data on rangeland conditions that inform management of grazing and wildlife corridors    Security – crime scene management and evidence processing for the prosecution of wildlife crimes; the collection and analysis of patrol data collected using the SMART (Spatial Monitoring and Reporting Tool) for effective wildlife protection; and training of community rangers for effective wildlife and rangeland management. Specifically, the Amboseli Conservation Academy has been established by Big Life Foundation in partnership with Amboseli Ecosystem Trust, Kenya Wildlife Service, and Amboseli-Tsavo Game Scouts Association (ATGSA). The academy was constructed on land owned by ATGSA and rent is paid to them whenever it is used for rangers training, which includes all aspects of community ranger work - anti-poaching, patrol-planning, discipline, safely and first-aid, monitoring and data-collecting, crime scene investigation and prosecution follow-up, intelligence gathering, and physical fitness.    Livelihoods - permaculture and wildlife corridor friendly/ compatible irrigation technology; improved beading and value addition of bead-works to be more competitive in the tourism gift markets; milk production and bulking for better market penetration and income to women; grass reseeding/rangeland rehabilitation for improved pasture and income from the sale of fodder; enhanced cattle breeding for fewer quality stocks and beef production    Organizational capacity building – governance and management of key community based organisations guided by the ranches management plans and organisational strategies    Amboseli Conservancies Forum - coordinated by AET links KWCA and conservancies in Amboseli, in order for local conservancies to have access to improved information and support for conservancy development in line with national wildlife policies and legislation | Ecological monitoring – data regularly collected in the established study plots. Sightings in Kuku Group Ranch: 2017- elephant -400, cheetah- 53, lion- 195, leopard-19; 2018- elephant -199, cheetah- 36, lion- 44, leopard-8; and 2019- elephant -67, cheetah- 13, lion- 26, leopard-8.    Security – crime scene management and evidence processing for the prosecution of wildlife crimes continues - MWCT participated in a SMART workshop in Moshi and conducted a SmartConnect Training in 2019.    Livelihoods - permaculture was scaled up to 2 additional sites.  The Enkijabe farm introduced chicken farming while the Namelok diversified to planting various fruit trees, chilli and other herbal tress like Moringa, Neem, Acacia and Sena semere. Kuku introduced Sahiwal for the improvement of local cattle breeds.    Organizational capacity building – ongoing strengthening of governance and management of key community based organisations guided by the ranches management plans and organisational strategies |
| - | - | *(not set or not applicable)* | - | *(not set or not applicable)* | *(not set or not applicable)* |
| **The progress of the objective can be described as:** | | **On track** | | | | |
| **Outcome 2**  **Landscape based multiple use/management delivers multiple benefits to the widest range of users, reducing threats to wildlife from outside the ecosystem.** | | | | | | |
| **Description of Indicator** | **Baseline Level** | **Midterm target level** | **End of project target level** | **Level at 30 June 2018** | **Cumulative progress since project start** |
| Movement of elephants within the greater Amboseli landscape, between the 3 core NPs. | Concentration of elephants in the Amboseli NP irrespective of season | *(not set or not applicable)* | Increased movement of elephant populations within the Amboseli landscape and between the 3 core NPs. | In Quarter 3 of 2017 an average of 9 elephants per day crossed in both directions through the corridor between Kimana conservancies and Kimana Sanctuary. In Quarter 4 of 2017 this number rose to 18 elephants per day. In Quarter 1 of 2018 the average was 13 elephants per day. It must be noted that the fluctuation in these numbers is due to environmental conditions that drive the elephant migrations. | There was movement of elephants passing through the Kimana corridors as follows:  Q3 July- Sept 2018: 10 per day  Q4 Oct - Dec 2018: 10 per day  Q1 Jan- March 2019: 6 per day  Q2 April-June 2019:19 per day    Sighting of elephants in Kuku group ranch: 199 elephants in 2018 and 67 elephants in 2019.    Others species sightings in Kuku group ranch: 2018 - cheetah 36, lion 44, leopard 8; and 2019 - cheetah 13, lion 26, leopard 8 |
| Proportion of productive land in the Group Ranches under conservancies | 10.8% (approximately 57,700ha) | *(not set or not applicable)* | 20.7% (approximately 101,902) | 6 Kimana Conservancies (15,282ha); Kimana Sanctuary (2,300 ha); Selenkay Conservancy (5,200ha); Kitenden conservancy (6,500ha);Kitirua Conservancy (12,000ha); Kanzi Conservancy (2,023ha); Motikanju Conservancy (2,832ha) and Elerai Conservancy (1,619ha).    There are progress in securing another 3,641 ha through the proposed Olpusare Conservancy (2,832ha) and Rombo Conservancy (809ha).    Other additional areas that were identified include Olenarika (4,047ha) and Laingarunyoni (4,856ha). The numbers of acres can increase if additional area used wildlife corridors are also adopted as a land-use.    There is need to revise the baseline as it exceeds what has been verified by the project partners as the status at the start of the project. | 31,082 ha additional area put under conservancies:  182 ha Olpusare conservancy;  20,800 ha Rangelands for both livestock and wildlife in Rombo Group Ranch; and 10,100 ha Rombo Conservancy.  (NB: Proportion relative to baseline remains to be determined, as initial data reported was not in line with what was verified by project partners). |
| Number of conservancies managed under a landscape level coordinated management programme | 0 | *(not set or not applicable)* | At least 5 conservancies | 13 conservancies as reported above and 2 additional underway | 15 Conservancies are being managed as per their respective group ranch management plans. |
| Number of operational wildlife conservancies managed by local communities | 1 derelict (Kimana) community wildlife conservancy | *(not set or not applicable)* | At least 5 conservancies with rehabilitation of Kimana sanctuaries. | Kimana (six) conservancies are operational and managed by local committees, but BLF pays a lease fee to landowners.  Kimana Sanctuary is managed by BLF, and a lease fee paid to local committee.    Others that have not been directly supported by the project are Kitirua, Selenkay and Elerai conservancies. | All 6 Kimana Conservancies continue to be successfully managed by local communities (while Big Life Foundation pays an annual fee to the land owners). Kimana Sanctuary continues to be successfully managed by BLF, with part of its incomes used for the payment of leasehold fees to the land owners |
| Threats to wildlife from unplanned tourism infrastructure development mitigated | Limited scope of procedures in place to deal with unplanned developments | *(not set or not applicable)* | Protocols for infrastructure development operationalised. | 2 planned projects put on hold by the community due to threat to the environment | Proposed agricultural developments within Oltiyani Conservancy (Kimana Conservancy) have been put on hold. Amboseli Ecosystem Trust (AET) submitted a list of land parcels under development for clearance by the Committee that oversees compatibility of developments to the Amboseli Landuse Plan 2008-2018. Process is pending conclusions. |
| **The progress of the objective can be described as:** | | **On track** | | | | |
| **Outcome 3**  **Increased benefits from tourism shared more equitably.** | | | | | | |
| **Description of Indicator** | **Baseline Level** | **Midterm target level** | **End of project target level** | **Level at 30 June 2018** | **Cumulative progress since project start** |
| Number of leasehold agreements entered into by the local communities with tourism investors for use of conservancies or wildlife zones | 1 (Kuku GR) | *(not set or not applicable)* | At least 5 leasehold/management agreements | Big Life Limited has a lease agreement with about 400 private landowners in the 6 Kimana conservancies. These leases are conditional on restricted land-uses on the leased land. There is currently one interested investor who is exploring possibility of opening a lodge on one of the Kimana conservancies, and another investor who has recently taken over management of a tourist lodge to rehabilitate it. BLF has signed a lease for the Kimana Sanctuary (funded by the David Sheldrick Wildlife Trust), including the rights to develop tourism by rehabilitating the tourism infrastructure in the Sanctuary as well as the tourist guesthouse and campsite. | Additional leaseholds for the Olpusare Conservancy.    Kuku Group Ranch management plan is under development. |
| Proportion of household incomes generated from wildlife-related activities |  | *(not set or not applicable)* | Increase to at least 10% | Direct incomes from project supported activities are more than USD 556,676; Grass for reseeding USD 2,600; Beadwork and Permerculture USD 576; Milk bulking/sales and Landowner lease fees USD 241,500; bed-nights/employment USD 312,000. | Cumulative income from project interventions is USD  763,602/=  Income for the reporting period was USD 206,926/=. These were from: Grass seeds/hay USD 3,100/=; Bead work sales USD 2,400/=; Permaculture USD 1,061/=; and Leasehold fees 200,365/=  (Proportional increase relative to baseline remains to be determined). |
| Number of alternative livelihoods engaged in by the local communities | 1 (Bird shooting in Mbirikani Ranch) | *(not set or not applicable)* | At least 4 alternative livelihoods including Beekeeping, Sericulture, Aloe farming and eco-charcoal burning | MWCT has established two grass-reseeding projects; areas have been ploughed and reseeded. These dry season seed-banks are in the overgrazed and degraded habitats in Elangata Enkima (for 20 women ) & Olpusare Springs (10 group members). These are alternative agricultural activities provide income from production and sale of grass seeds and fodder women. | A total of 5 alternative income generating activities are being supported by the project, and are compatible with keeping the landscape as a wildlife rangeland: Grass reseeding and hay bulking; milk bulking and vending; cattle breed improvement; cultural manyatta; and permaculture. |
| Number of tourists visiting conservancies | Majority of tourists visit the 3 core NPs, few venture to conservancies | *(not set or not applicable)* | Increase by up to 50% of number of visitors to conservancies. | There was a 33% cumulative increase in the number of visitors to Ol Donyo Lodge from the start of the project start | Visitors to Kimana Sanctuary are as follows:  July-December 2018:  429 total entrance days (1 person paying for 1 day in the sanctuary = 1 entrance day), 162 Kimana House bed nights, 95 camping bed nights  January-May 2019 (June figures not yet available):  866 entrance days, 355 Kimana House bed nights, 260 camping bed nights  (Proportional increase relative to baseline remains to be determined). |
| Number of PES schemes established and implemented. | 1 PES scheme (Tourism PES) | *(not set or not applicable)* | At least 2 additional PES schemes for watershed conservation and carbon trading. | The Chyulu Hills REDD+ Project has been validated and successfully verified according to VCS & CCB carbon standards and have been registered for sale on the Markit registry (https://www.conservation.org/NewsRoom/pressreleases/Pages/Africa%E2%80%99s-Iconic-Chyulu-Hills-Launches-Carbon-Offset-Program.aspx)  Out of the 2 million carbon credits currently available for sale, 20,000 have already been sold. There is also a clear “revenue allocation model” agreed between REDD+ partners: KWS, KFS, MWCT, DSWT, BLF, Kuku A, Kuku B, Rombo, Mbirikani Group ranches to provide a clear payment structure and distribution of REDD+ PES benefits. | Out of the 2 million carbon credits currently available for sale, 20,000 have already been sold. There is also a clear “revenue allocation model” agreed between REDD+ partners: KWS, KFS, MWCT, DSWT, BLF, Kuku A, Kuku B, Rombo, Mbirikani Group ranches to provide a clear payment structure and distribution of REDD+ PES benefits.    Carbon credits marketing ongoing during the year: Rangeland Restoration projects to take place.    Water PES initialization and meetings done with the key stakeholders in the REDD+ project area. |
| **The progress of the objective can be described as:** | | **On track** | | | | |

# Implementation Progress



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| Cumulative GL delivery against total approved amount (in prodoc): | 61.02% |
| Cumulative GL delivery against expected delivery as of this year: | 61.02% |
| Cumulative disbursement as of 30 June (note: amount to be updated in late August): | 2,435,138 |

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| **Key Financing Amounts** | |
| PPG Amount | 100,000 |
| GEF Grant Amount | 3,990,909 |
| Co-financing | 24,820,000 |

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| **Key Project Dates** | |
| PIF Approval Date | May 7, 2012 |
| CEO Endorsement Date | Mar 12, 2014 |
| Project Document Signature Date (project start date): | Jan 26, 2015 |
| Date of Inception Workshop | Apr 10, 2015 |
| Expected Date of Mid-term Review | Dec 1, 2017 |
| Actual Date of Mid-term Review | Dec 1, 2018 |
| Expected Date of Terminal Evaluation | Dec 1, 2019 |
| Original Planned Closing Date | Dec 31, 2019 |
| Revised Planned Closing Date | *(not set or not applicable)* |

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| **Dates of Project Steering Committee/Board Meetings during reporting period (30 June 2018 to 1 July 2019)** |
| 2018-12-10 |

# Critical Risk Management

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| Current Types of Critical Risks | Critical risk management measures undertaken this reporting period |
| Political | The parceling of land into individual land holdings in line with the Community Land Act threatens the integrity and use of the landscape as a wildlife dispersal area. The Group Ranches which was the land tenure system in place is not supported by the new law. The Group Ranch was one parcel and title but now face subdivision and titling given to individuals. The individuals may choose to undertake land uses that are not compatible with wildlife dispersal and leaving open the wildlife corridors. Lessons and practices from Maasai Mara that has faced a similar challenge will be employed in acquiring land lease holds for wildlife space. |
| Environmental | The pasture regeneration was not undertaken as planned because of the delays/near failure of the long rains. The rains that usually fall in the month of April started and failed, resulting in the loss of the first crop of grass. Replanting was done in May with the late rains. Lessons will be documented.  The drought also affected the production of milk, impacting on the milk cooling enterprise capacity and incomes to the beneficiary women groups. |
| Operational | The funds flow to KWS was resolved after a HACT re-assessment that ranked the implementation partner as LOW risk. However, KWS was yet to access the funds since they were yet to fully did not fully comply to the Public Finance Management regulations by the The National Treasury. The project budgets had not been captured in the national budget estimates and hence could not be spent off budget. Activities for which KWS is the lead organisation stalled. These are about 55% of the annual workplan budget - 40% activities and 15% coordination of the project and M&E |

# Adjustments

**Comments on delays in key project milestones**

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| **Project Manager: please provide comments on delays this reporting period in achieving any of the following key project milestones: inception workshop, mid-term review, terminal evaluation and/or project closure. If there are no delays please indicate not applicable.** |
| The mid-term review was conducted 9 months later than the initial planned date. This was occasioned by the delayed start of the project by about 18 months: only 1 year of implementation had passed since the project start of which 6 months had been the mobilization of stakeholders and beneficiaries. The exercise was conducted between September and November 2018. The summary and recommendations of the report was presented at the Project Steering Committee of 10th December 2018. All the partners contributed to the management response and some of the key recommendations are already incorporated in project implementation. |

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| **Country Office: please provide comments on delays this reporting period in achieving any of the following key project milestones: inception workshop, mid-term review, terminal evaluation and/or project closure. If there are no delays please indicate not applicable.** |
| The mid-term review (MTR) was conducted between September and October 2019.The MTR report was finalised at the end of January 2019, two months after the planned completion date of end of October 2018. The signing of the MTR Report and Management Response was affected by the management change transition taking place at the Kenya CO with the departure of the Programme Analyst and also the change of the Regional Technical officers. The project team has adjusted activities delivery in line with the recommendations of the MTR and is set to deliver the desired outputs/outcomes. |

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| **UNDP-GEF Technical Adviser: please provide comments on delays this reporting period in achieving any of the following key project milestones: inception workshop, mid-term review, terminal evaluation and/or project closure. If there are no delays please indicate not applicable.** |
| As also indicated by PM and UNDP CO, the project experienced substantial delays in effective startup as well as in producing an MTR report. Project team is responding through adaptive management, but an extension may be required to enable achievement of objectives, in line with MTR recommendations. |

# Ratings and Overall Assessments

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| **Role** | **2019 Development Objective Progress Rating** | **2019 Implementation Progress Rating** |
| **Project Manager/Coordinator** | Moderately Satisfactory | *- IP Rating provided by UNDP-GEF Technical Adviser and UNDP Country Office only -* |
| Overall Assessment | The project activities delivery is rated Moderately Satisfactory (MS) since the partners achieved the planned actions to a large extent despite the challenges with the KWS led activities. The planned annual workplan was not fully implemented, particularly most of the activities for which KWS is the lead for implementation (about 40% of the annual project budget) and the non-effectiveness of the project management unit (PMU) as they had very minimal resources to convene partner meetings, monitor activity delivery and coordinate the activities implementation for synergistic delivery of targets by the partners (that was allocated about 15% of the annual project budget). This was however resolved with the re-assessment of KWS: the Low Risk rating now opens KWS to all the cash transfer modalities.    The landuse plans were validated by the stakeholders and their implementation is underway. Human-wildlife conflict management was less even with the prolonged dry season experienced. The predation compensation action was a apt deterrence for retaliatory killings compared to the previous years. Meetings and activities, especially for the Amboseli Ecosystem Plan review and development of the 2019-2029 plan, were well attended by the direct beneficiaries and their feedback together with the non-direct and other stakeholders was that the outputs were addressing the community and conservation needs of the Southern Rangelands. The unforeseen challenge that needs to be addressed is the emerging parceling of lands as communities work towards adoption of the land laws.    There were further changes in the KWS management, that is fully briefed of the barriers/risks to the implementation of project activities under their lead. Initial steps to address these in the government financial July 2019-June 2020 have been put into motion, now that the funds flow challenge has been addressed. The delivery of the targeted project national and county outputs/outcomes for which KWS has the lead responsibility should now be fully achieved. A no-cost extension was requested to allow time for the delivery. | |
| **Role** | **2019 Development Objective Progress Rating** | **2019 Implementation Progress Rating** |
| **UNDP Country Office Programme Officer** | Moderately Satisfactory | Moderately Satisfactory |
| Overall Assessment | The project is rated Moderately Satisfactory because the implementation of project activities is on track despite under delivery at the milestones. This is mainly from challenges in financial disbursement to the key implementing partner - KWS that is responsible for coordination of project activities. The other project implementing partners were however able to implement activities for which they are lead and have assisted KWS close the gap by taking over some of the activities for which KWS is the lead. This was confirmed by the midterm review and recommendations to address the weaknesses and gaps have been incorporated in the project implementation in 2019.    The funds movement challenge was addressed by a HACT re-assessment of KWS that resulted in a LOW Risk rating. Funds channeled to KWS through Direct Cash Transfer has however not been absorbed. These needed to have been included in the government annual budget estimates but were not. KWS has not been able to spend these off-budget but are working towards inclusion of the project budget during the upcoming government budget estimates revision. | |
| **Role** | **2019 Development Objective Progress Rating** | **2019 Implementation Progress Rating** |
| **GEF Operational Focal point** | *(not set or not applicable)* | *- IP Rating provided by UNDP-GEF Technical Adviser and UNDP Country Office only -* |
| Overall Assessment | *(not set or not applicable)* | |
| **Role** | **2019 Development Objective Progress Rating** | **2019 Implementation Progress Rating** |
| **Project Implementing Partner** | *(not set or not applicable)* | *- IP Rating provided by UNDP-GEF Technical Adviser and UNDP Country Office only -* |
| Overall Assessment | *(not set or not applicable)* | |
| **Role** | **2019 Development Objective Progress Rating** | **2019 Implementation Progress Rating** |
| **Other Partners** | *(not set or not applicable)* | *- IP Rating provided by UNDP-GEF Technical Adviser and UNDP Country Office only -* |
| Overall Assessment | *(not set or not applicable)* | |
| **Role** | **2019 Development Objective Progress Rating** | **2019 Implementation Progress Rating** |
| **UNDP-GEF Technical Adviser** | Moderately Satisfactory | Moderately Satisfactory |
| Overall Assessment | The project underwent a Midterm Review in December 2018 and is in the process of implementing recommendations to improve delivery and impact. So far, while financial uptake has been increasing steadily, success in increasing progress towards the intended development objectives has been mixed.  One of the key issues affecting delivery of the project has been the limited participation of KWS, which resulted in weak coordination of the implementation of the Amboseli Ecosystem Management Plan (AEMP 2008-2018). KWS embarked upon an internal institutional financial management strengthening programme, and as per recommendation, UNDP enabled a revision of the HACT micro-assessment for KWS, which was concluded in February 2019, enabling transfer of project funds. It is expected that this will help to enable KWS to provide the leadership and guidance required for the effective implementation of the project activities for which it is responsible. However, at the time of reporting, KWS was yet to access project funds and there appears to be limited capacity for absorption of funds and impacts on increasing project delivery towards its intended objectives remain to be observed.  The MTR recommended that a Gender Analysis and Action Plan would be prepared for this project, in accordance with UNDP SES Guidance and Standards, however this remains to be done.  Given the challenges experiences particularly in implementing interventions under responsibility of KWS, the project is proposing an extension in order to allow sufficient time for achieving its intended objectives. This is currently under consideration, as is the possibility to engage a Project Technical Advisor to support KWS with technical and coordination backstopping, ensure adequate integration of gender mainstreaming opportunities, and put in place mechanisms as well as longer term sustainability plans to ensure continuation of successful interventions upon project closure. | |

# Gender

**Progress in Advancing Gender Equality and Women's Empowerment**

This information is used in the UNDP-GEF Annual Performance Report, UNDP-GEF Annual Gender Report, reporting to the UNDP Gender Steering and Implementation Committee and for other internal and external communications and learning.  The Project Manager and/or Project Gender Officer should complete this section with support from the UNDP Country Office.

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| **Gender Analysis and Action Plan:** *not available* |
| **Please review the project's Gender Analysis and Action Plan. If the document is not attached or an updated Gender Analysis and/or Gender Action Plan is available please upload the document below or send to the Regional Programme Associate to upload in PIMS+. Please note that all projects approved since 1 July 2014 are required to carry out a gender analysis and all projects approved since 1 July 2018 are required to have a gender analysis and action plan.** |
| *(not set or not applicable)* |

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| **Please indicate in which results areas the project is contributing to gender equality (you may select more than one results area, or select not applicable):** |
| Contributing to closing gender gaps in access to and control over resources: Yes |
| Improving the participation and decision-making of women in natural resource governance: Yes |
| Targeting socio-economic benefits and services for women: Yes |
| Not applicable: No |

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| **Atlas Gender Marker Rating** |
| **GEN1:** some contribution to gender equality |

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| **Please describe any experiences or linkages (direct or indirect) between project activities and gender-based violence (GBV). This information is for UNDP use only and will not be shared with GEF Secretariat.** |
| Not applicable |

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| **Please specify results achieved this reporting period that focus on increasing gender equality and the empowerment of women.**    **Please explain how the results reported addressed the different needs of men or women, changed norms, values, and power structures, and/or contributed to transforming or challenging gender inequalities and discrimination.** |
| The project supported the formation of the Namelok permaculture group, which includes 17 women (out of the total of 30 people). Capacity of women continues to be enhanced in mixed crop production for improved household food security and incomes from supplying local institutions. The project also continues to support the Women Marketing Cooperative for improved livestock market chain and sale of milk. Milking and sales of milk is largely a womens affair. Through the installation of a milk cooler plant, installation of an Automated Milk Teller machine, and training on milk bulking, women now have more market access and sales of their milk.  Furthermore, women were supported in establishing traditional grass banks for both wet and drying grazing periods at Mbirikani, Eselenkei & Olgulului, and received trained on bulking of the grass seeds and establishment/reseeding of the paddocks for the grazing. Grass reseeding and hay bulking - this activity is mainly women led. The grass is planted in fields adjacent to their homesteads and women groups till, plant and harvest the grass. The hay produced is baled and sold but also used as feed for the resident cattle. Grass seeds are also sold to other community members who seek to grow their own pasture.  While these initiatives may not be transformative in terms of challenging gender-based roles, they are resulting in increased income for Maasai women (who traditionally care for cattle within the homestead while the men go with the rest of the herds in search of pasture during the dry months), hence empowering the women with increased financial resources as well as increased input to management of pasture and its use within the homestead environs. |

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| **Please describe how work to advance gender equality and women's empowerment enhanced the project's environmental and/or resilience outcomes.** |
| Women in Amboseli engaged in the project are often uneducated, and very few have jobs in the formal sector. As such much of their income is earned directly from natural resources, either through harvesting of the resources or by working as labourers in farms. The payment for the latter is minimal, and women could achieve much greater financial gains by farming on their own land, rather than working as labourers in the farms of others. The permaculture and organic farming group formation and training will provide these women with the ability to farm sustainably, and ideally connect them to markets in future, such that they can be financially independent.  Women now have better knowledge and skills on management of resources for livestock and hence stay for longer duration at the manyatta (homesteads) without moving even during the drought, when the men go in search of pasture. They are able to sustain the cattle left behind without much movement into the wildlife dispersal areas. Risks of human-wildlife conflict are lower and wildlife also benefit from less competition for rangeland during the prolonged dry seasons. |

# Social and Environmental Standards

**Social and Environmental Standards (Safeguards)**

The Project Manager and/or the project’s Safeguards Officer should complete this section of the PIR with support from the UNDP Country Office. The UNDP-GEF RTA should review to ensure it is complete and accurate.

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| **1) Have any new social and/or environmental risks been identified during project implementation?** |
| No |

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| **If any new social and/or environmental risks have been identified during project implementation please describe the new risk(s) and the response to it.** |
| *(not set or not applicable)* |

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| **2) Have any existing social and/or environmental risks been escalated during the reporting period? For example, when a low risk increased to moderate, or a moderate risk increased to high.** |
| No |

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| **If any existing social and/or environmental risks have been escalated during implementation please describe the change(s) and the response to it.** |
| *(not set or not applicable)* |

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| **SESP:** [PIMS-4490-Kenya-Southern-Rangelands-ESSP-Safeguards-Annex-29-11-2013.docx](https://undpgefpims.org/attachments/4490/213336/1661894/1662175/PIMS-4490-Kenya-Southern-Rangelands-ESSP-Safeguards-Annex-29-11-2013.docx)  **Environmental and Social Management Plan/Framework:** *not available* |
| **For reference, please find below the project's safeguards screening (Social and Environmental Screening Procedure (SESP) or the old ESSP tool); management plans (if any); and its SESP categorization above. Please note that the SESP categorization might have been corrected during a centralized review.** |
| *(not set or not applicable)* |

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| **3) Have any required social and environmental assessments and/or management plans been prepared in the reporting period? For example, an updated Stakeholder Engagement Plan, Environmental and Social Impact Assessment (ESIA) or Indigenous Peoples Plan.** |
| No |

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| **If yes, please upload the document(s) above. If no, please explain when the required documents will be prepared.** |
| *(not set or not applicable)* |

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| **4) Has the project received complaints related to social and/or environmental impacts (actual or potential )?** |
| No |

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| **If yes, please describe the complaint(s) or grievance(s) in detail including the status, significance, who was involved and what action was taken.** |
| *(not set or not applicable)* |

# Communicating Impact

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| **Tell us the story of the project focusing on how the project has helped to improve people’s lives.**  **(This text will be used for UNDP corporate communications, the UNDP-GEF website, and/or other internal and external knowledge and learning efforts.)** |
| Enhancing conservation in the productive southern rangelands has helped to improve people’s lives in many ways: The local communities are empowered to undertake the restoration of degraded areas. Through the successes with the restoration in the pilots at Nkiito (9ha) and Olngosua (4ha), the community have knowledge on how to stem rangelands degradation and are thus empowered to bring back areas that had been abandoned, within their ranches, as they went in search of other use-able areas further away from their households.    There is a significant improvement in the quality of lives of the locals. For example, the grass reseeding has increased pasture production, which is a source of cattle feed and income during the dry seasons when there is scarcity. This has improved the lives of locals because there is an increased income from the sales of hay bales and also less energy use because they do not need to migrate with their livestock to distant areas. From the Mbirikani Grass Reseeding pilot the community produced 500 hay bales that earned them about USD 1,000 and 16 bags grass seeds that earned them USD 1,600. Thus, the community have enhanced food security for their livestock without having to graze in the wildlife rangelands in the protected areas, and also have an alternative source of income.    Introduction of livestock breeds improvement have led to the reduction in cattle stocking levels but with the similar or higher market value to the current holding capacity. A pilot with 10 Sahiwal bulls for Mbirikani Group ranch for siring new, better and fast-growing breeds is ongoing and the results will be central in the rolling out of the grazing plans that are been developed.    Women Marketing Cooperative has improved livestock market chain and supports 430 households in sale of milk through bulking (cooler facilities) and management of issues that arise from an emerging common interest group activity. In the Maasai community, women traditionally milk the cows and process it for storage and consumption by the households. With the marketing cooperative, the women now have an additional use of surplus milk that is also expected to increase with the enhanced livestock and rangelands management.    Development of Land Use Management plans for Group Ranches (Mbirikani & Eselenkei) that takes into account the current wildlife conservation threats and the emerging human settlement and livelihoods, will enhance effective utilisation of the natural resources within the landscape. The local communities are aware of the wildlife movements and conservation needs and the landuses compatible with conservation in which they can engage. These landuses are sustainable when undertaken over a landscape as compared to individual holdings, which was the challenge to individual landowners before the planning consultations and zonation of area for suitable uses    NB: This input was also provided in the 2018 PIR but remains valid as a basis for the development of stories for publication on the UNDP website/photoblog etc. |

**Knowledge Management, Project Links and Social Media**

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| **Please describe knowledge activities / products as outlined in knowledge management approved at CEO Endorsement /Approval.**    **Please also include: project's website, project page on the UNDP website, blogs, photos stories (e.g. Exposure), Facebook, Twitter, Flickr, YouTube, as well as hyperlinks to any media coverage of the project, for example, stories written by an outside source. Please upload any supporting files, including photos, videos, stories, and other documents using the 'file lirbary' button in the top right of the PIR.** |
| Big Life annual report (mention of GEF as donor and supporter)t: https://biglife.org/images/about-big-life/Operational-Reports/BLF-2017-Annual-Report.pdf  Launch of Amboseli Conservation Academy (mention of GEF as supporter): https://biglife.org/news-events/big-life-news/big-life-launches-amboseli-conservation-academy  Announcement of BLF in Kimana Sanctuary (mention of GEF as supporter): https://biglife.org/news-events/big-life-news/our-new-years-resolution-big-life-to-protect-kimana-sanctuary  Big tusker travelled from Tsavo to Amboseli, demonstrates importance of Kimana corridor: https://biglife.org/news-events/big-life-news/ndawe-s-journey-ends-at-the-hands-of-humans  Ranger training supported by GEF: https://biglife.org/news-events/big-life-news/247-reasons-not-to-poach |

# Partnerships

**Partnerships & Stakeholder Engagment**

Please select yes or no whether the project is working with any of the following partners. Please also provide an update on stakeholder engagement. This information is used by the GEF and UNDP for reporting and is therefore very important!  All sections must be completed by the Project Manager and reviewed by the CO and RTA.

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| **Does the project work with any Civil Society Organisations and/or NGOs?** |
| Yes |

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| **Does the project work with any Indigenous Peoples?** |
| Yes |

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| **Does the project work with the Private Sector?** |
| Yes |

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| **Does the project work with the GEF Small Grants Programme?** |
| No |

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| **Does the project work with UN Volunteers?** |
| No |

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| **Did the project support South-South Cooperation and/or Triangular Cooperation efforts in the reporting year?** |
| No |

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| **CEO Endorsement Request:** [PIMS-4490-Kenya-Southern-Rangelands-CEO-Endorsement-Request 02-12-2013.doc](https://undpgefpims.org/attachments/4490/213336/1661897/1662178/PIMS-4490-Kenya-Southern-Rangelands-CEO-Endorsement-Request%2002-12-2013.doc) |
| **Provide an update on progress, challenges and outcomes related to stakeholder engagement based on the description of the Stakeholder Engagement Plan as documented at CEO endorsement/approval (see document below). If any surveys have been conducted please upload all survey documents to the PIR file library.** |
| The project has a strong focus on stakeholder participation with the four partners leading forums that bring on board the inputs of stakeholders to the land use planning to create wildlife dispersal space. There has been adequate representation for the wide range of stakeholders as well as ensuring compliance with plans and policies through comprehensive dissemination of relevant information to stakeholders through the forums. The emerging issues are being jointly addressed and all stakeholders are on board.    The civil society organisations (African Conservation Centre, Big Life Foundation and Maasai Wilderness Conservation Trust) have facilitated the engagement of the communities and wider conservation lobby. Especially the stakeholders to whom the IP could not engage within its onward granting mechanism. |

# Annex - Ratings Definitions

**Development Objective Progress Ratings Definitions**

(HS) Highly Satisfactory: Project is on track to exceed its end-of-project targets, and is likely to achieve transformational change by project closure. The project can be presented as 'outstanding practice'.

(S) Satisfactory: Project is on track to fully achieve its end-of-project targets by project closure. The project can be presented as 'good practice'.

(MS) Moderately Satisfactory: Project is on track to achieve its end-of-project targets by project closure with minor shortcomings only.

(MU) Moderately Unsatisfactory: Project is off track and is expected to partially achieve its end-of-project targets by project closure with significant shortcomings. Project results might be fully achieved by project closure if adaptive management is undertaken immediately.

(U) Unsatisfactory: Project is off track and is not expected to achieve its end-of-project targets by project closure. Project results might be partially achieved by project closure if major adaptive management is undertaken immediately.

(HU) Highly Unsatisfactory: Project is off track and is not expected to achieve its end-of-project targets without major restructuring.

**Implementation Progress Ratings Definitions**

(HS) Highly Satisfactory: Implementation is exceeding expectations. Cumulative financial delivery, timing of key implementation milestones, and risk management are fully on track. The project is managed extremely efficiently and effectively. The implementation of the project can be presented as 'outstanding practice'.

(S) Satisfactory: Implementation is proceeding as planned. Cumulative financial delivery, timing of key implementation milestones, and risk management are on track. The project is managed efficiently and effectively. The implementation of the project can be presented as 'good practice'.

(MS) Moderately Satisfactory: Implementation is proceeding as planned with minor deviations. Cumulative financial delivery and management of risks are mostly on track, with minor delays. The project is managed well.

(MU) Moderately Unsatisfactory: Implementation is not proceeding as planned and faces significant implementation issues. Implementation progress could be improved if adaptive management is undertaken immediately. Cumulative financial delivery, timing of key implementation milestones, and/or management of critical risks are significantly off track. The project is not fully or well supported.

(U) Unsatisfactory: Implementation is not proceeding as planned and faces major implementation issues and restructuring may be necessary. Cumulative financial delivery, timing of key implementation milestones, and/or management of critical risks are off track with major issues and/or concerns. The project is not fully or well supported.

(HU) Highly Unsatisfactory: Implementation is seriously under performing and major restructuring is required. Cumulative financial delivery, timing of key implementation milestones (e.g. start of activities), and management of critical risks are severely off track with severe issues and/or concerns. The project is not effectively or efficiently supported.