



*Integrating Livelihoods and Conservation  
People Partner with Nature for Sustainable Living*  
Program 2015-2017



*A pair of Sokoje Scops Owl in Arabuko Sokoke Forest. Photo By John Mwacharo*

**Final Report**  
1<sup>st</sup> January 2015-31<sup>st</sup> March 2018  
**Nature Kenya**

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Abbreviations:

BCN: Bird Conservation Nepal

CBO: Community Based Organisation

CFM: Collaborative Forest Management (Uganda)

FECOFUN: Federation of Community Forestry Users Nepal

DFCC: District Forest Coordination Committee

DOF: Dansk Ornitologisk Forening/ BirdLife Denmark

IBA: Important Bird and Biodiversity Areas

ICT: Internet Communication Technology

LCG: Local Conservation Group

LFA: Logical Framework Analysis

ITFC: Institute of Tropical Forest Conservation

KEFRI: Kenya Forest Research Institute

KFS: Kenya Forest Service

KWS: Kenya Wildlife Service

SSG: Site Support Groups

TNA: Training Needs Assessment

ToR: Terms of Reference

WWF: World Wide Fund for Nature

IGA: Income Generating Activities

NEMA: National Environment Management Authority (Kenya)

NETCOFA: Network of Community Forest Associations

NFA: National Forestry Authority (Uganda)

NGO: Non-Governmental Organisation

NMK: National Museums of Kenya

PAG: Program Advisory Group

PFM: Participatory Forest Management (Kenya)

PIP: Program Implementation Plan

PMC: Program Management Committee

SAC: Site Advisory Committee

SDG: Sustainable Development Goals

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**1. Summary of Phase I**

*Provide overall analysis (not details of activities) of the first phase of the programme, including your assessment of the Programme set up, steering, DOF's role (management, coordination, supervision), your overall success and failures in implementation a.o.*

The steering of the PPN program was envisioned to have Site Advisory Committees with form of structured operational procedures protocols at all program sites. In Arabuko Sokoke Forest a functional Site Advisory Committee (ASFMT) provided oversight of site program activity implementation. Dakatcha Woodland management committee was established using lessons learned from the Arabuko Sokoke committee. In Taita Hills there was no management team due to existing institutional and county structures that did not favour the setup of such a team. These site committees met at least 3 times annually to discuss program implementation among other site related conservation matters. At the national level, the IBA National Liaison Committee (IBA-NLC) which is constituted of representatives of government ministries, agencies, CSOs, NGOs, academic institutions and the media provided the national level program advisory role. This committee met 3 times annually from 2015-2017 where program progress reports were presented. The overall Program Management Committee (PMC) was coordinated effectively by DOF through quarterly skype meetings and annual meetings in the three program partner countries. These meetings were useful in lessons sharing and monitoring the status of program implementation.

Sustainable forest conservation was achieved by gaining support of forest adjacent communities in Dakatcha Woodland, Arabuko Sokoke Forest and Taita Hills Forest. Nature Kenya contributed to the realization of best participatory forest management where 50 members of SSGs (DWCG, ASFADA, DABICO) were trained on IBA monitoring protocols catalyzing locally based monitoring. As a result, forest adjacent community members carried out common bird monitoring and detailed IBA monitoring and participated in filling the IBA basic monitoring forms. These results were published in the 3 Annual IBA Status and Trends report 2015 to 2017. Nature Kenya catalyzed the development of 3 species conservation action plans to guide stakeholders on species conservation initiatives aimed at threat removal associated with species extinction risks.

The PPN program supported a number of livelihood interventions (ecotourism, climate smart agriculture, beekeeping, butterfly farming, chicken rearing, tree nurseries and farm forestry) to improve the living standards of forest adjacent communities living in Dakatcha Woodland, Arabuko Sokoke Forest and Taita Hills Forests. A total of 9 community groups associated with DABICO, the Taita Hills SSG with 189members (68men, 121women), ASFADA, the Arabuko Sokoke SSG (1240men, 2323women) and 8 community groups associated with DWCG, the Dakatcha Woodland SSG (118men, 207women) were direct beneficiaries of the program livelihood initiatives. Income from butterfly farming increased by 750% from KSh.2.1million to KSh.18million between 2015 and 2017. Combined income from honey sales increased fro KSh. 0.4million in 2015 to KSh.1.95million in 2017 while combined income from ecotourism activities increased from KSh. 0.845 million in 2015 to KSh. 9.46million in 2017. 350 farmers were trained and supported to acquire certified seeds for maize, green-grams and cowpeas to promote climate smart agriculture. As a result of these interventions Nature Kenya was able to improve the community living standards and human well being at household level.

Nature Kenya also catalysed the development and implementation of participatory forest management plans. Nature Kenya worked in three sites - Taita Hills Forest, Arabuko Sokoke Forest and Dakatcha Woodland - to build the capacity of local communities to improve participatory forest management practices. Nature Kenya built and enhanced the capacity of 9 CFAs (SUNDIFU, VUCOFA, CHACOFA, NGACOFA, IYAWEMBI, Sokoke, Jilore, Gede, Dakatcha) on Participatory Forest Management and supported 2 CFAs in Taita Hills (CHACOFA and VUCOFA) to develop participatory forest management plans. In addition, Nature Kenya catalysed discussions between Kenya Forest Service and Jilore CFA and Sokoke CFA which resulted in the signing of Forest Management Agreements.

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### **Component 1:** *Program partners have increased capacity to strategically work with the integration of poverty reduction and nature protection*

Nature Kenya's capacity was enhanced to strategically work with the integration of poverty reduction and nature protection in Arabuko Sokoke Forest, Taita Hills Forest and Dakatcha Woodland through piloting, supporting and documenting the successes and challenges of poverty reduction initiatives. Lessons were shared in 7 county, 5 national, 3 regional and 5 international forums. These included participation in the annual UK Bird Fair, presentations of the program in a Forest Seminar in Copenhagen organized by DOF, presentation in Kilifi and Taita Taveta counties Natural Resource Fora, supporting university students to carry out social studies at program sites and the production of publicity materials which were shared with partners.

During Phase I, Nature Kenya was able to develop a communication and advocacy strategy which highlights approaches to engage with different sectors of the economy. This strategy was domesticated by 3 SSGs from Arabuko Sokoke, Dakatcha and Taita.

Nature Kenya is an active member of national stakeholders forums like Kenya Forest Working Group, Conservation Alliance of Kenya, Sustainable Agriculture Network, Kenya Wetlands Forum, National Indian House Crow Control Committee, National Bird Task Force, Kenya Bird Conservation Consortium, which are nature protection national 'think tank' groups. As a result Nature Kenya has reviewed 47 EIA reports since 2015, participated in 5 National Bird Task Force meetings, 3 National Indian House Crow Committee and 4 Sustainable Agriculture Network forums.

In summary;

1. Nature Kenya capacity was enhanced through staff training on gender, marketing, human resource management and lobbying and advocacy
2. Developed a Nature Kenya communication and advocacy strategy
3. Catalysed national and county level conservation actions through convening national dialogues to mainstream biodiversity into sectors of the economy
4. Enabled Nature Kenya to contribute and participate in national, regional and international conservation network forums

### **Component 2:** *Participatory forest management contributes to improved livelihoods of poor communities, and reduce pressure on ecosystems and biodiversity*

Nature Kenya through participatory forest management contributed to improved livelihoods through a number of livelihood interventions linked to the reduction of poverty of forest adjacent communities. The program supported a number of livelihood interventions (ecotourism, climate smart agriculture, beekeeping, butterfly farming, chicken rearing, tree nurseries and farm forestry) to improve the living standards of forest adjacent communities living in Dakatcha Woodland, Arabuko Sokoke Forest and Taita Hills Forests. 9 community groups associated with DABICO, the Taita Hills SSG with 189members (68men, 121women), 3563 members of ASFADA, the Arabuko Sokoke SSG (1240men, 2323women) and 8 community groups associated with DWCG, the Dakatcha Woodland SSG with 325members (118men, 207women) were direct beneficiaries of the program livelihood initiatives. Income from butterfly farming increased by 750% from KSh.2.1million to KSh.18million between 2015 and 2017. Combined income from honey sales increased from KSh. 0.4million in 2015 to KSh.1.95million in 2017 while combined income from ecotourism activities increased from KSh. 0.845 million in 2015 to KSh. 9.46million in 2017. 350 farmers were trained and supported to acquire certified seeds for maize, green-grams and cowpeas to promote climate smart agriculture. As a result of these interventions Nature Kenya was able to improve the community living standards and human well being at household level. The capacity of groups was built on enterprise development, institutional management and gender mainstreaming.

IBA monitoring was carried out in all three program sites. Detailed IBA monitoring indicated that all trigger bird species were present in the three sites. Pressure to the sites increased since the beginning

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of Phase I due to prolonged drought. However, there was an overall reduction of illegal activities recorded like small game hunting, number of cut poles and animal snares. Dakatcha Woodland faced the highest number of threats mainly due to charcoal production enabled by lack of land formal adjudication.

**Kommenterede [CM1]:** What does this mean exactly?

Nine Community Forest Associations (SUNDIFU, VUCOFA, CHACOFA, NGACOFA, IYAWEMBI, Sokoke, Jilore, Gede, Dakatcha) with a membership of 5200 benefited from Participatory Forest Management processes. Nature Kenya developed 2 PFMP for Vuria CFA and Chawia CFA, reviewed 1 PFMP (Gede CFA), catalyzed the signing of 2 forest management agreements between Sokoke CFA and Jilore CFA with Kenya Forest Service involving local community and government stakeholders. Nature Kenya involved local communities in monitoring and implementing recommendation plans where 27 representatives from the 9 CFAs were trained in PFM. As a result the target communities now understand their role, rights, responsibilities and rewards from participating in forest conservation. The lessons learned have facilitated the review of the national guidelines on PFM with major contributions from Phase I PFM initiatives.

In summary;

1. Nature Kenya supported 9 CFAs to implement participatory forest management
2. 2 CFAs in Taita (Vuria, Chawia) developed their first Participatory Forest Management Plans
3. 2 CFAs in Arabuko (Jilore and Sokoke) signed Forest Management Agreement with KFS
4. Nature Kenya initiated and supported livelihood improvement initiatives which included beekeeping, butterfly farming, poultry keeping, fish farming, ecotourism, community tree nurseries, table banking and climate smart agriculture.
5. Developed business plans and value chains for sustainable community driven enterprises
6. Supported over 2500 households with 12000 beneficiaries and 16 local schools with 8000 students to adopt clean energy saving cook stoves
7. Energy saving cook stoves saved 67% of fuel wood use (reducing pressure on forests) and up to 60% of cooking time. Additional health benefits were reduced exposure to smoke and heat which have positive implication to community well-being.
8. Carried out forest restoration activities through tree planting of 243,000 trees approximately restoring 243ha of forest (130ha in Arabuko, 23ha in Taita hills, 90ha in Dakatcha woodland)

### **Component 3:** *Local civil society groups are empowered to engage in rights based advocacy and political processes*

Nature Kenya has worked to empower local civil society groups to engage in advocacy and supported 3 Site Support Groups (SSGs) from Dakatcha (DWCG), Taita (DWCG) and Arabuko (ASFADA) which are part of the 25 SSGs spread across Kenya. In addition to this, Nature Kenya worked to empower 9 CFAs (SUNDIFU, VUCOFA, CHACOFA, NGACOFA, IYAWEMBI, Sokoke, Jilore, Gede, Dakatcha CFA) to promote participatory forest management where forest adjacent communities are recognised as key stakeholders to achieving sustainable forest conservation. As a result of this engagement, 2 forest management plans have been developed, and implementation of 7 plans have taken place. The SSGs and the CFAs are now recognized as key stakeholder at county decision making consultation and policy and legislation formulation. SSGs have been integrated in county Natural Resource stakeholder forums in Kilifi and Taita Taveta counties. As a result CFAs and SSGs have been empowered to know their roles and right to influence national forest conservation initiatives. For example, ASFADA successfully lobbied national government to enforce national wide moratorium of harvesting plantation trees while DWCG and DCFA successfully engaged Kilifi County government to start land adjudication processes aimed at safeguarding Dakatcha Woodland. Finally, 3 CFAs in Arabuko Sokoke were integrated to the Arabuko Sokoke Forest Management Team through review of the operational procedures which was initially comprised of representation from government agencies. This is aimed to improve services to the local community through community driven priorities.

Summary of results:

1. Initiated County Natural Resource Forums in Kilifi and Taita Taveta counties which provide platform for local communities to meet with duty bearers

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2. Supported Kilifi county to consultatively develop county policies and legislations
3. Engaged Kilifi County Assembly Committee members on environment to discuss county conservation matters
4. Built capacity of CFAs and SSGs on lobbying and advocacy
5. SSGs were able to reach out to local media to raise awareness on their rights to local forest resources and fight against corruption of government officers who are meant to be resource custodians
6. Local CFAs in Arabuko Sokoke were integrated in the ASFMT committee
7. Nature Kenya participated in national conservation lobbying and advocacy networks to unify responses to governments
8. Lobbied government to recognise Dakatcha Woodland as a viable wildlife corridor and dispersal area
9. Advocated against degazettement of Arabuko Sokoke Forest for community resettlement plans by government
10. Participated and supported SSGs to mark global environmental days which reached out to over 30000 community members

***Describe the main contacts established in Phase I and the key achievements and learning from your advocacy efforts?***

Nature Kenya was able to successfully make contacts with key duty bearers who included the Cabinet Secretaries of Environment and Natural Resources and Mining. By implementing the advocacy strategy, Nature Kenya was able to lobby the government to halt plans to degazette sections of Arabuko Sokoke forest for community resettlement and recognise wildlife dispersal area which encompasses Dakatcha woodland. Through the Ministry of Environment and Natural Resources, Nature Kenya catalysed dialogue on the implementation of the National Forest Program and Mainstreaming biodiversity to sectors of the economy and contributed to the NBSAP Kenya process

***Describe what you consider the overall key learning from Phase I***

The program generated key lessons which can be adopted at other sites in Kenya. Nature Kenya supported CFA on participatory forest management processes which generated lessons to inform the review of the national guidance on PFM. By catalysing county level conservation stakeholder engagement, which resulted in setting up of the Kilifi County Natural Resource Stakeholders forum. This concept was shared and adopted by Taita Taveta county. Nature Kenya also addressed drivers of deforestation mainly the demand of fuel wood. By piloting innovative mechanisms to address these drivers Nature Kenya supported 2500 households and 16 schools with energy saving cook stoves. As a result this reduced fuel wood use by 60%, saved the amount of time used for cooking and searching of firewood by 66%. For institutions it translated to improved school performance as a result of increased contact time between teachers and students. In the long term this will result in increased literacy levels of the local community, and improved community well-being due to reduced exposure to smoke emissions and heat

1. Progressing participatory forest management processes at site level have positive implications for national forest conservation
2. Improving the livelihood and well-being of forest adjacent communities promotes changes in attitude to support forest conservation
3. With enhanced capacity of local community groups (SSG,CFA), Nature Kenya created site conservation champions and advocates at site level
4. County governments are willing to support conservation initiatives but lack expertise and human resource capacity
5. Providing guidance to county governments in formulation of policy and legislative frameworks on environment and forestry is a good foundation for the sector
6. Inter-site collaboration and lesson sharing is important to strengthen program delivery
7. The forest conservation agenda is still under resourced at government level, where other sectors i.e. infrastructure, and health receive precedence in budgetary allocation
8. Biodiversity mainstreaming to other sectors of economy is a key strategy to garner cross-sector support for nature conservation initiatives

**Kommenterede [CM2]:** Could you make a list of the key contacts? Thanks

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| 9. Managing expectations of target communities is important for the smooth implementation of a programme |
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<b>2. The Partner</b>
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<b><i>Describe if any new capacities have been developed in your organisation? What is the key learning and how has the capacity of a) the organisation, and or b) individual staff been built? How will raised capacity influence your future work?</i></b>
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Nature Kenya capacity has been enhanced. Through staff recruitment; 6 field staff (2 at each program site), policy and advocacy officer and local empowerment manager. Actively strengthened communication by launching new Nature Kenya website, procuring of communication equipment, timely production of monthly nature net, annual Kenya Birding magazine and IBA Status and Trend report. Institutional financial management was enhanced by ensuring proper financial procedures were followed by all program staff. Building internal institutional capacity will enhance the overall implementation of Nature Kenya's strategic plan.
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Staff were trained on;
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| <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Fundamentals of modern campaigns (1 Staff; John Kiptum)</li> <li>2. Training on gender mainstreaming (1 Staff; Charles Kiama)</li> <li>3. Fellowship: Towards addressing climate change (1 Staff; Francis Kagema)</li> <li>4. Fundraising for non-profits organisations (2 Staff; Gloria Waswa, Norman Kiboi)</li> <li>5. Basic training in advocacy (1 Staff; John Kiptum)</li> <li>6. Training in leadership and management in community development programs (1 Staff; Charles Kiama)</li> <li>7. Personnel management and supervisory skills (4 Staff; Paul Gacheru, Denvas Gekonde, Serah Munguti, Joel Siele)</li> <li>8. Communication skills (4 Staff; John Kiptum, Francis Kagema, John Mwacharo, Norman Kiboi)</li> <li>9. Training on managing impacts from development projects (4 Staff; Paul Gacheru, Dr. Paul Matiku, Fred Barasa, Serah Munguti)</li> <li>10. Programs monitoring and evaluation (1 Staff; Carol Kabilu)</li> <li>11. Eastern Afromontane master class on project development and financial management (2 Staff; Paul Gacheru, Cecilia Mueni)</li> <li>12. Advanced beekeeping management and products value addition (3 Staff; Charles Kiama, Milka Musyoki, Brian Wambua)</li> <li>13. Participatory forest management (3 Staff; Gilbay Obunga, Edwin Utumbi, Charles Kiama)</li> <li>14. Training in INTRINSIC Tool Application (17 Staff; Edwin Utumbi, Gilbay Obunga, Brian Wambua, Francis Kagema, Milka Musyoki, Juliet Mbaka, Kalama Ali, Simon Shati, Emily Mateche, Fred Barasa, Charles Kiama, Joel Siele, George Odera, Hassan Ibrahim)</li> <li>15. TESSA toolkit application (10 Staff; Francis Kagema, Milka Musyoki, Brian Wambua, George Odera, Hassan Ibrahim, Paul Gacheru, Kalama Ali, Juliet Mbaka, Edwin Utumbi, Serah Munguti)</li> <li>16. Engagement of high net worthy individuals (7 Staff; Denvas Gekonde, Serah Munguti, Paul Gacheru, Joel Siele, Paul Matiku, Gloria Waswa, Carol Kabilu)</li> </ol> |
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<b><i>Describe any changes that have taken place in your organisation that may have been affected by or affected programme implementation (e.g. change of staff, government regulations etc.)</i></b>
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There was no major change that may have affected program delivery. The slow start was associated with time lost during recruitment of program field staff. In year 2 Program Manager, Joan Gichuki left Nature Kenya and to avoid delays the program management was taken over by Paul Gacheru, the Species and Sites Manager who was already involved in program implementation. This ensured a smooth transition. Nature Kenya enhanced capacity by recruiting a Local Empowerment Manager and a Policy and Advocacy Officer. Kenya
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had a general election which took at least 8 months in 2017 and slowed activities. The no cost extension into 2018 helped Nature Kenya recover lost time.

**3. Project Implementation**

***Describe and reflect on relevant context related issues that have influenced on implementation (new policies, elections, climate/weather related issues, new opportunities (for instance invitation to participate in official delegations)***

Governance devolution from national government to counties influenced program implementation. Forestry is one of the sectors, which was devolved and is relevant to this program. As a result county governments were required to formulate policy and legislation that govern the forestry sector. Nature Kenya supported Kilifi county through the county Ministry of Environment to setup and convene county stakeholders' natural resource forum which provided expertise in policy development. As a result the forum supported in formulation of the forestry policy, forest conservation bill and wood fuel regulations which were submitted through the county assembly environment committee for debate and adoption by the Kilifi county. Lessons learned from Kilifi county were shared with the counterpart in Taita Taveta which influenced setting up a county natural resource stakeholder forum under leadership of the minister in charge of Environment, Natural Resource and Land.

Nature Kenya participated actively and provided input to the development of the National Forest Program (NFP). After the program finalization and launch by the Cabinet Secretary Ministry of Environment and Natural Resources, Nature Kenya catalyzed the implementation of the NFP by supporting a national dialogue on biodiversity mainstreaming to sectors of the economy through the Ministry. This event was officiated by the Cabinet Secretary bringing together 91 representatives from 10 government agencies, 11 NGOs, 6 private sector, 4 media, 6 CBOs and 2 universities.

In 2017, Kenya held general elections which had an impact on turnover on county and national level legislators. As a result there was a slow down on program implementation during that period though time was recovered in the no-cost extension period.

From 2015 to 2017, Kenya faced prolonged drought, which affected all the three program sites. This had an impact on weather influenced livelihood initiatives like beekeeping, tree nurseries and climate smart agriculture. As a result, IBA monitoring data showed increased pressure on forest resources in Dakatcha Woodland, Taita Hills forests and Arabuko Sokoke forest.

During the implementation phase of the program a number of issues influenced activities;

1. Prolonged drought: During the 3 year program phase Kenya faced drought which affected livelihood initiatives at site level.
2. In the last year of Phase I, Kenya held national elections whose electioneering period took 6-8 months. These had implications at county level engagement with government officials.
3. By catalyzing duty bearer engagement in Kilifi county, a county natural resource stakeholder's forum was setup. This was instrumental in formulating county policy and legislations to guide the environment and forest sector
4. Forest management functions were devolved to county level with key forest remaining under the national government management by Kenya Forest Service. There were a number of key components especially on formulating policies and legislation by county governments to guide sustainable forest conservation.
5. Catalyzed implementation of the National Forest Program by supporting the Ministry of Environment and Natural Resources to convene national dialogue to mainstream biodiversity into sectors of the economy.

***Describe how stakeholders (target groups) have been involved in the intervention and how they have***



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<p><b><i>responded to involvement and benefits</i></b></p>
<p>The program supported 9 CFAs (SUNDIFU, VUCOFA, CHACOFA, NGACOFA, IYAWEMBI, Sokoke, Jilore, Gede, Dakatcha CFA) and 3 SSGs (DABICO, DWCG, ASFADA) with constituent community based organizations. The 9 CFAs (5 CFAs in Taita Hills Forest, 3 in Arabuko Sokoke Forest, 1 in Dakatcha Woodland) were facilitated to progress participatory forest management at the three program sites. Two CFAs in Taita (VUCOFA, CHACOFA) developed forest management plans, and Jilore and Sokoke CFAs signed forest management agreements. All CFAs implemented components of their management plans by carrying out forest patrols, monitoring and forest restoration activities. As a result of empowering the forest adjacent communities, community policing of forest was carried out and illegal activities reported to relevant government agencies. Community Forest Associations in Arabuko Sokoke Forest catalyzed national reforms in the forestry sector following continuous lobbying and advocacy. This resulted in gazettement of a national wide moratorium stopping forest products harvesting by the Cabinet Secretary Ministry of Environment pending review of forest sector operations</p>
<p>The program supported a number of livelihood interventions (ecotourism, climate smart agriculture, beekeeping, butterfly farming, chicken rearing, tree nurseries and farm forestry) to improve the living standards of forest adjacent communities living in Dakatcha Woodland, Arabuko Sokoke Forest and Taita Hills Forests. A total of 9 community groups associated with DABICO, Taita Hills SSG with 189members (68men, 121women), 3563 members of ASFADA, Arabuko Sokoke SSG (1240men, 2323women) and 8community groups associated with DWCG, Dakatcha Woodland SSG with 325members (118men, 207women) were direct beneficiaries to the program livelihood initiatives.</p>
<p>The program aimed to provide a platform for these community groups to engage collaboratively with local government on sustainable forest conservation. Key benefits that these groups have received include;</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. 2 CFAs received support to develop PFMP</li> <li>2. Linked CFAs with government where 2 CFAs were able to sign Forest Management Agreements</li> <li>3. Provided equipment to support livelihood initiative for SSGs i.e. beehives, butterfly cage construction, fish farming, tree nursery equipment, energy saving clean cook stoves</li> <li>4. Supported with seed capital for SSGs to engage in table banking initiatives</li> <li>5. Provided expertise training opportunities to local communities on PFM (25 representatives), Beekeeping husbandry (15 representatives), fundamentals of ornithology (12 community guides), gender mainstreaming (117community members), communication and advocacy (90community members), business planning and value chains (65 community members)</li> <li>6. Mentorship of community groups by follow up on their institutional development</li> <li>7. Supported exposure and cross-learning opportunities through annual SSG national forum and site exchange visits</li> </ol>
<p><b><i>Describe and assess the achievement of outputs and the key learning hereof</i></b></p>
<p><i>Output 1.1: Partners' skills, learning and knowledge sharing facilitated and enhanced</i> Nature Kenya capacity has been enhanced. Through staff recruitment; 6 field staff (2 at each program site), policy and advocacy officer and local empowerment manager. Actively strengthened communication by launching new Nature Kenya website, procuring of communication equipment, timely production of monthly nature net, annual Kenya Birding magazine and IBA Status and Trend report.</p>
<p><i>Output 1.2: Program partners increasingly engage in advocacy for local involvement in biodiversity conservation</i> Nature Kenya capacity was enhanced to strategically work with the integration of poverty reduction and nature protection in Arabuko Sokoke Forest, Taita Hills Forest and Dakatcha Woodland through piloting, supporting and documenting poverty reduction initiatives successes and challenges. Lessons were shared in 7 county, 5 national, 3 regional and 5 international forums. These include, participation in the annual UK bird fair, presentation in Forest Seminar organized by CISU, presentation in Kilifi and Taita Taveta counties Natural Resource forum, supporting university students to carry out social studies in the program sites and production of publicity materials which are shared with partners.</p>

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During Phase I, Nature Kenya was able to develop a communication and advocacy strategy which highlight approaches to engage with different sectors of the economy. This strategy has been domesticated by 3 SSGs from Arabuko Sokoke, Dakatcha and Taita

### *Output 1.3: Duty bearers' skills for participatory forest management increased through formal and informal involvement in the program*

Nature Kenya is an active member of national stakeholder forums like Kenya Forest Working Group, Conservation Alliance of Kenya, Sustainable Agriculture Network, Kenya Wetlands Forum, National Indian House Crow Control Committee, National Bird Task Force, Kenya Bird Conservation Consortium, which are nature protection national 'think tank' groups. As a result Nature Kenya has reviewed 47 EIA reports since 2015, participated in 5 National Bird Task Force meetings, 3 National Indian House Crow Committee and 4 Sustainable Agriculture Network forums.

Nature Kenya participated actively and provided input in the development of the National Forest Program (NFP) and catalyzed the implementation of the NFP by supporting a national dialogue on biodiversity mainstreaming to sectors of the economy through the Ministry. This event was officiated by the Cabinet Secretary bringing together 91 representatives from 10 government agencies, 11 NGOs, 6 private sector, 4 media, 6 CBOs and 2 universities.

### *Output 2.1 : Local women, men and children have enhanced skills for sustainable equitable and improved livelihoods*

The program supported a number of livelihood interventions (ecotourism, climate smart agriculture, beekeeping, butterfly farming, chicken rearing, tree nurseries and farm forestry) to improve the living standards of forest adjacent communities living in Dakatcha Woodland, Arabuko Sokoke Forest and Taita Hills Forests. A total of 9 community groups associated with DABICO, Taita Hills SSG with 189members (68men, 121women), 3563 members of ASFADA, Arabuko Sokoke SSG (1240men, 2323women) and 8community groups associated with DWCG, Dakatcha Woodland SSG with 325members (118men, 207women) were direct beneficiaries to the program livelihood initiatives. 350 farmers were trained and supported to acquire certified seeds for maize, green-grams and cowpeas to promote climate smart agriculture. Income from butterfly farming increased by 750% from KSh.2.1million to KSh.18million between 2015 and 2017. Combined income from honey sales increased from KSh. 0.4million in 2015 to KSh.1.95million in 2017 while combined income from ecotourism activities increased from KSh. 0.845 million in 2015 to KSh. 9.46million in 2017. 2500 households (950 Dakatcha, 700 Arabuko, 850 Taita Hills) were supported with energy saving cook stoves with 15,000 direct total beneficiaries. 16 institutional energy saving cook-stoves were installed in 15schools with population of 8000students. The energy saving cookstoves reduced fuel wood use by 67%. As a result of these interventions Nature Kenya was able to improve community living standards and human well being at household level.

### *Output 2.2 Women have strengthened capacity to equal participation in the Program and benefit equally with men*

Nature Kenya ensured that women capacity was strengthened during program implementation. As a result women representation in community groups was notably increased; DABICO, Taita Hills SSG with 189members (68men, 121women), 3563 members of ASFADA, Arabuko Sokoke SSG (1240men, 2323women) and 8 community groups associated with DWCG, Dakatcha Woodland SSG with 325 members (118men, 207women). Nature Kenya carried out a gender analysis study which provided recommendations on gender mainstreaming in program activities, implemented a two third (2/3) gender rule on representation and participation in program activities and initiated women only livelihood initiatives, poultry farming reaching out to 120 women from 9 women groups in Arabuko Sokoke Forest, and 5 women group in Dakatcha Woodland. As a result, a model on 'women in conservation' was initiated and piloted in Dakatcha Woodland

### *Output 2.3: Local communities are collaboratively managing forests with government partners and share benefits and responsibilities*

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Nature Kenya catalysed development and implementation of participatory forest management plans to program participatory forest management in Kenya. Nature Kenya worked in three sites - Taita Hills Forest, Arabuko Sokoke Forest and Dakatcha Woodland - to build the capacity of local communities to improve participatory forest management practices. We build and enhanced capacity of 9 CFAs (SUNDIFU, VUCOFA, CHACOFA, NGACOFA, IYAWEMBI, Sokoke, Jilore, Gede, Dakatcha) on Participatory Forest Management. Nature Kenya supported 2 CFAs in Taita Hills (CHACOFA and VUCOFA) to develop participatory forest management plans, and in addition catalysed discussions between Kenya Forest Service and; Jilore CFA and Sokoke CFA which resulted in the signing of Forest Management Agreements.

### *Output 2.4 : Monitoring results indicate improved biodiversity and eco-system services*

Nature Kenya contributed to the realization of participatory forest management where 50 members of the SSG (15;DWCG, 15;ASFADA, 20;DABICO) were trained on IBA monitoring protocols catalyzing site locally based monitoring. As a result, forest adjacent community members carried out common bird monitoring and detailed IBA monitoring and participated in filling the IBA basic monitoring forms. These results were published in the 3 Annual IBA status and Trends report 2015 to 2017. Nature Kenya also catalyzed the development of 3 species conservation action plans to guide stakeholder on species conservation initiatives aimed at threat removal associated with species extinction risks. Results indicate that the overall response at the program sites have increased, pressure to the sites has also increased, IBA state score has improved in Taita, reduced in Arabuko and Dakatcha.

### *Output 3.1 : Program civil society groups have capacity to act as independent democratic organizations for the benefit of their communities*

Nature Kenya worked with 3 Site Support Groups (SSGs); Dakatcha (DWCG), Taita (DWCG) and Arabuko (ASFADA). In addition to this, we have empowered 9 CFAs (SUNDIFU, VUCOFA, CHACOFA, NGACOFA, IYAWEMBI, Sokoke, Jilore, Gede, Dakatcha CFA). These community groups' capacity has been enhanced through training in leadership, governance, financial book-keeping, record keeping, communication and advocacy, conflict management, gender mainstreaming and participatory forest management. As a result the groups have held group elections to elect officials ensuring women representation in leadership positions. They have also developed communication and advocacy strategies.

### *Output 3.2 : Civil society networks engage in advocacy for participatory natural resource management and benefit sharing*

Nature Kenya has worked to empower local civil society groups to engage in advocacy and worked with 3 Site Support Groups (SSGs) from Dakatcha (DWCG), Taita (DWCG) and Arabuko (ASFADA) and 9 CFAs (SUNDIFU, VUCOFA, CHACOFA, NGACOFA, IYAWEMBI, Sokoke, Jilore, Gede, Dakatcha CFA) to promote participatory forest management where forest adjacent communities are recognised as key stakeholders to achieving sustainable forest conservation. As a result of this engagement, 2 forest management plans have been developed, and implementation of 7 plans have taken place

### *Output 3.3: Civil society is included in governmental decision making processes at decentralized levels*

The SSGs and the CFAs are now recognized as key stakeholder at county decision making consultation and policy and legislation formulation. SSGs have been integrated in county Natural Resource stakeholders forums in Kilifi and Taita Taveta counties. As a result CFAs and SSGs have been empowered to know their roles and right to influence national forest conservation initiatives. ASFADA successfully lobbied national government to enforce national wide moratorium of harvesting plantation trees while DWCG and DCFA successfully engaged Kilifi County government to start land adjudication processes aimed at safeguarding Dakatcha Woodland. Three CFAs in Arabuko Sokoke were integrated to the Arabuko Sokoke Forest Management Team which was comprised of representation from government agencies (KFS, KEFRI, NMK, KWS) after review of the operational procedures.

## **4. Assessment of changes and results**

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***Describe and assess to which extent and how expected change has taken place and whether these have left to desired impacts***

In the implementation of the program, Nature Kenya's mission was to connect people with nature for a sustainable future. We aimed to integrate livelihood and conservation by enhancing capacities of forest adjacent communities living around Dakatcha woodland, Taita Hills and Arabuko Sokoke forest. We assessed the state, pressure and responses of three IBAs. Results indicate that overall responses in the sites have increased, pressure to the sites has also increased, IBA state score has improved in Taita, and reduced in Arabuko and Dakatcha. We catalyzed development of 3 species conservation action plans to guide stakeholders on species conservation initiatives aimed at threat removal associated with species extinction risks. Monitoring results show that all the trigger bird species of the program sites populations were stable compared to the baselines.

The program supported a number of livelihood interventions (ecotourism, climate smart agriculture, beekeeping, butterfly farming, chicken rearing, tree nurseries and farm forestry) to improve the living standards of forest adjacent communities living in Dakatcha Woodland, Arabuko Sokoke Forest and Taita Hills Forests. Capacity was enhanced for 3 Site Support Groups and 9 Community Forest Associations. As a result there was increased revenue earned by the local community compared to the baseline; Combined income from honey sales increased from KSh. 0.4million in 2015 to KSh.1.95million in 2017 while combined income from ecotourism activities increased from KSh. 0.845 million in 2015 to KSh. 9.46million in 2017. Income from butterfly farming increased by 750% from KSh.2.1million to KSh.18million between 2015 and 2017. We supported 2500 households (950 Dakatcha, 700 Arabuko, 850 Taita Hills) were supported with energy saving cook stoves with 15,000 direct total beneficiaries. 16 institutional energy saving cook-stoves were installed in 15 schools with population of 8000 students. The energy saving cookstoves reduced fuel wood use by 67%. In addition, cooking time was significantly reduced allowing timely meal provisioning for the students therefore increasing teacher-student contact time. As a result of these interventions we were able to improve the community living standards and human well being at household level.

To assess the participatory forest management practices, Nature Kenya worked with 9 CFAs; 5 in Taita hills forest, 3 in Arabuko Sokoke forest and 1 in Dakatcha woodland. By the end of phase 1, all CFAs had development participatory forest management plans. 3 CFAs (Jilore, Sokoke, Gede) have signed Forest Management Agreements. Working closely with the Kilifi County government and consultatively supported stakeholders' forums. As a result; a county forest policy, forest bill and a wood fuel regulations were formulated. These policies were submitted to the county assembly for scrutiny prior to passing them as law to guide county forest conservation agenda.

In summary;

1. The program has influenced the progress of best practices of Participatory Forest Management nationally and at county level.
2. Due to drought experienced across the country, increased encroachment on the forest was recorded.
3. Capacity of local community groups has been enhanced on lobbying and advocacy where they are able to raise their concerns on conservation threats faced at their sites
4. Supported livelihood initiatives which have earned local community income and improved their well-being.

***Describe and assess the Most Significant Changes from your point of view and in the opinion of various stakeholders/target groups***

A most significant change approach was applied in the program in 2017. One of the significant changes was the integration of 3 CFAs (Sokoke, Jilore, Gede) representation in the Arabuko Sokoke Forest Management Team (ASFMT) which was initially comprised of only government agencies (KFS, KWS, KEFRI, NMK). The inclusion of CFAs to the ASFMT shows the recognition of the significance of forest adjacent communities' management of forest resources.

Following capacity development of SSGs and CFAs on communication, lobbying and advocacy, ASFADA the

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SSG in Arabuko Sokoke forest reached out to local media to raise concerns of the ongoing destruction of the forest. As a result, this message reached the Cabinet Secretary Ministry of Environment who enforced a national wide moratorium on harvesting on forest products. This paved way to review of Kenya forest Service structure overseen by a task force on forest resources management and logging activities in Kenya.
<b><i>Describe in which ways PPN I has contributed to the planning and implementation of better forest management. Describe how the capacity of forest user groups/LCGs/SSGs etc. has been built and how that has translated into improved forest management. Describe how PPN has contributed to increased cooperation between stakeholders (GOV – civil society, networks etc.)</i></b>
PPN-I contributed to better forest management. It enabled development and implementation of participatory forest management plans to guide forest conservation at program sites. Nature Kenya worked in three sites; Taita Hills Forest, Arabuko Sokoke Forest and Dakatcha Woodland; to build the capacity of local communities to improve participatory forest management practices. We build and enhanced capacity of 9 CFAs (SUNDIFU, VUCOFA, CHACOFA, NGACOFA, IYAWEMBI, Sokoke, Jilore, Gede, Dakatcha) on Participatory Forest Management. We supported 2 CFAs in Taita Hills (CHACOFA and VUCOFA) to develop participatory forest management plans. In addition, we catalysed discussions between Kenya Forest Service and; Jilore CFA and Sokoke CFA which resulted to the signing of Forest Management Agreements. As a result CFAs and SSGs have been empowered to know their roles and right to influence forest conservation initiatives. PPN I has contribute to better forest management by; <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Providing opportunity for CFAs to collaboratively develop Participatory Forest Management Plans</li> <li>2. Support CFAs with training on best practices on implementation of PFM</li> <li>3. CFAs capacity is enhanced to be in position to sign Forest Management Agreement with KFS</li> <li>4. SSGs have implemented conservation actions to reduce pressure on forests i.e. promoting energy saving cook-stoves, habitat restoration, carrying out LBM</li> <li>5. Created opportunities for local SSGs and CFAs to engage with county and national government, through county NR forums and invitation to national conservation forums</li> <li>6. CFAs and SSGs have been recognised as key stakeholders at site level where they are consulted on county development agenda setting i.e. They were involved in the formulation of the 2017-2022 County Integrated Development Plans</li> </ol>
<b><i>Describe how women, poor and indigenous peoples have benefitted and how and if the programme has contributed to increased equity in local communities</i></b>
In the program, we ensured that gender mainstreaming was adopted in the program activities. This involved training of field staff on gender mainstreaming who in turn translated this to local communities at their site level. As a result, we started to record women being elected groups leadership positions.  We initiated women only activities by targeting organised women groups at all program sites. The main activities were chicken rearing, table banking, energy saving cook stoves and tree nursery establishment. A total of 150 women were involved from 18 women groups; 9 women groups in Arabuko Sokoke Forest, 5 women group in Dakatcha Woodland and 4 women group in Taita; were beneficiaries (Women in Conservation). We implemented a two third (2/3) gender rule on representation and participation on program activities. 2500 households benefited with energy saving cook stoves, 16 local schools (Climate Friendly Schools) with population of 8000 students received institutional cook-stoves which have recorded positive results by increased performance of students and reduced family contribution to school feeding program
<b>5. Financial issues</b>
<b><i>Assess whether the budget was adequate for the implementation of the programme and its cost effectiveness related to your work</i></b>
Overall the budget was adequate for program activity implementation but was overstretched on staff costs.

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**6. Materials**

***Describe which materials were produced during the programme (including those that can be uploaded electronically – scientific reports, articles, photos, video, screenshots from social media, TV and radio materials etc.)***

Nature Kenya strengthened program communication to reach out to members, duty bearers, the scientific community, and the general public. This happened by launching a new Nature Kenya website, procuring of communication equipment for each program site, timely production of monthly nature net, annual Kenya Birding magazine to promote Kenya as a birding destination, production of the annual IBA Status and Trend reports to inform national policy and progress national CBD processes. We also empowered local community groups through capacity development to enable them to reach out to local media and report threats faced on their sites, promote ecotourism and raise awareness on to the local community. As a result, a total of 15 articles were published in the Kenya Birding, 6 TV coverages, articles published in 20 editions of Nature Net, and 21 articles published in national newspapers. Below is are materials which were produced during this phase;

1. Supported with article published in 20 editions Nature Net publication ([www.naturekenya.org/publications/](http://www.naturekenya.org/publications/))
2. Supported with articles and production of 3 editions of Kenya Birding Magazine ([www.naturekenya.org/publications/](http://www.naturekenya.org/publications/))
3. Development and production of 3 Conservation action plans:- Taita Apalis, Taita Thrush, Sagalla Ceacelian ([www.naturekenya.org/publications/](http://www.naturekenya.org/publications/))
4. Supported in development and production of Bird of Dakatcha woodland guide
5. Tourism information pamphlet for Dakatacha Woodland and Taita hills forest
6. Development and production of 3 editions of the annual IBA Status and Trends report
7. Marketing pamphlet on butterflies through Mombasa Butterfly House
8. Supported production of information 4000 calendar for 2015-2016
9. Contributed to articles and production of the Kenya wildlife corridors and dispersal areas report
10. Contributed to the production of the Ecosystem Based Adaption guide to County and National Government ([www.naturekenya.org/publications/](http://www.naturekenya.org/publications/))
11. Supported the review and production of the national PFM handbook for facilitators
12. Facilitated media field visits to document and publish articles in local news papers
13. Contributed material for the production of the PPN I documentary
14. Supported Kipepeo Butterfly project to develop and setup functioning marketing websites ([www.kipepeo.org](http://www.kipepeo.org))
15. ASFADA Jamii Villas to develop and setup functioning marketing websites ([www.arabukojamii villas.com](http://www.arabukojamii villas.com))
16. Supported social media articles published on Nature Kenya platforms-YouTube, Facebook and Twitter

**7. Key learning and considerations for the next phase/sustainability**

***Describe the key learning that you will build upon in Phase II and how you have addressed sustainability in the implementation of Phase I***

In Phase II we intend to focus on the implementation of actions illustrated in CFAs Participatory Management Plans. This will include supporting CFAs in carrying out these actions. In addition, we will enhance the livelihood enterprises informed by the business plans and value chain developed in Phase I. We will enhance county government engagement especially in policy formulation and resource allocation to

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support SSG and CFAs to carry out conservation activities.

We will apply a strategy to involve high level county officials and departments in the program to provide buy-in to program implementation offering least resistance engagement especially in policy formulation. We will aim to manage expectations of target community for the smooth implementation of the programme.