CEPF Final Project Completion Report

Instructions to grantees: please complete all fields, and respond to all questions, below.

Organization Legal Name	Rainforest Alliance Inc.
Project Title	Conserving Biodiversity Through Sustainable Tea Farming Around Kibira National Park, Burundi
CEPF GEM No.	63362
Date of Report	29 Feb 2016
Report Author	Marc Monsarrat
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CEPF Region:
Eastern Afromontane Biodiversity Hotspot

Strategic Direction:
Strategic direction 1: Mainstream biodiversity into wider development policies, plans and projects to deliver the co-benefits of biodiversity conservation, improved local livelihoods and economic development in priority corridors.

Grant Amount:
$158,465.00

Project Dates:
2013/10/1 to 2015/12/31

1. **Implementation Partners for this Project *(list each partner and explain how they were involved in the project)***

Office du Thé du Burundi (OTB), Teza tea factory:
OTB is the Burundi tea parastatal body that manages five out of the six tea factories in Burundi. OTB's head office team in Bujumbura have been working with the Rainforest Alliance since 2012 and are committed to improving the sustainability of their factory operations, which collect green leaf from their own estates and surrounding smallholder communities. OTB is committed to achieving Rainforest Alliance Certified status for all of their factories, and the first two factories – Rwegura and Ijenda – achieved certification in March 2014 following a separate project led by the Rainforest Alliance. This gave OTB the confidence to move forward with this project. The local team at Teza factory was very involved throughout this project, receiving a diagnostic (gap assessment) followed by a series of training and follow-up visits to understand and implement improvements at the factory and estate level. This included designating and putting in place a network of conservation areas on the estate, making significant investments in factory infrastructure to comply with social and environmental requirements in the Sustainable Agriculture Network (SAN) standard, and operating tree nurseries. They also liaised with the smallholder cooperative supplying Teza factory to oversee the smallholder training programme and ensure progress was made in the preparations for certification, in parallel with those being undertaken at the factory and estate level.

Association Burundaise pour la protection de la Nature (ABN), formerly known as Association Burundaise pour la protection des Oiseaux (ABO):
ABN led the biodiversity assessment and tree nursery components of the project. ABN completed a biodiversity assessment baseline at the beginning of the project and a final assessment in December 2015. ABN oversaw the successful establishment of tree nurseries at the factory and surrounding communities through regular monitoring visits, as well as distribution of the tree seedlings.

Conservation Impacts

2. Describe how your project has contributed to the implementation of the CEPF ecosystem profile

This project took place in and around Teza tea factory, at the southern tip of Kibira National Park, which covers an area of 40,000 hectares and stretches north of Bujumbura towards the border with Rwanda, where it is contiguous with Nyungwe National Park (see photo 1). This area is part of the Itombwe-Nyungwe corridor as identified in the CEPF Ecosystem Profile. Teza is supplied by its own estate, but also by 10,579 smallholders in the adjoining communities. In total, Teza tea factory and its associated smallholder group covers an area of 2,253 hectares in this priority corridor.

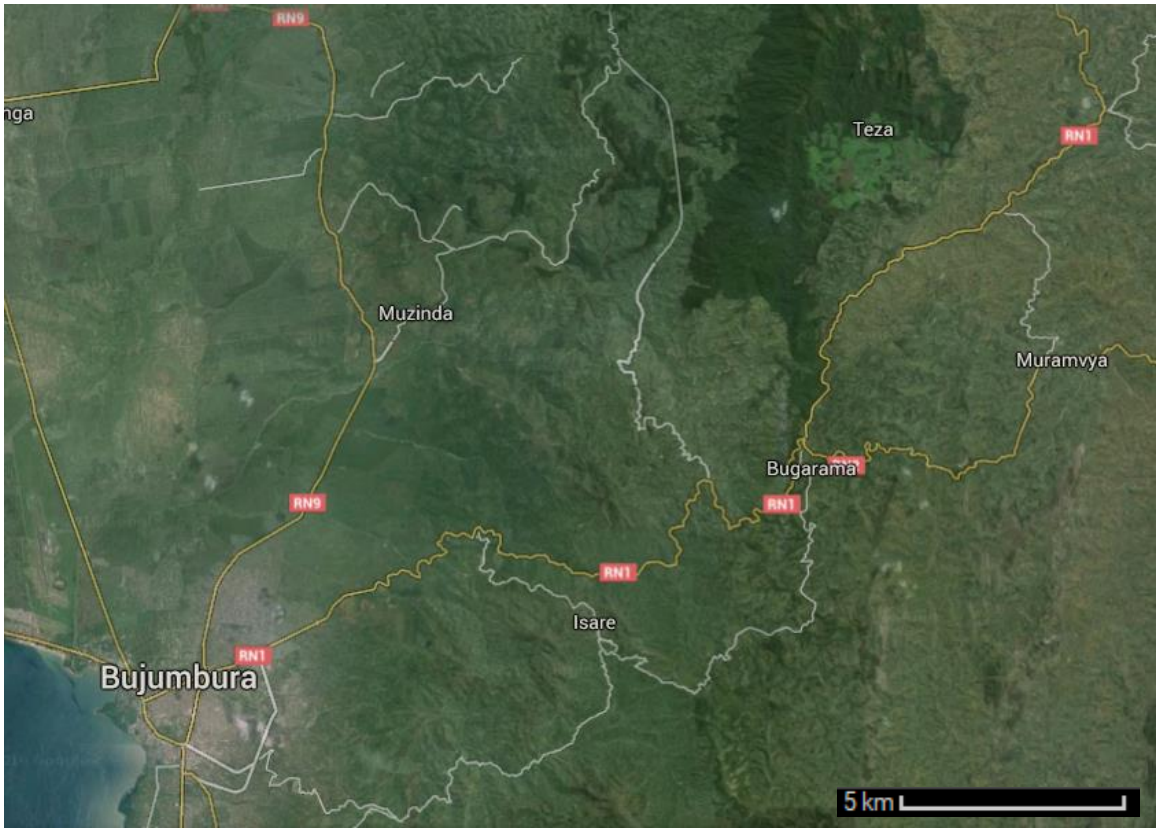

Photo 1: Google satellite image showing the location of the project in Teza (top right-hand corner). The tea estate is clearly visible in bright green.

This project contributed directly to Strategic Direction 1, mainstreaming biodiversity conservation into the management plans of the Teza factory, both through the nursery program and through the articulation of clear conservation policies in line with the SAN standard. Working with factory management and directly with smallholders in the adjoining communities, the project also delivered key social and economic improvements. This is expanded upon in the sections below.

3. Summarize the overall results/impact of your project

The project delivered training on best management practices through a train-the-trainer approach reaching more than 10,500 smallholder farms in and around Kibira, covering an area of over 5,500 hectares. Policies were implemented at the factory to safeguard biodiversity corridors in the estate, raising the awareness of the value of conservation areas among workers and surrounding communities. A total of 36,155 native and economically useful seedlings were planted in new conservation areas and on smallholder farms in the landscape. Following their establishment two years ago, the new conservation areas have shown significant rates of natural regeneration, with an increase in the number of bird species recorded by the end of the project.

Planned Long-term Impacts - 3+ years (as stated in the approved proposal)
List each long-term impact from Grant Writer proposal

Bird biodiversity and density is enhanced over a 3,000 hectare tea production landscape and the livelihoods of 12,500 smallholder tea farmers are improved by 2018.

4. Actual progress toward long-term impacts at completion

Improved management practices have been adopted across the smallholder population in and around Kibira. Continuous improvement within the context of the SAN standard, including a focus on ecosystem and wildlife conservation, will help to ensure long-term impact across the population and landscapes. The Teza estate itself has established clear conservation policies in an area of exiting mature stands of natural forest habitat covering 76 hectares, including the prohibition of wild animal hunting, trapping, domestic animal grazing and any cutting of vegetation. New biodiversity corridors covering a total area of 60 hectares were also established, with significant rates of natural regeneration. Planting out from nurseries is expected to continue beyond the end of the project, both through Teza factory and a private community nursery. An end-of-project bird survey conducted in these areas recorded an increase in the number of species relative to their designation as conservation areas 18 months prior. In six ecological corridors surveyed, the number of species recorded increased by between 18% and 116% (see further details in section 10 below).

The area targeted under the project exceeds 6,000 hectares, comprising 5,500 hectares under smallholder management and 589 hectares under estate management. The figure of 12,500 smallholder tea farmers was originally provided to the Rainforest Alliance as an estimate in the project design phase. At the time, Teza tea factory did not have a complete and systematized record of how many farms were supplying them. The application of the SAN standard spurred a new internal management system and new levels of record keeping, providing a more accurate, detailed survey of the factory supply base. This revealed a total number of 10,579 farmers. It is

important to note that the average household size in Burundi is 5.3 (WPF 2008)[1]. From this, we can infer that this project has had a positive impact on a total population of approximately 56,000 people in the communities around Teza, who depend on tea farming for their livelihoods.

Planned Short-term Impacts - 1 to 3 years (as stated in the approved proposal)
List each short-term impact from Grant Writer proposal

1. A 50 hectare ecological corridor is established on the Teza tea estates, leading to increased bird populations, by 2016
2. 140,000 indigenous and agroforestry tree species are planted in ecological corridors on the tea estate (50 Ha) and by smallholder farmers located in a pilot area of 300 ha by 2016.
3. Two community tree nurseries are running sustainably, providing native trees seedlings to local farmers on a regular basis by 2015.
4. A waste-water treatment facility is installed by the tea factory, ensuring that no untreated wastewater is discharged into neighbouring watercourses by 2015.

5. Actual progress toward short-term impacts at completion

1. Due to the density of tea production in this landscape, it was not possible to identify and implement regeneration practices on one single ecological area of 50 hectares. Instead, a patchwork approach was taken, identifying conservation areas in different locations around the tea factory, between tea production areas, one of which is contiguous with Kibira National Park forest. Instead of a single corridor of 50 hectares, a total of eight ecological corridors covering a total area 60.7 hectares were established in various parts of the Teza estate. Natural regeneration was noted in all but one of these areas, with the presence of early succession indigenous species such as *Polyscias fulva* (Parasol tree), *Neoboutonia macrocalyx* (Lace Leaf tree) and *Macaranga neomilbraediana* (see photo 2). The one area showing little regeneration is located next to the worker accommodation, where some grazing of livestock still occurs. This has been signaled to the factory as a challenge which they need to address through their biodiversity conservation plan.

[1] World Food Programme (WFP). 2008. *Comprehensive Food Security & Vulnerability Analysis: Burundi.* Rome: WFP.

Photo 2: Natural regeneration underway in an ecological corridor on Teza tea estate.

2. By December 2015, out of a total of 140,000 seeds planted in the nurseries, a total of 36,155 seedlings had been planted out in the estate and surrounding smallholder community. This total comprises of 27,800 Grevilea robusta, 6,320 *Prunus africana* (African cherry), 600 *Strombozia scheffleri*, and 1,435 *Chrysophyllum gorungosanum* (see photo 3). Again due to the density of tea farms in the landscape, it was not possible to identify a single concentrated area of 300 hectares for natural regeneration. Instead, tree seedlings were distributed among the 10,579 smallholder members of the group, to be planted in small conservation areas, usually along the boundaries of their farms or riparian areas. The area covered by these farms comes to a total of 5,500 ha.

Photo 3: *Prunus africana* planted in an estate ecological corridor.

A similar number of the native species (31,545 seedlings) still remain in the nurseries, but have not reached the stage where they can be planted out due to their slow growth rate (see photo 4). Unfortunately *Prunus Africana*, *Strombozia scheffleri*, and *Chrysophyllum gorungosanum* all suffered from a low germination rate of around 50%. The 30,000 avocado seedlings that were originally reared were not planted out due to the logistical challenges related to sourcing grafting material during the period of insecurity in the country in the second half of 2015.

Photo 4: *Strombozia scheffleri*, and *Chrysophyllum gorungosanum* in the nurseries.

3. Two nurseries were established under the project to rear the seedlings. The first one (with 85,000 seedlings) was established on the premises of Teza tea factory by ABN and was managed by the factory team. Teza factory is committed to continuing operation of the nursery in order to distribute the remaining seedlings, and also to establishing new native species seedlings for future distribution. The second nursery (with 55,000 seedlings) was established in the neighbouring community by ABN on a private plot of land with the permission and active involvement of the owner. In the future, this nursery will be managed by the owner of the land, who is committed to continuing production of economically useful tree species such as *Grevillea robusta*.

4. The wastewater treatment system was completed in the second half of 2014, during the factory preparations for certification (see photo 5). The system now ensures that no untreated wastewater is being discharged into the nearby Nyabihondo River, as it was previously. The infrastructure preparations for certification also included the construction of a new sanitation block for the factory and estate workers as the previous facilities had been inadequate (see photo 6). As a result of this project, the factory invested $3,600 on the wastewater treatment system, and $51,000 on the sanitation block.

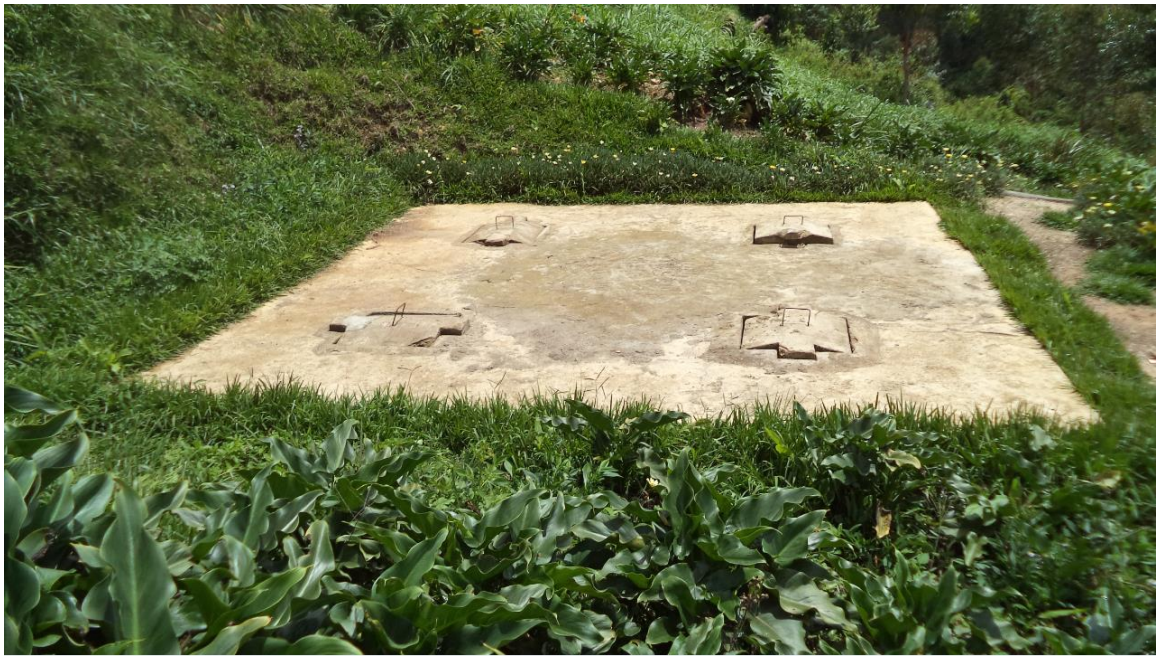

Photo 5: New wastewater treatment system installed by Teza tea factory, preventing the pollution of the Nyabihondo River.

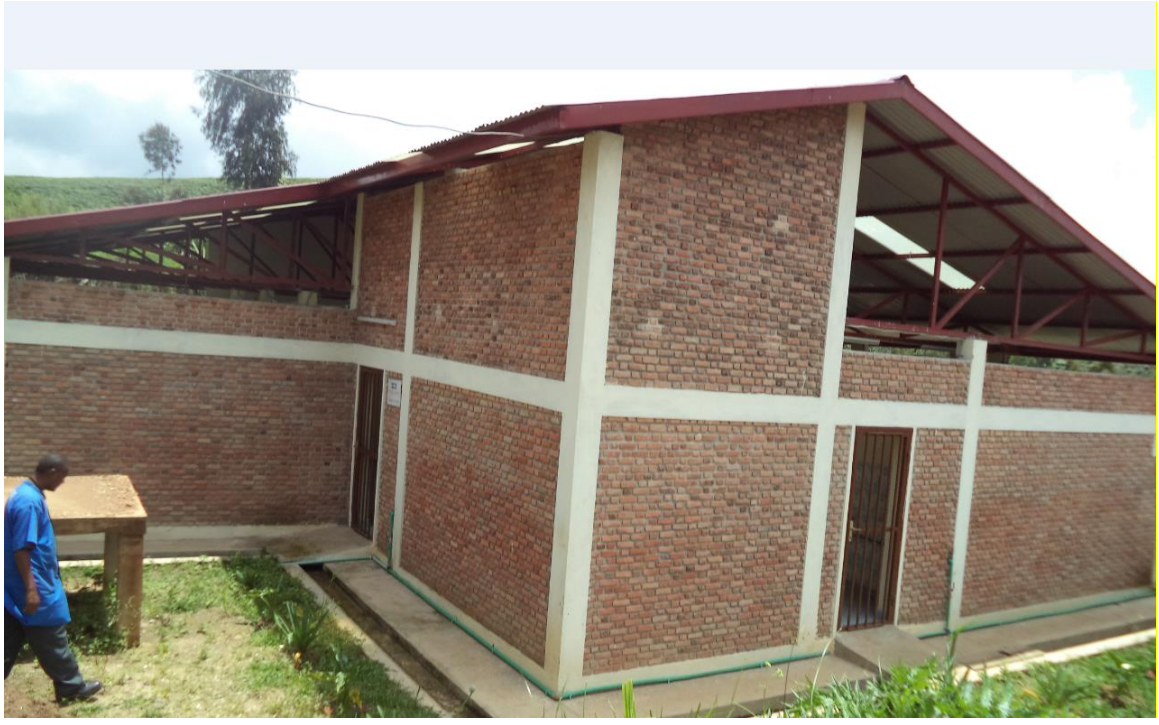

Photo 6: New worker sanitation block installed by Teza tea factory, improving wastewater management and working conditions of factory workers.

6. Describe the success or challenges of the project toward achieving its short-term and long-term impact objectives

The project has been successful in initiating a large-scale sustainability programme at Teza tea factory through the implementation of better practices at farm, estate *and* factory level. It has raised awareness on the importance of biodiversity conservation in the worker population and the local community, and a large number of trees have been planted out in ecological corridors and smallholder farms. However, the project suffered from a significant challenge over its final nine months, when the security situation in Burundi deteriorated greatly following President Pierre Nkurunziza's decision to stand for a third term in March 2015, disputed by large sections of Burundi society. Protests, clashes with security forces and killings have occurred on a regular basis since then, and continued into early 2016, causing large numbers of people to flee the country. The situation was compounded by reports that rebel elements were operating in Kibira National Park, near the factory, adding further security fears in the project location. This prevented field work between April and October 2015. This period coincided with the planned certification audit, as well as several follow-up activities relating to the tree nurseries, including a planned exercise to graft avocado seedlings and distribute them to farmers.

7. Were there any unexpected impacts (positive or negative)?

The security situation described above caused delays in arranging for the certification audit, which did not take place by the end of the project, although it is still being pursued. As of February 2016, we cannot take certification as a major milestone, but are confident that certification in the coming months will enable the factory to sell its product to preferred markets and serve as an independent verification of the application of better practices on the farms and factory, as supported by this project. Insecurity also created a delay in delivering an additional project component, grafting avocado seedlings from the nursery at Teza. The avocado seedlings were not originally planned under the project, but provided a unique and impactful opportunity through the planting programme, one which Rainforest Alliance was planning to support with its own funds. The window of opportunity for grafting the avocados was short, and by the time the security situation improved in October 2015, almost 30,000 avocado seedlings were too advanced in their growth. While the smallholders received over 20,000 *Grevillea robusta* under the project, this missed opportunity has unfortunately reduced the impact of the project on smallholder livelihoods, as the avocados were designed to provide farmers with an additional source of food and income.

Project Components and Products/Deliverables

Component 1 (as stated in the approved proposal)
List each component and product/deliverable from Grant Writer

1. 12,500 farmers organized under Teza tea factory will implement sustainable agriculture practices by the end of the project.

1.1. Gap analysis of practices established in the factory and farms by Rainforest Alliance by month 3 of the project.

1.2. Commitment secured by OTB headquarters and Teza factory to pursue with the training and certification program, extension teams in place to start the training by month 4 of the project.

1.3. Extension officers and lead farmers trained in SAN standards and RA certification requirements by Rainforest Alliance by month 6 of the project, including in watershed management practices to prevent sedimentation in wetlands and river pollution.

1.4. Appropriate training materials (guides and posters) printed and distributed to extension officers and lead farmers by Rainforest Alliance by month 7 of the project.

1.5. Extension and factory teams have a clear work-plan established to achieve compliance with certification requirements by month 7 of the project.

1.6. The factory and group of farmers apply for a certification audit by month 18 of the project.

1.7. The factory and group of farmers have a continuous improvement plan in place by month 25 of the project.

8. Describe the results from Component 1 and each product/deliverable

All activities originally planned for the first quarter of the project (Q3 2013) in component 1 were delayed until Q1 2014 due to the time required to conduct initial discussions with OTB and set up agreements with our consultant and implementing partner, ABN. This was explained and agreed upon at the time with the Birdlife team in Kenya.

1.1: The gap analysis was completed in March 2014 by the Rainforest Alliance (RA) consultant in Burundi, Remy Nsengiyumva, along with a team of managers from the Office du The du Burundi (OTB) and the Teza factory team. RA provided a copy of the gap analysis to CEPF separately.

1.2: RA held discussions with OTB Senior Management in January 2014 to discuss and agree on CEPF project activities and responsibilities, securing OTB commitment to proceed with implementation. A similar meeting was held with the Teza team in March 2014 and their commitment confirmed.

1.3: Basic awareness on the program was generated in the first week of March 2014, followed by a comprehensive training to extension officers and lead farmers on 10 and 11 March 2014. The target group included 23 persons from Teza factory management in charge of the factory and estate, and 25 persons in charge of training the farmers. The training included a field exchange trip to Rwegura, a Rainforest Alliance Certified™ factory and farmer group. RA provided a copy of the training report to CEPF separately.

1.4: 16 copies of the RA tea implementation guide in Kirundi (see photo 7) were distributed to the Teza team in May 2014. Another 45 copies were printed and distributed in August 2014, along with 300 copies of a poster demonstrating sustainable agriculture principles (see photo 8).

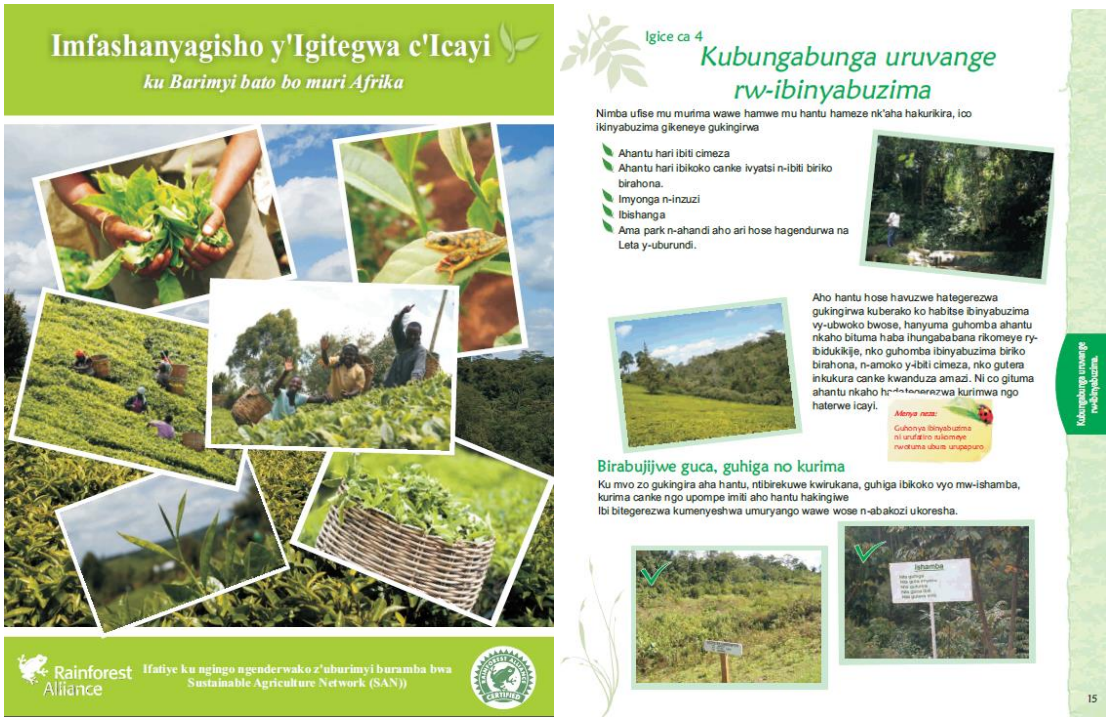

Photo 7: Cover of the Kirundi version of the Tea Implementation Guide and a page explaining the value of ecological corridors, distributed to the factory and smallholder representatives.

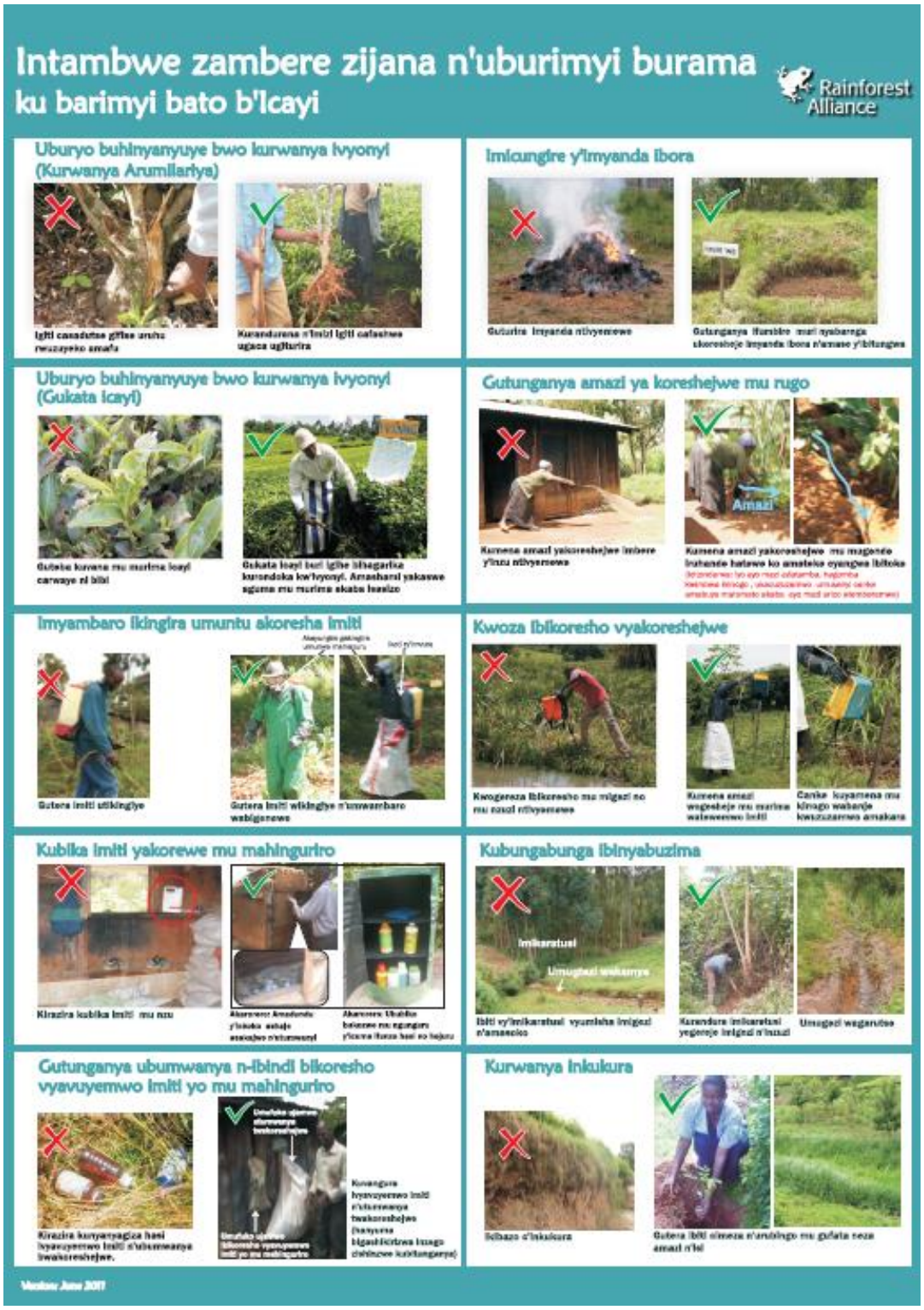

Photo 8: Kirundi poster explaining improved management practices, distributed during factory and smallholder training.

1.5 RA supported the Teza team to develop a detailed work-plan during the first week of April 2014. This activity was carried out on a monthly basis through regular follow-up visits in 2014.

Progress at the factory was initially quite slow, but picked up at the end of 2014. Improvements included installation of a functioning wastewater treatment system, health and safety signs throughout the factory, and more organized storage of products and equipment. At the farm level, support was provided to design internal management system (IMS) documentation, and training to internal auditors to collect information from farmers. Follow-up training on IMS policies was provided to the group in November 2014, along with visits to the factory and farmer group in January, February, March and April 2015. The team observed marked improvements in social and environmental conditions, including better protection of ecological corridors, enhanced tree-planting, prohibition on the cutting of indigenous trees, more effective management of solid waste and wastewater, and general improvements in employee working conditions. Field visits were not possible from May to September 2015 due to the security situation in the country. In-person follow-up resumed in October 2015 with a refresher training for the cooperative group administrator. A pre-audit visit took place in November 2015. At that time, it was found that non-conformities had largely been addressed (e.g. personal protective equipment for workers and farmers; sanitation facilities). A final assessment visit was completed in December 2015.

1.6: The security situation in Burundi caused delays in planning for the audit during the final six months of the project, with the factory giving priority to essential production activities. In September 2015, the person in charge of certification at Teza factory changed, which caused further delay while a new manager adjusted to the role. The application form for the audit has since been completed and is due to be submitted in February or March 2016. The application process was also delayed in Q4 2015 following the introduction of new government administrative procedures on procurement of services, which covers auditing. The certification audit is now planned for March or April 2016.

1.7: As part of the final follow-up in 2015, checks were made to ensure that the factories have a continuous improvement workplan in place. Sustainability principles have now been integrated in the day-to-day functioning of the factory and group.

Component 2 (as stated in the approved proposal)
List each component and product/deliverable from Grant Writer

2. Bird-friendly tree species reared through 2 nurseries, distributed and planted on 12,500 farms; facilitated through ABO, and in coordination with the Rainforest Alliance and OTB.

2.1. Baseline field survey of birds and trees conducted in the project area, or collected from available literature by month 4 of the project.

2.2. Two tree nurseries established in the project area by ABO in collaboration with OTB by month 6 of the project with a target of 140,000 indigenous and agroforestry tree species, to be planted in ecological corridors on the tea estate (50 Ha) and by smallholder farmers located in a pilot area of 300 ha.

2.3. Seedlings distributed by ABO to farmers in the project area in collaboration with OTB to create habitat for birds and others animals by month 16 of the project.

2.4. Cost-recovery system tested to maintain the nurseries in the future by ABO by month 25 of the project

9. Describe the results from Component 2 and each product/deliverable

2.1: A baseline survey was carried out by ABN in collaboration with RA and the Teza team (via its forestry engineer and tea plantation manager). RA provided a copy of the baseline report to CEPF separately.

2.2: The Teza team established two tree nurseries in June 2014 with support from ABN. The seedlings included 80,000 indigenous trees to be planted on farms and wildlife corridors for habitat restoration and connectivity (*Prunus africana, Strombozia scheffleri*, and *Chrysophyllum gorungosanum*) and 60,000 agro-forestry trees to be planted on farms for fruit and fuel-wood production, and to serve as bird habitat (*Grevillea robusta* and *Persea americana* – avocado). Monitoring visits were conducted to the nursery sites in the second half of 2014. By December 2014, the average rate of survival for indigenous trees (*Prunus africana* and *Chrysophyllum gorungosanum*) stood at 52%, while that of exotic ones (*Grevillea sp* and *Persea americana* - avocado) stood at 97%. Technical visits to monitor seedling development were conducted alongside component 1 activities throught early 2015. Some species of trees such as *Chrysophyllum gorungosanum*, *Strombozia scheffleri* were still at germination phase because of their slow growth, which pushed back planting out to late 2015. Technical visits to the nurseries were conducted in August (two visits), October (two visits), November and December (two visits) 2015. During these visits, the ABN team monitored the weeding of the nurseries, the rate of growth and disease incidence in the seedlings, and payment of the workers. The rate of survival was recorded in an end-of project survey, as follows:

Species	Number of seedlings planned	Rate of germination	Number of seedlings produced	Number of seedlings planted (by end of Dec 2015)	Rate of survival after planting out	Number of surviving seedlings planted out	Remaining number of seedlings to be planted out (by end of Dec 2015)
Grevilea sp.	30,000	97%	29,100	27,800	75%	20,850	1,300
Prunus africana	30,000	52%	15,600	6,320	70%	4,424	9,280
Persea americana (avocado)	30,000	97%	29,100	-	-	-	-
Strombozia scheffleri	30,000	52%	15,600	600	60%	360	15,000
Chrysophyllum gorungosanum	20,000	52%	10,400	1,435	50%	278	8,965
Total	**140,000**		**99,800**	**36,155**		**25,912**	**31,545**

NB: As noted in the challenges section above, the avocado seedlings were not grafted and distributed due to the security situation during the window of opportunity in their growth.

2.3: The first batch of seedlings (5,670 *Prunus africana*, 27,800 *Grevillea robusta*, and 900 *Chrysophyllum gorungosanum*) was distributed to farmers in the project area and planted in March 2015. The second batch of seedlings (650 *Prunus Africana*, 535 *Chrysophyllum gorungosanum*, 600 *Strombosia scheffleri*) was planted by the smallholders on their farms and by the factory in the ecological corridor in October 2015 (see photo 7). Distribution of the remaining seedlings to the farmers is ongoing.

Photo 7: Farmer from Banga cell proudly showing the *Grevillea robusta* seedling planted on her farm

2.4: ABN discussed cost-recovery with the tea growers who were to receive the seedlings. The reality on the ground is that seedlings are usually produced with the support of development projects, and distributed for free. The farmers are then actively involved in their transportation, planting out and maintenance. Under these conditions, a system of charging for seedlings was perceived to be impossible by the factory and nurseries, as farmers were simply unwilling to pay for them. As noted above, Teza management is committed to maintaining its nursery to produce indigenous trees, while the community-based nursery is expected to continue operating, managed by the owner of the land on which it sits.

Component 3 (as stated in the approved proposal)
List each component and product/deliverable from Grant Writer

3. Teza Tea Factory supported to set up an ecological corridor within its tea estate, covering wetland, rivers and forest areas

3.1. Areas providing connectivity between the Kibira National Park and the tea estate landscape assessed and mapped out by the Rainforest Alliance and Teza factory managers by month 6 of the project.

3.2. Program for the rehabilitation of corridors, buffer zones and encroached areas developed by the Rainforest Alliance and Teza factory managers by month 8 of the project.

3.3. Rehabilitation of ecological corridors completed by Teza factory managers by month 25 of the project.

3.4. Evaluation on the effects of the rehabilitation of the ecological corridors completed by ABO by month 24 of the project.

10. Describe the results from Component 3 and each product/deliverable

3.1: An initial assessment of these areas was carried out by RA as part of the gap analysis in March 2014. ABN carried out further assessment when conducting the birdlife baseline study in June 2014. The ecological corridor targets were identified, covering a total area of 130 ha. Conservation policies were applied to these area, including banning deforestation and timber extraction, agriculture and livestock activities. Planting indigenous and agroforestry trees was planned for degraded sections in an area totaling 60 hectares.

3.2: The baseline study was completed in June 2014. Recommendations coming out of the study were discussed with the Teza team and a rehabilitation plan for corridors, buffer zones and encroached areas was developed in August 2014.

3.3: The factory began drafting policies for its environmental management system under the SAN/RA certification requirements, and completed these in August 2014. Awareness-raising signs were then erected around the identified conservation areas, preceded by meetings with communities around the corridors. The first batch of seedlings was distributed and planted in March 2015 in the conservation areas. Together with the OTB team, ABN visited and monitored the ecological corridor rehabilitation and seedling survival in March 2015. The second batch of seedlings were planted by the factory in the ecological corridors in October 2015.

3.4 ABN visited and monitored the ecological corridors together with the Teza factory team from December 21 to 24, 2015. As described in section 5, natural regeneration was noted in all but one of these areas, with the growth of indigenous species indicating early succession, such as *Polyscias fulva* (Parasol tree), *Neoboutonia macrocalyx* (Lace Leaf tree) and *Macaranga neomilbraediana*. One area showing little regeneration was found to still be affected by grazing and other encroachment by workers from the adjacent housing area, an issue that has been raised with the factory management. The end-of-project bird survey performed in all six areas found the following results summary results. A full copy of this survey is provided to CEPF separately:

Area	No. bird species recorded in Jun 2014	No. bird species recorded in Dec 2015	Percentage increase in no. species
Zone 1: Area between Mukungu and Misure	11	13	18%
Zone 2: Area between Rutwenzi and Kanindi	6	13	116%
Zone 3: Area between Rugozi and Ntirugaya	8	10	25%
Zone 4: Area between Musugi and Ntirugaya	6	9	50%

Zone 5 : Area between Musugi/Ntirugaya and Mitobo	6	12	100%
Zone 6 : Area between Mitobo/Gasha and Nyamudida	5	9	80%

Component 4 (as stated in the approved proposal)
List each component and product/deliverable from Grant Writer

4. ABO (sub-grantee) activities monitored

4.1. Sub-agreement developed, agreed and signed with ABO, including detailed scope of work and budget by month 2 of the project.

4.2. ABO activities planned and monitored on a monthly basis by RA's local consultant.

4.3. ABO project reports (technical and financial) received and reviewed on a quarterly basis.

11. Describe the results from Component 4 and each product/deliverable

4.1 The sub-agreement with ABN, including detailed scope of work and budget, was developed and signed by both parties in February 2014.

4.2 Remy and Winnie Mwaniki (RA Regional Manager) checked on progress with the ABN team on a monthly basis. Winnie left RA in October 2014 and our new Regional Manager, Mr. Hosea Machuki thereafter regularly monitored progress. A planned monitoring visit by Hosea in late March 2015 was cancelled due to the mounting insecurity situation in the country. Regular meetings were held between ABN and Remy, both in the office and in the field, until the end of the project.

4.3. ABO project reports were received and reviewed on a quarterly basis.

12. If you did not complete any component or deliverable, how did this affect the overall impact of the project?

As described above, the activities conducted under Component 1 were planned to result in certification for the factory and smallholders. The security situation in Burundi unfortunately prevented the certification audit from taking place before December 2015. However, Teza tea factory and the OTB team as a whole remain committed to achieving certification and have planned audit for March or April 2016. We remain confident that this milestone will be achieved in the near future. The insecurity situation also prevented the grafting of the 30,000 avocado seedlings produced in the tree nurseries, an add-on under component 2. As described in section 7 above, this means that farmers will unfortunately not benefit from additional improvements to diet and income from avocado consumption and sales.

13. Please describe and submit any tools, products, or methodologies that resulted from this project or contributed to the results

No new tools or products were developed as part of this project. The project made use of existing training materials, such as the poster and Tea Implementation guide displayed above.

CEPF Global Monitoring Data

Respond to the questions and complete the tables below. If a question is not relevant to your project, please make an entry of 0 (zero) or n/a (not applicable).

14. Did your organization complete the CEPF Civil Society Tracking Tool (CSTT) at the beginning and end of your project? (Please be sure to submit the final CSTT tool to CEPF if you haven't already done so.)

RA did not use the CSTT tool, but has encouraged ABN to do so:

	Date	Composite Score
Baseline CSTT	n/a	n/a
Final CSTT	February 29, 2016	58.5

15. List any vulnerable, endangered, or critically endangered species conserved due to your project

All species identified by ABN in the ecological corridors are categorized as 'Least Concern' by IUCN.

Hectares Under Improved Management

Project Results	Hectares*	Comments
16. Did your project strengthen the management of an existing protected area?	5,794	This represents the Teza section of Kibira National Park. Awareness and policies were created to reinforce the protection of Kibira National Park among the population of workers, smallholders and in the community, including the banning of hunting of animals, prohibiting the cutting of trees and starting bush fires, and prohibiting grazing by domestic animals.
17. Did your project create a new protected area or expand an existing protected area?	n/a	
18. Did your project strengthen the management of a key biodiversity area named in the CEPF Ecosystem Profile (hectares may be the same as questions above)	5,794	See above.
19. Did your project improve the management of a production	6,089	The project improved land management in four communities

landscape for biodiversity conservation		around Teza factory: Matongo, Bukeye 1, Bukeye 2, and Muramvya.

** Include total hectares from project inception to completion*

20. In relation to the two questions above on protected areas, did your project complete a Management Effectiveness Tracking Tool (METT), or facilitate the completion of a METT by protected area authorities? If so, complete the table below. *(Note that there will often be more than one METT for an individual protected area.)*

No METT was completed.

Protected area	Date of METT	Composite METT Score	Date of METT	Composite METT Score	Date of METT	Composite METT Score

21. List the name of any corridor (named in the Ecosystem Profile) in which you worked and how you contributed to its improved management, if applicable.

This project contributed to improved land-use and management practices, and the development of new ecological corridor, in a landscape covering more than 6,000 hectares within the Itombwe-Nyungwe corridor as identified in the CEPF Ecosystem Profile.

Direct Beneficiaries: Training and Education

Did your project provide training or education for . . .	**Male**	**Female**	**Total**	**Brief Description**
22. Adults for community leadership or resource management positions			n/a	
23. Adults for livelihoods or increased income			48	Training on best management practices per the SAN standard was provided to 23 persons from Teza tea factory management in charge of the factory and estate, and 25 persons in charge of training the farmers.
24. School-aged children			n/a	
25. Other			n/a	

NB: The gender of the participants was not recorded at the training events. However, the participant list, which is not very legible in places, would appear to indicate that the participants were overwhelmingly male.

26. List the name and approximate population size of any "community" that benefited from the project.

The Teza tea factory catchment covers two provinces and three communes which are organized in four communities:

Community	Commune	Province	Number of smallholder farms	Estimated population, based on national household average (5.3)
Matongo	Matongo	Kayanza	1,978	10,483
Bukeye 1	Bukeye	Muramvya	2,591	13,732
Bukeye 2	Bukeye	Muramvya	3,589	19,022
Muramvya	Muramvya	Muramvya	2,421	12,826
Total			**10,579**	**56,063**

27. Socioeconomic Benefits to Target Communities

Based on the list of communities above, write the name of the communities in the left column below. In the subsequent columns under Community Characteristics and Nature of Socioeconomic Benefit, place an X in all relevant boxes.

Community Name	Community Characteristics								Nature of Socioeconomic Benefit											
									Increased income due to:											
	Small landowners	Subsistence economy	Indigenous/ ethnic peoples	Pastoralists / nomadic peoples	Recent migrants	Urban communities	Communities falling below the poverty line	Other	Adoption of sustainable natural resources management practices	Ecotourism revenues	Park management activities	Payment for environmental services	Increased food security due to the adoption of sustainable fishing, hunting, or agricultural	More secure access to water resources	Improved tenure in land or other natural resource due to titling, reduction of colonization	Reduced risk of natural disasters (fires, landslides, flooding, etc)	More secure sources of energy	Increased access to public services, such as education, health, or credit	Improved use of traditional knowledge for environmental management	More participatory decision-making due to strengthened civil society and governance	Other
Matongo	X	X					X		X					X			X				
Bukeye 1	X	X					X		X					X			X				
Bukeye 2	X	X					X		X					X			X				
Muramvya	X	X					X		X					X			X				

If you marked "Other", please provide detail on the nature of the Community Characteristic and Socioeconomic Benefit:

Lessons Learned

28. Describe any lessons learned during the design and implementation of the project, as well as any related to organizational development and capacity building. Consider lessons that would inform projects designed or implemented by your organization or others, as well as lessons that might be considered by the global conservation community

29. Project Design Process *(aspects of the project design that contributed to its success/shortcomings)*

The Rainforest Alliance planned for both native and economically-useful trees to be planted in the project area, planning to rear 30,000 avocado trees and 30,000 Grevillea seedlings. However, in a project design oversight, we did not plan for the grafting of avocado trees, which was essential in ensuring the productivity of the seedlings. As this was not budgeted in the project, Rainforest Alliance took time to source the additional funds needed for this exercise. Unfortunately, by the time this was secured in May 2015, the security situation in Burundi had deteriorated to the point that field activities were not then possible until October, by which time the seedlings were too advanced in their growth to be able to be successfully grafted. In future, Rainforest Alliance and its partners will better plan and fully budget for economically-useful tree seedlings that require grafting, so that this can happen earlier in the project.

30. Project Implementation *(aspects of the project execution that contributed to its success/shortcomings)*

During the most recent planting, the team learned that there is a strong demand for more commercially useful agro-forestry trees, such as *Grevillea,* in the community and on tea farms, as they can provide the community with benefits such as timber and poles, while still providing valuable habitat for wildlife (especially birds). In the future, the factory and community nurseries are planning to rear more of this species, alongside other indigenous species. This could also help to compensate for the low germination rate of native species such as *Prunus Africana, Chrysophyllum gorungosanum* and *Strombosia scheffleri* grown in the nurseries.

31. Describe any other lessons learned relevant to the conservation community

n/a

Sustainability / Replication

32. Summarize the success or challenges in ensuring the project will be sustained or replicated

The Teza team is highly committed to achieving certification and continuing its sustainability programme. The challenging security situation in Burundi prevented successful certification within the timeframe of the project. However, provided the political situation stabilizes somewhat in Burundi, the audit should take place and the factory should achieve certification by the end of Q2 2016. Once this milestone is achieved, the annual certification cycle will ensure that policies and practices implemented during the project will be sustained. The audit will serve as a consistent benchmark to maintain an active conservation programme in the estate, ensuring that ecological corridors are left to regenerate, and that

indigenous trees continue to be planted in the landscape. Within the context of the new SAN standard, to be released in 2016, there will also be an even greater emphasis on continuous improvement.

33. **Summarize any unplanned activities that are likely to result in increased sustainability or replicability**

n/a

Safeguards

34. If not listed as a separate Project Component and described above, summarize the implementation of any required action related to social, environmental, or pest management safeguards

n/a

Additional Comments/Recommendations

35. Use this space to provide any further comments or recommendations in relation to your project or CEPF

Additional Funding

36. Provide details of any additional funding that supported this project and any funding secured for the project, organization, or the region, as a result of CEPF investment

Donor	Type of Funding*	Amount	Notes

** Categorize the type of funding as:*

A Project Co-Financing (other donors or your organization contribute to the direct costs of this project)
B Grantee and Partner Leveraging (other donors contribute to your organization or a partner organization as a direct result of successes with this CEPF funded project)
*C Regional/Portfolio Leveraging (other donors make large investments in a region because of CEPF investm*ent or successes related to this project)

Information Sharing and CEPF Policy

CEPF is committed to transparent operations and to helping civil society groups share experiences, lessons learned, and results. Final project completion reports are made available on our Web site, www.cepf.net, and publicized in our newsletter and other communications.

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