

CEPF Final Project Completion Report

Organization Legal Name:	Maasai Wilderness Conservation Trust
Project Title:	Chyulu Hills Landscape REDD+ and Multiple Payment for Ecosystem Services Project
Grant Number:	66205
CEPF Region:	Eastern Afromontane
Strategic Direction:	3 Initiate and support sustainable financing and related actions for the conservation of priority KBAs and corridors.
Grant Amount:	\$100,000.00
Project Dates:	May 01, 2016 - July 31, 2017
Date of Report:	September 30, 2017

Implementation Partners

List each partner and explain how they were involved in the project

Kenya Wildlife Service (KWS)

Kenya Forest Service (KFS)

Kuku Group Ranch

Kuku A Group Ranch

Rombo Group Ranch

Imbirikani Group Ranch

Big Life Foundation (BLF)

David Sheldick Wildlife Trust (DSWT)

All the above organisations and MWCT are trustee organisations of the Chyulu Hills Conservation Trust (CHCT). CHCT is the Project Proponent, as defined by the Verified Carbon Standard (VCS), The four Group Ranches, KWS and KFS between them hold legal title to all the land that makes up the REDD+ project area.

The two NGOs, MWCT and BLF, lease some land for conservation in the form of "conservancies", provide direct protection and monitoring of wildlife and habitat, and fund key community social services, particularly health and education. DSWT leases KFS land.

Conservation International

CI provides technical support and funding

Wildlife Works

WW are retained by the project as a consultant and provide technical advice and analysis for the REDD+ project.

Justdiggitt



Justdiggit are a Dutch NGO that specialises in rangeland restoration.

Conservation Impacts

Summarize the overall impact of your project, describing how your project has contributed to the implementation of the CEPF ecosystem profile

The key objectives of the grant were to assist the Chyulu Hills REDD+ project achieve its first verification under VCS and CCBS, to register the resulting credits on the Markit Registry and to begin the process of marketing and sales.

The process of verification is quite complex and requires a range of activities that included community outreach, technical analysis of deforestation (using remote sensing and, GIS analysis and modelling, and vegetation and soil sampling data), and social and biodiversity impact assessment. The results are presented in a Project Implementation Report (PIR). The verification is based on third party independent audit by approved verifiers of the PIR by desk review and a field visit. During the grant period all the needed activities were undertaken, the PIR was written and submitted to the verifier (SCS Global Services) in October 2016. The verification was successfully completed in April 2016. The credits have since been registered on the Markit registry. In June 2016 the marketing of the carbon credits to individuals was started through a web-based carbon calculator on CI's website. Marketing to corporations has also started and the first sale has been completed in on September 20, 2017.

Since verification a marketing initiative has been started. For the sale of relatively small volumes of credits, especially for individuals, credits from the project can now be purchased through a carbon calculator that resides on the Conservation International website. MWCT has a specific link to the calculator - <http://ci-intl.org/2sQD0ui>.

For larger sales, a corporate marketing initiative has been started. The marketing has strong support from CI and is also involving the other project partner organisations. The first corporate sale was completed on September 20, 2017 with Tiffany and Co. purchasing 19,800 credits at a price of \$12 per credit.

To promote sales, a two page information sheet has been produced that includes a link to the calculator. To support larger corporate and institutional sales, a full presentation has also been prepared. These are being sent to CEPF as separate attachments.

The completion of the verification is a highly significant milestone for the project and now allows the start of revenue generation through the carbon sales after a six year development process. The PIR and other key documents related to the verification can be found on the VCS website: http://www.vcsprojectdatabase.org/#/project_details/1408

Planned Long-term Impacts - 3+ years (as stated in the approved proposal)

Impact Description	Impact Summary
Annual sale of 500,000 or more verified emissions reductions yielding at least \$2.0 million per year for the Chyulu Hills Conservation Trust	Sales and marketing started in June 2017 after the completion of the verification process and filing of the required paperwork. In July, carbon credits from the project were available for sale on an updated carbon calculator through Conservation International's website. In September 2017 the first corporate sale was made - 19,800 credits to Tiffany and Co. This sale was at \$12 per credit, providing \$237,600 of revenue for the project. The marketing initiative continues to move forward with strong support from all the CHCT partner organisations, Conservation International and Edward Norton.
Improved management of 410,534 hectares in the Chyulu Hills Landscape	The REDD project has linked the 9 organisations within the landscape that own land or undertake conservation and community support programs through their status as Trustees of the Chyulu Hills Conservation Trust. The result has been to significantly improve communication and coordination between these different organisations, promoting improvements in their operational effectiveness and efficiency working across the landscape. Examples include the sharing of information related to anti-poaching operations, prevention and monitoring of human-wildlife conflict, integration of research data and monitoring protocols, and the training of rangers. The activities required to achieve ongoing verification of the REDD project, resulting in carbon revenue are, provide a strong incentive to both the communities and other organisations to work together and collaborate. In particular the community outreach activities and inclusion of the Group Ranches in real ownership of the REDD+ project is an important factor in building community support in both the short-term and long-term,

Planned Short-term Impacts - 1 to 3 years (as stated in the approved proposal)

Impact Description	Impact Summary
Verification completed. Marketing, and sale of first verified emissions reductions in 2017	The verification was completed in April 2017, as planned. The sale of the first verified emissions reductions has taken place
Improved management capacity of the Chyulu Hills Conservation Trust.	With support from MWCT, the Chyulu Hills Conservation Trust has held regular board meetings which have been planned with pre-prepared agendas and results documented through formal minutes. In the past year it has developed and approved a Revenue Allocation Model as a framework for the use of funds generated by the sale of carbon credits. It has also



	formally appointed MWCT to act as the REDD+ Project office; an office building has been constructed for the Project Office; it has signed a carbon credit marketing and sales agreement with CI. The board of the CHCT has also improved its communication with the leadership and community members of the Group Ranches and been engaged in preliminary discussions about cattle and grazing management, which is one of the most important challenges impacting future conservation in the landscape.
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Describe the success or challenges of the project toward achieving its short-term and long-term impact objectives

The project work has been extremely successful with the key goal of achieving verification under VCS and CCBS by the Chyulu Hills REDD+ Project having been met.

For REDD+ projects to be able to register their credits on a formal registry and offer them for sale on the international market requires the project to complete verification. The Chyulu Hills REDD+ project has now been verified under the most rigorous standards that apply to REDD+ projects, the VCS and CCBS. The achievement of verification provides the project with a very important label of credibility that is critical for being able to market and sell the credits.

The completion of verification and the ability of the project to begin marketing its credits represents an extremely important milestone. It allows the project to start generating revenue to increase the amount of funding available to support conservation and providing community benefits and decreasing reliance on grant and philanthropic funding. It also supports the longer-term vision of developing a portfolio of ecosystem service based payments to provide higher levels of more stable funding.

Were there any unexpected impacts (positive or negative)?

The verification process involved undertaking a well-understood set of activities and represented a process that occurred after about five years of development. As such there were few unexpected results.

One unexpected positive impact has been that the process helped to identify the need to revise some of the biodiversity and social impact metrics that will be used in the future.

Project Components and Products/Deliverables

Describe the results from each product/deliverable:

Component		Deliverable		
#	Description	#	Description	Results for Deliverable
1	Project management plan	1.1	Deliverable 1.1. REDD+ project management plan	The project plan was developed and used on a continuous basis to review progress towards completing verification which was duly achieved
2	Emissions reduction quantification	2.1	Deliverable 2.1. Emissions reduction estimate based on remote sensing analysis and carbon accounting and incorporated into Sections 4 and 6 of Monitoring Report.	The emissions reduction estimate was completed, incorporated into the Project Implementation Report and subsequently verified. The project has delivered 2,033,002 marketable Verified Emissions Reductions (see attached spreadsheet and Project Implementation Report available on VCS website)
3	Social monitoring	3.1	Report on social monitoring workshops, including location, agendas, and participant breakdown by gender	Included in report "Stakeholder Meetings and Community Outreach Report: Chyulu Hills REDD+ project " that is attached and in Project Implementation Report available on VCS website.
3	Social monitoring	3.2	Social monitoring plan	Included in Project Implementation Report available on VCS website and reviewed and approved during verification
3	Social monitoring	3.3	Report on results of household surveys	Included in report "Stakeholder Meetings and Community Outreach Report: Chyulu Hills REDD+ project " that is attached and in Project Implementation Report available on VCS website.
3	Social	3.4	Analytical	The required soil sampling was completed. In the process

	monitoring		results incorporated into Section 7 of Monitoring Report	<p>eight local community members were hired and trained in the standard operating procedure sampling methodology to provide this expertise for any future sampling that is required. In all a total of 106 soil samples were collected from randomly selected plots representing all areas of the project area. The field work lasted for a period of about 8 weeks. The samples were sent for laboratory analysis. The results were used in the Project Implementation Report as variables in the calculation of the emissions reductions generated by the project.</p> <p>The sampling protocols, methodology and results were extensively reviewed by the verifiers during the verification process.</p>
4	FPIC and community engagement	4.1	Report on community outreach meetings, including location, agendas, and participant breakdown by gender	Report entitled "Stakeholder Meetings and Community Outreach Report: Chyulu Hills REDD+ project " was completed and provided to verifiers. Being submitted as separate attachment.
4	FPIC and community engagement	4.2	Grievance procedure implemented and accepted as meeting CCBS	Grievance Procedure was drafted, approved by CHCT Board and accepted by the verifier as meeting the CCB standards.
5	Public outreach	5.1	Report documenting branding of the REDD+ project, including descriptions of radio spots and photos of signage	<p>To provide on-going information to community members, a total of 15 special sign boards were built and installed at locations across the project area, such as in villages and at local Chief's offices. The sign boards post information about the REDD project and in late 2016 about the verification. The signs are translated into local languages (Maa, Kamba, and Kiswahili) (See Figure 6).</p> <p>About two weeks before the start of the verification field visit, two radio spots were broadcast on local radio stations one on the eastern side and one on the west. The radio spots were done on the 11th of November 2016 and provided live discussion of the REDD+ project, the public comment period related to verification, and a range of project associated information and procedures.</p>

				<p>The station on the eastern side serving the Kamba communities was Musyi FM and MWCT administrative manager George King'ola, represented the project.</p> <p>On the western side, MWCT President, Samson Parashina represented the project broadcast Maasai radio station, Nosim FM.</p>
6	Biodiversity monitoring	6.1	Biodiversity monitoring plan and protocols	See section above
6	Biodiversity monitoring	6.2	Biodiversity monitoring plan and analysis incorporated into Section 8 of the Monitoring Report	The biodiversity monitoring plan was developed and the results were incorporated into the Project Implementation report. The plan was reviewed and approved during the verification process. The development of biodiversity monitoring is an ongoing process and, based on experience gained, is being revised.
7	Verification monitoring report	7.1	Monitoring Report completed and ready for submission to SCS Global Services	Monitoring Report (aka Project Implementation Report) was completed and then submitted to SCS in October 2016. The report formed the basis of the verification and is available on the project page of the VCS website : http://www.vcsprojectdatabase.org/#/project_details/1408
8	Verification Process	8.1	Desk review and field work by SCS Global Services	The desk review was completed by SCS Global services as part of their verification procedures
8	Verification Process	8.2	Findings review and closure	During the period January - March 2017 SCS issued its findings and the project provided responses resulting in the closing of all findings by SCS. The findings and responses are documented in the Verification Report issued by SCS and available on the VCS on the project page of the VCS website: http://www.vcsprojectdatabase.org/#/project_details/1408
8	Verification Process	8.3	Verification report and proof of verification certificate	Verification report (aka Project Implementation Report and VCS Verification Deed of Representation (verification certificate) are available through VCS website: http://www.vcsprojectdatabase.org/#/project_details/1408

8	Verification Process	8.4	Evidence of registration of credits on Markit Registry	Project information can be accessed on Markit website
8	Verification Process	8.5	Report on marketing and sale of credits	First report will be due from Conservation International in October 2017.
9	Management of subcontract to Wildlife Works	9.1	Draft subcontract between MWCT and Wildlife Works with required CEPF flow-down provisions	Funding for this aspect of the work was not provided by CEPF so flow-down provisions were not required
9	Management of subcontract to Wildlife Works	9.2	Final (signed) subcontract between MWCT and Wildlife Works with required CEPF flow-down provisions	See 9.1 above - not applicable
9	Management of subcontract to Wildlife Works	9.3	Report certifying completion of the Wildlife Works subcontract, including appropriate adherence to all technical, administrative, and financial requirements	Not applicable as CEPF funds not used for Wildlife Works contract
10	Improved management capacity of the Chyulu Hills Conservation Trust	10.1	Completed baseline and final CEPF civil society tracking tool	The primary objective of the the CEPF grant was to assist the project in completing verification of the REDD+ project under the VCS and CCBS. Verification to the CCB Standards ensures that projects are improving livelihoods, creating employment, protecting traditional cultures and endangered species, and helping secure tenure to lands

				and resources, as well as making a key contribution to combating climate change.” (http://www.v-c-s.org/about-vcs/who-we-are/). The CCB Standards were designed to incorporate best practices with respect to engaging indigenous and other local communities, including internationally recognized principles as embodied by the UN Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples (UNDRIP). Under the CCBS verification the project has additionally achieved Gold Level certification for meeting the Exceptional Community Benefits criterion that recognizes project approaches that are explicitly pro-poor in terms of targeting benefits to globally poorer communities and the poorer, more vulnerable households and individuals within them.
10	Improved management capacity of the Chyulu Hills Conservation Trust	10.2	CHCT board meets regularly	The CHCT board has held regular meetings - in July and October 2016 and May 2017. The next meeting is scheduled for October 2017. Each board meeting has been properly notified, and an agenda and minutes written.
10	Improved management capacity of the Chyulu Hills Conservation Trust	10.3	CHCT board develops guidelines for future benefit sharing of carbon and other revenues	Through a collaborative process, the Chyulu Hills Conservation Trust developed a revenue allocation model. The model was fully documented and formally adopted by the CHCT Board as the framework that will guide the future allocation and use of revenues from carbon sales (Copy being provided).

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

VCS/CCBS Project Implementation Report, and Verifier reports - obtainable at the VCS/CCBS website : http://www.vcsprojectdatabase.org/#/project_details/1408 Two-page marketing information sheet Report “Stakeholder Meetings and Community Outreach Report: Chyulu Hills REDD+ project “ Picture of sign board Press release from Tiffany & Co. announcing purchase of carbon credits Full marketing and sales presentation MWCT 2016 annual report Revenue Allocation Model report Verified Emissions reductions spreadsheet Grievance procedure

Lessons Learned

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:

- Project Design Process (*aspects of the project design that contributed to its success/shortcomings*)
- Project Implementation (*aspects of the project execution that contributed to its success/shortcomings*)
- Describe any other lessons learned relevant to the conservation community

Sustainability / Replication

Summarize the success or challenges in ensuring the project will be sustained or replicated, including any unplanned activities that are likely to result in increased sustainability or replicability.

The long-term objective of the REDD+ project is to provide a new source of performance based ecosystem service funding to build a portfolio of payments that will increase the amount of funding for conservation and community support and

Safeguards

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

The significant focus of the CCBS is related to community engagement and social and environmental safeguards. These issues are addressed in detail in the relevant sections of the Project Implementation Report (Monitoring Report) available on the vcs/CCBS website: http://www.vcsprojectdatabase.org/#/project_details/1408

Additional Comments/Recommendations


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

Additional Funding

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

Total additional funding (US\$)
\$300,000.00

Type of funding



Please provide a breakdown of additional funding (counterpart funding and in-kind) by source, categorizing each contribution into one of the following categories:

- 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 investment or successes related to this project)*

1. Conservation international \$300,000. Project co-financing.

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.

1. Please include your full contact details (Name, Organization, Mailing address, Telephone number, E-mail address) below

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