Sustainable Development Verified Impact Standard
A VERRA STANDARD

THE KASIGAU CORRIDOR REDD+ PROJECT PHASE I – RUKINGA SANCTUARY

WILDLIFE WORKS

Document Prepared by Wildlife Works Carbon

Project Title	The Kasigau Corridor REDD+ Project Phase I – Rukinga Sanctuary
Version	2.1
Date of Issue	10 - August - 2022
Project Location	Kenya, Taita Teveta County, Coast Province
Project Proponent(s)	Wildlife Works Carbon LLC.: President – Mike Korchinsky Tel: +1-415-332-8081 Fax: +1-415-332-8057

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Project Lifetime	01 January 2005 – 31 December 2034; 30-year lifetime
Monitoring Period of this Report	01 January 2005 – 31 December 2021
History of SD VISta Status	This is the first verification for the Project under the SD VISta Standards which is being sought concurrently with project validation.
Other Certification Programs	The Project was validated under the CCB Standard in 2009 and validated under the VCS Standard in 2011. The Project has been subsequently verified under the VCS & CCB Standards through its 7th Monitoring Period, through the end of 2021. The Project ID is 562.
Expected Future Assessment Schedule	The initial SD VISta verification is happening concurrently with the validation. It is estimated that the Project will verify under the VCS, CCB & SD VISta Standards annually.

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1 SUMMARY OF SDG CONTRIBUTIONS

Table 1: Summary of SDG Contributions

Row number	Quantitative Project Contributions during Monitoring Period	Contributions during Project Lifetime	SDG Target	SDG Indicator	Net Impact on SDG Indicator	Section Reference	Claim, Asset or Label
1)	Average over past three years of 51 employees for KCRP-Phase I with about 90% being from the local area and almost 30% female.	Average over past three years of 51 employees for KCRP-Phase I with about 90% being from the local area and almost 30% female.	1.1	1.1.1 Total number of local community members employed at WW full-time	Increased	Section 3.1 Impact #1	Claim
2)	These amounts reflect good/normal years based on our most-recent household-level survey in the Project Zone, suggesting an increasing proportion of community members earning above 10,000 (42%) compared to the baseline (23%).	These amounts reflect good/normal years based on our most-recent household-level survey in the Project Zone, suggesting an increasing proportion of community members earning above 10,000 (42%) compared to the baseline (23%).	1.1	1.1.1 Total amount of income earned by household	Increased	Section 3.1 Impact #2	Claim
3)	99% of households with on farm production for home *use	*99% of households with on farm production for home	2.3	2.3.2 proportion of households with on-	Increased	Section 3.1 Impact #3	Claim

	and 30% of households sold produce for cash	use and 30% of households sold produce for cash		farm production for home use and/or sale			
4)	The number of patients had been steadily growing before the COVID-19 disruption, due to growing referrals across the County and neighboring counties. It has grown from handling about 75 patients per month since opening in March 2014 to nearly 250 patients monthly currently, each undergoing between 1-8 tests depending on the procedure.	The number of patients had been steadily growing before the COVID-19 disruption, due to growing referrals across the County and neighboring counties. It has grown from handling about 75 patients per month since opening in March 2014 to nearly 250 patients monthly currently, each undergoing between 1-8 tests depending on the procedure.	3.8	3.8.1 Coverage of essential health services	Increased	Section 3.1 Impact #4-5	
5)	Bursary recipients: 3144 Staff trainings picked up again in 2021 after being disrupted by COVID-19 restrictions in 2020. The 4 training sessions involved 43 staff members trained mostly on health and safety, Code of conduct and specialized training like First Aid and snake handling.	Bursary recipients: 3144 Staff trainings picked up again in 2021 after being disrupted by COVID-19 restrictions in 2020. The 4 training sessions involved 43 staff members trained mostly on health and safety, Code of conduct and specialized training like First Aid and snake handling.	4.3	4.3.1 Number of people for whom access to, or quality of, education was improved (# of students, bursary); # training workshops held for skills/personal development	Increased	Section 3.1 Impact #6-7	Claim
6)	6 classroom construction projects and 14 classroom renovations	6 classroom construction projects and 14 classroom renovations	4.A	Number of classrooms constructed or other school renovations and	Increased	Section 3.1	Claim

				# of education infrastructure installed		Impact #8	
7)	20% of those in managerial positions are women	*20% of those in managerial positions are women	5.5	5.5.2 Proportion of staff managers who are women	Increased	Section 3.1 Impact #9	Claim
8)	Since 2012, 8 water-related projects have been implemented across KCRP-Phase I including pipelines, storage tanks, rock catchments, gutters and water pans for harvesting across all the project locations in community areas and schools, estimated to reach a total of about 12,535 community members.	Since 2012, 8 water-related projects have been implemented across KCRP-Phase I including pipelines, storage tanks, rock catchments, gutters and water pans for harvesting across all the project locations in community areas and schools, estimated to reach a total of about 12,535 community members.	6.1	6.1.1 # of population using safely managed drinking water services	Increased	Section 3.1 Impact #10	Claim
9)	<1% primary level; 2% secondary; 1% tertiary	*<1% primary level; 2% secondary; 1% tertiary	8.6	8.6.1 Proportion of youth (aged 15-24 years) not in education, employment or training	Decreased	Section 3.1 Impact #11	Claim
10)	About a half of the population who would be beneficiaries from the livelihood improvements at household level is female.	About a half of the population who would be beneficiaries from the livelihood improvements at household level is female.	10.0	Number of people (% women) with improved livelihoods or income generated	Increased	Section 3.1 Impact #12-13	

11)	32% community members understand the link between environmental protection, REDD & livelihoods.	*32% community members understand the link between environmental protection, REDD & livelihoods.	12.8	12.8.1 Extent to which (i) global citizenship education and (ii) education for sustainable development are mainstreamed in (a) national education policies; (b) curricula; (c) teacher education; and (d) student assessment	Increased	Section 3.1 Impact #14	
12)	The Project has produced 3,644,822 tCO_2e of net emission reductions from avoided deforestation compared to the reference level during the Project's lifetime.	The Project has produced 3,644,822 tCO_2e of net emission reductions from avoided deforestation compared to the reference level during the Project's lifetime.	13.0	Net estimated emission reductions in the Project Area, measured against the without-project scenario	Increased	Section 4.1 Impact #18 VCS verification report for the period 01/01/2021-12/31/2021	SD VISta-labeled VCU
13)	2 community awareness meetings/events/activities on REDD+	*2 community awareness meetings/events/activities on REDD+	13.3	13.3.1 Extent to which (i) global citizenship education and (ii) education for sustainable	Increased	Section 3.1 Impact #15	Claim

				development are mainstreamed in (a) national education policies; (b) curricula; (c) teacher education; and (d) student assessment			
15)	30,168.66 ha of the Project Area under conservation management	30,168.66 ha of the Project Area under conservation management	15.1	15.1.1 Forest area as a proportion of total land area	Maintained	Section 4.1 Impact #19	Claim
16)	Approximately 9 species listed under some category of threat in the IUCN Red List were repeatedly observed across the Project Area.	Approximately 9 species listed under some category of threat in the IUCN Red List were repeatedly observed across the Project Area.	15.5	15.5.1 Presence of HCV species listed under some category of threat globally in the latest IUCN Red List	Maintained	Section 4.1 Impact #20	
17)	79 snares recovered; 63 animal carcasses recorded; 64 poachers and illegal charcoal producers arrested.	79 snares recovered; 63 animal carcasses recorded; 64 poachers and illegal charcoal producers arrested.	15.7	Take urgent action to end poaching and trafficking of protected species of flora and fauna and address both demand and supply of illegal wildlife products	Increased	Section 4.1 Impact #21-22	
18)	The project maintained support for the three local community institutions (Locational Carbon Committee, Bursary Committees and Community-	The project maintained support for the three local community institutions (Locational Carbon Committee, Bursary	16.7	Ensure responsive, inclusive, participatory and representative decision-making at all levels	Maintained	Section 3.1 Impact #16	

	based Organizations) which continues to instill a stronger sense of self-determination.	Committees and Community-based Organizations) which continues to instill a stronger sense of self-determination.					
19)	4 agriculture-related training courses or extension events	*4 agriculture-related training courses or extension events	17.7	Promote the development, transfer, dissemination and diffusion of environmentally sound technologies to developing countries on favourable terms, including on concessional and preferential terms, as mutually agreed	Increased	Section 3.1 Impact #17	

*Note: * indicates that there is no cumulative data available and the presented # is from VCS/CCB M8*

2 PROJECT DESIGN

2.1 Project Objectives, Context and Long-term Viability

2.1.1 Summary of Project Sustainable Development Objective(s)

The Project is located in Southeastern Kenya; in the Coast Province about 2 hours' drive from the port town of Mombasa along the Nairobi-Mombasa highway. The Project's Eco-Region is typified by a dryland forest ecosystem, dominated by acacia and commiphora drought-resistant species. The majority of people in the area descend from the Taita tribe, with significant populations of Duruma, Kamba and other less-prevalent tribes.

The Project Area covers all the land known as Rukinga Sanctuary, with a total of 30,168.66 ha (74,516 acres). The land was originally known as LR 12263, which had historically been reduced by subdivisions 12263/1 and 12263/2 at dates prior to the start date of this project.

Rukinga is part of that land that forms a corridor (the Kasigau Wildlife Corridor) between the Tsavo East National Park and the Tsavo West National Parks to the East of the Marungu range. The Project Area and Reference Area are clearly delineated in Figure 1 in the PD in section 5.1, and the shapefiles representing the boundaries have been made available to the project validator. Lands within the Project boundary are classified as tropical dryland forest[1] for at least 20 years and has been primary forest throughout recorded history[2].

A primary focus of the Project Activities is to provide improved livelihoods either through direct employment with the Project or introduction of new or improved income-generating activities. On average, Wildlife Works retains a workforce of between 50-53 across the Project Area. In addition to the core project operations, revenue from carbon credit sales is also provided to the Wildlife Works Carbon Trust (WWCT) and is used to fund self-determined community projects.

[1] UN IPCC, Good Practice Guidance for LULUCF, Table 3A.1.8;

[2] The earliest record that has been located is dated 1895 which identifies the area as forested [Hobley 1895 – Upon a Visit to Tsavo and the Taita Highlands – The Geographical Journal 1895 Vol 5 No 6 pp 545-561]

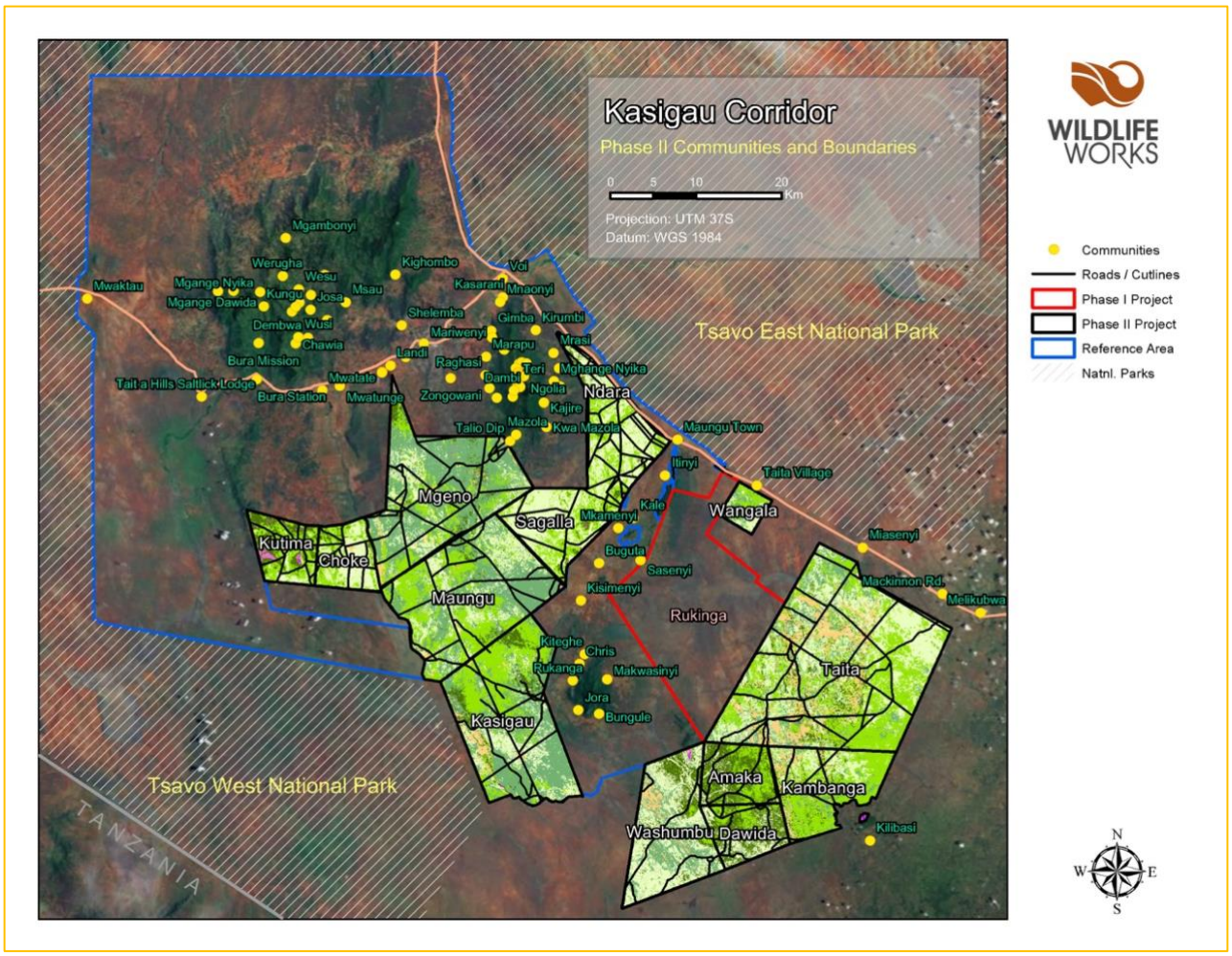

Figure 1: The Project Zone - Communities within the scope of influence of the Kasigau Corridor REDD Project Phase I – Rukinga Sanctuary Project Area.

The KCRPI provides many benefits that will help achieve Kenya's stated Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). In 2015, Kenya joined the global community in adopting its SDGs, a set of 17 universal goals covering the thematic areas of environmental, economic and social development. They are structured to help drive national funding and policy decisions. In 2016, Kenya implemented the Vision 2030 plan, a long-term development plan with the goal of transforming Kenya into a newly industrializing, middle-income country that provides a high quality of life to all its citizens by 2030, within a clean and secure environment. These two sustainable development plans are coordinated in their goals and thematic areas. The climate, community and biodiversity benefits provided by KCRPI, and detailed in sections 3, 4 and 5, all contribute to achieving the global and national sustainable development goals detailed in these two plans. These contributing benefits are monitored through KCRPI's climate, community and biodiversity monitoring plans. SDGs that KCRPI will directly contribute to include:

- Goal 1: No Poverty
- Goal 2: Zero Hunger
- Goal 3: Good Health and Well-being
- Goal 4: Quality Education

- Goal 5: Gender Equality
- Goal 6: Clean Water and Sanitation
- Goal 8: Decent Work and Economic Growth
- Goal 10: Reduced Inequalities
- Goal 12: Responsible Consumption and Production
- Goal 13: Climate Action
- Goal 15: Life on Land
- Goal 16: Peace Justice and Institutions
- Goal 17: Partnerships for the Goals

The Project's climate benefits include the total avoided emission of 3,644,822 tCO_2e during this first monitoring period. The Project will generate substantial community and biodiversity co-benefits. New and sustainable livelihood opportunities, such as direct employment, alternative income generating activities (IGAs) and initiatives to stimulate investment in businesses will be designed to reduce pressure on the environment while significantly increasing community well-being. Additional programs will address food security, improve health and education facilities, as well as raise environmental awareness. Biodiversity co-benefits will be achieved through greater protection of the ecosystem predominantly by means of increased security and improved monitoring. The Project will also be protecting critical habitat for significant populations of many IUCN red-listed species, including African elephant, Grevy's zebra, Lion, African Wild Dog, Leopard, Cheetah, Secretary bird, Martial Eagle, Bateleur and several vulture species.

2.1.2 Description of the Project Activity

Wildlife Works has been engaged in this project since 1998 and unlike NGOs that set up projects then leave and pay infrequent visits to see how things are going, Wildlife Works has had a hands-on approach since the very beginning. We employ between 50-53 local people in a range of activities that have continued and have been expand upon as a result of carbon financing generated by the project. Wildlife Works has implemented a wide range of sustainable development initiates at Rukinga since the start of the project. These initiatives collectively form the basis of our carbon offset leakage avoidance strategy. The major project activities include:

Wildlife Works Eco-factory

At the onset, our core project, was the construction of the Eco-factory, where we employed over 150 people from the community in the construction phase. Women from the community were then trained and employed in the sewing and production of organic cotton clothing which was exported to the US and Europe for sale on the internet and in fashion boutiques.

The Eco-factory has continued to show stable growth in recent years towards breaking even. However, growth was adversely impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic. Supported by the international marketing and design team based in California, production was able to remain steady during the pandemic, with the number of employees maintained at 8. Wildlife Works maintained its relationship with the SOKO eco-factory from Mombasa including running of the Stitching Academy in Maungu Town, where potential seamstresses continue to receive

specialized skills and training that enable them to directly work in any eco-factory at Wildlife Works' Export Processing Zone (EPZ), or elsewhere. Besides training as seamstresses, these women also acquired new skills for several printing and other support positions, like sales and marketing.

To support production in the EPZ, a printing arm has been established and has grown to nine employees. In addition, the printing arm acts as a local production factory outside of the EPZ and is able to supply local demand, further growing production and local jobs. Wildlife Works established several shop outlets in the big cities and key tourist destinations of Kenya (Nairobi, Mombasa and Lamu) to grow local sales and develop employment opportunities.

In addition, a small Wildlife Works soap factory was established and is still ongoing, with diversified production and maintained the three staff members. Different soaps are produced using locally sourced additives and extracts like jojoba oil, coconut milk and lime and sold to niche markets in Nairobi and Mombasa, mainly consisting of lodges and hotels. While sales were severely disrupted by the COVID-19 restrictions on local and international travel to destinations that serve as key clients, production remains constrained by seasonality and availability of the required additives like jojoba oil.

Project Product Sales and Marketing

Wildlife Works' core mission is to harness the strengths of the marketplace for conservation. Thus, improving access to markets through use of technology remains a critical component of our enterprise development model. Wildlife Works continues to build and improve access to markets for various products in KCRP-Phase I using technology, such as through the Wildlife Works' Export Processing Zone (EPZ) for apparel and Hadithi umbrella CBO for community handicrafts. As of December 2021, 8 local community members (75% women) were trained or employed in Wildlife Works' eco-factory at the EPZ, mainly as seamstresses but also in several printing and other support positions like sales and marketing. The local community-based umbrella organisation, Hadithi, under KCRP Phase 1 now provides marketing and sales support to 10 craft groups, comprising over 273 members, mostly women. Through Hadithi, a substantial amount of revenue from salaries or sales accrues to these local communities, especially directed to women, which greatly empowers them and their societies in general. In 2017 for instance, under KCRP-Phase 1, Hadithi spent KES 735,000 on crafts made by women's group, paid cash in hand to the individual women. This figure rose to KES 1,575,000 in 2018, again paid cash in hand to the individual women. In 2019, KES 2,237,000 was spent on crafts cash in hand to the women (approximately $USD 22,500), growing to KES 2,589,000 (USD 25,800) in 2020. In the 2021 reporting period, Hadithi sales under KCRP Phase 1 grew to KES 4,581,811 (USD 40,191). Besides sales, Hadithi has expanded to providing training. In 2021, basket weaving trainings were provided to thirty two groups where members were trained from scratch and are already able to make baskets to sell.

Organic Greenhouses

The greenhouse project contains two components: (i) the tree nursery and selling point, and (ii) agricultural greenhouses. The greenhouse team responsible for implementing and managing both components was maintained at 4 staff members at the end of the 2021 reporting period. Production has grown and diversified beyond the sale of grafted fruit tree seedlings (like citrus, mango and avocado) to include sale of organically produced vegetables and ornamental plants for landscaping purposes. The selling point established along the main Nairobi-Mombasa Highway continues to grow sales. Throughout the year, the Kulikila Women Group community greenhouse was provided with follow-up support from the Wildlife Works' Greenhouse and Community Outreach Departments on a broad range of their activities.

Wildlife Works runs a Greenhouse tree planting program under which there is a seedling purchase program. The objective is to stock the indigenous tree nursery, buying seedlings of specified trees from the community members, nurturing them to the point they can be out planted, and providing them for free back to the community, mainly through schools and community groups for reforesting the landscape.

Of the indigenous trees bought from the community and nurtured at the Wildlife Works' greenhouse, the five most common species are Vachellia robusta, Gardenia volkensii, Vachellia nilotica, Terminalia prunoides and Sclerocarya birrea. Of the fruit trees grafted and nurtured at the Wildlife Works' greenhouse, the Mango and Avocado root stocks, followed by Apple Mango, Valencia Late and Minneola citrus were the most common plants.

Dryland Farming scheme

Another project activity is working with the Kenyan Agricultural Research Institute (KARI) to cultivate a climate appropriate plant called jojoba that provides a cash crop through its seeds and is extremely drought tolerant. We have studying the impact of various levels of plant maintenance and irrigation on plant seed and oil productivity, with the idea that we can provide local farmers root stock to establish their own plants, and they can know how much they can likely make if they are willing to put a certain level of effort into the plant maintenance.

School Construction and Bursary Scheme

When we started working in the area, there were almost no schoolrooms, and no books, no desks, none of the infrastructure needed for children to have a hope of a decent education. We began with a school building program, and over the years we have partnered with the community and various donors we have identified, to build several classrooms throughout the district. We also have built desks and our original Kenyan manager Alice Ndiga launched a school bursary program, that has sent dozens of local children through private high school, and several on to college.

Ecotourism

Wildlife Works continues to support management of Kivuli Camp within Rukinga Sanctuary. During the reporting period 2021, a total of 135 guests were booked at Kivuli Camp, spending

a total of 417 nights and 690 bed-nights. Kivuli Camp remains fully operational and hosts a mix of foreign and local guests including tourists and educational visitors

Wildlife Works Carbon Project Monitoring

We conduct annual monitoring of our carbon inventory by revisiting a statistical sample (20% annually, 100% every five years) of our permanent fixed plots each year to check for degradation or changes in existing stocks, and by acquiring remote sensed imagery to support the absence of large scale deforestation or boundary changes.

We began our project on the 74,490 acre Rukinga Sanctuary as the ownership of the land is clear and clean. We trained some of our staff to perform the tree inventory, and recruited local tree experts from the surrounding communities, who could tell the difference between all the Commiphora and Acacia species present on the sanctuary. Our statistically valid tree sampling protocol determined that there are over 6 Million trees on Rukinga Sanctuary, at a canopy cover of >30%, more than enough to qualify as forest under the UN IPCC AFOLU guidelines. *T*he soil carbon plots were resampled during the curren monitoring period (m8 VCS/CCB). The teams have also worked on the Leakage and Quality Control plots.

Forest and Biodiversity Monitoring

The Monitoring Department has five permanent staff for undertaking social and biodiversity surveys and assessments or collating data on various project impacts collected by other departments; additional staff/volunteers/interns are engaged during survey periods. The Wildlife Works' Research Camp has been maintained since 2012 and was expanded between 2014-2016 with the establishment of camping grounds, which was furnished and equipped into a fully functional and independent camping facility able to house short-term guests and visiting researchers.

Wildlife Works Rangers

Rukinga is private property, so we have every right to exclude local and immigrant populations from the project area. Unlike most REDD projects Wildlife Works employs our own Rangers to protect the forest from illegal incursions, deforestation and even damage to biodiversity and we have a track record since 1998 of physically protecting the land from all potential deforestation agents. Our success where many other projects have failed in this regard is due to Wildlife Works providing economic alternatives to the community to prevent them from needing to clear more forest for agriculture which creates a partnering relationship with the community and allows our Rangers to be effective even though they are not armed, as they can draw heavily on support from the influential members of the local community.

Wildlife Works has instituted several permanent initiatives to enhance security, especially around poaching including increasing our ranger force to about 25 (with about 10% being women) who undertake daily foot and driving patrols from 3 outposts distributed across KCRP-Phase I. All ranger outposts (bases) are maintained to ensure they remain under good state of repair, especially in terms of reliable solar power and water supply. Because Wildlife Works

rangers remain an unarmed force, a working relationship with the KWS Special Operations Teams initiated in 2012 has been maintained and mainstreamed. Currently, KWS has several permanent mobile teams based in the ranches along the Kasigau Corridor (most of which are within the REDD+ Project). The project still operates two gyrocopters to enable aerial surveys almost on a daily basis collecting vital information for security and biodiversity monitoring purposes. This has resulted in both improved monitoring of High Conservation Value species as well as enhanced detection of incidents; over ¼ (25%) of all incidents recorded during the reporting period were originally detected from an aerial patrol. Lastly, Wildlife Works has engaged Sensing Clues (https://sensingclues.org/), to develop and adopt their Cluey App which helps capture and relay ground and aerial patrol data near real-time. This makes it safer for the ranger teams working on the ground and more effective in responding to incidents, especially those detected from the air..

Eco-Charcoal Production Facility

Wildlife Wildlife Works still maintains the eco-charcoal facility that was moved to a larger production area near McKinnon Road township at an area reserved for this production by Taita Ranch. Nine staff members run all the current operations spanning harvesting, carbonation, briquetting and sales. At present, the team can press 1,000-1,500 0.5 kg briquettes every week. The business plan was further supported by the Kenya National Research Fund towards scaling up through mechanization of production and improving sales and marketing. During the reporting period 2021, the mechanized briquette press, a grinder, and mixer were sourced for producing smaller pillow-shaped briquettes, in addition to an improved kiln which was fabricated and tested on-site. Full mechanization of the production process will enable scaling up to semi-commercial status.

Support in establishing the Tsavo and Rukinga Conservancies

Progress towards establishing and formal registration of the Tsavo Conservancy has slowed down since 2018-2019 due to bureaucratic uncertainties around the registration process under Kenya's devolved governance structure. The Kenya Wildlife Conservancy Association has since ironed out the process with KWS and County Governments so it can be picked up again. Nonetheless, Wildlife Works remains committed to supporting the process once it is back on track, and in the meantime is actively laying the groundwork, including raising the profile and building the reputation of the area through its involvement with developing Kivuli and Satao Camps which are likely to be the Conservancy's hub. Additionally, Wildlife Works is supporting Rukinga Wildlife Sanctuary's application to formally receive conservancy status.

Wildlife Works Health Projects

WWildlife Works is committed to supporting community projects as we feel these can be the most important tools to developing self-sufficient and self-governing communities. One of our main focuses is on education, especially for women and girls, but also for male students. During the reporting period-2021, health education through our girl-child programme that targets girls from vulnerable families held 2 sexual health and sanitation training sessions for

72 girls and boys on sexual health, sanitation and drug abuse in various schools within KCRP-Phase I. Additionally, 39 re-usable sanitary pads were distributed to the girls.

Community Wildlife Scouts

Wildlife Works maintains a community-based wildlife monitoring scheme, currently expanded to 3 areas within KCRP-Phase I: Makwasinyi; Buguta; and Kale-Birikani. In each of these sites, a community member records all incidences of key wildlife (High Conservation Value) sightings and human-wildlife conflict. In addition to collecting information that can feed into the national compensation scheme (run by KWS), these data show trends and patterns of crop-raiding and livestock predation, which Wildlife Works uses plan for swift response actions (e.g., deploying deterrents) and other mitigation measures. In the 2021 reporting period, a total of 407 incidents were recorded involving seven species: buffalo, bushpig, eland, elephant, leopard, lion, and spotted hyaena. about third (33%) did not do any damage, 31% and 30%, respectively, damaged crops (including fruit trees) and livestock; the rest damaged other property and infrastructuremaintains a community-based wildlife monitoring scheme, currently expanded to 3 areas within KCRPI: Makwasinyi; Sasenyi; and Kale/Buguta/Mkamenyi/Birikani. In each of these sites, a community member records all incidences of key wildlife (High Conservation Value) sightings and human-wildlife conflict. In addition to collecting information that can feed into the national compensation scheme (run by KWS), these data show trends and patterns of crop-raiding and livestock predation, which Wildlife Works uses plan for swift response actions (e.g., deploying deterrents) and other mitigation measures.

2.1.3 Implementation Schedule

Table 2: The KCRPI implementation schedule.

Date	Milestone(s) in the Project's Development and Implementation
01 January 2005	Start of Project activity, protection of forest from deforestation and degradation, Project Start Date,
2007 - Present	Tree Nursery
Since project start (2005) - Present	Jojoba propagation
Since project start (2005) – Present	Wildlife Works Greenhouses and selling point
Since project start (2005) – Present	Reforestation of Mt. Kasigau and surrounding area
Since project start (2005) – Present	Wildlife Works Carbon Trust: School Construction and Renovations, Infrastructure provision, Bursary Scheme, Agri-business, and Water and health-related Projects.
Since project start (2005) – Present	Community Wildlife Scouts

Since project start (2005) – Present	Forest and Biodiversity Monitoring
Since project start (2005) – Present	Project Product Sales and Marketing
Since project start (2005) – Present	Security and Ranger Patrols
Since project start (2005) – Present	REDD+ Carbon Inventory Monitoring
Expansion completed in October 2011 Print factory opened in November 2011	Eco Factory Expansion and Print Factory
27 April 2011	CCB Validation
13 May 2011	VCS Validation
13 May 2011	VCS Verification M_1
25 May 2011	CCB Verification M_1
Built in 2012 – Maintained to the Present	Group Ranch Office Renovations/Construction
30 November 2012	VCS Verification M_2
05 December 2012	CCB Verification M_2
2012 - Present	Support to Community Based Organizations: Sagalla Conservation and Development Forum (SCDF), Mwatate District Stakeholders' Forum (MDSF) and Mwachabo Development Forum (MDF), Marungu Hill Conservancy Forum (MHC), Kasigau Development Trust (KDT) and Mackinnon Road CBO.
Started in testing phase 2011, moved to new facility on Taita Ranch early 2013 – Present	Wildlife Works Eco-Charcoal Production Facility
New building operating from 2013 – Present	Wildlife Works Soap Factory
21 May 2013	VCS/CCB Verification M_3

2013 - Present	Local Production Clothing Factory
2013 – Present (some operations disrupted by COVID-19)	Wildlife Works Health Projects
2014 - Present	Support to Establishing/Maintaining the Tsavo Conservancy
02 September 2015	VCS/CCB Verification M_4
24 August 2018	VCS/CCB Verification M_5
Officially opened in 2019 - Present	Ecotourism Projects: Kivuko Eco Camp in Taita
12 June 2020	VCS/CCB Verification M_6
06 December 2021	VCS/CCB Verification M_7
16 May 2022	Date Project Submitted for Listing under the SD VISta program of Verra
22 - 29 June 2022	VCS/CCB M_8 Verification, and SD VISta Validation & Verification Field Audit

2.1.4 Project Proponent

Organization Name	Wildlife Works Carbon
Role in the Project	Project Proponent
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Title	Founder and CEO
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2.1.5 Other Entities Involved in the Project

No other entities are involved in KCRPI.

2.1.6 Project Location

KCRPI is located in Southeastern Kenya, in Taita Taveta County, Coast Province. It is approximately 150 km northwest of the city of Mombasa. As part of the 2010 ratification of the

Kenyan Constitution, counties were introduced as new geographical administrative units. These counties number the same as the old districts (47), but there were significant governance changes following the elections of 2013, including devolution to a new two-level governance system, which sees only national and county governments.

The Project Area covers all the land known as Rukinga Sanctuary, with a total of 30,168.66 ha (74,516 acres). The land was originally known as LR 12263, which had historically been reduced by subdivisions 12263/1 and 12263/2 at dates prior to the start date of this project.

Rukinga is part of that land that forms a corridor (the Kasigau Wildlife Corridor) between the Tsavo East National Park and the Tsavo West National Parks to the East of the Marungu range. The Project Area and Reference Area are clearly delineated in Figure 1 in the PD in section 5.1, and the shapefiles representing the boundaries have been made available to the project validator. Lands within the Project boundary are classified as tropical dryland forest[3] for at least 20 years and has been primary forest throughout recorded history[4].

The Project is located in Southeastern Kenya; in the Coast Province about 2 hours' drive from the port town of Mombasa along the Nairobi-Mombasa highway. The Project's Eco-Region is typified by a dryland forest ecosystem, dominated by acacia and commiphora drought-resistant species. The majority of people in the area descend from the Taita tribe, with significant populations of Duruma, Kamba and other less-prevalent tribes. More detailed information concerning the social, economic and geographic attributes of the Project Zone can be found in the Project's CCB PDD.

There have been no changes to the Project Area location or maps since the publication of the VCS and CCB Project Documents (PDs).

[3] UN IPCC, Good Practice Guidance for LULUCF, Table 3A.1.8;

[4] The earliest record that has been located is dated 1895 which identifies the area as forested [Hobley 1895 – Upon a Visit to Tsavo and the Taita Highlands – The Geographical Journal 1895 Vol 5 No 6 pp 545-561]

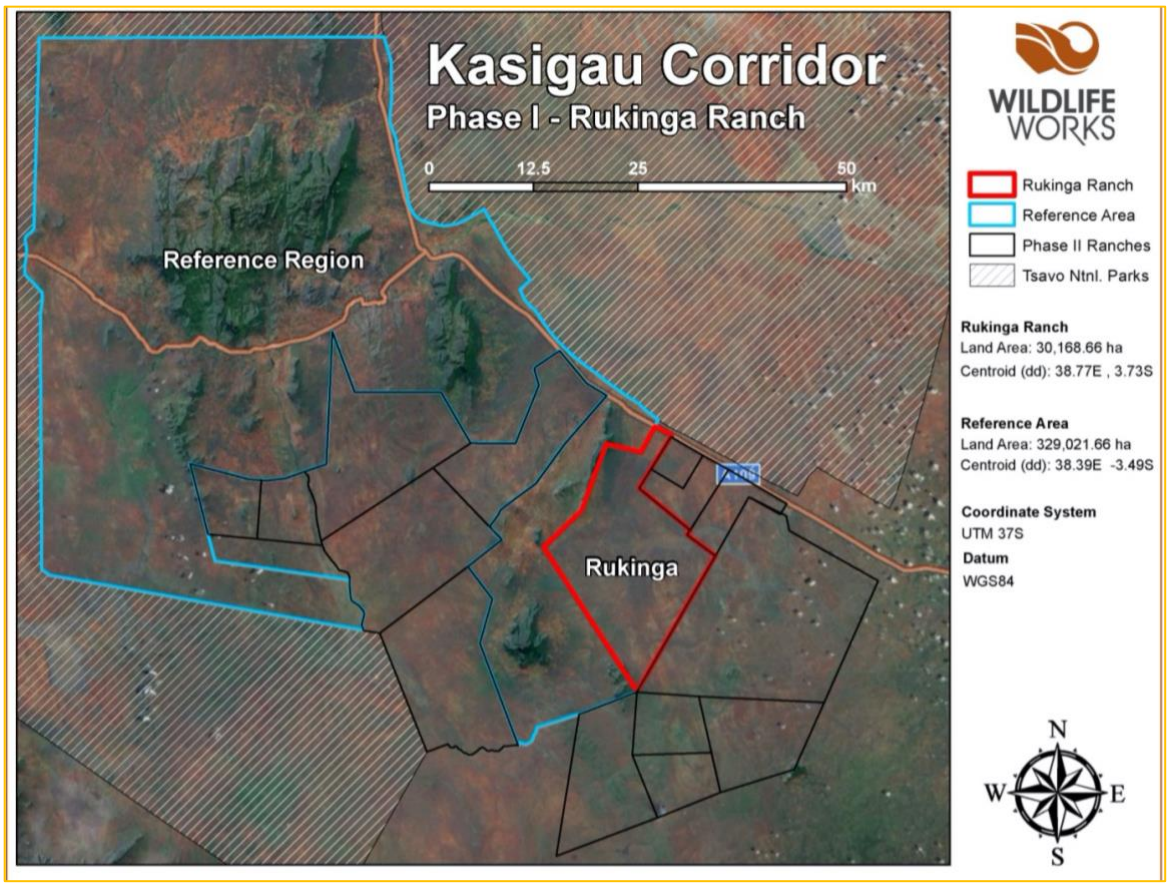

Figure 2: The Kasigau Corridor REDD Project Phase I – Rukinga Sanctuary Project Area and Reference Area Spatial Boundaries.

The KCRPI Project Area, along with the neighboring community group ranches that make up the KCRPII Project Area, are part of that land that forms a corridor (the Kasigau Wildlife Corridor) between Tsavo East and Tsavo West National Parks, located to the Southeast of the Taita Hills, an area of high conservation value and the northern most extent of the Eastern Arc Mountain range (see map above).

There are several Kenyan Administrative Locations (sub-districts) associated with the Project Area, with a total population of over 350,000 people. Approximately 15,000 people reside within 5 km of the Project boundaries within the two Locations (Marungu and Kasigau) included in the KCRPI Project Zone. Figure 3 below displays the combined Project Zone for both KCRPI and KCRPII projects, which stipulates locations of the communities directly involved with / affected by KCRPI.

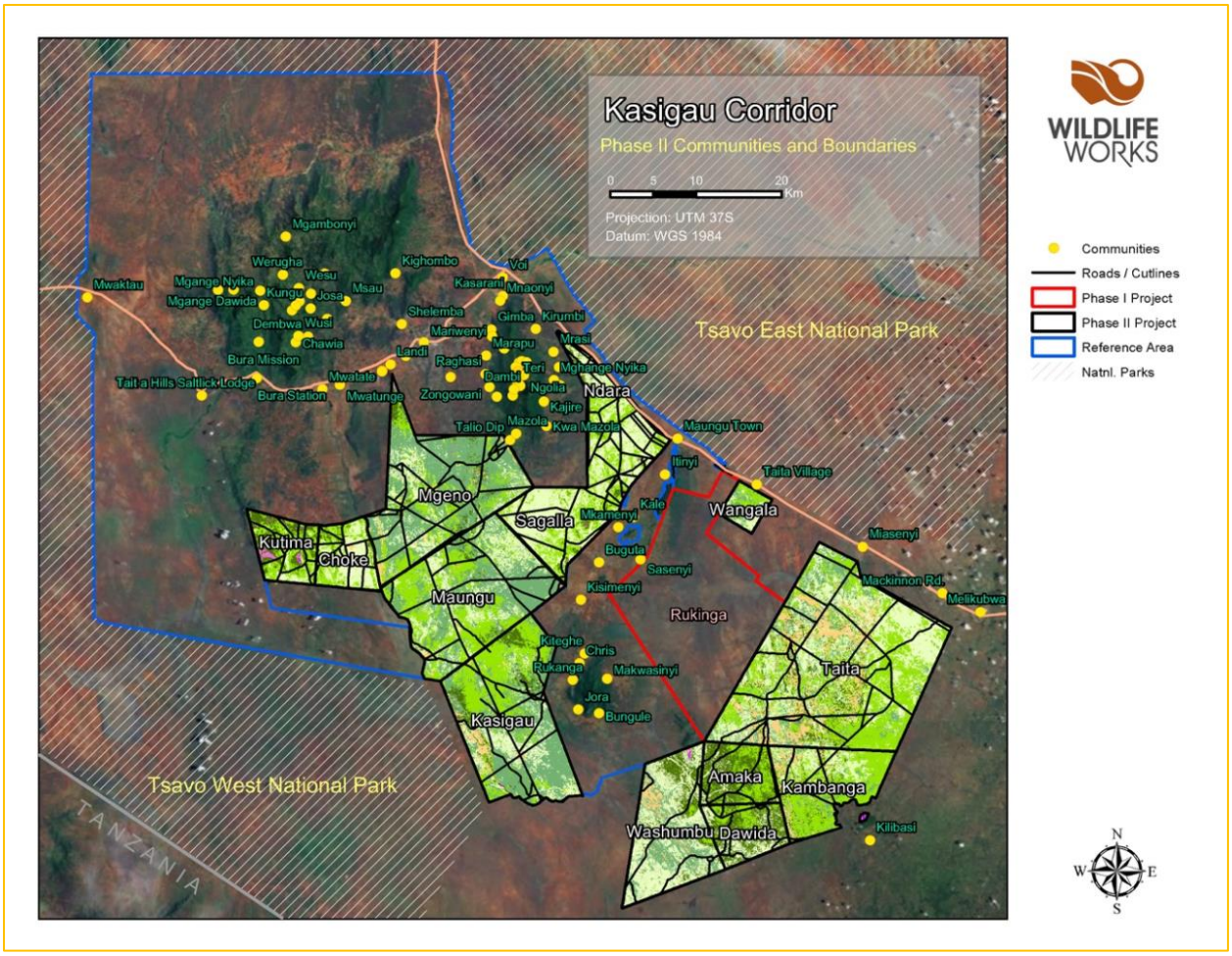

Figure 3: The Project Zone - Communities within the scope of influence of the Kasigau Corridor REDD Project Phase I – Rukinga Sanctuary Project Area.

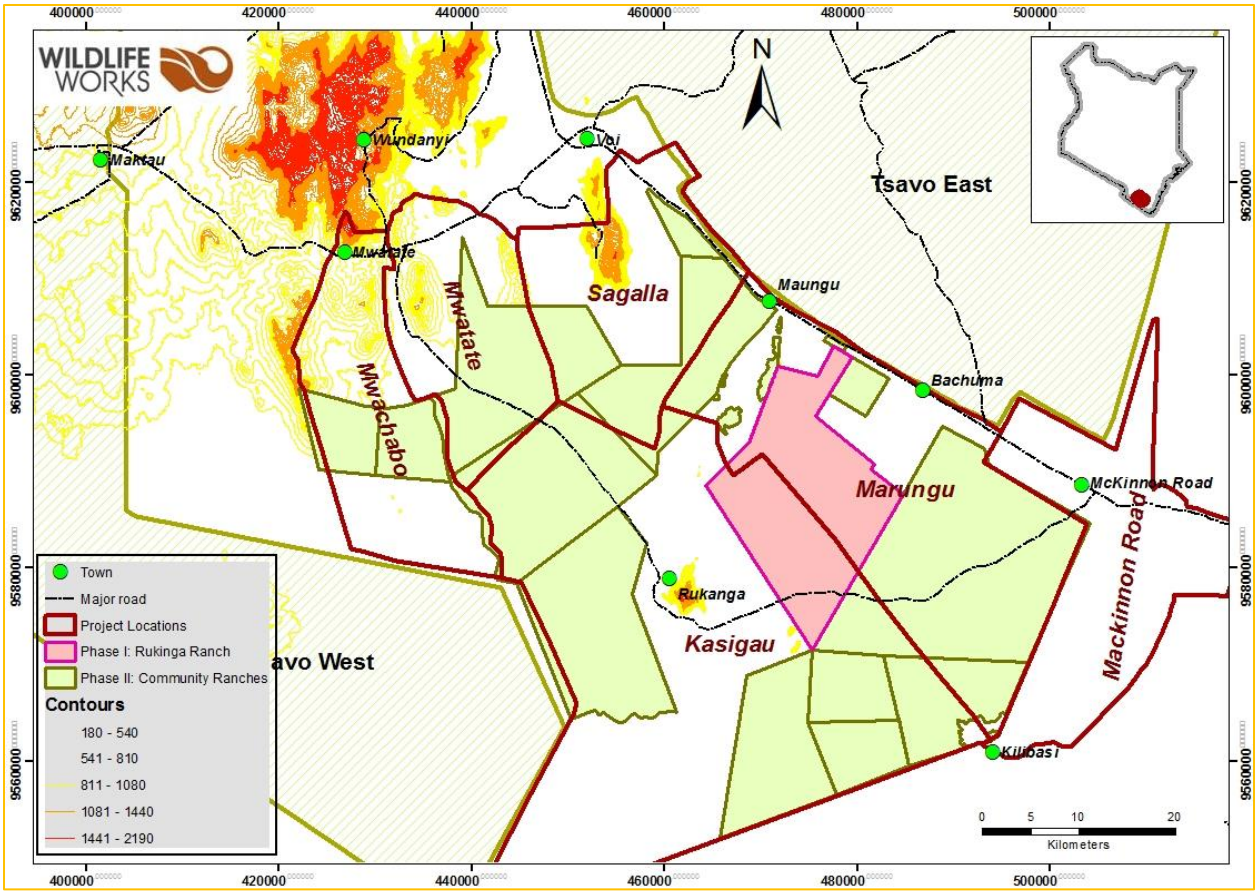

Figure 4: The six Locations in the Project Zone with which the project works with.

2.1.7 Project Description Deviations

There are no Project Description deviations from the Project's SD VISta PD. Deviations related to the Project's VCS/CCB PD are documented in the VCS/CCB Monitoring Report.

2.1.8 Threats to the Project

Identified major threats that could impact the Project are as follows:

- Changes in legislation – government expropriating land through e.g. a compulsory purchase for development scheme. As the Government of Kenya has been supportive of KCRPI and there is no recent history of expropriation of private conservation lands, this risk is considered very low. We will continue to seek international press for our Project, as keeping it in the spotlight promotes awareness, and reminds the Government of the value it is adding to the country of Kenya.
- Income – risk that revenue from the sale of carbon credits falls short of Projected sales or credit prices to sustain the Project's solvency. Financial sustainability was modeled at extremely conservative carbon offset credit sale values and volumes. This Project is

a very popular Project with high potential value in the marketplace. The likelihood of financial insolvency is therefore deemed to be very low.

- Crop failure - substantial and repeated crop failure in surrounding communities could lead to increased poaching and use of the forests for financial benefit. This risk is high. The majority of alternative economic development efforts are aimed at mitigating this risk.

- Invasion of cattle grazers due to famine in adjacent communities, or lack of grazing elsewhere - Although an influx of cattle would affect herbaceous vegetation (grasses) in the Project area, it would not result in a significant carbon stock change. This risk is considered to be moderate, especially as Somalis have used the land in this area to feed and water their cattle over the years, sometimes with permission from landowners and sometimes without. However, given the increasing aridity in the area, we believe Somali cattle herders will be forced to look elsewhere for rangelands. We will apply carbon funding to increase ranger patrolling to better protect the Project Area from illegal incursion.

- Drought – drought is an increasing reality in this region of Kenya. We anticipate that climate change will worsen this problem throughout the Project crediting period. Drought inherently introduces two additional risks:

- Wildlife – drought places severe stress on wildlife in the Project Area. However, many of the species living in this ecosystem are extraordinarily drought-adapted, and have little problem surviving for extended dry spells. For those that aren't, we plan to continue to provide emergency water sources at all the ranches in the Project Area. More detail on this issue is provided in the CCB PDD in Section GL1.2.

- Cash crops – drought will render the survival of cash crops, such as Jojoba and citrus more difficult. These high value cash crops will be planted sparingly so as to minimize water demand. Additionally, they require much less water than a comparable maize field, and can survive higher temperatures, provided they receive some water. Farmers will be able to provide this in order to preserve the financial value of the crop under Project funding.

- Fire – grass fires are common in the region due to intense heat and dry conditions. Naturally occurring fires are extremely rare, with the majority caused by humans, either accidental or intentionally set. Our strategy is to continue educating the local population, especially the youth, about the dangers of burning fallows, which is often done to improve grazing for their animals. Fires tend to burn the grasses and shrubs, but move very quickly, and typically don't kill trees, as native species are generally grass-fire tolerant.

2.1.9 Benefit Permanence

KCRPI is a component of a comprehensive conservation effort being executed by Wildlife Works since 1998. It is our intention to utilize carbon funding provided by the REDD+ Project to make necessary investments in job creation and income generation activities to maintain financial stability into the foreseeable future. We have demonstrated the effective management of carbon proceeds throughout the first 7 verification periods, achieving consecutive successful verifications, making it the most advanced REDD+ Project validated under VCS and CCB. The Project has executed carbon rights agreements in the Project area and received carbon proceeds through the sale of credits in the voluntary market as an operational REDD+ Project. As a result, landowners now realize the value of their carbon. It is our intention to get these CRAs registered as full easements against the title deed of the land, although there is no perfected mechanism under Kenyan law yet. Our approach to transfer knowledge and our assistance in creating conservation institutions within the community speak to our desire to ensure climate, community and biodiversity benefits continue in perpetuity.

It is Wildlife Works' intention to create a lasting culture of employment and financial health in the Project's sphere of influence. To that end, every job created thus far, and every job slated for creation in the future upon receipt of carbon funding, is designed to last not only throughout the Project's crediting period, but well beyond. Through job training, such as in our EcoFactory, members of the surrounding communities are currently building their capacity and gaining new skills that will last into the foreseeable future. Carbon revenues have and will continue to change the face of the surrounding communities, and through KCRPI, Wildlife Works has effectively raised awareness about the link between forest / wildlife protection and the availability of sustainable employment. We have made detailed job creation information available to the public and included many of the metrics in the various versions of this document. For every Project activity, as one of the performance indicators, we will be tracking the number of jobs created as a direct result of that activity. Employment information is reported in each MR throughout the Project lifetime. The types of job created by KCRPI activities, whenever possible, are full-time, permanent positions, designed to last well beyond the project crediting period.

2.2 Stakeholder Engagement

2.2.1 Stakeholder Consultation and Adaptive Management

We have always had an open door policy at Wildlife Works, and members of the community interested in learning more, or with questions, suggestions and/or grievances can drop by or offices us at any time. We have initiated a formal community contact process, and will track any suggestions made and the resolution within the project implementation plan moving forward. We have also implemented a community liaison team, slated to constantly travel around the project area, which will hold community meetings, or "barazas", to sensitize the community to the project's goals, and to give them a chance for providing feedback. Laurian Lenjo, office, personnel and community relations manager, who himself is from the local community is responsible for this process, and he works closely with Lara Cowan to organize and conduct these meetings. A list of meetings held and attendees is always made, and retained in the Wildlife Works office.

As part of annual project verification, the project's annual Monitoring Report is posted with Verra for a 30-day public comment period where interested members of the public are open to submit comments directly to Verra. All public comments are subsequently relayed to Wildlife Works and must be responded to and addressed and taken into consideration by the VVB audit team.

In addition, as many local community members either don't have access to the Internet or are not fluent in English, Wildlife Works provided an impartial commenting service. Flyers and posters were distributed at the following locations:

1. Chiefs and Sub- Chiefs offices

2. Public meetings (Swalhili: "barazas")

3. Schools

4. Newsletter Outlets (e.g. Voi town, Maungu Town, etc.)

Flyers contained information informing the public that they could make comments on the KCRPI & KCRPII REDD projects through the CCBA website. Should they not have access to the internet, or needed translation services, they were advised to either come to Wildlife Works head office to use the internet service, or alternatively, write hard copies of their comments and to bring them to Wildlife works for posting, and if necessary, translation.

No significant Project changes have resulted from these on-going consultations, but various changes and modifications have occurred, mainly concerning the processes of community engagement and project implementation e.g., election of member to various committees involved in the distribution of community allocations. Communities and stakeholders have provided numerous comments on how to ensure fairness, increase downward accountability and reduce the possibility of corruption in the benefit sharing program. This has led to WWC

ensuring greater transparency, for instance in process followed for the election of committee members, or regarding the names of students being provided with bursaries and the names of companies receiving contracts and their amounts.

2.2.2 Anti-Discrimination

Wildlife Works operates within all local and national employment laws and has been doing so for over 16 years in the country of Kenya. The company is committed to recruiting, hiring, and promoting qualified minorities, such as women and individuals with disabilities within the surrounding community and within the workplace.

Wildlife Works maintains equal opportunity hiring practices and has established formal hiring processes and procedures that are implemented by the Project Office. These include policies and procedures for Employee Recruitment & Selection, Equity and Diversity, and Equal Employment Opportunity & Affirmative Action. We ensure that the entirety of the KCRPI Project Area is well represented, promoting equal opportunity for training for those that may lack necessary skills, but wish to be involved.

When employment opportunities arise, the positions are advertised / announced so it reaches all the locations within the Project area through local administrators (Chiefs), community-based organizations (CBOs) and our community relations department. Positions are advertised for a minimum of one month (30 days), after which suitable candidates from all locations are shortlisted according to the information listed on their application. As many suitable candidates as possible are invited for interviews. We conduct transparent interviews with the objective of filling the position with optimal candidates, but priority is given to women and disadvantaged groups, ensuring they are well represented and given a fair chance, as described in Wildlife Works' HR Policies.

Wildlife Works' policy is to be an equal opportunity employer. We do not, as part of recruitment, discriminate based on gender, age, race and ethnicity or entertain any form of discrimination. The company is committed to ensuring that all employee requisitions, interviewing, and hiring are performed in an effective manner with the objective to fill positions with the best available candidates. The purpose of the Recruitment & Selection policy is to ensure that a transparent and unbiased recruitment and selection process is followed, and that it results in the appointment of the best candidate, based solely on merit and best-fit with the organisational values, philosophy, and goals in mind.

Wildlife Works' Equity & Diversity policy is to provide equal employment, educational and social opportunities for all employees, without regard to race, colour, religion, sex (including pregnancy), national origin, age, status, disability, political affiliation, sexual orientation, gender identity or genetic information at any given time. Wildlife Works is committed to the principle of excellence, with respect for all.

Wildlife Works prohibits discrimination and any form of harassment, provides equal employment opportunity without regard to race, HIV / AIDS status, pregnancy, mental status,

colour, religion, gender, trade affiliation, ethnicity or national origin, political or other opinion disability, sexual orientation or preferences of age. The company is committed to recruiting, hiring, and promoting qualified minorities, such as women and individuals with disabilities within the surrounding community and within the workplace.

2.2.3 Worker Training

Wildlife Works has always provided training for its employees in Kenya, starting from the early days when we built a factory and taught local women how to sew from first principles. We have trained local wildlife rangers, factory workers and supervisors, organic greenhouse workers, personnel managers, and forest inventory specialists (plot sampling teams). We have developed robust training programs for Wildlife Works rangers, factory workers and greenhouse workers.

The most recent specialized hires have been for the Biodiversity Monitoring Team, which involves geo-location of animal sightings, detailed inventory management and reporting and skilled field techniques. Each department works to cross-train employees, so that to the fullest extent possible, all members of a department can perform relevant tasks required by the department. Therefore, while there may be specialized tasks, tools used or processes utilized in a department, we strive for breadth of knowledge for all employees, with the aim of affording all departmental employees with the capacity to perform all tasks required and cover any position needed. Additionally, we design our training systems to promote employee mobility within the company.

2.2.4 Equal Work Opportunities

Wildlife Works operates within all local and national employment laws and has been doing so for over 16 years in the country of Kenya. The company is committed to recruiting, hiring, and promoting qualified minorities, such as women and individuals with disabilities within the surrounding community and within the workplace.

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2.2.5 Workers' Rights

Wildlife Works operates within all local and national employment laws and has been doing so for over 16 years in the country of Kenya. Like any business, Wildlife Works is subject to periodic audits by the Government Employment Officer. We have passed all inspections, whether from local officials or International agencies such as Verite. Relevant Laws and Regulations that are applicable to the project are summarized in section 2.3.9 of this document.

Kenya's has ratified many of the elements of the ILO Freedom of Association and Protection of the Right to Organize Convention, 1948 (No. 87). We are required to provide our workers with the freedom of association. We are required to honor a dispute process as laid out in the act. We currently have no collective bargaining agreement in place nor are we required to do so. We have never had a dispute with any employee that resulted in any collective action, lock out etc. and we have no disputes at all at this time, and we believe that we are in full compliance with this Act. To ensure that employees are aware of their rights under the Act, the following language is included in all employment contracts issued by Wildlife Works in Kenya.

"Wildlife Works, EPZ Ltd. acknowledges the importance of the recently enacted Labor Relations Act 2007, and therefore we wish to inform you that you are entitled to Freedom of Association,

and specifically to join the Kenya Textile Workers Union (KTWU) should you so choose. Should you choose to join the KTWU, all membership dues and agency fees for the Union will be payable directly by you."

2.2.6 Occupational Safety Assessment

As outlined in the company's Occupational Health and Safety Policy and Procedures Manual, Wildlife Works is committed to worker safety. In the field of wildlife management, it is impossible to remove all risks associated for rangers who spend every day in the bush with wild animals. Furthermore, due to the illegal ivory trade, armed poachers are present in the Project Area. In January of 2012, one ranger was killed and a second severely injured in an ambush attack by poachers. In response to this incident, rangers have been outfitted with improved field medical kits designed for application in life-threatening situations in remote areas. Special training in the use of these kits has also been provided to reduce the risk of serious injury or casualty. We provide full training and close guidance for our rangers, instructing them on how to avoid conflict with armed poachers and wildlife. This includes continued partnership with Ranger Campus, a non-profit organization which trains rangers in health and safety best practices and first-aid. In 2020, two rangers were killed in separate attacks by elephants. Joseph Ngeti and and Jessica Njeri were both dedicated rangers and killed in the line of duty while protecting the Project Area. The first incident was caused when a female elephant was trying to protect a baby elephant caught in a poacher's snare, and consequently attacked the ranger patrol. The second incident occurred when a bull elephant that had "gone rogue." We coordinated with the Kenya Wildlife Services to remove it from the ranch it was thought to be located in. All traffic in the ranch was stopped and as an additional safety precaution, only vehicles that were accompanied by two armed Kenyan Wildlife Service rangers were allowed to move anywhere in the ranch. However, despite these precautions, the elephant attack was both too sudden and brutal to ultimately prevent. WWC reviewed both incidents very closely, and it was determined that these were simply very unfortunate freak incidents and were not the result of an operational mistake or error made by the rangers. Our rangers' safety is vital; therefore, Wildlife Works is actively seeking to learn from these incidents and revise procedures and training accordingly. Wildlife Works' rangers receive ongoing trainings, and we are in the process of training more instructors within the ranger base. WWC is also investigating technologies that could be employed to identify nearby wildlife and alert rangers to their presence; however, no such technology has been found to be viable and/or useful in identifying risks. Despite well-planned ranger patrols and the wealth of experience rangers have in the bush, the position is inherently dangerous. Therefore, we insure all our full-time employees under the National Health Insurance Fund (NHIF) and the National Social Security Fund (NSSF), which also covers spouse and children. In addition, as a company policy, we provide each employee with up to Ksh 10,000 worth of medical allowance at the local doctor in the nearby town of Voi.

As part of our partnership with PUMA, we underwent a PumaSafe Audit. This was to ensure that the Wildlife Works EcoFactory met PUMA's standards for workers' rights, and health and safety. As part of this audit a first-aid room was built and equipped, as was a staff kitchen and canteen. The Kenyan Red Cross held two training sessions in first aid and personal health, training 40 EcoFactory workers, rangers and greenhouse staff.

Table 3: An assessment of the hazards associated with key jobs performed in the KCRPI.

Hazard	Mitigation
Sewing Factory Employees	All risks are identified in training manual provided to Validator along with how to avoid risk.
Needle sticking fingers	Finger guards are provided, sharps bin is provided for safe disposal of needles that are replaced
Inhalation of fibers	Face masks are provided
Fire	Fire exits clearly marked, no smoking in factory, firefighting stations in factory, three doors out of facility
Greenhouse Employees	All risks are identified in training manual provided to Validator along with how to avoid risk.
Exposure to Chemicals	Only non-toxic chemical free organic materials used in Greenhouse therefore no toxic or caustic chemical exposure. Rubber gloves and protective eye gear provided if needed.
Inhalation Hazard	Only non-toxic chemical free organic materials used in Greenhouse therefore no toxic or caustic chemical exposure. Masks provided during spraying of organic pesticides.
Temperature Extremes	Frequent breaks and availability of water during hot conditions. Shade cloth covering of work area.
Slip, Trip and Fall	Ensure work is clear of all slip or trip hazards before work begins.
Lifting	Use proper lifting techniques, always get help for lifting heavy objects.
Cuts	Wear gloves, keep tools sharp and always be aware of the proximity of fingers to blades when making cuts.
Electric Shock	There is no electricity at all at the Organic Greenhouse.
Pinching and Crushing Points	Wear gloves, keep tools sharp and always be aware of the proximity of fingers to blades when making cuts.
Inclement/Adverse Weather	Organic Greenhouse located adjacent to Ranger station, so employees can retreat indoors in adverse weather.
Snakes, Animals	Keep greenhouse floor clear of organic debris for clear visibility, always be aware of the possibility for snakes, spiders, scorpions to be present, and do not approach or touch if seen.

Wildlife Works Rangers	All risks are identified in Ranger training manual provided to Validator along with how to avoid risk.
Elephants, Lions, Buffaloes, Snakes etc.	Training is given in how to approach, identify and stay a safe distance from potentially dangerous animals. First Aid training is provided in cuts, limb fractures, snakebites, dehydration and other possible health risks. Team design of 6 minimizes risk.
Poachers	Training is given in how to track, and peacefully apprehend poachers if possible and how to avoid confrontation with armed and aggressive poachers. Team design of 6 minimizes risk.
Sun Exposure, thorns etc.	Rangers are all provided with uniforms with long sleeves and long trousers and brimmed hats and boots. Lots of drinking water available at Ranger posts.
Wildlife Works Plot Sampling Team	All risks are identified in Plot Sampler training manual provided to Validator along with how to avoid risk.
Elephants, Lions, Buffaloes, Snakes etc.	Training is given in how to approach, identify and stay a safe distance from potentially dangerous animals. First Aid training is provided in cuts, limb fractures, snakebites, dehydration and other possible health risks. Team is designed to have sufficient numbers to improve lookout and minimize risk.
Poarchers/Charcoalers	Team is instructed to avoid contact with any poachers or people producing charcoal. If the presence of any poacher or charcoaler is detected, the team is to immediately leave the area and notify the Head of Security when they are in a safe position.
Sun Exposure, thorns etc.	Each plot team member is all provided with uniforms with long sleeves and long trousers and boots. They are to bring lots of drinking water, which is available in the field at Ranger posts or other company and Ranch outposts.
Injuries from debris or tools during Soil Sampling	The plot team is also provided with personal protective equipment to help mitigate injuries. This includes safety glasses and long sleeves and trousers to protect against flying debris while digging. Additionally, they are provided with boots to protect their feet during digging.
WW/Tsavo Soap Factory	All risks are identified in Soap Factory Safety training manual provided to Validator along with how to avoid risk.
Lye	Comprehensive instructions are given on how to mix lye safely, and goggles and gloves are provided for employees.
Oils, Gas heating	Vegetable oils are only heated to 50-55o C, so are only hand warm. Gas stove is simple self-igniting LPG camp stove.

2.2.7 Feedback and Grievance Redress Procedure

The grievance redress mechanism enables individual stakeholders, groups or communities across KCRPI to contact us if they have an inquiry, a concern or a formal complaint regarding any element related to the environmental and social performance of the Project. It is mainstreamed into our broader stakeholder engagement process. The Community Engagement and Outreach Manager is responsible for receiving, registering and processing all grievances. We have established procedures to help us screen, investigate and determine resolution and redress options, as well as systems to communicate decisions taken and progress on pending actions. This helps ensure the grievance mechanism remains accessible and trusted.

Stakeholders across KCRPI have five ways of registering their complaints or concerns, which they do either orally or through writing:

i. **Open-door company policy:** Wildlife Works maintains an open-door policy for all community members whereby they are free, if they would wish to, to walk in and personally register a complaint with the appropriate member of staff, including senior management. Wildlife Works retains its main operating base within the Project area to ensure accessibility of key members of staff and management to community members.

ii. **Through the Chief's Office:** the REDD+ Project area covers six administrative locations each headed by a Chief. Wildlife Works strives to engage these key leaders in all our operations involving the communities e.g., to organize community meetings during our SBIA workshops. They are also key arbiters in cases where Wildlife Works are unable to resolve an issue or complainant. Grievance forms are also available at Chief's offices, and Wildlife Works meets with the Chiefs periodically to collect completed forms. When forms are dropped into REDD+ Project's suggestion boxes outside Chief's Offices, we adhere to the chain of custody procedure described below.

iii. **Suggestion boxes:** Wildlife Works has installed suggestion boxes across the Project area at Chief's Offices. Chief's Offices are established such that they are accessible to most members in a Location. They are opened once a month by a team comprising a community representative, a Chief or Chief's representative, and a Wildlife Works staff member. All comments and complaints are registered, and the team agrees on how to respond to them depending on the issue and following the procedures and guidelines.

iv. **During community meetings:** as mentioned above, the Chief is involved in setting up various community meetings (termed "Barazas" in Swahili) and community members are free to air any complaints or feedback during these meetings. Wildlife Works maintains records and minutes for all meetings and follows up with the individual complainants in the case of specific grievances, or with the Chief's Office for general complaints.

v. **Online via the CCB/VCS websites:** this is especially during the Public Comments Period when Project audits – validation and/or verification – are conducted. Members of communities with access to the internet can register any complaints/feedback directly. Those without such access can use any of the procedures above to register complains or comments, especially through the CBO or Chief's Office using paper grievance forms.

A total of 10 comments were received from the Project communities in the monitoring period. All submissions were made through suggestion boxes. Of these, the majority were requests or

suggestions (59%) and project compliments (38%); the rest were a clarification request and a complaint. The complaint was related to human-wildlife conflicts and the claim that some community members had been harassed by Wildlife Works' rangers. To address this issues, Wildlife Works' community outreach and security departments organised a baraza (meeting) that included a friendly football match between the youths and the rangers where there were mutual discussions about the conflicts, where they originated from and how to avert them in future. Use of unnecessary force was also discussed and would be avoided in future in-line with the Wildlife Works' Security Policy and Procedures.

2.2.8 Stakeholder Access to Project Documentation

Information on the Project is detailed in the VCS/CCB Project Descriptions, documents which are made publicly available on the Verra website. Further, Climate, Community, Biodiversity, and SDG Impact monitoring results are described in the project's VCS/CCB & SD VISta Monitoring Reports submitted for project verification which are also made publicly available. Hard copies of these documents are all available for review at the Project Office. Additionally, monitoring report summaries are also written for each monitoring period and provided to communities throughout the Project Area in English and Swahili. The monitoring report has additionally been posted to the CCB website for public review and comment.

In addition, the following steps were taken to ensure all stakeholders have access to the project's Monitoring Reports and are aware of and provided a means to comment on the document during the public comment period:

- An executive summary of the monitoring report was made available in English and Swahili at the Project office and distributed to the CBOs, LCCs and Project communities.
- WWC community relations staff actively communicated to community members the start of the Public comment period at recent community outreach meetings and encouraged them to file comments. Community relations officers will also make note of any verbal comments and ensure their registration.
- A computer was made publicly available at the Project office for submitting comments directly to the CCB website. All Public comments received in writing are provided to the VVB.

The results from monitoring plan implementation are disseminated to the communities either through community meetings or barazas or the annual / biennial SIA Community Workshops. The last SIA workshop was held in March 2021where results from the 2020 Household Survey were presented to and discussed by the workshop participants which served as the validation exercise for the key findings from that survey. Implementation issues were also discussed including clarifying any issues around LCC functions other implementational issues. The next Community Workshop is slated for 2023, where data from the 2022 Household Survey is expected to be discussed.

2.2.9 Information to Stakeholders on Assessment Process

Project community members and stakeholders are informed about the VCS/CCB verification process, and SD VISta assessment process by the Community Engagement and Outreach Manager during periodic community meetings, notices posted in prominent locations and through publicly available information available online via the Verra website. The project's Community Engagement and Outreach Manager and their team hold regular community meetings to communicate project information and educate community members and stakeholders on REDD+ in general and the SD Vista, CCB and VCS standards. While the Project is newly implementing the SD VISta standard, it was validated under the VCS and CCB standards over 12 years ago and is currently on the 8th verification under these standards. Therefore, the communities and stakeholders have become accustomed to the verification process and the opportunities it has for public comment and meeting with the audit team. The Community Engagement and Outreach Manager strives to inform communities and stakeholders of the project public comment period and audit site visits 1-2 weeks before they occur to ensure adequate notice is provided. The project additionally posts notices written in Kiswahili, the prominent local language, in prominent locations, such as sign boards outside of chief's huts, that state the dates of the public comment period, the dates of the audit field visit and contact information for project and the auditor. The sign states that anyone wishing to learn more about the project and its impacts can contact the project at the provided contact information, or if they wish to speak directly to the audit team they can schedule a meeting through project staff or directly with the auditor through the contact information provided. These notices are posted at least 2 weeks before the audit site visit. The project information is also posted publicly on the Verra website during the public comment period. Members of communities with access to the internet can register any complaints/feedback directly, or can utilize project computers to do so. Those without such access can use any of the procedures above to register complaints or comments, especially through the CBO or Chief's Office using paper grievance forms. The audit team addresses any comments received by Verra, or grievances and comments received by the project or communicated directly to the auditor.

2.3 Project Management

2.3.1 Avoidance of Corruption

Section C-8 of the Wildlife Works Employee Manual (January 2020) outlines the company's corporate anti-corruption and compliance policies. The policy statement stipulates that no Wildlife Works employees or any of its related entities will ever pay or authorize the payment of money or anything of value to any other party or individual for the benefit of that party or individual to retain business or be securing an improper advantage. Further, Wildlife Works' personnel will abide by the Foreign Corrupt Practices Act of 1977 (the "FCPA") or any other applicable Law of similar effect, including Laws implementing the OECD Convention on Combating Bribery of Foreign Public Officials in International Business Transactions. Wildlife

Works' employees agree to abide by the policies in the Employee Manual when executing their employment contract.

In addition, the Wildlife Works Kenya office has an established Code of Conduct policy, Version 1.0, June 2019, that outlines the standard of behavior expected of employees of the company. The policy is designed to assist staff to understand their responsibilities and obligations and provide guidance on expected behavior in the workplace. The Code of Conduct policy applies to all Wildlife Works employees and management. Part II, 18 – Financial Integrity of the policy addresses anti-corruption.

By signing off on the Code of Conduct policy, all Wildlife Works employees agree to non-corrupt behavior, including not using their position to unlawfully or wrongfully enrich themselves or any other person, not to seek or accept cash or benefit that may compromise their integrity, be accountable for the efficient and effective use of funds, and maintain proper documentation and records of financial transactions. In addition, Part II, 20 – Gifts and Benefits in Kind of the Policy prohibits all Wildlife Works employees of accepting any type of gift specified by the Ethics and Anti-Corruption Commission. Gifts of money may not be accepted in any circumstances, and all gifts or donations must be declared to the company.

2.3.2 Recognition of Property Rights

The Project Area boundary is the boundary of that piece of land known as LR 12263 or Rukinga Sanctuary. The project area lands are privately owned under leasehold ownership from the Government of Kenya by Rukinga Ranching Co. Ltd. Wildlife Works has a legally binding agreement with the landowners, Rukinga Ranching Co Ltd. which transfers the carbon and biodiversity rights of the Project Area to Wildlife Works, Inc.

Currently and historically, there have not been any communities within the boundaries of the protected area. Therefore, the Project does not currently, and never has, required the relocation of any people. The Project will never re-locate any people that could encroach on the Project Area lands, although we work to actively prevent encroachment.

2.3.3 Free, Prior and Informed Consent

Wildlife Works conducted a Full Free, Prior and Informed Consent (FPIC) campaign with stakeholders (ranch owners and community members) during the Project's development phase (please see the CCB PDD Section 5.3). Additionally, as part of continuous engagement and consultation, the Project Proponent continually holds meetings with Project stakeholders and the surrounding communities to update them on the Project and receive any new comments, requests, suggestions or grievances. See also the description of ongoing stakeholder consultation activities described in Section 2.2.1 of this document.

2.3.4 Restitution and/or Compensation for Affected Resources

The Project Area boundary is the boundary of that piece of land known as LR 12263 or Rukinga Sanctuary. The project area lands are privately owned under leasehold ownership from the Government of Kenya by Rukinga Ranching Co. Ltd. Wildlife Works has a legally binding

agreement with the landowners, Rukinga Ranching Co Ltd. which transfers the carbon and biodiversity rights of the Project Area to Wildlife Works, Inc.

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2.3.5 Property Rights Removal/Relocation of Property Rights Holders

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Currently and historically, there have not been any communities within the boundaries of the protected area. Therefore, the Project does not currently, and never has, required the relocation of any people. The Project will never re-locate any people that could encroach on the Project Area lands, although we work to actively prevent encroachment.

2.3.6 Identification of Illegal Activities

The illegal activities that may be conducted in the Project Area include poaching of animals, both for animal products, such as elephants for their tusks, or for bush meat. Additionally, hardwood trees may be cut down for charcoal production or for building poles. Land could also be cleared for small-scale farms by members of the surrounding communities.

No project benefits are derived from illegal activity. Wildlife Works has established a long and successful track record of monitoring the Project Area for any illegal activities and halting them. As described in other sections of this report, our rangers have caught many poachers and charcoal burners before they were able to do significant damage to the ecosystem and have established a close working relationship with Kenyan government authorities. Wildlife Works always uses non-violent practices when dealing with perpetrators of illegal activities in the Project Area. In fact, the majority of charcoal producers that were arrested for illegal activity are now employed with Wildlife Works in jobs that benefit the environment. Neither the Project, nor members of the community related to the Project, benefit in any way from these illegal activities.

2.3.7 Ongoing Conflicts or Disputes

There are no existing known or ongoing unresolved disputes over ownership and rights to the project area lands, emission reduction claims, or SDG Impacts generated by the project.

The Project Area boundary is the boundary of that piece of land known as LR 12263 or Rukinga Sanctuary. The project area lands are privately owned under leasehold ownership from the Government of Kenya by Rukinga Ranching Co. Ltd. Wildlife Works has a legally binding

agreement with the landowners, Rukinga Ranching Co Ltd. which transfers the carbon and biodiversity rights of the Project Area to Wildlife Works, Inc.

Any potential disputes brought to the attention of Wildlife Works would be handled through the Grievance and Redress procedures described in section 2.2.7.

2.3.8 National and Local Laws and Regulations

Wildlife Works operates within all local and national employment laws and has been doing so for over 16 years in the country of Kenya. Like any business, Wildlife Works is subject to periodic audits by the Government Employment Officer. We have passed all inspections, whether from local officials or International agencies such as Verite.

Laws relevant to this Project are as follows:

EMPLOYMENT LAWS

Export Processing Zone's Act (Cap. 547)

As an Export Processing Zone (EPZ) company, we are exempted from the standard Labor Laws of Kenya. Instead, we must conform to those laws that that have been deemed applicable to General Provisions of the Employment Act (Cap 226-229) or amended for EPZs as covered by the Export Processing Zone's Act (Cap. 547).

National Health Insurance Fund

N.H.I.F was established on 12th July 1966 by an Act of Parliament (Cap 255) of the Laws of Kenya, and later became a state corporation on the 15th February 1999 through an Act of Parliament no.9 of 1998. The objective of its establishment is to enable majority of Kenyans to access healthcare services at supplemented costs. Contribution to the fund are compulsory for all persons whose income is Ksh.1000/= and above. To ensure our full compliance with this regulation a Wildlife Works representative visits the NHIF offices in Voi monthly. Our monthly payroll is submitted and the NHIF staff calculates our monthly contribution, which is then paid in full. Additionally, we are subject to random checks by the NHIF inspector, who makes unannounced visits to our facility to inspect our books. We have always been found to be in full compliance of this act.

The National Social Security Fund Act (Cap 258)

The National Social Security Fund Act of 1965 created this fund for the benefit of the members. It is a compulsory savings scheme into which the employer pays a statutory contribution for every employee who is a member. We physically go to the NSSF offices in Voi monthly to submit our monthly payroll on a NSSF form, and we pay the monthly dues. We are subject to strict audit checks by the NSSF inspector who visits our facility every two months and on passing the audit provides us with an official letter indicating we are in compliance. We have always been found to be in full compliance of this act.

Pay As you Earn (P.A.Y.E)

Section 37 of the Income Tax Act.

The "Pay as You Earn" method of deducting income tax from salaries and wages applies to weekly wages, monthly salaries, annual salaries, bonuses, commissions and directors' fees (whether the director is resident or non-resident). We are required to go to the Kenya Commercial Bank (KCB) on a monthly basis to pay the withheld tax from our employees' wages and salaries. The bank takes one folio from our KRA receipt book, and stamps the other two folios, one of which we then take to the KRA office in Voi and provide it to them.

The Factories and Other Places of Work Act (Cap 514)

The Factories Act deals with the health, safety and welfare of an employee who works in a factory or other place of work. This Government department has never audited our facilities, as it is very small and covers the entire country. However, we have good reason to believe we are in full compliance with this act as a result of a third-party audit of our factory and operations performed by the independent NGO Verite, from the USA.

FairTrade

As of 2012, the 3 Wildlife Works EcoFactories are now certified Fairtrade USA.

The Work Injury Benefits Act (Cap. 236)

This Act ensures that companies have systems in place to provide any employees who are injured on duty with adequate compensation from the employer. We are required to maintain private insurance to cover our responsibility under this act.

Regulation of Wages and Conditions of Employment Act (Cap. 229)

This act sets the conditions of work and the minimum wage guidelines. The EPZ Act supersedes this act with regard to minimum wage and in fact the EPZ minimum wage guidelines are slightly higher than the National Employment Act guidelines.

Labor Relations Act, 2007 (Acts No. 14)

This is the new version of the old Trade Unions Act and the Trade Disputes Act, revised to harmonize the old Trade Acts with Kenya's recent ratification of many of the elements of the ILO Freedom of Association and Protection of the Right to Organize Convention, 1948 (No. 87). We are required to provide our workers with the freedom of association. We are required to honor a dispute process as laid out in the act. We currently have no collective bargaining agreement in place nor are we required to do so. We have never had a dispute with any employee that resulted in any collective action, lock out etc. and we have no disputes at all at this time, and we believe that we are in full compliance with this Act. To ensure that employees are aware of their rights under the Act, the following language is included in all employment contracts issued by Wildlife Works in Kenya.

"Wildlife Works, EPZ Ltd. acknowledges the importance of the recently enacted Labor Relations Act 2007, and therefore we wish to inform you that you are entitled to Freedom of Association, and specifically to join the Kenya Textile Workers Union (KTWU) should you so choose. Should you choose to join the KTWU, all membership dues and agency fees for the Union will be payable directly by you."

2.4 Grouped Projects

The KCRPI Project is not a Grouped Project.

3 BENEFITS FOR PEOPLE AND PROSPERITY

3.1 Impacts on Stakeholders

Impact #1	Average over past three years of 51 employees for KCRP-Phase I with about 90% being from the local area and almost 30% female.
Type of Impact	This is a positive impact, that is actual and direct.
Affected Stakeholder Group(s)	Local communities-Present and future
Resulting Change in Well-being	Increased employment opportunities

Impact #2	Increased households earnings (KES): <1,500 9% 1,500-5000 23% 5,000-10,000 25% 10,000-20,000 22% 20,000-50,000 15% >50,000 5%
Type of Impact	This is a positive impact, that is actual and direct.
Affected Stakeholder Group(s)	Local communities-Present and future
Resulting Change in Well-being	Increased household income

Impact #3	99% of households with on farm production for home use and 30% of households sold produce for cash

Type of Impact	This is a positive impact, that is actual and direct.
Affected Stakeholder Group(s)	Local communities-Present and future
Resulting Change in Well-being	Increased household income and food security

Impact #4	The number of patients had been steadily growing before the COVID-19 disruption, due to growing referrals across the County and neighboring counties. It has grown from handling about 75 patients per month since opening in March 2014 to nearly 250 patients monthly currently, each undergoing between 1-8 tests depending on the procedure.
Type of Impact	This is a positive impact, that is actual and direct.
Affected Stakeholder Group(s)	Local communities-Present and future
Resulting Change in Well-being	Improved access to quality healthcare services

Impact #5	3,072 patients who undertook 8,164 tests in improved health facilities
Type of Impact	This is a positive impact, that is actual and direct.
Affected Stakeholder Group(s)	Local communities-Present and future
Resulting Change in Well-being	Improved access to quality healthcare services

Impact #6	3144 (bursary recipients) people for whom access to, or quality of, education was improved
Type of Impact	This is a positive impact, that is actual and direct.

Affected Stakeholder Group(s)	Local communities-Present and future
Resulting Change in Well-being	Increase in education opportunities for youth and local community members, leading to the increased capacity of individuals in project communities

Impact #7	4 training workshops (with a total of 43 staff members in attendance) held for skills/personal development
Type of Impact	This is a positive impact, that is actual and direct.
Affected Stakeholder Group(s)	Local communities-Present and future
Resulting Change in Well-being	Increase in education opportunities for local community members, leading to the increased capacity of individuals in project communities

Impact #8	6 classroom construction projects and 14 classroom renovations
Type of Impact	This is a positive impact, that is actual and direct.
Affected Stakeholder Group(s)	Local communities-Present and future
Resulting Change in Well-being	Increase in education opportunities for local community members, leading to the increased capacity of individuals in project communities

Impact #9	20% of those in managerial positions are women
Type of Impact	This is a positive impact, that is actual and direct.
Affected Stakeholder Group(s)	Local communities-Present and future

Resulting Change in Well-being	Increase in female employment opportunities in the project and reduced inequality for women in employment and leadership opportunities.

Impact #10	12,535 people accessing 8 project-built water sources
Type of Impact	This is a positive impact, that is actual and direct.
Affected Stakeholder Group(s)	Local communities-Present and future
Resulting Change in Well-being	Increase access to safe drinking water

Impact #11	<1% primary level; 2% secondary; 1% tertiary of students not in school due to lack of fees
Type of Impact	This is a positive impact, that is actual and direct.
Affected Stakeholder Group(s)	Local communities-Present and future
Resulting Change in Well-being	Increased access to education

Impact #12	50% of our respondents from the household survey reported improved livelihoods or income generated
Type of Impact	This is a positive impact, that is actual and direct.
Affected Stakeholder Group(s)	Local communities-Present and future
Resulting Change in Well-being	Increased access to education, employment, and social amenities

Impact #13	50% of our respondents from the household survey who reported improved livelihoods or income generated were women

Type of Impact	This is a positive impact, that is actual and direct.
Affected Stakeholder Group(s)	Local communities-Present and future
Resulting Change in Well-being	Increased access to education, employment, and social amenities for women

Impact #14	2 awareness meetings/events/ activities on REDD+
Type of Impact	This is a positive impact, that is actual and direct.
Affected Stakeholder Group(s)	Local communities-Present and future
Resulting Change in Well-being	Increase in the project area communities awareness of sustainable development, environmentalism and protection of wildlife.

Impact #15	32% community members understand the link between environmental protection, REDD & livelihoods
Type of Impact	This is a positive impact, that is actual and direct.
Affected Stakeholder Group(s)	Local communities-Present and future
Resulting Change in Well-being	Improve the awareness of climate change and conservation and increase capacity on climate change mitigation.

Impact #16	3 local institutions created or strengthened to improve efficiency and accountability
Type of Impact	This is a positive impact, that is actual and direct.
Affected Stakeholder Group(s)	Local communities-Present and future
Resulting Change in Well-being	Promotes a stronger sense of self-determination within the community

Impact #17	4 agriculture-related training and courses for extension events
Type of Impact	This is a positive impact, that is actual and direct.
Affected Stakeholder Group(s)	Local communities-Present and future
Resulting Change in Well-being	Through trainings in improved agricultural methods there will be an increase in resource-use efficiency and greater adoption of clean and environmentally sound technologies in agriculture in the project area communities.

3.2 Stakeholder Impact Monitoring

Table 4. Indicator results from the KCRPI community monitoring plan for people and prosperity (specific to VCS/CCB M8)

Focal Issue	Direct Result	#	Indicator description	Type	Lead	Result	Notes
Education	Increased enrolment	14	# awareness meetings/events/activities on REDD+ and education matters in schools	Output	Community Liaison	2	In 2021, although schools had resumed, external meetings in schools were still impacted by lingering COVID-19 protocols and restrictions.
		15	# students supported by the WW bursary scheme	Output	WWCT	632 students supported	Partial scholarships were awarded to 632 students under Phase 1 in 2021.
		16	Amount of money spent on WW bursary scheme	Output	WWCT	KES 2,983,140	Approximately USD 26,168
		17	% students not in school due to lack of fees	Impact	BSMT	<1% primary level; 2% seconda	Our household-level survey shows that fees in this area are mostly footed by the households themselves. Still, from our most-recent

						ry; 1% tertiary	survey, 28% of the households interviewed said they had received support from Wildlife Works. In comparison, 17% households mentioned government and 11% NGOs.
		18	Performance of pupils supported (full scholarship)	Impact	Community Liaison	8 of 9 passed	5 attained the university entry cut-off mark. Monitoring performance of partially supported students has started for students supported while on their final year of high school, but no final exams were held in 2021.
	Better education infrastructure	19	# classrooms constructed or other school renovations	Output	Ops/ WWCT	2 schools	Projects mainly involved classroom and toilets construction and renovation, providing students and teachers a better learning environment.
		20	# and type of education infrastructure installed	Output	Ops/ WWCT	4 schools	School had kitchen room, store and eco-jiko installed, including one that had electric wiring installed in 8 classrooms.
		21	# pupils using the infrastructure built	Outcome	Community Liaison	1,610	Including students and teachers using the classrooms and other facilities built in the schools.
Governance	Good leadership	28	# and location of Notice Boards and Suggestion Boxes used for KCRP-Phase I purposes	Output	WWCT	2	Located at Chief's Offices and other central areas that are recommended by the community members.

		29	# community awareness meetings/events/activities on REDD+ and other matters	Output	Community Liaison	93	Meetings included community (barazas), various project committees' meetings, presentations and trainings
		30	# complaints or questions on project implementation and LCC's functioning filed and acted upon	Outcome	WWCT	10	All feedback was received through Suggestion Boxes. While most were suggestions or compliments, the single complaint regarded the relationship between WW staff and the communities. It was resolved through a friendly match and continuous dialogue between the community and WW.
		31	% community understanding link between environmental protection, REDD & livelihoods	Output	BSMT	32%	From our latest household-level survey, most community members cited various livelihood-related benefits from interaction with KCRP-Phase I including education-related support, employment, tree seedlings and water.
Poverty	Diversified livelihoods & food security	32	# agro-processing, value-addition, storage initiatives	Output	Ops/WWCT	0	
		33	Proportion of households with on-farm production for home use or sale	Impact	BSMT	99%	From our most recent household survey, over 90% of all on-farm products were consumed by the household or used on farm; about 30% also selling part

							of their on-farm produce for cash.
		34	# agriculture-related training courses or extension events	Output	Greenhouse	4	Field (on-site) training visits to the Greenhouse picked up in 2021 after being disrupted by COVID-19 restrictions in Kenya. The 2021 visits, involved a total of 93 community members from schools and various community groups.
		35	# new/improved practices on farms	Output	Ops/ BSMT	1	Several climate-smart agriculture (e.g., Zai pits and U-bands) and fence deterrent (metal strips) techniques have been rolled out on several frontier farms in Sasenyi community neighbouring Rukinga Ranch.
		36	# community (agri-business) greenhouses established	Outcome	Greenhouse	1	Kulikila Women Group continues to receive follow-up support mainly on planting and care of vegetables and seedlings, but also on group organization, dynamics and financial management.
	Increased and stable income	37	# local community members employed at WW	Output	HR	58	There were 58 new employees at the end of this monitoring period, of whom about 28% were female, 99% are Kenyan, with about 85% being local (i.e., from the Project Zone and or Taita Taveta County).

		38	# training courses/workshops held for skill/personal development	Output	HR	4	Staff trainings picked up again in 2021 after being disrupted by COVID-19 restrictions in 2020. The 4 training sessions involved 43 staff members trained mostly on health and safety, Code of conduct and specialized training like First Aid and snake handling.
		39	total amount and sources of income earned by household	Impact	BSMT	<1,500 9% 1,500-5000 23% 5,000-10,000 25% 10,000-20,000 22% 20,000-50,000 15% >50,000 5%	These amounts reflect good/normal years based on our most-recent household-level survey in the Project Zone, suggesting an increasing proportion of community members earning above 10,000 (42%) compared to the baseline (23%).

3.3 Net Positive Stakeholder Well-being Impacts

As shown in the Project's VCS/CCB monitoring reports Section 4.1.1, most of the activities initiated during the reporting period will have multiple positive impacts on a large segment of the communities in the Kasigau Corridor. The potential costs or negative impacts from implementing the proposed Project activities are minimal and are being mitigated for to some extent through the community Projects (e.g., for poachers). Consequently, the net well-being impacts for the reporting period are overwhelmingly positive given the proportion of the population potentially impacted, the magnitude of the impacts and their long-term nature.

4 BENEFITS FOR THE PLANET

4.1 Impacts on Natural Capital and Ecosystem Services

Impact #18	The Project has produced 3,644,822 tCO_2e of net emission reductions from avoided deforestation compared to the reference level.
Type of Impact	This is a positive impact, that is actual and direct.
Affected Stakeholder Group(s)	Forest ecosystems, biodiversity, endangered species, air quality, carbon sequestration
Resulting Change in Well-being	The project is taking urgent action to combat climate change by avoiding significant emissions of CO_2e by stopping deforestation

Impact #19	30,168.66 ha of the Project Area under conservation management
Type of Impact	This is a positive impact, that is actual and direct.
Affected Stakeholder Group(s)	Forest ecosystems, biodiversity, endangered species, air quality, carbon sequestration
Resulting Change in Well-being	Through the protection of the project area the area will have increased levels of resilience and adaptive capacity to climate related hazards and natural disasters.

Impact #20	79 snares recovered; 63 animal carcasses recorded
Type of Impact	This is a positive impact, that is actual and direct.
Affected Stakeholder Group(s)	biodiversity, endangered species
Resulting Change in Well-being	Reduce the amount of poaching and trafficked wildlife within the Project Area.

Impact #21	79 snares recovered; 63 animal carcasses recorded

Type of Impact	This is a positive impact, that is actual and direct.
Affected Stakeholder Group(s)	biodiversity, endangered species
Resulting Change in Well-being	Reduce the amount of poaching and trafficked wildlife within the Project Area.

Impact #22	64 poachers and illegal charcoal producers arrested.
Type of Impact	This is a positive impact, that is actual and direct.
Affected Stakeholder Group(s)	biodiversity, endangered species
Resulting Change in Well-being	Reduce the amount of poaching, trafficked wildlife, and illegal charcoal production within the Project Area.

4.2 Natural Capital and Ecosystem Services Impact Monitoring

Table 5: Indicator results from the KCRPI community monitoring plan for natural capitol and ecosystem services (specific to VCS/CCB M8).

Focal Issue	Direct Result	#	Indicator description	Type	Lead	Result	Notes
Human-wildlife conflicts	Adequate vegetation and water	1	# water holes scooped within the Project Zone for wildlife and/or cattle	Output	Ops	3	Including maintenance of the wildlife-only boreholes at Salama Dam and 5-5 Base Camp.
		2	# wildlife/cattle using the water holes year-round	Outcome	BSMT		
		3	# persons accessing new water sources	Outcome	WWCT	4,029	2 water-related projects in 2021 including, piping, storage tanks and harvesting.
	Reduced encroachment and poaching	4	# rangers and security guards employed	Output	HR	23	Maintained an average of 14 rangers and 4 security guards during 2021.

		5	# training courses held for skills development	Output	HR	4	General training for 43 WW staff on diverse issues including HR policy, Health and safety policy, First Aid and Snake Awareness. Rangers and Security Guards undertook specialized Training.
		6	# outposts established and operational	Output	Security	3	All the ranger base posts in Phase 1 remain fully operational and received continuous improvement including water tanks and other amenities.
		7	# patrols and/or distance travelled	Outcome	Security	177 walk and drive patrols from six base stations, covering 18,131km 60 aerial patrol days/tracks covering 12,060km	In addition to regular foot and driving patrols, we maintained the aerial surveillance using two resident gyrocopters, and incorporated near real-time monitoring and communication by trialing the Sensing Clues' Cluey App. (https://sensingclues.org/cluey)
		8	# poachers and illegal charcoal producers arrested	Outcome	Security	3	Including wildlife poachers, transporters and charcoal producers.
		9	# snares recovered	Outcome	Security	9	Predominantly medium (74%) but a few large and small snares too.
		10	# carcasses/injured animals recorded	Impact	Security	8	Carcasses of Dikdik. Common Zebra, Eland, Lesser Kudu, Buffalo, Elephant and one injured Buffalo recorded.
		11	# hectares deforested, excised or converted into farmland	Impact	RS/GIS		

	Better wildlife containment	12	# and type of deterrents deployed	Output	Ops	1 metal-strip fences	This was previously deployed and was maintained at Sasenyi during this period.
		13	# human-wildlife conflict encounters	Impact	Sec/ BSMT	3	Based on ranger patrol data for 2021, mostly comprising elephant-caused crop damage and one human fatality.
Environmental degradation	Increased tree cover in landscape	22	# and types of trees propagated in the WW nursery	Output	Ops/ GH	≈5,425	Mean monthly #: 3,663 indigenous and 1,762 fruit trees were under propagation at any one time in the organic greenhouse.
		23	# trees planted and surviving beyond the 3rd year outside KCRP-Phase I	Outcome	GH	≈752	Of the 2,212 seedlings planted in 2020 in community sites, random monitoring returned about 34% survival after the 1st year, projected to decline to about15% by 3rd year.
		24	% households obtaining fuelwood and other needs from the Project ranches	Impact	BSMT	≈18%	From the most recent household-level survey, about 18% of the respondents said they obtained some livelihood needs from communal areas, ranches and other off-farm sources.
	Improved forest quality and cover	25	# charcoal bags and kilns recorded	Outcome	Sec/ BSMT	30	In 2021, there was a single encounter of charcoal bags and 29 charcoal kilns recorded in Phase 1.
		26	# log heaps recorded	Outcome	Sec/ BSMT	18	In 2021, there were 18 log heap incidents recorded.
		27	# and diversity of wildlife in the Project ranches year-round	Impact	BSMT	All HCVs	High Conservation Value species seen regularly in Project Area including Grevy's zebra and African elephant, (both confirmed breeding), African Wild Dog, Secretary bird, Bateleur, and Martial eagle White-backed and White-headed vultures, plus Cheetah and Lions with cubs.

4.3 Net Positive Natural Capital and Ecosystem Services Impacts

Comparison of without-Project and with-Project scenarios

Based on the situation and without-Project analyses (please refer to details in the KCRP VCS/CCB PD Section 5.1), most of the key drivers to the defined Focal Issues were Projected as being likely to worsen in the absence of the KCRPI, including increased human-wildlife conflict and increased environmental degradation. Thus, the Project activities undertaken as described under Section 4.1 above will directly or indirectly result in clear biodiversity and ecosystem services benefits compared to a without-Project scenario where all these key factors get worse.

Africa is identified as the continent that will be struck most severely by the impacts of climate change[5]. Given its geographical position, Africa will be particularly vulnerable due to considerably limited adaptive capacity, exacerbated by widespread poverty and the existing low levels of development. The IPCC report further predicts that by 2020, between 75 and 250 million people in Africa are Projected to be exposed to increased water stress due to climate change. In addition, also by 2020, in some countries yields from rain-fed agriculture could be reduced by up to 50%. Agricultural production, including access to food, in many African countries, is projected to be severely compromised, which would further adversely affect food security and exacerbate malnutrition. It is expected that these impacts hold true for the communities living in the Project Zone and would therefore severely impact the communities' well-being. This indicates a pressing need to focus on adaptation and climate change mitigation measures.

Consequently, wildlife dependent on these forest habitats would be adversely affected by these changes, both through habitat loss or increased poaching due to decreased income security. Thus, the Project directly helps the biodiversity both by reducing emissions hence mitigating climate change, and also as an adaptation strategy to these anticipated changes by maintaining critical habitats in good condition for these species. Additionally, maintenance and enhancement of the Kasigau Corridor will make it possible for the wide-ranging species to move in case of drastic changes.

The table below shows the final quantification of KCRPI emission reductions for its first monitoring period (VCS/CCB M8)

Component	Value (tCO_2e, unless otherwise indicated)
Baseline deforestation percentage (%), M8	50.64
Project Emission, M8	0
Project Reversal, M8	0
Uncertainty Deduction, M8	0
Emissions from Leakage, M8	0
Baseline emissions, M8	270,445
ERs to Buffer Pool, (13%), M8	35,158
Buffer Pool Return, (15%), M8	0
Total emission reductions (ERs), M8	**235,287**
Standard error of the total carbon stock, M8	**751,979.53**
Total **Error (%), M8**	**9.33**

[5] IPCC Fourth Assessment Report: Climate Change 2007 (AR4)

5 OPTIONAL: CLIMATE MODULE

Optional: Climate Module

Prior to seeking validation and verification under the SD VISta Standards, KCRPI has been validated and verified under both the VCS and CCB standards, with 3,644,822 tCO_2e verified emissions reductions and removals to date. The project plans to continue verifying greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions reductions and removals under the VCS standard annually. Please see KCRPI's joint VCS and CCB monitoring reports and project description document (available on the Verra project portal or the Wildlife Alliance website) for more information on project methodology, monitoring, verified carbon units, and net emissions reductions.