



UK PACT NbS Project Reflection Workshop CIFOR-ICRAF Campus, UN Avenue, Gigiri. 17th and 18th January 2024.



WORKSHOP REPORT
26 February 2024

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Acronyms

ASAL - Arid and Semi-Arid Land
AWF - African Wildlife Foundation
CA4SH - Coalition of Action 4 Soil Health
CBO - Community Based Organizations
CDP - County Development Plans
CEC - County Environment Committee
CECs- Community Engagement Committees
CFAs - Community Forest Associations
COG - Council of Governors
FAO-KE - Food and Agriculture Organization
FCDO - Foreign and Commonwealth Development Organization
FLR - Forest and Landscape Restoration
FMNR - Farmer Managed Natural Regeneration
FOLAREP - Forest and Landscape Restoration Plan
GESI- Gender Equity and Social Inclusion
GPS - Global Positioning System
ICF - International Climate Fund
ICRAF - World Agroforestry Center
ICT – Information Communication and Technology
IEC - Information, Education and Communication
IFAW - International Fund for Animal Welfare
KEFRI - Kenya Forestry Research Institute
KFS - Kenya Forest Service
LDSF - Land Degradation Surveillance Framework
MŞE - Monitoring and Evaluation
MBOCOFOA - Mbooni Community Forest Association
MECCF - Ministry of Environment Climate Change and Forestry,
MELIA - Monitoring, Evaluation, Learning and Impact Assessment
MoU - Memorandum of Understanding
NbS - Nature Based Solutions
NDMA - National Drought Management Authority
NEMA National Environmental Management Authority
NGO - Non-Government Organization
NLC - National Lands Commission,
PFMP - Participatory Farmer Management Practice
PWDs - Persons with Disability
RMF - Results Monitoring Framework
TARDA - Tana Athi River Development Authority
TFS - Tanzania Forest Service
TIP - Transition Implementation Plan
TTWCA - Taita Taveta Wildlife Conservancies Association,
TWGs - Technical Working Groups
UN - United Nations
WP - Work Package
WRUA - Water Resource Users Authority
WWF - World Wide Fund

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1. Background

Nature-based solutions (NbS), including forest and landscape restoration (FLR), Nature-based solutions focus on the protection, restoration, and sustainable management of natural ecosystems for the benefit of both people and nature while accelerating actions on climate change. This requires multi-stakeholder commitment and action to co-generate the evidence and to implement evidence-based policies to deliver nature-based solution outcomes. The World Agroforestry (ICRAF) and its partners the [African Wildlife Foundation](#) (AWF) and [Food and Agriculture Organization](#) -Kenya are implementing the UK PACT "Delivering Nature-based Solution Outcomes by Addressing Policy, Institutional and Monitoring Gaps in Forest and Landscape Restoration" project, <https://bit.ly/3SpjK1G>, in Makueni and Taita Taveta Counties in Kenya. This is a two-year [UK PACT](#) project funded by the Foreign and Commonwealth Development Organization (FCDO) which aims to increase capacity for forest and landscape implementation and monitoring in relevant organizations, aid in the implementation of evidence-based recommendations for reduced emissions at the local, county, and national levels, and implement gender-transformative, equitable, and socially inclusive activities and outputs.

The objectives of the project include: 1) Increase capacity on implementation and monitoring of Forest and Landscape Restoration (FLR); 2) Implement evidence-based recommendations for reduced emissions at local, county and national levels; 3) Domesticated national policies (i.e. FOLAREP) around FLR at the county level; 4) Build capacity of Community Forest Associations (CFAs); and 5) Implement and incorporate gender-transformative, equitable and socially inclusive approaches into FLR implementation, activities and policies. The project has six work packages which are described in the project brochure:<https://www.cifor-icraf.org/knowledge/publication/34681/>. The project is completing the first year of implementation in March 2024 and ICRAF in collaboration with the African Wildlife Foundation and FAO-Ke convened a reflection workshop bringing together all the project stakeholders to share progress to date, co-develop a roadmap of joint implementation in the second year, and to foster collaboration.

2. The Reflection Workshop

The two-day project reflection workshop was held on 17th-18th January 2024 at the CIFOR-ICRAF Campus in Nairobi Kenya. The workshop brought together 70 participants including representatives from the British High Commission, Taita Taveta and Makueni County governments, Palladium Group, FAO-Kenya, African Wildlife Foundation (AWF), MBOCOFOA Community Forest Association, Nature Kenya, International Fund for Animal Welfare (IFAW), Ministry of Environment Climate Change and Forestry, National Lands Commission, Kenya Forestry Research Institute (KEFRI), Kenya Forest Service (KFS), World Wide Fund (WWF) Kenya, MAZIDO International, Taita Taveta Wildlife Conservancies Association, Chawia Community Forest Association and World Agroforestry (ICRAF).

2.1 Objectives of the workshop

1) Take stock and reflect on the achievements of the first year.

- 2) Foster collaboration across stakeholders
- 3) Provide an opportunity for interactive sessions to share experiences and lessons learned going forward.
- 4) Build capacity on the integration of Gender Equity and Social Inclusion (GESI) across project work packages.
- 5) Co-develop a shared roadmap for implementation in the second year.

3. Workshop Opening remarks.



Director for Africa, CIFOR-ICRAF, Dr. Peter Minang

Dr. Peter Minang, the Director for Africa, CIFOR-ICRAF welcomed the representatives of institutions Taita Taveta and Makueni, partner organizations, and all stakeholders to the CIFOR-ICRAF campus and the workshop. In his remarks, Peter emphasized the importance of county government because these are important partners and the community forest associations because they are the most important people on the ground. of the project to communities in Taita Taveta and Makueni and Kenya, to find solutions to climate change. He also emphasized the importance of four main aspects of the project: monitoring, gender, devolution and domestication

of restoration, and involvement of Community Forest Associations. This project will enhance the monitoring of restoration initiatives through collecting data so as to build evidence and this will be a big step in restoration space both locally and globally. The gender aspect of the project is important as it captures inclusive contributions and enhances equity. The devolution and domestication of restoration translates the national plans to very local planning and this should ensure that the government is investing in restoration at the local level. The involvement of the community forest associations is important, and we should look at how restoration is contributing to poverty reduction and also to ecological sustainability from an environmental perspective.

4. Representing FCDO and UK PACT Kenya

Robina Obuya, climate change portfolio manager, of FCDO thanked the participants for taking the time involved in the reflection workshop. She mentioned that the UK government is honored to join hands with implementing partners ICRAF, African Wildlife Foundation and FAO Kenya in this reflection workshop and as the British High Commission they take pride in the collaborative journey of this project. She gave an overview of how UK PACT capacity building programs on partnering for accelerated



The British High Commission (BHC), Climate Change Portfolio Manager, Robina Obuya

climate transitions are jointly governed and funded through the UK's International Climate Fund (ICF). to support countries in implementing and increasing their ambitions for tackling climate change. Capacity building is delivered by partners to key government stakeholders across different departments at local regional and national levels.

She mentioned that it is fantastic to see the progress of FCDO projects in helping to deliver the mandates under the climate change pillar and aligns with their commitment to investing in sustainable solutions and the impact created in the lives of local communities. She said that the workshop was a platform to share the progress and appreciate the strides, especially in capacity building gender equity through the engagement of the various partners and stakeholders. She extended their appreciation to each participant for their commitment and for taking the time to reflect on this project and the larger UK PACT program in Kenya. Robina reiterated that it was fantastic to see representatives from the national government, the county governments, youth representatives and the local communities and urged them to embark on the journey of reflection collaboration and impactful planning for a sustainable future.

Participants introductions



Figure 1. Participants introduction session.

One of the workshop objectives was to encourage collaboration among stakeholders, hence the participants introduced themselves and shared what they appreciated about Forests and Landscape Restoration. This was a great way for participants to get to know each other and understand everyone's connection to the project.

5. Introduction to the Project



Dr. Leigh Winowiecki, Global Research Lead for Soil and Land Health and Co-lead of Coalition of Action 4 Soil Health (CA4SH)

Dr. Leigh Winowiecki, Global Research Lead for Soil and Land Health and Co-lead of Coalition of Action 4 Soil Health (CA4SH) and also the principal investigator for the project provided background of the UK PACT Nature-based solutions (NbS) project. In her presentation, Leigh highlighted the potential of NbS solutions, including forest landscape restoration (FLR) as a means of increasing biodiversity and ecosystem services, securing jobs, and improving livelihoods while accelerating action on climate change at local, national, and international levels. The project is working from the center of the rangelands to the top of the forest in the mountains because it is taking a landscape approach.

She also mentioned that addressing key issues around monitoring policy around engagement needs commitment from multiple stakeholders to work together across sectors represented in the meeting. Leigh invited the participants to make sure that the project partners were delivering the project goals by listening to the work packages (*Figure 1*) presentation from the consortium that has brought together conservation research developments and community engagement.

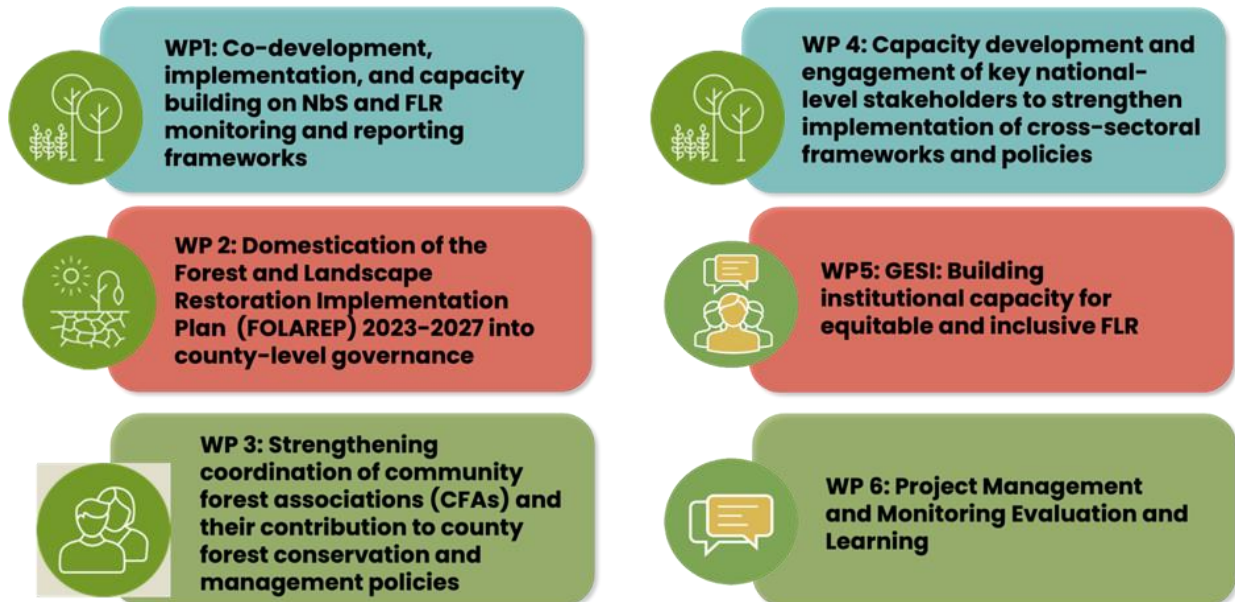


Figure 2: The Project Work Packages

6. Presentations from Project Partners

6.1 Work Package 2: Domestication of the Landscape Restoration Implementation Action Plan (FOLAREP) into county-level governance – FAO-KE



Meshack Muga, National Project Coordinator, FAO-KE.

Meshack introduced the work package and stated that FAO and partners had produced a Forest and Landscape Restoration Plan (FOLAREP) in 2022 with the objective of Participatory Policy Development and Integration of FLR at the National and County levels. He also mentioned that Work Package Two of this project is relevant to the year 2021 to 2030 of the UN decade theme for ecosystem restoration. At national level Kenya focuses on restoring 5.1 million hectares of the Arid and Semi Arid Lands (ASALs). FOLAREP, with support of FAO-KE aims to accelerate the realization of the restoration deforested and degraded landscapes and so that is the domestication process through various projects

that have followed. He explained that the work package has two outputs in this project:

- 1) **Output 1:** Capacity of County Environment Committee (CEC) members in Makueni and Taita Taveta Counties enhanced.
- 2) **Output 2:** County specific Forest and Landscape implementation plan (FOLAREP) in the two counties - Makueni and Taita Taveta developed.

Updates from the Technical Working Groups in Makueni and Taita Taveta Counties

County FOLAREP secretariats and technical working groups (TWG) in both counties were constituted and provided with terms of reference to guide their activities and outputs as spelled out in the FOLAREP work plan. This was under guidance from FAO-KE. Their tasks included County FOLAREP drafting, reviewing, organizing sensitization and validation meetings with the community and relevant county departments and committees, and incorporating comments and feedback into the draft document. They ensured coordination among the segments of the development of County specific FOLAREP and the relevant county department to deliver laid-down outputs (*Figure 3*).

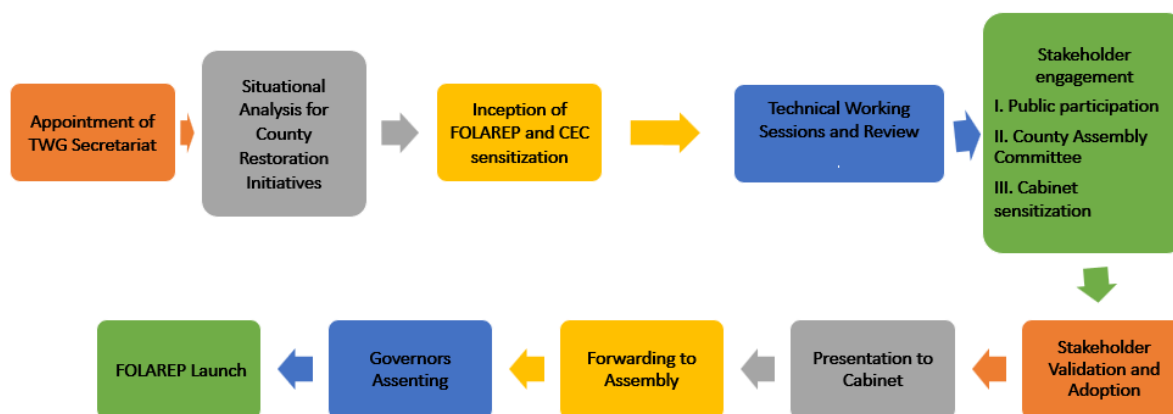


Figure 3: County FOLAREP Domestication Process

County specific FOLAREP plan milestones

Key achievements were made in the third quarter of the first year of the project. Makueni made more strides in the process of developing the County FOLAREP plan. After the constituting the secretariat and appointing the technical working groups, the FOLAREP document drafting, and review also took place in both counties. The County Environment Committees, County Assembly and the Cabinet duly sensitized. A draft FOLAREP document was developed for Makueni County. *Table 1* below provides a summary of the achievements made:

Table 1: Milestones of County-specific FOLAREP process.

Activity	Makueni	Taita Taveta
Constitution and appointment of FOLAREP Secretariat	X	X
Appointment of a FOLAREP Technical Working Group	X	X
CEC sensitization on the FOLAREP domestication process	X	X
CEC endorsement of the FOLAREP		
Development of a Draft Makueni/Taita Taveta FOLAREP document	X	X
Sensitization of County Assembly Committee	X	
Sensitization of County Cabinet	X	
Public participation with communities;	X	
Stakeholder engagement workshop;	X	X
Stakeholder validation workshop;	X	
Discussion of FOLAREP at the County Assembly Committee	X	
Discussion of FOLAREP at the County Cabinet	X	

Feedback and comments for draft documents from both counties are currently being incorporated and reviewed. The official launch of the county specific FOLAREP plans and then further enhancement of the capacity of the CCs are still underway.

Meshack explained that the domestication of FOLAREP is a critical step that will enhance the integration and mainstreaming of forest and landscape restoration activities into county planning processes. The County Development Plans (CDP) will integrate the domesticated

FOLAREP plan which will ensure that FLR activities are implemented. In response, both county representatives thanked the donors and the consortium for this timely project and mentioned that the efforts should be monitored in a coordinated approach like in this process. The launching of the FOLAREP at the national level may need to be done first before that of the counties.

The next steps

The next steps to be taken in the domestication of the FOLAREP includes the Governor's assent to the FOLAREP plan in both counties, followed by the official launching of FOLAREP document in each county. Additionally, there is a plan to further enhance the capacity of the Community Engagement Committees (CECs) involved in the project which will include training programs, workshops, and other capacity building initiatives that will help them effectively carry out their roles and responsibilities in the implementation of the County FOLAREP plan.

6.2 Work Package 3: Strengthening coordination of community forest associations (CFAs) and their contribution to county forest conservation and management policies - African Wildlife Fund (AWF)



Nancy Githaiga, African Wildlife Foundation, Country Director, Kenya

Nancy Githaiga, the AWF Country Director began the AWF presentation by highlighting that the rangelands where with the potential for restoration, overlapped with where we have the wildlife and the marginalized communities. She reiterated the importance of partnership because no institution can tackle the restoration agenda alone. The use of science from partner organizations like ICRAF from FAO-KE and by working closely with the county government and with the community forest associations as the sovereign people of the counties is the only way that we can make a difference.

Successful restoration can reduce human wildlife conflict and also make economic sense to the county and the community. All restoration actors have a role to synergize the work in the counties because we engage with the same communities at ward level and on the same resource. We should see how we build on these commitments and efforts and people can later learn from what we've done together beyond the project.

AWF aims to strengthen the coordination of community forest associations and their contribution to Forest Conservation through policy review, enhancing forest management and cultivating forest value chains. This will ensure ecosystem benefits to the local community, improved forest conservation and management and an enabling environment for conservation within the County and beyond. This responds to local community livelihood enhancement and management sustenance practices. Policy reviews are being done for management of forests that have been devolved to the County. The policies focus on conservation and restoration. Three community forests have been targeted for reactivation under this project (Table 2):



Mary Wanyika, AWF

Table 2: Community Forest Associations targeted for reactivation activities.

County	Community Forest Association	Associated Forest
Taita Taveta	CFA	Vuria
Taita Taveta	CFA	Chawla
Makueni	MBOCOFOA	Mbooni

Policy review focusing on transboundary forests i.e. Kitobo forest which crosscuts Kenya and Tanzania is also being done at the County level, to look at the mode of engagement. The review began by looking at the Transition Implementation Plan (TIP) for both Makueni and Taita Taveta. The major outcome of the review was that the forestry-related instruments had expired and needed review and harmonization. Makueni has 19 partially identified forest patches while Taita Taveta has about 38. There are 21 strategic objectives in the TIP within which there were one a million activities. The gaps and the opportunities of the TIP plan for both counties are cross-cutting and seen in Table 3: -

Table 3: Transition Implementation plan gaps and opportunities.

Transition Implementation Plan Gaps	Opportunities for enhancing TIP
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Forestry-related instruments expired & need review and harmonization. Few Participatory Forest Management Plans have been completed out of the many forest patches (only one in Taita Taveta). No conflict management strategy. No benefit-sharing plan for the community. Invasive Species 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Gazettement of forest functions for full devolvement done Rich data on species-learning institutions. Opportunities for Nature Enterprises such as honey processing etc. Ongoing policy work e.g., FOLAREP Synergies among partners including communities (CFAs & PFMPs)

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Scarce resources to implement the plan. • No TIP rollout strategy. • Partially identified forest patches i.e. no mapping or current status. information (Makueni – 19 & Taita Taveta – 44) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Counties have set aside resources for the implementation of various functions. • Political goodwill in the counties
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The next steps

The plans for this Q4 FY23/24 crosscuts into the next quarter Q1 FY24/25 include activities that will be done in Taita Taveta County and replicated in Makueni County (*Table 4*).

Table 4: Next steps for the Transition Implementation Plan

The next steps for the Transition Implementation Plan
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Finalization of forest bills into regulations for devolved functions. • Formation of County Intergovernmental Forum. • Forest Policy review for Taita Taveta County aligning it with the COG guidelines- engage communities first. • Forest value chains analysis- develop one for each County. • Information, Education and Communication (IEC) Materials for various forest value chains • Engage a consultant to undertake an analysis of a viable forest value chain that can support the communities.

7. Activity 1.6: Support reactivation and capacity development (governance & leadership, resource utilization, resource mobilization) of Community Forest Associations (CFAs) in Taita Taveta and Makueni counties, including engagement of young people and women.

To reactivate the Community Forest Associations (CFAs), the AWF project team started with the villages living around the forest and then identified user groups based on the needs and interests of the CFA. This was followed by the election of the CFA leadership including the CFA committee management and the CFA executive. The reactivated CFAs will then form an umbrella organization. AWF will develop forest value chains for the users as a way of tackling poverty and improving the livelihood of the CFA members. Community sensitization was done in 11 blocks in Mbooni



Nathan Gichohi, AWF

forest (1992.7 Ha) of Makueni reaching 919 community members, where 487 were female and 432 were male.

Fifty-one officials were elected while adhering to the gender and sex rule. User groups were identified according to the interest of each CFA i.e. beekeeping tree nurseries, tree plantations, firewood pasture, water, eco-tourism, manure farming, shamba system and medicinal groups. The challenges faced by CFAs include: -

Table 5: Challenges faced by CFAs.

Challenges faced by the Community Forest Associations
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) Inactive forest Block activities. 2) Since the onset of COVID, the user group activities in the forest became dormant. 3) Inadequate facilitation by KFS and county government to undertake their devolved forest functions. 4) Poor knowledge of User Rights and legal frameworks so that users can access forest products through avenues like licensing etc. 5) Inadequate sensitization due to understaffing of the KFS officers and extension officers 6) Inadequate skills in value addition for some of the forest products. Members are not of high value trees that they can plant e.g. Melia Volkensii for the rural afforestation in drylands e.g. Terminalia Browni, Tamarindas Indica, Scaloceria Berea, Siamea Americana. CFA members will be trained. 7) Presence of exotic trees in large area woodlots – e.g. Eucalyptus. To reclaim the forest, removal of Eucalyptus will be difficult because of its high regenerative potential. 8) Inadequate pasture and manure 9) Drought, huge gullies and forest fires

During the discussions, it was observed that to reactivate the CFAs, the project needed to first tackle the challenges faced by these groups and then governance can be strengthened. Proper orientation of leaders in locally established structures is also key. The CFA representation also requires better capacity building so that the leaders can be vetted. This will ensure that CFAs deliver on their mandate and the governance can be strengthened.

Next Steps on Reactivation of CFAs

- MBOCOFOA Executive Committee election.
- Training of the MBOCOFOA Executive committee and Block officials.
- Development of forest product value chains and the message will be given to the user group.

The Activity 2.2.3 on engagements with the Ministry of Environment and Forestry, County Partners and relevant stakeholders on the Forest Policy gap relating to transboundary forests, was realigned to begin at the county level [See details here](#)

Next steps on the TIPs.

- KFS to fast track obtaining a copy of the MoU.
- Agreements on the gazettement of the forest to be traced.
- Outdated PFMP to be shared.

- The team to visit the Kitobo forest in the last week of January 2024 to get an in-depth understanding of the challenges.

8. WP 5: Building institutional capacity for equitable and inclusive forest landscape restoration.

Gender and social inclusion (GESI) matter in restoration because exclusion of people in decisions around the restoration limits their ownership and interest in engaging in land restoration. It also limits the success and sustainability of the restoration efforts. The vision for GESI in this project is that:



- Communities, governments, and partners having enhanced skills, knowledge, and tools to deliver and scale gender-inclusive forest landscape restoration.
- Women, men, and youth being equal partners in forest landscape restoration. Everyone has a voice in and benefits from restoration. From project design and implementation to monitoring restoration progress.
- Policies on forest landscape restoration being supportive of inclusive approaches.

Work Package Five contributes to promoting gender equality through gender-responsive approaches integrated into all activities. This involves the active participation of both women and men while acknowledging their different needs and considering gender norms, roles, and relations in trying to assess. Additionally, this work package incorporates gender transformative approaches that challenge and change negative attitudes and norms that perpetuate gender inequality.

By examining, questioning, and addressing the root causes of gender inequality, we aim to promote a more equitable approach. Local communities, Community Forest Associations, and local administration were trained on open discussion community dialogues.

These were group activity engagements to gauge gender impacts and benefits from the restoration, assess the inequalities in roles and responsibilities around land restoration and reflect and visualize how scenarios would change in the future.

The activities (*Table 6*) began in Makueni County, and we onboarded two new Community Facilitators from Taita Taveta and engaged them with the Makueni work to also learn from lessons the Makueni work. The series of trainings culminated in building the skills of over 300 community members. Then this was crowned by a reflection meeting to assess what we have learned and what needs to be improved. The timelines are in the table below.

Table 6. GESI trainings held in the third quarter of year one.

Dates	Trainings
26 th -27 th July 2023	Two days of training on Community dialogue for the project team

7 th September 2023	A one-day workshop to introduce the project to the Mbooni CFA
20 th – 21 st September 2023	Two-day training on community dialogues to train lead TOTs
Sept-Oct	12 two-day training events held across Mbooni CFA communities
12 th Oct	One-day reflection workshop with those trained in community dialogue.

Next steps for the GESI skills enhancement

The next steps include: -

- Synthesis of the lessons learned from this approach and process of strategizing to scale it up is going on.
- Work closely with other work packages in identifying activities to entrench and contribute to the vision of GESI for the project to ensure that we are achieving this vision.
- We plan to scale this approach in Taita Taveta by focusing on two Community Forest Associations (CFAs) and training trainers of trainers in community dialogues (*Table 7*). We will draw from lessons learned in Makueni to inform our approach.
- A guide for community dialogues on land restoration and a series of photo stories to document gender and land restoration training are being developed.
- Finally, we will bring everyone together in a cross-county learning exchange event.

Table 7. Next steps for GESI activities

Dates	Community Dialogue Trainings
July 2024	A one-day workshop to introduce the project to the Taita Taveta CFAs
August 2024	Two-day training on community dialogues to train lead TOTs
August - September 2024	12 two-day training events held across Mbooni CFA communities
September - October 2024	One-day reflection workshop with those trained in community dialogue.
12 th Oct 2024	One-day reflection workshop with those trained in community dialogue.

In the reflections and discussion, it was emphasized that the training was tailored to the Makueni context, and this was made possible by the community facilitators. In Taita Taveta we would adopt the training from the lesson learned but will be tailored by having the AWF team together with the Community Facilitators Taita Taveta helping in this process. In the use of Gender Equity and Social Inclusion transformative approach trainings, we should be careful about how we use the word gender so that it is not misinterpreted to mean only women. The aspect of property rights and land ownership is important in this project and should be a productive way to discuss this in the training.

8.1 Integration of GESI into the work packages

Work package group discussions.

For the integration of GESI across the work packages and across our activities, participants moved in work package groups to discuss how we can integrate and move from being gender-responsive to a more transformative change and how the project can respond to different gender needs. To scale up the GESI mainstreaming, we need to monitor stories that are evidence of change.

8.3 WP1: Integration of GESI in landscape health assessment capacity building

In capacity building on sample collection and the use of data we ensure we will improve GESI in this activity by: -

- Applying a gender position bar that identifies what activities are done by men, women or youths in the community and how to balance it to help achieve the subject of WP1.
- Inviting couples for trainings to see how GESI can impact both parties.
- Ensuring cultural dynamics are included just to ensure everyone in this space feels safe and free to talk.
- Including participants from other trainings to ensure synergy and flow of information from each work package.
- Using the TOT models to simplify information and empower CCS and CF to build their capacity.
- Ensuring equal access of data equal access to data e.g. especially the greening app, we should make all information available to the physically challenged etc.

8.4 WP2: Integration of GESI into the domestication of FOLAREP

We are going to consider GESI by mainstreaming it in the entire development process for every single step we take in developing the FOLAREP.

- In the formation of the technical working group even though this is predetermined by representation by office
- In the mobilization of participants for the public participation in Taita Taveta, gender will be considered.
- Being adaptive to the cultural dynamics when preempting problems e.g. being alive to issues choice of topics and who speaks in forums. Create a separate dialogue session for certain topics.
- Have specific dialogue sessions on GESI first before the main agenda.
- Mention GESI explicitly in every step of the plan so that we are alive to it as we proceed.

8.5 WP3: Integration of GESI in the reactivation of Community Forest Associations

- Before undertaking any sensitization, the Community Facilitators did a recap of GESI with the communities. With this method the GTA reaches more people in the community than only those who were trained.

- The presence of local administration/county gender officers in forums ensures continuity beyond events.
- Ensuring good meeting timing and between seasons to get full community participation in an event then transformation can be realized through the series of other planned activities.
- Providing monetary rewards or compensation to TOTs who attend the full-day GESI training can be a great way to incentivize participation.
- Embed the one-third gender rule into the CFA constitution to give it legal backing.
- Mentorships and benchmarking training and encouragement and in this context, we're looking at candidates.

8.6 WP4: Integration of GESI into National and county level capacity development

Work package four activities have not gotten underway but at the onset of National and county capacity development and engagement events, some of the transformative actions will be integrated into the initial stages of the workshops and will include:

- Getting a baseline of what the gender distribution is.
- Workshops will be structured along gender sensitive time frames, inclusivity.
- Have GESI-specific indicators.
- Structure how the considering gender norms.
- Consider start times as there are different gender roles that women and men.
- Assess who is undertaking the restoration actions and who is receiving restoration benefits.

9. WP 1: Capacity building on systematic NbS monitoring in the field. Co-development, implementation, and capacity building on NbS and FLR monitoring, and reporting frameworks.

Work package one emphasizes capacity development on how we do NbS monitoring in the field how we analyze data coming from fields and how we build reporting frameworks around the evidence generated. This work package has two components.

In activity 1.4, we implemented field capacity building in Lumo in Taita Taveta and earlier in Kalamba Makueni using the Land Degradation Surveillance Framework (LDSF) (Figure 4).



Tor-Gunnar Vågen, Head of Spatial Data Science and Applied Learning Lab (Spacial)

The LDSF is a method used to generate data and is quite comprehensive covering many indicators such as land cover, land

use, topography, soil health and land degradation. It is to monitor the rangelands within the project and in agricultural areas to capture different aspects of soil and land health systems. When we do landscape assessment, we want it to be very representative. Using the MIR spectra in the laboratory, we can predict multiple NbS indicators of soil health simultaneously. For example, from field assessments and laboratory results of the Lumo site, we can observe high spatial differences and changes within very short distances brought about by climate. An intervention example could be restoring grass cover to reduce soil erosion. Understanding the spatial patterns and how to quantify them is very important and will be doing this across both counties.

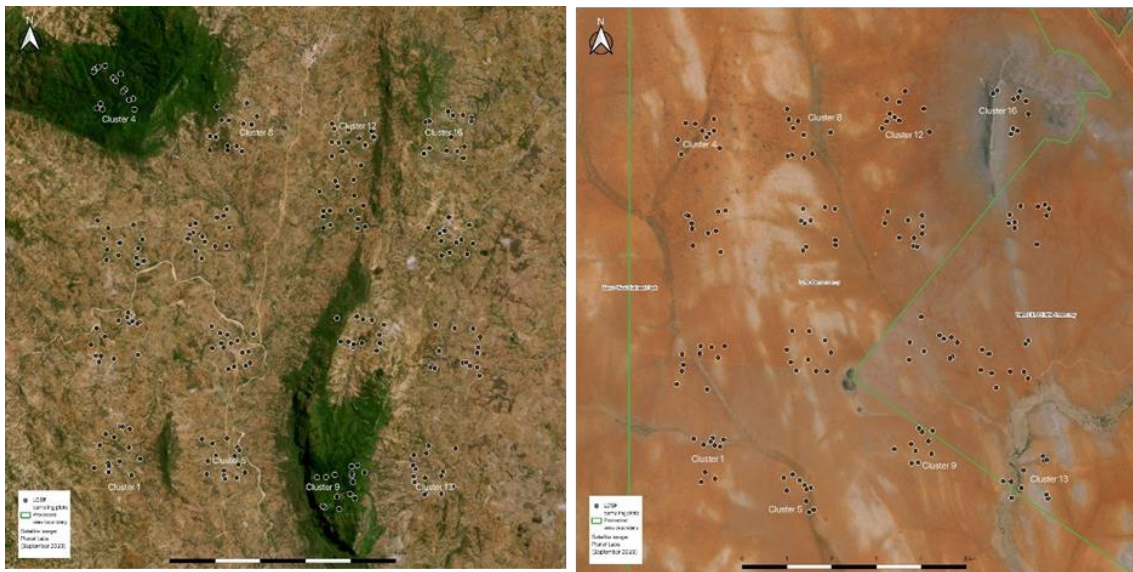


Figure 4. a) Kalamba and b) Lumo LDSF sites, with black dots showing sampling points
Activity 1.5 is about data management and building capacity on analysis of the NbS indicators. We conduct training workshops to build the capacity of county staff to analyze data and monitor future land restoration activities within the counties beyond this project.

Next Steps for WP1 activities (Figure 5)

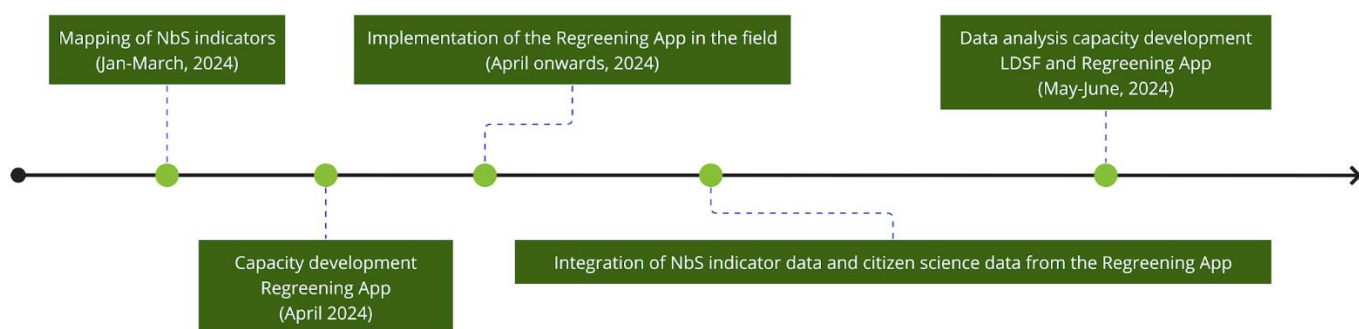


Figure 5. Timelines for the next few months

We are in the process of producing maps of various NbS indicators. There is going to be implementation of the Regreening App after the capacity development and together with the capacity development we will be integrating the citizen science data from the App (Regreening

app) with the NbS indicators data. So, in May and June we on data management using the combined datasets of LDSF data and Regreening App data in the engagements to understand degradation dynamics and restoration activities at the same time. Opportunities are endless when using this kind of technique to measure multiple NbS indicators like soil health etc.

9.1 Capacity Development on the Regreening App



Muhammad N. Ahmad, Spatial Platforms Technical Lead, Spatial Data Science & Applied Learning Lab (SPACIAL)

We will be collecting information from types of activities being done in terms of restoration, setting nurseries, planting seedlings, farmer natural regeneration, and rangeland restoration. This citizen data can be overlaid on the maps and can be extracted as NbS indicators for that individual farmer.

The Regreening App is an innovative for collecting data for monitoring and evaluation. The innovation is the crowds sourcing data technique. We are trying to build capacity for the benefit of the project. It works offline and it is free to use. The objectives include: -

- Facilitating in reporting e.g. How many farmers reached, and the number of hectares under restoration.
- Assessing practices, performances, and other decision-making data for stakeholders
- Data collection on progress monitoring in near real time allows sharing of data easily with stakeholders.

It has four modules i.e. Farmer Managed Natural Regeneration, Tree Planting, Nursery and Engagement. All questions asked when collecting data using this App have a rationale and reason behind it. Actual areas under restoration are calculated by the GPS in the App by walking around the plot. Resources for getting suitable planting material e.g. seedlings can also be obtained from the nursey module which has registered nurseries. Collected data is loaded into our App system (*Figure 6*). UK PACT project managers will have access to the system. The kind KPIs that can be accessed include households, FMNR plots, total plots, total trees, total nurseries and total area restored. All are collected using the Regreening App.

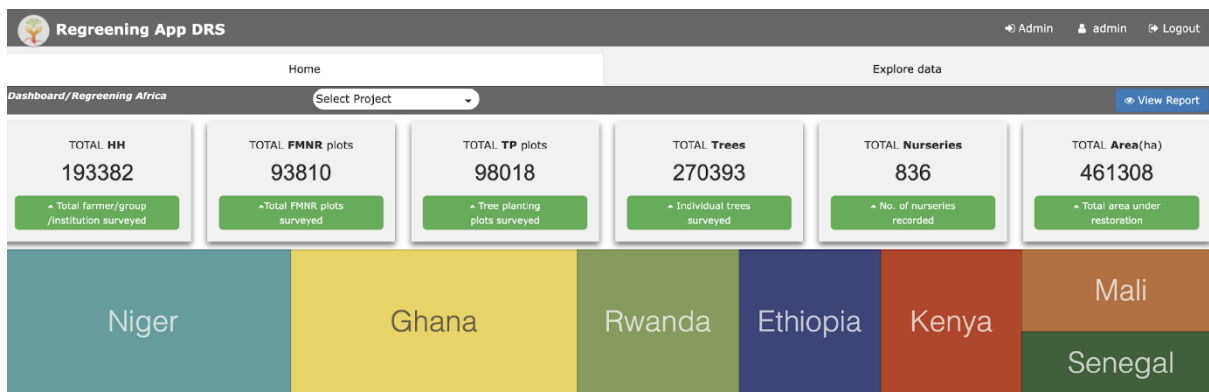


Figure 6. Diagram of Regreening Africa Dashboard

The data from the systems can be used to make stakeholders' dashboards. An example of the Kenya dashboard is used to assess tree plant locations as well as the survival rates of the seedlings. Authorized users would just click on the country and interact with the information therein.



Figure 7. Benard Onkware explaining on the Regreening App

Next Steps on Regreening App Capacity Development (Table 8)

Registration of all stakeholders interested in the upcoming capacity building activities is going on. With this, a WhatsApp group will be formed to strengthen communication learning experiences.

Table 8. Upcoming Regreening App capacity building activities.

Regreening App Capacity Development Workshops	
When	Q1: April – May 2024
Where	Locations in the Counties to be announced
What	App training in the field
Participants	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Trainers Community Facilitators

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Partners • CFAs • Community members • others
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In the discussions, it was clarified that the clusters were stratified, and we also looked at the vegetation and other indicators in association with this soil type.

10. WP4 - Capacity development and engagement of key national-level stakeholders to strengthen implementation of cross-sectoral frameworks.

Work package four will start in the second year of the project. It will focus on developing capacity, engaging key stakeholders, and strengthening the implementation of sectoral policies, with an emphasis on restoration monitoring. The work package will look at how the investment in restoration is happening, policies and advocacy, value chains, communication projects, ongoing processes, as well as the outcomes like the tree cover and types of landfills, socioeconomic capacity, biodiversity, and climate change which are critical components of restoration as a nature-based solution, can offer and add value in the country.



Mieke Bourne, Regreening Africa Programme Manager and Lead Stakeholder Engagement with Evidence

The work package aims to operationalize the national-level monitoring framework, which has a very adaptable function around process, action and outcomes. We also plan to revitalize the monitoring technical working group, obtain formal recognition at national level and organize quarterly online meetings to provide guidance in coordination and processes for monitoring processes across different strategies. This project will serve as an integrator for various efforts and help sustain them over time, with a focus on three key work streams:

1. Looking at the county levels at Makueni and Taita Taveta to understand how we can take the FOLAREP to the national level monitoring framework and
2. Develop and build out the indicators.
3. Processes by which that data will be collected and what it will be used for.

Links to other Work Packages

1. The work package will link to the key indicators in the domesticated FOLAREP build on and strengthen the county environment committees on how the different data sources are being used and how they can be used for reporting and for targeting restoration.
2. The work package also has a very strong link to WP1 looking at capacity building development of a database and a dashboard and which will be co-developed for FLR and

NbS indicators. We will try to link that to the national level monitoring framework and training and capacity building at the national level.

3. There will be a link with WP5 on GESI not only integrating inclusion in the meetings but moving towards transformation.

Group activities for Work Package 4

Group activities were to get participants' feedback on proposed timelines for the activities, how to best engage and who to engage with in the counties and at the national level (*Table 9*).

1. Who to involve?

Table 9. Who to involve in engagements at national and county level.

National level	County level
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ministry of environment and forestry • Ministry of Social Services • ICT department • Kenya Forestry Research Institute and Kenya Forest Services • Ministry of lands • National Environmental Management Authority (NEMA) • Tana Athi River Development Authority • Community Facilitators • Community Forest Associations • Water towers • National Drought Management Authority (NDMA) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Environment and Climate Change Directorate • Gender department • ICT department • Local communities • Local county/ national administration • County assembly • Stakeholders working locally in the restoration space. • Monitoring and Evaluation • Water Resource Users Authority • Rangelands especially in Taita Taveta. • Persons With Disability (PWDs) • Community Forest Associations • Community Based Organization • Nursery operators • County staff to have this as their responsibility.



Figure 8. WP4 group discussions on engagements

Table 10. Planned activities for WP4.

Output	Guidance and processes for restoration monitoring established	National government and key stakeholders have been trained on the dashboard and report on monitoring indicators	Indicators selected for FOLAREP monitoring and reporting in Taita Taveta and Makueni counties and processes for data collection and reporting identified	Timelines
Activity	Monitoring Technical Working Group discussions with MoECCF on reformulation of the working group		Preparation for workshops and dialogue at national level regarding platforms, monitoring and policy processes	April_2024
Activity	Monitoring Technical Working Group online discussion 1	Data reporting and learning platform capacity strengthening at the national level with Makueni and Taita Taveta counties and COG engaged - link to WP 1 dashboard co-design	Local capacity development workshops/ engagements in Makueni and Taita Taveta on monitoring indicators and reporting	July_2024
Activity	Monitoring Technical Working Group online discussion 2			October_2024
Activity	Monitoring Technical Working Group online discussion 3	Data reporting and learning platform capacity strengthening and reporting workshop - linked to WP 1		January_2025

What is the best way to engage with the counties and national government on monitoring restoration/NBS in terms of entry points?

- It depends on the desired output but it's better a smaller group to feed a higher-level team.
- Its contextual- case dependant (TWGs work best with smaller groups, for stakeholders' engagement, we prefer a bigger team)
- Smaller groups are more productive.
- To save on time and cost, bring together a larger group and have sessions for smaller group discussions and then they will feed into the bigger

11. WP 6: Project Management and Monitoring Evaluation and Learning - MELIA

As part of the project's efforts to improve event planning and ensure successful outcomes, we have implemented several measures i.e.

- Use participation feedback forms to gather valuable insights from attendees which enables us to identify areas that require improvement and those that performed exceptionally well.
- Introduced event follow-up and debriefing forms which we use to gather feedback from attendees after the event has concluded to evaluate the event's overall success and identify areas that require improvement in the future. This approach ensures that we are constantly learning and adapting to our audience's needs.
- We created standardized format templates to guide results reporting. This ensures that all data is collected and analyzed consistently. This enables us to identify trends and patterns, which we can use to make data-driven decisions.



Jean Newberry, Monitoring and Evaluation Specialist

Our project aims to: -

1. Increase capacity on forest and landscape implementation and monitoring for relevant organizations.
2. Aid in the implementation of evidence-based recommendations for reduced emissions at local, county, and national levels; and
3. Implement gender-transformative, equitable and socially inclusive activities and outputs.

This is described in our Project Outcomes as specific long-term change (or improvement) that we expect to see in the areas of increased capacity for relevant organizations, Recommendations for reduced emissions, and implementing GESI approaches. An interactive session was conducted to brainstorm solutions for the challenges discussed in the work

package meetings. Participants shared different perspectives and learned from one another, with responses recorded in *Tables 10,11 and 12*.

Group discussions on project monitoring, evaluation, learning and impact.

Table 11. Group discussions on how to turn outputs to outcomes Taita Taveta.

Question 1. How will we turn outputs into outcomes	
Taita Taveta 1	Taita Taveta 2
<p>WP 1 LDSF Data – Informing grazing management plan. LDSF – Forest management plan, biodiversity action plan for endemic species, restoration plan, mapping other stakeholders such as linking the national level FOLAREP and CFAs.</p> <p>WP 2 FOLAREP Plan – greater coordination in restoration.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Inform environmental policy formulation at the county level. - Increased grass, tree, and forest cover - Increased water output - Inform county budget. <p>WP 3 1. Policy Review (Transboundary) – Better management of forests</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Reduction of conflict on resource use. - Create a pull factor to include value chains. <p>2. Establishment of CFAs and less encroachment</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - increased protection of forest biodiversity - improved livelihoods from non-forest products. - increased resource mobilization <p>WP 5</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Increased inclusion among stakeholders - Implementation/ mainstreaming of GESI strategies - More inclusive restoration success <p>WP 6</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - MEL Report (output) - Learning - Replication/Re-design 	<p>FOLAREP – Mainstreaming the FOLAREP recommendation to county, M.P, water M.P, and CIDP, Inform priority areas for restoration.</p> <p>WP2 and WP 3 – cascading FOLAREP to the local level CFAs, FMPs restoration targets.</p> <p>WP3 – Livelihood enhancement (supporting viable value chains)</p> <p>DATA – Inform the actual restoration needs for the county/landscape, inform funding priorities/ resource mobilization, Guide innovations around the restoration, and formulate laws and regulations.</p>

Table 12. Group discussion on how to turn output to outcomes Makueni.

Question 1. How will we turn output into outcomes	
Makueni group 1	Makueni group 2
<p>WP 1</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Improved Ecosystem health • Soil analysis report • Recommendations and implementation • Training which enhanced monitoring <p>WP 2</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • CEC – Capacity development (political goodwill) • FOLAREP development (improved ecosystem, improved livelihoods) <p>WP 3</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • CFA capacity building (informed CFA, improved livelihoods, healthy ecosystems) • Formation of user groups (sustainable use of forest resources, improved governance) <p>WP 5</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Training of the community TOT Conducted • Attitude and behavioral change. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Output – increased capacity for trainees, <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Outcome – Knowledge transfer, technical support, and financial support • Output – impartation of resource mobilization skills. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Outcome- locally led restoration through resource mobilization, collaborations, and partnerships. • Output – Training and sensitization on the use of Regreening App <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Outcome – sustainability, recommendations for informed planning and financing. • FOLAREP <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Outcome – implementation of FOLAREP through sensitization, collaboration, and partnerships.

Table 13. Responses to question 2

Question 2. Has anything changed since the project started that we need to adapt to?
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • El Nino caused heavy unusual January rains and changes in weather. Hence Forest natural regeneration. • Political space i.e. strategies and commitments – 15 billion trees target, National Tree Planting Day, Change from 10% tree cover to 30 %. • Change in landscape i.e. Amboseli National Park from KWS to the community so discussions in terms of the benefits like ratio • Changes in the political landscape for the county came with these changes in the Committee leadership at the assembly. • Harsh economic times direct people to basic needs ignoring restoration. • Behavioral change – roles • Mindset change – Forests belong to the community.

Question 3. Have there been any blockages or maybe challenges during the activities that we did not anticipate?

- Extended inclusion where we have a number of interested parties coming in willing to participate in the program meaning you might have to stretch your budgets at some time.
- It was mentioned that the county specific FOLAREP plan may not be launched before the national level.
- Financial allocations for TIPs implementation.
- CFAs are in the process of being reactivated and any financial implications in the process costs will be incurred because they will be met with the new taxes.
- Budget reallocation for assessment for an extra LDSF site in Taita Taveta
- Sustainability of NBS within the community set up.
- Higher community expectations for cash facilitation while being engaged.

Question 4. Have there been any stakeholder groups that require special type of engagement.

- Incorporate cultural norms in community meetings as a safeguard measure when problems are preempted., CFA meetings etc.
- How to engage special stakeholders, male engagement in patriarchal communities, CEC, or Assembly members requires different styles of engagement i.e. moving out of the duty, transport allowances

Next steps in monitoring and evaluation

We are planning outcome stories based around change dynamics. These stories will highlight the impact of events on attendees and the wider community, showcasing how our events are driving positive change. By sharing these stories, we hope to inspire others to get involved and support our mission.

12. Round Table Panel Discussion

During the workshop, panel discussions were held with Community Facilitators, Community Forest Association, and County Representatives sharing their experiences and insights. The goal of the panel discussions was to get feedback from the different stakeholders including feedback from the field in terms of what was working and what the project needs to improve on in the second year.



Figure 9. Community Facilitators panel on experiences from the field and lessons learned.

12.1 Community Facilitators – Panel Discussion (Figure 9)

Community facilities have been leading the engagements across the different work packages. The panel discussion focused on their experiences in leading the engagement with various stakeholders and their feedback in terms of what had worked in the first year of the project. Lessons learnt during the project implementation in Makueni County will be taken into consideration during the second year of implementation and in Taita Taveta County. *Table 13* below summarizes the feedback from the panel discussion.

Table 14. Summary of the panel discussion with Community Facilitators

Favorite field moments and the one activity you enjoyed facilitating the most and why?
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • I loved interacting with the community in the Vision Journey activity while leading the community dialogues because I felt it was a practical activity. • Meeting and interacting with the community. I loved to handle the activity of sex and gender. The communities were very interested and discussed openly. They were happy to learn that there is a difference between sex and gender. • The gender balance tree, because the community would think about the responsibilities, the assets people have, how they are utilizing resources and what they can do to make sure they can balance and spend judiciously.
What did not work well or what did you find challenging during your fieldwork?
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Knowledge transfer from the partner who attended the training to the one that did not attend the training. It was recommended that in future the trainings could be held with couples easing the knowledge sharing at the household level. • Open and free discussions on sex and gender were challenging due to the presence of all genders. The meetings had a mix of young people, their parents, and grandparents. • The culture and religion of the community were sometimes a barrier and challenge when trying to train for gender equality. We realized that for that kind of mindset, change will be slow and gradual. We also held separate meetings for men and women before interactive discussions in a plenary forum to ensure everyone spoke up.

Community dialogues GTA and the Community Forest Association reactivation activities are to begin in Taita Taveta. What should we do differently as we start that process?

- Involve couples in the GESI GTA training.
- Introduce forest blocks or clusters for the CFAs.
- Selection of the Trainers of Trainers (ToTs) should be done carefully to ensure the right people are trained. The ToTs will train other community members.
- Take the weather and other climate aspects into consideration when planning for the activities. This will ensure all communities within the project area are accessible.

12.2 Community Forest Association – Panel discussion



Figure 10. Community Forest Association Representatives Panel discussions on the benefits of GESI training.

The panelists included members of the MBOCOFOA Community Forest Association in Makueni and a representative from CFA in Taita Taveta. Below is a summary of the panel discussion:

- The gender-inclusive training raised awareness that both men and women can address FLR issues and participate in forest user group activities, such as beekeeping.
- Mbooni's forest user group and CFA office elections process witnessed increased women and youth participation after gender and social inclusion training. This shows that inclusion efforts are working in Mbooni.
- Community dialogue has promoted gender-inclusive forest use and highlighted the economic benefits of activities like beekeeping and tree nursery resources.
- Women can now contribute to the household by paying school fees, feeding the households, and contributing to climate change action.
- The Youth population is the highest in the community and has now become involved because of the opportunities identified.
- Members enjoyed the gender position bar Activity in the training as it showed that women can participate in activities previously dominated by men, like tree seedbed preparation.
- Inclusivity is important. People are now involved in the various user groups, and they are exploring various opportunities.

- There was a sense of overall satisfaction with the participation of both men and women in the sustainable management of CFAs and land restoration, which can also contribute to the cohesiveness of its members.
- CFAs inspired others in the community to set up tree nurseries, plant Avocadoes, and learn grafting techniques. This generates income and knowledge sharing while promoting sustainability.

The challenges faced by the CFAs include dormancy after COVID 19 resulting in lack of funding, illegal activities such as tree felling, etc. To overcome some of the challenges, the CFAs started a monthly collection amongst members, selling tree seedlings etc. Loggers have also become ambassadors of restoration. More CFA revenue streams should be set by the Foresters and CFA meetings that are scheduled should be gender sensitive.

12.3 Roundtable panel discussion with County Representatives

A round table panel discussion of county representatives (*Fig 11*) was held to share their experience and contribute their perspectives of the project to county. The discussions and feedback are recorded in *Table 14*.



Figure 11. Panel of County Representatives sharing their views.

Table 15. Feedback from County Representatives

<p>Benefits of the project to the counties</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Scaling gender and social inclusivity in restoration • Harnessing NbS opportunities in the county • Improving Coordination around restoration • Revising Trans boundary Implementation Plan • Strengthening Community Forest Associations • The project has strengthened the use of the public participation model. • A clarion call to create partnerships and leverage planning forest restoration. • Providing the much needed data on the extent of degradation and impact on restoration • Protecting national resources • Increasing finances for the counties to reach their targets. • Putting the restoration in the limelight • Using FOLAREP to action restoration and increase counties' budgets for restoration activities. • The project is supporting the counties prioritize the restoration activities.

Table 16. Taita Taveta County feedback

How to include project outputs into Taita Taveta County Planning
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The County forester will act as the contact to ensure information flow for Taita Taveta • An opportunity to increase communication.
Taita Taveta wish list
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A county-wide platform supported to convene partners operating in the County to better coordinate efforts in Taita Taveta and understand what partners are doing- especially around NbS and restoration. • Additional support to implement Restoration Opportunities Assessment Method (ROAM) to understand and map the extent of Land Degradation in the county. • Evidence-based methodology for assessing land degradation and restoration. • Support with data and evidence on the restoration efforts and communication of the project outputs with the county during the budget presentation process. • Opportunity for counties to leverage carbon credits. • Talking to other players in the carbon market. • Farmers- on-farm tree planting. • Connection with good carbon market partners and bring in the data and evidence.

Table 17. Feedback from Makueni County representatives

How to include project outputs into Makueni County Planning
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Policy inclusion in the county plans • The project can scale out the performance to national level by supporting reporting against the Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs)
Makueni Wishlist
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Support in leveraging community support systems such as CBOs, CFAs • An umbrella- stakeholder engagement with other implementing agencies on their activities. This will enhance coordination across implementing partners/projects in the County Engagement with other partners – at the county level • Well-coordinated efforts. • Support accessing the benefits around carbon credits amongst the farmers.

13. Project Communication

The project has developed and shared several communications outputs since the inception workshop. The project website is the main communication output development and includes all project documents and communication materials. We have also produced the project brochure and compiled many workshop reports. We have produced four stories of engagement and impact and they have been published in the Forest News journal <https://forestsnews.cifor.org> that has a very wide global reach and hence enforces the impact. We have a large photo gallery some of which are used in photo stories. We have also been engaging externally through social media. ICRAF and Taita Taveta county have been active in sharing updates from various engagement activities on social media, and we would urge Makueni County, AWF and FAO-Ke to help us send out the message to increase the reach.



Ann Wavinya, CIFOR-ICRAF

We strive to be able to communicate almost real time as events are taking place. We will link with Palladium to share communication on events happening so that this can be circulated widely in real time also to UK PACT colleagues in London.

Project Communication products and resources

Project website: <https://www.cifor-icraf.org/nature-based-solution-for-forest-and-landscape-restoration/>

Inception Workshop Report: https://www.cifor-icraf.org/wp-content/uploads/sites/44/pdf/ICRAF_UKPact%20NbS%20Project%20Inception%20Workshop.pdf

Project Brochure: <https://www.cifor-icraf.org/knowledge/publication/34681/>

COP28 Engagement: <https://www.coalitionforsoilhealth.org/news/world-soil-day-celebrated-urging-global-action-for-soil-health-z7lfy>

Forest News Piece on GESI: <https://forestsnews.cifor.org/84926/ripple-effect-shifting-gender-norms-in-kenyan-forest-restoration?fnl=en>

Forest News Piece: <https://forestsnews.cifor.org/83314/taking-root-in-kenya-nature-based-climate-solutions-project-kicks-off-kenya-uk-pact-programme-ignites-collaboration-for-forest-landscape-restoration?fnl=>

Reflection Workshop presentations:

https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/100rX5MN5qtXrNlulc_cd2lOBQAvjMRb?usp=sharing

Link to the LDSF Field Manual: <https://www.cifor-icraf.org/knowledge/publication/25533/>

Regreening App link:

<https://play.google.com/store/apps/details?id=com.icraf.gsl.regreeningafrica&hl=en&gl=US>

In the news Regreening App: <https://regreeningafrica.org/in-the-news/the-regreening-africa-app/>



Roadmap of Events

Key project engagement activities planned in the coming months include:

- WP1: LDSF field assessment in Chawia Forest in Taita Taveta for NbS monitoring planned for Feb-March 2024
- The Regreening App training to be held in both Counties planned April 2024
- Data analysis workshop on NbS indicators in both counties planned for May 2024
- WP2: FOLAREP plan development in both counties
- WP3 and WP5: Engagement with CFAs on GESI in Taita Taveta County
- WP4: May-July – engagement at country and national level



Figure 12. Robin Chacha summarizing the action plans.

14. Closing remarks.

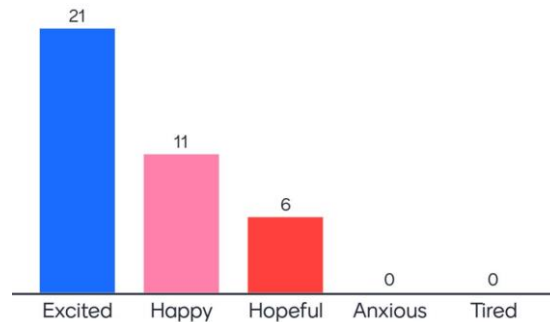
The CEC expressed gratitude to the participants for the inclusive nature and collaborative teamwork that has been felt throughout the project. He applauded the participants for dedicating their time and making a valuable contribution to the workshop. The CEC promised to dedicate his own time to the project and extended a warm welcome to the teams to Taita Taveta. The meeting was then officially closed.



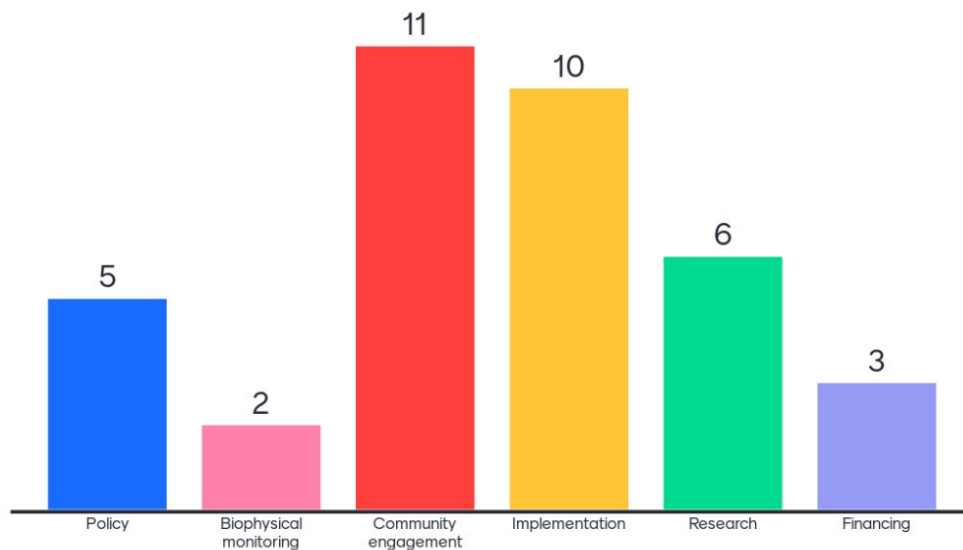
Grantone Mwandawiro declared the workshop closed.

Annex 1: Poll results of participants' engagement.

Polling was conducted at the workshop opening to gauge participants feelings. Participant respondent to questions on the Mentimeter.



On the question on what restoration activities the participants were involved in many were engaging in community engagements and implementation



The participants particularly appreciated the restoration and community engagement elements of the project.



Annex 2: Participants commitment to the project goals

- Participate in enriching the data quality/collection/engagements for the project.
- Direct contributions from self to ensure project completion; support in remaining trainings on GESI and any other place where GESI training is required, assist in data collection, ensure timely reporting where I am required to, and follow up on communities especially CFAs to ensure implementation of FOLAREP.
- KEFRI Kibwezi will continue supporting the CIFOR-ICRAF UK-PACT project through active participation in their activities whenever needed.
- Ensure 100% timely implementation of impactful project activities applying adaptive management.
- Coordinate capacity development on assessment of NBS indicators ensuring that women and youth are empowered with data analysis skills.
- To learn more about the good restoration work being done in counties and help/assist counties with reporting back to the national government.
- Support the implementation team with swift communication, swift payment process after reporting, swift feedback on queries, attending meetings and workshops when needed, and scoping for opportunities when resources are available.
- Work with the project management team to ensure timely deliverables and support in resolving potential project risks at the county level.
- Ensure timely project reports to the donors.
- Offer my technical support in implementation and devote my time to the same.
- Be a role model and implement the activities.
- Ensure that all planned activities are implemented in a timely and effective manner.
- I will be the project lead and liaison officer to spearhead the result.
- I will make sure the project gets funding from the county budget.
- I will make sure my CFA gets the correct information on FOLAREP.
- I will willingly support the project activities in Makueni and Taita Taveta counties.
- I will engage the community especially the youth on matters of forests and land restoration in Makueni County.
- I will champion GESI in all the activities I will be undertaking.
- Report back to the leadership on the project and the need for collaboration to spearhead FOLAREP within the county.
- Train communities on FOLAREP implementation.
- Improve competency and dedication.
- Promote the spirit of teamwork.
- Improved level of proactiveness.
- I will make sure the GESI component is integrated into all the other components.
- Provide any support that is within my ability.
- Implementation/application of GESI in all activities.
- Ensuring absolute community engagement and involvement in the development and implementation of FOLAREP.
- Intensify the campaigns on GESI throughout the entire process of FOLAREP development.
- Objectively report the FOLAREP plan and its implementation in an understandable language and diverse media platforms as a mode of compelling people to action.
- Ensure the FOLAREP is signed and launched at a higher level as required and active participation.

- Data collection and training workshops.
- Making sure that in the background as CFA, I implement what we have gone through in the workshop.
- Contacting workshops and sensitizing the community on FOLAREP implementation.
- Always be available when called to support key milestones.
- Make sure that Mbooni CFA members at best plant 5 trees on their farms.
- I will allocate my time to the project.