International Climate Initiative

Interim Report

BMUB project number	14_III_056_Ostafrika_A_Resilience and Biodiversity Conservation
Project title	Catalysing Forest and Landscape Rehabilitation for Climate Resilience and Biodiversity Conservation in East Africa
Country of implementation	Kenya and Ethiopia
Implementing organisation/ Grant recipient	The Clinton Foundation/Clinton Climate Initiative
Project duration	01/02/2014 - 31/01/2016
Reporting period	01/02/2014 - 31/12/2014
Date	November 17, 2015

	Budgeting of BMUB funds in € in accordance with grant agreement / contract	**Disbursement of funds by BMUB in €** to the end of the reporting period
2008		
2009		
2010		
2011		
2012		
2013		
2014	545,842.00	545,842.00
2015	948,394.14	
2016	23,027.04	
2017		
Total		

Please attach, as an annex to this report, an update to the project planning and monitoring table that was attached to the project proposal. This annex is not required if no project planning and monitoring table was originally attached to the project proposal. The length of this Interim Report should not exceed 5–7 pages plus the Annex 'Project Planning and Monitoring Table'. Please delete the explanations formatted grey after filling in the form.

[Only for grant recipients: Please attach to this report, using the required format, a summary compilation of the costs/expenditures planned and incurred in the reporting period, and of the financing components called (Financial Statement).]

Please submit the documents as hard copies (in duplicate) and electronically (as scanned PDF document and as Word or Excel file), quoting the project number in the subject line, to the International Climate Initiative's Programme Office by 30 April:

Programmbüro Internationale Klimaschutzinitiative
Potsdamer Platz 10, D-10785 Berlin, Germany
programmbuero@programmbuero-klima.de

Little Rock, AR USA 11/17/15
Place, Date

Legally binding signature and stamp
[Andrew Kessel]

Programmbüro Internationale Klimaschutzinitiative
23. Nov. 2015
Eingegangen

Bundesministerium für Umwelt, Naturschutz, Bau und Reaktorsicherheit
- Dienststelle Berlin -
Eing.: 04. DEZ. 2015
Abt./Ref.: KI II 7
Az: Anlg.:

1 Changes to the framework conditions in the project's environment

General framework conditions

At the time of drafting this report, there have been no general changes to the countries' political frameworks. The political environment in both Kenya and Ethiopia has not changed. In Kenya, the Ministry of Environment and Natural Resources, remained the focal ministry through which we implemented the project. In Ethiopia, the Ministry of Environment and Forests remained as the focal ministry through which we implemented the project.

The project framework changed due to the late start of the project. In Ethiopia, the government committed to take a greater leadership role- this required CCI to develop an MOU with the Ministry of Environment and Forest – a process that took about 4 months. In addition, a second MoU was required between SoS Sahel Ethiopia and the regional government of the Southern Nations and Nationalities Peoples Region (SNNPR).

In Kenya, the Government of Kenya proposed to implement the program through a stakeholder participatory approach that led to a process of formation of technical working groups. This led to some delays as the Government identified and invited the stakeholder to participate in the program implementation. These changes have increased the sustainability of the work, reduced the risk of duplication and increased the ownership of the outputs in the implementation countries.

Cause/effect hypotheses and risks

Can the project goals still be achieved with the planned measures?
Project goals can still be achieved with the planned measures. It is not necessary to modify measures or goals.

Risk Mitigation: Risks to the program were addressed as described below.

Output 1. Strengthen capacity of in-country actors to design, implement, and monitor forest restoration strategies
Risks:

1. **Failure to Engage Key Ministries (Medium Risk)**. This risk was reduced in Ethiopia because CCI has signed an MOU with the Ethiopian Ministry of Environment and Forests. Through our partnership with WRI, we have become well aligned with the MPAT project. At the regional level the program is collaborating with the Ministry of Agriculture, and regional forest agencies. In Kenya, through the SLEEK project CCI leveraged its existing relationships with the Kenya Forest Service, the Ministry of Environment, Water and Natural Resources, the Ministry of Agriculture, Department of Remote Sensing and Resource Survey, Kenya Wildlife Services, Kenya Forest Working Group to begin project implementation.
2. **Duplication of Efforts (Medium Risk)**. In Kenya, CCI and The World Resource Institution (WRI) are collaborating with UNEP-WCMC to avoid duplication of outputs. UNEP-WCMC are currently developing REDD potential maps for Kenya. REDD is one of the financial pathways through which landscapes can be restored. The project is also collaborating with EcoAgriculture on policy assessment for landscape restoration in Kenya to avoid duplication of efforts. In Ethiopia, all projects must be implemented through the Ministry of Environment and Forests (MEF). This enables the ministry to track the activities from the various projects through the MoU with the partner institutions to avoid duplication and also to ensure that the activities are aligned with the overall country's strategy. For example, CCI has worked with MEF to ensure that the FAO supported program on forest inventory does not duplicate efforts but leverage on each other's outputs to support the country's landscape restoration strategy. CCI activities in Ethiopia are also aligned with work being undertaken by WRI and IUCN with funding from the Global Environment Facility and NORAD to in-

crease funding for land-scape restoration through the implementation of ROAM at landscape level. The work of WRI and IUCN fully aligns with and builds upon the ongoing activities of CCI[1].

3. **Incorrect Application of Guidance (Medium Risk)**. CCI is working with key stakeholders, and leaders within government institutions to implement the program. CCI is in constant communication with these individuals to provide technical and administrative support.
4. **Staff Turnover and Identification (Low Risk).** CCI focused on capacity building to a broad group of stakeholders at both, the National Government, regional Governments, community representatives, NGOs and research institutions to mitigate this risk.

Output 2. Demonstrate replicable examples of reforestation at the local level
Risks:

1. **Delay in pilot site selection (High Risk):** CCI worked closely with national governments, local NGOs and regional governments in both Kenya and Ethiopia to identify the project sites at the start of the project and thus the project avoided delays in implementation. This included site visits with the various representatives at the beginning of the project to assess and select the candidate pilot sites in both countries.
2. **Low capacity in pilot communities to use planning tools (Medium Risk):** GBM and SoS Sahel Ethiopia utilised simple approaches in developing the land-use plans. The methods leaned heavily on the community member's local knowledge. The adoption of a participatory approach for planning ensured that the communities played a key role in the selection of tools that work for them.

Cooperation environment

- Since October 2014, CCI and WRI have been in cooperation with UNEP-WCMC. UNEP-WCMC are working in collaboration with the Kenya Forest Service (KFS) to develop maps to scale up potential for REDD+ participation in Kenya.
- CCI has maintained collaboration with stakeholders involved in Kenya's System for Landscape Emissions Estimation in Kenya (SLEEK) to leverage the utilisation of national data to improve mapping and forest tracking. In addition, this cooperation has expanded the demand for the products from the project for use in decision-making processes by Country Governments and various government agencies.
- The project collaborated with EcoAgriculture on policy assessment for forest landscape restoration. EcoAgriculture have extensive experience in policy assessment on landscape management.
- The project collaborated with Woods Hole Research Center (WHRC). WHRC has been exploring options for developing carbon maps for East Africa. Through the collaboration with WHRC, the project tested new approaches for monitoring forest landscape restoration using Google hand-held tablets.
- CCI activities in Ethiopia are also being aligned with work being undertaken by WRI and IUCN with funding from GEF and NORAD. WRI and IUCN are building upon the lessons and experienced gained in CCI's ongoing work to develop an enabling environment for financing and implementation of restoration at a landscape level.

2 Attainment of specific project goals (outputs) and overarching project goals (outcomes)

An updated Project Monitoring Table is attached.

Project progress in terms of work packages

[1] The GEF/NORAD co-funded project will build upon CCI's ongoing work in Ethiopia to develop and facilitate an enabling environment for financing and implementation of restoration at a landscape level. This project will use experience gained from national-level mapping (done with CCI) to inform local-level/landscape mapping. The project will rely on participatory land-use planning that has been undertaken by SOS Sahel Ethiopia, who focus on the landscape level. WRI and IUCN will work with a local partner to implement restoration projects on-the-ground. There are continuous efforts to fully integrate this work into government systems such as the strategic framework for the SLM (This information we received from our partners at WRI in the process of harmonizing our programs).

Output 1: Strengthen capacity of in-country actors to design, implement and monitor forest restoration strategies

Work package A:
Host inception meetings with in-country partners and government in Kenya and Ethiopia (CCI, WRI, GBM)

	Planned in project proposal	Currently planned
Indicator 1.1 Maps of national restoration opportunities developed in collaboration with in-country partners	Q2 2014	Q2 2015
Indicator 1.2 Participants in workshops will have increased capacity to use tools and maps and build capacity for their use and dissemination	Q2 2014	Q3 2015
Activity 1.1 Host two stakeholder inception meetings, one each in Kenya and Ethiopia, to launch program and develop detailed work plans ac ross the partners. Inception meetings will be two days long and hosted in Nairobi and Addis Ababa and will include key government and NGO partners.	Q2 2014	Q3 2014

Activities carried out in the reporting period:

- Three stakeholder inception meetings were held, one in Kenya and two in Ethiopia, in order to launch the program and develop detailed work plans across the partners.
- In Ethiopia, two inception meetings were held in Addis Ababa (for National stakeholders), and in Hawassa (for the regional and local stakeholders at the project implementation site). At these meetings, the project finalised 2nd draft of list of maps of landscape restoration options; finalised 2nd draft of assessment criteria for assessing opportunity to scale up priority landscape restoration options; produced the first draft of lowland bamboo map in Ethiopia. The inception meetings involved community members, government representatives and stakeholders from the NGOs, academia and civil society groups. Both meetings were led by the State Minister for Environment and Forests, His Excellency Kebede Yimam Dawd.
- In Kenya, the project finalised 1st draft assessment criteria for assessing opportunity to scale up priority landscape restoration options. The meeting, which was held in Nairobi, was led by the Kenya Forest Service and the Ministry of Environment, Water and Natural Resources. Participants included NGOs, Government agencies, Academia and Civil Society groups.

Deviation from original planning:

The mapping process begun in Q3 2014, and is a continuous process of engagement with government agencies and other stakeholders in both Kenya and Ethiopia. The draft maps were completed in Q1 2015, but the process of finalising the maps through validating data and criteria is continuous hence the change in date to Q3 2015. Capacity will continue to be built in this area through the program. Inception meeting was held in Addis Ababa in April 2014, to introduce the program to non-state stakeholders as well as other State stakeholder. In Kenya, an inception meeting was held in Nairobi to launch the program, develop work plans and discuss roles and responsibilities. These meetings did not happen in Feb – March 2014 as earlier anticipated because of the delayed start-date of the program.

In Kenya, CCI also leveraged on its existing relationship with stakeholders involved in the SLEEK program to introduce to the program during SLEEK meetings.

Work package B: Create data, maps, and tools. (WRI and CCI)

	Planned in Project Proposal	Currently Planned
Activity 1.2 Collect and standardize existing data on drivers of deforestation, land tenure and user rights, land cover, historic and current reforestation projects, protected areas, indigenous lands, and the current and	Feb-Mar 2014	September 2014

planned extent of agricultural and other land use activities.		

Activities carried out in the reporting period:

- Two workshops (2 days in length each) held in both Addis Ababa and Nairobi. In Nairobi and Addis Ababa the workshops identified land-use challenges, restoration options, and preliminary sources of spatial data. Technical working groups were developed in both countries. In Kenya, the technical working group is comprised of government representatives from the ministry of Agriculture, Kenya Forest Service, Ministry of Environment and Natural Resources, Kenya Wildlife Services. The workshops in Nairobi and Addis Ababa saw the official implementation of ROAM in Kenya and Ethiopia.
- ROAM[2] implementation began in Kenya and Ethiopia: The workshops identified land-use challenges, mapped the land-use challenges, identified potential intervention activities and prioritized these intervention activities/options.
- Technical Working Groups formed in both Kenya and Ethiopia to develop maps of national restoration opportunities.
- Technical working groups comprised of local, state, and non-state stakeholders were established. These groups are leading the map development process with technical support from WRI and CCI.

Deviation from original planning: This activity was delayed due to the late start of the program.

Activity 1.3 Conduct data gap assessment. The team evaluated the quality of the available datasets, and identified needed improvements and priority data collection activities. Where necessary and feasible in the timeline and budget of this project, additional data was collected.	Planned in Project Proposal	Currently Planned
	Q2 2014 and, Q1-2 2015	Q1, Q2 2015

Activities carried out in the reporting period:

- Using the ROAM guidelines, the teams in Kenya and Ethiopia put together the data requirements, carried out data assessment, and collected identified data to support the mapping of opportunities for forest restoration.

Deviation from original planning: This activity was carried out in 2015, after the technical working groups had been established. This was done to develop improved working relations with the stakeholders and to create a more sustainable and holistic approach to the development of the maps.

Activity 1.4 Map opportunities for forest restoration. In close collaboration with the target end-users, the project team will develop maps of potential forest restoration in each country.	Planned in Project Proposal	Currently Planned
	Q2 2014 and, Q2 2015	Q1 and Q2 2015

Activities carried out in the reporting period:

- Using the ROAM guidelines, draft Forest Landscape Restoration maps were developed for Ethiopia and Kenya.
- Technical working groups in Kenya and Ethiopia identified forest landscape restoration options and assessment criteria based on existing restoration initiatives. Mapping of the areas that can be restored using the identified options is ongoing.

Deviation from original planning: This activity was initiated in 2014 as per the original plan and will continue through Q2 2015 in order to allow CCI and WRI to get input from the technical working groups and stakeholders. Delays were caused by change of program start date.

[2] ROAM (Restoration Opportunities Assessment Methodology) is produced by IUCN and the World Resources Institute, provides a flexible and affordable framework approach for countries to rapidly identify and analyse forest landscape restoration (FLR) potential and locate specific areas of opportunity at a national or sub-national level. During the start of the proposal development ROAM method had not yet been developed. Upon the release of the ROAM methodology, the project has been working closely with WRI and IUCN to apply the ROAM approach in our project activities. https://www.iucn.org/about/work/programmes/forest/fp_our_work/fp_our_work_thematic/fp_our_work_flr/approach_to_forest_landscape_restoration/restoration_opportunities_assessment_methodology/

Work Package C. Build capacity at the national level. (WRI and CCI)		
Activity 1.5 Hold a series of training workshops. The project team will hold a series of three training workshops with government stakeholders to develop and use the tool for forest restoration prioritization and project tracking. Training curriculum will include background on the use of the tool for policy development, the potential benefits of forest restoration, and lessons learned from implementation of the tool at the local level.	Planned in Project Proposal	Currently Planned
	Q2 2014, and Q3 2015	Q1- Q3 2015
Activities carried out in the reporting period: Preliminary training was commenced- one was held in Kenya at the Kenya Forest Service and one was held in Ethiopia. Preliminary training was commenced with a focus on the background on the use of the potential restoration maps for policy development and the potential benefits of forest restoration in preparation for the completion of the tool.		
Deviation from original planning: This activity was re-designed commenced in 2015. The redesign for this activity will allow for the potential restoration maps to be completed – so that they can be incorporated in the training workshops.		
Output 2: Demonstrate replicable examples of reforestation at the local level		
Indicator 2.1 System developed for local monitoring of the impact of forest restoration	Planned in Project Proposal	Currently Planned
	Feb- Mar 2014	Q2 2015
Indicator 2.2 Pilot community in each country selected	Q2 2014	Q2 2014
Indicator 2.3 Nurseries established to prepare 70,000 seedlings for planting in degraded areas	Q3 2014	Q3 2014 for Kenya, Q1 2015 for Ethiopia
Indicator 2.4 Areas prioritised for restoration in each pilot site, with a focus on biodiversity conservation	Q3 2014	Q3 2014
Indicator 2.5 At least two exchange visits between pilot communities in Ethiopia and Kenya to share best practices and lessons learned	Q4 2014, and Q1 2015	Q3 2015
Work Package A. Build Capacity at the local level (GBM and CCI)		
Activity 2.1 Select pilot community in each country. Priority restoration mapping. Three-dimensional land use models showing the current and future role and place of forest in the landscape will be made as a tool to raise capacity level. Within priority areas, pilot communities will be selected on the basis of community interest and political support, restoration potential, existing capacity, and potential co-benefits.	Planned in Project Proposal	Currently Planned
	Q2 2014, and Q1 2015	Q2 2014 and Q1 2015
Activities carried out in the reporting period • Pilot communities were chosen in each country in Q2 2014 on the basis of community interest, restoration potential, existing and potential capacity, political support, and likely co-benefits to accrue. • CCI sub-contracted a local NGO in Ethiopia (SoS Sahel Ethiopia) to carry out this capacity building and other agreed activities. • The project delivered land use plans for the pilot areas in Kenya to guide the restoration work as per the site targets. In Ethiopia, the project developed watershed management plans in the pilot community. In addition, the project is going a step further to support the pilot communities in Ethiopia to develop site specific management plans.		
Deviation from original planning: None		

Activity 2.2 Develop a long-term forest restoration strategy. Using tools and methods developed for restoration opportunity mapping, conduct participatory land use planning (PLUP) with communities to prioritize areas for forest restoration in the context of broader land use planning with a focus on co-benefits such as biodiversity, water use and improved, low impact livelihoods.	Planned in Project Proposal	Currently Planned
	Q3 2014 and Q1 2015	Q3 2014
Activities carried out in the reporting period: • In Kenya, the project mapped 130 small holder farms, with the land-owners, developed land-use plans for the mapped farms • In Ethiopia, the project developed a watershed management plan with the local pilot community in Ethiopia. The community selected a watershed committee made up of 13 local community members. Ongoing work focuses on development of site specific management plans within the watershed that will guide the use of the land. • In Ethiopia, the project has trained 300 community members on watershed management.		
Deviation from original planning: None		
Activity 2.3 Facilitate exchange visits between pilot communities in Kenya and Ethiopia. Exchange visits between pilot communities in Ethiopia and Kenya will help project staff share experiences, best practices, and strategies for overcoming challenges.	Planned in Project Proposal	Currently Planned
	Q4 2014 and Q1 2015	Q3 2015
Activities carried out in the reporting period None		
Deviation from original planning: This activity was postponed to allow community members in their respective countries to develop their projects further due to the late start date. This will ensure more project activities are operational for impactful experiential learning with opportunities to share experiences, and lessons learned from their practical work in landscape restoration.		
Work Package B Initiate forest restoration projects. (GBM and CCI*)		
Activity 2.4 Produce seedlings in small community managed nurseries selected close to the planting sites	Planned in Project Proposal	Currently Planned
	Q3 2014, Q4 2014	Q3 and Q4 2014, Q1 2015
Activities carried out in the reporting period: • In Kenya, in collaboration with local communities, the project established 20 community tree-nursery groups comprising of 316 members. The nursery groups have received training on tree-nursery management, group formation, and bee-keeping in order to develop sustainable micro-enterprises. Since their inception, the community tree nurseries have raised 71,870 indigenous and 26,670 exotic seedlings. • In Ethiopia, the project supported the procurement of 32,500 tree seedlings from the local tree nurseries for planting at the project site.		
Deviation from original planning: Seedling production by the communities was spread across a longer period due to water scarcity from lack of rains in Ethiopia.		
Activity 2.5 Tree Planting. In each pilot site 50,000 trees will be planted to kick off the long-term strategy for restoration. The nurseries will produce seedlings on a continuous basis for planting and replanting as well as new sites.	Planned in Project proposal	Currently Planned
	Q4 2015 and Q4 2015	Q4 2015 and Q4 2015
Activities carried out in the project period: • The project supported community members to plant 50,000 indigenous trees in the pilot site in Kenya.		

- The project supported community members to plant 32,500 trees in Ethiopia. Of the 32,500, 4,500 (14%) are fruit trees. Community members will sell the produce of the fruit trees and proceeds will help to supplement their income. In Q1 2015, the project through SoS Sahel Ethiopia will raise additional seedlings for planting at the project site.
- In Ethiopia, 122 ha of degraded land were enclosed so that the land can go through the natural regeneration and restoration process. As a result, 6 species of grass (***Digitaria abyssinica, Chrysopogon gryllus, Digitaria minigina, Brachiaria ruziziensis, Chloris pycnothrix, Panicum maximum, Heteropogon contortus***) have reappeared in the enclosure area after years of disappearance due to overgrazing & degradation. The enclosure of land was informed by the preliminary reports on community based land-use planning. Enclosures were identified as one of the intervention activities and it is an addition to the targets that were set, over and above the set targets. Enclosures are also an inexpensive way of landscape restoration.
- In Ethiopia, as part of the land rehabilitation and water conservation measures, 5 km of soil bund, 980 trenches and 52 micro-basins were constructed in the enclosure. In addition 10,000 cuttings of ***Pennisetum purpureum*** were planted.

Deviation from original planning:
None

Activity 2.6 Monitoring and Evaluation. A system for local monitoring and evaluation of the impacts of forest restoration, including survival, simple growth carbon sequestration modelling and the impact of the project on livelihood and household income will be developed in consultation with host communities.	Planned in Project proposal	Currently planed
	Q2 2014 until the end of the project	Q2 2014 until the end of the project

Activities carried out in the reporting period:

- In Kenya, the GBM has collaborated with the Woodshole Research Centre, and ESRI Eastern Africa. Together they have developed and rolled out community based monitoring on tree survival, nurseries, and landscape restoration using hand-held devices. This system has eliminated the need for paper in reporting from communities. In Ethiopia, the project is strengthening existing community based monitoring systems using GPS for data collection and monitoring.
- A biomass baseline survey for the pilot sites in Kenya and Ethiopia have been completed to support monitoring of carbon sequestration.
- In addition, the project developed structures for tracking project progress that include planned site visits and meetings with all the stakeholders to track progress and lessons learned.

Deviation from original planning:
None

Output 3: Lay the foundation for scaling-up restoration activities

Indicator 3.1 Guidance documents published on best practices, lessons learned, and key challenges from community restoration efforts	Planned in Project proposal	Currently Planned
	Q3 2014	Q1 2016
Indicator 3.2 Brief on current finance models and incentive systems prepared	Q4 2014	Q3 2015
Indicator 3.3 Regional workshop held with broad range of stakeholders	Q4 2014	Q1 2016

Work Package A. Review promising financing options. (CCI)

Activity 3.1. Prepare brief. A brief reviewing promising finance models, including recommendations for overcoming key challenges such as lack of upfront funding and high transaction costs, will be developed.	Planned in Project Proposal	Currently Planned
	Q4 2014	Q3 2015
Activities carried out in the reporting period: The project held a workshop in Q3 2014 on financing restoration with key stakeholders in Washington DC. The workshop identified key challenges in financing restoration, and developed an ideal step-wise approach in financing restoration. A white paper laying out possible new approaches to landscape restoration financing is currently being prepared.		
Deviation from original planning: The workshop was held in accordance with the planned timing in the Project Proposal. Completion of this activity has been postponed until Q3 2015. This is so that the outcomes and statistics from the restoration mapping, which will be completed by Q3 2015, can be incorporated into the white paper on restoration financing that is being prepared as a result of the workshop.		
Work package B. Develop guidance for replication. (CCI, WRI, GBM)		
Activity 3.2 Document and publish best practices, lessons learned, and key challenges. Simple field manuals and guidelines will be prepared describing the sequence of activities needed to successfully undertake restoration. These will be loaded onto MEW&NR and MEF websites and made available to BMUB.	Planned in Project Proposal	Currently Planned
	Q3, 2014 and Q4, 2015 – Jan 2016	Q3, 2014 and Q4, 2015 – Jan 2016
Activities carried out in the reporting period: The project developed a lessons learned document from existing restoration activities in Kenya which is used in guiding project implementation.		
Deviation from original planning: None		
Activity 3.3 Convene regional workshop. A broad range of stakeholders from the region will be convened to discuss experiences, lessons learned and potential models for financing for forest restoration. Lessons learned will be carefully documented and posted onto websites in Kenya and Ethiopia.	Planned in Project Proposal	Currently Planned
	Q3, 2014 for orientation and again in Q4 2015– Jan 2016 to discuss results and lessons learned	Jan 2016 to discuss results and lessons learnt
Deviation from original planning: The regional workshop was delayed so that we can use it as a platform for project implementers to share lessons learnt from the project implementation. The Government partners from both Kenya and Ethiopia proposed this change in timeline to allow them to share with other countries their project implementation experiences, lessons learned and potential ways for replication in other countries.		

Project management
CCI sub-contracted SOS Sahel Ethiopia to undertake landscape restoration activities in Ethiopia. The agreement was signed on 30th January 2014 and came into effect immediately.

Public awareness-raising
CCI participated as an exhibitor at the 2014 Global Landscape Forum in Lima. The Forum provided an opportunity for CCI to create awareness on the community led forestry and landscape restoration mapping.
In May, 2015, CCI, the GBM, and the Kenya Forest Service hosted a tree planting event at the Wangari Maathai Corner of the Karura Forest in celebration of the International Day of Biological Diversity. The event was attended by community members, NGOs, and government representatives and consisted of speeches from representatives of each organization and KFS. 100 ceremonial trees were planted during the event.

The Green Belt Movement supported *Deutsche Welle* to film a documentary on indigenous uses of ***Prunus africana.*** The documentary highlighted co-benefits that community members engaged with the Green Belt Movement have realised as a result of agroforestry and other farm-forestry approaches. A link to the documentary is here:
http://www.international-climate-initiative.com/en/media-centre/film-archive/?video=1846&mode=show&cHash=3123b638342c5cbe7eea3963e5 34518a

WRI published a blog post highlighting Ethiopia's achievements in landscape restoration.
http://www.wri.org/blog/2014/10/ethiopia-commits-restore-one-sixth-its-land

Partner ownership
CCI signed an MOU with the Ministry of Environment and Forest in Ethiopia. This understanding has encouraged fecund working relationships between CCI, WRI and the Ethiopian Ministry of Environment and Forest (MEF) in developing the landscape restoration potential maps.
SOS Sahel Ethiopia signed an agreement with the regional government of the Southern Nations and Nationalities Peoples Region (SNNPR), where the pilot on community led landscape restoration is being implemented.
The Agreements signed with the national and regional governments have increased the transparency of the program, and have improved working relations with the governing bodies.
In addition, the project worked closely with IUCN to use the ROAM methodology approach in the implementation of the project in Kenya and Ethiopia.

3 Other points, e.g. particular lessons learned

- Cultural differences between countries. During the start of the project, it was very evident that there were clear cultural differences between Kenya and Ethiopia. It was pertinent that CCI was cognizant of these differences when implementing the projects in the two different countries.
- Necessary to adapt quickly to the operating environment. During the initial project implementation phase it is important to:
    1. Be aware of the operating environment. Be aware of existing stakeholders.
    2. Identify differences between stakeholders, in particular their various roles and mandates in natural resource management and restoration
    3. Adapt to the identified differences between countries and stakeholders and be flexible. It is important to build adaptability into bureaucracy in order to consider and integrate cultural differences and to remain willing to change timelines to achieve overall project goals. The overall activities of the project did not change in Kenya and Ethiopia. In fact, in Ethiopia due to the seriousness of land degradation activities were added such as water harvesting, enclosures, rehabilitation of gullies and construction of water dams were added in addition to tree planting. What changed was the timeline of activities.
    4. Be aware that the targeted stakeholders have competing priorities in their day-to-day activities. Land tenure systems in Kenya and Ethiopia are different and as a result of these differences developing land-use plans for each community had to be customized to each country.
- Build M&E systems to match the capacity and availability of program partners. CCI selected a simple reporting structure for tracking the project's progress.
- Understand and work within the mandates of institutions. Understanding the mandate of state and non-state institutions is a key step to forming sustainable and long-term impact. For this reason, government working groups were formed in each country to better synchronize the development of maps with existing government initiatives and, create continuity in the implementation of national efforts in landscape restoration.
- Forest landscape restoration projects need long-term engagement and ideally this project would run for 3 - 5 years to increase sustainability. This would allow the project to build the capacity of the local stakeholders and the government actors to monitor the survival of the trees and develop sufficient alternative livelihood strategies/options for the communities.