



Plan Vivo Annual Report

HINIDUMA BIO-LINK PROJECT, SRI LANKA

*Reforesting traditional home gardens using the analog forestry concept
in the wet zones of Sri Lanka*



Submitted by:
Conservation Carbon Company (Pvt) Ltd, Sri Lanka

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1 Summary

This following report summarizes the important steps taken in the Hiniduma Bio-link Project between August 2012 and December 2013.

The Conservation Carbon Company (CCC) continued to improve the program's administrative and management systems by regularly updating the database and improving the tracking of carbon payments along with the payment of farmers. The introduction of Phase III of the Hiniduma Bio-Link project was the highlight of the year. Phase III of the project consists of 17 new farmers who are currently managing 7.8 Ha of land with 38 rain forest flora species. The extension was done in collaboration with MAS Linea Aqua and Expo Lanka holdings. Each company planted 1000 seedlings and pledged to fund the maintenance cost of the plants for 3 years. 1008 tonnes of CO₂ will be sequestered through the Phase III extension.

CCC encourages farmers to raise seedlings by managing nurseries as a business. Although there is growing interest amongst other farmers to join the program, the recruitment of more farmers will depend on the availability of carbon buyers. The project has been expanded within its current operational area. A baseline survey and the planting of trees within the area have been concluded.

The following Annual Report records the progress of the Hiniduma Bio-link Project in Sri Lanka, submitted to the Plan Vivo Foundation.

Reporting period	1 st August 2012 to 31 st December 2013		
Technical specifications in use	Mixed species reforestation		
Area under management (ha) i.e. implemented <i>plan vivos</i>	Areas put under management since last report (ha)	18.8 ha	Addition to the previous plot(s) 7.8 ha
Smallholders with <i>plan vivos</i> and PES agreements (total for project)	New smallholders with PES agreements since last report	32 smallholders	17 smallholders as new
Total PV certificate issued	1,759		
Total payments made to community fund up to 31 st December 2013	\$ 3670.25		
Submission for Certificate Issuance for new areas under management (tCO ₂)	1008		



2 Key Events and Developments and Challenges

2.1 Key Events

2.1.1 Awareness sessions

The key events conducted by the Conservation Carbon Company in the current reporting period have been:

Farmer training sessions

Awareness sessions were held for all the farmers engaged with Hiniduma Bio-link Project. Below is an image of the awareness session held on the 11th of November 2013 at Farmer Siripala's house with the participation of newly joined farmers for the phase III of the project.



Candidate of Ms.Earth – Sri Lanka participating in tree planting



A candidate of Ms. Earth Sri Lanka along with 10 children replaced 50 plants at Hiniduma in August 2013. The tree planting initiative was requirement of the Ms. Earth pageant and it was based on the theme “Growing with nature”.



The staff members of CCC together with the Forestry Department conducted an awareness program for the children prior to the planting of trees.



CCC launches Geo-tagging system for Miss Earth finalist

Continuing to push the boundaries in reforestation, The Carbon Consulting Company (CCC) recently partnered with the Miss Earth environmental finalist Monali Disanayake to conduct an environmental awareness workshop for children on environment and bio-diversity conservation. Monali Disanayake visited the site of the unique Hiniduma Bio Link project. The workshop, which was able to engage the children in the project with lectures and activities, concluded with each of the planting children receiving a certificate of participation and a small pack of seeds to take home.

Further extending the ongoing project with each other, The CCC launched a unique Geo-tagging system that successfully tracks the location of each plant through its Geographical co-ordinates and placed a detailed geographical map of the area. Photos of the plant and its details can also be taken with the device. "Our focus has always been to create better engagement and involvement with the public," says The CCC Chief Operating Officer Sandeepa de S. Wijeyeratne. "This advanced mapping system was developed by team members specially trained in Geographical Information Systems and used the latest technology to provide a more accurate picture of the plant and its details can also be taken with the device.

Monali Disanayake with Hiniduma Bio Link Project Manager Lakshmi Seneviratne and Conservation Consulting Company COO Senthil de Silva Wijeyeratne

concerns. Expanding on the launch, President Sandeepa de S. Wijeyeratne of the Hiniduma Bio Link project to our Miss Earth contestants. With more corporates and individuals volunteering to join the project, we wanted to go to the area by estimating that we provide at least 1000 trees per hectare. We believe that as our technology would permit."

The Hiniduma Bio Link Project is an effort to establish a biodiversity corridor between the large areas of forest patches – Hinubera and Kattiyala in Sri Lanka and to connect the forest edges using the "Aholig Forestry" system.

Along with the planting of trees, CCC launched a Geo mapping system that can track the position of clusters of plants.

2.1.2 Operations developments



A team of students studying land surveying at ESGT, le Mans, France, engaged in mapping the land of the Hiniduma Bio-Link project as a partial requirement of their degree programme. They spent their two month internship mapping more than 15 land parcels that included new smallholding(s) and existing smallholding(s) from phase I and phase II of the project. CCC is in the process of Geo-referencing these maps to model the

existence of the Hiniduma- Bio-link on the geographical map.

Expolanka joins Hiniduma tree planting initiative

Continuing its efforts in splitting biodiversity in Sri Lanka, leading environmental company Holdings PLC joined the Hiniduma tree planting initiative with Carbon Consulting Company (CCC) and Rainforest Rescue International (RRI) to help preserve the rainforest.

The initiative announced on World Environment Day will lead to setting up a block of 1000 new trees around the two large remnant disturbed rainforest patches – Sri Kandawala and in to expansive buffer zones around the forest edges using the Aholig Forestry concept. This project will plant over 1000 trees initially.

As the area surrounding the rainforest is located in the Hiniduma area, the Hiniduma Bio Link Project is a joint venture.

Expolanka's Head of Marketing, Corporate Communications and CSR Paddy Wijeyeratne said, "Being in the forefront of biodiversity projects such as the Hiniduma looks like a natural fit for the environment but the connecting sources such as the communities around the forest. As an environmental objective, the project aspires to the protection of the forest which is 20 years old.

"We are more than just a 'business' in corporate parlance," says COO of Carbon Consulting Company Sandeepa de S. Wijeyeratne. "We pride ourselves on an increasing number of global companies are taking the lead in this regard and need to integrate environmental consequences in their day-to-day operations. We have approached farmers in the forest edge communities along the Kattiyala and high, but under management threat to work within this unique project."

Wijeyeratne noted, "We are fully aware that the long term pro-

ject adopts a 'Permit for Ecosystem Services' model where participating farmers will receive monetary payment for returning the forest to its natural state. Participants are paid a monthly amount for every tree that they continue to grow and protect for the project which is 20 years old.

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MAS Linea Aqua joins CCC in groundbreaking Rainforest Project

MAS Linea Aqua joined hands with CCC's sustainability partner The Carbon Consulting Company to plant 1000 trees in the Hiniduma area, the Hiniduma Bio Link Project.

Commemorating the signing of the agreement, Director of the Company Sandeepa de S. Wijeyeratne and Director of the first of over 1000 rainforest trees were planted in the Hiniduma area to expand the Hiniduma Bio Link Project. The Hiniduma Bio Link Project is a biodiversity corridor in between the two large remnant disturbed rainforest patches, Kattiyala and Kattiyala.

This project will use the unique Aholig Forestry concept to plant 1000 trees across the forest edges and areas around the forest edges.

The CO2 sequestered through this project will be sold to the market as Standard (VCD) credits in the local

market. This project is the first of its kind in Sri Lanka and is intended for other applications in the future. This project through environmental friendly practices will contribute to the protection of the environment and the reduction of global warming.

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Linea Aqua is a joint venture between MAS Linea Aqua, Spanish state-owned (UK) and Brazil's Bradesco. The company has earned a global reputation for its environmental friendly products provided.

Linea Aqua's contemporaries 200,000 sq. km. of land in Sri Lanka, which offers a range of environmental services ranging from environmental management to critical social issues from conserving the facilities in neighbouring countries to the environment. In 2011, Linea Aqua was given the "Best Environmental Project in the Special Projects Category" by the Sri Lanka Environmental Protection Authority for its restoration work that is our first project in Sri Lanka.

Carbon Consulting Company has been created with the purpose of addressing the environmental challenges that are environmental impact and climate change issues arising from these challenges.

Carbon Consulting Company is a private leader and decision makers in the environmental sector. It is a unique edge base that would be the first of its kind in Sri Lanka.

"Linea Aqua has always been an environmental friendly company and we are committed to making our environment a better place for the future,"

2.1.3 Fundraising for the Expansion of the Biolink:

CCC was able to initiate Phase III of the Hiniduma Bio-link by planting 2000 seedlings in new smallholding(s) within the area. MAS Linea Aqua and Expo Lanka Holdings contributed towards the Bio-link in 2013 by planting 1000 plants each. Both organizations made a commitment to fund the maintenance cost of those plants for 3 years. The 2000 plants, consisting of 38 different rain forest species, were planted on 18 smallholding(s) belonging to 17 farmers.



Farmer Anura Weerasinghe, a joint owner of one of the Bio-link plot(s), gave his consent to link one acre of his plot with the neighbouring plot of land (near Gin Ganga) for Phase III of the Bio-link project.

2.1.4 Technical improvements:

Conservation Carbon Company is currently developing a data base to integrate the monitoring results into the main project database. Through the database, the performance of the project can be tracked on all levels. Information regarding the land, the dates and the producer will also be included in the database.

3 Organizational developments

3.1.1.1 Human resources:

There has been a change in the ground level supervision of the project. Although Rainforest Rescue International (RRI) has been monitoring the *Plan Vivo* projects in that area, there were some internal structural changes within RRI that has led to their project coordinators to hand over the monitoring and supervision of the Hiniduma Bio Link project to CCC for this year only, while they finalise their changes. CCC has recruited a separate project coordinator to handle the ground level activities and facilitate the services to the community.

3.1.1.2 Species-specific biomass equations:

CCC experts have gathered the necessary data to revise the species specific biomass equation thus the carbon calculations.

4 Key challenge

Farmers are reluctant to participate in the Bio-link project because the trees that are planted for the project do not have any commercial value. For instance, the farmers participating in Phase III of the Bio-link project requested to cultivate fruits trees and trees with timber value. As a result of such complications, it is difficult to find land parcels to expand the Bio-link project.

4.1 Relationship with the community and the producers

Once in three months the farmers received their payment through the project coordinators and matters arising from the project were discussed with the coordinators. One main problem pertaining to the famers was the replacement of dead plants. CCC decided to replace dead plants with new ones by retaining a sum of the farmer's total payment.



5 Achievements of the project and project promotion

5.1.1 Publications

Scientific research: A scientific research was conducted by a student from the Faculty of Agriculture , University of Peradeniya, Sri Lanka on the topic of “**Viability of small-holder agro-forestry as a supplier of voluntary carbon market: a case of low land wet zone smallholding landowners in Bio-link corridor project in Hiniduma**”. The research paper is a partial fulfillment requirement for the degree in Science and Agricultural Management (Bs) from the Business Management Department of Agricultural Economics and Business Management.

5.1.2 Awards

The Easwaran Brothers company that funds one part of the Hiniduma Bio-link project was awarded a certificate under the “The Best Sustainability Project Award” at The Best Corporate Citizen Sustainability Awards, 2013, organized by the Ceylon Chamber of Commerce.

5.1.3 Media Coverage

Revamping the web



Project in order to increase the involvement of those interested in the project (funding, buying certificates etc) , Conservation Carbon Company has taken steps to revamp the Hiniduma web site by including more information regarding the project.

5.1.4 Partnering with UNOPs

CCC was the first customer of the Sri Lankan hub of Commonwealth Environmental Investment Platform (CEIP) launched on the 18th of November, 2013 by Minister of Industry and Commerce. Using this platform, CCC will be able to promote the Hinduma Bio-link project to potential investors.





6 Activities, total project size and participation

6.1 Summary of total participation and project size

The following data represents the scale of the project to date.

Vintage		Cumulative values
2012	The total number of producers with registered PES agreements:	15
	The total area covered by the project:	11 ha equivalent
2013	The total number of producers with registered PES agreements:	17
	The total area covered by the project:	Approximately 7.8 ha

6.2 Strengthening of Program Management

The program was strengthened by improving database management and streamlining payments to farmers (in view of reducing transactions costs).

6.3 Casualty replanting

50 dead plants were replaced in July, 2013 under the programme “Growing with Nature” One of the candidates for Derana Veet Ms. Sri Lanka for Ms Earth Pageant was involved in the project. 42 plants were replaced at Mr P.L. Amarapala’s farmland and the rest were planted at Mr P.L. Kumaradasa’s farmland.

The farmers agreed to replace the dead trees at their expense. However, the farmers who had not planted their trees for unknown reasons were not paid. It was made clear to them that they would receive payment provided they plant the trees by next year’s monitoring session.

6.4 Protection

Although polythene covers were used to protect the seedlings from wild animals, it came to our notice that the polythene covers were inhibiting the growth of the seedlings during the rainy season. Therefore, the polythene covers are not been used for the new smallholding(s) thus we have asked smallholders to fenced the plants with small twigs.



6.5 Monitoring *plan vivos*

The annual monitoring session of *plan vivos* at Bio-link was conducted in June 2013. The monitoring team consisted of CCC staff members, students from Sabaragamuwa University of Sri Lanka and 2 volunteers from National University of Singapore. 50% monitoring was done on the majority of the smallholdings.

7 Submission for Plan Vivo Certificate Issuance

Farmer No	Producer/ name or ID number ³	Producer Group	Description	
			System (name of tech spec)	Area (ha)
P3-2011-225-06	P.P.G. Albert I		Mixed species reforestation	0.304
P3-2011-225-07	P.P.G. Albert II		Mixed species reforestation	0.304
P3-2011-225-08	P.P. Siripala		Mixed species reforestation	0.194
P3-2011-225-09	P.L. Seneviratne		Mixed species reforestation	0.405
P3-2011-225-10	W.A. Sardhasena		Mixed species reforestation	0.405
P3-2011-225-11	Lasika		Mixed species reforestation	0.304
P3-2011-225-12	H.L. Ananda		Mixed species reforestation	1.012
P3-2011-225-13	KaluAia		Mixed species reforestation	0.304
P3-2011-225-14	S.S.R. Lusina		Mixed species reforestation	0.506
P3-2011-225-15	Anura Liyanage		Mixed species reforestation	0.405
P3-2011-225-16	Buddike		Mixed species reforestation	0.304
P3-2011-225-17	Gamini Godakanda		Mixed species reforestation	0.506
P3-2011-225-18	S.A.K. Sunil Jayantha		Mixed species reforestation	0.506
P3-2011-225-19	P.P. Wimalasena		Mixed species reforestation	0.202
P3-2011-225-20	S.G. Amarasinghe		Mixed species reforestation	1.619
P3-2011-225-21	Sarath Jagoda		Mixed species reforestation	0.405
P3-2011-225-22	P.L. Premasiri		Mixed species reforestation	0.121

Monitoring Target and Monitoring Result are based on number of plots planted.

7.1 Plan Vivo certificates Calculation for the new *Plan vivo's*

CCC technical consultants have done continuous research on adjusting the species' specific biomass equations. Furthermore, we have adjusted the calculations and kept a buffer of 15%. It was observed that the readjusted growth models with the real time data collected through the monitoring process has shown an improvement. According to the experts, the readjusted growth models for the given plant list for Phase III exertions are shown in Table 1.

In addition, CCC experts managed to identify fast-growing species and those with high carbon sequestration potential as well.

Table 1: Tot carbon benefits for individual species

Scientific Name	Total Plants	Total tonnes of CO ₂ for tree species
<i>Carallia brachiata</i>	94	68.14891487
<i>Syzygium aromaticum</i>	4	0.776908446
<i>Loxococcus rupicola</i>	23	3.594339513
<i>Madhuca longifolia</i>	90	18.83548715
<i>Caryota urens</i>	10	1.981845248
<i>Azadirachta indica</i>	39	6.178231058
<i>Canarium zeylanicum</i>	51	124.7867054
<i>Berrya cordifolia</i>	15	11.48889283
<i>Vateria copallifera</i>	123	88.76954153
<i>Psidium guajava</i>	5	0.371521381
<i>Dipterocarpus zeylanicus</i>	288	207.8506338
<i>Artocarpus altilis</i>	34	85.43669964
<i>Syzygium javanicum</i>	83	18.16963774
<i>Mesua thwaitesii (ferrea)</i>	137	32.26332138
<i>Mangifera zeylanica</i>	108	40.91609942
<i>Shorea affinis</i>	68	21.83016297
<i>Mangifera indica</i>	52	23.81313592
<i>Annona reticulata</i>	3	0.769933327
<i>Syzygium samarangense</i>	20	4.378225962
<i>Terminalia bellirica</i>	10	1.308329301
<i>Shorea afinis</i>	10	3.210318083
<i>Durio zibethinus</i>	120	81.83123851
<i>Artocarpus nobilis</i>	76	190.9761521
<i>Garcinia mangostana</i>	33	12.2408777
<i>Mesua nagassarium</i>	114	36.78663197
<i>Palaquium petiolare</i>	16	8.332936208
<i>Vitex altissima</i>	4	1.686247819



<i>Dillenia triquetra</i>	1	0.294489984
<i>Dillenia retusa</i>	4	1.456990784
<i>Shorea zeylanica</i>	5	1.605159042
<i>Nephelium lappaceum</i>	118	59.39721596
<i>Theobroma cacao</i>	81	3.604784146
<i>Persea americana</i>	12	7.259274428
<i>Shorea dyeri</i>	21	6.741667975
<i>Citrus sinensis</i>	57	4.189872454
<i>Terminalia arjuna</i>	29	3.794154973

Following table shows the additional Carbon benefits generated through this vintage.

Table 2: Carbon benefits Calculation for the year 2013

Producer ID	Produce Name	Tones CO ₂ (after allocation of 15% buffer stock)
P3-2011-225-06	P.P.G. Albert I	19.50
P3-2011-225-07	P.P.G. Albert II	57.45
P3-2011-225-12	H.L. Ananda	58.45
P3-2011-225-14	S.S.R. Lusina	83.48
P3-2011-225-11	Lasika	62.01
P3-2011-225-13	Kalu Ayya	57.63
P3-2011-225-10	W.A. Sardhasena	67.58
P3-2011-225-09	P.L. Seneviratne	38.70
P3-2011-225-08	P.P. Siripala	37.62
P3-2011-225-17	Gamini Godakanda	102.16
P3-2011-225-18	S.A.K. Sunil Jayantha	82.72
P3-2011-225-15	Anura Liyanage	52.38
P3-2011-225-16	Buddika	14.94
P3-2011-225-19	P.P. Wimalasena	15.23
P3-2011-225-20	S.G. Amarasinghe	174.97
P3-2011-225-21	Sarath Jagoda	55.52
P3-2011-225-22	P.L. Premasiri	26.97
Total		1007.32

According to the calculation we have we have kept an additional **178 tCO₂** (15%) aside for the risk buffer.



8 Sales of Plan Vivo Certificates

Table 3: Credit certificates update for 2013

Vintage	Name of purchaser/source of funds	Number of Plan Vivo Certificates purchased	Price per Certificate (\$)	Total amount received (\$)
2012	Marks and Spencer Plc, UK	1500		
2012	Standard Chartered Bank, Sri Lanka	40		
2013	Credit transfer to ZeroMission AB , Sweden	68		

NB/ Individual pricing information supplied to the Foundation will be for internal purposes only.

Table 4: Summary of the Carbon benefit of Hiniduma Bio Link Project up to 2014

Total tonnes CO ₂ generated for new vintage	1186 ton CO₂
Unsold certificates from previous issuance	151 ton CO ₂
Total Risk buffer	488 ton CO ₂
310 (2012 AR) + 178 (2013 AR)	
Total certificate sales to date	1608 ton CO ₂
Balance of unsold certificates (1008 ton CO₂ and 151 ton CO₂)	1159 ton CO₂

Table 5: Summary of monitoring results

Farmer No	Producer/ Producer Group name or ID number3	Area (ha)	Total number of Trees	Percentage of area under sampling	Sample Area	Number of Plants Monitored in Sample Plot	Number of dead Plants	Survival rate (%)
P1 -2009-225-01	Karunadasa	0.404	173	50%	0.202	80	7	93
P1 -2009-225-02	UpulRanaweera	0.404	457	50%	0.202	194	35	85
P2-1210-225-01	AjithNiranjan I	0.455	246	50%	0.228	49	74	40
P2-1210-225-02	AjithNiranjan II	0.455	242	50%	0.228	45	76	37
P2-1210-225-04	G.G Dalapala	0.405	277	50%	0.203	68	71	49
P2 1210-225-05	G. Weerasinghe	2.43	1576	50%	1.215	441	347	56
P2-1210-225-07	W.G. Gunasiri	0.425	209	50%	0.213	61	44	58
P2-1210-225-08	S. H. Subasena	2.83	1642	50%	1.415	558	263	68
P2-1210-225-09	T.P.G Sunil	0.202	285	50%	0.101	104	39	73
P2-1210-225-10	P L Wijedasa	1.62	810	50%	0.810	312	93	77
P3-2011-225-01	L.Wijesekara	1.45	600	50%	0.725	153	147	51
P3-2011-225-02	P L Jayasena	0.405	300	50%	0.203	98	52	65
P3-2011-225-03	K. H. Nalin Kumara	0.405	300	50%	0.203	53	97	35
P3-2011-225-04	P.L Amarapala	0.607	450	50%	0.304	162	63	72
P3-2011-225-05	P. L Kumaradasa	0.202	150	50%	0.101	61	14	81

8.1 Monitoring overview

The monitoring process this year involved taking a random sampling of each producer's parcel through a series of sample plots. We counted the number of trees found in the plot center. This year's payments were based on the survival rates of the plants.



Due to the severe drought during the last few months, the weaker plants have died. However, according to the farmer contracts, they are obliged to replace dead plants on their own after the 1st gap filling process. The monitoring team has identified a few farmers who have already started replacing the dead trees and therefore, the project coordinators decided to give more time to the others to complete the replanting.

To overcome this negative aspect, the project will distribute more mature seedlings in future and introduce more effective protection for young plants.

9 PES update

9.1 Payments to producers

The following is a table of the total producer payments for this year 2013. These payments include the gross payment minus the payment deductions made for not meeting the set Key Performance Indicator (KPI) for the producers. However, the amount deducted from their payment will be paid as soon as they fulfill the conditions according the prior agreement.



Table 6: PES payments to producers to date Payments to date

Farmer No	Farmer Name	Payment year 2012 August to 2013 December		Payment up to August 2012	Total up to December 2013
		Payment up to now (Rs)	Payment up to now (\$)		
P1 -2009-225-01	Karunadasa	7756	58.76	58.73	117.49
P1 -2009-225-02	UpulRanaweera	18739	141.96	141.68	283.64
P2-1210-225-01	AjithNiranjan I	4785	36.25	57.81	94.06
P2-1210-225-02	AjithNiranjan II	4362	33.05	55.96	89.01
P2-1210-225-03	W Ariyaratne	-	-	9.19	9.19
P2-1210-225-04	G. G. Dalapala	7408	56.12	81.03	137.15
P2 1210-225-05	G. Weerasinghe	44008	333.4	352.37	685.77
P2-1210-225-07	W.G. Gunasiri	5273	39.95	34.67	74.62
P2-1210-225-08	S. H. Subasena	49362	373.96	273.78	647.74
P2-1210-225-09	T.P.G Sunil	10607	80.36	89.93	170.29
P2-1210-225-10	P L Wijedasa	30346	229.89	216.67	446.56
P3-2011-225-01	Leelaratna Wijesekara	14413	109.19	125.21	234.4
P3-2011-225-02	P L Jayasena	8563	64.87	66.13	131
P3-2011-225-03	K. H. NalinIndra Kumara	6011	45.54	61.37	106.91
P3-2011-225-04	Liyanage Amarapala	16159	122.42	137.28	259.7
P3-2011-225-05	P. L Kumaradasa	6140	46.51	45.88	92.39
P3-2011-225-06	P.P.G. Albert I	855	6.43	-	6.43
P3-2011-225-07	P.P.G. Albert II	1425	10.71	-	10.71
P3-2011-225-08	P.P. Siripala	1305	9.81	-	9.81
P3-2011-225-09	P.L. Seneviratne	1215	9.14	-	9.14



P3-2011-225-10	W.A. Sardhasena	2055	15.45	-	15.45
P3-2011-225-11	Lasika	1770	13.31	-	13.31
P3-2011-225-12	H.L. Ananda	1725	12.97	-	12.97
P3-2011-225-13	KaluAia	1665	12.52	-	12.52
Total		245948	1862.56	1807.69	3670.25



10 Ongoing Community Participation

In order to clearly communicate with the project participants, Conservation Carbon Company along with RRI implemented the following:

10.1 Planting manuals

We provided producers with planting manuals detailing the planting pattern, measurements and tree species to ensure effective education for the farmers on key aspects of the project. This helped significantly speed up the process and avoid confusion among producers.

10.1.1 Community meetings

Community based meetings regarding the bio-link project were once in last three months. The minutes of the meeting are included in the annexure.

10.1.2 Issues raised in community meetings

In discussion with the participants, they often asked us to give fruit trees, commercially valuable timber trees and an increase in payment. Project coordinators have decided to provide more native fruit trees which have an ecological enhancement as well.

11 Breakdown of operational costs

The following table provides an overview of all operational costs connected to the project pilot phase from the 1st of December, 2012 –31st of December, 2013.

Expense	Description	Cost (US\$)
Project salaries	Project officers payments	3195.49
Travel	Travel to project site	299.62
Stationary& other expendable	Accommodation/food	868.45
Training	Farmer Training programmes	601.50
Total		4,965.07



12 Future Development

12.1 Developing Community Based Organizations

CCC and RRI are still in the process of developing a Community Based Organization (CBO). The CBO will consist of all project farmers within the community. Once the CBO is well established, it will be the main community interface for project activities including monitoring and evaluation with project field staff.

12.2 Scaling up

We aim to scale up from 11 to cumulative 50 hectare by next year's planting season. We will make this increment depending on the demand from producers and buyers alike. We are confident that our organization is ready for a change in scale.

The Hiniduma Bio- Link Project Team

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