ECOTRUST
The Environmental Conservation Trust of Uganda

Trees for Global Benefits

2013 Plan Vivo Annual Report

SEED Awards 2013 WINNER

UNEP UNDP IUCN

December 2013

The Environmental Conservation Trust of Uganda (ECOTRUST)
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1. Summary

Reporting period		January to December 2013
Technical specifications in use		Woodlots – *Maesopsis emnii* - AFM-TB02-01[1]
Area under management (ha) i.e. implemented *plan vivos* 3168.236	**Areas put under management since last report (ha)** 395.236	
Smallholders with *plan vivos* and PES agreements (total for project) 2526	**New smallholders with PES agreements since last report** 402	
Community groups with *plan vivos* and PES agreements (total) Nil	**New groups with PES agreements since last report** Nil	
Plan Vivo Certificates issued to date		**568,119tCO2**
Submission for Certificate Issuance for new areas under management (tCO2)		**81,592 tCO2**

[1] http://www.planvivo.org/content/fx.planvivo/resources/UgandaTechSpecMaesopsis.pdf

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2. Key Events, Developments and Challenges

Trees for Global Benefits Programme is a cooperative carbon offsetting scheme linking small scale landholding farmers to the voluntary carbon market based on the Plan Vivo standard. TGB which was initiated in 2003 with 33 farmers in the districts of Rubirizi and Mitooma was works as a Programme of Activities introducing new communities and new activities through the development of technical specifications. This report covers the progress of implementation of activities for the project year January to December 2013.

2.1 Key Events

2.1.1 Heavy Rains and Floods in Kasese

During this reporting period, one of the project areas: Rwenzori Mountains experienced heavy rains leading to extensive floods. The floods that led to loss of lives including a farmer coordinator (Kitayengha from Muramba village) and temporary displacement of hundreds of households also affected some of the farms under Trees for Global Benefit. A total of 29 farms were affected by the floods, five of which were completely swept away. The project is working with these farmers to assist them with funds from the Carbon Community Fund to replace the lost trees. Table 1 below shows a list of farmers affected by the floods

	NAME[2]	SUB-COUNTY	YEAR	Trees at Monitoring	COMMENTS
1.		Maliba	1	22	
2.		Maliba	1	70	
3.		Maliba	1	19	
4.		Maliba	1	32	
5.		Maliba	1	24	
6.		Maliba	1	34	
7.		Maliba	1	10	
8.		Karusandara	1	70	
9.		Maliba	1	241	
10.		Maliba	1	149	
11.		Karusandara	1	360	
12.		Bugoye	1	180	The rest of the trees were lost in the floods
13.		Maliba	1	297	
14.		Maliba	1	578	The garden the flooded & the trees are in poor condition although not lost He should reduce

[2] Due to data protection regulations, the names of participants have been taken out of the public version of this report

					target to 400 due to spacing
15.		Karusandara	1	50	the garden couldn't be reached because of the floods , all the trees were swept away
16.		Maliba	1	38	trees taken by floods and he has no where to plant others
17.		Bugoye	1		
18.		Maliba	1		
19.		Bugoye	1		
20.		Maliba	1		
21.		Bugoye	1		
22.		kilembe	1		not yet monitored
23.		Buwatha	0	0	
24.		Buwatha	0	0	
25.		Karusandara	1		
26.		Maliba	1		
27.		Maliba	1		
28.		Maliba	1		
29.		Rukoki	1		not yet monitored

The project is still holding discussions regarding what action is necessary (and feasible) for the gardens that were completely swept away yet the farmers are still interested in participating in the project.

2.2 Key developments

2.2.1 TGB Wins UN SEED Award

In October 2013 Trees for Global Benefit won a UN SEED Award for being an exceptional social and environmental low carbon enterprise. The Award recognises TGB's achievements in innovation and entrepreneurship so far, its promising efforts to promote economic growth, social development and environmental protection in Uganda, and not least the potential of its partnership to inspire others. The Founding partners of the SEED Initiative are UNEP, UNDP and IUCN. The 2013 Low Carbon SEED Awards were supported by the International Climate Initiative (ICI) of the Germany Federal Ministry for the Environment, Nature Conservation and Nuclear Safety (BMU). A letter of notification for this award is attached as appendix I

2.2.2 Third Party Verification

The project has undergone a third party audit by Rainforest Alliances to assess the conformance of The Trees for Global Benefits Project Afforestation project in Uganda against the Plan Vivo Standard. The objectives of this audit included an assessment of the project's conformance with the standard criteria. In addition, the audit assessed the project with respect to the baseline scenarios presented in the project design document. This has been concluded and a validation statement is expected in Jan 2014

2.2.3 Validation of new sites

The project initiated the process of subjecting third party validation to the new project sites of Northern Uganda and Mt Elgon as well as new project activities (Improved Forest Management). The completion of this process is still pending the approval of the technical specifications.

2.2.4 Solvatten – Solar Water Heating Technology

Building on experiences from the afforestation scheme, ECOTRUST in partnership with Myclimate (a Swiss Foundation) and CHAIN (Community Health and Information Network) have launched a project that will promote access to safe water using the Solvatten technology. Solvatten is a solar water purification system (a patented, scientifically proven Swedish invention, which uses solar energy (pasteurization and UV), filtration and turbulence to treat contaminated water from microorganisms, which cause waterborne diseases).

The intention of the project is to provide and increase access to safe water through the sale and distribution of Solvatten - an affordable water purification technology in rural and urban communities. The launch follows a successful pilot study in Masindi & Kampala (Kawempe), which proved that this technology meets the needs of both the rural and urban poor. The main attractions of this technology are its user friendliness and its cost effectiveness. It is a very simple gadget which the users fill with water and set out in the sun to treat the water. There is an indicator which turns from red to green once the water has been treated. By replacing the need for fuel wood with solar, the technology reduces energy costs of the household. Furthermore, it requires very little user attention and or supervision thus enabling one to attend to alternative chores. In addition, this technology is safe – no smoke is involved (hence no exposure to smoke related irritations such as itchy eyes, dizziness & headaches, shortness of breath, coughing bouts and running nose) which translates into a healthy population especially the females.

This project will not only be reducing the amount and demand of fuel wood and charcoal used by Communities but also support access to safe water.

2.2.5 Creation of a carbon Bank

With funding from UNDP Regional Office, ECOTRUST has embarked on a process to develop a carbon bank; a type of revolving fund that will support local communities' access to ecosystem markets. The facility will be established on lessons learned from the

implementation of Trees for Global Benefit, now it in its tenth year. In addition to supporting the expansion of the TGB, the carbon bank will act as a mechanism through which similar initiatives are supporting to achieve scale and become viable. This facility will also build on ECOTRUST existing infrastructure, particularly its institutional structure as a Trust with strong fiduciary responsibility as well as its links to establishing local financing centres, where farmers can access their money from carbon payments.

2.2.6 Communal Land Titles for Ongo Communal Land Association

Following the registration of Communal Land Associations for the two forests of Ongo and Alimugonza, the project has continued to work with Masindi district local government to facilitate the acquisition of land titles for the two forests. During this reporting period, the project has managed to process deed polls for Ongo Communal Forest. These have been submitted by the district to the Ministry of lands for issuance of the title deed. This has been made possible with support from Myclimate. A detailed report of the Improved Forest Management project is attached in appendix II

2.2.7 Introducing 'Mayi Sitovu' an Improved Cook Stoves for Rural Households

The project has partnered with the Local Governments of Mbale, Manafwa and Bududa, through a consultative process developed Mayi Sitovu, an Improved Cook Stoves (ICS) carbon scheme. The widespread introduction of ICS is a natural complement to Trees for Global Benefits, a carbon sequestration tree scheme, linking growing farmers to the voluntary carbon market. The two strategies combined will greatly reduce on deforestation and thus reduce emissions of Greenhouse Gases. Mayi Sitovu is intended to make access to clean energy affordable by rural households in the Mbale Region as a pilot but with provisions for scaling out throughout Uganda through carbon credits. Mayi Sitovu will promote fuel efficient wood and charcoal, fixed and portable institutional and domestic stoves.

The highly consultative process has been made possible with funding from the UNDP/ Ministry of Water and Environment implemented project: Territorial Approach to Climate Change (TACC) supported by DANIDA, DFID and UNDP. The proposed cook stoves scheme is one of the investment options under the Integrated Territorial Climate Plan (Plan) for the Mbale Region of Uganda in the Mt. Elgon Ecosystem. The local governments in the Mbale region word have been exemplary in coming up with an innovation to address a

national challenge and thus the use of the term Mayi, which symbolises Mother in Lumasaba.

2.2.8 Visits from Carbon Buyers

As part of the project strategies to ensure project transparency, the project has continued to encourage interaction between buyers and farmers. During the reporting period, Trees for Global Benefit hosted U& We Zero emission (Project Broker) and ARLA foods (a carbon buyer) - the largest Swedish Dairy Cooperative.

The guests visited the project sites of Kasese and Bushenyi. In addition to farms, they also visited several associations including Mubuku Integrated Farmers Association (MIFA), through which some of the farmers are recruited and village banks through which farmers are paid. The visitors were able to have a first-hand experience of the contribution of the project to climate change adaptation as well as the challenges faced by the Farmers (e.g. the flood victim of the May floods in Kasese) and the project implementers (e.g. accessing households in difficult to reach areas)

2.2.9 Collaborative Management Agreement between Communities in Bushenyi and National Forestry Authority

The farmers from Bushenyi have with facilitation from WWF signed a collaborative management agreement with the National Forestry Authority. Under this agreement, the farmers have licenses to grow trees for carbon sequestration under the Trees for Global Benefits programme. The conditions of the licence are in line with the terms of the Trees for Global Benefits.

2.2.10 Resource Use Agreements between Communities & Rwenzori Mountains National Park

With support from DANIDA through CARE International, the communities around Rwenzori Mountains National Park have facilitated to enter into Collaborative Resource Management arrangements with the National Park. This has involved the formation of Collaborative Resource use committee (an organised community group), which has been facilitated to negotiate agreements on a rights for responsibilities basis. The negotiations were preceded by participatory resource assessments to generate information leading to the establishment of sustainable off-take levels. Through the organised groups, the neighbouring communities will have access to the resources from inside RMNP. The communities will access, collect and use resources such as;

1. DRY BAMBOO STEMS FOR CONSTRUCTION
2. ASSORTED MEDICINAL PLANTS
3. MUSHROOMS
4. DRY WOOD (SIZABLE FOR FUEL WOOD)
5. VINES, ROPES AND SMILAX FOR CRAFTS
6. TRADITIONAL FOOT PATHS
7. CULTURAL SITES

2.3 Key challenges

2.3.1 Project Transaction Costs

The scaling out of the project to new communities especially in the Rwenzori area (and Mt. Elgon) has presented new challenges of communities located in very difficult to reach areas. Moreover the households in these new areas have small landholdings. The very steep terrain in the Rwenzoris and Mt. Elgon combined with small landholdings have significantly increased the cost of monitoring (and recruitment). For example, the project spent approximately US$300,000 to generate 81,000tCO2. If you reduce this by the project development/diversification costs and third party verification costs of approximately US$80,000. This leaves US$220,000 meaning that we spend US$2,75 to generate one tCO2. The certificate issuance fees brings this to US$3.15, which when combined with farmer payment of US$3.27 brings the total cost of generating a carbon credit to US$6.42

To address the challenges of transaction costs, the project has invested in diversification e.g improved cook stoves and solar water heaters. The solar water heaters are mainly targeting communities neighboring but not within the TGB while the cookstoves are targeting TGB communities. Once these projects achieve scale, they will all contribute to cost sharing of admin and monitoring costs. In addition, During 2014, the project will develop and test mechanisms (use of GIS/remote sensing, sampling methods, field - based monitoring teams etc.) that will make monitoring more cost effective while maintaining the quality.

2.3.2 Pest and Diseases

The project has continued to experience diseases especially Maesopsis (see image below). Termites have also continued to attack *Grevillea robusta* trees, and *Maesopsipis* has been attached by some unknown pests (although few gardens have been affected)

Diseased leaves of Maesopsis in Kasese

2.3.3 Land Tenure and Oil & Gas Developments

There is land insecurity in some project areas in Hoima fuelled by recent evictions of farmers in some neighboring communities. In addition, there is a lot of land grabbing and conflicts in the district due to speculation on the raising land value due to oil developments. Given the current oil developments, land scarcity & insecurity in neighboring areas and government future plans, recruitment was halted till further notice. There is need for these communities to be supported to secure their land ownership because.

2.3.4 Vandalism

Farmers in Hoima have reported incidences of vandalism of seedlings especially in the Boundary planting system. This is one of the most preferred option however, farmers are not adopting it. The reason given is that neighbors uproot the seedlings and potential farmers fear to loose their trees in future. The project is advising the farmers interested in this system to plant their trees 2-3 m away from their land boundary. However, there is need to consult the National Forestry Authority and the local governments to establish whether there are national guidelines that can be applied to guide TGB.

2.3.5 Degradation in the Forested Areas

The farmers have expressed concern regarding the high rates of deforestation in Hoima and Masindi districts especially due to clearing for sugar cane production. Farmers fear that if this degradation is not dealt with, it may lead to scarcity of forestry resources in future, threatening the sustainability of the trees on farm. This threat is expected to lead to pre-mature harvesting of the trees given the predicted tree resource scarcity in the district. The farmers have therefore requested the project to come up with urgent strategies to secure their trees. For example, the farmers have requested for the project to work with the local governments to develop bye-laws for tree protection/cooperation in case of arrests, get sign posts for each garden etc.

3. Activities, total project size and participation

3.1 Current Technical Specifications

The project has continued to use *Maesopsis emnii* technical specifications throughout the project area. There are some farmers that have been recruited based on draft technical specifications. However, these have not yet been submitted for certificate issuance.

During the reporting period, the project visited 788 out of which 19 had their plan vivos not approved due to either insufficient land or presence of land wrangles. Out of the 769 with approved Plan Vivos, a total of 402 farmers have been recruited bringing 395.236ha of farmland under improved management. The rest have also started implementing project activities but they have not yet the first project milestone and have therefore not been included in the list for certificate issuance. This brings the total number of farmers participating in the project to 2526 and total land area under improved management to 3168. The majority of the farmers have continued to come from Kasese District (199 farmers out of the total of 402 farmers). The detailed list of farmers that have been recruited and their monitoring results is attached in appendix 3

The table 1a below indicates the total number of producers whose plan vivo were verified while Table 1b shows that met their first milestone, Table 1c shows farmers that met milestone but are based on draft technical specifications while Table 1d shows those whose plan vivos were approved but they never qualified for the first payment. All farmers that have been submitted for certificate issuance are applying *Maesopsis emnii* technical specifications

Table 1 a) TOTAL NUMBER OF FARMERS WITH VERIFIED PLAN VIVOS

District	Number of farmers	Hectares
BUDUDA	50	32.7921
BUSHENYI	70	62.9
HOIMA	237	241.25
KASESE	205	185.886
MANAFWA	12	11.9947
MASINDI	186	192
MBALE	28	24.576073
	788	**751.398873**

Table 1b Total Number of Producers and Land (in ha) Meeting the first Milestone

District	Producers	Hectares
Hoima	72	81.75

Kasese	199	184.586
Mitooma	4	2.5
Rubirizi	49	43.4
Masindi	78	83
	402	**395.236**

In addition, the project has recruited farmers based on draft technical specifications on the Mt Elgon area. This is list has not been submitted for issuance of certificates because it is still pending approval of technical specifications

Table 1 c): Farmers Recruited ***Based on Draft Technical specifications***

District	Number of farmers	Acreage	Expected Trees	Trees monitored	Total Expected CO2	90% Saleable
BUDUDA	32	23.8621	7232	7397	0	0
MBALE	20	21.26	6068.00	4390.00	0.00	0.00
MANAFWA	7	6.1	1865	1334	0	0
	59	**51.2198**	**15165**	**13121**	**0**	**0**

Table 1 d): Farmers with Approved Plan Vivos who did not meet Target

	Number of farmers	Area (Ha)	Targeted Number of trees	Trees monitored	Total Expected CO2	90% Saleable
BUDUDA	18	8.93	2784	1426	2048.319	1843.487
BUSHENYI	17	17	6800	1938	3899.375	3509.438
HOIMA	146	159.5	63800	10778	36585.31	32926.78
KASESE	6	1.3	520	1620	298.1875	268.3688
MANAFWA	5	5.8947	1768.41	1688	1352.097	1216.887
MASINDI	108	109	43600	14466	25001.88	22501.69
MBALE	8	3.32	1083.67	522.00	761.15	685.04
	308	**304.943073**	**120356.0846**	**32438**	**69946.32**	**62951.69**
Farmers whose Plan Vivos were not approved						
HOIMA	19					

4. Submission for Plan Vivo Certificate Issuance

Table 2 Number of farmers whose plan vivos were approved and achieved the first milestone per district

	Number of farmers	Area (Ha)	Targeted Number of trees	Trees monitored	Total Expected CO2	90% Saleable
Farmers Meeting First Payment Target						
BUSHENYI						
Kanyabwanga	4	2.5	1000	1439	573.4375	516.0938
Katanda	12	9.5	3800	6035	2179.063	1961.156
Kichwamba	37	33.9	13920	19060	7775.813	6998.231
	53	**45.9**	**18720**	**26534**	**10528.31**	**9475.481**
HOIMA						
Buseruka	4	4.25	1700	1022	974.8438	877.3594
Kabwoya	2	2	800	441	458.75	412.875
Kiziranfumbi	26	28.5	11400	6794	6537.188	5883.469
Kyangwali	40	47	18800	11659	10780.63	9702.563
	72	**81.75**	**32700**	**19916**	**18751.41**	**16876.27**
KASESE						
Kilembe	199	184.586	102834.4	72255	42339.41	38105.47
MASINDI						
Budongo	15	17	6800	5471	3899.375	3509.438
Bwijanga	8	8	3200	2553	1835	1651.5
Karujubu	19	21.5	8600	6449	4931.563	4438.406
Nyangahya	21	21	8400	6526	4816.875	4335.188
Pakanyi	15	15.5	6200	4500	3555.313	3199.781
	78	**83**	**33200**	**25499**	**19038.13**	**17134.31**
GRAND TOTAL	**402**	**395.236**	**187454.4**	**144204**	**90657.26**	**81591.53**

5. Sales of Plan Vivo Certificates

During the annual reporting period (2012), the project has sold 36,655 tCO_2 to various buyers as indicated in the table 3a below. This includes 4878tC)2 from vintage 2010.

Vintage	Name of purchaser/source of funds	Number of Plan Vivo Certificates purchased	Price per Certificate	Total amount received ($)
2010	GraniteFiandre Spa	4600		
2010	CoTAP	208		
2010	Climate Path Ecologic Fund	70		
2013	Max Hamburger	5610		
2013	Northern Uganda Agricultural Livelihoods Recovery Programme and Karamoja Livelihoods Programme	107		
2013	Royal Danish Embassy in Uganda	196		
2013	Arla	21308		
2013	Arla	2975		
2013	Classic Africa Safaris	81		
2013	Kampala Aero Club and Flight Training Center	1680		
		36835		

Table 3a: Sales for the reporting period January to December 2013

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

The current sales bring the total number of certificates sold over the years to 526,275.34tCO2 broken down as follows:

Table 3b: Total Number of Certificates sold since project inception

Year	**tCO_2**	**Price/t CO_2 ($)**	**Total Price**
before 2008	57930.27		262265.5
2008	80428.3		481243.9
2009	38717	0	238914.1
2010	90,879	0	573,763
2011	72250		384173
2012	149305.77	0	741772
2013	36835		217960
	526,345.34		**2,900,091.5**

The detailed information on buyers, respective volumes are found in appendix 4 – list of buyers and the respective volumes purchased and total price paid.

In addition, the project has generated 45,359tCO_2 in unsold stock that should be issued in ECOTRUST account in the Markit Registry. This brings the total unsold stock the project has generated to **116,054.77tCO2** as indicated in the table 3c below.

Vintage	Number of certificates
2010	780
2011	66,562
2012	3,353.77
2013	45,359
	116,054.77

Table 3c: Balance of unsold stock for vintages 2010 to 2013 at 13 December 2013

6. Summary of Monitoring Results

6.1 Monitoring Results

Monitoring is a continuous activity and is part and parcel of the routine project activities. The project has continued to monitor the performance of the farmers that have been recruited by the project. Table 4a below shows the summary of number of farmers monitored arranged according to years (0-10) for the respective districts, while table 4b shows summary of the number of producers who met their monitoring targets and those who did not. Details of the monitoring results are shown in Appendix 5

Table 4a): Summary of continuing producers visited in 2013

District	**Number of carbon Producers Monitored**					
	Year 0	Year 1	Year 3	Year 5	Year 10	
Bushenyi	223	123	107	50	55	
Masindi	169	13	7	25		
Hoima	204	61	8			
Kasese	200	478				
Total	**796**	**675**	**122**	**75**	**55**	**1723**

In summary, a total of 1,723 producers were visited in all the project areas this year. Of these, 1122 farmers met their respective target while 601 farmers did not. The main reason for not meeting target has been failure to keep up with required land size. The majority of farmers had the required number of trees but with wrong spacing. Farmers have been trained in the required agroforestry practices, placing an emphasis on the need for thinning. They have been requested to conduct the thinning according to the technical specifications and to increase the land size under tree growing to the one in the approved Plan Vivo. Out of the 601 farmers not meeting target, 235 farmers were in year 0 and have therefore not had their credits issued until they meet their targets. The detailed monitoring report is in appendix IV

Table 4b: Performance of Monitored Producers in Meeting the Project Monitoring Targets

District	Kasese		Hoima		Masindi		Bushenyi	
	Yes	**No**	**Yes**	**No**	**Yes**	**No**	**Yes**	**No**
Year0	199	6	87	117	89	80	192	32
Year1	354	124	19	42	6	7	54	69
Year 3	-	-	6	2	6	1	57	50
Year5	-	-	-	-		25	32	18
Year 10	-	-	-	-			21	34
TOTAL	**553**	**130**	**112**	**161**	**101**	**113**	**356**	**203**

6.2 Observations and challenges

6.2.1 Cost of Monitoring

As mentioned in section 2.2.3 above, some of the project participants in the Rwenzoris and Mt. Elgon area are located in very difficult to reach areas. This has significantly increased the cost of monitoring. During 2014, the project will develop and test mechanisms that will make monitoring more cost effective.

6.2.2 Consistence in Land size

The main reason for high number of continuing farmers not meeting their expected target during this reporting period has been inconsistences in maintaining the size of land under Plan Vivo as indicated in their applications. The main reason for this relates with their understanding of gap filling. Usually at the start of the project, farmers plant more than the required number of trees for the land size. This is intended to avoid gap filling so that the trees of the same age. However, it was observed that in many the trees that do not survive are from the same part of the garden. In some cases the farmer may still have the required number of trees. However, these would not be at the appropriate spacing and therefore not the land size indicated in the Plan Vivo. The main challenge here is that these farms are not conforming to the technical specifications in terms of spacing and their contractual obligations in terms of the land size under PV. However, in most of the incidences, the growth rates based on projected DBH have been achieved. This is because the projected growth rates were based on very conservative estimates. A number of measures have been put place in consultation with the farmers as follows:

a) The project has revised its monitoring protocols to include continuous monitoring of size of land under tree planting (see appendix VI).
b) The farmers that are below year five have agreed under the supervision of ECOTRUST to perform thinning filling. During monitoring, the project marked the all the trees that have been earmarked for thinning using tape
c) Where trees are insufficient, the farmers have agreed to plant more. Several that had converted that land to other use (especially Bushenyi) have applied to plant trees on government land. The community group has signed a Collaborative Management Agreement that entitles them to this land
d) The last resort will be to modify farmer agreements to include only the available land.

7. PES update

The project has continued to pay all producers that have complied with the minimum requirements following monitoring activities. Payments to farmers are made through their respective Banks and/or Village SACCOs/ Financial institutions where they hold individual accounts. In Masindi and Hoima, there are some farmers who have failed to identify a trustworthy SACCO but also are unable to maintain a regular bank account. ECOTRUST has made an arrangement with Barclays Bank to have those farmers paid directly from the ECOTRUST account with Barclays.

The tables 5a&b below show payment disbursements to farmers of the various project sites

Table 5a) Summary of payments to producers

Date	Site	Amount
18.01.2013	Kasese	6091.22
12.04.2013	Masindi	2319
"	Hoima	12,030
07.05.2013	Bitereko	1,127
"	Kiyanga	4,966
"	Katanda	3,728
"	Kichwamba & Ryeru	12,850
08.05.2013	Mbale	1,302
29.05.2013	Masindi	10,421
27.08.2013	Kasese	11,330.03
02.10.2013	Hoima	6,591
11.11.2013	Mbale	3,741.36
"	Bushenyi	13,,940.77
05.12.2013	Hoima	1,779.18
"	Masindi	942.26
"	Kasese	4,702.926
06.12.2013	Kiyanga	1,921.060
"	Bitereko	222.095
	Bunyaruguru/Ryeru	101.1764
	Katanda	361.456
'	Kasese	58620.71
"	Kichwamba	565.815
	TOTAL	**146,667.0584**

Table 5b) Amount for Seedlings received by producers

Date	Site	Amount
10.01.2013	Bushenyi	154.56
18.01.2013	Hoima	656.06
07.02.2013	Bushenyi	2,902.79
11.02.2013	Bushenyi	92.40
11.03.2013	Hoima	1,038.79
12.04.2013	Bushenyi	664.09
25.04.2013	Kasese	3,090.28
28.05.2013	Masindi	2,361.11
28.05.2013	Bushenyi	904.76
19.06.2013	Kasese	1,959.82
“	Hoima	2,064.14
“	Masindi	543.33
29.07.201	Bushenyi	574.56
“	Kasese	5,803.57
27.08.2013	Hoima	551.81
“	Masindi	901.90
11.09.2013	Kasese	6,299.69
12.09.2013	Hoima	1,722.03
“	Masindi	752.3
02.10.2013	Masindi	1,107.85
“	Kasese	1,897.73
08.11.2013	Hoima	2,633.82
26.11.2013	Bushenyi	1,061.23
26.11.2013	Hoima	733.26
05.12.2013	Kasese	8,016.53
“	Hoima	277.11
TOTAL		**48,765.52**

8. Ongoing Community Participation

8.1 Farmer Sensitization/Trainings and participation

8.2.1 Participation

A number of sensitization and training meetings and workshops were held in 2013 in most of the project areas. In addition to training farmers in routine seasonal activities and to enhance an in depth understanding of the plan vivo cycle, these meetings are also vital in building farmers' capacity to manage agro forestry enterprises on their private land. The capacity building areas include but not limited to; establishment of nurseries for good quality seedlings, general agro forestry practices, land use planning, group dynamics and Carbon community fund updates. The table 7a below shows a summary of the training meetings held by the project. A detailed training report is presented in appendix VII

Table 7a). Summary of number of participants aggregated by gender and sites

Details					
District	**Site/ Venue**	**No. of Trainings**	**No. of participants**	**Male**	**female**
Bushenyi	Bitereko (PV, CCF, Record keeping)	3	205	98	107
	Kiyanga (PV, CCF, Record keeping)	3	287	246	41
	Ryeru (PV,CCF, Record keeping)	3	183	145	38
	Kichwamba CCF,	4	272	216	56
	Katerera CCF,	1	175	149	26
Kasese	Ruboni (PV&CCF)	2	80	60	20
	Maliba (PV &CCF)	3	261	182	79
	Kilembe (PV&CCF)	2	254	128	126
	Karusandara (PV&CCF)	2	64	48	16
Hoima	Kyangwali(PV &CCF)	4	129	116	13
	Kabwoya (PV&CCF)	2	95	72	23
	Kiziranfumbi (PV& CCF)	2	121	83	38
	Buseruka (PV)	2	53	44	9
	Kaseeta(PV& CCF)	2	29	28	1
Masindi	Bwijanga (PV&CCF)	2	78	72	6
	Pakanyi (CLA, PV&CCF)	3	91	74	17
	Nyantozi (PV&CCF)	1	39	38	1
	Nyangahya (PV&CCF)	2	51	38	13
	Karujubu (PV&CCF)	3	111	92	29
	Kasenene.(PV&CCF, CLA)	2	107	81	26
	District Officials (CLA)	1	7	4	3
Mbale	Bubutsatsa (PV)	1	61		
	Mbale District Headquarters	1	35		

	Kaato	1	71		
	Wanale /Budwale (PV)	1	76		
Totals		**45**	**2935**	**2014**	**931**

8.2.2 Issues Raised During Meetings

The meetings are interactive and participatory ensuring that several issues are discussed and this encourages farmers to share experiences, challenges and it also gives them room to ask several questions which enhance further their understanding of the whole project. Participants from different sites highlighted a range of challenges and benefits as summarised in the table below.

i) Land Tenure

There is a lot of land tenure insecurity in most sites especially in Hoima (Kyangwali and Kaseeta) due to recent evictions related to gas and oil developments. Farmer coordinators have been instructed to be more careful and if possible halt the recruitment process in some of these sites to avoid risks related to recruitment of farmers. Some of the issues have nothing to do with displacements for road construction or refinery but due to speculation on expected increase in value of land as a result of the oil and gas developments. The farmers requested the project to support them to acquire land ownership certificates e.g. those processed by the district to ensure security of the land on which the trees are planted. A similar process is being piloted by Karitas in Kabwoya and Jane Goodall Institute, in Kiziranfumbi (mainly private forests).

ii) Inclusion of Private Forests in TGB

Farmers in Hoima who also have tenure to some pockets of forests (either as a clan or extended family) have requested for their inclusion in TGB. The project has held several discussions with them and they are open to managing these forests and sharing benefits with the rest of the community (even though ideally these are private forests). A survey on the effectiveness of PES payments in the conservation of these forests and concluded that this would result into significant benefits for biodiversity conservation. The study was conducted by IIED, NEMA, Chimpanzee Trust (to which ECOTRUST is a Trustee). Furthermore, the farmers in Hoima have rightly observed that the rate at which these private forests are being degraded presents a threat to the woodlots. They believe that once the communities runs out of wood resources from these un protected forests, their woodlots will be the next victims. It is therefore in the interest of TGB

iii) Oil & Gas Developments

The farmers affected by road construction in Kaseeta requested for support to plant tree in their newly acquired land so that they can meet their targets. The project is still assessing this request if it fits the CCF procedures.

iv) Pests & Diseases

Maesopsis at Year 1 & 2 are also drying (its suspected to be shoot die back). The farmers have requested for assistance if they are to continue adhering the technical specification that requires planting of 80% maesopsis

v) Timing of Seedlings supply

The farmers mentioned that some of the commercial nursery operators are delivering the seedlings late in the season with some being premature. This has led to poor survival and thus performance' leading to losses by the farmers and sometimes non-payment by the project. It was agreed that seedlings will be supplied before end of September and all farmers should be able to meet their targets by December 2013.

vi) Monitoring

All farmers in year 3 & 4 were trained on how to measure dbh at 1.3m above ground and informed on the need to thin out some trees. They were informed that prior to thinning, ECOTRUST staff will come and assist them identify trees for thinning.

vii) Requests for CCF

Karujubu community requested for funds to roof, floor, and plaster and buy windows and doors for a 2roomed staff quarter or buy plastic chairs and tents that they can rent out as an income generating activity or support to raise a community tree nursery bed.

viii) Minimum Land Size

The project has been emphasizing application of a minimum of 1ha land to participate in TGB and some farmers mentioned that is quite high. The farmers have requested the project to reduce it. They have also suggested that they could form planting groups in order to meet the 1ha target. The project is currently developing guidelines on how to effect this.

ix) Deforestation

Given the rate of deforestation, the few trees left/being planted will be targeted by encroachers. Farmers have requested for the project to advise if there are any plans to protect farmers' trees from encroachers. For example, are there bye laws in the project? There is an additional threat of farmers claiming their neighbours trees.

The project has been advising farmers to make sure that they leave 2-3m on their boundaries. There is need for the project to check if there are national guidelines on tree planting in boundaries and harmonise so that in future farmers will not lose their trees to the neighbours. On the issue of bye laws, the project explained to the farmers that the role of preparing bye-laws belongs to the local community/local government.

x) Weather

The farmers have complained that the rainy/sunny seasons have changed making it difficult to plan for the planting and other project activities e.g. trainings. The biggest challenge that faced Kasese famers were floods which swept away their gardens, 29 farmers gardens were affected(some gardens were completely taken while some apportion was affected). The floods were followed by a long dry spell, farmers who were due planting to reach the target

had to wait to plant until mid October when the rains appeared. These rains caused some small streams to flood and **one farmer** was killed (Kitayengha who was a our mobilize in Muramba village)

xi) Other Environmental Issues

The farmers responded positively to the request made by project staff to construct pit latrines to improve on household sanitation and also improve staff working conditions. The farmer coordinator informed the meeting that only 4households had not done this yet but they are aware.

The farmers reported that there was a lot of food, house destruction by wind? Is it possible to partner with Kinyara in sugar cane growing areas to encourage small scale tree planting?

8.3 Consultations to Design Benefit Sharing Model for Community Forests

The focus group discussions on benefit sharing with communities around Ongo was successfully conducted from 25-29 March 2013 with a team 4 Makerere University lecturers. The FGD were conducted at village level and involved male and female members and non-members of Ongo CLA & key informants. The findings will be shared with us in a report from which we will design an implementation plan. From the few discussions i had with the community, they are willing to cooperate with ECOTRUST in conservation/management of the forest. Just to mention the benefits requested for were both in kind & cash. what came up most was the need to help the community improve its soil fertility in order to avoid encroachment on forest land for agriculture and they suggested possible interventions e.g. train and support households to start using compost manure.., support income generating activities e.g. goat rearing, zero grazed diary cows etc. Some however requested for performance based payments from carbon sale which they will use to buy land!

In order to effectively implement the project activities, the implementing organization may borrow the concept used by the Mt. Elgon Region Conservation Programme (MERECP). In this model, three major components are entailed: (1) tree planting (afforestation and reforestation of degraded areas), (2) Forest protection through deforestation avoidance, and (3) A revolving fund for income generating activities. Households participate in replanting up to 5 ha of the degraded forest area, and the those households are allowed to establish fast growing trees in a plantation belt (30m wide strip around the forest) to which they are entitled full user rights, and hence can intercrop and harvest the produce (thinning) during the first 3 years. During the final harvesting, the beneficiary households are entitled to 70% of the harvested proceeds in cash while the 30% is deposited into the community revolving fund for undertaking other livelihood improvement activities (Mwayafu et al., 2012). A similar model (less the revolving fund) was implemented in some parts of Budongo forest where periphery communities under a collaborative forest management regimes were allowed to plant trees (pine and Eucalyptus) along the forest boundary.

8.4 Capacity Building for Field Project Partners

With support from ECOAGRICULTURE Partners, the project conducted an assessment of capacity gaps for the project implementing partners and developed a training manual for the building if this capacity. Furthermore, the project has been training the partners in Mt. Elgon, the newest project site in plan vivo project management.

Issue	Resolution
Farmer Payments (dictating banks on producers, delayed payments)	Each producer makes a decision on which bank s/he would like to use. The project through the coordinators will continue advising farmers on the benefits of using village banks
	Project to develop and maintain a proper consistent monitoring schedule ahead of time to avoid delays in monitoring Monitoring results will be discussed with the coordinators while ECOTRUST staff are still in the field to avoid the inconsistencies and delays caused by cross-checking of information. The information will be submitted to the accounts department in a timely manner
Monitoring (inconsistencies in monitoring results leading to decline in performance)	Farmers monitoring other farmers will always do so if they pair up with ECOTRUST staff.
	The list of farmers to be monitored will be generated by the database manager and sent to the coordinators ahead of time for mobilisation
Inconsistencies in seedlings supply list (some farmers who are not part of the project receive seedlings on credit and suppliers expect project to pay.	The coordinators should always ensure that the right farmer / producer is supplied the right amount of seedlings, The coordinators should familiarise themselves with the seedlings right procedures including records keeping. Only farmers authorised by the coordinators should be picking seedlings

9. Breakdown of Operational Costs

Below is a breakdown of all operational costs connected to the project, for the reporting period:

Table 8. Breakdown of operational costs

2012 costs	Total Cost	From Carbon sales	Other sources	
3rd party Verification	14,045	7,045	7,000	
Staff time	120,000	87,632	32,368	Support from UNDP TACC
Monitoring & farmer capacity building	39,259	32,483	6,776.25	
Office running costs	35,000	15,000	20,000	
Vehicle	20,755	17,273	3,482	
Project Devt	66,147	0	66,147	
Coordinators	4,413.22	4,413.22	0	
Other travel	4000	4000	0	
Total	**303,619.22**	**167,846.22**	**135,773.25**	

10. Future Development

10.1 Expansion to Mt. Elgon

The project will continue with its plans to extend the project to the Mt. Elgon Area. Activities to extend the project include completion of technical specifications and capacity building for the communities to participate in the project activities.

10.2 Piloting of an Improved Cookstoves Project

In consultation with the Local Governments of Mbale, Manafwa and Bududa, the project has designed another carbon scheme Mayi Sitovu improved cook stoves (ICS) carbon scheme has been developed through. The highly consultative process has been made possible with funding from the UNDP/ Ministry of Water and Environment implemented project: Territorial Approach to Climate Change (TACC) supported by DANIDA, DFID and UNDP..Generation of baseline information, business model, project registration and piloting has been financed by the TACC project. The proposed cook stoves scheme is one of the investment options under the Integrated Territorial Climate Plan (Plan) for the Mbale Region of Uganda in the Mt. Elgon Ecosystem. The ICS project is intended to make access to clean energy affordable by rural households in the Mbale Region as a pilot but with provisions for scaling out throughout Uganda through carbon credits. The widespread introduction of ICS is a natural complement to the promotion of tree growing throughout the region. The two strategies combined will greatly reduce on deforestation and thus reduce emissions of Greenhouse Gases.

10.3 Piloting Improved Forest Management

The project will finalise all the preparations for implementing a scheme for improved forest management for the communities in Masindi District. This will include; finalising the title of communal ownership and continuing to pilot the benefit sharing mechanism.

10.4 Completion of Third Party Validation

The project has in 2013 started the process of validation of the new sites (Mt Elgon & Northern Uganda) as well as validation of new activities (Improved Forest Management.

Appendix II A detailed report of the Improved Forest Management project

"Improved Management of Riverine Community Forests – Alimugonza and Ongo Communal Forests, Masindi District, Western Uganda"

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November 2013

Introduction

The Environmental Conservation Trust of Uganda (ECOTRUST) with support from Myclimate has been conducting activities to integrate improved forest management in the Trees for Global Benefits programme in Masindi. Trees for Global Benefit Program (TGBP) is a carbon off-set scheme assisting small-scale landholder farmers to access the voluntary carbon market using a plan vivo system. TGBP has been implemented in Masindi District since 2007 mainly focusing on aforestation. However, several communities have over time expressed interest in including improved forest management in the activities supported by TGB

It is upon this background that Myclimate offered support to ECOTRUST to develop a project to *Improving the Management of Riverine Forests* using the two communal forests of Alimugonza and Ongo as pilots".

Under this support, Myclimate provided US$20,000 (as a mark up of US$2 per unit tone of CO2 purchased) to improve the management of community forests in Masindi District starting with Ongo and Alimugonza Community Forests. The project is designing a scheme that will promote activities that contribute to reducing the degradation of the Community Forests. The project is designed to promote improved managed activities as well as quantifying the avoided carbon emissions as a result these activities.

This report presents the progress of the planned activities between November 2012 and September 2013.

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Objective 1: Support improved Forest management/Protection

Following the various consultations with the communities the project has initiated some of the forest management activities and described in the respective management plans. This section of the report provides a description of some of the forest management activities that the communities have undertaken:

a) <u>Forest Boundary Demarcation and Maintenance</u>

As part of the process to secure legal ownership of the forests for improved management, the communities have been working with the district surveyor to produce detailed maps of the forests. The surveys for the two forests have now been completed and provide more accurate information on forest size. In addition, the boundaries have been demarcated, their GPS coordinates recorded and marked with cairns communities have Forest boundary clearly slashed & demarcated. The district surveyor is in the final stages of generating the deed poll, which will be submitted to the Lands and Survey Department in the Ministry of Lands to produce the Title Deeds.

b) Communal Land Association Meetings

Following consultative meetings with communities around Ongo communal forest, it was recommended that the group amends their constitution, hold regular meeting and account for all the funds they have received. The CLA leaders organized the 1st annual general meeting since 2005 and over 100 participants attended. This is a key step taken by the association to mobilize its members and re-assure them of their continued commitment to achieving their goal. It is also an indication of the impact of the meetings held in the community aimed at encouraging the community to join efforts in the management of the forest. During these meetings, the executive Committee of CLA provides progress on implementation of the activities planned as well as listening to issues and conflicts that may arise during the course of implementation and agree on a way forward in resolving the conflicts.

c) Community Sensitisation

During the process of forest boundary demarcation and mapping, it was discovered that some parts of the forests had been encroached upon, leading to some conflicts between the community and the Communal Land Association. This problem was more pronounced in the Ongo community leading to delays in completing the survey process which was suspended for sometime. These conflicts also affected the maintenance of most of the forest boundary. For Alimugonza, approximately 2acres of forest land were affected by this conflict between the encroacher and CLA members. ECOTRUST therefore invested in an awareness raising process coupled with community consultations and negotiations to address the conflict. The process involved discussions between the Communal Land Association, District Local Government, ECOTRUST and the general community. All parties involved resolved that the forest will maintain the original boundaries and the encroachers were given time limits within which they should have removed their crops from the forest. The awareness meetings have continued and they are mainly focusing on helping the community realise the benefits of maintaining the integrity of the forest for the provision of environmental services.

d) Addressing Deforestation

The project has conducted several consultative meeting in with the community has identified and ranked factors of deforestation that need to be addressed in order to reduce deforestation and degradation. The identified factors of deforestation are shown in the table below.

Table 1 The Deforestation and Forest Degradation Activities in Ongo forest

Deforestation/Degradation Activity (considering harvesting of both Timber and NTFPs)	FGD Groups (Frequency)		
	Men (n=6)	Women (n=3)	Total (n=9)
Land clearing for Agriculture-Tobacco nurseries, Tobacco, Rice, Cabbages, Bananas	6	2	8 (89%)
Harvesting poles for construction of houses, tobacco burns and stakes	6	1	7 (78%)
Charcoal burning	4	1	5 (56%)
Timber cutting	4	1	5 (56%)
Firewood collection for mainly subsistence use	2	1	3 (33%)
Collection of seedlings of trees and wild coffee		1	1 (11%)
Harvesting climbers for ropes (construction)	2		2 (22%)
Wild fires(uncontrolled fires resulting from hunting and sterilising tobacco nurseries)	2		2 (22%)
Sand mining	2		2 (22%)

Objective 2:Support non-destructive forest-based enterprises

a) Benefit Sharing model

Following the recommendation by communities to design a clear benefit sharing model , ECOTRUST in partnership with Makerere University conducted interviews to test the participatory based approaches for choosing benefits and benefit distribution system (BDS) formats. Makerere University's participation was made possible by the NORAD-funded project focusing on *Poverty and sustainable development impacts of REDD+*. A series of field-level experiments were conducted during March and April 2013 across four villages found in Kasenene parish, Budongo sub-county in Masindi district. A detailed report with information on the methodology and results from the activities, as well as an illustration of the complexities involved in determining the most appropriate benefit distribution formats at the local level has been produced. This is fundamental to ensuring the most appropriate BDS is designed to help incentivise future compliance under REDD+ at the local level. During the month of August 2013, the BDS was approved by the community & District leaders during the information dissemination workshops held at the district and community level.

b) Identification of enterprises to be supported

In addition to the forest protection activities, income-generating activities (IGAs) are part of the project design to improve local livelihoods. These supporting activities do not directly address the causes of deforestation, but they complement them. The community have been facilitated by the project to design IGAs. The process of identifying enterprises to be supported has been initiated through a call for proposals from the respective community groups. The project is also facilitating a process of developing revolving funds for the two CLAs. The model through which enterprises will be supported will be a loan scheme distributed through Village Savings and Loan Associations (VSLA). The project has invested in the capacity building of 5 VSLAs specifically in management of loans and savings. The VSLAs agreed to mobilise resources from their own member savings before they can receive external support. The project will strengthen existing saving clubs to be able to provide financial services to CLA members to boost their capital in IGA.

c) Securing tenure for the community forests

In collaboration with the District Local Government, the project is supporting the community to acquire title of communal ownership to the forests. The deed plans that are a pre-cursor to the issuance of the land title were prepared and approved by the Lands and Survey Department in the Ministry of Lands. The titles are expected to be issued by mid this 2014.

d) Access to the resources in the forest.

In addressing causes of deforestation, the community has also noted that the CLA needs to identify ways of either enabling regulated access to these resources or find alternative sources. The project is supporting

the community to establish sustainable off – takes. The table 2 below provides a list of resources that the community feels whose access should be regulated or compensated.

Table 2 Activities that Need to be regulated or addressed to reduce deforestation/degradation

Deforestation/ Degradation Activity	FGD Groups (Frequency)		
	Men (n=6)	Women (n=3)	Total (n=9)
Land clearing for Agriculture-Tobacco nurseries, Tobacco, Rice, Cabbages, Bananas	6 (67%)	2 (22%)	8 (89%)
Harvesting poles for construction of houses, tobacco burns and stakes	6 (67%)	1 (11%)	7 (78%)
Charcoal burning	4 (44%)	1 (11%)	5 (56%)
Timber cutting	4 (44%)	1 (11%)	5 (56%)

The community is in agreement that there is need to regulate/"stop" access to certain forest resources if we are to achieve the project goal of forest restoration. However, access to some very basic resources such as water should be left open. The community has agreed on specific days and time on which different households can access given amounts of specific resources They have also appointed members from within the community to be responsible for authorising resource access ie person who gives permission to access the resources in a regulated manneraccording to the agreed upon terms and conditions.

, ECOTRUST & district leaders held joint negotiations with the communities in August 2013, to identify means of support to facilitate REDD & ANR, which are the main project activities. In order to reduce pressure on the forest, it was agreed that the communities will be provided with seedlings to plant on their private land as a source of fuel wood, poles and timber. Furthermore, the project will facilitate Income Generating Activities as alternative sources of income.The communities will also be facilitated by the project to plant trees within the forest to increase the carbon stocks within the forest.

Objective 3: Develop Technical Specifications and establish a system to monitor avoided emissions

3.1 Baseline Assessment

The project conducted an assessment of the standing biomass and estimated the rate of deforestations using satellite imagery. The results for deforestation were compared with surveys conducted by other experts. The baseline assessment has indicated that the rate of degradation for the two forests is similar to what was observed by experts such as WCS in the five year period for the entire landscape. It is anticipated that the efforts of this project will reduce the currently rapid unplanned deforestation and forest degradation due to social, economic and market forces. The project is expected to provide a model through which activities in this forest can be regulated in a participatory manner. It is anticipated that the project will develop a mechanism that provides economic incentives to safeguard the remaining blocks of natural forest.

3.2 Technical Specifications

Following the surveys conducted in collaboration with Makerere University Faculty of Forestry and Nature Conservation, the project has initiated a process of developing technical specifications for the two forests. The technical specifications (currently in draft form) based on the plan vivo standard provide a methodology for determining carbon benefits of conserving community forests in Masindi district, Uganda focusing on Alimugonza and Ongo community forests as a pilot. The interventions seek to reduce and reverse the loss of forest cover and degradation of the forests. It will also facilitate the restoration of degraded forest patches by supporting community efforts to protect, undertake enrichment planting and enhance regeneration of the forests. Further still, the interventions will contribute to the additionality of project activities by providing the necessary funding to finance the development of sustainable and improved forest management.

Reducing emissions from deforestation and forest degradation (REDD) and Improved Forest Management through assisted natural regeneration (ANR) are the main project activities described in the technical specifications.

- REDD is the protection of dense or open forest threatened by deforestation and forest degradation. This activity directly reduces emissions from forest loss.
- ANR is the protection and management of open forest. This activity directly sequesters carbon.

The table below summarises the areas where the respective project activities will take place

Landcover types for where the Project Activities will take place

Land Cover	Area (ha)-2012 Alimugonza	Area (ha)-2012 Ongo	Area (ha)-2012 Total
Closed forest	14.6	64	78.6
Cultivated	8.8	42.8	49.6
Bushland		2.8	2.8
Degraded Forest		73.1	73.1
Open forest-natural	1.8	0	1.8
Open forest-Planted	3.1	0	3.8
Total	**28.3**	**182.7**	**209.7**

However, according to the final report by the district surveyor, the true the size of Ongo Forest is much less that this. The reduction on size was mainly due to lack of cooperation from the neighboring district in which part of the forest belongs. Furthermore, during the negotiations, the community agreed to leave out some of the land that had been encroached upon in order to reduce the level of conflict.

3.3 Monitoring & Evaluation

The project has developed monitoring protocols that will involve activities in permanent sample plots, which were established during the forest surveys. In addition to the regular community – based monitoring, the project will be subject to third party verification. The project has already undergone third party validation by Rainforest Alliance as part of the five year verification exercise of Trees for Global Benefits.

The office of the District Forest officer (DFO) and parish chief will meet with the community to guide them on formation of bye-laws to ensure that the project requirements on forest protection & management are met.

4. Challenges

The main constraint of this project has been the amount of investment that it has required to build consensus with all project participants. As is the case with all projects of a pioneering nature, consensus building can be quite costly. The project was being based on provisions that exist in the laws of Uganda but had never been piloted. This project has therefore provided a lot of lessons on how best these

provisions can be achieved. This however, also meant that there was a lot of consultation at each stage to ensure that none of the provisions has been misunderstood. These consultations have resulted into continuous modifications of project design a good number of times delaying the design of project documents and their implementation.

The community driven approach also has some challenges. For example the community decided that they will first build a savings culture among themselves to a point when they feel they are ready for external support. Experience has shown that the timing of the provision of seed capital at different stages of group formation can be critical to the sustainability of a VSLA.

5. FUTURE PLANS

1. **Support to VSLA** especially Capacity building in systems and procedures as well as provision of equipment needed to put in place these systems. They will also be supported with Seed grant based on the individual savings of each group
2. **Support to private forest owners**: Private forests form part of the…..ecosystem and offer connectivity for biodiversity with thin the albertine graben. Private forest owners have expressed interest to participate in TGB and have agreed to share benefits with the neighbouring communities. The project needs to support the aggregation of different pockets of forests neighboring each-other into one community forest. After they have formed community forests, then a the Ongo/Alimugonza model should be able to apply.
3. Support to forest management and restoration activities as guided by the management plan
4. Scaling out to more community forests within Masindi District

Appendix III: The detailed monitoring report

Trees for Global Benefits

2013 Monitoring Report

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Monitoring is a continuous activity and is part and parcel of the routine project activities. The project has continued to monitor the performance of the farmers that have been recruited by the project. This report presents a summary of the monitoring results submitted by each district coordinator

1.0 Masindi District

In January, the Monitoring exercise focused on newly recruited farmers (Yr.0). A total of 52 farmers were visited and only 13 qualified for payment. The figs below show number of farmers who qualified for payment/met target and those who did not, out of the total number visited in January.

Table 1. shows Farmers Monitored in January 2013

Year	Qualified	Did not	Total Monitored
Yr.0	13	39	52
Yr.1	0	0	0
Yr.3	0	0	0
Total	13	39	52

Fig 1. Farmers Monitored in January 2013

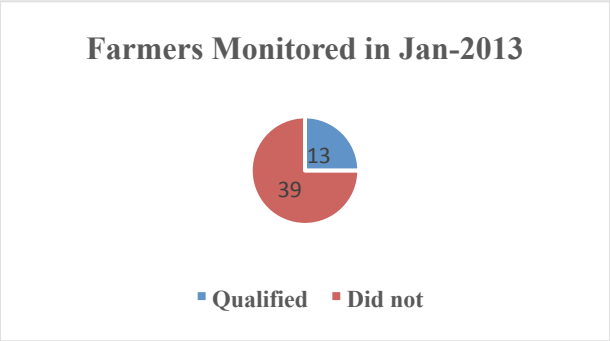
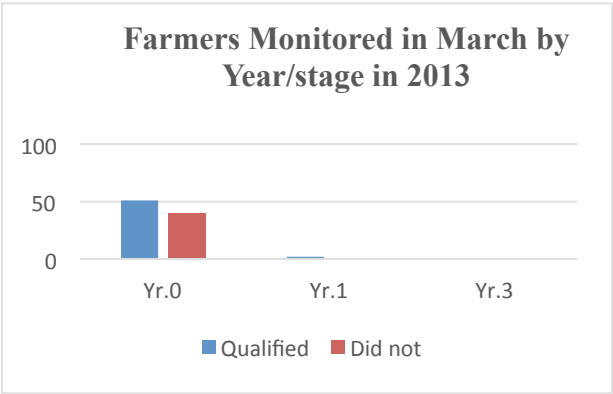


Table 2. shows farmers Monitored in March 2013

Year	Qualified	Did not	Total Monitored
Yr.0	51	40	91
Yr.1	2	0	2
Yr.3	0	0	0
Total	53	40	93

Fig 2. Farmers Monitored in March 2013

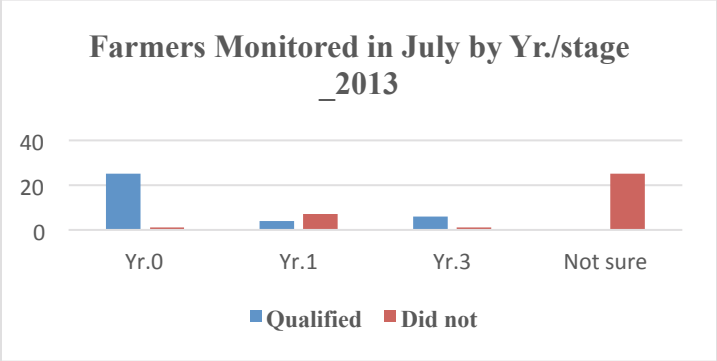


A total number of 93 farmers were monitored in March. Of those, two farmers qualified for payment in Yr.1. The rest were in Yr.0 and 51 qualified for payment as shown in table 2 above.

Table 3. Farmers Monitored in July 2013

Year	Qualified	Did not	Total Monitored
Yr.0	25	1	26
Yr.1	4	7	11
Yr.3	6	1	7
Not sure		25	25
Total	35	34	69

Fig 3. Farmers Monitored in July 2013

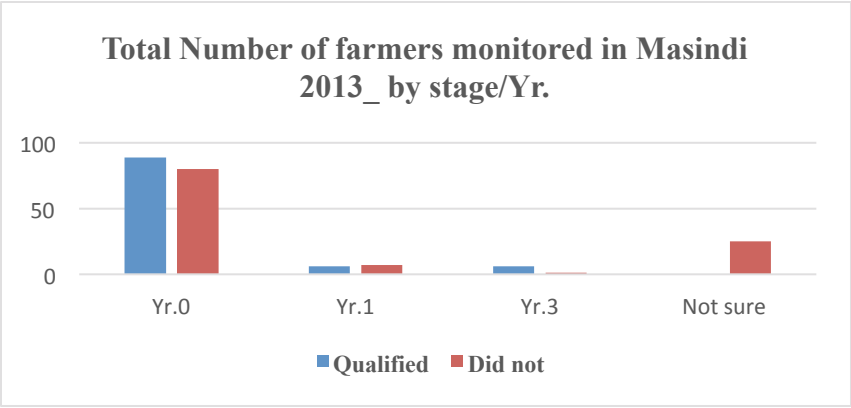


69 farmers were monitored in July (26, were in Yr.0, 11 Yr.1, 7 in Yr.3 and 25 did not indicate). Of the 69, 35 farmers qualified for payment.

Table 4. Shows overall total Number of farmers Monitored in Masindi_2013 by stage

Year	Qualified	Did not	Total
Yr.0	89	80	169
Yr.1	6	7	13
Yr.3	6	1	7
Not sure		25	25
Total	**126**	**88**	**214**

Fig 4. Shows overall total Number of farmers Monitored in Masindi_2013 by stage



Total number of farmers visited in Masindi in 2013 is 214. The highest number of participants visited was in Yr. 0 _169 farmers while the least was Yr3_7 farmers. Of the 214 visited, only 126 farmers qualified for payment

2.0 Hoima

Farmers Monitored in Hoima_2013 (Refer to tables or graphs both have similar information)

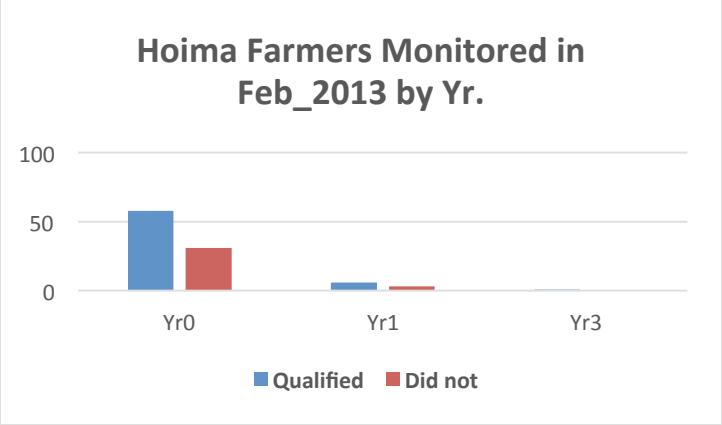
2.1 Farmers monitored in February 2013

The table below shows a total of 99 farmers monitored in January 2013, 65 qualified while the rest did not qualify for payment. A total of 89 were monitored in Yr0 and only 58 qualified for payment. 9 monitored for Yr1 and 6 qualified for payment 0nly one farmer was monitored for Yr3 and qualified for payment

Table 1: farmers monitored in February

Year	Qualified	Did not	Total Monitored
Yr0	58	31	89
Yr1	6	3	9
Yr3	1	0	1
Total	65	34	99

Figure 1: Farmers monitored in February



2.1 Farmers Monitored in July

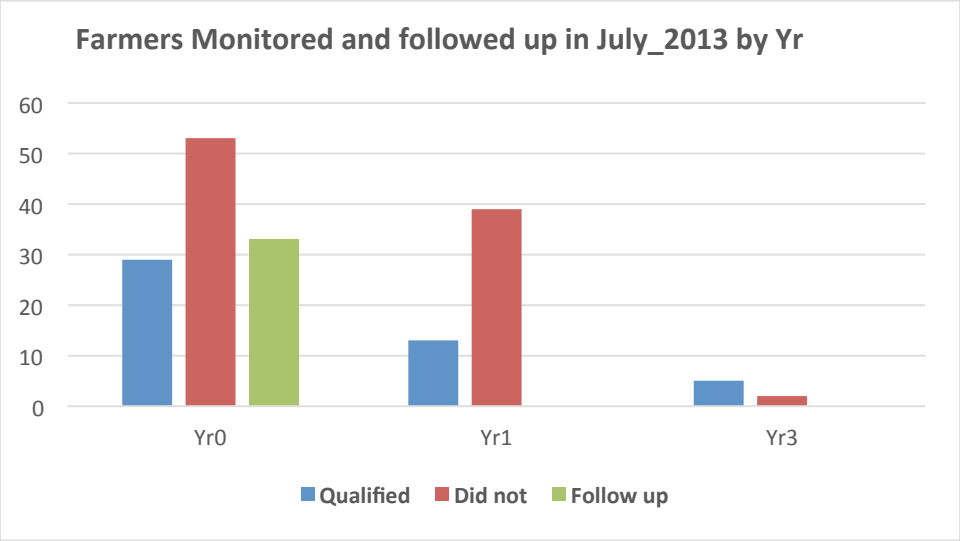
In July, 174 farmers were visited and of these, 33 were for follow up. Of those visited, 115 were for Yr0 and only 29 qualified for payment. 52 were for Yr1 and 13 qualified for payment & farmers were forYr3 and 5 qualified for payment. Therefore, 0nly 47 farmers qualified fpr payment in July out 174 visited

Table 2: farmers monitored in July

Year	Qualified	Did not	Follow up	Total Monitored
Yr0	29	53	33	115
Yr1	13	39	0	52
Yr3	5	2	0	7

Total	47	94	33	174

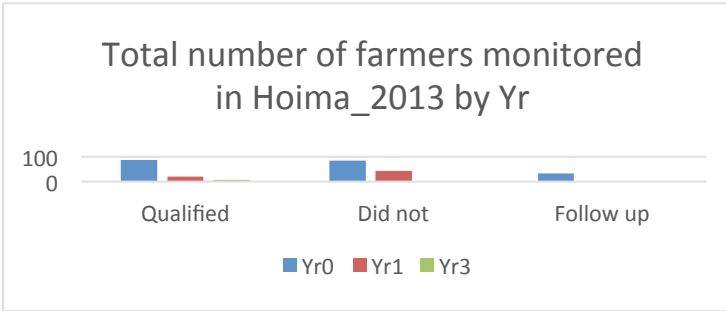
Figure 2 farmers Monitored in July



In total, 273 farmers were monitored in Hoima in 2013. Of the total monitored, 204 were in Yr0 (new recruits) and 87 of the qualified for payment while 33 were just followed up. 61 farmers were for Yr1 and only 19 qualified for payment, while out of the 8 farmers in Yr3, 6 qualified for payment

Total number of farmers monitored 2013 by Year

Year	Qualified	Did not	Follow up	Total Monitored
Yr0	87	84	33	204
Yr1	19	42	0	61
Yr3	6	2	0	8
Total	112	128	33	273



3.0 Bushenyi

Table 1: Farmers Monitored in Bushenyi Region in 2013

Sub-county	Year												
	Yr0		Yr1		Yr3		Yr5		Yr10		Not sure		
	Paid	Not paid	Paid	Not paid	Paid	Not paid	Paid	Not paid	Paid	Not paid	Paid	Not paid	**Total**
Bitereko	2	0	8	11	15	8	24	11	8	14			101
Kanyabwanga	4	0	0	0	0	3							7
Katanda	33	4	9	4	1	0							51
Katerera	0	0	1	0	1	1							3
Kichwamba	82	19	7	8	8	4	3	3	3	6			143
Kiyanga	30	8	19	24	22	16	3	3	5	9	6		145
Ryeru	40	1	10	22	10	18	2	1	5	5	2	1	117
Total	**191**	**32**	**54**	**69**	**57**	**50**	**32**	**18**	**21**	**34**	**8**	**1**	**567**
Yr. Totals	**223**		**123**		**107**		**50**		**55**		**9**		**567**

The table above shows total number of farmers monitored in Bushenyi distributed according to sub-counties as well as Year monitored. It also shows number of farmers who qualified for payment and those who did not. In total, 567 farmers were monitored in the whole of Bushenyi region in 2013. Of those, majority were from Kiyanga and Kichwamba, 145 and 143 respectively while the least was kanyabwanga and Katerera, 7and 3 respectively,

According to Year of monitored, majority (223) were Yr0, followed by Yr1 (123), followed by Yr3 (1070, followed by Yr10 (55) while the least monitored was Yr5 (50).

Of those monitored. 191 qualified for payment in Yr0, 54 qualified in Yr1, 57 qualified in Yr3, 32 qualified in Yr5, 21 qualified in Yr10 and of those whose Yr. is not indicated, 8 of them qualified for payment and only 1 did not.

Therefore of those who were monitored this year, **363 qualified** for payment while 204 did not qualify.

4.0 Kasese

In May, 147 farmers were monitored for Yr1 and In July **105** farmers were monitored for Yr1 and only 10 did not qualify for payment according. In August, 147 farmers were monitored for Yr0 and only 12 did not qualify for payment. 38 were monitored for Yr1 and qualified for payment. Therefore in total, 182 farmers were monitored in August. 76 farmers were visited in September- 53 Yr0 and 23Yr1. **In total, 513 farmers were visited for tree monitoring_200 Yr0 and 313Yr1**

Appendix IV: The detailed information on buyers, respective volumes

Buyer/PES funder[1]	Volume (tCO_2)
Arla	21308
Arla	2975
Bartlett Foundation	412
Blue Green Carbon	29
Camco	40000
Ceramica Sant Agostino Spa	424
Ceramica Sant'Agostino S.p.A	5270
Ceramica Sant'Agostino S.p.A	1615
City of London	220
Classic Africa Safaris	81
Classic Africa Safaris	167
Climate Path	100
Climate Path	70
COTAP	208
COTAP	596
Embassy of Denmark Kampala	414
Emil Ceramica Spa	125
Future Forest	10000
Gloria Kirabo	1
GraniteFiandre Spa	4600
Hambleside & Danelaw	1217
IIED	779
In2 Technology	23
In-2 technology	21.27
In-2 technology	22
In-2-Technology	23
INASP	168
INASP1	102
INASP2	133.29
Internatinal Lifeline Fund (thru UCB)	123
It's The Planet	600
KALIP	107
KALIP	160
Kampala Aero Club	1680
Kampala Aero Club and Flight Training Center	1332

Key Travel	24
Live Climate	250
Max Hamburger	60498
Max Hamburger	78892
Max Hamburger	55000
Max stock	5610
Mihingo Lodge	45
Mrs. Jo Childs	17
Myclimate	10000
Nedbank	30000
Northern Uganda Agricultural Livelihoods Recovery Programme and Karamoja Livelihoods Programme	62
One World	3.65
Pam Friend	17
Rob Harley	10
Royal Danish Embassy	196
Sandra Hughes	50
Sarah Hudges	54.3
Save Children	3.06
SPGS	77
Steffie Broer	40
Straight Plc	1100
Straight Plc	1000
Tetra Pak	15100
Tetra Pak	5000
Tetra Pak	10100
Tetrapak	10000
Tetrapak	11000
The Embassy of Ireland in Uganda	211
Tpk2003	11200
Tpk2004	9222
Tpk2005	10933
Tpk2006	5000
U&W	3400
U&W	28538
U&W	20590
U&W	2022
U&W	2786
U&W	2062

U&W	1155
U&W	11266
U&W	1001
U&W	265
U&W	2744
U&W Coop Denmark & other	3111
U&W NCC & other	11000
U&W1	22
U&W2	2550
U&W3	5625
Uganda Carbon Bureau (UCB)	199
Vinaio	5

Appendix V detailed training report

TREES FOR GLOBAL BENEFIT PROGRAMME

Training Report 2013

This the report summarises the training events conducted by the Trees for Global Benefit Programme for the year 2013

1.0 Summary of the Trainings conducts

1.1 Summary of training Masindi

Date	Sub county	Male	Female	Issues
February 2013	Pakanyi	20	3	-Global warming, Climate change -Plan vivo cycle -Farmers' monitoring status -Tree planting & management -Pest and disease Management -Fire & Drought management -Farming systems -CBO formation status -CCF and proposal writing
February 2013	Budongo (Kasenene)	39	6	
February 2013	Budongo (Nyantonzi)	38	1	
February 2013	Bwijanga	28	4	
February 2013	Nyangahya	19	10	
February 2013	Karujubu	33	18	
Total	**06**	**177**	**42**	
October 2013	Nyangahya	19	3	-Third party verification -Area measurement -Species mix -spacing -Global warming, Climate change -Plan vivo cycle -Farmers' monitoring status -Tree planting & management -Pest and disease Management -Fire & Drought management -Farming systems
October 2013	Karujubu-Kibwona Ward	25	2	
October 2013	Pakanyi	24	13	
October 2013	Bwijanga	44	02	
October 2013	Karujubu-Kihuba ward	34	9	
Total	**05**	**146**	**29**	
October 2013	Pakanyi (CLA)	30	1	-Boundary conflict management
August 2013	Budongo (Kasenene)-CLA	42	20	-Feedback on findings from the choice experiment
August 2013	District officials -CLA	4	3	-Feedback on findings from the choice experiment
Total	**03**	**76**	**24**	

1.2 Summary of the trainings done HOIMA

Date	Sub county	Male	Female	Issues
February 2013	Kyangwali	26	3	-Global warming, Climate change -Plan vivo cycle -Farmers' monitoring status -Tree planting & management -Pest and disease Management -Fire & Drought management
February 2013	Kyangwali	18	2	
February 2013	Kaseeta	14	1	
February 2013	Kabwoya	20	5	
February 2013	Kiziranfumbi	42	20	

February 2013	Buseruka	19	4	-Farming systems -CCF and proposal writing
Total	**6**	**139**	**35**	
September 2013	Kyangwali	35	1	-Third party verification -Area measurement -Species mix -spacing -Global warming, Climate change -Plan vivo cycle -Farmers' monitoring status -Tree planting & management -Pest and disease Management -Fire & Drought management -Farming systems
September 2013	Kyangwali	37	7	
September 2013	Kaseeta	14	0	
September 2013	Kabwoya	52	18	
September 2013	Kiziranfumbi	41	18	
September 2013	Buseruka	25	5	
Total	**6**	**204**	**49**	

1.3 Summary of the trainings done in Bushenyi Region in 2013

Date	Venue/site	No. of trainings	Male	Female	Issues discussed
Feb, April, November	Kiyanga	03	246	41	-Global warming, and tree planting -Third party verification -Plan vivo cycle -Farmers' monitoring status -Area assessment -Planting materials -Tree management -Pest and disease Management -Drought and fires management -Farming systems -CCF and proposal writing
Feb, April, November	Bitereko	03	98	107	
Feb, April, November	Ryeru	03	145	38	
Feb, April, September, November	Kichwamba	04	216	56	Global warming, and tree planting -Third party verification -Plan vivo cycle -Farmers' monitoring status - Area assessment -Planting material -Tree management -Pest and disease Management -Drought and fires management -Farming systems -CCF and proposal writing -Revolving Fund Management
Feb, April, September, November	Katanda/ Katerera	04	149	26	
Total		**17**	**854**	**268**	

1.4 Summary of the trainings done in Mbale Region in 2013

Date	Venue/site	No. of trainings	Male	Female	Total	Issues discussed
April	Bubutsatsa S/C Farmers	01			61	-Importance of tree planting -Plan vivo cycle & how to join TGB - Tree planting& management - Sources of planting materials --Farming systems -CCF and proposal writing -Record Keeping and monitoring schedules
August	Wanale S/C	01			76	

	Farmers					
December	Kaato S/C New Farmers	01			71	-Green house gases, global warming &climate change -Climate change causes & impacts -Climate change mitigation &adaptation -Carbon projects development &implementation cycles -Conditions for joining carbon projects -Tree planting for carbon trade -Carbon markets; CDM &Plan vivo -Benefit sharing models in carbon projects -Carbon sales agreement &payments -Resource requirements while implementing carbon projects -Stakeholders, Participants &their roles -Sustainability of carbon projects -Participatory carbon monitoring
December	Mbale District Hqtrs (Districts' Technical Team)	01			35	
Total					**208**	

1.5 SUMMARY OF TRAININGS IN KASESE

Date	**Site**	**Male**	**Female**	**Total**	**ISSUES**
February 2013	Ruboni	44	19	63	-The plan vivo cycle -Third party validation -Planting systems -Carbon Community Fund (CCF) -How to obtain seedlings(wildlings and getting loans from nursery suppliers) -Problem of termites which attached farmers trees especially grevillea robusta
February 2013	Maliba	78	36	114	
February 2013	Kilembe	85	95	180	
February 2013	Karusandara	14	6	20	
	Total	**221**	**156**	**377**	
October 2013	Ruboni	16	1	17	-Climate change, Global warming & tree planting Plan vivo cycle -Area of the garden versus the number of trees in farmer's garden -Objectives of the next monitoring visit for farmers due -The community carbon fund - Less payment -Challenges experienced by farmers(Prolonged drought, termites and floods)
August 2013	Maliba	50	26	76	
October 2013	Kiruli	54	17	71	
October 2013	Kilembe	43	31	74	
August2013	Karusandara	34	10	44	
	Total	**197**	**85**	**282**	

2.0 Issues raising During Training

2.1 Land Tenure

There is a lot of land tenure insecurity in most sites especially in Hoima (Kyangwali and Kaseeta) due to recent evictions related to gas and oil developments. Farmer coordinators have been instructed to be more careful and if possible halt the recruitment process in some of these sites to avoid risks related to recruitment of farmers. Some of the issues have nothing to do with displacements for road construction or refinery but due to speculation on expected increase in value of land as a result of the oil and gas developments. The farmers requested the project to support them to acquire land ownership certificates e.g. those processed by the district to ensure security of the land on which the trees are planted. A similar process is being piloted by Karitas in Kabwoya and Jane Goodall Institute, in Kiziranfumbi (mainly private forests).

2.2 Inclusion of Private Forests in TGB

Farmers in Hoima who also have tenure to some pockets of forests (either as a clan or extended family) have requested for their inclusion in TGB. The project has held several discussions with them and they are open to managing these forests and sharing benefits with the rest of the community (even though ideally these are private forests). A survey on the effectiveness of PES payments in the conservation of these forests and concluded that this would result into significant benefits for biodiversity conservation. The study was conducted by IIED, NEMA, Chimpanzee Trust (to which ECOTRUST is a Trustee). Furthermore, the farmers in Hoima have rightly observed that the rate at which these private forests are being degraded presents a threat to the woodlots. They believe that once the communities runs out of wood resources from these un protected forests, their woodlots will be the next victims. It is therefore in the interest of TGB

2.3 Oil & Gas Developments

The farmers affected by road construction in Kaseeta requested for support to plant tree in their newly acquired land so that they can meet their targets. The project is still assessing this request if it fits the CCF procedures.

2.4 Pests & Diseases

Maesopsis at Year 1 & 2 are also drying (its suspected to be shoot die back). The farmers have requested for assistance if they are to continue adhering the technical specification that requires planting of 80% maesopsis

2.5 Timing of Seedlings supply

The farmers mentioned that some of the commercial nursery operators are delivering the seedlings late in the season with some being premature. This has led to poor survival and thus performance' leading to losses by the farmers and sometimes non-payment by the project. It was agreed that seedlings will be supplied before end of September and all farmers should be able to meet their targets by December 2013.

2.6 Monitoring

All farmers in year 3 & 4 were trained on how to measure dbh at 1.3m above ground and informed on the need to thin out some trees. They were informed that prior to thinning, ECOTRUST staff will come and assist them identify trees for thinning.

2.7 Requests for CCF

Karujubu community requested for funds to roof, floor, and plaster and buy windows and doors for a 2roomed staff quarter or buy plastic chairs and tents that they can rent out as an income generating activity or support to raise a community tree nursery bed.

2.8 Minimum Land Size

The project has been emphasizing application of a minimum of 1ha land to participate in TGB and some farmers mentioned that is quite high. The farmers have requested the project to reduce it. They have also suggested that they could form planting groups in order to meet the 1ha target. The project is currently developing guidelines on how to effect this.

2.9 Deforestation

Given the rate of deforestation, the few trees left/being planted will be targeted by encroachers. Farmers have requested for the project to advise if there are any plans to protect farmers' trees from encroachers. For example, are there bye laws in the project? There is an additional threat of farmers claiming their neighbours trees.

The project has been advising farmers to make sure that they leave 2-3m on their boundaries. There is need for the project to check if there are national guidelines on tree planting in boundaries and harmonise so that in future farmers will not lose their trees to the neighbours. On the issue of bye laws, the project explained to the farmers that the role of preparing bye-laws belongs to the local community/local government.

2.10 Weather

The rainy/sunny seasons have changed making it difficult to plan for the planting and other project activities e.g. trainings. The biggest challenge that faced Kasese famers were floods which swept away their gardens, 29 farmers gardens were affected(some gardens were completely taken while some apportion was affected). The floods were followed by a long dry spell, farmers who were due planting to reach the target had to wait to plant until mid October when the rains appeared. These rains caused

some small streams to flood and **one farmer** was killed (Kitayengha who was a our mobilize in Muramba village)

2.11 Other Environmental Issues

The farmers responded positively to the request made by project staff to construct pit latrines to improve on household sanitation and also improve staff working conditions. The farmer coordinator informed the meeting that only 4households had not done this yet but they are aware.

The farmers reported that there was a lot of food, house destruction by wind? Is it possible to partner with Kinyara in sugar cane growing areas to encourage small scale tree planting?

3.0 Challenges

3.1 Loss of Trees

4 farmers in Kaseeta have lost trees to road construction in preparation for oil drilling in Hoima.

-The recruitment was low in sites adjacent to proposed oil refinery construction because the farmers fear that they may be evicted or similar discoveries may be made on their land.

Termites has also continued to attack *Grevillea robusta* trees, also *Maesopsipis* has been attached by some unknown pests (few gardens have been affected)

3.2 Securing land titles for project beneficiaries

The project beneficiaries initiated the idea of securing land titles/ownership certificates in Hoima. This was as a result of increasing land evictions and grabbing in the area. The project has discussed with the Hoima district lands office on possible ways of attaining this. The project has gone ahead to develop a concept and a budget, discussed the issue with all farmers and leaders at various levels who are ready to support the activity. It's hoped that early 2014, this activity will be implemented.

3.3 Farmer Coordinators' Facilitation

Farmer coordinators request for an increase in their monthly out of pocket. They also requested for bicycles or provision of transport allowance.