

FP026: Sustainable Landscapes in Eastern Madagascar 2019 APR Summary

Sustainable Landscape Eastern Madagascar (SLEM) Project ('Project'): Key points from the project (Jan 01, 2019 – December 31, 2019)

This 2nd APR for the SLEM project covers months 6-18 of implementation. Note that EIB has not signed its FAA nor begun implementation.

Project Management

- The regular annual audits of the Sustainable Landscape in Eastern Madagascar project were conducted;
- Semi-annual workshop meeting conducted June 2019: main achievements, challenges and next steps for each outcome shared. The technical advisor for the project and representatives of Conservation International divisions (Africa Field Division, GCF Agency, Moore Center for Science) attended this workshop in Antananarivo. Main challenges and strategies to address challenges were identified;
- Three vehicles and 12 motorbikes purchased and in use in both project landscapes, CAZ and COFAV, to facilitate field work in remote villages;
- 27 laptops, 1 desktop, 48 GPS, 16 tablets, 5 smartphones and two drones for monitoring activities, and other field supplies procured;
- Annual workplan, budget, grants management plan, and procurement plan for 2020 completed and approved by the CI-GCF Agency
- The Project team, with guidance from the CI-GCF Agency, created a provisional fund for Project years 3-5 to be deployed if a natural disaster or extreme weather event affects beneficiary populations and delays or has other negative impacts on project delivery (USD\$450,000 for potentially impacted areas). Information on this allocation of resources was provided to GCF OPM.
- FP026 FAA Amendment 001 was signed in 2019 reflecting updated Baselines, Targets and Indicators.

Key Project staff hired during this reporting period:

- 1 - M&E Sr. Manager, 2 - Grants Managers, 1 - Grants Coordinator, 2 - Agricultural Managers, 1 - Forestry Coordinator, 1 - Ecological Manager, 1 - Procurement Manager, 4 - Agricultural Field Agents, 1 - Socio-organizational and Gender Manager, 2 -Drivers; 18- Field Agents, 3- GIS specialists, and 1 CAZ Accountant .
- All new project staff received training related to CI learning and development, GCF policies, gender mainstreaming, and safety & security training.

Stakeholder engagement and partnerships:

- In February 2019, BNCCC and BNCCCREDD+ merged into one Directorate (BNCCREDD) within the newly formed Ministry of Environment and Sustainable Development (MEDD). BNCCREDD is CI's main Project partner and houses the GCF NDA. BNCCCREDD+ was the focal point for Emission

Reductions calculations and a key counterpart to implement the REDD+ Roadmap signed by the Ministry of Environment and the CI Country Director in May 2018.

- In-kind and cost reimbursable grants to BNCCC were signed in September 2019 – no change to these agreements is foreseen due to the new MEDD structure described above. The first Project Steering committee meeting was held in December 2019 led by the MEDD and the BNCREDD with the contribution of all key partners such as Regional Directorates from the Environment and Sustainable Development Agency (DREDD), Regional Directorates from Madagascar's Agriculture, Livestock, and Fisheries (DRAEP), and the chiefs of regions. During this meeting, steering committee members did not raise significant issues related to project implementation.

- 7 DREDDs received in-kind grants from SLEM and collaborated with the Project on forest control, management, and tree planting. 186 patrollers from 60 VOIs (local associations for forest management) were trained in forest patrolling by project staff and DREDD; and patrolled ~185,004 ha out of the 484,972 ha of forest managed by VOIs.

- 7 DRAEPs that support the Project on sustainable agriculture practices and monitoring received training and 7 laptops.

- 89 local associations consisting of VOIs, 15 women's associations, and associations of local people affected by the creation of protected areas (PAPS) were trained in and started practicing climate resilient sustainable agriculture, including the improved production of staple and cash crops such as 235,425 vanilla vines and seedlings of coffee, orange, and cloves.

- 141 lead farmers (20% of which are women) provided sustainable agriculture training to 4,230 households and 89 nursery workers (including 16 women) to produce 97,163 seedlings of native trees and noninvasive species (42,800 in CAZ and 54,363 in COFAV), and 186 patrollers from 60 VOIs were engaged by the project.

- Two MOUs with the Ministry of National Education were signed (one MOU with the Global Program and another MOU with the Office de l'Education de Masse et de Civisme).

- Collaboration with Catholic Relief Services (CRS) through a sub-grant was utilized to improve sustainable agriculture and facilitate market access for spices (cinnamon, cloves, pink peppercorn and vanilla) in Tolongoina and Kelilalina. Two commercial contract agreements were signed between community associations and FLORAMAD (private sector buyer) for the 2019-2020 season for the production and sale of organic ginger: one between FLORAMAD with the Cooperative TAM in Kelilalina Commune, and another with 7 Community-based associations (COBAs) in Tolongoina.

- Local NGO, the Comité Multilocal de Planification (CMP) Tandavanala, received a sub-grant for local community involvement for forest management, watershed management, and tree planting: ~100,000 seedlings of multi-use trees were planted (coffee, orange, pink peppercorn, acacia, papaya, fruit trees, and native trees).

Gender action plan:

The gender action plan was updated in June 2019 with support from CI's Gender focal point.

- 100% of participatory planning sessions were conducted in a gender-sensitive manner in 98 villages, in order to improve sustainability of agriculture and strengthen climate change resilience for all participants.
- Women (including female heads of households) represented ~40% of training participants and received support and inputs for sustainable agriculture techniques for vulnerable households (end of project target: 50% of trainee participants are women)
- 30% of VOI members are female (Target 25%)

Climate data:

The project compiles accurate weather data from Madagascar's meteorological service to share with target villages in an easy-to-understand format. The project posts crop calendars and seasonal and intra-seasonal forecasts to distribute to larger towns. This information is updated every three months (the forecast for December 2019-February 2020 intra-season already created).

Component A7.0

Real time impact evaluation LORTA:

The baseline report on the vulnerability index was finalized and submitted to the GCF Independent Evaluation Unit (IEU), and data collection tools are available for the next household survey, to take place in 2021.

In-kind grants for local communities:

One of the primary mechanisms to engage with project beneficiaries is through Conservation Agreements (also referred to as in-kind grant agreements). Communities develop proposals for training and agricultural inputs that best meet their needs and context. The Project provides these goods & services, and the communities commit to not deforesting land, to conduct patrolling activities to reduce illegal activity, and undertake reforestation activities.

Eighty-nine out of 104 local associations targeted (15 of the 89 are women's associations) for 2019 received training and in-kind grants (5,637 of 7,000 target households; 33,822 individual beneficiaries). Households received support and training to improve sustainable agriculture including seeds (12 tons of paddy rice, 5.5 tons of maize, 31.5 tons of peanuts, and 29 tons of white beans); seedlings (64,411 cloves, 46,920 vanilla vines, 128,484 coffee trees, and 40t of Ginger) and small-scale agricultural equipment (rakes, shovels, wheelbarrows, sprayers, organic fertilizers, and training materials for selected commodities).

The project also trained local lead farmers to provide continuous support to communities. In 2019, 115 agricultural showcases were established in CAZ and COFAV by these lead farmers.

Project land-use planning tool:

Land-use management tools were developed in cooperation with the African Biodiversity Collaborative Group (ABCG). One of the management tools used by the project is the classification of satellite images that enable the delineation of land use and land cover of the CAZ and COFAV landscapes.

Forest transfer management contract agreements are part of the tools used to implement land-use planning. The core project areas (CAZ and COFAV) are surrounded by forest managed by VOI that signed contracts with the Forest Service. The initial duration of the contract agreement is three years, by the end of which an assessment is made and the contract is renewed. Twenty-one VOIs underwent the assessment process and nine contracts agreement were renewed in 2019.

Component A8.0

- Two MOUs with the Ministry of National Education were signed (with the Global Program and the Office de l'Education de Masse et de Civisme) that allow for the training of local teachers in climate change adaptation and mitigation (agroforestry, forest restoration, and protection). 250 printed booklets on "how to make compost" and "how to plant rain-fed rice" were distributed to 22 primary and secondary schools in two municipalities (Ambalarondra and Andranobolaha) during the training of trainers, and 51 local teachers received training in climate change adaptation and mitigation.

- 1,000 calendars (500 for 2019 calendar and 500 for 2020 calendar) with messages on climate adaptation and mitigation were developed and distributed as a communications tool. This activity conducted through co-finance from the SOS Lemurs project. - For the training of trainers, 117 target teachers from 49 schools received training on climate change mitigation and adaptation and on protecting lemurs and forest ecosystems.

- 18 educators/staff from the Regional Directorate of Education from Haute Matsiatra region (including 11 women) received training from the Project in July 2019. This training of trainers focused on awareness of climate change issues and aims to promote best practices to adapt to climate change and to provide knowledge and skills at the school level for the monitoring of weather and climate data.

- Soan'Ala local magazine, June and December issues (1000 total), were developed by the project and shared with target communities in both CAZ an COFAV to show progress and approaches to climate change mitigation and adaptation.

- The Project developed a Sekoly matrika ny fiovan'ny toetrandro toolbox—a set of Malagasy-language materials on climate change that are designed for schools—shared with 440 schools.

- 7,452 individuals (40% female) from target households (representing 44,712 individuals) were trained on climate adaptation and mitigation, including climate change drivers, effects, and adaptation approaches.

Component A5.0

Climate change adaptation and mitigation capacity building:

Thirty-six CI-Madagascar technical staff (14 from CAZ, 14 from COFAV, and 8 from Tana) were trained in Ecosystem based Adaptation (EbA). Cash and in-kind grant agreements with the BNCREDD were finalized to conduct institutional capacity building on climate change adaptation and mitigation activities and were signed in September 2019. Due to extensive delays in the

development of the BNCREDD workplan, budget, and changes in government / staffing due to national elections, delays were encountered for implementation of BNCREDD activities in the field.

Project monitoring and evaluation:

M&E plan and tools were finalized. Data was collected through various tools such as drones, tablets, datasheets, and satellite imagery.

Component M9.0

Management effectiveness tracking tools (METT):

METT scores for July 2018-June 2019 were 62.77% for CAZ and 62.89 for COFAV.

Forest Monitoring:

Approximately 38% of the total forest managed by the VOIs in both CAZ and COFAV was patrolled in 2019: 185,004 ha out of 484,972 ha (107,988ha CAZ; 77,016ha COFAV):

- Two drones were purchased and the University of Adelaide led a training on their use, including the use of complementary software packages to analyze drone data. The project team now has six drone pilots and two drones to support forest and reforestation monitoring in the CAZ and COFAV landscapes.
- Fire monitoring by using a "fire alerts" system is ongoing. A map of the fire density in both CAZ and COFAV from 2016 – 2018 is available and includes updates to Forest change cover and forest fragmentation (2018- 2000), Carbon emission evaluation updated: 2018, 2017, 2016, 2015) and Fire statistic (PA and landscapes), trend and post-deforestation land use.

Landscape Assessment Framework (LAF)

The LAF is a structure for measuring, monitoring, and communicating the sustainability of a landscape based on existing metrics and datasets. [COFAV LAF link](#) and [CAZ LAF link](#):

Mitigation Impacts:

The emission reductions for the Project in the target landscapes were 1.06M tons CO₂e.

Restoration activities:

97,163 seedlings (42,800 in CAZ and 54,363 in COFAV) were produced and 12,617 of these native trees were planted. Another 235,425 seedlings of agroforestry trees of coffee, cloves, oranges and vanilla vines were planted by project beneficiaries and ~100,000 seedlings were planted by CMP, a project grantee.

Eighty-nine nursery workers (72 in CAZ, 17 in COFAV; including 16 women) were trained on developing tree nurseries that are now operating under the supervision of CI (3 other nurseries are supervised by CRS and 2 by CMP in COFAV)

Financial overview:

Budget and Expenditure¹

| | Budget Y2 | Expenditure Y2 | Expenditure Rate Y2 | Budget Project Total | Expenditure Project Total | Expenditure Rate Project Total |
|----------------------|---------------------|---------------------|---------------------------|-------------------------|------------------------------|--------------------------------------|
| GCF financing | \$ 3,279,043 | \$ 2,574,091 | 79% | \$ 18,500,000 | \$ 3,064,974 | 17% |
| Co- financing | \$ 163,302 | \$ 307,980 | 189% | \$ 771,318 | \$ 493,585 | 64% |
| Project total | \$ 3,442,345 | \$ 2,882,071 | 84% | \$ 19,271,318 | \$ 3,558,558 | 18% |

Disbursements

| Number of Disbursements Y2 | Disbursement Amount Y2 | Number of Disbursements Project Total | Disbursement Amount Project Total |
|----------------------------------|---------------------------|---------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------|
| 2 | \$3,300,000 | 3 | \$4,100,000 |

¹Expenditure figures exclude reported commitments