

FP026: Sustainable Landscapes in Eastern Madagascar 2022 APR Summary

The project continued to make strides towards achieving its key indicators in 2022. A total of 14,412 household beneficiaries (HH) received in-kind grants (IKGs) of agricultural inputs to reinforce the sustainable agricultural production techniques promoted by the project. Of these households, 6,415 were 1st round recipients of IKG support. When compared to the annual target of 6,070 household beneficiaries target for 1st round support and 5,599 household beneficiaries target for 2nd round support, the achievement represented 138% of the target.

During this year, 534,652 forest seedlings were produced, exceeding the annual target of 210,000. In addition, a total of 227 ha of forest land was restored, representing 76% of the annual target. In 2022, the project transitioned to a new methodology to calculate its emissions reductions. Having previously used the Trends.Earth methodology, which is solely satellite based, the project now uses the national methodology, which uses both satellite imagery and physical verification. Overall, the project was able to observe emissions reduction of 1,486,614 tCO_{2e}. These results brought the project's total emissions reductions to 7,295,579 tCO_{2e}.

Compared to 2021, the area patrolled by the project for forest protection in 2022 increased by more than 48% in 2022. The 259,895 ha patrolled was achieved through a mixture of drones and human patrols in the project areas. by the DREDD, Regional Directorate of Environment and Sustainable Development, led 25 patrol missions and apprehended 56 offenders found to be clearing forest, mining, or otherwise illegally using land in the project areas.

In close partnership with Government of Madagascar institutions, training on climate change issues, sustainable agriculture production, and ecosystem-based adaptation was provided to 17,886 households (~107,000 individuals) in 2022. Farmers in beneficiary communities also benefited from improved access to markets, improved market information, and facilitation of collective marketing strategies and buyer agreements. The project trained 105 trade committees, with 2 cooperatives formed which will receive agribusiness support in 2023. The harvest not sold are typically consumed by beneficiary households or stored to increase future food security and provide seed for future planting. Other crops harvested by beneficiaries from support from the project include peas, beans, ginger, peanuts, rice and garlic. The wide variety of products grown by beneficiary households indicates improvement in beneficiaries' food security and diet.

Throughout 2022, the project continued to prioritize gender responsiveness in the project. As in 2021, the project exceeded its annual training target—training 7,839 individuals on gender issues (more than the 7,000 targeted). The project also supported 68 women's associations with grants and technical support to develop and implement sustainable agriculture practices.

Project communication efforts over the past year included distributing 2,000 copies of the Soanala Magazine, which shares local best practices on climate change mitigation and adaptation. Ten short films highlighting project success stories were developed and screened to beneficiaries. Key to reaching remote communities is the project's radio programs; in 2022, there were 41 emissions, including 28 by local radio stations and 13 national radio stations. The project was also featured in television and newspaper media, which covered dissemination of the project's mid-term results during the project steering committee meeting, delivery of goods to beneficiaries, and the award ceremony held for the local key partner champions. The project also developed films showcasing the changes in beneficiaries' lives over the life of the project. The videos will be ready for dissemination in 2023. One scientific publication related to the project entitled "Drone as a patrol method in easter forest corridors in Madagascar" was published by

Princeton University, New Jersey (USA). Social media outreach also continued in 2022. The project had 92 posts, including 4 films published on the CI Madagascar Facebook page. These posts reached 288,958 people, with 19,043 interactions, 9,105 reactions, 318 comments and 515 shares.

The Real Time Impact Assessment (LORTA) mid-term survey for assessing vulnerability of household beneficiaries was conducted in 2022, despite a delay due to the occurrence of hurricane Batsirai in January. 1,822 households were targeted. Overall, attrition was lower than expected (9.9%), a good result for the baseline respondent follow-up. Project staff attended two LORTA capacity-building workshops on data analysis conducted by the GCF's Independent Evaluation Unit and C4ED, in Antananarivo and Addis Ababa.

The project continued to work closely with its key project government partner, the National Office for Climate Change and REDD+ (BNCCREDD+). A Project steering committee meeting was conducted under the lead of the BNCCREDD+, and two subregional committee meetings for orientation and monitoring were conducted under the lead of the DREDD. Oversight and monitoring missions were conducted by the BNCCREDD+ to ensure alignment of the project to the national climate change policies

The annual meeting of the Project Steering Committee was held, chaired by the Secretary General of the Ministry of Environment and Sustainable Development (MEDD), and two sub regional meetings were held with local authorities.

The GCF approved a two-year extension to the project's implementation timeframe, through May 2025, largely to make up for time lost during COVID-19 pandemic lockdowns. The extension will enable the project to reach its proposed achievements and to strengthen impacts and sustainability of the project's activities.

Financial overview:

Budget and Expenditure¹

	Budget Y5	Expenditure Y5	Expenditure Rate Y5	Budget Project Total	Expenditure Project Total	Expenditure Rate Project Total
GCF financing	\$3,548,611	\$2,501,028	70%	\$18,500,000	\$8,639,031	47%
Co-financing	-	-	n/a	\$771,318	\$771,318	100%
Project total	\$3,548,611	\$2,501,028	70%	\$19,271,318	\$9,410,349	49%

Disbursements

Number of Disbursements Y5	Disbursement Amount Y5	Number of Disbursement Project Total	Disbursement Amount Project Total
2	\$4,500,000	7	\$13,100,000

¹ Expenditure figures exclude reported commitments