

## **Stakeholder Engagement Plan**

**29/11/2021**

**CEPF Grant 112561**

**Dahari**

***Developing a conservation agreements scheme to restore Anjouan's forests***

**Anjouan, Comoro Islands**

## Grant Summary

1. Grantee organization. Dahari
2. Grant title. Developing a conservation agreements scheme to restore Anjouan's forests
3. Grant number. 112561
4. Grant amount (US dollars). \$120,000
5. Proposed dates of grant. 01/12/2021 – 30/06/2021
6. Countries or territories where project will be undertaken. Comoro Islands
7. Date of preparation of this document. 29/11/21
8. **Introduction:** This section will briefly describe the project including design elements and potential social and environmental issues. Where possible, include maps of the project site and surrounding area.

The aim of this project is to scale up a PES scheme protecting roost sites of the Livingstone's fruit bat to engage enough farmers in restoring forest in their fields in order to have a wider impact on water resources and biodiversity and thus increase resilience to climate change. Before scaling up begins it is important to undertake research and integrate further learning from similar work around the world in order to refine the approach and build as robust a model as possible. To this end, Dahari proposes to enter into a partnership with Natura Bolivia, an NGO recognised worldwide for its effective work in South America in watershed restoration through PES. This South-South partnership will assist the development of the PES scheme in the Comoros.

It will not be possible to completely eliminate agriculture in the highlands - people need to exploit some of these areas. Dahari therefore plans to carry out studies in the highlands to identify agroforestry regimes that are more compatible with water and biodiversity conservation and can provide livelihoods benefits as part of the PES scheme. Dahari proposes to continue its partnership with the World Agroforestry Centre (ICRAF) to carry out this research together.

Whilst this research and desk-based work is undertaken, Dahari will maintain the PES scheme at seven roost sites of the Livingstone's fruit bat, and maintain reforestation efforts by supporting farmers to plant a further 30,000 trees in critical watersheds.



9. **Summary of Previous Stakeholder Engagement Activities:** If the grantee has undertaken any activities to date, including information disclosure and/or consultation, provide the following details:
- Type of information disclosed, in what form (e.g., oral, brochure, reports, posters, radio, etc.), and how it was disseminated;
  - The locations and dates of any meetings undertaken to date;
  - Individuals, groups, and/or organizations that have been consulted;
  - Key issues discussed and key concerns raised;
  - Grantee response to issues raised, including any commitments or follow-up actions; and
  - Process undertaken for documenting these activities and reporting back to stakeholders.

Dahari has been working in this area and with the targeted communities since 2008. Specifically for this project, outreach with communities targeted by the reforestation campaign has already been undertaken to allow farmers to choose the tree species they want to plant on their land. Evaluations of last year's campaign with community management groups has allowed improvements to be made to the design of this year's campaign. Ongoing communication with owner of roost sites in the PES scheme has allowed adjustments of benefits and to management of the scheme.

10. **Project Stakeholders:** This section will list the key stakeholder groups who will be informed and consulted about the project. These should include persons or groups who:
- Are directly and/or indirectly affected by the project or have "interests" in the project that determine them as stakeholders; and
  - Have the potential to influence project outcomes (examples of potential stakeholders are affected communities, local organizations, non-governmental organizations (NGOs) and government authorities. Stakeholders can also include politicians, companies, labor unions, academics, religious groups, national social and environmental public sector agencies, and the media).

The main stakeholders are the beneficiaries of the reforestation and PES actions in the villages in the map above. Dahari has been working with many of these for five years or more. Other stakeholders are not involved in this short project.

11. **Stakeholder Engagement Program:** This section will summarize the purpose and goals of the program. Briefly describe what information will be disclosed, in what formats, and the types of methods that will be used to communicate this information to each of the identified groups of stakeholders. Methods used may vary according to target audience, for example:
- Newspapers, posters, radio, television;
  - Information centers and exhibitions or other visual displays; and
  - Brochures, leaflets, posters, non-technical summary documents and reports.

For beneficiaries of the tree planting campaign, discussions will centre on the benefits of tree planting and the potential species that can be planted. The PES beneficiaries are already all engaged in the work so new outreach is not necessary.

12. **Consultation methods:** This section will describe the methods that will be used to consult with each of the stakeholder groups identified in previous sections. Methods used may vary according to target audience, for example:
- Interviews with stakeholder representatives and key informants;
  - Surveys, polls, and questionnaires;

- Public meetings, workshops, and/or focus groups with a specific group;
- Participatory methods; and
- Other traditional mechanisms for consultation and decision-making.

Focus groups and individual meetings are the two main methods to be used for outreach and engagement. Focus groups with farmers allow collective choices around reforestation. Individual outreach is important for the PES program. Visual tools such as photos of tree species are used to facilitate exchanges.

13. **Other Engagement Activities:** This section will describe any other engagement activities that will be undertaken, including participatory processes, joint decision-making, and/or partnerships undertaken with local communities, NGOs, or other project stakeholders. Examples include benefit-sharing programs, community development initiatives, resettlement and development programs, and/or training and microfinance programs.

Participatory research undertaken with the support of Natura Bolivia and ICRAF towards developing a robust conservation scheme.

14. **Timetable:** This section will provide a schedule outlining dates and locations when various stakeholder engagement activities, including consultation, disclosure, and partnerships will take place and the date by which such activities will be incorporated into project design.

Choice of trees has already taken place, as has outreach with PES beneficiaries. Research work in the field will begin in January with the first visit from Natura Bolivia and continue until the end of the project in June 2022.

15. **Resources and Responsibilities:** This section will indicate what staff and resources will be devoted to managing and implementing the Stakeholder Engagement Plan. Who within the project team will be responsible for carrying out these activities? What budget has been allocated toward these activities?

Hugh Doulton and Misbahou Mohamed, Co-Directors, will jointly take charge of the stakeholder engagement plan. The necessary budget is covered through their salaries, the salaries of field technicians undertaking the work, and field costs – as per the budget.

16. **Grievance mechanism:** All projects that trigger a safeguard must provide local communities and other relevant stakeholders with a means to raise a grievance with the grantee, the relevant Regional Implementation Team, the CEPF Secretariat or the World Bank.

This grievance mechanism must include, at a minimum, the following elements.

- Email and telephone contact information for the grantee organization.
- Email and telephone contact information for the CEPF Regional Implementation Team.
- Email and telephone contact information for the local World Bank office.
- The email of the CEPF Executive Director: [cepfexecutive@conservation.org](mailto:cepfexecutive@conservation.org)
- A statement describing how you will inform stakeholders of the objectives of the project and the existence of the grievance mechanism (e.g., posters, signboards, public notices, public announcements, use of local languages).

- You should include the following text, exactly, in any grievance mechanism: “We will share all grievances – and a proposed response – with the Regional Implementation Team and the CEPF Grant Director within 15 days. If the claimant is not satisfied following the response, they may submit the grievance directly to the CEPF Executive Director at [cepfexecutive@conservation.org](mailto:cepfexecutive@conservation.org) or by surface mail. If the claimant is not satisfied with the response from the CEPF Executive Director, they may submit the grievance to the World Bank at the local World Bank office.”

Following the guidance above, describe the grievance mechanism that you will use.

Sheets will be handed to the PES participants and the head of reforestation committees, accompanied by explanations from Dahari technicians.

**17. Monitoring and Reporting:** This section will describe any plans to involve project stakeholders (including affected communities) or third-party monitors in the monitoring of project impacts and mitigation programs. Describe how and when the results of stakeholder engagement activities will be reported back to affected stakeholders as well as broader stakeholder groups.

A participatory evaluation of the reforestation campaign will be undertaken through qualitative and quantitative surveys, with results fed back in focus group sessions before the end of the project.