



Initiative for Sustainable Landscapes
South West Mau

BUILDING OUR FLOURISHING FUTURE

Program action plan



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Introduction

The Initiative for Sustainable Landscapes (ISLA)

The Initiative for Sustainable Landscapes has been set up by IDH the Sustainable Trade Initiative with co-funding of the Dutch government. Co-investment is provided by both private and public partners in each landscape. Its aim is to address sustainability issues beyond farm level by combining a value chain approach – like the existing work of IDH on Tea in East Africa- with a landscape approach. IDH brings its experience in convening coalitions of the public and private sector on sustainability and market transformation. In close cooperation with IDH's in country and global network of partners, the program aims to: convene public-private partners in multi-stakeholder governance structures; design business driven interventions and investment plan that can be scaled; co-fund interventions to sustainably manage landscapes, and; share best practices and learnings with a global network of experts and knowledge partners. IDH is currently active in eleven (11) resource vulnerable landscapes around the world: South West Mau Forest in Kenya; Central Rift Valley (CRV) in Ethiopia; Tai region in Côte d'Ivoire; Central Highlands in Vietnam; Mato Grosso in Brazil, the Nimba, Sapu and Lofa landscapes in Liberia and West-Kalimantan, Aceh and South Sumatra in Indonesia.

Objectives

The ISLA approach aims to achieve the following objectives by 2018:

1. **Change in business practices:** business case for investing in landscapes developed
2. **Improved sector governance:** coalition formed & working with sustainable governance structure in place.
3. **Improved field level sustainability:** Proof of concept i.e. proven, scalable private-sector-driven solutions which are internalized by the businesses that we work with, in an enabling environment of effective public-private collaboration and within viable economic mechanisms.

IDH works with public, private and civil society partners by providing co-funding (maximum 50%) to implement agreed joint actions. However, the relationship is not purely financial, IDH does work as a partner by thinking-along, providing knowledge, a network and making sure the projects contribute to the overall landscape goals. IDH works through implementing partners to execute projects in the landscape.

The ISLA program will contribute to the coordination among the ongoing programs and consortia at both national and landscape level, to this end the aim of the ISLA program is to **build on existing efforts and help address the gaps, not duplicate ongoing activities.**

ISLA in Kenya

The South-West Mau Forest Complex

The Mau Forest Complex (MFC), located in the west of the Great Rift Valley, covers approximately 416,542 ha. The MFC is the largest closed canopy ecosystem in Kenya - the size of the Aberdares and Mount Kenya combined. More than 10 million people depend on its rivers, which feed six lakes – Victoria (partly the source of the River Nile), Turkana, Natron, Nakuru, Baringo and Magadi. Its forests provide critical ecological services to the country, in terms of water storage; river flow regulation; flood mitigation; recharge of groundwater; reduced soil erosion and siltation; water purification; conservation of biodiversity; and, micro-climate regulation. Through these ecological services, the Mau Forests Complex supports key economic sectors in the Rift Valley and Western parts of Kenya, including energy, tourism, agriculture, and industries. In addition, the Mau Forests Complex is the source of water supply to several urban centres and supports the livelihoods of millions of people living in the rural areas. It is the home of a minority group of indigenous forest dwellers, the Ogiek, and provides livelihood support for many communities who are living in the immediate surrounding of the forests. The complex supports eight wildlife reserves and secures ecological balances of regional importance, including the extensive Mara and Serengeti wildlife sanctuaries – a crucial trans-boundary heritage of both Kenya and Tanzania. According to the Kenya Forestry Research Institute (Kenya Water Towers Status Report, 2015) the economic value of the Mau was estimated at USD 1.2 billion in 2009. A breakdown of the economic value is provided in Figure 1.

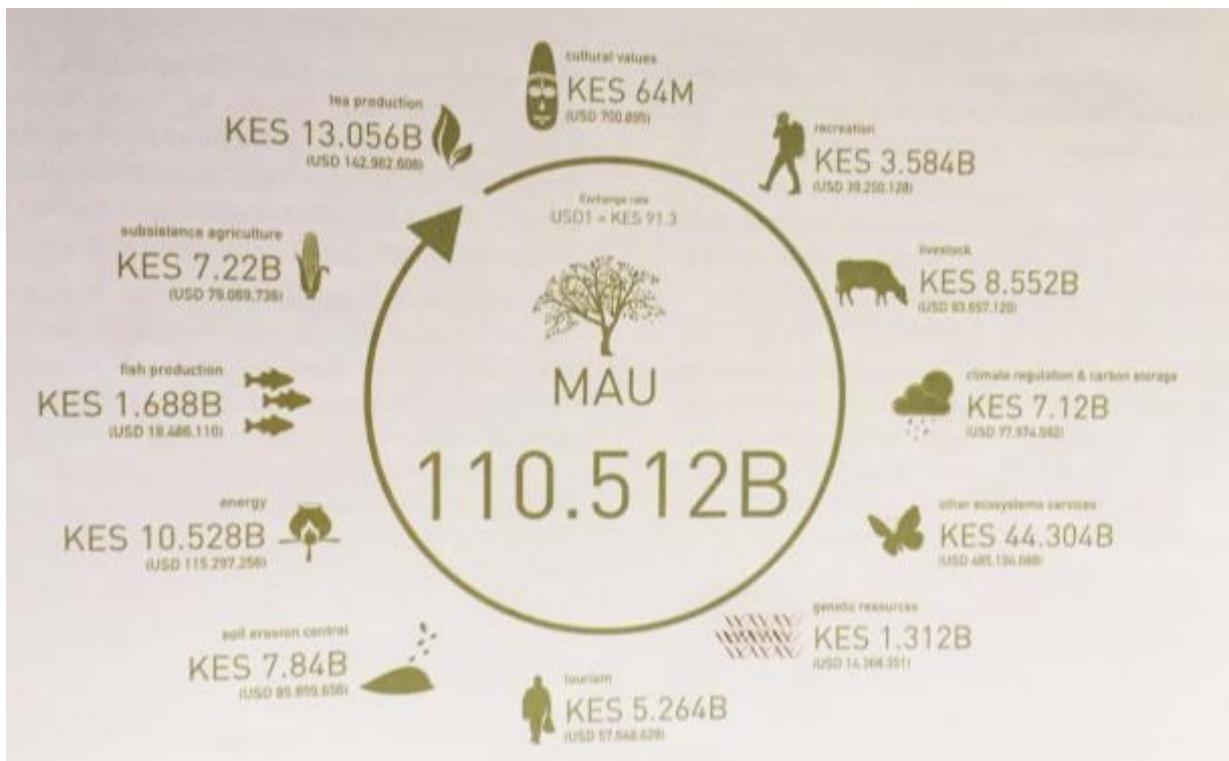


Figure 1. Economic value of the Mau forest (KEFRI 2009)

Despite its importance in supporting the national economy, environmental stability and human well-being, the Mau Forests Complex has been heavily impacted by land use changes and unsustainable forest resources extraction, what was once the largest closed-canopy forest in Eastern Africa is under threat. In the last 10-15 years, the forest area has been reduced by more than 25% and is characterized by much degradation and fragmentation.

The ISLA program is focusing on the South West Mau Forest Landscape, along the Sondu River Basin, which includes the South West Mau Forest, one of the 10 forest blocks of the MFC. The South West Mau Forest Landscape, along Sondu-Miriu River Basin is the fourth largest basin of Kenyan rivers that drain into Lake Victoria, covering an area of 3,470 km² (Figure 2). The region is vital economically and ecologically, providing ecosystems services essential to hydropower generation, crop production for tea and other subsistence crops and agroforestry products, supporting local communities and grazing opportunities for livestock and wildlife.

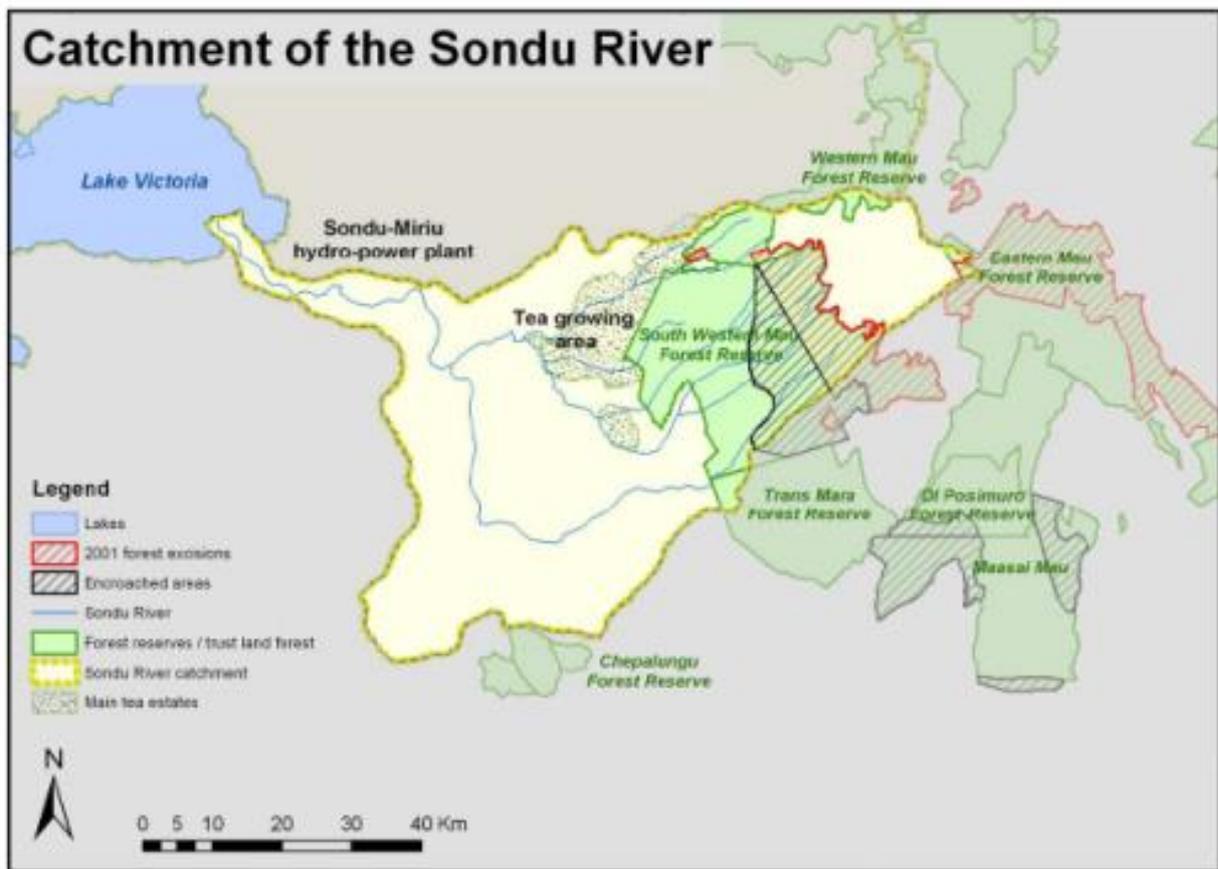


Figure 2: Catchment of the Sondu river

According to the Tea Inspectorate, in 2014, Kenya produced 445 Million KGs made tea valued at KES 120 B making the tea sector the leading forex earner equivalent to 27% of GDP. The tea industry which has 640,964 producers (about 600,000 SHF) supports more than 5 million Kenyans directly and indirectly. The SW Mau landscape produces about 40% of tea in Kenya. Based on the value of tea sold in 2014, this is equivalent to KES 48 billion (>400 m Euros).

The Sondu-Miriu Hydropower Scheme, which was financed with support of the Japan Bank for International Cooperation and costed KES 15 billion, has an electricity generation capacity of 60

megawatts. The Sang'oro Hydropower Scheme, an extension of the Sondu-Miriu Scheme with an estimated investment of KES 3.4 billion, has a capacity of 21.4 megawatts.

On the same river further downstream, the Magwagwa Multipurpose Dam Scheme with an anticipated capacity of 94.6 megawatts has also been proposed. In the large tea estates around Kericho, small hydropower plants have been installed on the tributaries of the Sondu River, generating 4 megawatts.

Despite these investments, capacities and potential on hydropower generation, KENGEN was experiencing only 25% of normal water flows in April 2016, in spite of el nino rains in Q4 of 2015 which saw water flows rise to a high of 150%. This is a possible indicator that the forest is not playing its role as a 'sponge'.

A recent study by ISLA shows that the SW Mau Forest Block forested area has been reduced by more than 40% from 953KM² in 1932 to 584KM² in 2016. The current area has not been excised and is not encroached. Of the 584KM², 180KM² along the eastern boundary, being used for grazing livestock, has been reduced grassland/scrub/bracken fern and 404KM² is forest, much of it degraded and fragmented.

Building blocks

Despite the importance of the South West Mau, the forest block is threatened by among other things encroachment, livestock grazing and browsing, wood extraction for charcoal and firewood, fire and poaching. ISLA is bringing together key stakeholders to address these challenges based on an integrated action plan. The ISLA program aims to address the policy dialogue and to develop practical and scalable solutions at local and regional level. ISLA Kenya focuses on three thematic building blocks:

1. Forest conservation;
2. Improvement of water flow & access and;
3. Sustainable energy;

Alternative livelihoods for communities are an important cross cutting issue to be considered under each building block.

Guiding principles

The Initiative for Sustainable Landscape Kenya will be guided by the following:

- **Purpose:** Building Our Flourishing Future by uniting all stakeholders to save the South West Mau Forest.
- **Vision:** Healthy, functional and productive South West Mau landscape as an integral part of Mau Forest complex for posterity/future generations.
- **Mission:** To restore and conserve 60,000 hectares of South West Mau Forest by 2030 through innovative and sustainable solutions to deforestation and forest degradation by addressing livelihoods, water, sustainable energy and ultimate holistic landscape management.
- **Core values:** Participation, Transparency, Accountability and action.

Achievements by 2018

Based on a strong stakeholder base, co-funding arrangements with partners towards the shared vision of a healthy, functional and productive South West Mau landscape, ISLA Kenya aims at the following achievement by 2018:

- The ISLA program is gazetted, and officially recognized and supported by the national government of Kenya.
- A viable governance model is established by the stakeholders. A trust is established, registered and operational. The trust continues activities with regard to conservation of the landscape, by bringing together stakeholders and managing funds (sourced internally or externally in the landscape) to contribute to sustainability of the landscape. The trust is gazetted by the national government.
- A REDD+ strategy is developed and implemented with KFS, providing for long-term funding for sustainable land and water activities and projects in the South-West Mau landscape.
- An integrated management plan is developed for the South-West Mau and Transmara forest blocks by KFS, with support from other stakeholders and knowledge partners. The combined area has the potential to become a new tourist destination, and to attract additional income for the landscape and livelihoods.
- Field level models to address drivers of deforestation are developed and include; the establishment of a phased buffer around the Eastern boundary of the SW Mau forest, Alternative livestock/dairy value chain models are developed, established and adopted by communities surrounding the SW Mau Forest. The models create a win-win situation; farmers receive additional income by more efficient production and access to markets, while the pressure on the forest is reduced based on production-protection agreements signed between government agencies, local communities and dairy products up-takers.
- A water monitoring and allocation plan is developed and adopted by WRMA and other stakeholders leading to improved water resource regulation and management
- WRUA groups have been supported to develop and start implementation of quality SCAMPs
- Sustainable energy options for domestic, institutional and industrial have been developed and adopted

Roles of stakeholders

Actor	Current situation	Desired situation	Changes required
WRUAs	There are 15 WRUAs, 6 of which have developed SCAMPs. ISLA has helped each WRUA to identify one no regret project. Training on governance and project management has not been done. A WRUA representative sits on the ISLA board	ISLA priorities are aligned with those of WRMA and the WRUA groups, training on governance and project management has been done. All WRUA groups have developed SCAMPs and started implementation of joint actions in line with a long term plan for the landscape.	Establishment of a technical working group to coordinate activities under the water flow and access focus area, co-funding agreements between IDH, WRUAs, private and public sector partners. Identification and commissioning of implementing partner(s)

WRMA	ISLA has working relationship with the Kericho and Kisumu offices. WRMA is a member of the ISLA Board.	WRMA, with support of ISLA and other partners, develops and implements WRUA SCAMPs, water flow and quality monitoring and evaluation and an allocation in the Sondu River Basin.	WRMA is a key member of the technical group on water. There is a dedicated resource from the WRMA Kericho office to ISLA and Senior representation from WRMA to the ISLA Board.
CFA	Out of the 3 CFAs required along the Eastern Boundary, two exist and one needs to be formed. A CFA representative from Londiani sits on the ISLA Board	The three CFA along the Eastern boundary have been established, have developed and started implementing management plans. A community intelligence system is in place to support monitoring and control of illegal activities in the forest	Establishment of one CFA and training of all three groups on governance and project management. Development and implementation of management plans for all three groups. A CFA representative is part of the technical working group on forest issues
KFS	KFS has the mandate to work in the SW Mau Forest block, is represented on the ISLA board and has worked with ISLA and private sector partners on the reforestation of 110 ha of degraded forest land in Kericho, Maramara and Itare forest stations	KFS takes the lead in the development and implementation of an integrated management plan for the Southern Mau Conservation Area. Implementation of joint actions under the management plan including gazettement of the conservation area, the link to tourism,	Establishment of a technical working group on forest issues with key partners and leadership of KFS. Confirming co-funding commitments with partners and the engagement of implementing partners
County Governments	Bomet, Kericho and Nakuru Counties are members of the ISLA Board. Discussions on roles and co-funding have started.	ISLA priorities are aligned with those of counties and counties are fully engaged in the co-funding and implementation of agreed joint actions	Finalize co-funding discussions and confirm the role of counties in the implementation of the agreed joint actions
KWTA	KWTA is part of the ISLA Board. KWTA launched the 2016-2020 strategic plan in Feb 2016	ISLA is in line with the KWTA strategic	Involve KWTA in Technical Working Group on Forest issues? Discuss possible allocation of resources to ISLA including 'adopt a forest'
Private sector	The Key partners include UTK, JFK, KTDA, KENGEN and TMA. They are all members of the ISLA board. Discussions on co-funding are at an advanced stage with some commitments already.	Wider private sector representation from the landscape and beyond. Clarity on how private sector can engage including co-funding and joint actions to be covered by each partner.	Approval of the action plan, commitments for co-funding between 2016 and 2018 achieved and aligned with specific joint actions. Clarity on roles beyond board membership and co-funding. Other private sector players are brought on board.

Knowledge institutions	CIFOR is the key knowledge institution carrying out M and E work, also member of board a	Involvement of more knowledge institutions including TRI, local and international universities and research institutes	Hold a science symposium to inform and involve knowledge institutions, include knowledge institutions when sharing info on ISLA Kenya work
NGOs	Currently EAWS, not very active on the board, ongoing discussions with WWF for collaboration. Plans to reach FAN. SNV and Rhino Ark as implementing partners	Relevant NGOs are involved and informed as necessary as members of board, technical working groups and implementing partner teams. Ensure positive publicity and support from local and international NGOs	Include relevant NGOs in the board, working groups and as implementing partners as required. Involve and inform the wider NGO groups for information and support on the ISLA approach
Foreign missions/Embassies	The Dutch Embassy representative sits on board as an observer and full informed of progress. Representatives from the Danish and Swiss embassies have been met.	Relevant Embassies are informed and involved with funding, project activities and visits. They support the ISLA approach and help communicate it to the wider audience	Discuss with Danish and Swiss Embassies what role they could play. Check which others could be involved and engage/bring on board them over time.
Donor organizations	Discussions going on with GEF, German Government	ISLA is well funded and supported by local and international organizations	Explore fundraising opportunities with organizations like USAID, OFDA, ECHO, DANIDA, EC, AUSAID and DFID

Governance Structure

Together with the relevant stakeholders a governance model is designed and set-up. The bodies of the governance structure consist of a Trust (to be registered), the Board, the Secretariat and three Technical Working Groups. The interrelations between these bodies are visualized in Figure 3. The membership, roles and responsibilities of each body is elaborated below.

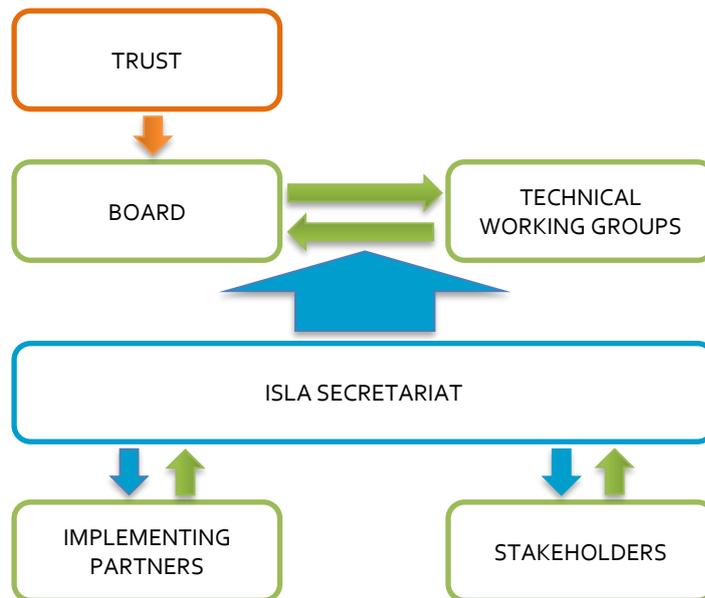


Figure 3: ISLA Kenya Governance structure

Trust

The Trust, to be established and registered as Charitable Trust in 2016, will be made up of five (5) trustees. The Trust will provide oversight on the functions of the board, raise and allocate funds and be legally accountable for the program. It is expected to last into long term, to ensure sustainability of the program, beyond the ISLA Program. The Trust will meet once or twice a year.

ISLA Board

The board, in consultation with the secretariat, defines the program strategy and action plan and oversees the implementation process. Members of the interim board include:

Government and government agencies

- County governments of Kericho, Bomet and Nakuru;
- National Government Institutions (KFS, WRMA and KWTA);

Private sector

- Private Sector companies including KTDA, Unilever Tea Kenya, James Finlay Kenya, KENGEN and the Timber Manufacturers Association;

Civil Society and Research Organizations

- NGO/Civil Society (EAWS/ KFWG, Rhino Ark)
- Community groups (CFAs and WRUAs);
- Knowledge partner (CIFOR).

The Dutch Embassy attends as an observer while the ISLA Kenya team plays the role of secretariat, and chairs the meetings. The board will meet on a quarterly basis (4 times a year).

Technical Working Groups

Three Technical Working Groups will be established based on the program building blocks i.e. forest conservation; improvement of water flow and access; sustainable energy; with alternative livelihoods as a cross cutting issue. Member organizations are presented at the management / expertise level. Technical working groups will meet to deliberate on technical and implementation issues. Activities include: further development of models and approaches for prototyping, sharing lessons learned to expand collective expertise, identify opportunities for improvement, expansion and up-scaling of activities. The Technical Working Groups will meet on a need-basis and report their findings and observations to the board. Initially the groups will be constituted as follows:

Proposed members of working groups:

Forest working group members: KFS, KWS, NTZDC, Rhino Ark, WWF, Finlays, Unilever Tea Kenya, Counties and ISLA

Water Working Group: WRMA, WRUA, GIZ, CIFOR, Kericho, Bomet and Nakuru Counties, Finlays KTDA, KENGEN and ISLA

Energy working group: KTDA, Strathmore University, KEFRI, Greenport Unilever and ISLA

Livelihoods working Group (dairy): SNV, New KCC, ISLA

Secretariat

The Secretariat, made up of the IDH team, will be responsible for the implementation of the ISLA Kenya action plan; contract management with consultants and implementing partners; gathering, collating and analysis of information required to support program development and monitoring & evaluation and; the administration and coordinating of the program activities and events.

1. Day-to-day management of the ISLA program
2. Facilitate the smooth functioning of the board and technical working groups
3. Represent ISLA to outside stakeholders
4. Provide co-funding for approved joint actions

Implementing Partners

IDH is not an implementing organization and therefore works with public, private and civil society implementing partners. IDH provides co-funding (maximum 50%) to its implementing partners to execute projects in the landscape. However, the relationship is not purely financial, IDH does work as partner by thinking-along, providing knowledge, a network and making sure the projects contribute to the overall landscape goals.

Action plan forest conservation

Introduction to forest conservation

The South-West Mau forest block is threatened by encroachment, livestock grazing and browsing, wood extraction for charcoal and firewood, fire and poaching. As a result of these drivers, a large portion of the forest has disappeared in the past four decades. This has a negative effect on the microclimate in the region; and hence on the production and sourcing of commodities in the landscape and livelihoods of surrounding communities. Although the forest cover slightly increased over the past decade, there is a need for joint actions to provide alternative livelihoods, tackle the drivers of deforestation and protect the forest block. Controlling the drivers for deforestation will reduce deforestation and allow the forest to re-generate and ensure that enrichment planting is successful. Within the ISLA landscape the joint actions are focused on the Eastern boundary of the South-West Mau, where the threats are most severe. ISLA will work along the legal forest boundary set by the government, and implemented by KFS (Figure 4). Forest conservation measures will be integrated with community based initiatives; therefore, alternative livelihoods are included as a cross-cutting theme. The joint actions that are formulated and designed together with the ISLA partners are elaborated in the next sections.

Joint actions on forest conservation

1. Development REDD+ strategy

Reducing Emissions from deforestation and Forest Degradation (REDD+) is a mechanism that creates financial value for the carbon stock in forests providing incentives to prevent deforestation and forest degradation. By better forest management, more efficient use of forest products, and investing in low-carbon and sustainable development pathways emissions can be reduced and carbon credits obtained. A carbon credit is a tradeable certificate that holds the right to emit one tonne of carbon dioxide equivalent.

Forest conservation, reducing deforestation and forest degradation are key goals of ISLA Kenya. Through different efforts and pilot projects that are described in this action plan, the main drivers of deforestation are addressed. Program activities combine forest conservation with sustainable development, involve communities and strengthen community and government organizations for sustainable landscape management. Therefore, ISLA holds a great potential to develop a REDD+ project, and to provide for long-term funding for the landscape and its management through this mechanism. In 2016, ISLA, will further develop a REDD+ strategy in collaboration with KFS (who will hold carbon credits), UN-REDD in Kenya and other relevant stakeholders.

MAU FORESTS COMPLEX MAP

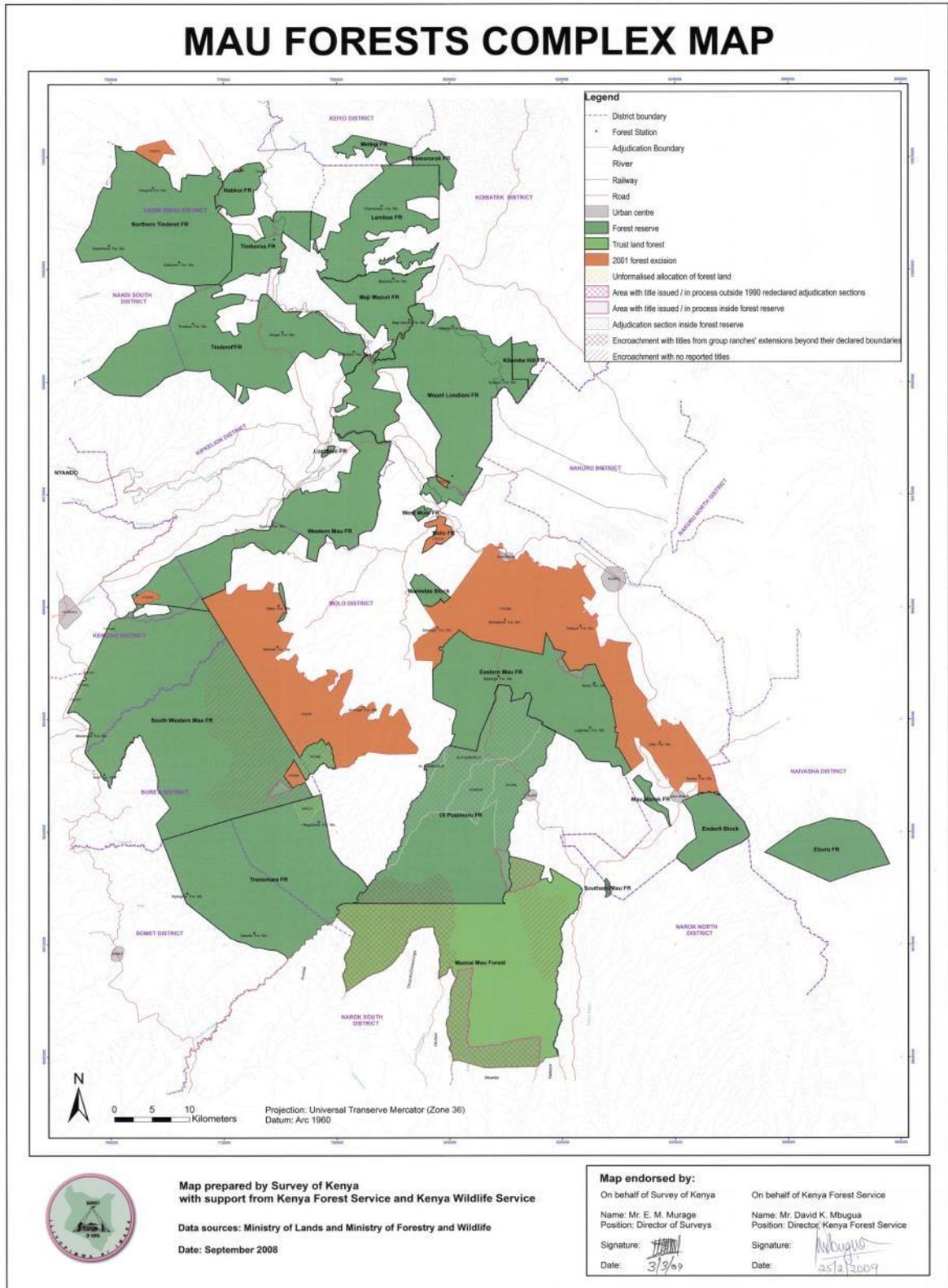


Figure 4: The forest boundary of the South-West Mau (under verification)

2. Adopt a Forest

'Adopt a Forest' is a first action where private sector coalition members, including KTDA, Finlays, Unilever Tea Kenya, and Timber Merchants Association rehabilitate the degraded parts of the Mau Forest near their properties/areas of interest in close collaboration with the Kenya Forest Service and local communities. The enrichment planting is based on a selection appropriate species indigenous to the Mau complex and involves micro-fencing to keep off livestock and ensure tree survival. ISLA is exploring partnerships to adopt deforested areas along the Eastern boundary. Selection of species considers what provides benefits to forest restoration and wildlife.

3. Dairy value chain development

Dairy value chain development enables smallholders to improve their incomes from livestock through an intensified system that is linked to reliable markets. Livestock keeping communities living along the Eastern boundary of the forest block are targeted and prepared for limited forest access. A business case is developed on intensified dairy farming and piloted with a selection of farmers in 2016. The model will be up-scaled in 2017 and 2018. ISLA Kenya is scoping for suitable co-funding and implementing partner(s).

4. Combined forest buffer

The Nyayo Tea Zone Development Cooperation (NTZDC) is mandated to demarcate the legal Eastern boundary of the South-West Mau forest with a 100-meter-wide tea buffer zone. The Nyayo tea zones are proven to be an effective measure to halt encroachment in the forest and provide job opportunities to the surrounding communities. However, the tea zones are less effective in preventing livestock grazing in the forest and as a barrier between humans and wildlife. Therefore, a combination; a fence and a buffer zone which allows controlled access to the forest and provides livelihood options, is proposed as the preferred solution by ISLA stakeholders to halt deforestation and degradation. With regard to the REDD+ project, the carbon sequestration potential of the bamboo will be taken into account.

4.1 Preparing the ground

The project period (2016-2018) will be used to set up the combined forest buffer in phases which start with community projects and end with electric fencing. Initial steps will include discussions with the government for their buy in, clarification on the eastern boundary /cutline as well as ensuring buy in from local leadership, national and county governments and local communities. The Free Prior and Informed Consent (FPIC) will be applied. This will go in parallel with other policy discussion on raising the conservation status (see 2.1 above) and the planting of bamboo in the buffer zone and beyond (2.3.2 below).

4.2 NTZDC bamboo buffer and out-grower scheme

A combination of tea and bamboo in the buffer-zone as established by NTZDC increases the availability of biomass, and wood for other purposes. ISLA co-funding (with NTZDC) is available for a bamboo buffer integrated with an out-grower scheme while NTZDC is fully responsible for the tea buffer. It is envisaged that NTZDC supports community members to produce and sell bamboo

biomass based on agreed terms. This includes value added products such as briquettes with better returns to farmers.

As a first step, the business case for bamboo in the buffer-zone combined with a bamboo out-grower model for surrounding communities along the Eastern boundary of the South-West Mau is further explored. A feasibility study is jointly funded by ISLA and NTZDC. The study also explores the planting bamboo beyond the 100-meter-wide buffer into the degraded gazetted forest land under KFS. The study findings inform next steps.

4.3 Fence

An electric fence, similar to the ones in Mt Kenya and the Aberdares, is to be installed along the 42-43 KM stretch of the eastern boundary with 14 foot and vehicle access gates as shown in the map below. This will be done in partnership with KFS, KWS, Rhino Ark and other partners. However, joint actions based on livelihood projects (dairy, bamboo out-grower scheme) that prepare the community for 'controlled access' to the forest need to commence immediately.

Implementation will go hand in hand with setting up a system of maintenance during and post the ISLA project period to be led by KFS and involve NTZDC, KWS and the community

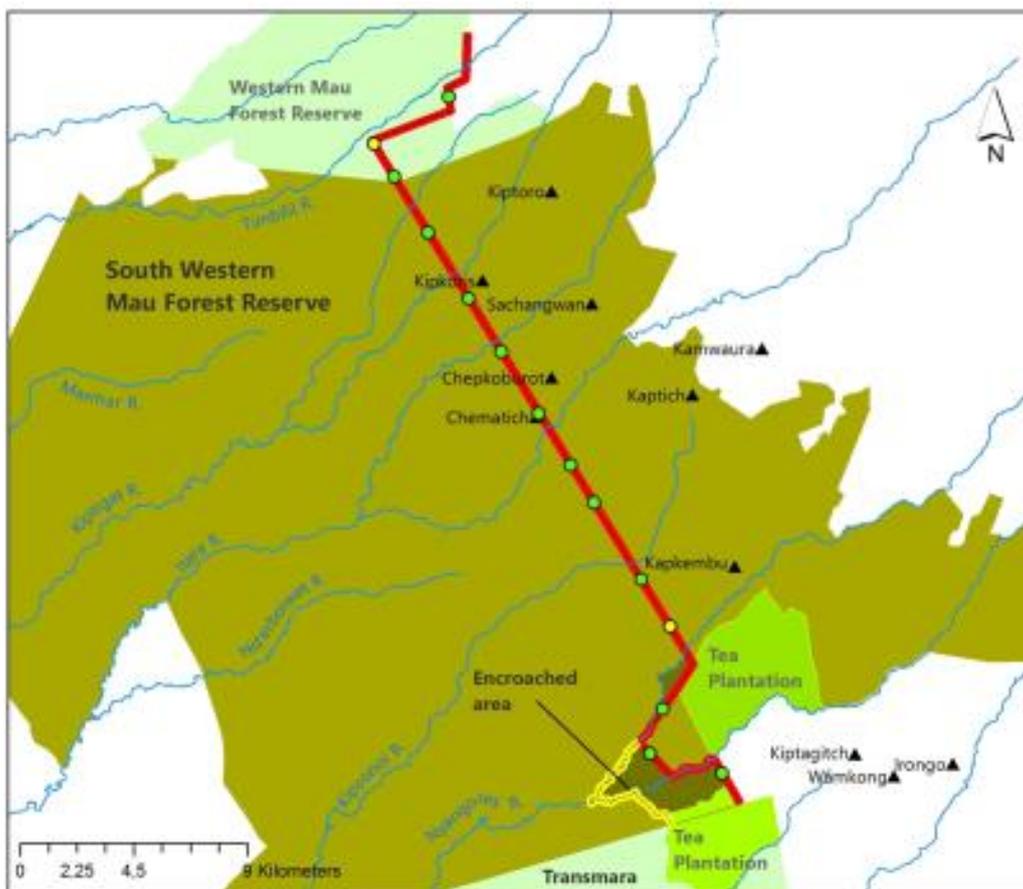


Figure 5: Proposed fence (red), including 14 proposed gates 2 pedestrian/vehicle gates (yellow) 12 pedestrian gates (green). Average distance between gates: 2.8 km (range 1.5 – 4.1).

5. Capacity building of CFAs

The Community Forest Associations are established under the Forest Act to play a participatory forest management role in collaboration with KFS. To enhance their effectiveness, capacity building of CFAs is identified as an important joint action. Together with a suitable Implementing Partner, KFS will work with three CFAs, one linked to each of the KFS stations close to the Eastern boundary. This joint action targets to provide trainings on governance and conservation and to jointly develop three management plans. The management plans will include sustainable forest management activities inside the forest (e.g. honey production, grass cutting, bamboo and butterflies) and outside the forest (e.g. agroforestry, fodder planting, non-tea value chains, establish tree nursery). This will involve other partners from the counties and private sector. Supporting business cases for the activities in and outside the forest need to be further developed, community training needs to be organized.

6. Addressing illegal commercial activities

6.1 Surveillance flights

Quarterly surveillance flights on the South-West Mau forest block are organized to monitor forest degradation and (illegal) activities. KFS, KWS, CFAs, county and ISLA representatives jointly participate in the flights, and follow-up on agreed actions that are agreed upon in the debriefing. The airplane is made available by Finlays as part of their co-funding contribution. These joint actions are under implementation for the period between Q4 2015 and Q4 2018.

6.2 Bongo Surveillance team

ISLA co-funds Bongo ground surveillance teams to support and monitor forest degradation and (illegal) activities with a focus on poaching of wildlife. The Bongo team is involved in the follow-up actions of the surveillance flight. ISLA is working with the implementing partner, Rhino Ark to link the aerial and ground surveillance as well as community intelligence through joint surveys, meetings, follow up activities and reporting. Ground surveillance starts in Q2 2016 and runs to Q4 2018.

6.3 Community intelligence

Community intelligence could play a powerful role in combatting illegal commercial activities that take place in the forest. Building trust with the communities is key. An informant reward system is piloted to motivate communities to share information with KFS and (anonymously) report violations. KFS will develop informant reward system, supported by Rhino Ark. The intelligence system will be developed in Q2 2016 and implemented from Q3 2016 to Q4 2018.

6.4 Law enforcement

Demonstrating the difficulty of arresting to magistrates could have a positive effect on law enforcement. Magistrates are taken along a KFS mission to experience how an arrest is done. The need for and effect of a workshop for forest officers on how to better present cases for prosecution is explored. This joint action with the judiciary will be implemented from Q3 2016 will be co-funded by ISLA. ISLA will co-fund a workshop for forest officers.

6.5 Legal charcoal pilot

To address the illegal production of charcoal in the forest, the possibilities and investment potential for sustainable charcoal production are explored through experience visits of KFS and ISLA to other initiatives. Visits will be done in Q3 2016 and piloting is expected to start in Q4 2016. If successful, upscaling should start from Q4 2017.

6.6 Sustainable Timber Based Forest Products

The opportunities for value chain creation around Timber Based Forest Products for communities will be explored with KFS and TMA (Timber Manufacturers Association).

7. Integrated management plan

ISLA will work in the South-West Mau forest and in addition collaborate with partners including KFS, KWS and WWF to develop an integrated management plan for the South West Mau, Transmara and parts of the Western Mau Forest Block that are currently managed by KFS as separate blocks. ISLA proposes to combine these forest blocks to form the South Western Mau Conservation Area as outlined in green in Figure 6.

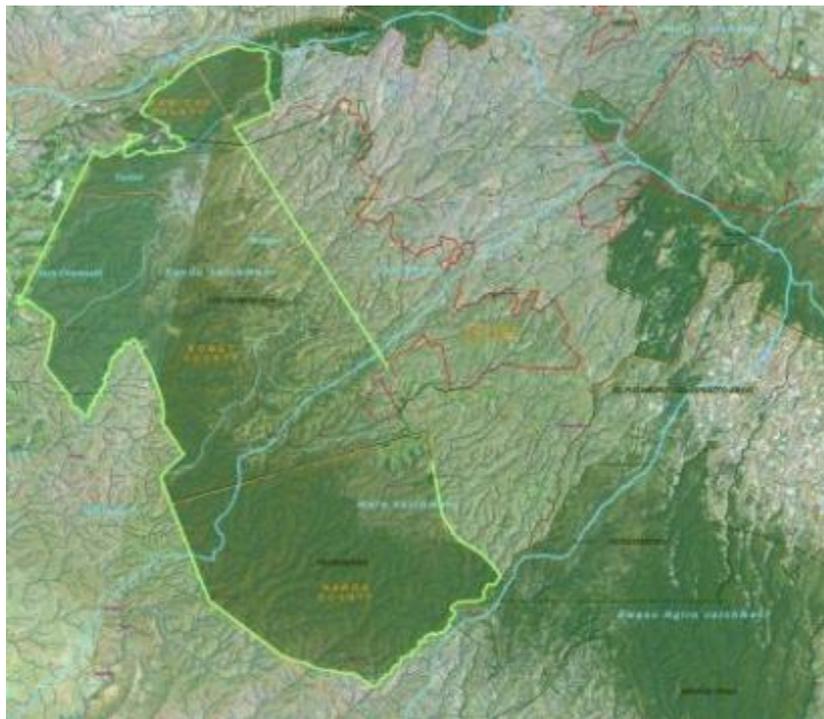


Figure 6: Proposed Southern Mau Conservation Area (demarcated by the green line)

The proposed conservation area will:

1. Comprise of two of the largest forest blocks in the Mau Forests Complex: South Western Mau Forest Reserve (60,000 ha), Transmara Forest Reserve (34,386 ha) and parts of Western Mau Forest Reserve (5,944 ha) to form a complex of approx. 100,000 ha of indigenous forest land, representing one third of the remaining gazetted area of the MFC;

2. Be home of approx. 10 % of world population in the wild of the critically endangered Mountain Bongo and the only elephant population in the Mau Forests Complex, estimated at approx. 1000 individuals in 1995;
3. Form the main upper forested water catchments for two important rivers: Sondu and Mara;
4. Provide new livelihoods opportunities based on wildlife and tourism achieved through expanding the tourism circuit around the Maasai Mara by providing new contrasting wildlife experience: mountain forest vs wooded savannah.

The extended conservation area and integrated management plan will be beneficial for long-term sustainable management of the forest blocks. The potential to develop towards a tourist destination is explored, and will be included in the management plan. The integrated plan and its conservation measures are beneficial for the development of a REDD+ strategy.

Action plan water flow and access

Introduction to water flow and access

The water quantity and quality in the Sondu river basin are declining. Soil erosion, resulting from a limited green infrastructure (tree cover) outside the South-West Mau forest is the main contributor to decreasing water supply and quality. The sediments in the river hamper hydropower generation and limit water supply to towns downstream. Furthermore, soil erosion increases poverty levels due to a continuous loss of soil capital; top-soils are washed away and leave the smallholders with a less productive soil for agricultural production. To improve the green infrastructure and control soil erosion the ISLA joint actions on water flow and access are focused in the Sondu river basin, outside of the South-West Mau forest. Livelihood options are included as a cross-cutting theme. Joint actions are formulated and designed together with the ISLA partners and elaborated in the next sections.

Joint actions on water flow and access

1. Combined actions to improve water flow and access

A number of joint actions that will be implemented in collaboration with the WRUAs, WRMAs and county governments are grouped together as combined actions to improve water flow and access. Initially the implementation of these joint actions will focus on the hotspot areas that are identified in the baseline study by CIFOR. Below is a summary of the joint action that are developed with GIZ.

1.1 Strengthening WRUAs

Based on the assessment of the sub-catchment management plans (SCMPs) of the WRUAs and the no regret actions that have been identified, a number of pilot projects will be implemented. These are small scale projects at the WRUA level that have an impact on water flow and access. In total 15 WRUAs are targeted, all with their own priorities for action that were identified during the assessment study. Activities include for example spring protection, riparian restoration and rainwater harvesting. Pilot projects that are implemented with ISLA co-funding are in line with the long-term ISLA vision, and have an impact on the ISLA impact areas. Next to the implementation of pilot projects, capacity building of WRUAs is an important element, to enable more effective implementation of the management plans based on a sound governance system. A self-assessment tool developed by GIZ is used to self-assess WRUAs. Based on the results of this self-assessment, capacity building measures are implemented based on specific training needs that are identified per WRUA.

1.2 Catchment conservation

To improve the water flow and reduce the sediment loads in the Sondu river basin, the green infrastructure outside the forest needs to be improved. The restoration of riparian zones can have a significant impact on the improvement of water flows and reduction of sediments in the landscape. Replanting of riparian strips 6m- 30m from highest water mark (Water Resource Management Rules 2006) will be combined with a livelihood approach that allows for income generation, such as fruit trees, fodder and/or bamboo, can increase the adoption among landowners bordering water bodies.

On-farm, climate smart agriculture, for example grass strips, can help to control run-off of water and sediments from the plots and hence protect the top soils and agricultural production. These initiatives are consistent with the new constitutional requirement to attain and maintain a 10% forest cover within farms.

Collaboration on catchment conservation with support of the county governments and WRMAs is proposed. Additional activities with potential KTDA, JFK and UTK biomass out-growers are explored and will be closely linked with riparian restoration for smallholder tea farmers that border water bodies.

1.3 Impact monitoring

Low cost monitoring of the WRUA pilot projects and catchment conservation measures will give insight in the impact of the pilot projects and conservation measures, and enables learning in the landscape. Results can be used for awareness creation and prioritization of projects. CIFOR and GIZ will develop a low cost monitoring system that can be used by WRUA/WRMA to monitor the impact of pilot projects. The model is developed in Q3 2016, and implemented in Q4, 2016. ISLA can consider to co-fund the implementation of the low cost monitoring system at the WRUA/WRMA level.

1.4 Water allocation plan

Illegal abstractions have a negative effect on the water availability; a water allocation plan can be used as a management tool for regulated water abstractions. A water allocation plan is to be developed jointly by GIZ and WRMA. Activities to be undertaken are; capacity building of WRMA on for example GIS data collection, geo-referencing of water resources, abstraction and discharge points and an abstraction and pollution survey to provide insight in current water use and update the permitting database WRMA.

Action plan sustainable energy

Introduction to sustainable energy

In the South-West Mau landscape wood is an important energy source for both industry and households. The tea industry relies on fuelwood for the drying of tea in their factories, and households depend mainly on fuelwood and charcoal for cooking. Tea plantations have established sustainable woodlots of Eucalyptus, but in the smallholder sector the supply is not always enough to meet the demand. The joint actions related to the tea industry target selected factories in the landscape, the joint actions related to household mainly focus on the Eastern boundary of the South-West Mau to reduce the pressure on the forest.

Joint actions in sustainable energy

1. Vegetative propagation for KTDA and out-growers' woodlots

There is an opportunity to grow bamboo within KTDA smallholder farms and in KTDA factory-owned land. Nurseries where vegetative propagation is used to grow Bamboo will be established to

provide planting material for factory and smallholders. In addition to improved woodlots, the out-grower scheme to produce bamboo on riparian zones will be promoted among KTDA smallholder farmers bordering water bodies, which provides the additional benefit of water conservation. By increasing the quality and supply of bamboo biomass from out-growers, the pressure on firewood requirements in the landscape is expected to be reduced. ISLA proposes to support KTDA in the establishment of a pilot bamboo nursery.

2. Alternative biomass

Biomass briquettes can provide an alternative for the thermal energy that is required for tea drying. Recent research by ISLA in the landscape estimates that potential supply of biomass for briquette-making outstrips demand, for both tea drying and domestic usage for the community. KTDA is keen to purchase briquettes from entrepreneurs. A feasibility study will assess the availability of biomass and the business case for briquette making and informs on next steps. KTDA and ISLA will support the awareness and development of briquette entrepreneurs by trainings and workshops together with Strathmore University Energy Centre. Training will also be provided to factory operators on the efficient use of briquettes. See table 4 for details on the estimated costs for these joint actions.

3. Geothermal energy

A game-changing substitute for wood fuel is geothermal energy. ISLA proposed to co-fund a feasibility study with the private tea companies (KTDA, UTK and JFK) to assess the opportunities and investment potential.

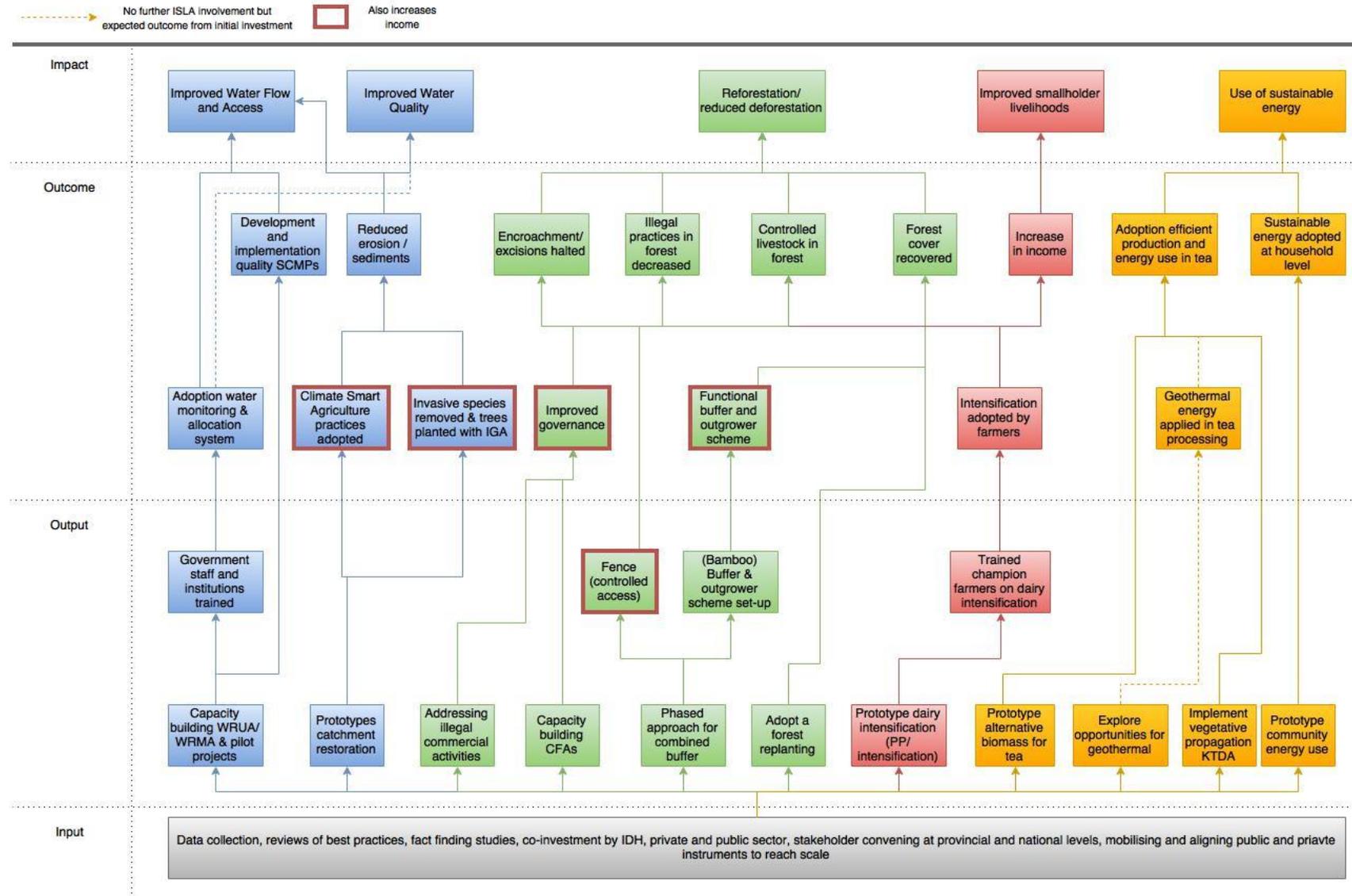
4. Community access to sustainable energy

Households rely on firewood from the forest mainly for cooking fuel. Providing alternatives for firewood and/or improving current efficiencies reduce the dependency on wood. Joint actions will be linked to ongoing activities of partners once more information is available. ISLA will explore opportunities to link the KTDA Foundation with experts and initiatives, as well as co-funding/fund raising donors and partners.

Table 1: Proposed timeline of joint actions in action plan

Building block	2016										2017		2018	
	April	May	June	July	Aug	Sept	Oct	Nov	Dec	Q1/2	Q3/4	Q1/2	Q3/4	
Forest conservation														
1. Develop REDD+				Develop strategy										
2. Adopt a Forest	Contract	Implementation												
3. Dairy value chain development		Study	Contracting				Implementation							
4.1 <i>Preparing the ground</i>	Discussions NTZDC, KFS, gov'm't													
4.2 <i>NTZDC feasibility bamboo buffer / outgrowers</i>	Study		Design next steps				Implementation							
4.3 <i>Fence & maintenance</i>											Implementation			
5. Capacity building of CFAs		Find IP	Contracting		Implementation									
6.1 <i>Surveillance flights</i>	Follow-up		Flight	Follow-up		Flight	Follow-up		Flight	Flight	Flight	Flight	Flight	
6.2 <i>Bongo Surveillance team</i>	Contract	Implementation												
6.3 <i>Community intelligence</i>			Design next steps		Implementation									
6.4 <i>Law enforcement</i>			Design next steps		Implementation									
6.5 <i>Legal charcoal pilot</i>		Field visits		Design next steps			Implementation							
6.6 <i>Timber Based Forest Products</i>				Design next steps			Implementation							
Water access & flow														
7. Combined actions to improve water flow and access	Contracting			Implementation										
7.1 <i>Strengthening WRUAs</i>	Contracting			Implementation										
7.2 <i>Catchment conservation</i>	Contracting			Implementation										
7.3 <i>Impact monitoring</i>	Contracting			Implementation										
7.4 <i>Water allocation plan</i>	Design next steps			Implementation										
Sustainable energy														
8. Vegetative propagation KTDA and out-growers			Design next steps		Implementation									
9. Alternative biomass (briquettes)	Study	Design next steps		Contracting		Implementation								
10. Feasibility geothermal energy		Feasibility study		Design next steps										
11. Sustainable energy for communities				Design next steps		Implementation								

The Results Chain



Notes on the Results Chain

The approach and terminology of the results chain is based on the DCED (Donor Committee for Enterprise Development) standard on results measurement. In this approach, results chains (or impact pathways) are central to results measurement. Results chains show how the program is expected to have a positive impact. They map out the expected causal links from activities to outputs to outcomes to impacts.

In the result chain, three types of indicators are distinguished; output, outcome and impact indicators.

- *Output*: The final products or goods and services produced for delivery. Outputs may be defined as “what we produce or deliver”. Outputs are measurable and easily determined.
- *Outcome*: The medium-term results for specific beneficiaries that are the consequence of achieving specific outputs. Outcomes should relate clearly to the strategic goals and objectives set out in plans. Outcomes are “what we wish to achieve”. An outcome is a change that occurred because of the program. Outcomes are measurable and time bound, although it may take some time to determine them in full
- *Impact*: The long-term or indirect effects of achieving specific outcomes, such as reducing poverty and creating jobs. Impacts are “what we aim to change”. Impacts are hard to measure since they may or may not happen.

The results chain will be used to monitor the progress of ISLA activities and impact on the landscape.

ISLA co-funding for joint actions

In the ISLA program period, running from 2015 until 2018, ISLA will co-fund joint actions in the landscape of Kenya, together with stakeholders and implementing partners. Joint actions need to:

1. Adhere to the general ISLA co-financing requirements
2. Fit in the program's scope
3. Comply with specific selection criteria
4. Match the overall program portfolio

ISLA co-funding requirements

Within the ISLA program funds are available to co-finance joint actions. In general the amount of ISLA co-funding needs to be matched by private and/or public parties and other donors. The total available budget of ISLA for the entire program period in the landscape of Kenya is EUR 1,850,000.-, this thus needs to be matched with contributions of *at least* EUR 1,850,000.- from private or public sector partners, and other donors.

For specific joint actions that apply for co-funding from ISLA, the amount of ISLA co-funding and the ratio of ISLA funding is determined on a case-by-case basis. With regard to co-funding of ongoing activities and fixed assets, there are strict criteria and requirements that must be met.

ISLA program scope

To be compliant with the international ISLA guidelines, joint actions that are implemented with support of ISLA need to fall in one of the ISLA clusters:

1. GOVERNANCE: strengthening and/or enforcement of policies and regulations
2. FINANCE: piloting financial incentive schemes and investment structures
3. MARKETS: Piloting landscape branding, aligning market incentives, verified sourcing areas
4. FIELD "prototyping" actions at the field level

Next to that the joint actions need to fit in one of the three thematic areas which have been identified for the ISLA Kenya program:

1. Forest conservation;
2. Improvement of water flow & access and;
3. Sustainable energy;

Alternative livelihoods is treated as an important cross-cutting theme under each building block.

ISLA specific selection criteria & portfolio considerations

Second, joint actions that fall into the scope of the program are rated on a set of selection criteria. In summary, activities co-financed with ISLA funds:

- Contribute to one or more ISLA impact areas
- Require private sector commitment
- Are action-driven aimed at create impact
- Are inclusive and consider 'winners and losers'
- Demonstrate a strong business case / potential for scale

- Have impact at (a significant part of) the landscape level

In addition, a number of portfolio considerations are taken into account to ensure a mix of in terms of complexity/breakdown risks, timing (e.g. short, medium and long term) and work streams/clusters (e.g. policy/finance/market/field level). A selection tool is developed by the ISLA secretariat to guide the selection process.

A scoring tool detailing the selection criteria and specifies the portfolio considerations are available upon request.

ISLA timeline

2015: establishment of ISLA

In 2015, the governance structure of the ISLA program in Kenya was put in place. the detailed program plan is developed and the decision making mechanisms are agreed upon. In the program period, running from 2015 until 2018, ISLA will co-fund activities in the landscape of Kenya, together with stakeholders and implementing partners.

2016: first prototyping investments

In the start-up phase of the program, IDH will play a supporting role in initiating proposal development. Based on a number of studies and thorough consultations with key stakeholders an action plan was developed. As the program evolves and the governance structure becomes operational, the aim is for stakeholders to take over this role towards 2017.

2017-2018: preparing for upscaling

With the input from the building insights on policy interests combined with lessons learned from the first year(s) of the prototyping activities the ISLA program partners can start identifying activities for upscaling. This will be brought in line with the needed investment from public and private institutions.

Activities	2016	2017	2018
Trust	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Established and registered • 5 trustees appointed 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Raise and allocate funds • 2/3 meetings per year 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Raise and allocate funds • 2/3 meetings per year
Board	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Approval ISLA Kenya action plan • 4 meetings per year 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Strategic guidance of activities • 4 meetings per year 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Strategic guidance of activities • 4 meetings per year
Technical Working Groups	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Technical support to approved action plan; development of models / approaches, • Meetings on need/basis 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Technical support & sharing lessons with regard to activities, expansion and up-scaling • Meetings on need/basis 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Technical support & sharing lessons with regard to activities, expansion and up-scaling • Meetings on need/basis

ISLA Kenya communications strategy

The objective of the ISLA Kenya communication strategy is, above all, to use communication to ensure long term socioeconomic and environmental sustainability of the South West Mau Forest landscape. Through communication we aim, among others, to inform all relevant stakeholders of our progress, gain needed endorsement and support, champion our public and private partners and gain recognition and status locally and internationally.

We will communicate locally, nationally and internationally. Locally, we target Kericho, Nakuru and Bomet counties as well as Narok and Kisumu. We also aim to be visible at the national level as well as internationally through the ISLA Global communication channels.

Our target audiences include county and national governments (ministries such as environment, land, planning, water), government agencies (KWTA, NTZDC, KFS, KWS, WRMA, etc), industries (tea, energy, timber, tourism) and the media.

The information shared will be: program goals and planned activities, progress expected benefits to stakeholders, partners, how to participate and what to expect and not expect. Appropriate messaging will be used to convey this message.

Various communication channels will be used, among them: face-to-face meetings, events, workshops, radio, television, social media, newspapers, newsletters, brochures, booklets, banners and presentations. A media strategy is currently in the making.