

# ECOTRUST

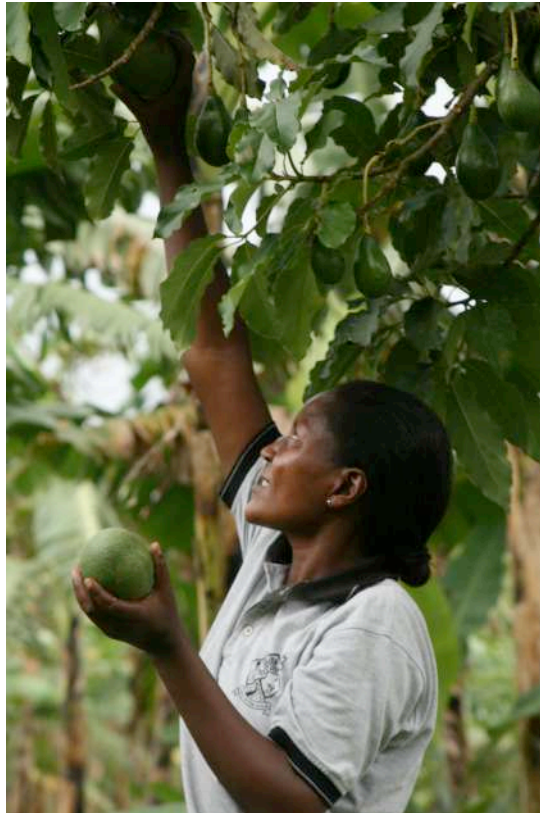
The Environmental Conservation Trust of Uganda



## Trees for Global Benefits

2012 Plan Vivo Annual Report

December 2012



The Environmental Conservation Trust of Uganda (ECOTRUST)

Contact Person:

Pauline Nantongo Kalunda - Executive Director

Plot 49 Nakiwogo Road, Entebbe

P. O. Box 8986, Kampala, Uganda

Tel/fax +256-31-2266419, Mob 0772 743 562

Email: [pnantongo@ecotrust.or.ug](mailto:pnantongo@ecotrust.or.ug)

[www.ecotrust.or.ug](http://www.ecotrust.or.ug)



## 1. Summary

|   |  |  |
|---|--|--|
| <b>Reporting period</b>   |  | January to December 2012                                     |
| <b>Technical specifications in use</b>  |  | Woodlots – <i>Maesopsis emnii</i> - AFM-TB02-01 <sup>1</sup> |
| <b>Area under management (ha) i.e. implemented <i>plan vivos</i></b><br>2,773.2ha           | <b>Areas put under management since last report (ha)</b><br>731.05ha |  |
| <b>Smallholders with <i>plan vivos</i> and PES agreements (total for project)</b><br>2,127  | <b>New smallholders with PES agreements since last report</b><br>634 |  |
| <b>Community groups with <i>plan vivos</i> and PES agreements (total)</b><br>Nil            | <b>New groups with PES agreements since last report</b><br>Nil       |  |
| <b>Plan Vivo Certificates issued to date</b>  |  | 414,967 tCO <sub>2</sub>                                     |
| <b>Submission for Certificate Issuance for new areas under management (tCO<sub>2</sub>)</b> |  | <b>149,305 tCO<sub>2</sub></b>                               |

<sup>1</sup> <http://www.planvivo.org/content/fx.planvivo/resources/UgandaTechSpecMaesopsis.pdf>



## Table of Contents

|  |    |
|--|----|
| 1. Summary.....  | 2  |
| 2. Key Events, Developments and Challenges .....               | 4  |
| 2.1 Key Events.....  | 4  |
| 2.2 Key developments .....                                     | 4  |
| 2.2.1 Project Expansion to Mt. Elgon .....                     | 4  |
| 2.2.2 New Project Activities - Improved Forest Management..... | 5  |
| 2.2.3 Registration of Communal Land Associations.....          | 5  |
| 2.2.4 New Partnerships.....                                    | 6  |
| 2.3 Key challenges .....                                       | 6  |
| 2.3.1 Peer Monitoring.....                                     | 6  |
| 2.3.2 Diseases .....   | 7  |
| 3. Activities, total project size and participation .....      | 8  |
| 3.1 Current Technical Specifications.....                      | 8  |
| 3.2 New Technical Specifications.....                          | 8  |
| 4. Submission for Plan Vivo Certificate Issuance .....         | 10 |
| 5. Sales of Plan Vivo Certificates.....                        | 11 |
| 6. Summary of Monitoring Results .....                         | 13 |
| 6.1 Monitoring Results .....                                   | 13 |
| 6.2 Observations and challenges .....                          | 14 |
| 6.2.1 Poor tree management.....                                | 14 |
| 6.2.2 Fires.....   | 14 |
| 6.2.3 Performance attainment, monitoring & sensitization ..... | 14 |
| 6.2.4 Estimating land size.....                                | 14 |
| 6.3 Monitoring Changes .....                                   | 15 |
| 7. PES update .....  | 16 |
| 8. Ongoing Community Participation .....                       | 17 |
| 8.1 Farmer Sensitization/Trainings and participation.....      | 17 |
| 8.2 Capacity Building for Communal Land Associations .....     | 18 |
| 8.3 Field Coordinators Meeting .....                           | 19 |
| 8.4 Capacity Building for other organizations:.....            | 20 |
| 9. Breakdown of Operational Costs .....                        | 21 |
| 10. Future Development.....                                    | 22 |
| 10.1 Expansion to Mt. Elgon .....                              | 22 |
| 10.2 Title of Communal Forest Ownership .....                  | 22 |
| 10.3 Piloting Improved Forest Management.....                  | 22 |
| 10.4 Third Party Verification .....                            | 22 |



## 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 was initiated in 2003 with 33 farmers in the districts of Rubirizi and Mitooma (both split from the former Bushenyi) and has since spread to other districts of Kasese, Hoima, and Masindi. This report covers the progress of implementation of activities for the project year January to December 2012.

### 2.1 Key Events

The project has continued to enjoy favourable weather throughout the various project sites. The March to June rains were sporadic in most areas but the second half of the year has generally had good rains, which by the time of project reporting were still continuing. This has been very favourable to the project with the majority of farmers (except yr1 & yr3 farmers in Bushenyi) meeting their performance targets.

Due to the increase in number of sites, the project made a decision to limit the number of applications from the very first sites and concentrate efforts in establishing itself at the new sites (especially Kasese). This coupled with the sufficient rains has resulted into very high number of farmers (619 out of a total of 634) recruited from just one site – Kasese.

### 2.2 Key developments

#### 2.2.1 Project Expansion to Mt. Elgon

TGB has worked in partnership with United Nations Development Programme, Territorial Approach for Climate Change (UNDP-TACC) Project and in Collaboration with the District Local Governments of Bududa, Manafwa and Mbale, to design a carbon management scheme for rural communities in the above three Districts. The scheme is being designed as an extension of Trees for Global Benefits.

The UNDP-TACC project is intended to promote an integrated approach to Climate Change adaptation but at the same time promoting biodiversity and natural resources conservation. The extension of TGB is one of the strategies for generating conservation finance, reducing pressure on the Mt. Elgon National



Park and as a means of controlling environmental catastrophes such as landslides, which are prevalent in this area.

In preparation to extend the project to Mt. Elgon, ECOTRUST conducted a feasibility assessment, which included both a socio-economic as well as biophysical assessments. The objectives of the feasibility assessment were: to carry out a baseline survey for determination of current carbon stocks; measure tree parameters to be used in development of management guidelines for the agroforestry farming systems; and quantification of the average net accumulated carbon uptake for the agroforestry systems in the Mt Elgon landscape. This has resulted into the preparation of a concept to modify the PDD to include this new site. Furthermore, the new site has necessitated a modified governance structure specific to Mt. Elgon. In this project area, the local government (at District Level) will be directly involved in the day to day management of the project.

### **2.2.2 New Project Activities - Improved Forest Management**

With support from Myclimate TGB is developing a scheme to *Improve 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 of CO<sub>2</sub> 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.

To date, TGB has conducted socio-economic assessments as well as biomass assessments in collaboration with Makerere University Faculty of Forestry & Nature Conservation. The results of these two assessments have been used establish the baselines for the current carbon stocks in the two forests, design technical specifications for improved forest management and establish permanent sample plots for forest monitoring.

Furthermore, the project has held several consultative meetings with the communities to agree on modalities for their involvement in the day to day activities of forest management as well as to develop a mechanism for equitable benefit sharing.

### **2.2.3 Registration of Communal Land Associations**

With support from Myclimate, the project has worked with the local government in the district of Masindi to formalize the ownership of the forest by the communities. This has resulted into registration of Communal Land Associations



for the two forests of Ongo and Alimugonza as stipulated in the guidelines provided by the Land Act (2003) and the Forestry and Tree Planting Act (2003). This is the first of its kind in Uganda and it is serving as a pilot on how this provision within the law can be implemented. The Associations have been issued with certificates from the Ministry of Lands as the associations mandated to manage the two forests.

## **2.2.4 New Partnerships**

### **2.2.4.1 Standard Chartered Bank**

ECOTRUST has been partnering with Standard Chartered Bank Uganda Limited to support communities to re-greening critical landscapes in the country. Under this partnership, the Bank as part of its corporate social responsibility contributes to the start up costs of tree planting activities in communally owned land. This year the programme supported communities in Manafwa District around Mt. Elgon to plant trees on two hills (Bukoma Hill and Bubuthatha Hill). This was with the understanding that funds from the sale of carbon credits from TGB will be used for the continued maintenance of the planted trees.

### **2.2.4.2 Carbon Offsets to Alleviate Poverty (COTAP)**

The project signed an MoU with Carbon Offsets To Alleviate Poverty (“COTAP”), a California not-for-profit corporation for the marketing of carbon credits generated by the project. Under this agreement, COTAP will utilize contributions from donors to protect the global climate and help alleviate poverty.

## **2.3 Key challenges**

### **2.3.1 Peer Monitoring**

The main challenge of this reporting period has been misrepresentation of results from peer monitoring with some farmers giving false reports of good performance for some farmers. This has resulted into poor performance of farmers in yr1 & 3 in Bushenyi since they did not expect that this year every farmer will be visited by ECOTRUST staff.

The project has discussed the issue with the coordinators as well as the farmers involved in peer monitoring. The discussions led to a revision of the role of the coordinators and assistants as well as taking up some of the farmers involved in peer monitoring as assistant coordinators. It was agreed that the coordinators’



role will be to facilitate farmers through the application process, identify and link farmers to appropriate nurseries, prepare farmers for monitoring and participating in the monitoring together with ECOTRUST staff. The farmer coordinators are still involved in monitoring but have to pair up with ECOTRUST staff to conduct the exercise at the different farms.

### **2.3.2 Diseases**

Unknown disease was causing shoot diebacks affected mainly *Meosopsis* seedlings in Masindi District. Planted seedlings have been affected as well as seedlings still in tree nurseries. Samples of the diseased seedlings were taken to National Forestry Authority for cross-examination to establish the cause of shoot diebacks. A similar disease has been observed in Kasese affecting pines but it has not yet affected the project trees (which are not pine).



### 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. However, the communities in Kasese District (around Rwenzori Mountains) have experienced difficulties in growing this species and have been experimenting with *Grevalia*, which seems to be performing much better than *Maesopsis*. The project has therefore invested in the development of new technical specifications for *Grevalia* spp.

During the reporting period, the project has recruited 633 farmers with 731.05ha of farmland bringing the total number of farmers participating in the project to 2,126 and total land area under improved management to 2,773.2ha. The majority of the farmers were recruited from the newest site – Kasese District. The detailed list of farmers that have been recruited and their monitoring results as well as buyers they have been allocated to is attached in appendix 1

The table 1 below indicates the total number of producers recruited into the project in the respective districts all applying *Maesopsis emnii* technical specifications

| District | Producers  | Hectares      |
|----------|------------|---------------|
| Hoima    | 15         | 16            |
| Kasese   | 618        | 715.05        |
| Mitooma  | -          | -             |
| Rubirizi | -          | -             |
| Masindi  | -          | -             |
|          | <b>633</b> | <b>731.05</b> |

**Table 1: Total Number of Producers and Land (in ha) recruited by the project**

#### 3.2 New Technical Specifications

During the reporting period, the project has prepared three technical specifications of native species as well as one for Improved Forest Management. The need for these new technical specifications was realised during the socio-economic assessments that were part of the processes to extend the project to other communities. The new technical specifications include the following:





- Improved Forest Management through Communal Land Associations in Masindi. This has been made possible with funding from Myclimate.
- Woodlots of mixed native species for northern Uganda
- Boundary planting with *Grevalia robusta* targeting communities around Mountain Elgon and
- Dispersed inter-planting with *Grevalia Robusta*



## 4. Submission for Plan Vivo Certificate Issuance

| Buyer/PES funder <sup>1</sup>  | Volume (tCO <sub>2</sub> ) | Total Price (\$/tCO <sub>2</sub> ) | Producers & PV numbers |                           |               | Total producer/ group (\$/tCO <sub>2</sub> ) | Monitored? (Y/N) |
|--|----------------------------|------------------------------------|------------------------|---------------------------|---------------|--|------------------|
|  |                            |                                    | Location               | Producer/ Producer Groups | Area (ha)     |  |                  |
| Max Hamburger  | 60,498                     |                                    | Bugoye                 | 69                        | 92.25         | 183,163.745                                  | y                |
|  |                            |                                    | Karusandara            | 7                         | 11.5          |  | y                |
|  |                            |                                    | Kilembe                | 62                        | 73.05         |  | y                |
|  |                            |                                    | Maliba                 | 82                        | 116.5         |  | y                |
|  |                            |                                    | Rukoki                 | 2                         | 4             |  | y                |
|  |                            |                                    | <b>Sub - total</b>     | <b>222</b>                | <b>297.3</b>  |  |                  |
| Max Hamburger  | 78,892                     |                                    | Bugoye                 | 124                       | 135.75        | 238,853.419                                  | y                |
|  |                            |                                    | Kabwoya                | 6                         | 6             |  | y                |
|  |                            |                                    | Karusandara            | 18                        | 18            |  | y                |
|  |                            |                                    | Kilembe                | 9                         | 9.5           |  | y                |
|  |                            |                                    | Kiziranfumbi           | 8                         | 9             |  | y                |
|  |                            |                                    | Maliba                 | 191                       | 202.5         |  | y                |
|  |                            |                                    | Rukoki                 | 4                         | 7             |  | y                |
|  |                            |                                    | <b>Sub - total</b>     | <b>360</b>                | <b>387.75</b> |  |                  |
| Straight Plc   | 1,100                      |                                    | Bugoye                 | 6                         | 6             | 3,330.36                                     | y                |
| Bartlett Foundation  | 412                        |                                    | Kitswamba              | 2                         | 2             | 1,247.3712                                   | y                |
| U&W  | 3,400                      |                                    | Bugoye                 | 12                        | 12            | 10,293.84                                    | y                |
|  |                            |                                    | Maliba                 | 5                         | 5             |  | y                |
|  |                            |                                    | <b>Sub - total</b>     | <b>25</b>                 | <b>25</b>     |  |                  |
| The Embassy of Ireland in Uganda   | 211                        |                                    | Nyamwamba              | 1                         | 1             | 638.8236                                     | y                |
| Northern Uganda Agricultural Livelihoods Recovery Programme and Karamoja Livelihoods Programme | 62                         |                                    | Bugoye                 | 7                         | 7.5           | 187.7112                                     | y                |
| Mihingo Lodge  | 45                         | 136.242                            |                        |                           |               | y  |                  |
| Kampala Aero Club and Flight Training Center   | 1,332                      | 4,032.7632                         |                        |                           |               | y  |                  |
| Unsold credits   | 3,353                      |                                    | Karusandara            | 3                         | 2             | 10,153.8741                                  | y                |
|  |                            |                                    | Kiziranfumbi           | 7                         | 2.5           |  | Y                |
|  |                            |                                    | <b>Sub - total</b>     | <b>10</b>                 | <b>4.5</b>    |  |                  |
|  | <b>149,305</b>             |                                    |                        | <b>633</b>                | <b>731.05</b> | <b>441,884.275</b>                           |                  |

Table 2: Number of farmers allocated to each respective buyer

## 5. Sales of Plan Vivo Certificates

During the annual reporting period (2012), the project has sold 149,186 tCO<sub>2</sub> to various buyers as indicated in the table 3a below. This includes 440tCO<sub>2</sub>, 2,794tCO<sub>2</sub> and 145,952.tCO<sub>2</sub> from vintages 2010, 2011 and 2012 respectively.

| Vintage | Name of purchaser/source of funds  | No of Plan Vivo Certificates purchased | Price per Certificate | Total amount received (\$) |
|---------|--|--|-----------------------|----------------------------|
| 2010    | IMA Group  | 114                                    |                       |                            |
| 2010    | CoTAP  | 309                                    |                       |                            |
| 2010    | ClimatePath Ecologic Fund  | 70                                     |                       |                            |
| 2011    | CoTAP  | 287                                    |                       |                            |
| 2011    | Shepherd Building Group  | 2,507                                  |                       |                            |
| 2012    | Max Hamburger  | 60,498                                 |                       |                            |
| 2012    | Max Hamburger  | 78,892                                 |                       |                            |
| 2012    | Bartlett Foundation  | 412                                    |                       |                            |
| 2012    | Straight Plc   | 1,100                                  |                       |                            |
| 2012    | Northern Uganda Agricultural Livelihoods Recovery Programme and Karamoja Livelihoods Programme | 62                                     |                       |                            |
| 2012    | The Embassy of Ireland in Uganda   | 211                                    |                       |                            |
| 2012    | U&W  | 3,400                                  |                       |                            |
| 2012    | Mihingo Lodge  | 45                                     |                       |                            |
| 2012    | Kampala Aero Club and Flight Training Center   | 1,332                                  |                       |                            |
|         |  | <b>149,186</b>                         |                       |                            |

**Table 3a: Sales for the reporting period January to December 2012**

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

This table was amended on May 10<sup>th</sup> 2013. The original stated 256 certificate sales to COTAP in 2010. This has been corrected.

The current sales bring the total number of certificates sold over the years to 423,243tCO<sub>2</sub> broken down as follows:

| Year | Number of Plan Vivo Certificates purchased (tCO <sub>2</sub> ) | Total amount received (\$) | Year               | Number of Plan Vivo Certificates purchased (tCO <sub>2</sub> ) | Total amount received (\$) |
|------|--|----------------------------|--------------------|--|----------------------------|
| 2003 | 11200  | 42764                      | 2009               | 39151  | 237778                     |
| 2005 | 19325  | 91118                      | 2010               | 51428  | 316158.7                   |
| 2006 | 13667  | 57342                      | 2011               | 72250  | 384173                     |
| 2007 | 14873  | 84462                      | 2012               | 145952   | 739964.2                   |
| 2008 | 52163  | 315020                     | <b>GRAND TOTAL</b> | <b>423,243</b>   | <b>2,274,617</b>           |

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

The detailed information on buyers, respective volumes are found in appendix 3 – list of buyers and the respective volumes purchased and total price paid.

In addition, the project has generated 3,353.77tCO<sub>2</sub> 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 **75,503.77tCO<sub>2</sub>** as indicated in the table 3c below.

| <b>Vintage</b> | <b>Number of certificates</b> |
|----------------|-------------------------------|
| 2010           | 5588                          |
| 2011           | 66,562                        |
| 2012           | 3,353.77                      |
|                | <b>75,503.77</b>              |

**Table 3c: Balance of unsold stock for vintages 2010 to 2012 at 25<sup>th</sup> February 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 invested significant effort in monitoring continuing farmers especially in the old sites of Mitooma, Rubirizi, Hoima and Masindi. This was mainly because there were some inconsistencies between the information generated from the peer monitoring and that from the selected sample. The project therefore decided to visit all producers who had been recruited in the previous years but had not yet met the year 3 target. 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 2

**Table 4a: Summary of continuing producers visited in 2012**

| District     | Number of carbon Producers Monitored |            |            |           |          |              |
|--------------|--------------------------------------|------------|------------|-----------|----------|--------------|
|              | Year 0                               | Year 1     | Year 3     | Year 5    | Year 10  |              |
| Bushenyi     | 61                                   | 530        | 126        | 18        | 6        |              |
| Masindi      | 16                                   | 118        | 12         | 0         | 0        |              |
| Hoima        | 7                                    | 87         | 6          | 0         | 0        |              |
| Kasese       | 12                                   | 90         | 0          | 0         | 0        |              |
| <b>Total</b> | <b>96</b>                            | <b>825</b> | <b>144</b> | <b>18</b> | <b>6</b> | <b>1,089</b> |

In summary, a total of 1,089 continuing producers were visited in all the project areas this year. Of these, 770 farmers met their respective target while 319 farmers did not. The majority of farmers who did not meet targets are in Bushenyi Yr1 (163 out of 530) and Yr3 (49 out of 126) farmers. The main reason for not meeting target has been misrepresentation of results from peer monitoring. All recruitment from the four sites in Bushenyi has thus been suspended until all old farmers meet their targets. According to reports sent from the nursery operators as well as farmer coordinators, the majority of farmers have gone ahead to meet the respective targets. However, this information has not been captured in this report since it has not yet been verified by ECOTRUST staff.

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

MT= met target      DT= did not meet target

| District | Kasese |    | Hoima |    | Masindi |    | Bushenyi |    |
|----------|--------|----|-------|----|---------|----|----------|----|
|          | MT     | DT | MT    | DT | MT      | DT | MT       | DT |
| Year0    | 12     | 0  | 3     | 4  | 3       | 13 | 46       | 15 |



|              |            |          |           |           |           |           |            |            |
|--------------|------------|----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|------------|------------|
| Year1        | 88         | 2        | 63        | 24        | 86        | 32        | 367        | 163        |
| Year 3       | -          | -        | 3         | 3         | 5         | 7         | 77         | 49         |
| Year5        | -          | -        | -         | -         | -         | -         | 13         | 5          |
| Year 10      | -          | -        | -         | -         | -         | -         | 4          | 2          |
| <b>TOTAL</b> | <b>100</b> | <b>2</b> | <b>69</b> | <b>31</b> | <b>94</b> | <b>52</b> | <b>507</b> | <b>234</b> |

## **6.2 Observations and challenges**

### **6.2.1 Poor tree management**

There is reluctance by some farmers to delay spot weeding/general weeding/slashing. These delays results in poor tree health. This makes the monitoring process difficult and tedious because the environment is so bushy. In addition, it was observed that many farmers poorly spaced their trees especially those in Year 0 and were advised to adjust accordingly.

### **6.2.2 Fires**

These were not so frequent this year but where they occurred, they have been very destructive and forced some farmers to leave the project. The fires are reportedly accidental. There have also been a few cases of malicious cutting and uprooting of the newly planted seedlings due to neighborhood and land conflicts.

### **6.2.3 Performance attainment, monitoring & sensitization**

Farmers especially in Masindi and Kasese have continued to make very significant improvements immediately after the monitoring exercise (and training sessions) and expect to be paid as a result of these improvements. This shows how important monitoring and training of farmers is in the project but also puts a burden on the project to undertake extra visits to verify the reported improvements.

However, there is a particular group of farmers (18 in Masindi and 15 in Bushenyi) who have consistently failed to either attain their targets for year0. The project has identified other farmers that are on the waiting list yet they have already attained their targets to replace the poor performers.

### **6.2.4 Estimating land size**

Farmers cannot correctly estimate the size of their land. This is partly because of low literacy rates and lack of appropriate tools to measure their land. During sensitization meetings, attempts have been made to train participants in simple user-friendly ways of measuring land, for example, by using sticks of known length to measure the entire boundary. Secondly, use of pace factor/strides as another easier way of measuring. Further trainings will be carried out to the wider community to ensure that they can fairly estimate the size of their land.



The challenge of the farmer not being able to correctly estimate his/her land is that it causes an unnecessary argument about the correct size of land versus the trees planted etc.

### ***6.3 Monitoring Changes***

Considering the challenges involved in peer monitoring, the project has made adjustments in the farmers' role in the monitoring exercise. Instead of the farmer having the mandate to visit fellow farmers on their own, the project has decided to pair each participating farmer with a staff member from ECOTRUST during the exercise. The farmers will continue to be involved in the monitoring but also ensures that the quality of the monitoring results is not compromised (i.e. the information from the field is not misrepresented to influence payments).



## 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 table below shows payment disbursements to farmers of the various project sites. A table with records of individual payments to farmers has been submitted to the Plan Vivo Foundation.

**Table 5: Disbursement of carbon funds to sites-2012**

| Site         | Date        | Amount (USD)        |
|--------------|-------------|---------------------|
| Bitereko     | Dec-12      | 17,156.279          |
|              | Sept-12     | 2,709.738           |
|              | June-12     | 4,372.952           |
| Kiyanga      | Dec-12      | 12,071.00           |
|              | Sept-12     | 4,801.7696          |
|              | June-12     | 1,873.64            |
| Bunyaruguru  | Dec-12      | 10,374.0199         |
|              | Nov-12      | 8,834.754           |
|              | Sept-12     | 3,984.999           |
|              | July/Aug-12 | 8,988.065           |
| Kasese       | Dec-12      | 61,949.594          |
|              | Oct-12      | 81,934.9952         |
|              | Aug-12      | 2,509.573           |
| Hoima        | Dec/Nov 12  | 5,939.348           |
|              | July/Aug-12 | 951.06              |
| Masindi      | Dec-12      | 5,305.5324          |
|              | Sept-12     | 4,355.3182          |
|              | June-12     | 2,599.3548          |
| <b>Total</b> |             | <b>240,711.9921</b> |





## 8. Ongoing Community Participation

### 8.1 Farmer Sensitization/Trainings and participation

A number of sensitization and training meetings and workshops were held in 2012 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 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.

| Environmental Challenges                  | Socio-economic Challenges   | Benefits   |
|---|---|--|
| Limited sources of high quality seedlings | Neighborhood conflicts resulting in fires and malicious cutting of trees  | Increased enrolment of children in schools       |
| Droughts                                  | Competition from other projects/land use options e.g. large scale sugarcane growing and cocoa in Masindi and Hoima respectively, limited land | Improved housing and household income in general |
|   | Very low carbon prices,   | Development of Village Banks (SACCOs)            |
|   |   | Increased access to low interest loan facilities |
|   |   | Increased agricultural productivity              |

**Table 6: Challenges and benefits mentioned by project participants during the training meetings**

They also testified benefits from environmental improvement, to social equity and Economical benefits such as Biodiversity conservation with its related benefits, increased enrolment of children in schools from direct carbon credits, improved housing, increased agricultural output, resulting into low interest loan accessibility and therefore boosting household incomes etc.

**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) | 1               | 129                | 85          | 44         |
|          | Kiyanga (PV, CCF, Record keeping)  | 1               | 152                | 111         | 41         |
|          | Ryeru (PV,CCF, Record keeping)     | 1               | 71                 | 59          | 12         |
|          | Kichwamba(PV, CCF,Record keeping)  | 1               | 44                 | 34          | 10         |
|          | Katerera (PV, CCF, Record keeping) | 1               | 42                 | 34          | 8          |
| Kasese   | Ruboni (PV&CCF)                    | 2               | 203                | 120         | 83         |
|          | Maliba (PV &CCF)                   | 2               | 207                | 156         | 51         |
|          | Kilembe (PV&CCF)                   | 2               | 159                | 120         | 39         |
|          | Karusandara (PV&CCF)               | 2               | 74                 | 58          | 16         |
| Hoima    | Kyangwali(PV &CCF)                 | 2               | 142                | 124         | 18         |
|          | Kabwoya (PV&CCF)                   | 2               | 46                 | 37          | 9          |
|          | Kiziranfumbi (PV& CCF)             | 3               | 210                | 153         | 57         |
|          | Buseruka (PV)                      | 1               | 42                 | 32          | 10         |
|          | Kaseeta(PV& CCF)                   | 2               | 48                 | 35          | 13         |
| Masindi  | Bwijanga (PV&CCF)                  | 1               | 34                 | 6           | 28         |
|          | Pakanyi (PV&CCF)                   | 1               | 39                 | 26          | 13         |
|          | Nyantozi (PV&CCF)                  | 1               | 27                 | 24          | 03         |
|          | Nyangahya (PV&CCF)                 | 1               | 24                 | 16          | 08         |
|          | Karujubu (PV&CCF)                  | 1               | 24                 | 8           | 16         |
|          | Kasenene.(PV&CCF)                  | 1               | 58                 | 52          | 06         |
| Mbale    | Nakatsi (PV)                       | 2               | 84                 | 73          | 11         |
|          | Bukusu(PV)                         | 2               | 112                | 104         | 08         |
|          | Nyondo (PV)                        | 2               | 113                | 80          | 33         |
|          | Wanale /Budwale (PV)               | 2               | 177                | 81          | 96         |
|          | Bubyangu (PV)                      | 2               | 45                 | 39          | 06         |
|          | Bukibokholo (PV)                   | 2               | 83                 | 75          | 08         |
|          | Bumbo (PV)                         | 2               | 70                 | 54          | 6          |
|          | Bugobero (PV)                      | 2               | 104                |             |            |
| Totals   |                                    | <b>45</b>       | <b>2563</b>        | <b>1796</b> | <b>653</b> |

## 8.2 Capacity Building for Communal Land Associations

Table 7b: shows number of participants during the capacity strengthening of CLAs in Masindi and Hoima Districts.

| District | Site/venue  | Number of trainings /meetings | Number of participants | Male | Female |
|----------|---|-------------------------------|------------------------|------|--------|
| Masindi  | Budongo (sensitization about TGB Project on Communal Land)  | 2                             | 111                    | 88   | 23     |
|          | Pakanyi (sensitization about TGB Project on Communal Land)  | 1                             | 54                     | 39   | 15     |
| Hoima    | Kigoroby (sensitization about TGB Project on Communal Land) | 1                             | 34                     | 28   | 6      |



|         |                                   |   |    |    |   |
|---------|-----------------------------------|---|----|----|---|
| Masindi | Budongo (CLA constitution Review) | 1 | 50 | 41 | 9 |
|         | Pakanyi (CLA constitution Review) | 1 | 61 | 57 | 4 |

### 8.3 Field Coordinators Meeting

A field coordinators meeting was held at ECOTRUST Offices in Entebbe Uganda with field staff based in Mitooma and Rubirizi Districts. The main aim of the meeting was to discuss the achievements and challenges faced by them while implementing the TGB activities in the field. In total, the meeting involved 15 farmer coordinators, Assistant Coordinators and Parish Coordinators. One by one each Field Coordinators gave a brief on the achievements and challenges encountered during the year.

Several issues were discussed including key areas for project implementation, review of farmers' performance, roles and responsibilities of coordinators, and farmers payments. Below is a summary of the issues discussed

| 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<br><br>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,<br><br>The coordinators should familiarise themselves with the seedlings right procedures including records keeping. Only farmers authorised by the coordinators should be picking seedlings   |

**Table 7c: Summary of Issues discussed in coordinators' meeting held at ECOTRUST Offices Plot 49 Nakiwogo Road Entebbe**



#### ***8.4 Capacity Building for other organizations:***

TGB has also been involved in the building of capacity for other partners who are in the process of developing Plan Vivo projects. These include WCS, where ECOTRUST is building capacity to establish a similar scheme for communities around Nyungwe National Park in Rwanda. Under this support, ECOTRUST has conducted a feasibility assessment for establishing this scheme and developed technical specifications for the desired farming systems.

In addition, the project hosted Comodius Nyirenda, the project coordinator for the Trees of Hope project in Malawi on a learning visit.



## 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          | From Carbon sales | Other sources  | Note  |
|---------------------------------------|----------------|-------------------|----------------|---|
| Verification                          |                | 0                 |                |   |
| Staff time                            | 95557.5        | 84,278            | 11,280         | Support from UNDP TACC                                  |
| Monitoring & farmer capacity building | 36,218         | 36,218            | 0              |   |
| Office costs                          | 39571          | 19785             | 19,786         |   |
| Vehicle                               | 23723          | 10,576            | 13,147         |   |
| Project Devt                          | 79129.72       | 0                 | 79,130         | Support from UNDP/TACC, Myclimate, French Embassy Roche |
| Coordinators                          | 3944           | 3944              | 0              |   |
| Other travel                          | 4676           | 4676              | 0              |   |
| <b>Total</b>                          | <b>282,819</b> | <b>159,476</b>    | <b>123,343</b> |   |



## 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 Title of Communal Forest Ownership***

Following the registration of the two communal land associations, the project will assist these associations to acquire titles of communal ownership for Ongo and Alimugonza community forests. This process has already been initiated with support from Myclimate and the Masindi District surveyor is currently putting together the relevant documentation.

### ***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 as well as piloting the benefit sharing mechanism.

### ***10.4 Third Party Verification***

The project is preparing to undergo third party verification for its activities. This is an event that takes place every five years and the last one was conducted in 2008 and therefore the next one is due for 2013.