

**Ministry of Foreign Affairs – Embassy in Nairobi**

**Meeting in the Council for Development Policy on: 12 September 2024**

**Agenda Item: No. 6**

- 1. Overall purpose:** *For discussion and recommendation to the Minister*
- 2. Title:** Increased resilience, through adoption of nature-based solutions, access to water and renewable energy
- 3. Amount:** DKK 50 million (2025-2028)
- 4. Presentation for Programme Committee:** 9 April 2024
- 5. Previous Danish support presented to UPR:** No

## Support to Northern Rangelands Trust (NRT) - Nature-based solutions, Water and Energy Project 2025-2028

<p><b>Key results:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Increased community resilience and adaptation to climate change through sustainable investments in nature-based solutions (NbS), water and energy in Northern and Coastal Kenya benefiting directly over 240,000 people living within the NRT community conservancies.</li> </ul> <p><b>Justification for support:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>This support is highly relevant as it addresses development challenges in the arid and semi-arid lands of Kenya (ASALs) through nature-based solutions, water and energy.</li> <li>The contribution is aligned with Denmark’s Strategy for Development Cooperation ‘The World We Share’, specifically its focus on climate change resilience, nature-based solutions and access to water and energy in Africa.</li> <li>There is a high degree of coherence between this project and other embassy engagements in Kenya, including on water, peace building, humanitarian, building resilience towards climate change and working within fragile areas.</li> </ul> <p><b>Major risks and challenges:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>NRT operates in a highly conflict-ridden part of Kenya prone to insecurity and resource-based conflicts. In addition, NRT’s conservancy model has a conflict potential as it can in some cases challenge the traditional customs and structures of pastoralist societies. This has triggered negative publicity on NRT, including allegations of violations of human rights and the right to land. NRT has developed mechanisms to mitigate this by cooperating closely with the local communities, peace building as well as an increased focus on human rights due diligence. The Embassy is closely following NRT’s implementation of its human rights policy and recommendations from the donor-initiated Due Diligence report as well the recommendations from a technical review and Mid-Term Review of the embassy’s support to NRT.</li> <li>Extreme climatic events where conflict and insecurity escalate during droughts, floods, and other environmental shocks.</li> <li>Negative publicity over NRT’s carbon credit project, which is not supported financially by the embassy but had potential to have a negative spill-over on other NRT engagements. This has now been closed following completion of a comprehensive external review that lifted the halt of the project.</li> </ul>	File No.	24/26617					
	Country	Kenya					
	Responsible Unit	Nairobi					
	Sector	Climate and Resilience					
	Partner	Northern Rangelands Trust (NRT)					
	DKK million	2024	2025	2026	2027	2028	Total
	Commitment	50					50
	Projected disbursement		13.8	12.5	13.5	10.2	50
	Duration	51 Months					
	Ongoing grant	DKK 95 Million					
Finance Act code	06.34.01.75						
Head of unit	Stephan Schönemann						
Desk officer	Nancy Njenga						
Reviewed by CFO	YES: Charlotte Rosen						
<b>Relevant SDGs</b> [ <i>Maximum 1 – highlight with grey</i> ]							
 No Poverty	 No Hunger	 Good Health, Wellbeing	 Quality Education	 Gender Equality	 Clean Water, Sanitation		
 Affordable Clean Energy	 Decent Jobs, Econ. Growth	 Industry, Innovation, Infrastructure	 Reduced Inequalities	 Sustainable Cities, Communities	 Responsible Consumption & Production		
 Climate Action	 Life below Water	 Life on Land	 Peace & Justice, strong Inst.	 Partnerships for Goals			

**Strategic objectives** for stand-alone projects

The project objective is to enhance the resilience of community conservancies in Northern Rangelands and Coastal Kenya through increased investment in nature-based solutions, water, and renewable energy.

**Environment and climate targeting - Principal objective (100%); Significant objective (50%)**

	Climate adaptation	Climate mitigation	Biodiversity	Other green/environment
Indicate 0, 50% or 100%	100%	0 %	50%	100%
<b>Total green budget (DKK)</b>	50million	0	25million	50million

**Justification for choice of partner:**

NRT has been selected based on the partner’s ability to address some of the key concerns in the ASALs and Northern Kenya, including building resilience and promoting green, inclusive growth. NRT is ideally positioned to work closely with County Governments and national government institutions to influence relevant policies that drive development of the ASALs through sustainable utilization of the natural resources management. NRT has further demonstrated capacity to deliver on pilot nature-based solutions, water and energy projects within their 44 conservancies in Kenya.

**Summary:**

NRT is an association of 45 community conservancies covering 10 ASAL counties in the North and coastal Kenya. NRT works in collaboration with national and county governments in the areas of interest including rangelands, livestock, wildlife, forest, water and security. This support to NRT will strive to increase resilience of vulnerable households through nature-based solutions, improved access to water and energy in the selected NRT Conservancies communities. It will leverage the present Danish engagement 2021-2025 Resilient Communities and Natural Resources under the Kenya-Denmark Strategic Framework as well the additional DKK 35mio grant on water and energy through implementation of integrated water projects, energy and nature-based solutions at the community conservancy level.

**Budget (engagement as defined in FMI):**

Engagement 1 – the development project	DKK 50,000,000
<b>Total</b>	<b>DKK 50 Million</b>

Note: In PMI, an interactive version of this appropriation cover note is available at the “Grant” page under “Budget”.

Ministry of Foreign Affairs – Danish Embassy in Nairobi

Bilateral Development Cooperation

under

**Denmark's Strategic Framework for Kenya 2021-2025**

Standard Project Document

Support to Northern Rangelands Trust (NRT) - Nature-based solutions, Water and Energy  
Project

*Version for UPR  
12<sup>th</sup> September 2024*

**Project Period:**

January 2025 - December 2028

**Partner: Northern Rangelands Trust**

# Table of Contents

Table of Contents.....	1
List of Acronyms .....	3
<b>1 Introduction.....</b>	<b>4</b>
<b>2 Context, strategic considerations, and justification .....</b>	<b>5</b>
2.1 Context .....	5
2.2 Rationale and Justification .....	8
2.3 Beneficiaries and other key stakeholders .....	9
2.4 Strategic considerations .....	9
2.5 NRT’s achievement and lessons learned.....	10
2.6 Synergy with other Danish supported interventions.....	12
2.7 Adherence to the aid effectiveness agenda & SDG .....	12
2.8 Complementarity with other donors funded programmes.....	13
2.9 Alignment with Denmark – Kenya Country Strategic Framework.....	14
<b>3 Programme Objective .....</b>	<b>14</b>
<b>4 Theory of Change and Key Assumptions .....</b>	<b>14</b>
Diagrammatic representation of the Theory of Change.....	15
<b>5 Summary of the Results framework.....</b>	<b>16</b>
<b>6 Budget .....</b>	<b>18</b>
<b>7 Institutional and Management arrangements .....</b>	<b>20</b>
7.1 Governance Structure.....	20
<b>8 Financial management, planning and reporting.....</b>	<b>20</b>
8.1 Disbursement.....	20
8.2 Partner procedures pertaining to financial management .....	21
8.3 Procurement .....	21
8.4 Narrative progress reports and financial reports .....	21
8.5 Accounting and auditing .....	22
<b>9 Risk analysis, mitigation, and management .....</b>	<b>23</b>
<b>10 Monitoring, Evaluation, and Learning.....</b>	<b>24</b>
<b>11 Closure .....</b>	<b>25</b>
<b>12 Prerequisites .....</b>	<b>25</b>
<b>13 Signatures .....</b>	<b>25</b>

<b>14 Annexes .....</b>	<b>26</b>
Annex 1: Contextual Analysis .....	26
Annex 2: Partner Assessment .....	31
Annex 3: Theory of Change (ToC) and Results framework.....	34
Annex 4: Risk Management Matrix.....	42
Annex 5: Output based Budget .....	45
Annex 6 – List of Supplementary Materials.....	47
Annex 7: Plan for Communication of Results .....	48
Annex 8: Process Action Plan (PAP).....	49
Annex 9: Summary of Appraisal Recommendations.....	51
Annex 10: Management Structure.....	54
Annex 11: Beneficiary Identification Matrix.....	55
Annex 12: Northern Kenya Rangelands Carbon Project (NKRCP) and Human rights Issues	57
Annex 13: NRT Community Conservancies Map. ....	59
Annex 14: NRT Due Diligence Implementation matrix- 2021-2024.....	60

## List of Acronyms

ASAL	Arid and Semi-Arid Lands
CCM	Community Conservancy Model
CDCS	Kenya Country Development Cooperation Strategy
CDIP	County Integrated Development Plan
CEO	Chief Executive Officer
CFA	Community Forest Associations
CMDP	Conservancy Management and Development Plan
CoE	Council of Elders
CoMMS	Conservancy Management and Monitoring System
CSO	Civil Society Organization
CWRMS	Conservancy Water Resource Management Strategy
DANIDA	Danish International Development Assistance
DKK	Danish Kroner
DRR	Disaster Risk Management
EnDev	The Energising Development
EU	European Union
FEWSNET	Famine Early Warning Systems Network
FPIC	Free, Prior and Informed Consent
GBV	Gender-based Violence
GESI	Gender equality and social inclusion
GIZ	<i>Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit</i> (German Development Agency)
GoK	Government of Kenya
HH	Household
HRBA	Human Rights-Based Approach
ICT	Information and Communication Technology
Ksh/KES	Kenyan Shillings
M&E	Monitoring and Evaluation
MEAL	Monitoring Evaluation and Learning
NbS	Nature Based Solutions
NRT	Northern Rangelands Trust
NRT-T	NRT Trading
PLWD	People Living with Disability
PREG	Partnership for Resilience and Economic Growth
RDE	Royal Danish Embassy
SDG	Sustainable Development Goal
SIDA	Swedish International Development Cooperation Agency
SNV	<i>Stichting Nederlandse Vrijwilligers</i> (Netherlands Development Organisation)
TNC	The Nature Conservancy
TOC	Theory of Change
UN	United Nations
UNEA	United Nations Environment Assembly
USAID	United States Agency for International Development
WASH	Water, Sanitation and Hygiene
WRA	Water Resource Authority
WSP	Water Services Providers

# 1 Introduction

This project document outlines the background, rationale and justification, objectives and management arrangements for development cooperation concerning the **support to Northern Rangelands Trust (NRT) - Nature-based solutions, Water and Energy Project 2025-2028**

as agreed between the parties: The Embassy of Denmark in Nairobi and the Northern Rangelands Trust (NRT). The project document is an annex to the legal bilateral agreement with the implementing partner and constitutes an integral part hereof, together with the documentation specified below. “The Documentation” refers to the partner documentation supporting this project.

The primary goal of this project is to increase community resilience and adaptation to climate change through sustainable investments in nature-based solutions (NbS), water and energy in Northern and Coastal Kenya. To accomplish this goal, the project will be implemented along the three interventions areas of: 1. improved access to basic drinking water, 2. increased adoption of renewable/efficient energy technologies, and 3. adoption of nature-based solutions.

This project was motivated by the strong Danish policy interest within the green agenda and the specific objective to promote NbS as a means for climate adaptation and biodiversity protection in the fragile ecosystems. This will be the first NbS project supported by the Embassy in Kenya and it will seek to generate NbS best practices within the community conservancies context. Previous Danish support to NRT have not directly supported NbS interventions and not applied the IUCN NbS Global Standards and assessment tools. This grant will support NbS activities across the different agro-ecological zones from rangelands, farmlands, forests and mangroves ecosystems and lead to additional benefits of increased availability of water and improved state of ecosystems. As a start, the project will support NRT to develop a NbS strategy that will guide the implementation of NbS interventions. The project will also include partnership with WWF and Danida Fellowship Center (DFC) on developing and implementing capacity building activities and a training course on NbS targeting NRT stakeholders.

The project will aim at using lessons learnt from previous and ongoing Danish support to NRT and other donor funded projects to develop and implement appropriate and context specific water, energy and NbS solutions. Denmark has supported NRT for the last 12 years in three phases: 2012-2015; 2016-2020; 2021-2025 through a core funding modality. In 2022, an additional grant of DKK 35m was added to the ongoing 2021-2025 resilience programme and was earmarked towards water and renewable energy. The grant was motivated by the desire to contribute to the MFA objective of improving access to water and renewable energy in Africa. In the Northern Kenya, the need for improved access to water for people, livestock and wildlife, and renewable/efficient energy for cooking, lighting, cooling and water pumping is very high due to many years of lagging behind in development of this region exacerbated by increasing impacts of climate change.

This additional grant of DKK 50m is in furtherance to this agenda guided by the report on Access to water in Africa – A review to Frame Future Development Assistance for access to water in Africa, 2021 commissioned by MFA. In addition, under the current Danish grant for water and renewable energy, NRT developed a Renewable energy strategy and this additional grant will facilitate the implementation of this strategy. Based on lessons learnt from ongoing renewable energy project, this additional grant will upscale the appropriate energy technologies in the conservancies. In addition, the grant will upscale water investments to increase access to potable water by more people within the conservancies. This will be guided by the NRT and Conservancies’ water strategies, which have been developed under the ongoing grant. This additional grant will further strengthen water governance of the water committees in the conservancies and establish water user fees payment structures to enhance operations, maintenance and sustainability of the water systems.

Across the three outcomes on water, energy and NbS, in addition to conservancies’ leadership and members, the project will actively engage the community traditional leadership structures, women and youths in decision-making on project identification and prioritization, sites selection, trainings and managing the projects on the ground. This will enhance ownership, sustainability and reduce resources based conflicts.

## 2 Context, strategic considerations, and justification

### 2.1 Context

**Environmental and climate change:** Environmental degradation coupled with climate change is significantly impacting water resources globally, particularly in Arid and Semiarid Lands (ASALs). Rising global temperatures increases evaporation rates, disrupts water cycle and causes irregular rainfall patterns leading to reduced water availability for industrial, agricultural and domestic needs. This has had negative impacts on the global economies especially those of developing and least developed countries whose economies are largely based on agricultural and natural resources. In Kenya, the most common natural hazards are weather and climate-related such as floods, droughts, landslides, lightning/thunderstorms, wildfires, and strong winds. Impacts from these climate related hazards have had a negative impact on the Kenyan economy<sup>1</sup>. This is particularly because Kenya's economy is predominantly based on natural resources, with agriculture, tourism, fishing, mining, forests, and water accounting for most of the gross domestic product (GDP) and over 70 percent of livelihoods and employment. This increase the threat that climate change and environmental degradation pose to the country in terms of risks to jobs and livelihoods. Due to increased frequency of the climatic hazards, years of progress is reversed posing a significant challenge to achieving the Sustainable Development Goals. Climate extremes are worsened by changing land management, poor governance in natural resources management and poor agricultural practices, which are exacerbated by population growth<sup>2</sup>.

Water-borne diseases and their complications are leading causes of morbidity and mortality in children under the age of five and contribute to child malnutrition<sup>3</sup>. By April 2023, over 4.4 million people in Kenya were estimated to be facing food insecurity in Kenya<sup>4</sup>. The delay in the "long rains" season caused a dry spell in Kenya particularly in arid and semi-arid counties, causing mass displacement due to food and water insecurity. The dry spell has caused numerous open water sources to dry up, increasing average distances to water points and making it more difficult for many people, livestock and wildlife to access a reliable source of water consequently increasing conflicts.

Climatic shocks are widespread in both Coastal and Northern areas, with an increasing frequency of extreme environmental events such as drought, flooding, sea level rise<sup>5</sup>, heatwaves and disease outbreaks, all of which are expected to worsen<sup>6</sup>. Historically, five of the most severe droughts in the past century have occurred in the last 15 years (2001, 2003, 2006, 2009, and 2011); the 2009 drought had a cost of \$12.1 billion to the national economy<sup>7</sup> and 80% of pastoralist livestock died through lack of pasture and water. The economic impact of the most recent drought and floods in 2021 and 2023 are yet to be determined<sup>8</sup>.

More so, the rangelands, upon which the pastoral communities and livestock depend on, is highly degraded. In northern Kenya, 65% of the rangelands are highly degraded, with 50% of land heavily eroded, and the soil carbon stocks critically low in over 40% of the NRT rangelands. There is a change in vegetation, with a loss of grass, increase in woody vegetation, and spread of invasive species. Climate change is further exacerbating rangeland degradation. Addressing the effects of climate change to ecosystem and human vulnerability is therefore critical.

**Socio-economic and security:** Northern Kenya is characterized by extreme poverty, marginalization, ethnic, religious, political and historic rivalries, an abundance of illegal arms, competition for natural

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<sup>1</sup> <https://www.weadapt.org/sites/weadapt.org/files/legacy-new/knowledge-base/files/4e25a04e8c9d92-economics-of-climate-change-in-kenya-factsheet.pdf>

<sup>2</sup> [https://www.oecd.org/dac/Environmental\\_fragility\\_in\\_the\\_Sahel\\_perspective.pdf](https://www.oecd.org/dac/Environmental_fragility_in_the_Sahel_perspective.pdf)

<sup>3</sup> <https://water.org/our-impact/where-we-work/kenya/#:~:text=Kenya's%20water%20and%20sanitation%20crisis,a%20notable%20challenge%20in%20Kenya.>

<sup>4</sup> <https://reliefweb.int/report/kenya/kenya-ipc-acute-food-insecurity-and-acute-malnutrition-analysis-july-december-2022-published-september-28-2022>

<sup>5</sup> World Bank Group, [CLIMATE RISK COUNTRY PROFILE \(Kenya\) 2021](#)

<sup>6</sup> Climate Knowledge Portal. [World bank Kenya Climate Projections](#)

<sup>7</sup> World Bank. The World Development Report 2011

<sup>8</sup> [Kenya Declares Drought a National Disaster In 29 Counties](#) by Bruhan Makong, Published by Capital News, September 8, 2021.

resources, climatic vulnerability and economic scarcity. Livelihoods are difficult to secure, rooted in a complex mixture of underlying factors. Conflict has historically been fuelled by competition for scarce natural resources (such as water, food, and grass), as well as cultural practices and tribal identity. Pastoralist communities have conflicts between ethnic groups with a cattle-raiding culture or competing for grazing and water during drought periods, which are usually linked to historical ethnic rivalries and are often exacerbated by political incitement. Similar to the North, conflicts on the Kenyan Coast are ethnically motivated and stem from competition for scarce marine resources, particularly fish and desalinated water, but they also include increased external security threats ranging from terrorism.

**Human rights:** Kenya has made several important advances to improve its human rights situation. The 2010 Constitution, establishment of the Kenya National Human Rights Commission, legislation like Access to Information Act and Prevention of Torture Act are important achievements. The Government also shows commitment to inclusivity in protection and promotion of human rights, and there is dialogue between the Government and CSO on human rights. However, with continued conflicts in the Northern Kenya resulting from cattle rustling, competition over access to natural resources and politically instigated conflicts, human rights violations still persist. These historical conflicts in the Northern Kenya have exposed NRT to frequent allegations on violation of human rights due to their conservation model of community conservancies and their engagement in supporting conservancy communities in stolen cattle recoveries.

**Nature-Based Solutions:** Without adaptation, climate change and the biodiversity crisis will destroy the livelihoods of many people. At the same time, the rapidly growing population in many African countries puts a heavy strain on natural resources. In combination with other national efforts by Kenya to reduce the impact of climate change, adaptation has been found to be the best and cheapest way to prevent and strengthen resilience to climate change, protect biodiversity and create economic opportunities and green jobs. Environmental action and nature-based solutions are found to greatly contribute to adaptation and mitigation.

According to United Nations Environment Assembly (UNEA), NbS are defined as actions to protect, conserve, restore, sustainably use and manage natural or modified terrestrial, freshwater, coastal and marine ecosystems, which address social, economic and environmental challenges effectively and adaptively, while simultaneously providing human well-being, ecosystem services and resilience and biodiversity benefits.<sup>9</sup> By harnessing nature's inherent resilience, these approaches provide cost-effective methods for mitigating and adapting to climate change, enhancing biodiversity, and improving human well-being. The NbS framework is a powerful tool for enhancing resilience, supporting sustainable development, and improving the quality of life of affected communities while safeguarding the livelihoods and ecosystems they depend upon.

Apart from often being the most cost-effective method to advance climate adaptation for vulnerable population groups, nature-based solutions also provide a series of 'co-benefits', e.g., improved biodiversity, forest protection and reforestation, livelihoods, health, environment and reduction of greenhouse-gas emissions<sup>10</sup>. However, the adoption and implementation of these nature-based solutions have been limited due to various barriers such as political, institutional, financial and sufficient knowledge-related to NbS<sup>11</sup>. Funding and implementation of NbS programs and projects lag far behind, both in Northern and Coastal Kenya counties, despite the fact that these programmes are likely to deliver high biodiversity and livelihoods benefits. According to the recently published World Bank Country Climate and Development Report (CCDR) for Kenya (2023), one of the key action areas for inclusive, climate-resilient, quality growth is to manage water, land, and forests for climate-resilient agriculture and rural economies. NbS have significant potential to contribute to this action area.

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<sup>9</sup> UNEA 5.2 resolution 5/5 of 2 March 2022.

<sup>10</sup> How-to-note on adaptation, nature and environment

<sup>11</sup> Uptake and implementation of Nature-Based Solutions: An analysis of barriers using Interpretive Structural Modelling: <https://www.sciencedirect.com/science/article/pii/S0301479720306812>

**Water:** Kenya is classified as a water-scarce country, with available freshwater per capita of 650m<sup>3</sup> compared to the United Nations' recommended 1000m<sup>3</sup><sup>12</sup>. Safe drinking water, sanitation, and good hygiene are fundamental to health, survival, growth, and development. Access to safe water and improved sanitation services are key pillars of Kenya's development. The pillars are in tandem with the United Nations' Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) No. 6, 2016 Water Act and Kenya's own Vision 2030. The Kenya Vision 2030 goal for water and sanitation under the social pillar is for all Kenyans to have access to water and sanitation by 2030.

Despite this, in 2022 over 28 million Kenyans lacked access to clean drinking water and 41 million lacked access to sanitation due to insufficient urban water supply, structural water shortages, and variation in rainfall patterns in arid and semi-arid lands. Water scarcity in Northern Kenya is intensified by climate change, which is causing rising temperatures, irregular and unpredictable rainfall, and more frequent droughts. Many water projects in Northern Kenya have sustainability issues, mostly because of inadequate planning, design, and management of water supply systems and sources<sup>13</sup>. A significant problem is the failure to establish long-term management and maintenance mechanisms following the completion of the infrastructure, which results in subpar operation of the infrastructure within a few years.

Women and girls are largely impacted by poor access to water as they walk long distances to fetch water, causing them to lose out on education, productive work, and leisure time. They are further exposed to risks of physical injury due to carrying heavy loads and dangers on the way including gender based violence, and human - wildlife conflicts. Launched during COP26, the Waterways to Resilience Report shows that NbS have the ability to effectively address five key water challenges – water scarcity, degradation of water quality, flood risk, storm water and urban floods, and coastal erosion and floods. Therefore, Nature-Based Solution (NbS) represent a vital solution for Kenya in building resilience towards climate change, particularly large-scale initiatives that will help build resilience at a river basin or landscape level.

**Energy:** The 2022 KNBS Demographic and Health Survey (DHS<sup>14</sup>) reveals a high dependence on traditional cooking fuels. According to the survey, 68.5% of the Kenyan population, or 9.1 million households (1.7 million in urban areas and 7.4 million in rural areas), rely on traditional cooking fuel options - firewood and charcoal as their primary source. The unsustainable extraction of wood fuel from forests and woodlands as well as its poor combustion characteristics exacerbate air pollution, leading to global warming, the destruction of carbon sinks that are forests, and severe respiratory health problems. Women and children also spend long hours (between three to four hours) going long distances to gather fuelwood in the forests. This entrenches poverty, constrains delivery of social services, limits opportunities for women, and erodes environmental sustainability. Institutions have provided an opportunity for commercial firewood business, which in most cases is unregulated and indiscriminately results to cutting down of indigenous trees to sustain it. The current demand for wood fuel is outstripping the annual re-growth of wood biomass, this while the population growth is yet to stabilize. When one tonne of dry wood burns, 1833Kg of carbon dioxide is emitted<sup>15</sup> while production of one tonne of charcoal releases nine tonnes of carbon dioxide into the atmosphere. The Government of Kenya aims to achieve universal access to clean cooking by 2028. This target is motivated by the urgent need to accelerate the transition to cleaner cooking solutions to mitigate the negative impacts associated with the use of traditional fuels. It is also related to global commitments outlined in Kenya's Nationally Determined Contribution (NDC) under the UNFCCC Paris Agreement, the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), and the Sustainable Energy for All (SEforALL) agenda.

Though biogas is the preferred cost effective, clean energy that forms an alternative cooking energy, the adoption is poor in the ASALs due to inadequate water and dung availability coupled by the labour intensive process especially in the households with older people. In this case, Liquefied Petroleum Gas (LPG) could become an alternative source of cooking energy for ASAL households as it is considered cleaner at the household level compared to fuelwood. It further lessens the health and security burden for women and girls in fetching fuelwood for long distances. According to 2023, NRT Energy assessment, 76%

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<sup>12</sup> [www.ijsrp.org/research-paper-0418/ijsrp-p7606.pdf](http://www.ijsrp.org/research-paper-0418/ijsrp-p7606.pdf)

<sup>13</sup> M'Mbogori, F. N., Kinyua, M. G., Ibrae, A. G., & Lane, P. J. (2022). Changes to water management and declining pastoral resilience in Marsabit County, northern Kenya: The example of Gabra wells. *Wiley Interdisciplinary Reviews: Water*, 9(6), e1609

<sup>14</sup> Kenya National Bureau of Statistics (KNBS) (2022). Kenya Demographic and Health Survey

<sup>15</sup> Hofstad, O., Köhlin, G., & Namaalwa, J. (2009). How can emissions from wood fuel be reduced. *Realising REDD*, 19, 237

of households are still using firewood and 48% of households use charcoal for cooking. Whereas, 57% of households in the region use small mobile solar lamps for lighting. Without adequate lighting, children have a hard time reading in the evenings, which affects their education and quality of life.

## 2.2 Rationale and Justification

Northern and part of the Coastal regions of Kenya where NRT operates is characterized by arid and semi-arid lands and are the most marginalized and under-developed regions of Kenya. They have the highest levels of poverty in the country, with over 70% of the population being in the lowest wealth quintile of the country (compared to only 6% in urban Kenya). Results from a survey of 2,851 respondents from 25 NRT member community conservancies in five counties revealed that families earn less than KES 62,305 per household per year on average, or less than KES 5,200 per month (av. \$1.6 a day: below the international poverty line, of \$1.90 a day). According to a report on '*Vulnerability, Impact and Adaptation Assessment in Northern Kenya Rangelands*' by CARE International, northern Kenya has the lowest levels of men and women with employment. The impacts of climate change combined with other environmental, economic, and political factors are creating a situation of increasing vulnerability for poor and marginalized households. The lack of alternatives for pastoralists beyond investing in livestock and the poor return on livestock and livestock products lead to a continued cycle of poverty and declining state of natural resources. Therefore, the need for this project is to build the climate resilience of communities through increased access to water, efficient/renewable energy and NbS that will promote enhanced pasture availability, food, better health and income for the vulnerable communities.

Water catchments areas, which provide access to safe drinking water, have been degraded with disregard to the critical role they play in enhancing water access. These catchments are very critical and require concerted efforts to protect them and enhance water supply for domestic, livestock, irrigation, and wildlife. Water resources development, especially at the county level lack the necessary and enabling county water policies and plans to guide in their development. This has often led to uncoordinated developments of water interventions, which are left behind without any management or handover to the counties for continuity. This project will collaborate with Counties and conservancies to develop water strategies for both the counties and conservancies that will inform water resources management and infrastructure development in the community Conservancies.

ASALs often lack reliable energy sources, relying heavily on inefficient and polluting energy sources like diesel generators for lighting, cooling and pumping water. Further, use of fuelwood for cooking at households and institutions exacerbates the issue of rangelands degradation and household air pollution with consequences on women and children respiratory health. This project seeks to address these challenges by promoting use of solar energy for lighting, cooling and water pumping. Additionally, to promote efficient energy solutions for cooking to reduce the burden on women's health and degradation of rangelands from cutting down of trees for fuelwood and charcoal.

Despite NRT-Coast conservancies' high biodiversity importance, the people and environment of this region are facing numerous and connected vulnerabilities. Fisheries resources in the region are facing increasing threats from overfishing, illegal and destructive fishing gears, and habitat destruction mainly due to weak governance system and management capacity and increasing demand for fisheries resources. Uncontrolled mangrove extraction, with or without a license, is resulting in serious reduction of the mangrove forest in easily accessible areas and overexploitation of specific species. This additionally increases the risks of sea water intrusion to the freshwater wells affecting the costs of freshwater availability to the local communities in the coastal region. Similarly, the forest cover has been on a declining trend due to deforestation, and forest fires. This has consequent effect on water resources availability.

NRT and its growing conservancies has over the years sought to address these challenges through various interventions. Most of these interventions are related to nature-based solutions in the context of rangelands restoration and management, forest and marine ecosystems protection and restoration, habitats and species protection and conservation that has promoted increased endemic biodiversity and livelihoods that depends on them including tourism, livestock development, agriculture and fisheries.

This project will be in furtherance of the achievements and activities related to the following NRT Strategic Objectives:

- Strategic objective 3 - Invest in community priorities for improving their lives and create the conditions for growing jobs and businesses; specifically:
  - o Output 5: Equitable and responsive livelihood investments in conservancy communities in education, water, health and energy
  - o Output 6: climate resilient economies and training programmes, supported by Northern Rangelands Trust Trading (NRTT)/MashinaniWORKS<sup>16</sup>
- Strategic objective 4 - Natural Resource Management & Conservation (Nature-Based Solutions):
  - o Output 7: Sustainable rangelands management systems
  - o Output 9: Sustainable forest and marine ecosystem management systems.

Though the investment will directly go to activities into these two objectives, the project activities will also have a direct impact on the other NRT's objectives; 1- governance, 2 - peace and stability (reduce conflict resulting from fighting over scarce natural resources).

The project will further have strong emphasis on compliance to Free, Prior and Informed Consent (FPIC) and Human Rights Based Approach (HRBA) during implementation of the project to mitigate recurring allegations of human rights violations (More information in Annex 12 and 14. This will be done by ensuring that the communities from the grassroots level will be involved in prioritizing their activities, sites selection for implementation of the activities such as water infrastructure and NbS in the rangelands, implementation processes and management of the interventions. Where land is needed for communal activities such as water infrastructure, the community leadership and representatives will be involved in approval process for the land utilization.

### **2.3 Beneficiaries and other key stakeholders**

The intervention will target NRT's 44-member community conservancies in the northern and coastal terrestrial and marine ecosystems covering an area of 63,336 km<sup>2</sup> of land in 10 counties namely Marsabit, Isiolo, Samburu, Laikipia, Meru, Baringo, West Pokot, Lamu, Garissa, and Tana River (See Annex 13 Map of NRT Conservancies). These conservancies benefit 548,531 local community members, including 251,264 women and girls. Annex 11 present a beneficiaries' selection criteria for water and energy interventions. The main partner will be NRT, and its 44 community conservancies. The conservancies will benefit differently based on the priorities identified in their Conservancies development and management plans. Other collaborators will include conservancy associations, county and national government, NGOS such as WWF, research and training institutions such Danida Fellowship Center (DFC), other Danish-funded programmes in energy, water and NbS, and private sector actors. See annex 8 for more details on the following selection criteria that will guide the identification of beneficiary conservancies and projects.

### **2.4 Strategic considerations**

This project aligns with Denmark's Strategy for Development Cooperation "The World We Share", mainly the priority to "The Fight for Climate, Nature, and Environment". In the strategy, there is a great emphasis on access to water, clean energy and climate adaptation as a constituting factor for all development goals. The project will specifically contribute to Global Objective 1 to "Strengthen action to support climate change adaptation, nature, the environment, and resilience in the poorest and most vulnerable countries.

Moreover, it will contribute to the objective 1 of the Denmark-Kenya Country Strategic Framework: to "Promote green, sustainable and inclusive economic growth and decent jobs with an emphasis on "women and youth". It will further be guided by the How-to-notes for the implementation of the Danish Strategy for development cooperation, specifically the how-to-note on Climate adaptation, nature and environment and the how-to-note on energy transition and emissions reductions in developing countries, but also the how-to-note on poverty eradication, the how-to-note on peacebuilding and stabilization, and on

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<sup>16</sup> NRTT recently rebranded as MashinaniWORKs is the trading arm of NRT that support the conservancies in implementing livelihood activities such BeadWORKs, Livestock markets, fish market linkages, micro-finance, and vocation skills development for job creation.

Human Rights and Democracy. The programme will further contribute to the new emerging strategic objectives of Danish engagement in forest and it will also apply the IUCN Global Standards for NbS as the how-to-note on Climate adaptation, nature and environment calls for.

The programme is aligned with Kenya's overarching development plan, Vision 2030, which rests on three pillars – economic, social and political development – and seeks to create “a globally competitive and prosperous country with a high quality of life by 2030”.

More so, it is aligned to the revised Constitution for Kenya 2010, where devolution has shifted the centre for decision-making and planning to the counties, thus any measure to improve participation, livelihoods and resilience of communities in the ASALs must focus strongly on County/community relations including realizing Chapter 5, Article 61 (1) of Kenya's constitution relating to the environment.

Delivery of the outputs under this project will add significant value to wider Kenyan development through contribution to achievement of a number of policies, laws and national priorities. These include supporting the objectives of the Community Land Act (2016); the Wildlife Conservation and Management Act (2013); Wildlife Conservation and Management Act (Miscellaneous Amendments) (2018); Forest Conservation and Management Act (2016); Environmental Management Act (Revised 2012, original. 1999); Protected Areas Act (1980); Co-ordination Act County-level Conservation, Tourism and Climate Change Bills; ending drought emergency and delivering on devolution by government at county and community levels. Apart from being national priorities, these policies and laws are of specific relevance to the development of the conservancies on water, energy, biodiversity and community socioeconomic wellbeing.

The Danish support contributes to the achievement of the objectives in the NRT Strategic Plan for 2023-2028 which is aligned to the relevant Counties Integrated Development Plans.

#### **Contribution to Rio markers**

Climate change adaptation is the principal objective (Rio marker score 2). Increasing community resilience and adaptation to climate change is the motivation and overall objective for this engagement and this is reflected in context and results framework. Under outcome 1 increased access to basic water will enhance water availability during drought seasons. Further, sand dams and water pans, which act as flood mitigation measures will reduce communities' displacement during floods. At the same time, this will provide water during drought seasons while creating a suitable habitat for biodiversity. This reduce costs of water and enhances community health. Outcome 2 focusing on energy interventions provides clean cooking energy source reducing need for fuelwood and charcoal thereby decreasing pressure on forest and ecosystems. Outcome 3 – Increased adoption of NbS, increases alternative income sources for the communities especially from marine fisheries, pasture for livestock and increased freshwater availability thus increasing the adaptive capacity.

Biodiversity is a significant objective (Rio marker score 1). Increased adoption of NbS through mangrove restoration in the coast, rangelands and forest conservation and reforestation outcome 3 activities directly contribute to biodiversity conservation. For example, improved mangroves, forest and rangeland vegetation cover will enhance biodiversity conservation and regeneration especially fisheries, endemic species in rangelands and forests.

## **2.5 NRT's achievement and lessons learned**

- Through support from Denmark and other partners, NRT has witnessed growth of the community conservancies from 7 in 2004 to 45 (44 in Kenya and 1 in Uganda) by 2023. This has led to the need for NRT to revisit their management model from one central office to regional level offices where the conservancies can easily access technical support. Through these regional establishments, NRT has been able to strengthen its partnerships with county governments, national government agencies and other stakeholders due to increased accessibility. This as well increases NRT's visibility to the other stakeholders and communities in these areas forging better collaborations.
- Over the years, NRT has been supporting water supply projects with low success rate in boreholes drilling and other surface water interventions. Others have led to water related conflicts during dry seasons due to congregation of livestock around available water supply points. Upon realization of these challenges, NRT has developed a water strategy to guide in water resources management and

infrastructure development across the conservancies. They have further supported 17 conservancies to develop context specific water strategies that will guide the conservancies in development of water resources and supply systems for people, livestock and wildlife. These strategies have now informed distribution of context specific water investments across the conservancies thus reducing water conflicts. This project will be guided by these strategies in supporting water investments. Where none exists, the project will facilitate development of the community conservancies' water strategies to inform context specific interventions and their sustainability measures.

- Previous interventions by NRT in restoration and protection of the terrestrial forests and mangroves in the coast have demonstrated increased biodiversity especially marine fisheries and endemic terrestrial biodiversity species. As a result, coastal conservancies are now benefiting from increased high value fisheries thus improving their socio-economic well-being. Lessons learnt from these interventions in terms of appropriate and multiple benefits species will be used to scale up nature-based solutions in the terrestrial and marine forests for conservation and communities' livelihoods gains.
- Following the frequent human rights allegations, NRT has appreciated that existing communities' traditional leadership systems are very powerful. As such, NRT has learnt to incorporate the traditional community leaders in their awareness, training and planning forums. This has led to inclusive decision-making processes concerning conservancies especially on seasonal grazing management plans and distribution of community development projects. It has further enhanced cohesion and trust between conservancy leadership and traditional leadership thus minimizing community conflicts. The traditional leaders have also become the communication channel to represent communities' voices and taking feedback to them. This has helped NRT also to review and finalize their human rights policy, and FPIC system to ensure there is inclusion of these traditional leaders and women within conservancies leadership. This project will ensure this continues to nurture cohesion and mitigate conflicts.
- Northern Kenya is dominated by a patriarchal society where women are not given equal opportunities for leadership or for decision making on issues that concern their families and local economy. In recognizing this, NRT has made deliberate efforts to empower women, youths, and people living with disabilities, as well as men in conservation and livelihood interventions. Through this, communities have embraced women leadership and several conservancies have elected women as their chair and offered them the right support to lead them. Where women have led the conservancies, there has been proven transformative projects with high success rate such as in mangroves and fisheries co-management, water projects, carbon projects, and micro-finance programs. NRT Annual Leadership Summit and formation of women caucus at the conservancy and regional level have been identified as important structure for training, sharing and mentorship on various important aspects on Gender-based Violence, Human Rights, leadership, also identifying gaps and priority areas for engagement. This project will continue to strengthen the capacity of women, youths and people living with disabilities to engage effectively in designing and implementation of the project to ensure inclusivity of their needs in the projects.
- From continuous investments in rangelands conservation and management, NRT has established that improved rangelands management have significantly benefitted the conservancy communities from better pasture for their livestock reducing their vulnerability to impacts of prolonged droughts in the North. This has made NRT realize the need for enhanced landscape approach in rangelands management for increased benefits for both conservancy and non-conservancy members. This project will support this landscape approach to rangelands management and restoration through NbS interventions to mitigate conflicts during drought seasons and enhance peaceful coexistence amongst conservancy and non-conservancy communities.
- NRT for the last few years has faced human rights allegations. These allegations have demonstrated need for strong donor coordination and collaborations on common issues. It has strengthened donor coordination and actions and further enhanced NRT's compliance to human rights and FPIC processes during programming.
- Based on experience from the ongoing water and renewable energy project funded by the embassy, it has been noted that one sustainable source of water for institutions is rainwater harvesting during

the wet season. This reduces dependency on the surface and groundwater sources which are diminishing due to over-abstraction and increased salinity. Improved community water governance and payment for water has also been noted to be critical factors for sustainability of the projects. This project will further increase investments in surface runoff and roof rainwater harvesting for livestock, people and nature; strengthen the community water governance structures; promote payment for water use and linkages with county governments for enhanced sustainability.

- Additionally, through implementation of the energy interventions, NRT has noted that Biogas uptake within the landscape hasn't been overall successful mainly due to limited availability of water and dung especially where livestock move away for long periods of time leaving few or no animals at the households. Also noting that the bio digester feeding process is labor intensive especially in households that have elderly members. This has triggered the need to engage with suppliers and communities on the context specific energy solutions. This project will therefore facilitate the engagement, community awareness and promotion of the context specific energy technologies for ease of adoption and sustainability. The project will further facilitate engagement with manufacturers and suppliers of energy efficient stoves and biogas in developing context specific solutions for Northern Kenya that meets the community's needs.

## 2.6 Synergy with other Danish supported interventions

The project will ensure synergies with other current Danish interventions in Kenya, including the ongoing support to NRT 2021-2025 (DKK 60m) as well as the additional funding in 2022 focusing on water and renewable energy (DKK 35m). The core support from Denmark 2021-2025 will leverage on this additional grant to create the desired impact in areas of NbS, water and energy.

In addition, the project has clear synergies with the Water Sector Trust Fund (WSTF), a state corporation of the Ministry of Water and Sanitation, which receives Danish funding under the Country Strategic Framework. The WSTF gives counties conditional and unconditional grants to help finance the development and management of water services in marginalized and underserved areas. Currently, WSTF is partnering with NRT to support the conservancies in the implementation of their water sector activities and rangeland management.

Further synergies are with ACT! who is working in the ASAL region supporting peace and conflict mitigation interventions. ACT! is also a partner under the Denmark – Kenya Country Strategic Framework. NRT will establish synergies with ACT! in the area of natural resources management for peace and conflict management.

The Embassy is also funding a renewable energy project through The Energising Development (ENDEV) and NRT will work to create synergies and adopt lessons learnt from this project for better implementation of the renewable energy component in the conservancies.

Further synergies and collaboration will be explored with WWF's Strategic Partnership Agreement (SPA) through the Triple Benefit Project – Land to Sea (2022-2025) implemented by WWF Kenya through WWF DKs SPA. This project stands as a pioneering NbS initiative supported by tools and methodologies developed to operationalize the IUCN standard in project design and implementation. The project can benefit from WWF experience in undertaking continuous capacity-building initiatives on NbS for local stakeholders in Kenya and beyond.

## 2.7 Adherence to the aid effectiveness agenda & SDG

The programme will adhere to aid effectiveness by applying a holistic, flexible and adaptive approach to the management. This approach is also aligned with the Danish MFA Doing Development Differently.

The project has considered key principles of Aid effectiveness as described below:

1. **Ownership and leadership** – The project is being implemented by NRT and its conservancies who are community owned organizations. This has allowed the project to ensure local priorities identified in the NRT and Conservancies' water and energy strategies and plans, guide the design and implementation of the project. This will encourage ownership and sustainability at the grassroots level.

2. **Alignment:** The project is well aligned to Kenya and Counties development plans in water and energy thus enhancing government participation in the project and ownership. This will encourage the Counties to allocate resources for operations and maintenance of the infrastructure project especially in water. It has further, aligned to IUCN global standards on NbS to ensure the NbS interventions contribute positively to biodiversity and livelihoods of the communities.
3. **Harmonization** – The project takes cognizant of the other donors projects to NRT and on-going Danish-funded projects for efficiency, effectiveness and resources use efficiency. Lessons that are being learnt from these projects and those of other donors have informed the design and the implementation approach for this project.
4. **Mutual accountability** – The project is aligned to NRT accountability systems including results reporting and communication. The indicators for reporting are derived from NRT institutional Results Framework allowing for ease of monitoring results using established monitoring systems.
5. **Capacity building** – The project has an emphasis on capacity building of NRT, Conservancies and counties on various aspects of water, energy and NbS. Since NbS implementation using IUCN global standards is new to NRT, the project has proposed to work with WWF and DFC to develop the capacities within NRT and conservancies. The counties will benefit from county level water, energy and NbS strategies development where none exists.

By adhering to these principles, the project will contribute to achievement of a number of SDGs – including, SDG 6 (Water), SDG 7 (Affordable and clean energy), SDG 10 (reduced inequalities), SDG 13 (on Climate Action); and SDG 15 (“life on land” – environmental degradation).

## 2.8 Complementarity with other donors funded programmes

This project builds on previous and complementary development investments by different development partners in the landscape, which have established Community Conservancies as strong local institutions that are community-owned and community-led. The conservancy structure provides an entry point for development investment, enabling true community ownership, as well as a coordinated and sustainable interventions, which are in support of Government objectives. These investments will in a complementary way support achievement of the NRT strategic Plan 2024 -2028. They include:

- Resilient Communities and Natural Resources (2021-2025) and Improved Access to Water and Renewable Energy (2023-2025) by the Danish Government.
- The Marsabit National Park, The Meru Conservation Area and The Conservancies (2021 – 2024) by the French Government.
- Integrated Management of Natural Resources for Resilience in Arid and Semi-Arid Lands (2018 – 2025) by the Swedish Government.
- Supporting community conservancy model in Kenya to enhance an integrated and sustainable protection of biodiversity (2022-2025) by Italian Government.
- NRT Community Policing Initiative (CPI): Combatting Wildlife Crime while Enhancing Livelihood Development (DCI-ENV/2018/398-482, Kenya Rangelands Ecosystem Services productivity (RangER) Programme (ENV/2020/419-565) and Support for Resilience for Sustainable Livelihood in West Pokot County (FED/2019/409-172) by the European Union.
- USAID (\$20m 2015-2020, \$15m 2021-2025).
- The Nature Conservancy (\$1m approx. per year).
- NRT works closely with a range of other donors and specialised service providers, government agencies, commercial partners, and research organizations, to complement our role as a trusted umbrella organization. These partners bring their own resources.

This project will pursue enhanced complementarities across these NRT other donor’s funded programmes. This will enhance donors’ coordination and resources’ use efficiency.

## 2.9 Alignment with Denmark – Kenya Country Strategic Framework

Danish support to Kenya mainly focuses on the vulnerable and marginalised populations and this project will contribute to the Strategic Objective 3 of the Strategic Framework 2021-2025, which focus on improving resilience, peace and stability. The project support follows the Human Rights Based Approach (HRBA) guidance for Danish development cooperation, specifically the operationalization of guidelines and human rights principles for marginalized groups. It ensures strengthening access to services for particularly marginalised and vulnerable groups and with a targeted focus on preventing and responding to gender-based violence as well as a cross-cutting prioritization of adolescent girls and young women through targeted girl-centred interventions in multiple areas of improved access to water, and energy for cooking, lighting energy and cooling.

## 3 Programme Objective

The overall strategic objective of the project is to ***Increased community resilience, as a result of adoption of nature-based solutions, access to water and renewable energy.***

## 4 Theory of Change and Key Assumptions

Theory of change is stated as follows:

*“IF vulnerable households in Northern and Coastal Kenya are sensitized on appropriate sustainable and efficient energy solutions; AND IF there are increased investments to enhance water resources management, sustainable water infrastructure, water governance, investment and provision of efficient or green energy infrastructure and technologies both to institutions and households; AND IF there are increased awareness and participation by community members of nature-based solutions (rangelands restoration, sustainable agriculture, mangrove and forest restoration); AND IF there is sufficient capacity building of implementing institutions (NRT, conservancies) on IUCN NbS framework and a strategy is developed to guide appropriate context specific NbS investments across the conservancies; THEN there will be an increased adoption of energy efficient and renewable energy technologies, improved access to potable drinking water and adoption of NbS that benefit biodiversity, and communities socioeconomic wellbeing. Natural resource stressors will be reduced, community livelihood and household economic conditions will improve as a result of lower incidences of water-related diseases, lower resource-based conflicts, and lower costs and time spent sourcing water, energy, and health burden.*

### Key Assumptions

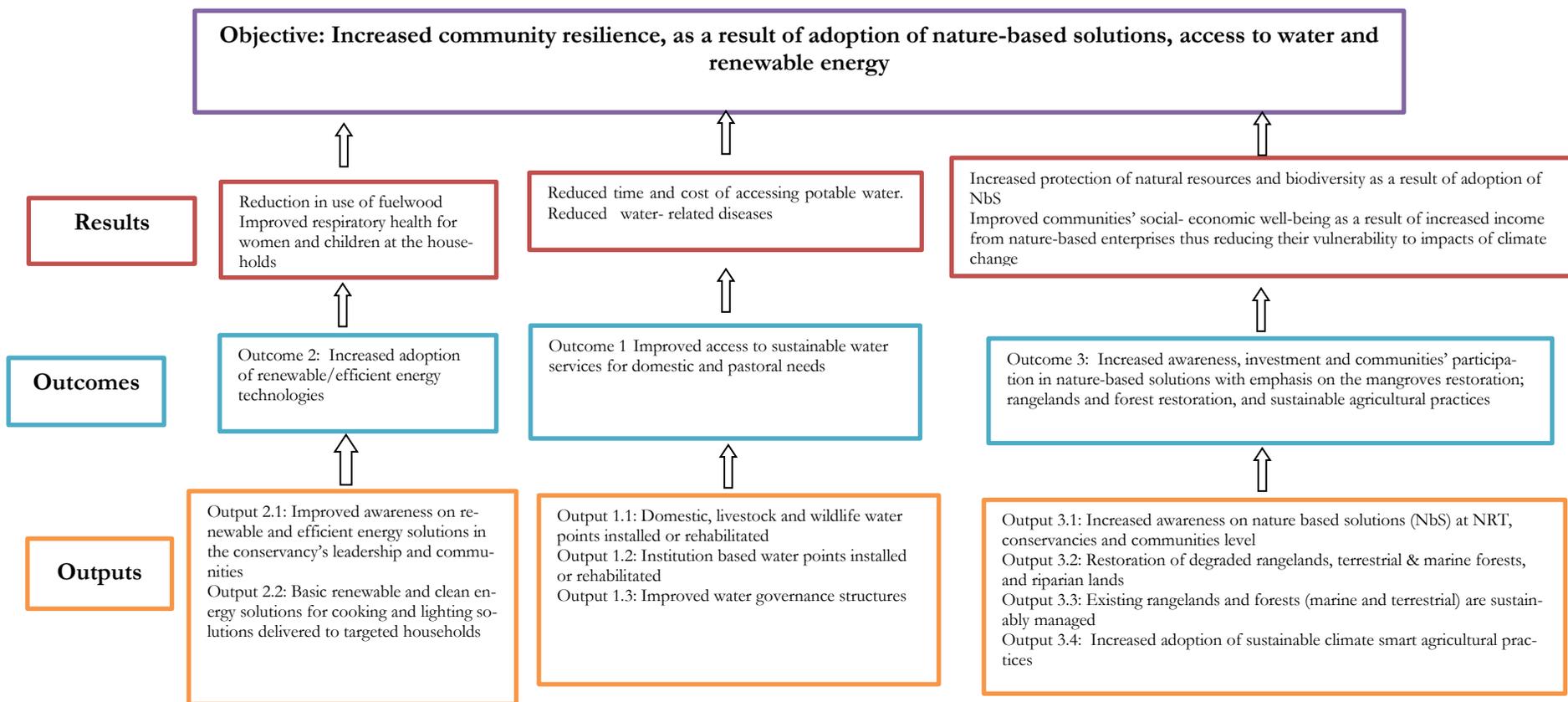
The most fundamental assumption underlying the community conservancies’ model are that local leaders will continue to govern the conservancies well and that conservancies can generate enough finance through development partners’ support, commercial revenues, and County Government support for enhanced implementation of this project.

Furthermore, the project assumes that the proposed nature-based solutions will have a causal effect on natural resource recovery, livelihoods improvement and socio economic development of the region.

Also that the NRT's and conservancies’ influence on County policy aims to achieve an integrated landscape approach to water, energy and Nature-based Solutions investments to improve people's lives, and conserve the natural environment.

It also assumes that investments in water, energy, and NbS will promote equity in resources sharing across the communities, build their resilience thus contributing to peaceful coexistence and reducing resources-based conflicts.

## Diagrammatic representation of the Theory of Change



*Image 1: Diagrammatic representation of the theory of change*

## 5 Summary of the Results framework

This project will be delivered through three key outcomes as described below.

***Outcome 1: Improved access to sustainable water services for domestic and pastoral needs.*** Implementation of this component will be built on experiences and gaps from the DKK 35mio ongoing water and renewable energy project. NRT and conservancies will identify context and gender specific water supply guided by conservancies water strategies and plans where they exist. Where no water strategies and/or plans exist, the project will support development of the water strategies and plans for the conservancies. Thereafter, water investments will be guided by the conservancies and ensuring that women play a pivotal role in making the decisions on type and siting of the water projects e.g sand dams, water kiosks, water pans among others. Water supply will serve households, schools, health facilities and strategic livestock points. Establishing the right water governance structures and capacity building will be critical to promote ownership and sustainability. Training local workforce in basic plumbing skills, solar energy repair skills and collaboration with the Counties Water and energy Departments for maintenance, will be done through village level vocational technical training programmes. This will promote local skills availability for operations and maintenance in the water technologies. A user-pay system to generate revenue will be introduced for the households to pay a small tariff at water kiosks while collecting water for domestic and livestock use. The revenue collected used for day to day management and maintenance of water supply systems thus enhancing sustainability. The project will further develop partnerships with counties, Water Resource Authority (WRA) and other water sector stakeholders on water resources management initiatives such as WRUAs capacity development, catchment areas restoration and protection for sustainability.

***Outcome 2: Increased adoption of renewable and/or efficient energy technologies.*** Implementation of this component will be based on the NRT Renewable Strategy (2023) and experience from implementation of the DKK35mio project of water and renewable energy. Solar energy has been the most adopted source of energy for lighting, cooling and water pumping in the Conservancies due to availability of adequate sunshine throughout the year. This project will support more of solar powered pumps, lighting and for refrigeration in health facilities. The household cooking energy using biogas techniques has been noted to have less traction due to lack of water and dung during the dry seasons and labour intensive for households with older people. As such, the project will support an assessment of context specific cooking energy solutions, and create awareness on alternative sustainable energy solutions to the communities for improved adoption. Then support supply of the sustainable and efficient energy sources to the communities through agreed community driven models. All this will happen in close collaboration with County governments and private sector to ensure that appropriate plans and quality solutions are delivered to the communities, and that appropriate trainings are given for ease of operations and maintenance of the solutions. Where needed the project will support County governments in reviewing/developing Counties energy strategies based on lessons learnt from implementation of these projects.

***Outcome 3: Increased awareness, investments and communities' participation in NbS with emphasis on mangroves, rangelands and forest restoration and sustainable climate smart agricultural practices.*** The NbS interventions component will take a landscape approach, collaborating with WWF and DFC to conduct capacity building needs assessment, undertake context specific trainings, assess appropriate context specific Nature based solutions and develop a NRT NbS strategy that will guide the implementation of the identified NbS for example rangelands restoration through semi-circular bunds, re-seeding, sand dams, soil and water conservation on farmlands, restoration of degraded mangroves and terrestrial forests among others. Community awareness involving women, youths, men and people living with disability (PLWDs) on the NbS interventions will be conducted to enhance adoption and sustainability. Nature-based Solutions will be implemented according to a number of IUCN global standards on NbS principles, including: (i) context-specific interventions that leverage ecosystem functioning, (ii) addressing one or more identified societal challenges, (iii) considering co-benefits and trade-offs for both people and biodiversity, (iv) directly contributing to human well-being at the local level, (v) being inclusively designed with the participation, engagement, and consent of all stakeholders in the project area including Indigenous People and local Communities (IPLCs), and (vi) having a landscape/seascape focus. The project will utilize IUCN global Standard for NbS and Self-Assessment tool to assess whether it adheres to principles for high-integrity and to ensure quality of NbS interventions.

## Implementation of cross-cutting issues of HRBA and Gender

The entry point for this project will be existing conservancies structures, women's caucuses, mothers and youth groups. This will result in platforms that amplify women's and marginalised groups voices in decision-making processes by providing access to information, safe spaces for mentoring, and knowledge-sharing. The project will also focus on male participation as is equally critical for women and youth empowerment because of societal norms and the patriarchal structure in the communities that NRT works with. Working within indigenous governance systems to identify and designate male and female champions assuring community specific and acceptable inclusion based on a participatory approach encouraging acceptance and adoption of GESI and its sustainability. The monitoring and evaluation mechanisms, which track gender and social inclusion indicators, will help in tracking that women and other special interest groups are actively involved in and benefiting from this project.

The project will further apply the tenets of existing policies such human rights, GESI, and sexual exploitation and abuse (SEA) in the implementation of this project. In addition, it will benefit from NRT's ongoing work on capacity building and raising awareness on human rights-based approach, human rights legal frameworks, and inclusive policies being provided to NRT and conservancy employees, board members, and community members. The project will ensure that issues to do with project sites selection for water and NbS interventions are determined by the communities who owns land in those particular areas. The communities will be sensitized on importance of the interventions to the people, biodiversity and their economic wellbeing. NRT will also continue to implement the recommendations of the Due Diligence Report<sup>17</sup>, Denmark NRT Programme Technical review and the Conflict Sensitivity Analysis. The Embassy will follow through implementation of these recommendations biannually during the planned bilateral meetings. A budgetary allocation for community engagement processes will be done to facilitate the compliance for FPIC processes. This will also be used to facilitate trainings on conflict management and peace building for the conservancy leadership.

To prevent cross-border spill-overs of communities from non-conservancy regions, the conservancies will be supported to develop inclusive management and development plans that accommodates non conservancy members. This will encourage sharing of the available pasture and water during prolonged periods of drought within conservancies through a negotiated approach where herders from non-conservancy areas graze while adhering to the conservancy grazing plan.

NRT will also continue to work with the relevant County Governments to legislate laws e.g. Rangeland Management, energy and water Bills that will encourage investment of public funding into NbS, energy and water in the community conservancies.

## Results Framework

Project Title		<b>Support to Nature-based solutions, access to water and energy Programme, 2025-2028</b>	
Project Objective		<b>Increased community resilience, as a result of adoption of nature-based solutions, access to water and energy</b>	
Objective Indicator		Level of community perception of increased resilience as a result of the adoption of Nature Based Solutions, access to water and renewable/clean energy. <b>Note:</b> This indicator amalgamates responses on income, climate adaptability, protection and safety, and disaster preparedness and confidence related to recovering from future shocks. reflected in Social Conservancy Management Monitoring System (SocialCOMMS)	
<b>Outcome 1</b>		<b>Improved access to sustainable water services for domestic and pastoral needs</b>	
Outcome indicator		% of the project target population accessing improved basic drinking water (meeting WHO standards) as a result of this grant	
Baseline	Year	2024	0
Target	Year	2028	90% of the project target population
<b>Explanatory note</b>		<i>The project target to reach 90% of the target conservancies population. The project target to reach 90% of the target conservancies population. Overall the project targets to benefit 240,000 people, of these 90% are anticipated to benefit directly from water interventions. This includes new and rehabilitated domestic water points serving households, schools, health facilities and strategic livestock point. NRT Social CoMMs will be used to collect and report on this target disaggregated by gender</i>	

<sup>17</sup> Due Diligence Report: Concerning the Report Stealth Game Published by the Oakland Institute by Dr. Kanyinke Sena, PhD. <https://www.nature.org/content/dam/tnc/nature/en/documents/Due-Diligence-Report-on-Oakland-Institute-Allegations.pdf>

<b>Outcome 2</b>		<b>Increased adoption of renewable and efficient energy technologies</b>	
Outcome indicator 1		% of the project target population are adopting/using clean energy technologies as a result of this grant	
Baseline	Year	2024	0
Target	Year	2028	37% of target population
<b>Explanatory note</b>		<i>Represents the % of the project target conservancies' population who will be using renewable and/ or efficient energy technologies within the conservancies</i>	
Outcome indicator 2		Percentage of project target community members reporting increase in attitude about renewable energy solutions	
Baseline	Year	2024	0%
Target	Year	2028	75% of the target population
<b>Explanatory note</b>		<i>This indicator tracks changes in community attitudes towards adopting clean energy. It uses surveys or interviews to measure shifts in awareness, acceptance, and intentions regarding technologies like solar power and biogas. Monitoring this indicator helps assess the effectiveness of communication strategies and identifies barriers to clean energy adoption, informing decision-making and intervention refinement.</i>	
<b>Outcome 3</b>		<b>Increased awareness, investment and communities participation in nature-based solutions with emphasis on the mangroves restoration; rangelands and forest restoration, and sustainable agricultural practices</b>	
Outcome indicator 1		Level of awareness on nature based solutions (Nbs) at the NRT, Conservancies, and community level as a result of this grant disaggregated by gender – women, youths, PLWDs	
Baseline	Year	2024	0
Target	Year	2028	TBD (after baseline survey)
Outcome indicator 2		% of the target project population benefiting from identified nature based solutions as a result of this grant disaggregated by gender – women, youths. PLWDs	
Baseline	Year	2024	0
Target	Year	2028	90% of the target population
<b>Explanatory note</b>		<i>These indicators will measure the active participation of community members in nature-based solutions that promote socio-economic well-being and environmental conservation. Monitoring this indicator evaluates the awareness level and effectiveness of interventions aimed at fostering sustainable livelihoods aligned with conservation goals. Source NRT Social CoMMs report</i>	
<b>Outcome 4</b>		<b>Robust NRT M&amp;E framework to guide and enhance learning, adaptive management and reporting on NRT impact and delivery</b>	
<b>Outcome Indicator</b>		Effective revised M&E framework guiding NRT monitoring, reporting and learning during the 5 year strategic plan implementation	
Baseline	Year	2024	0
Target	Year	2028	1
<b>Explanatory Note</b>		<i>Evidenced by final M&amp;E framework adopted by NRT and member conservancies; implemented by a strong core M&amp;E team and system that can assure quality of data collection and analysis. Framework to be socialized and co-developed by strategic funders and county governments.</i>	

## 6 Budget

This is an additional DKK 50m support for NRT's interventions in nature-based Solutions (41.9% of overall budget), access to water (24.8% of overall budget), renewable energy (9.5% of the overall budget), MEAL and Communication/public outreach/branding costs (8% of overall budget) and Administration costs, (7% of the overall budget), audit costs and unallocated budget - to support capacity building on NbS through DFC, IUCN and WWF (10% of the overall budget). Project costs are associated with specific outputs implemented through the conservancies, using the conservancy institutions as a platform for community-led implementation. A detailed output based budget is provided in an annex 5.

### Programme Budget (DKK)

Outcome	2025 DKK	2026 DKK	2027 DKK	2028 DKK	Total DKK

<b>Outcome 1:</b> Improved access to sustainable water services for domestic and pastoral needs	3,205,299	3,029,623	3,189,083	2,972,867	12,396,872
<b>Outcome 2:</b> Increased adoption of renewable and efficient energy technologies	1,183,960	1,183,960	1,713,305	701,798	4,783,023
<b>Outcome 3:</b> Increased awareness and investments in Nature-based solutions (agro-forestry, sustainable agriculture, mangroves, forest and rangelands restoration)	5,974,851	5,059,668	5,305,364	4,590,919	20,930,802
<b>Outcome 4:</b> Robust NRT M&E framework to guide and enhance learning, adaptive management and reporting on NRT impact and delivery	1,055,777	964,098	1,269,741	951,981	4,241,597
Administrative costs (max. 7% of direct cost)	575,344	506,401	554,343	451,095	2,087,183
Audits	37,838	37,838	37,838	37,838	151,351
Unallocated to be managed by the Embassy to support DFC/WWF/IUCN in delivery of capacity development to NRT and its conservancies on Nbs	1,353,085	2,011,624	1,126,131	918,332	5,409,172
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>13,386,154</b>	<b>12,793,212</b>	<b>13,195,805</b>	<b>10,624,830</b>	<b>50,000,000</b>

The current NRT secured grants for the period 2022-2027 with all development partners, based on current signed contracts, includes:

Development Partner	Programme title	Grant amount	Period	Earmarked / Co-funded	%
EU	Ranger Program	EUR 4.9M	December 2020 to December 2024	Earmarked	
AFD	FFEM	EUR 5.7M	2020 – 2025	Co-funded	25%
TNC	Wyss	USD 1.4M	May 2023 – March 2025	Earmarked	
	NORAD	USD 140K	April 2024 – Sept 2025	Co-funding	25%
	EPI	USD 100K	Jan 2024 – Dec 2024	Earmarked	
	Connectivity	USD 350K	Dec 2023 – Nov 2024	Co-funded	12.5%
	Marine	USD 700K	2022 – 2024	Earmarked	
	IKI	EUR 281K	2022 – 2025	Earmarked	
	Private Grant	USD 384K	2024	Co-funded	100%
Denmark	Resilient communities and NR	DKK 60M	2021 – 2025	Co-funding	100%
	Water and Energy Program	DKK 35M	2023 – 2025	Earmarked	
SIDA		USD 1.4M	2022 – 2023	Co-funded	8%
Italian Embassy		EUR 2 million	2022 – 2025	Earmarked	
USAID	SSRCC	US D 13 million	2022 – 2027	Co-funding	15%
	P2P	USD 1.2 million		Earmarked	
<b>Total</b>		<b>USD 31.8M</b>			

This new project budget adds DKK 50m (Approx. USD 7m), making the total funding from Denmark approximately 50% of the current secured funding up to 2027 and 18% of the total 5-year NRT budget (2024-2028).

## 7 Institutional and Management arrangements

The parties have agreed to the following management arrangement to ensure adequate dialogue and timely decisions regarding this project.

### 7.1 Governance Structure

NRT management reports to the NRT Board as part of all NRT implemented activities under the strategic plan. The NRT Board endorses annual work plans, and financial and progress reporting. The NRT Board meets biannually in January/February and July/August. The Board in turn reports to the Council of Elders which is NRT's highest governing body. The chairpersons of the conservancies make up most of the council and are joined by several institutional members. The Council guides NRT policy, by-laws for its operation and administration, and appoints the NRT Board. Northern Rangelands Trust (a Trust) has a fully owned subsidiary company, Northern Rangelands Company Limited (A limited Company) that incurs and contracts for expenses on behalf of the Trust. The trustees of the trust are the sole shareholders and directors of the company with a single share each. The company acts to limit the liability of the trustees. Conservancies are independent institutions, NRT is an association of the Conservancies. Annex 10 presents NRT Organizational Structure.

This project will be aligned to the NRT organization, accountability, and annual audit processes. There will be two annual NRT-DK meetings. One annual meeting could be in Nairobi and the other at the NRT Head Quarters in Lewa. The meetings will discuss the three (3) RDE grants' work plans, progress, impact, and audit, and will follow closely from the two semi-annual NRT Board meetings. The meetings will be provided with reports on progress and other relevant material. The meetings are for reporting, addressing strategic and emerging issues, and shared learning and understanding. Learnings and emerging issues are then incorporated into program management using the project's MEAL strategy. These engagements and the associated reporting (annual plan of operations, annual state of conservancies report) provide a platform for RDE to assess progress against the planned results of the project. RDE will approve the work plans and progress reports once they are considered satisfactory.

As part of its management arrangements, NRT in close collaboration with RDE will establish an organisational learning and adaptation mechanism with the overall purpose of enabling evidence-informed adjustments to be made to the project during implementation. This will be incorporated into the existing Project document MEAL process to enhance efficiencies and enable NRT and RDE to identify broader causal links. In broad terms, the organisational learning and adaptation mechanism are anticipated to incorporate bi-annual reflection sessions to examine whether assumptions underpinning the project TOCs remain valid and identify what adjustments to the engagement approach are required.

NRT management structure has various departments that lead implementation of the NRT Result areas. For purpose of this project, Water, Energy and rangelands departments will lead the implementation of the 3 outcomes. The NRT SMT will oversight the departments to ensure there is timely and quality delivery of the project outputs, outcomes and objective. This arrangement will be similar at the conservancy level where the conservancy sector leads will ensure the activities under the three outcomes are properly identified at the community level, implemented and sustainably managed.

NRT as an organization has an anti-corruption policy that covers all its staff, vendors, stakeholders and partners and will further adhere to the MFA anti-corruption policy as updated in May 2023.

## 8 Financial management, planning and reporting.

Both parties will strive for full alignment of the Danish support to the NRT approved financial rules and procedures. Procurement will be applied according to the NRT Finance and Procurement Manual. The requirement is that NRT ensures value for money and uses appropriate and transparent procurement of equipment and services<sup>18</sup>.

### 8.1 Disbursement

The grant will be directed to main NRT bank account<sup>19</sup>, these funds will be fully transferred to Northern Rangelands Company Limited as the contracting arm of Trust. However, if the proposed NRT restructure is completed before end of the Project, an addendum will be agreed between RDE and NRT on where the disbursements will be channelled. Balance at the end of each year is reported as the closing

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<sup>18</sup> All financial management will be done from NRT HQ using SAGE Evolution ERP system

<sup>19</sup> All transactions in the account record the Donor, Output, C (Conservancy, County, Region) and Activity - DOCA

balance and will be rolled over into the next financial year. The financial year of NRT is from January to December. NRT is to produce an indicative disbursement schedule that covers the duration of the engagement.

Semi-annual disbursements in Kenya Shillings (KSH) will be triggered by approval of the annual work plan and budget beginning of the calendar year in the first quarter (Q1) and second disbursement in third quarter (Q3). Disbursements from RDE will be based on a transfer request from NRT which should include:

- Financial reports for the previous period
- Audited accounts if produced in the reporting period
- Output based budget for the period by the approved work plan and budget

Clearly state the cash flow needs, by filling in the RDE disbursement request form (backed by budgets and financial report) signed by two authorized persons.

The overall conditions for disbursement of funds from RDE include:

- Satisfactory use of prior transfers (including any funds carried forward from previous engagements)
- Satisfactory programmatic and financial reporting has been submitted on previous periods
- Submitted receipts of all prior transfers
- Submitted satisfactory previous audited accounts
- Availability of approved work plan and budget for the period to be financed
- No accumulation of donor funds on NRT accounts

NRT must submit a receipt no later than 14 days after receipt of the funds indicating the amount received in the currency of the request and the currency in which the disbursement was received. The receipt should be provided in form of an officially signed letter (scanned copy is accepted).

## 8.2 Partner procedures pertaining to financial management

Allowances should not be paid to owners or employees of implementing partners or beneficiaries for participating in profit-enhancing activities of the company/organisation. Allowances for NRT staff and governing bodies will follow the rates set out in the relevant NRT manuals. The rates should be justifiable and reflect actual costs level.

## 8.3 Procurement

For any procurement related to the programme NRT will ensure sound procurement management. This will include, but not be limited to:

- Need Identification: Procurement process starts when someone submits a request to the purchasing department. Whatever it is, the request is submitted in writing and sufficiently detailed.
- Vendor Selection: The procurement department then request quotes for the item needed, and then select a vendor. The rule of thumb is to get at least three quotes from different vendors for budgets that exceed DKK 20,000.
- Get approval for the purchase. After vendor identification and agreed on the details, then there is need for approval from the department responsible for approving purchases.
- After the purchase request has been approved, the finance department issues a purchase order to the vendor.

## 8.4 Narrative progress reports and financial reports

Below is a summary of the key reporting outputs for NRT:

Timelines	NRT	RDE
15th November	Prepares and submits a project annual work plan and budget to RDE	RDE Receives and approves the project annual work plan and budget

31 <sup>st</sup> January	Prepares and submits Annual project report	RDE receives the annual report, reviews and approves if satisfactory
31 <sup>st</sup> July	Submits project semi-annual report	RDE receives the biannual report for review and approval
30 <sup>th</sup> September	NRT Conducts the earmarked projects audit and as an annex to the institutional audit NRT submits the approved Audit report to RDE	RDE receives the approved audit report

Financial reporting will be made by NRT to RDE annually based on the financial report to the NRT board. Reports should be received no later than 6 months after the financial year January - December. NRT will also produce semi-annual progress reports (narrative and financial). The semi-annual reports will be submitted to the RDE no later than one month after the end of the half-year in question.

The reports will be against the project outputs, outcomes, and institutional result areas. The following shall be addressed in the narrative reporting as a minimum:

- An assessment of developments in the contextual framework during the past year (annual report)
- Implementation of the work plan and budget based on output targets for the reporting period, including brief explanations of challenges encountered and deviations from targets/milestones and how these have been assessed and handled
- Progress to date compared to output and outcome targets for the entire programme period as stipulated in the results framework
- An analysis of risks, including both reflection on the reporting period and the upcoming reporting period
- Challenges encountered and specification of recommended changes and adjustments (including budget re-allocations) for approval by the relevant authorities
- Update on implementation of decisions, follow up on recommendations from reviews, audits, monitoring visits, etc.

Financial reporting shall as a minimum include:

- The financial reporting shall be drawn up to the same level of detail as the approved detailed and output-based budget
- Include budget figures, actual spending, and variance for the period under-reporting and the entire engagement period
- Funds received during the period and accumulated
- Deviations should be explained and any budget reallocations within the period should be noted and include details on the written approval of the reallocation/adjustment.

## 8.5 Accounting and auditing

### a) Accounting

The accounting will follow the NRT Finance and Procurement Manual. This implies that accounts are kept in accordance with international standards, ensuring that: (i) The DANIDA grant is entered into the accounts as income; (ii) Reporting on expenditures is of at least the same level of detail as in the output based grant budget; (iii) All expenditures are documented by vouchers, original invoices and original signed receipts; (iv) Receivables (including any unaccounted for advances) and payables are registered in the accounting system; (v) An adequate register of equipment and other assets is maintained and is updated on an ongoing basis; (vi) Adequate control procedures are put in place and accounts are signed by the responsible institution's management; (vii) An accounting manual is maintained including policy for clear segregation of duties; and (viii) Administration adheres to established written procedures. Further, that any advances given to conservancies are registered as in the accounts and only booked as an expense once accountability has been received and verified.

NRT will prepare an annual work plan and budget for the programme for approval by RDE. The financing agreements will be in DKK, but the transfers, accounting as well as financial reporting will be

conducted in Ksh. The disbursements will be registered in Danida's accounts in KSH and DKK using the prevailing MFA exchange rate on the date of the transaction.

Accounting and the auditing of the Danish funds will be undertaken by NRT under the guidelines including "Financial Management Guideline for Development Cooperation" <https://amg.um.dk/bilateral-cooperation/financial-management>.

## **b) Auditing**

NRT is audited on an annual basis. The audit period follows the financial year January - December. The Terms of Reference for the audit as well as the appointment of the auditors are approved by NRT Board. The audit is carried out as an earmarked project audit and as an annex to the institutional audit.

The audits will be conducted in accordance with the International Standards of Auditing (ISA) and should include elements of compliance and performance audit. The audit report shall include a management letter/report.

It is the responsibility of NRT to ensure that any sub-partners are audited on an annual basis, that the audit reports are received timely and that these reports are consolidated into the overall audit reports of NRT. Any advance payments and outstanding advances to implementing partners must be specified in the consolidated audit report.

The audited financial statement and the management report should as a minimum include:

- Expenditure statement in accordance with the approved budget
- Show the budget figures in a separate column to ease "actual vs budget" analysis
- Report on opening and closing balances (itemized into cash and bank) for funds carried forward ensuring that all funds available for activities are included in the income statement
- Report on unrepresented cheques, unaccounted for advances, receivables, and payables
- Report on exchange rate gains and losses and the method for calculating these
- A verified (by the auditors) asset register with details on the location, date of purchase, ownership (RDE or partner), identification number (if applicable), condition, and when relevant date of disposal. Any disposals should be included in the register
- Physical inspection of some randomly selected works/activities to provide the auditors view on, in a cost-effectiveness perspective, quality and quantity of activities carried out by the partner and sub-partners

The partner shall ensure that any material issues raised in the auditor's report are appropriately and timely followed up and appropriate actions are taken. RDE reserves the right to claim full reimbursement of expenditure regarded as ineligible according to the agreement between the parties.

The accounting documentation shall at any time be available for scrutiny by representatives of the RDE and the Danish Auditor General.

## **9 Risk analysis, mitigation, and management**

### **Contextual Risk**

Northern Kenya is a hotspot region that is prone to insecurity and resource-based conflicts. Conflict and insecurity escalate during droughts, floods, and other environmental shocks. The conflict cascades through the landscape and involved communities within the conservancies and outside the conservancies. To mitigate this risk, NRT will work through the existing governance community and conservancies structures in ensuring equity in water, energy and NbS interventions across the conservancies. Outside the conservancies, NRT will work through the government structures, like the county government, Community Forest Associations (CFAs) and Water Resource Users Associations (WRUAs), to ensure all communities benefit from the programme investments.

There is a risk of violence or political interference during national and local elections, which may cause destruction to the investments in water and renewable energy. NRT will ensure proper awareness and sensitization to enhance projects ownership and empower communities and mitigate political incitements.

Extreme environmental events, such as droughts, and flooding, could render certain programme interventions ineffective due to infrastructure destruction especially during floods. To this end, NRT will work with the Meteorological department, utilize Famine Early Warning Systems Network (FEWSNET)

information to anticipate and respond with strategies including county and ward level Disaster Risk Reduction (DRR) strategies to alleviate the impacts on the program.

NRT also monitors terror as a risk and further scans all potential vendors, partners, and donors through the OFAC list as part of our standard due diligence and because of NRT's close relationship with communities, NRT do a thorough vetting of all conservancy partners and the scouts that are employed. A secondary layer of vetting is conducted by the county security council. As a result, we have a high level of knowledge and trust that funds are not funnelled to any illicit or terrorist activities.

### **Programmatic Risk**

The program's gender focus could potentially cause community tension or problems for households or women. The risk is that more income-generating opportunities for women increase their involvement away from the traditional norms and duties in some ways, and that customary decision-making may resist women's participation. This will be remedied by undertaking activities targeting women to include men in best way possible; male leaders engaged to support women's involvement in decision making; gender impact of the project (positive & negative) closely monitored.

Potential risk on getting quality supplies for the needed resources. Different versions of the Biogas installation have been tested over time and the quality of the other alternative energy has not been tested. NRT will continue using the high-standard procurement system and expert input to reduce this risk.

Accurate research in water solutions in the ASALs has not been done, and there is a need for wider community and government involvement to ensure sustainability. NRT has involved the conservancies' management and the county officials in co-creating the plans and continues to work on co-creation, co-management, learning, and continuous improvement to ensure that the best strategies and technologies are invested in, which ensures value for money and the highest potential for sustainability.

### **Institutional Risk**

In addition to the above, the grant will have a strong emphasis on compliance to FPIC and HRBA during implementation of the project to mitigate recurring allegations of human rights violations. This will be done by ensuring that the Embassy under this programme closely follow the implementation of NRT Human right policy, 2022 Joint Supporters Due Diligence Report Recommendations, and DK MTR/Technical review recommendations.

### **Financial Risk**

NRT operates within the challenging landscape of arid and semi-arid regions, collaborating closely with both national and county governments to implement conservation and community development initiatives. However, navigating financial transactions with government institutions presents inherent risks, including potential mismanagement, delays, and bureaucratic hurdles. Despite facing these challenges, NRT has proactively engaged in mutual agreements with government entities to ensure transparent and accountable financial management. For instance, in the EU-funded RangER program spanning Laikipia, Samburu, and Isiolo counties, NRT has diligently managed financial transactions by reimbursing funds post-activity implementation, thereby mitigating the risk of misallocation or misuse. Through these collaborations, NRT fosters trust and cooperation with government stakeholders while upholding stringent financial governance standards, ultimately contributing to sustainable development and conservation efforts in the Northern Rangelands.

See further details in Annex 4: Risk Management Matrix.

## **10 Monitoring, Evaluation, and Learning**

NRT is responsible for monitoring and reporting on the achievement of the results framework. NRT has an institutional M&E system to assess the delivery of the outputs of the grant. NRT has developed a devolved Conservancy Management and Monitoring System (CoMMS) for wildlife, rangeland vegetation, livelihoods(social), and natural resource management. NRT has also developed a comprehensive Governance Index, which tracks Conservancy performance and reflects the level of transparency, accountability, financial management, and community engagement. Risks and assumptions are monitored as part of the M&E system.

The M&E system informs the actual management of NRT activities and guides the management of each of the conservancies. Monitoring, evaluation, and learning are used in four key areas i) adaptive management - targeting programs to areas, which might be most vulnerable, might be experiencing negative or no impacts, and using the data to better inform decision-making; ii) innovation - using the information to create new programs and activities that better address the needs and wants of the community; iii) donor reporting - monitoring trends that indicate that donor funding is creating a positive change in the local communities; iv) creating transparency - providing a platform for the community to provide feedback on the management of the conservancy. This data is useful for conservancy managers and boards to understand demographics, identify vulnerable zones or populations, and target activities to create strategies or provide livelihood support (through the conservancy management plans, conservancy livelihood funds, and other avenues) to these marginalized households. Additional information on livelihoods, water and nutrition, and rangelands can be used to validate arguments to support these causes and to track the impact of programs on vulnerable populations. In addition to targeting support for livelihood development, Social CoMMS information provides a gauge on household perception towards the conservancy and the environment.

Results gained through evaluation are interrogated by NRT management teams and Conservancy boards to distil learning. Learnings are then used to adapt management approaches. M&E results also provide information for reporting on progress achieved in relation to the strategic goals of NRT. The results from the M&E will be utilised for sharing in dialogues with partners. The M&E results will for the purpose of learning also be fed into organisational learning and adaptation mechanism referred to in the Management section.

Close monitoring of the results and risks frameworks is the foundation for continuous learning and adaptable engagement management that takes implementation progress and emerging contextual developments into account. The Embassy of Denmark in Nairobi shall have the right to carry out any technical or financial mission that is considered necessary to monitor the implementation of the programme. The Embassy annually will conduct at least two technical and financial monitoring visits to NRT and its implementing agencies – Community conservancies to discuss results and verify financial management systems and records. Additionally, NRT and the Embassy will endeavour communicate results to various stakeholders as presented in Annex 7 – Plan of communication.

## 11 Closure

The tentative timeframe of the formal project closure consists of three steps:

- (i) NRT Project Final Results report by January 2030
- (ii) Responsible unit's final results report (FRR) by June 2030
- (iii) Closure of accounts: final audit, return of unspent funds and accrued interest and administrative closure by reversing remaining provision by December 2030

The project sustainability is inbuilt by ensuring it is implemented with the principle of community ownership, learning and adapting to emerging local context issues. The communities through conservancy management shall be involved from interventions designing including beneficiaries' selection, implementation, monitoring, operations and maintenance. The conservancies capacity will be strengthened to enhance their capacity in management of the developed assets including water scheme, institutional energy interventions and in NbS. The project will further strengthen partnership with government and other institutions, investment into sustainable income generation interventions that will promote avoided degradation of forests, rangelands for livelihoods improvement, and continued support from NRT as a knowledge base. This in the end will strengthen ownership and thus enhance sustainability.

## 12 Prerequisites

No prerequisites have been identified for the signing of this project document.

## 13 Signatures

Ambassador Embassy of Denmark in Kenya  
Date

CEO, Northern Rangelands Trust  
Date

## 14 Annexes

### Annex 1: Contextual Analysis

#### 1. Poverty and inequality analysis

Kenya is a leading economy in East Africa thanks to several market-oriented reforms that, together with favourable regional and global conditions, propelled the economy to middle-income country status in 2014. Historically, Kenya has been successful in translating economic growth into poverty reduction, with poverty declining before the Covid 19 pandemic. The country's GDP growth has been impressive, at around 5-6% per annum on average in the recent years. The major drivers of this growth are agriculture, manufacturing, services and technology. Despite such progress, cases of poverty alleviation have not been swiftly reduced as great number of people still live below the poverty line.

In 2019, almost one-third of Kenyans (33.6 percent) were living below the international poverty line which is equivalent to \$1.90 per day, a 13.1-percentage point decline from 46.7 percent in 2005/06. This translated into a decline in the number of poor individuals. Rural areas have a higher prevalence of poverty compared to urban centers. The rural regions that host close to 70 percent of the population suffer from inadequate access to essential services and poor infrastructure coupled with low levels of economic activities.

Kenya's income inequality, is relatively high. The wealthiest 10% of the population control a significant portion of the country's wealth, while the poorest 40% account for a disproportionately small share. Inequality extends beyond income, encompassing disparities in education, healthcare, and access to services. These disparities often correlate with ethnic, regional, and gender divides.

Some areas like ASALs within Kenya experience high levels of poverty due to severe climatic conditions, poor agricultural practices resulting in low agricultural productivity and limited economic opportunities available for households. For instance, Northern Kenya has long been characterized by high levels of poverty and inequality. This region encompasses counties such as Turkana, Mandera, Wajir, Marsabit, Isiolo and Garissa, among others. The socio-economic challenges faced by this region are multifaceted and deeply entrenched, often exacerbated by factors such as geographical isolation, climatic conditions, historical marginalization, and inadequate infrastructure. The introduction of devolution through Kenya's 2010 constitution aimed to address regional inequalities by decentralizing power and resources. While devolution has brought some positive changes, challenges such as weak governance, corruption, and capacity constraints at the county level continue to impede progress.

#### 2. Political Economy and Stakeholder Analysis

Kenya has remained politically stable in comparison to other East African countries since independence, with the exception of occasional tensions surrounding election cycles every five years. This is demonstrated by the recently concluded elections and the transfer of power from the Jubilee government to the Kenya Kwanza government. There appears to be sufficient political will to maintain this stability for the foreseeable future. Furthermore, the government is committed to ASAL socioeconomic development by establishing a state department to handle ASAL development matters. The devolution of functions and resources in Kenya has allowed the public to prioritize their development needs. Kenya Vision 2030, the Development Strategy for Northern Kenya and other Arid Lands, and the Vision 2030 medium term plans (MTPs) provide a foundation for accelerated economic, social and political performance.

#### 3. Fragility, Conflict and Resilience

Kenya's fragility is defined by a number of political, social, economic and climatic factors, with conflicts often arising from competition over resources and political power. Addressing the root causes of fragility such as ethnic tensions, economic inequality and corruption while strengthening resilience through inclusive development and conflict resolution mechanisms is key to ensuring long-term stability in Kenya.

**Fragility:** Political instability is a serious source of fragility in Kenya. Kenya experiences political tensions around the election periods which are driven by ethnic political alliances. In the recent past, Kenya has experienced political instability due to post election violence that has led to loss of lives, property and displacement of many others. More so driven by ethnic divisions that are politically instigated. This increases

the fragility of the country. Economic inequalities in the country is another source of fragility. The disparities in wealth and access to resources across the regions and communities contributes to social tensions and grievances that are further used during political campaigns to target certain communities and individuals. Corruption and lack of political good will to address it has continued to increase the fragility of the country. It has resulted to loss of public trust in government institutions and poor development efforts. This coupled by a high population of unemployed youths' increases vulnerability to radicalization and participation in criminal activities. Climate change impacts in Kenya have had significant impacts on people, property and natural resources. Extreme droughts and floods have led to increased fragility of the country due to loss of mainstay economic opportunities of the country. This is more felt in the ASALs regions where extremes events impacts are heavily felt with people lives lost, displaced and livestock deaths recorded.

**Conflict:** Kenya experiences a surge in resource based conflicts during prolonged droughts over competition of natural resources such as pasture, land and water especially in ASALs regions. Pastoralist tend to move their livestock to where there are more resources triggering conflicts amongst themselves, with farmers and even forest users. The threat of militia groups in Kenya is so significant especially in the North Eastern Kenya bordering Somalia and this is a significant security threat to the country.

**Resilience:** As much as Kenya has many ethnic communities, this is also a strength that increases communities' resilience. The strong social networks and systems of mutual support enhance the resilience during the crisis period. Devolution and decentralization under the Kenya's 2010 constitution has introduced devolution to address historical marginalization and brought about opportunities for development in previously neglected areas.

The Government under 2010 constitution has established institutions such as the National Cohesion and Integration Commission (NCIC) that promotes peaceful coexistence amongst Kenya's diverse communities. Kenya's vibrant Civil society plays a crucial role in advocating for human rights, peace building and holding the government accountable.

Efforts on climate change adaptation by government and development partners particularly in agriculture and water management that are vital for food security and reducing conflicts over resources if sustained will continue to build the resilience of the communities.

#### 4. Human Rights, Gender, Youth and applying a Human Rights Based Approach

**Legal Framework and Institutions:** The 2010 Constitution of Kenya is progressive in its protection of human rights. It includes a Bill of Rights that guarantees civil, political, social, economic, and cultural rights for all citizens. The Constitution also establishes independent institutions like the Kenya National Commission on Human Rights (KNCHR) to monitor and promote human rights.

Additionally, Kenya is a signatory to various international human rights treaties, including the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights (ICCPR), and the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination Against Women (CEDAW). While the judiciary plays a crucial role in upholding human rights, issues such as corruption, inefficiency, and political interference sometimes undermine its effectiveness.

Security forces in Kenya have been accused of extrajudicial killings, arbitrary arrests, and torture, particularly in the context of counterterrorism operations and enforcement of public order. This has been witnessed in the ongoing demonstrations in Kenya by the Generation Z. Journalists, activists, and human rights defenders often face harassment, threats, and violence. Media freedom has often been restricted through legal and extralegal means.

Certain communities, such as ethnic minorities, refugees, LGBTQ+ individuals, and people with disabilities, face discrimination and exclusion from full participation in social, economic, and political life.

Disputes over land ownership and forced evictions, particularly in peri-urban areas and indigenous forest dwellers, are significant human rights concerns. These issues often affect vulnerable populations, including in the rural marginalized areas and informal urban settlements.

**Gender Issues in Kenya:** The Kenyan Constitution explicitly prohibits gender-based discrimination and mandates equal rights for men and women. It also includes provisions for affirmative action to address gender imbalances in political representation and other sectors. Kenya has made progress in increasing women's representation in politics and leadership, though challenges remain. The "two-thirds gender rule," which mandates that no more than two-thirds of any elected or appointed body be of the same gender, has yet to be fully implemented.

Gender-based violence, including domestic violence, sexual assault, and female genital mutilation (FGM), remains widespread. Cultural norms, stigma, and inadequate legal enforcement contribute to the persistence of GBV. This is more so felt in the ASAL rural communities.

While gender parity in basic education has improved, disparities persist at higher levels, particularly in rural areas. Girls face challenges such as early marriage, teenage pregnancies, and gendered expectations that limit their educational attainment. Women's health, particularly maternal health, remains a concern. Access to reproductive health services is uneven, with rural and marginalized women facing significant barriers.

Kenya has laws such as the Sexual Offences Act and the Protection Against Domestic Violence Act aimed at addressing GBV. However, enforcement is often weak, and survivors may face significant barriers in accessing justice, including social stigma and economic dependence on perpetrators.

These issues are more prevalent in the ASAL communities where women are not given equal opportunities due to the patriarchal societal norms.

## 5. Migration

Over 4.1 million people in Kenya were estimated to be facing food insecurity in Kenya by June 2022 up from 3.5 million people in May 2022. Extreme events both droughts and floods have caused (particularly in arid and semi-arid counties) mass displacement, and food and water insecurity.

A total of 559,282 refugees and asylum seekers continue to live in Kenya, 53.4% of whom are from Somalia, 25.1% from South Sudan, 8.9% from Congo and 5.6% from Ethiopia and the remaining are from other nationalities. Of this, 42% each live in Kakuma and Dadaab, respectively, as well as 16% in urban settlements. Continuing instability and drought in the Horn of Africa region may lead to more inflows of people into Kenya further requiring additional resources to respond to multiple emergencies.

## Inclusive sustainable growth, climate change and environment

Climate change is posing an increasing threat to global socio-economic development and environmental sustainability. The impacts of climate change on livelihoods, food and water security, ecosystems, energy and infrastructure are more severe in Kenya's Arid and Semi-Arid Lands (ASALs). The Northern and Coastal regions of Kenya, which house 70% of the country's livestock and 90% of its wild game, bear the brunt of the damage caused by harsh climatic conditions.

Current climate models predict that East Africa is becoming wetter throughout the yearly lengthy rainy season, which runs from March to May. These models also predict that this will continue across the area until the end of the century; however, the actual reality as experienced by individuals in this region paints a more complex picture. Since the 1980s, there has been a considerable drop in lengthy rains. Changes in the pattern of rainfall in East Africa pose significant problems to the people. The East African Climate Paradox refers to the disparity between projected and actual climate outcomes.

The Horn of Africa had a drought from 2002 until 2023. Large sections of Kenya, Ethiopia, and Somalia suffered inadequate rainfall during two consecutive rainy seasons, resulting in agricultural losses and livestock mortality that devastated the local population. Food costs have risen, and 12 million people in the region are food insecure.

East Africa is heavily reliant on agriculture for food production and economic activity; therefore, a shorter rainy season means less moisture for crops and pasture putting pressure on agricultural productivity and food security. At the same time, increased rainfall at other times of the year raises the risk of natural disasters like flooding, which harm lives and livelihoods. The region's increasingly unpredictable weather and climatic patterns raise the risk of additional instability in agricultural productivity and food supplies. The pastoralist community in this region rely on rain not just for water, but also for lush pastures for their livestock. Already vulnerable communities do not have enough time to recover from the losses caused by one drought before the next one strikes.

Because of its negative effects on productive sectors, climate change has had a negative impact on the Kenyan economy. The consequences reduce disposable income, thereby increasing poverty and vulnerability. The most common natural hazards in Kenya are weather and climate-related environmental hazards such as floods, droughts, landslides, lightning/thunderstorms, wildfires, and strong winds. Natural disasters disrupt people's lives by displacing them, destroying their livelihoods and property, and causing deaths and injuries. As a result, they reverse years of progress, posing a significant challenge to achieving Sustainable Development Goal 1, which seeks to eradicate extreme poverty, including a lack of food, safe drinking

water, and sanitation, by 2030. Environmental degradation and its consequences for fragile ecosystems exacerbate conflict and insecurity, undermining coping strategies and livelihoods even further.

## **7. Capacity of public sector, public financial management and corruption**

### **Capacity of public sector**

Kenya's public sector is structured around the national and county governments, each with distinct responsibilities. The national government handles functions like defense, foreign affairs, and national policy, while county governments manage local services such as health, agriculture, and infrastructure. The 2010 Constitution introduced devolution to enhance service delivery and bring governance closer to the people. While devolution has empowered local governments, it has also exposed gaps in capacity at the county level, where some counties struggle with planning, budgeting, and service delivery. This is especially due to challenges related to staffing, including inadequate training, skills gaps, and uneven distribution of qualified personnel. Bureaucratic inefficiencies, low motivation, and poor working conditions also hinder effective service delivery.

While Kenya has developed numerous policies and strategies across sectors, the implementation often lags due to inadequate coordination, resource constraints, and capacity challenges. This gap between policy and practice undermines the effectiveness of government initiatives. Further, lengthy and cumbersome administrative procedures hinder efficient decision-making and service delivery, leading to delays and inefficiencies.

### **Public Financial Management (PFM)**

Kenya's budgeting process is guided by the Medium-Term Expenditure Framework (MTEF), which links policy, planning, and budgeting. While the framework is sound in principle, challenges in accurate forecasting, expenditure tracking, and prioritization persist. The Kenya Revenue Authority (KRA) is responsible for tax collection. While revenue collection has improved over the years, challenges remain, including tax evasion, a narrow tax base, and reliance on external borrowing.

Public expenditure management faces challenges such as budget overruns, delays in disbursement, and inefficiencies in procurement. These issues often lead to misallocation of resources and reduced impact of public spending.

### **Corruption**

Corruption is a major challenge that undermines the capacity of the public sector. Patronage systems, where appointments and promotions are based on loyalty rather than merit, weaken institutional effectiveness. Efforts to reform the public service, including initiatives to enhance transparency, accountability, and efficiency, have had mixed results.

Kenya has established various institutions to combat corruption, including the Ethics and Anti-Corruption Commission (EACC), the Directorate of Criminal Investigations (DCI), and the Office of the Director of Public Prosecutions (ODPP). The legal framework includes laws like the Anti-Corruption and Economic Crimes Act. Despite the existence of anti-corruption institutions, enforcement remains weak. High-profile corruption cases often end without convictions, and whistleblowers face intimidation and reprisals.

Civil society organizations and the media play a critical role in exposing corruption and advocating for accountability. However, they often face harassment, legal challenges, and threats to their safety.

## **8. Matching with Danish strengths and interests, engaging Danish actors and seeking synergies**

- Denmark has a long history of development cooperation with Kenya. Danida has invested heavily in water sector reforms and has supported multiple projects, that have focused on institutional development and water and sanitation infrastructure projects, in particular in the ASALs. Furthermore, Danida has invested in rangeland management and livelihoods in the ASALs. In the light of changing climate, the extent of degradation of rangelands, and widespread competition for water resources and grazing, support to enhance water resource availability, reliability and quality through adoption of nature-based solutions (NbS), strengthening local level water sector governance, equitable water supply, and promotion of efficient and renewable energy technologies, will contribute to ensuring the long-term viability of Danish investments made in water supply, energy, NbS, and rangeland management in the ASALs.
- Denmark has strong competencies in water sector, energy and NbS including decisions-making support tools for basin management and monitoring of water resources. Danish competencies and solutions

can come into play through the coordination and seeking synergy with the Danish-Kenyan strategic sector cooperation (SSC) in the water and Energy sectors. So this programme will tap into available knowledge in the these two SSC to enhance best practice and sustainability of the investments.

- The project will also build on competences of WWF and DFC on NbS to ensure the context specific NbS interventions are implemented following the IUCN NbS guidelines.

## **Annex 2: Partner Assessment**

### **Stakeholder analysis**

Few organisations are working on integrated needs of the people in the ASALS. Due to limited government resources and the vastness of the ASAL areas there is a need to work through civil society organisations to compliment government efforts in service delivery. NRT works directly at the community level and aim to works holistically for cohesive and multi-layered solutions. NRT works with in and support existing structures by facilitating already existing conservancies' thus promoting localization agenda. They are working towards graduating community conservancies in order for them to work in a self-sustainable manner for the benefit of the community. Further, NRT has strong accountability structures and the fiduciary risks involved in working with NRT is significantly lower than working with local governments (which are supported through other engagements under the Kenya bilateral programme). This has been confirmed through several financial monitoring visits, MEAL visits and the external appraisal carried out prior to the core support engagement and this engagement. NRT has a great potential and are ideally positioned to be a key player in protecting and building livelihoods for the populations living in and around the conservancies while at the same conserving the natural resources through the community conservation model.

### **Criteria for selecting project partner**

NRT has been selected based on the partner's ability to address some of the key concerns in the ASALs and Northern Kenya-related resilience of ASAL communities and green and inclusive growth. Water and renewable energy is one of the key drivers for development in the ASALs and through pilot projects, NRT has proved to have the capacity to deliver the water, NbS and renewable energy projects within its conservancies. They have developed their own water strategy which this project will contribute to its implementation. They have piloted a number of NbS interventions in the rangelands, marine and montane ecosystems that have demonstrated the potential for NbS interventions in these ecosystems with biodiversity and socio-economic benefits to local communities and beyond. NRT has been working well and closely with County Governments and national government institutions, to influence relevant policies that drive development of the ASALs through sustainable utilization of the natural resources management. NRT's ability to deliver effectively and work with many beneficiaries in the Conservancies across its integrated result areas: conservancies governance strengthening, peace and conflict management, skills and jobs development, enterprises and livelihoods improvement, and habitats and species management, is an important criterion for selection. Further, the selection of NRT is based on its ability to work with the fundamental basis for improving the productive capacities in the ASALs, namely the natural resources basis of land, range, and water. NRT has also proven to be very adaptive to emerging issues while incorporating lessons learnt from previous programmes to better deliver services to communities in their conservancies. They have demonstrated their resilience handling complex challenges including allegations on human rights violation and this gives donor confidence in their capacities to handle complex issues, transparency and willingness to learn and adapt.

### **Brief presentation of partners**

NRT is a member-based umbrella trust supporting 43 Community Conservancies across 6.3M HA of ASALs in northern and coastal Kenya. Currently undergoing restructuring to be compliant with legal frameworks in Kenya especially the 2021, Perpetual succession Act. Any institutional structural changes that will be effected during implementation period shall be accommodated through an addendum. NRT implements four strategic objectives: natural resource conservation, governance, peace and security, employment and enterprises. The work of NRT is organised in four objectives and nine integrated strategic outputs, which promote resilience and inclusive sustainable growth in the ASALs. NRT's vision is that Community Conservancies become the leading community institutions for building resilient communities and ecosystems in Northern and Coastal Kenya, that are better able to cope with climate shocks, help build peace and security, effectively tackle the illegal wildlife trade, provide a focus for investments in social and economic development, stimulate diversification and growth of the green economy, and underpin the sustainable management of northern Kenya's rich wildlife and natural resources.

### Summary of key partner features

<p>Partner name <i>What is the name of the partner?</i></p>	<p>Core business <i>What is the main business, interest, and goal of the partner?</i></p>	<p>Importance <i>How important is the programme for the partner's activity level (low, medium high)?</i></p>	<p>Influence <i>How much influence does the partner have over the programme (low, medium, high)?</i></p>	<p>Contribution <i>What will be the partner's main contribution?</i></p>	<p>Capacity <i>What are the main issues emerging from the assessment of the partner's capacity?</i></p>	<p>Exit strategy <i>What is the strategy for exiting the partnership?</i></p>
<p>Northern Rangelands Trust (NRT)</p>	<p>NRT's core business is to address the support to its member Community Conservancies in governance, peace and security, livelihoods, business development, and management of natural resources. NRT has been able to ensure substantial development funding that can be directed at the development of the Community Conservancies.</p>	<p>High. The DE is an important enabler to the work within water and energy activities of NRT and Community Conservancies. Service delivery and resilience among the NRT communities are among the key factors to support the delivery of the NRT overall strategic objectives. RDE is a key donor to NRT not least due to the core support. The grant is significant for NRT's efforts within water and energy. However, not significant compared to the overall budget of NRT.</p>	<p>High. NRT is an important enabler of Community Conservancies and a key stakeholder within the landscape.</p>	<p>Enabling community-led Conservancies that transform lives, secure peace, and conserve natural resources in northern and coastal Kenya. NRT's main contribution is knowhow based on the pilots already carried out within water and energy solutions, access at community level, building on the conservation model and existing governance structures. Further, NRT are contributing with a strong delivery set-up that provides for a low fiduciary risks.</p>	<p>Strength: NRT has a strong track record of development performance at grassroots level and strong stakeholder relationships. This has proved to be a very successful development model.</p> <p>Weakness: These areas are amongst the most fragile, conflict sensitive and are very dependent on aid support for transformation. There is a conflict potential in the NRT model as it in some cases challenges the traditional customs and structures. NRT mitigates this by cooperating closely with the traditional structures and</p>	<p>Development impact at this scale is a long-term endeavour. As the capacity of Community Conservancies is built, they will graduate to a high degree of self-reliance. This evolution is entrenched in the NRT sustainability strategy. The strategy include tourism opportunities, sustainable solutions, carbon credits, partnerships with private actors etc.</p>

					<p>ensuring community engagement. NRT needs to continue working on engaging both communities and surrounding non-conservancy communities (i.e. pastoralists that move around).</p> <p>Opportunities: NRT has created a unique platform for structural access in this landscape at a significant scale.</p> <p>Threats: Insecurity in all forms can create a volatile environment for operations. Insecurity is characteristic of the targeted landscape and NRT therefore must continuously build its resilience at all levels.</p>	
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More information on the partner can be accessed on <https://www.nrt-kenya.org/>

### Annex 3: Theory of Change (ToC) and Results framework

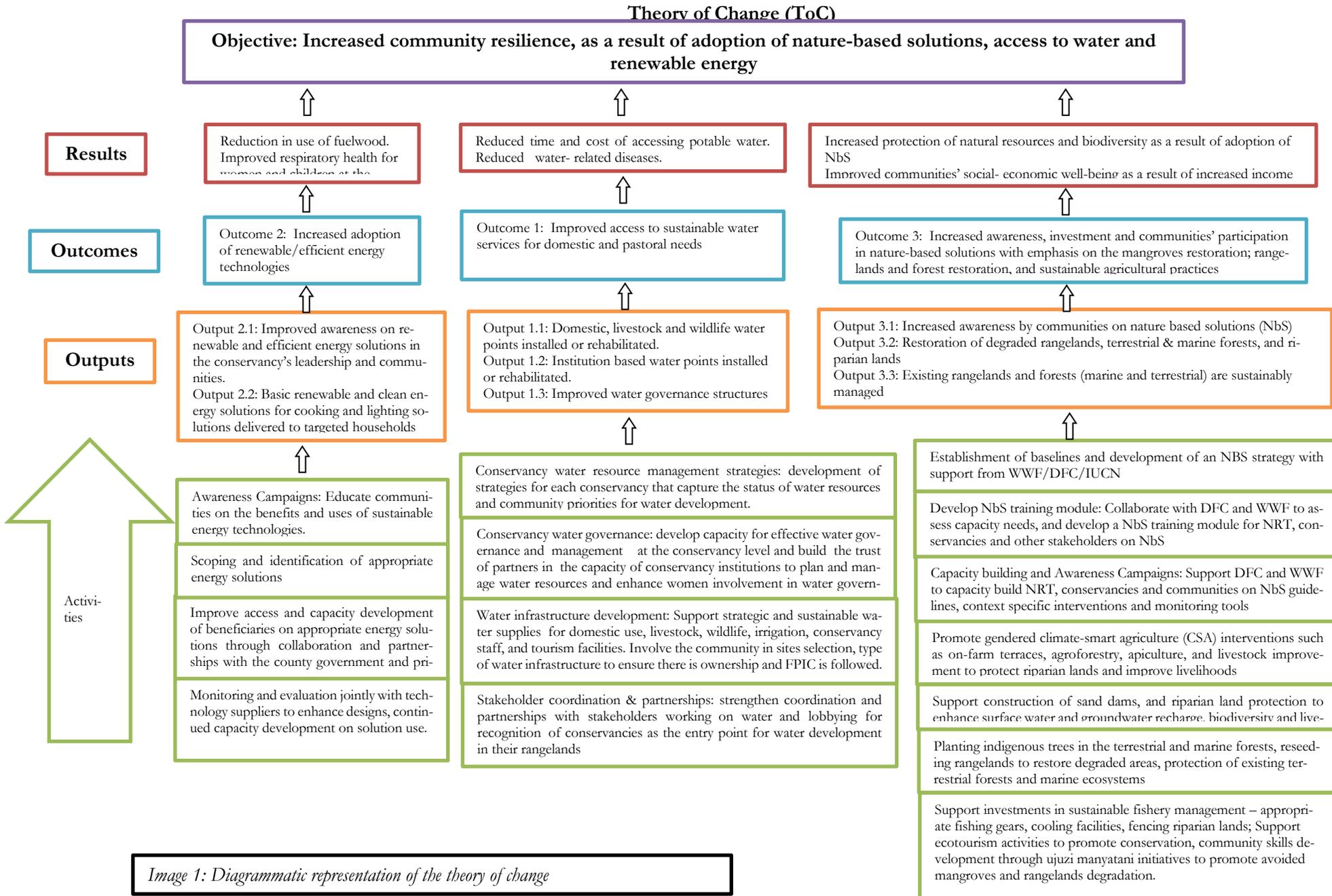


Image 1: Diagrammatic representation of the theory of change

## Results Framework

Project Title	<b>Support to Nature-based solutions, improved access to water and energy Programme, 2025-2028</b>		
Project Objective	<b>Increased community resilience, as a result of adoption of nature-based solutions, access to water and renewable /efficient energy solutions</b>		
Impact Indicator	Level of community perception of resilience as a result of the adoption of Nature Based Solutions, access to renewable energy and water reflected in Social Conservancy Management Monitoring System (SocialCOMMS)		
Explanatory note	This indicator amalgamates responses on income, climate adaptability, protection and safety, and disaster preparedness and confidence related to recovering from future shocks as a result of interventions in the water, energy and Nbs. The project targets to benefit directly 240,000 conservancy members and many more indirectly		
Outcome 1	<b>Improved access to sustainable water services for domestic and pastoral needs</b>		
Outcome indicator	% of the project target population accessing improved basic drinking water (meeting WHO standards) as a result of this grant		
Explanatory Note	<i>The project target to benefit a population of 240,000 people within the 44 community conservancies. The water component target to directly benefit 90% of this population through new and rehabilitated domestic water points serving households, schools, health facilities and strategic livestock points</i>		
Baseline	Year	2024	0
Target	Year	2028	90% of the direct project target population
Output 1.1	Domestic, livestock and wildlife water points installed or rehabilitated		
Output indicator 1	Number of new water points installed or rehabilitated, disaggregated by type, volume and location		
Baseline	Year	2024	0
Annual target	Year	2025	4
Annual target	Year	2026	8
Annual target	Year	2027	6
Annual Target	Year	2028	2
End of Programme Target	Year	Dec-28	20
Explanatory Note	<i>Refers to communal watering points installed in different villages in the conservancies to supply communities with potable water for people, livestock and wildlife</i>		
Output indicator 2	Number of people directly reached by installed water points disaggregated by gender – women, men, youths and PLWDs as a result of this grant		
Baseline	Year	2024	0
Annual Target	Year	2025	5600
Annual Target	Year	2026	11200
Annual Target	Year	2027	8400
Annual Target	Year	2028	2800
End of Project Target	Year	Dec 2028	28,000

Explanatory Note	<i>Refers to number of individuals benefitting from the new and rehabilitated water infrastructure from this grant. Total of 20 rehabilitated water points serving each serving 200HH. N: A household is composed of an average of 7 individuals, and these will be water points directly rehabilitated by this grant. Source NRT Social CoMMs report. Basic drinking water sources meeting this criterion include: - Piped drinking water supply on premises, public tap/ standpost; tube well/ borehole; protected dug well; protected spring, rainwater; and sand dams</i>		
Output 1.2	Institution-based water points installed or rehabilitated		
Output indicator	Number of new water points installed or rehabilitated, disaggregated by type and volume and institution (school, clinic, etc.)		
Baseline	Year	2024	0
Annual target	Year	2025	10
Annual target	Year	2026	15
Annual target	Year	2027	15
Annual Target	Year	2028	10
End of Programme Target	Year	Dec-28	50
Explanatory Note	<i>The number of newly constructed water points and storage facilities implemented for water harvesting purposes, including tanks, sand dams, water pans, and other similar structures for institutions disaggregated by type and volume and institution (school, clinic, etc.) This indicator quantifies the expansion of infrastructure aimed at enhancing water availability and management within a specific area or community.</i>		
Output 1.3	Develop Water Resource Management (WRM) plans for each of the targeted conservancies		
Output indicator	Number of WRM revised or developed in each of the targeted conservancies		
Baseline	Year	2024	0
Annual target	Year	2025	10
Annual target	Year	2026	10
Annual target	Year	2027	10
Annual Target	Year	2028	5
End of Programme Target	Year	Dec-28	45
Explanatory Note	<i>Water resource management plans approved by counties and conservancies and incorporated into conservancy management plans, as evidenced by plans on file and referenced in annual workplans. Note, where plans currently exist, we will review and update</i>		
Output 1.4	Strengthened water governance and community capacity for operations and maintenance of the water infrastructure at the conservancies'		
Output indicator	Governance and Sustainability indexes for the water projects		
Baseline	Year	2024	TBD at inception phase
Annual target	Year	2025	TBD
Annual target	Year	2026	TBD

Annual target	Year	2027	TBD
Annual Target	Year	2028	TBD
End of Programme Target	Year	Dec-28	80%
Explanatory Note	<i>The sustainability index will focus of how long the infrastructure serves the community, ability for community to operate and maintain the infrastructure on their own and leadership structure for managing the water infrastructure. NRT will use their SocioCOMMs data</i>		
<b>Outcome 2</b>	<b>Improved access to basic renewable and/or efficient energy technologies</b>		
Outcome indicator 1	% of the project target population adopting/using clean energy technologies as a result of this grant		
Explanatory Note	<i>The project target to reach 240,000people. The energy component targets to directly benefit a % of this population through increased adoption/use of new renewable/efficient energy solutions in targeted conservancies. Source NRT Social CoMMs report</i>		
Baseline	Year	2024	0
Target	Year	2028	37% of the project target population
Outcome indicator 2	Percentage of target project community members reporting increase in attitude about use of renewable and efficient energy solutions		
Baseline	Year	2024	0%
Target	Year	2028	75% of the project target population
Explanatory Note	<i>This indicator tracks changes in community attitudes towards adopting clean energy. It uses surveys or interviews to measure shifts in awareness, acceptance, and intentions regarding technologies like solar power and biogas. Monitoring this indicator helps assess the effectiveness of communication strategies and identifies barriers to clean energy adoption, informing decision-making and intervention refinement</i>		
Output 2.1	Basic renewable and/or efficient energy solutions for cooking delivered to targeted households		
Output indicator	Number of conservancy members using renewable and/or efficient energy solutions, disaggregated by gender, women, people with disability and youths		
Baseline	Year	2024	0
Annual target	Year	2025	7000
Annual target	Year	2026	7000
Annual target	Year	2027	7000
Annual Target	Year	2028	1500
End of Project Target	Year	2028	22,500people (4500HH)
Explanatory Note	<i>The indicator is a proxy measure for individuals deriving benefits from renewable clean energy solutions, categorized by gender, including women, people with disabilities, and youth. This indicator aims to measure the inclusivity and impact of renewable energy initiatives by quantifying the demographic distribution of beneficiaries. It provides insight into the extent to which diverse segments of the population are able to access renewable or efficient energy technologies, contributing to equitable and sustainable energy access. N: A household is composed of an average of 7 individuals. Source NRT Social CoMMs report</i>		

Output 2.2	Institutional Solar installations for lighting and cooling		
Output indicator	Number of institutions installed with solar energy solutions, disaggregated by type of institution (school, clinic, etc.)		
Baseline	Year	2024	0
Annual target	Year	2025	5
Annual target	Year	2026	15
Annual target	Year	2027	15
Annual Target	Year	2028	9
End of Project Target	Year	2028	44
<i>Explanatory Note</i>	<i>This indicator refers to the number solar energy solutions installed at community institutions (schools, clinics, community centres) and the number of people served by that institution, including schools and hospitals. This indicator helps measure the uptake and impact of solar energy technologies within institutional settings</i>		
Output 2.3	Community awareness on renewable and efficient energy solutions in the conservancies is enhanced		
Output indicator 1	Number and type of participatory modules developed for training the communities to enhance adoption of the energy solutions for cooking and lighting		
Baseline	Year	2024	0
Annual target	Year	2025	TBD
Annual target	Year	2026	TBD
Annual target	Year	2027	TBD
Annual target	Year	2028	TBD
End of Project Target	Year	2028	TBD
Output indicator 2	Number of influencers trained on purpose and use of clean energy for cooking, disaggregated by gender, age and role in conservancy		
Baseline	Year	2024	0
Annual target	Year	2025	110
Annual target	Year	2026	110
Annual target	Year	2027	110
Annual Target	Year	2028	110
End of Project target	Year	2028	440
<i>Explanatory Note</i>	<i>This will target building capacity through needs-based trainings for 10 conservancy board members on the clean energy project and its conservation benefits, as well as vocational training for 100 community members as biogas, plumbing and solar technicians. Influential 'champions' will be targeted to help promote awareness and dialogue - and provide informal feedback mechanism - over the course of the project</i>		
Outcome 3	<b>Increased awareness, investments and communities participation in nature-based solutions with emphasis on the mangroves restoration; rangelands and forest restoration, and sustainable climate smart agricultural practices</b>		
Outcome indicator 1	Level of awareness on NbS at the NRT, conservancies and community level as a result of this grant disaggregated by gender – women, youths, PLWDs		
Baseline year	Year	2024	TBD at the inception phase
Annual Target	Year	2025	TBD
Annual Target	Year	2026	TBD
Annual Target	Year	2027	TBD
Annual Target	Year	2028	TBD

End of Programme Target	Year	2028	TBD
Outcome indicator 2	% of the target project population benefiting from identified nature based solutions as a result of this grant disaggregated by gender – women, youths and PLWDs		
Baseline	Year	2024	TBD at the inception phase
Annual target	Year	2025	TBD
Annual target	Year	2026	TBD
Annual target	Year	2027	TBD
Annual Target	Year	2028	TBD
End of Programme Target	Year	2028	TBD
Explanatory Note	<i>This indicator measures the awareness, active participation of community members in nature-based solutions that promote socio-economic well-being and environmental conservation like agroforestry, forests, rangelands and mangrove restoration, within a specific project area. This also includes various nature-based livelihood activities leveraging natural resources conservation, such as eco-tourism and sustainable agriculture, contributing to biodiversity conservation and climate resilience. Monitoring this indicator evaluates the effectiveness of interventions aimed at fostering sustainable livelihoods aligned with conservation goals. Source NRT Social CoMMs report</i>		
Output 3.1	Communities awareness and engagement on nature based solutions (NbS) and climate related issues is enhanced as a result of this grant		
Output indicator 1	Number of awareness centres for community sensitization, trainings and demonstrations on NbS and other climate related issues established under this grant		
Baseline	Year	2024	0
Annual target	Year	2025	2
Annual target	Year	2026	3
Annual target	Year	2027	2
Annual target	Year	2028	2
End of project target	Year	2028	9
Output indicator 2	Number of community members trained on NbS and other climate related issues as a result of this grant disaggregated by gender – women, youths and PLWDs		
Baseline	Year	2024	0
Annual target	Year	2025	TBD after project baseline survey
Annual target	Year	2026	TBD
Annual target	Year	2027	TBD
Annual target	Year	2028	TBD
End of project target	Year	2028	TBD
Explanatory Note	<i>The project will support establishment of centres where sensitizations on NbS and other climate related issues can be done for conservancies and communities to enhance reach. This includes also supporting village level outreach through cartoons and demos etc. The number of people participating in the outreach will be documented and NRT will be able to extrapolate the number of people reached through the centres and village awareness forums.</i>		
Output 3.2	Restoration of degraded rangelands, forests, mangroves, and riparian lands		
Output indicator	Area of land restored through NbS activities (in Hectares) in the rangelands, forests (terrestrial and marine) and riparian lands disaggregated by ecosystem type		
Baseline	Year	2024	0
Annual target	Year	2025	500ha

Annual target	Year	2026	3500ha
Annual target	Year	2027	4500ha
Annual target	Year	2028	1500ha
End of project target	Year	2028	10,000 hectares
<i>Explanatory Note</i>	<i>The indicator will measure area restored in the rangelands through various interventions such semi-circular bunds, trapezoidal bunds, reseeded, removal of invasive species; area restored in forests through indigenous trees planting; mangroves restoration and riparian lands restored along rivers in the farmlands. Thus improving ecosystem health, enhance biodiversity, and mitigate environmental degradation</i>		
Output indicator 2	Number of community members benefiting from the NbS interventions disaggregated by type of social benefits and gender (women, youths, PLWDs) as a result of this grant		
Baseline	Year	2024	0
Annual target	Year	2025	20,084
Annual target	Year	2026	25,084
Annual target	Year	2027	24,584
Annual target	Year	2028	5,500
End of project target	Year	2028	75,252
<i>Explanatory Note</i>	<i>This refers to the number of people who will derive social benefits from the restoration activities, including improved pasture availability from interventions on semi-circular bunds, reseeded rangelands; improved crops productivity to increased soil water retention from riparian lands restoration, on-farm soil and water conservation structures; Increased non-wood forest benefits from tree planting initiatives such pastures and water recharge for terrestrial or increased fish from mangrove forest restoration etc.</i>		
Output 3.3	Existing rangelands and forests (marine and terrestrial) sustainably managed for natural regeneration as a result of this grant		
Output indicator 3.3.1	Area of land (Ha) sustainably managed through avoided degradation interventions disaggregated by ecosystem type		
Baseline	Year	2024	0
Annual target	Year	2025	3
Annual target	Year	2026	6
Annual target	Year	2027	6
Annual target	Year	2028	3
End of project target	Year	2028	18 hectares
<i>Explanatory Note</i>	<i>Example of activities to be done include fencing of riparian buffer lands, support to appropriate fishing gears, on-farm forestry, forests patrolling, alternative nature based-livelihoods activities-apiculture, livestock development initiatives to curb deforestation and overutilization of rangelands</i>		
Output indicator 3.3.2	Number of people benefiting from the nature based- livelihoods interventions that reduce pressure on rangelands, forest and riparian lands disaggregated by gender, age and location		
Baseline	Year	2024	0
Annual target	Year	2025	2,000
Annual target	Year	2026	2,500
Annual target	Year	2027	2,500
Annual target	Year	2028	1,000
End of project target	Year	2028	8,000
<i>Explanatory Note</i>	<i>This indicator will monitor number of people benefiting from activities to be done include fencing of riparian buffer lands, support to appropriate fishing gears, on-farm forestry, forests patrolling, alternative livelihoods activities-apiculture, microfinance to curb deforestation and overutilization of rangelands, livestock development initiatives</i>		

Output 3.4	Sustainable climate smart agricultural practices by farming communities in and around the conservancies are supported		
Output indicator	Number of farmers trained on and practicing climate smart agriculture (CSA) techniques, for enhanced biodiversity and livelihoods improvement		
Baseline	Year	2024	0
Annual target	Year	2025	2000 farmers;
Annual target	Year	2026	2000 farmers;
Annual target	Year	2027	2000 farmers;
Annual target	Year	2028	6000 farmers
<i>Explanatory Note</i>	<i>Refers to 6000 farmers involved in Sustainable Agriculture Programs across the conservancies, to be disaggregated by gender, age and location</i>		
Learning Outcome	Robust NRT M&E framework to guide and enhance learning, adaptive management and reporting on NRT impact and delivery		
Output indicator	Effective revised M&E framework guiding NRT monitoring, reporting and learning during 5 year strategic plan implementation		
Baseline	Year	2024	0
Annual target	Year	2025	1
Annual target	Year	2026	0
Annual target	Year	2027	0
Annual target	Year	2028	0
<i>Explanatory Note</i>	<i>Evidenced by final M&amp;E framework adopted by NRT and member conservancies; implemented by a strong core M&amp;E team and system that can assure quality of data collection and analysis. Framework to be socialized and co-developed by strategic funders and county governments. Learning case studies will supplement quantitative data capture</i>		

## Annex 4: Risk Management Matrix

### Contextual risks

Risk Factor	Likelihood	Impact	Risk response	Residual risk	Background to assessment
Risk to conservancy model from communities pushing for land sub-division.	Likely	Major	Work with community to ensure proper engagement in governance and decision making and agreed rewards and punishment sharing.	Minor	The Community Land Act 2016 is anticipated to become a significant threat to the conservancy model as communities begin to push for subdivision of land.
Community conflict over scarce resources.	Definite	Major	Work with community and government structures to ensure community ownership and equity.	Significantly decreased	This is in an ongoing situation in the area, dominance exercised by access to illegal arms.
Unplanned and un-negotiated access by migrating pastoralists and their livestock.	Likely	Major	Regional grazing plans and committees. Dialogue with non-NRT livestock herders.	Minor	No exclusion is practiced; migration is the norm in pastoralist communities. Unplanned and un-negotiated grazing has a negative impact on livestock production in conservancies.
Insecurity and cross-border violence.	Likely	Significant	Conservancies address security and peace. Government programme on disarmament. Regional and local planning, dialogue, and coordination.	Major	Insecurity is a major problem in ASALs. There is spill over and radicalisation from Somalia to northern Kenya. Economic, political, and social disruption caused by violence and extremism.
Extreme environmental events.	Likely	Major	DRR planning. Planned grazing, rangeland rehabilitation, increased livestock trade, and economic diversification to build resilience.	Major	Extreme environmental events – floods, drought, locust invasions – are becoming more frequent in the ASALs. Can also affect physical access to conservancies due to poor road conditions.
Unplanned and uncoordinated development, e.g., of water resources, rangelands etc.	Likely	Major	Strong conservancy management plans, with good county government coordination on development priorities.	Minor	Developments motivated by short-term political gain and uncoordinated actors. Incorrectly cited boreholes (e.g.) disrupt settlement and grazing plans and lead to overgrazing.

### Programmatic risks (for country programmes/regional programmes filled out for each thematic programme)

Risk Factor	Likelihood	Impact	Risk response	Residual risk	Background to assessment
Patriarchal society in the Northern Kenya that do not recognize women's role in development activities.	Possible	Major	Sensitisation and community engagement processes, improving male awareness on gender issues. Deliberate involvement of women in all activities esp. water, energy and NbS as they affect women more.	Minor	Communities within the ASALs are largely patriarchal with limited recognition or inclusion of women. However, NRT has established strong structures that strengthen women's capacity to participate in decision-making forums. So far NRT has a number of women led

			Close monitoring of programme impacts on women, youths and people living with disabilities (PLWDs).		conservancies resulting from deliberate efforts by NRT to empower women for leadership roles.
Reduction in other donors' funds impacting the broader capacity of NRT and Community Conservancies.	Possible	Major	Multi-layered sustainability plan initiated. 25-year partnership with TNC; strong support from GoK, County, and International Development Community.	Medium. While this risk can be mitigated in the long term, short-term effects would have a marked impact.	NRT is a multi-source funded institution with commitment from a range of partners. High donor dependency until commercial and local government support is developed. The current global Health crisis is placing pressure on funding organisations.
Funds transferred directly to community conservancies are not used for the intended purposes; do not achieve value for money; and/or are not properly accounted for.	Possible	Major	NRT will maintain a strong oversight and support role for funds and scrutiny of budgets in order to ensure cost-effectiveness when resources are transferred directly to the conservancy. Disbursement to the conservancies is based on milestones agreed with the conservancy.	Minor. NRT has a strong oversight on funds transferred directly to conservancies. The use of a Project Implementation Committee whose membership includes NRT allows for oversight.	NRT is building the capacity of conservancies to ensure that they are able to utilise funds for intended purposes; achieve value for money; and/or are properly accounted for.
The inability of conservancies overseeing the procurement of infrastructure.	Possible	Major	NRT has a robust procurement policy that will be applied in the procurement of infrastructure. NRT supporting community conservancies develop and adopt operational policies including procurement under capacity development initiative.	Medium. This risk can be mitigated, and procured infrastructure guided by the NRT's procurement policy. Community conservancy representatives are involved throughout the process for transparency reasons.	Conservancies are at different stages of institutional growth. Continued assessment of capacity gaps is conducted and deliberate actions to strengthen these are implemented.

### Institutional risks

Risk Factor	Likelihood	Impact	Risk response	Residual risk	Background to assessment
There has from time to time been negative publicity on NRT's activities, including allegations of violations of human rights and the right to land. The Embassy is closely following NRT's implementation of its human rights policy and recommendations from the donor-initiated Due Diligence report.	Possible	Medium	Proactive engagement with stakeholders to provide accurate information. Detailed implementation of inclusive management and Human Rights policies and adoption of conflict sensitive approaches.  NRT mitigates this by cooperating closely with the local communities, ensuring community engagement, peace building as well as an increased	This residual risk of negative public perception of NRT and Community Conservancies is minor, as negative commentary will be balanced by factual communications and stakeholders proactively informed.	Viewed in isolation this could create the perception that the public sentiment regarding NRT and Community Conservancies is negative. However, this is not the case as NRT is well supported at the grassroots by communities, county governments and relevant national governments agencies.

			focus on human rights due diligence. In autumn 2023, the Embassy undertook a technical review and midterm review of DANIDAs support to NRT, with major focus on human rights due diligence. The recommendations are being followed closely and action plan under development.		
Funding success creates jealousy, push-back from GoK, CGs, NGOs.	Unlikely	Minor, unless funding stops	Strong communication about NRT's role and approach. High level of engagement and integration with County government and CIDPs.		NRT's higher profile puts it more in the spotlight, jealousy raises questions of NRT's dominance of public/government space and roles due to broad success and high levels of community support.

## Financial Risk

Risk Factor	Likelihood	Impact	Risk response	Residual risk	Background to assessment
Financial Transactions with Government.	Likely	Major	Implement mutual agreements for fund reimbursement post-activity implementation.	Minor	NRT operates in arid and semi-arid regions, collaborating with national and county governments, facing challenges in managing financial transactions due to potential mismanagement, delays, and bureaucratic hurdles.
Mismanagement of Funds.	Likely	Major	Strengthen internal controls, regular monitoring, and audits.	Minor	Despite challenges, NRT actively engages in transparent financial management, mitigating risks through stringent governance standards and oversight mechanisms.
Delays in Receiving Funds.	Likely	Medium	Diversify funding sources, maintain cash reserves.	Minor	NRT navigates bureaucratic hurdles by diversifying funding sources and maintaining adequate reserves, ensuring continuity of operations despite potential delays.
Compliance Issues with Government Regulations.	Likely	Major	Conduct regular compliance audits, staff training.	Minor	NRT prioritizes compliance through regular audits and training programs, ensuring adherence to regulatory frameworks and mitigating legal and reputational risks.

## Annex 5: Output based Budget

<b>Output-based budget: Increased resilience, through adoption of nature-based solutions and access to water and energy Programme</b>					
	<b>Year 1 (DKK)</b>	<b>Year 2 (DKK)</b>	<b>Year 3 (DKK)</b>	<b>Year 4 (DKK)</b>	<b>Total Budget (DKK)</b>
<b>Outcome 1 - Improved access to sustainable water services for domestic and pastoral needs within the NRT Conservancies as a result of this grant</b>					
<b>Output 1.1 - Domestic water points installed or rehabilitated</b>	945,946	945,946	945,946	945,946	3,783,784
<b>Output 1.2 - Institutional water points installed or rehabilitated</b>	878,378	878,378	878,378	878,378	3,513,512
<b>Output 1.3 - Improved conservancy water governance structures</b>	781,786	646,650	806,110	589,894	2,824,440
<b>Output 1.4 - Staff trainings, salaries, laptops, vehicle and field running costs</b>	599,189	558,649	558,649	558,649	2,275,136
<b>Total budget Outcome 1</b>	<b>3,205,299</b>	<b>3,029,623</b>	<b>3,189,083</b>	<b>2,972,867</b>	<b>12,396,872</b>
<b>Outcome 2: Improved access to basic renewable energy and low energy cookers for cooking and lighting within the NRT Conservancies because of this grant</b>					
<b>Output 2.1 - Awareness trainings conducted on renewable and efficient energy solutions in the conservancies for leadership and community members</b>	86,486	86,486	59,459	59,459	291,890
<b>Output 2.2 - Basic renewable and efficient energy solutions for cooking and lighting solutions delivered to targeted households</b>	459,459	459,459	783,784	135,135	1,837,837
<b>Output 2.3 - Staff training, salaries, vehicles and field running costs</b>	638,015	638,015	870,062	507,204	2,653,296
<b>Total budget outcome 2</b>	<b>1,183,960</b>	<b>1,183,960</b>	<b>1,713,305</b>	<b>701,798</b>	<b>4,783,023</b>

<b>Outcome 3: Increased awareness, investments and communities participation in nature-based solutions with emphasis on the mangroves restoration; rangelands and forest restoration, and sustainable climate smart agricultural practices</b>					
<b>Output 3.1</b> - Community members awareness, and training in nature-based solutions and NbS strategy development	1,228,130	378,378	606,508	378,378	2,591,394
<b>Output 3.2</b> - Restoration of degraded rangelands, forests, mangroves, and riparian lands	868,468	868,468	868,468	486,486	3,091,890
<b>Output 3.3</b> - Existing rangelands and forests (marine and terrestrial) sustainably managed and protected for natural re-generation	358,378	358,378	358,378	358,378	1,433,512
<b>Output 3.4</b> Sustainable climate smart agricultural practices by farming communities in and around the conservancies are supported	2,612,162	2,612,162	2,612,162	2,612,162	10,448,648
<b>Output 3.5</b> Staff trainings, salaries and field running related costs	907,713	842,282	859,848	755,515	3,365,358
<b>Total budget Outcome 3</b>	<b>5,974,851</b>	<b>5,059,668</b>	<b>5,305,364</b>	<b>4,590,919</b>	<b>20,930,802</b>
<b>Outcome 4: Robust NRT M&amp;E framework to guide and enhance learning, adaptive management and reporting on NRT impact and delivery</b>					
<b>Output 4.1</b> Monitoring Evaluation and Learning	731,000	645,081	915,638	669,904	2,961,623
<b>Output 4.2</b> Communication, Branding and Public Outreaches	324,777	319,017	354,103	282,077	1,279,974
<b>Total budget - Outcome 4</b>	<b>1,055,777</b>	<b>964,098</b>	<b>1,269,741</b>	<b>951,981</b>	<b>4,241,597</b>
Unallocated - Managed by Embassy (WWF, IUCN, DFC capacity building programme on NbS)	1,353,085	2,011,624	1,126,131	918,332	5,409,172
Administrative costs (max. 7% of direct cost)	575,344	506,401	554,343	451,095	2,087,183
Audit	37,838	37,838	37,838	37,838	151,351
<b>Total budget</b>	<b>13,386,154</b>	<b>12,793,212</b>	<b>13,195,805</b>	<b>10,624,830</b>	<b>50,000,000</b>

## Annex 6 – List of Supplementary Materials

#	Document / Material	Source
1	NRT Strategic Plan 2024-2028	<a href="#">Document library — Northern Rangelands Trust (nrt-kenya.org)</a>
2	NRT Water Strategy	<a href="#">Document library — Northern Rangelands Trust (nrt-kenya.org)</a>
3	NRT Energy Strategy	<a href="#">Document library — Northern Rangelands Trust (nrt-kenya.org)</a>
4	Peace Strategy	<a href="#">Document library — Northern Rangelands Trust (nrt-kenya.org)</a>
5	Rangelands Strategy	<a href="#">Document library — Northern Rangelands Trust (nrt-kenya.org)</a>
6	2023 NRT Annual Report	<a href="#">Executive Summary - 2023 — Northern Rangelands Trust (nrt-kenya.org)</a>
7	2023 NRT Coast Region Annual report	<a href="#">Coast+Annual+Report 2023 P.pdf (squarespace.com)</a>

## Annex 7: Plan for Communication of Results

Stakeholders need to be constantly aware of the purpose of the programme, its status and performance at any given time, and the roles and responsibilities of all involved related to the Programme. Below is the communication plan showing essential information all parties need to have.

<b>What?</b> (The message)	<b>When?</b> (The timing)	<b>How?</b> (The mechanism)	<b>Audience(s)</b>	<b>Responsible</b>
What is/are the key messages that we would like to communicate?	When do we want to communicate these messages?	How will we make sure that the key messages are clearly communicated and understood as we want them to be understood?	Who is the primary (and secondary) audience targeted by through these communication activities?	Who will be responsible for making sure that identified activities are carried out?
<b>Internal Audience</b>				
Programme status and updates	Fortnightly	A brief meeting/notes	Programme team members	Programme managers
Performance Review with vendors	Monthly	Virtually via video conference	Vendor/contractors	Programme manager and vendors
Programme high level report	Weekly	Email	Executive leadership/Board	Programme Managers and Senior Staff
To build capacity of the Community Conservancies for sustainability.	Monthly/ Weekly	Email Update reports Newsletters	Community Conservancies	Programme Managers
<b>External Audience</b>				
Achievements and impact of the project to the public including global public (Denmark and others)	Quarterly/ monthly	Press Releases Media Interviews Media field visits Social Media Website Media Events	Media	Denmark and NRT Communications Team
Supportive government policies/ laws that ensure sustainability/ resilience of community conservancies.	Quarterly/ monthly	Meetings/ events Newsletter Social Media Website Reports	National/ County Government	Programme Managers/ Communications Team
Enhance donor visibility on the project	Quarterly/ monthly	Profile donor visibility and publicity.	Denmark/ Development Partners	Programme Managers
Educate/ create awareness about the project and the need to protect biodiversity	Monthly	Social Media Website Media articles Brochures	General Public	Programme Managers

## Annex 8: Process Action Plan (PAP)

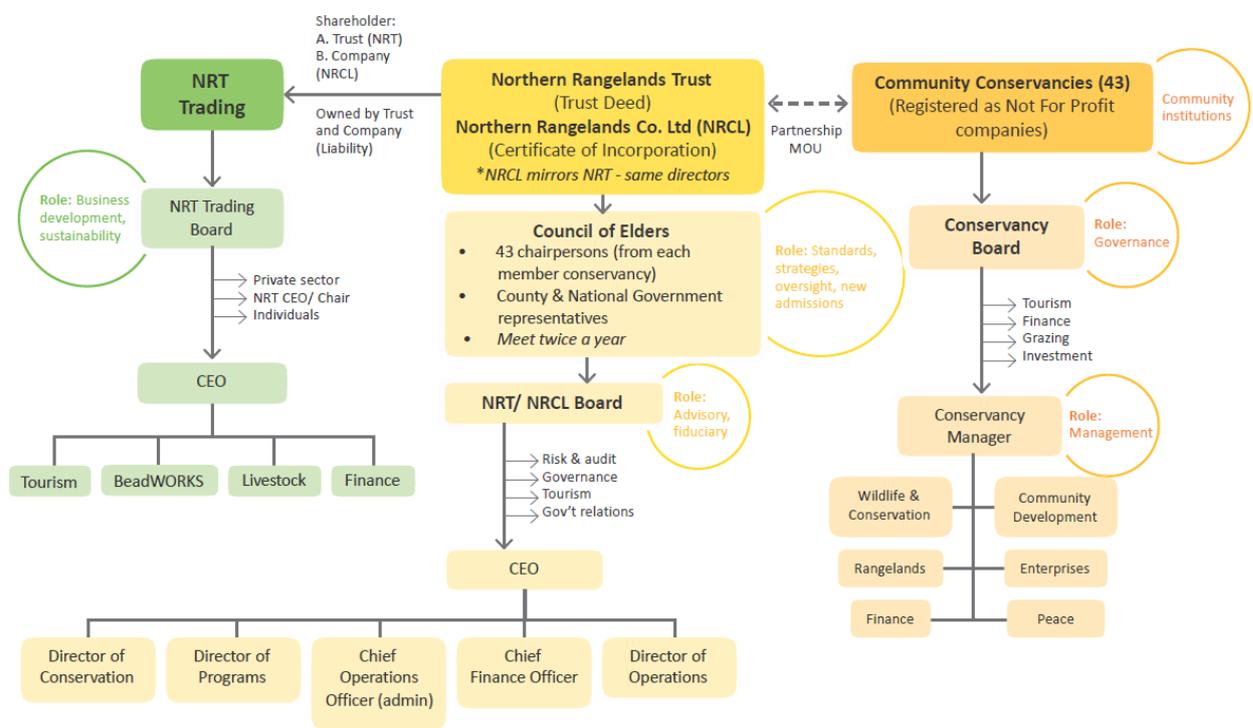
Dates	Activity	Document	Responsible
1 <sup>st</sup> Oct – 30 <sup>th</sup> Nov 22	Internal discussions with Management on the formulation process for the additional funds to NRT		Nancy
1 <sup>st</sup> – 6 <sup>th</sup> Dec 22	Engage NRT on the formulation process and prepare the Project Identification Note	Project Identification Note	Nancy
8 <sup>th</sup> Dec 22	Share and discuss the Project document templates with NRT		Nancy
12 <sup>th</sup> Dec 2022 – 15 <sup>th</sup> Feb 2023	Drafting of the Project document	Zero Draft Programme document	NRT
15 <sup>th</sup> Feb 2023	Submission of 1 <sup>st</sup> draft Project document to the Embassy	1 <sup>st</sup> Draft Project document	NRT
20 <sup>th</sup> Feb – 5 <sup>th</sup> March 2023	Review and comment on 1 <sup>st</sup> draft Project document	Project document comments	Nancy
6 <sup>th</sup> – 31 <sup>st</sup> Mar 2023	NRT Incorporate comments from RDE		NRT
31 <sup>st</sup> March 2023	NRT Submit 2 <sup>nd</sup> Draft Project document	2 <sup>nd</sup> draft Project document	NRT
3 <sup>rd</sup> April 2023	Submission of revised Project document – V3	Revised Project document – V3	NRT
14 <sup>th</sup> May 2023	Share the Revised draft Project Document –V3 with LÆRING for submission to Programme committee	Final draft Project document –V3	Mette/Trine
16 <sup>th</sup> May 2023	Deadline for submission of draft documents to ELK		Nancy/Mette/Henrik
31 <sup>st</sup> May 2023	Preparation of draft ToRs for Appraisal	ToRs	Mette/Nancy/LÆRING
15 <sup>th</sup> – 1 <sup>st</sup> March 2024	Revise the Programme document with 2023 public hearing comments, Technical review and MTR recommendations	Revised Programme document	Nancy/NRT/Tobias
12 <sup>th</sup> March 2024	Share the Revised draft Project Document with LÆRING for public hearing		Nancy/Tobias/Mette/Henrik
2 <sup>nd</sup> April 2024	Receive written comments from public hearing		LÆRING
9 <sup>th</sup> April 2024	Presentation and discussion at the Programme Committee meeting	Programme document	Stephan/Henrik/Tobias/Mette/Nancy
10 <sup>th</sup> – 17 <sup>th</sup> April 2024	Incorporation of comments from public hearing and programme committee		Nancy/Tobias/Mette/Henrik
17 <sup>th</sup> – 24 <sup>th</sup> April 2024	Tendering for and contracting of appraisal consultants	Appraisal Team Contract	LÆRING

<b>6th May – 20<sup>th</sup> May 2024</b>	Desk and Field Appraisal	Appraisal Team	ELK/ Nancy/Mette/Charlotte/Henrik
<b>9<sup>th</sup> May 2024</b>	Deadline for confirming agenda item for council for development policy		Nancy/Mette
<b>21st May 2024</b>	Draft Appraisal report shared with the Embassy/LÆRING	Draft Appraisal report	ELK/Nancy/Mette/Henrik
<b>27th May 2024</b>	Submit comments to Appraisal Team	Comments on the appraisal	Nancy/Tobias/Mette
<b>30<sup>th</sup> May 2024</b>	Final Appraisal report	Appraisal report	LÆRING
<b>31st May – 20th August 2024</b>	Review the Programme Document based on Appraisal comments	Revise document	Nancy/Tobias/Mette
<b>26th August 2024</b>	Submit documents for UPR meeting to LÆRING	Appropriation cover note, Final Project Document, including annexes Quality Assurance Checklist (Annex 9)	Henrik/Mette/Stephan
<b>12th September 2024</b>	Embassy presents the grant for approval by the Council for Development Policy	Grant documents	Stephan/ Henrik
<b>19th -16th September 2024</b>	The Minister approves the programme	Grant documents	ELQ submits the proposed programme together with the minutes of meeting
<b>October 2024</b>	Presentation to the Parliamentary Finance Committee (Aktstykke)		Charlotte /Mette/Stephan – as in Danish
<b>After the minister's approval</b>	LÆRING facilitates that grant proposals are published on DANIDA Transparency		ELK
<b>15th-31st October 2024</b>	Signing of Programme Agreement with NRT	Bilateral Agreement	Stephan/ NRT
<b>1st November 2024</b>	Register commitment(s) in MFA's financial systems within the planned quarter		Charlotte/Nancy
<b>1<sup>st</sup> January 2025– 31<sup>st</sup> Dec 2028</b>	Implementation, monitoring and annual reporting of the Project	Bi-annual and Annual technical and financial Progress reports; Annual Audit reports	NRT & RDE
<b>June 2028 – December 2028</b>	Programme closure	Closure reports (technical and financial)	NRT & RDE

# Annex 10: Management Structure



## NORTHERN RANGELANDS TRUST GOVERNANCE STRUCTURE



## **Annex 11: Beneficiary Identification Matrix**

Any NRT member community conservancy is open to participating and has an equal opportunity to benefit from this project. The NRT recognizes the need for community development initiatives in conservancies that help build peace, develop livelihoods, improve access to education, health, and water, manage wildlife, improve rangelands, forests, and water bodies, and empower local communities to prioritize. NRT is cognizant of the importance of working closely with both the County and National Governments.

The following selection criteria will guide identifying beneficiary conservancies and projects.

### **Water**

#### **Conservancy Management and Development Plans**

Conservancy Management and Development Plan (CMDP) highlight the great needs of the conservancy. The project will focus on the high priority needs as per the CMDP and look at the needs/intervention possibilities to ease the stress that relates to the water needs. Where a conservancy lacks a CMDP, the conservancy community will be engaged via the conservancy board to identify the water needs.

#### **Conservancy Water Resource Management Strategy**

In instances where a conservancy has a Water Resource Management Strategy in place, top priority especially for infrastructure development – rehabilitation and/or new infrastructure will be considered as the gaps have already been identified. For those without a CWRMS, the focus for such will be the development of their CWRMS to guide their water development under this grant/sharing with other stakeholders including county governments.

#### **Availability of alternative funding Opportunities**

In scenarios where conservancies have other funding opportunities earmarked for water, these will fall down the pecking order of beneficiary conservancies for this investment. Priority focus will be given to conservancies that lack alternative intervention for their water needs. These alternative funding included and not limited to County government funding, other donor funding opportunities with NRT, water project funding from conservancy partners or NRT partners, and Carbon Community Fund allocated to water priorities for conservancies participating in the Northern Kenya Rangeland Carbon Project.

However, consideration will be given to such conservancies or projects that require co-financing for a bigger impact on the conservancy water needs as well as obvious greater needs within the conservancies.

#### **Collaboration with other development partners**

Consideration will be given to collaboration with other development partners in the landscape where such collaboration ensures greater impact for water investments in community conservancies. This is especially true for areas where the county governments are lacking, and our concerted efforts will be needed to solve the existing needs.

#### **Emergency Humanitarian**

Emergency response to humanitarian needs a key consideration, especially where institutions are involved like health facilities and schools' water interventions. However, these are expected to come up as top priorities in the WRM Strategies.

#### **Clean Energy**

##### **1. Solar Powering of Schools and Health Facilities**

The criteria on which schools or health facilities to install power will be based on:

- Conservancy Management and Development Plan (CMDP) will be used to identify the health and education for energy needs in the conservancies. Where a conservancy lacks a CMDP, the conservancy community will be engaged via the conservancy board to identify the energy needs
- Consideration will be provided to schools in counties with the lowest level of literacy or access to health.
- Secondary selection will also be guided by
  - where a school is a primary or secondary school,
  - boarding or day school,
  - amenities available in the school that needs power
  - School enrollment numbers

- Health facility selection will also be guided by
  - Catchment area
  - Guidance by county government
  - Distance from the nearest referral health facility

### **Biogas**

There are two levels of beneficiary selection in the NRT biogas project.

First, is the high-level beneficiary conservancy selection. This selection is done at the NRT level. The criteria are based on several factors.

- The conservancy must be suitable for this kind of project. For example, the conservancy must have access to sufficient water as the biogas digesters require sufficient water regularly to make it work.
- The conservancy must have been in good standing with loan repayments. NRT has implemented numerous small loan projects in its member conservancies either in form of cash or asset financing. The repayment of these loans is very critical for the continuity of the project, and it enables the project to reach more target demographic groups.

The second beneficiary selection criterion is for beneficiary conservancies in level one above to select beneficiary households. This selection is done at the conservancy level by the conservancy board and management. The reason for this selection devolution to the conservancy is because the conservancy boards and management understand their communities better and can ensure prolonged longevity of the project by selecting ideal households and making sure all suitable locales are considered.

At this level, the board and management of the conservancy would consider the following requirement for the household to be selected.

- The household must be a consumer of firewood, and/or charcoal
- The household must have a good record of loan repayment for the previous project that came through the conservancy.
- The household must have access to sufficient water since the biogas digester is supported by sufficient manure feed mixed with copious amounts of water.
- The household must be willing to pay back into the revolving fund to increase the project's impact on the community.
- A household is a functional unit with up to a maximum of 12 persons. The biogas digester installed can cook for 1-12 persons per day and the unit needs to be fed once a day with manure and water.
- The household distribution must be equitable in the conservancy zones. Essentially all zones must be represented in the beneficiary list unless there are zones that are not ideal for this project either for logistical, geographical, or social reasons.
- Just like the benefit sharing criteria which consider women, youth, and people with disability. The biogas project ensures all these groups are represented in the beneficiary households.
- The household must have a source of manure or feed for the digesters otherwise the digester will not work.

## **Annex 12: Northern Kenya Rangelands Carbon Project (NKRCP) and Human rights Issues**

The NKRCP is considered as one of the world's first large-scale rangelands soil carbon project, encompassing 1.9 million hectares of savannah grassland in northern Kenya.

NRT supports the current project's activities on the ground and the reporting needed for verification so that credits continue to be issued. The project is anticipated to remove and store 50 million tons of CO<sub>2</sub> over 30 years – the equivalent of the annual emissions from over 10,000,000 cars. The sale of this sequestered carbon creates income for the communities and enhances conservation efforts, including the improvement of habitat for four endemic endangered species – the *Eastern black rhino*, *Grevy's zebra*, *Reticulated giraffe* and *Beisa oryx*, as well as climate change.

The first issue of credits (2013 – 2016) generated 3.2 (Verified Emission Reductions) VERs that were verified by Verra in December 2020 and which generated \$14.6m for the participating conservancies (representing 60% of total sales revenue). The second verification (2017-2020) was verified in December 2022 where 3.55m VERs were awarded to the project (available for sale). In wake of a critical report from Survival International in March 2023<sup>20</sup>, which questioned the legality and effectiveness of the carbon project, a Section 6 Review of the project was initiated by VERRA. A Section 6 review considers the adherence of a project to the VCS (Verified Carbon Standard) Program Rules and applied methodology. In November 2023, VERRA completed the review that closed the issues raised by Survival international and resulted to lifting of the halt for the NRT carbon project. Since then, NRT and Native have been engaging the prospective supporters for the 2017-2020 VERs. This has allowed the communities and relevant County governments to access their carbon credit funds for community development initiatives.

In September 2023, Climate Change Act 2023 was ascended by the President of Kenya. The new Amended Act introduced carbon credit, carbon markets, carbon offsets including guidance to development and implementation of carbon credit projects in Kenya. This has called for development of carbon market regulations in Kenya which may introduce challenges and uncertainties, as well present opportunities for NKRCP to demonstrate leadership in climate action, enhance its environmental impact, and generate additional revenue through carbon markets. By proactively adapting to regulatory changes, leveraging international standards, and engaging with stakeholders, this project will maximize the project's success and contribute to global efforts to mitigate climate change. This new Danish engagement will not directly provide support to the NKRCP.

### **Human rights allegations and Response Actions**

In November 2021, a California-based organization, the Oakland Institute published an article that had grave allegations against NRT, including violation of the right to land as well as human rights violations such as enforced disappearances and killings.

In response to these allegations, NRT Joint Supporters(JS) commissioned an independent Due Diligence on the allegations. This was conducted by an indigenous Peoples Rights expert. The due diligence did not find substantiated evidence on the allegations raised by the Oakland Institute report. However, the due diligence recommended actions for NRT and donors to ensure the human rights based approaches and Free Prior Informed Consent Principles are strengthened.

Additionally, the Embassy in July 2023 commissioned an independent technical review of DANIDA's support to NRT, with a focus on NRT's human rights allegations and implementation of the recommendations of the due diligence. From the review, there were no substantiated evidence on violations of human rights by NRT or its partners. However, the review gave recommendations to enhance compliance and diligence in human rights-based approaches.

The Embassy is following on the implementation of these recommendations from both the due diligence and technical review. On their part, NRT is implementing the Human Rights policy during projects implementation that is closely monitored by the legal manager who supports NRT in adhering to the HR and FPIC principles. The Human rights compliance is also closely reviewed through the DDR (Due Diligence Report) implementation plan (Annex 14).

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<sup>20</sup> <https://www.survivalinternational.org/campaigns/BloodCarbon#:~:text=Survival%20is%20campaigning%20to%20end,killing%20people%20and%20the%20planet.>

On Human Rights safeguards, NRT has demonstrated a steadfast commitment to human rights assessments, policies, and training as integral components of its operations. Recognizing the importance of upholding human rights standards in conservation and community development efforts, NRT has undertaken comprehensive training initiatives targeting senior management, department heads, security personnel, and rangers. These training programs equip staff with the knowledge and tools necessary to uphold human rights principles in their day-to-day activities, fostering a culture of respect, dignity, and accountability within the organization. Moreover, NRT has developed multi-language Human Rights Crib Cards to provide practical guidance on respecting human rights in various contexts. Looking ahead, NRT has planned annual human rights training sessions for mobile teams and community scouts, ensuring that field personnel are equipped to navigate complex human rights issues sensitively and effectively. Further, NRT is actively exploring partnerships with institutions such as the Kenya National Human Rights Commission (KNHRC) to strengthen its human rights framework and leverage expertise in human rights monitoring and advocacy. Through these initiatives, NRT reaffirms its commitment to promoting and protecting human rights across the Northern Rangelands, ultimately fostering sustainable conservation and community development outcomes.

NRT has further developed a Sexual Exploitation and Abuse Policy, Whistle Blower Policy and FPIC Guidelines with definite actions on training, conservancy level implementation, audits, assessments, grievance mechanism and community engagement.

NRT Joint Supporters have also conducted a conflict sensitivity analysis(CSA) which was recommended by the due diligence report. The CSA has assessed historical causes/triggers of conflicts in the NRT conservancies areas, role of NRT conservancy model in mitigating the conflicts and relations between NRT and government institutions in conflict management and peace building within the area among other topics. The report is in its final stages of stakeholders' validation and finalization.



### Annex 14: NRT Due Diligence Implementation matrix- 2021-2024

TASK	PROGRESS	STATUS	PLANNED ACTIVITIES	IN CHARGE	EST. START DATE
<b>Human Rights Training</b>					
	Complete	SMT and Heads of Department Training		Legal Compliance Officer	
	Complete	Security Department and Ranger Training Completed		Security Director	
	Complete	Multi-Language Human Rights Crib Cards Completed		Security Director	
	Complete	Annual Human Rights training for Mobile Teams and Community Scouts	Annual Training	Security Director	
	Complete	Near Completion. Proposals by ESG consultants and Tom Ogola Advocate to be shared by end of the month.	Community Consultations	Legal Compliance Officer	February 2023
	Complete	Human Rights training	Human Rights Training of Trainers	Legal Compliance Officer	April 2023
	Complete	Exploring Partnership with KNHRC	Preliminary Meeting	CEO	Ongoing
<b>Human Rights Assessments</b>					
	Complete	Two ESG Training & Advisory Ltd (ESGTA) Assessments Complete			
	Ongoing		Community Consultations	Legal Compliance Officer	
	Ongoing	Independent Audit every Two Years		Legal Compliance Officer	
<b>Human Rights Rapid Response Programme</b>					
	Scheduled	Draft Proposal and Budget		Legal Compliance Officer	June 2024
<b>Human Rights Audit</b>					
	Ongoing		Independent Audit every Two Years	Legal Compliance Officer	June 2024