



# Mikoko Pamoja Annual Report 2024

### **To Plan Vivo**

Submitted by the Mikoko Pamoja Community Organization on  $7^{\text{th}}$  February 2025

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# **Acronyms**

ACES	Association For Coastal Ecosystem Services
AU-IBAR	African InterAfrican Bureau for Animal Resources
BMU	Beach Management Unit
CFA	Community Forest Association
EMCA	·
	Environmental Management and Coordination Act
FAO	Food and Agriculture Organization
FPIC	Free, Prior and Informed Consent
GBS	Global Biodiversity Standard
GESC	Gender, Equality and Social Inclusion
GIZ	Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit
GOGACOFA	Gogoni-Gazi Community Forest Association
HSH	Home Street Home
ICC	International Coastal Clean
IUCN	International Union for the Conservation of Nature
KALRI	Kenya Agriculture and Livestock Research Institute
KCNR	Kwale County Natural Resource Network
KFS	Kenya Forest Services
KMFRI	Kenya Marine and Fisheries Research Institute
КРА	Kenya Ports Authority
KWCA	Kenya Wildlife Conservancies Association
KWS	Kenya Wildlife Service
NEMA	National Environmental Management Agency
MP	Mikoko Pamoja
МРСО	Mikoko Pamoja Community Organization
NbS	Nature-based Solutions
NFMS	National Forest Monitoring Systems
NGO	Non-Governmental Organization

PES	Payments for Ecosystem Services
PFMP	Participatory Forest Management Plan
PVC	Plan Vivo Certificate
REDD+	Reducing Emissions from Deforestation and Degradation +
SHA	Self-Help Africa
SWIO	South-West Indian Ocean
UN	United Nations
UNEP	United Nations Environment Programme
UNESCO	United Nations Environmental, Social and Cultural Organisation
VBF	Vanga Blue Forest
WOD	World Ocean Day
WWF-K	World Wildlife Fund (Kenya)

# **Summary**

Project Overview	
Reporting period	1st January 2024– 31st December 2024
Geographical areas	Gazi Bay mangrove forest
Technical specifications in use	Mikoko Pamoja

	Historical (2014- 2023)	Added/Issued this period (2024)	Total			
No. smallholder households with PES agreements	0	0	0			
No. community groups with PES agreements (where applicable)	1	0	1			
Approximate number of households (or individuals) in these community groups	1081	0	1081			
Area under management (ha) where PES agreements are in place	117.4ha	0	117.4ha			
Total PES payments made to participants (USD)	176,081	16,608	192,689			
Total sum held in trust for future PES payments (USD)*	6,926	3,025	13,024.65			
Allocation to Plan Vivo buffer (tCO2)	3,590	371	3,961			
Saleable emissions reductions achieved (tCO2)	20,095	2,074	22,169			
Unsold Stock at time of submission (PVC)**	950					
Total Unsold Stock (PVC)**		950	950			
Plan Vivo Certificates (F	Plan Vivo Certificates (PVCs) issued to date 20,095					
Plan Vivo Certificates requested for issuance (2024 Vintage) 2,074						

Plan Vivo Certificates available for future issuance (REDD only)	0
Total PVCs issued (including this report)	22,169

 $<sup>\</sup>ensuremath{^{*}}$  This is the total balance in the ACES account, including anticipated costs. See Table G1

 $<sup>\</sup>ensuremath{^{**}}$  Allocated to buyers but payment not yet received

# **Part A: Project Updates**

A1: Key events

# 7th Feb 2024: WWF Focus Group Discussion in Kilifi County on Reviewing Mangrove Policies in the South-West Indian Ocean (SWIO) region

Mikoko Pamoja (MP) was invited to participate in Focus Group Discussion (FGD) organized by WWF for a consultancy project aimed at reviewing mangrove policies in the SWIO region, with specific focus on community rights and benefits. Led by Dr. Glenda Raven, the session served as a platform to gather insights from various stakeholders, including community forest associations working within the mangrove areas of coastal Kenya. MP's participation was deemed crucial to its expertise and experience in community led mangrove conservation and sustainable management practices, by actively engaging in discussions and sharing insights, MP reinforced the importance of community engagement and highlighted the significance of promoting sustainable management of mangrove ecosystems for the benefit of both communities and the environment.

### 17th Feb 2024: Constitution Review Meeting

The meeting was organized by MP aimed to ensure that the governing document accurately reflects the current and aspirations of the community members. It was deemed that the constitution is accurate and relevant in its present form.

### 20th Feb 2024: OCEAN Design workshop

Aga Khan Foundation organized a design workshop titled "Ocean Community Empowerment and Nature" the aim was to explore potential opportunities within the ocean program, aligning with the Blue Planet Fund's goal of fostering lasting environmental change and supporting coastal communities. Among the attendees were organizations like Big



Fish and G for Girls. Mikoko Pamoja was invited to share insights, contributing to the application process for ocean grants. This involvement underscores MP's commitment coastal conservation and community empowerment, benefits ensuring that from the grants reach small organizations coastal areas.

Figure 1. Mikoko Pamoja Project Coordinator Kassim Juma participating in the OCEAN Design workshop

### 1st-3rd March 2024: Intellecap visit

Mikoko Pmaoja hosted representatives from Intellecap, a global advisory firm that was conducting a study on "Place-based Circular Economies" to explore sustainable models applicable worldwide. During the visit, we shared insights into the Mikoko Pamoja project, highlighting its impact on mangrove restoration, reforestation, and community development. Discussions focused on the project's role as a model for integrating conservation with sustainable livelihoods, carbon offset initiatives, and community-based governance.

The Intellecap team expressed interest in replicating elements of Mikoko Pamoja's model globally to promote circular economies that are rooted in local ecosystems and socio-economic needs. The visit fostered knowledge exchange and provided a platform to showcase the innovative approaches implemented in Gazi Bay. We look forward to continued collaboration with Intellecap to inspire and scale sustainable conservation models globally.

### 27th March 2024: Mikoko Pamoja's 10th Anniversary

Mikoko Pamoja celebrated its 10th anniversary at Gazi Bay, bringing together community members and stakeholders to commemorate a decade of blue carbon ecosystem conservation. The guest of honor, Mwanakombo Kilalo, former project coordinator and current County Administrator for Kwale County, lauded the project's growth since its inception in 2014. She highlighted key achievements, including mangrove restoration, carbon credit development, and sustainable livelihood generation for the community. The Gazi community was engaged in numerous activities which sought to raise awareness on environment conservation. This included an artwork competition for students and football tournament targeting the local teams .Participants also participated in waste collection and were taught how to sort and segregate waste. The best artwork and essays as well as the football teams were awarded during the main celebration where reflections were made on key milestones and future goals for the project.



Figure 2. The Mikoko Pamoja 10th anniversary celebrations (L); Dr.Amina speaking on behalf of KMFRI

### 7th-10 March 2024: Kwale County Mangrove Management Committee Stakeholder Awareness Workshop

The stakeholder awareness workshop organized by the Kwale County Mangrove Management Committee aimed to bolster capacity building, identify stakeholders and roles, and document activities from 2017 to 2023. Participants reviewed the National Mangrove Ecosystem Management Plan and discussed the county report process. Key attendees included Plan International, Kenya Forest Service (KFS), Kenya Wildlife Service (KWS), Community Forest Associations (CFAs), user groups, Kenya Marine and Fisheries Research Institute (KMFRI), Kwale County Management Committee, and Fisheries Kwale. The MP's involvement likely stems from their interest in environmental conservation and constituency development.



Figure 3. Delegates at the Kwale County Mangrove Management Committee Stakeholder Awareness Workshop

### 12th March 2024: Visit by Kenya Ports Authority (KPA) Environmental Department

Mikoko Pamoja hosted a delegation from the Kenya Ports Authority (KPA) Environmental Department. The visit aimed to explore carbon market opportunities and learn from Mikoko Pamoja's expertise. KPA, actively involved in Mombasa County's restoration, seeks to integrate carbon markets with community engagement. Mikoko Pamoja shared insights on carbon project development, emphasizing community involvement and project design. The session facilitated mutual learning, with Mikoko Pamoja offering guidance. The visit underscores the commitment to sustainable development and environmental stewardship in Mombasa County.

### 31st May 2024: Forest Scholars Program Graduation

The Sustainable Ocean Alliance funded Forest Scholars program celebrated its ongoing success, with 9 graduates now



Figure 4. Forest scholars graduating from the programme

having completed the initiative. The program, which aims to support local students pursuing studies in environmental and marine sciences, continues to foster the next generation of conservation leaders. Under Mikoko Pamoja, the Forest Scholars initiative seeks to empower the youth by providing educational opportunities, encouraging community involvement in conservation, and building capacity for sustainable management of natural resources. The program remains committed to supporting more scholars and expanding its impact in the years ahead.

### 10th-14th June 2024: Community Mangrove Ecological restoration training

KMFRI through funding from African Union Interafrican Bureau for Animal resources (AU-IBAR) conducted a training focused on ecological mangrove restoration to 50 community members from Gazi Bay. The main objective of the



workshop was to train local community groups on ecological mangrove restoration, by using the "Guidelines for ecological mangrove restoration for the Western Indian Ocean Region" and insights from the national mangrove restoration guidelines currently in production, as toolkits to guide the trainers in the implementation of best practices for ecological mangrove restoration. By empowering and strengthening the skills of the Mikoko Pamoja community, the initiative aims to ensure environmental stewardship while promoting benefits through sustainable economic conservation practices.

Figure 5. Participants of the Mangrove Ecological restoration training

### 12th June 2024: Visit by GIZ

Representatives from GIZ (Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit – the German development agency) visited the Mikoko Pamoja project for a meeting with the executive committee. The discussion focused on identifying areas where GIZ could support the project's ongoing conservation efforts. Key topics included strengthening



mangrove restoration activities, enhancing and engagement, supporting community sustainable livelihood initiatives. The Mikoko Pamoja team presented updates on current achievements, challenges, and the project's contribution to climate mitigation and local development. GIZ expressed interest collaborating further to amplify conservation outcomes and sustain the project's long-term impact. The meeting concluded with both parties agreeing to explore actionable steps to strengthen the partnership. This visit underscores GIZ's commitment to supporting innovative conservation projects like Mikoko Pamoja in achievina environmental community and resilience.

Figure 6. MP representatives together with GIZ Officials (L-R Zuberi Said (MP committee member), Bilal Ali (MP secretary), Lisa Omingo (GIZ) Sebastian Groth (German Ambassador to Kenya), Kassim Juma

### 11th-14th June 2024: High Integrity Blue Carbon Market Technical Workshop in Jakarta

The High Integrity Blue Carbon Market Workshop, organized by Norad and Indonesia's Ministry of Marine Affairs and Fisheries (MMAF) was held in Jakarta from June 11-14, 2024, focusing on enhancing the blue carbon market and integrating seagrass carbon into Indonesia's National Determined Contributions (NDCs). The event covered community

and governance aspects and seagrass/NDC integration. Mikoko Pamoja was invited to share its experiences in community-driven blue carbon projects, emphasizing governance and market integrity alongside representatives from KMFRI and the Association for Coastal Ecosystem Services (ACES). The workshop offers a platform for knowledge exchange.



Figure 7. ACES Acting Director Amber Baker (center) speaking on a panel at the HIBC Technical Workshop (L); Project Coordinator Kassim Juma during the workshop, presenting about Mikoko Pamoja (R)

### 25th June 2024: Fair Carbon Visitation

Fair Carbon supports coastal and marine communities in protecting and restoring their ecosystems by fostering a high-integrity blue carbon market. Recently, they launched a Pilot Program with a cohort of seven mangrove projects worldwide, each at different stages of development. Their aim is to help these projects navigate the accreditation process successfully. So that this cohort could benefit from the insights and experiences of established projects like Mikoko Pamoja, Fair Carbon offered their cohort the opportunity to visit our project during their annual meeting in early April. This visit provided a valuable platform for sharing knowledge and learning from their journey.



Figure 8. Mikoko Pamoja and KMFRI staff with Fair Carbon visitors in the mangrove forest of Gaza Bay

The following links are videos that showcase highlights from Fair Carbon's visit:

Measuring AGB stocks: <a href="https://vimeo.com/982503950/1e350a89d0?share=copy">https://vimeo.com/982503950/1e350a89d0?share=copy</a>

Mangrove carbon stocks: <a href="https://vimeo.com/979923807/f9369065c3?share=copy">https://vimeo.com/979923807/f9369065c3?share=copy</a>.

### 25th-30th June 2024: Tanzania Beach Management Units (BMU) Visitation

The Mwambao Coastal Community Network from Tanzania, led by Project Coordinator Nuru, planned a learning exchange visit to the Mikoko Pamoja project. The delegation consisting of 20 members from Beach Management Units (BMUs) along the Tanzanian coast, visited with the aim of gaining insights into community-driven blue carbon initiatives and sustainable mangrove conservation. Key areas of focus included restoration techniques, carbon monitoring processes, and benefit-sharing mechanisms that have contributed to the project's success. The exchange aimed to enhance the capacity of the visiting BMUs to implement similar practices within their communities, promoting sustainable coastal resource management in Tanzania. This initiative underscores the value of cross-border collaboration and knowledge sharing in advancing blue carbon and community-based conservation efforts across the region.

### 3rd-4th July 2024: Second Edition of Blue Invest Africa forum in Diani, Kwale County, Kenya.

The 2nd edition of the Blue Invest Africa Forum was held in Diani, Kwale County, Kenya and was graced by Cabinet



Secretary for Mining, Blue Economy, and Maritime Affairs, H.E. Salim Mvurya, alongside H.E. Governor Fatuma Achani. Mikoko Pamoja was invited to showcase its impactful work in mangrove restoration and community-driven conservation and also host the EU delegation in the project site alongside the Gazi Women Mangrove Boardwalk Group. The Blue Invest Africa Forum serves as a business-to-business platform aimed at accelerating the growth of Africa's Blue Economy by facilitating strategic investments in Small and Medium Enterprises (SMEs).

Figure 9. Joseph Lang'at (KMFRI) hosts the Blue Invest Africa Forum

### 25th July 2024: National Dialogue on Mangrove Restoration in Diani, Kwale County, Kenya

Kenya's National Mangrove Management Committee hosted a national dialogue on mangrove restoration on 25th July in Kwale County, Kenya. The event, themed "Demystifying Mangrove Restoration: Lessons from Success and Failure," aimed to establish best practices for effective mangrove conservation. Key discussions focused on differentiating ecosystem restoration from simple planting, understanding the challenges and successes of current restoration efforts, and drawing lessons from other ecosystems, such as coral reefs and seagrass beds. Kassim Juma, Mikoko Pamoja Project Coordinator, participated in a panel discussion, sharing community perspectives on restoration and the role of Nature-Based Solutions (NBS). The dialogue also explored tree nursery establishment, linking restoration efforts to the socioeconomic realities of adjacent communities, and identified platforms for adopting ecological mangrove restoration practices.

### 26th July 2024: International Day for the Conservation of the Mangrove Ecosystem



Figure 10. Delegates celebrating the International Day for the Conservation of the Mangrove Ecosystem

A national function to mark the International Day for the Conservation of the Mangrove Ecosystem was observed on July 26th July 2024 in Tsunza, Kwale County. The event was graced by the Hon CS Environment & Forestry and was attended by representatives from KFS, KWS, KMFRI, MP, IUCN, National Environmental Management Agency (NEMA) among other organisations. The purpose of marking the event was to increase global understanding of the significance of mangrove ecosystems as distinct, precious, and delicate environments. MP was invited to the national celebrations to showcase and exhibit its impactful initiative in mangrove conservation and community development. The day also sought to advocate for sustainable practices in managing, safeguarding, and utilizing these ecosystems. The General Conference of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) officially adopted this International Day in 2015.

# 28th-30th July 2024: Coastal Mangrove Restoration Nature-Based Solutions (NbS) Stakeholder Validation Forum – Kilifi, Kenya

The Coastal Mangroves Restoration NbS Stakeholders Validation Forum was held in Kilifi from 28th to 30th July 2024. The forum which aimed to review restoration efforts and establish best practices for using Nature-Based Solutions (NBS) in coastal ecosystems brought together diverse stakeholders to discuss and validate mangrove conservation approaches in Kenya. Participants included local communities, county governments, national authorities, NGOs like WWF and IUCN, and private sector partners. Mikoko Pamoja's involvement highlighted its success in community-led restoration and carbon offset projects, sharing insights on integrating local communities, leveraging carbon finance, and promoting sustainable livelihoods. The forum concluded with a roadmap for NBS implementation, prioritizing collaboration and sustainable outcomes.

### 11th-14th September 2024: Plan Vivo Hosts Stakeholder Meeting on Nature-Based Carbon Credits

Plan Vivo organized a stakeholder meeting to discuss the growing role of verified nature-based carbon credits in financing ecosystem protection and channeling climate finance to local resource owners. The event focused on increasing awareness of project development opportunities, ensuring equitable benefit-sharing mechanisms, and exploring ways for local communities to support credit sales. With 30 pipeline projects registered, the meeting highlighted the expanding interest in nature-based solutions for climate action. Kassim Juma, one of the speakers, emphasized the importance of empowering communities in project development and ensuring fair benefits for local stakeholders engaged in conservation efforts.



Figure 11. Screenshot from the Plan Vivo stakeholder meeting on nature-based credits. Kassim Juma (bottom right)

# 11th-12th September 2024: Community Learning Exchange Visit on REDD+ Implementation and Carbon Markets Held in Gazi Bay

A two-day Community Learning Exchange on REDD+ implementation and carbon markets took place in Gazi Bay, Kwale County on 11th -12th September 2024. The activity brought together representatives from various community conservancies, as well as partners including the Kenya Wildlife Conservancies Association (KWCA), Kieti Law, and Conservation International (CI). The exchange aimed to foster knowledge sharing among communities, focusing on lessons learned from Mikoko Pamoja's experiences in implementing REDD+ projects. As a pioneer in community-led carbon credit trading, Mikoko Pamoja provided valuable insights into best practices, community engagement, and key areas such as Free, Prior, and Informed Consent (FPIC), benefit-sharing mechanisms, and integrating Gender Equity and Social Inclusion (GESI) into REDD+ projects. Participants engaged in discussions on social safeguards, grievance redress mechanisms, and the challenges faced in REDD+ implementation, seeking to enhance cross-learning and improve the effectiveness of climate mitigation and conservation efforts across Kenya.

### 23rd - 27th September 2024 Community orchard training and establishment



A five day activity was held from 23<sup>rd</sup> to 27<sup>th</sup> September 2024 in Gazi Bay, Kwale County, Kenya. The objectives of the activity were to establish community orchards in the local schools. The activity consisted of three days of land preparation and two days of training, field demonstrations and planting of the fruit trees. The training was undertaken by technical experts from Kenya Agriculture & Livestock Research Institute (KALRO) and brought together 100 participants made up of Gazi Bay community, Gazi and Makongeni Primary school pupils and teachers as well as technical experts from KMFRI, KALRO, and AU-IBAR. The

Community participants in Gazi Bay were sourced from user groups of the Gogoni Gazi community forest association

### 3rd-4th October 2024: Kenya Hosts Stakeholder Workshop on Forest Carbon Monitoring in Machakos

The Government of Kenya, in collaboration with the FAO's UN-REDD program, conducted a two-day stakeholder workshop on Forest Carbon Monitoring. The initiative, known as "Accelerating Innovative Monitoring for Forests," aims to develop a system for monitoring forest carbon using modern technologies, including remote sensing, and to report

Figure 12. A group photo of the orchard establishment training participants.

emissions data to international platforms like the UNFCCC. The workshop brought together key stakeholders to discuss and establish agreements on the data and information needed for an operational National Forest Monitoring System (NFMS). This system will host data from national and nested REDD+ projects,

supporting sustainable emissions reporting for the forest sector. The event also highlighted Kenya's progress in enhancing its REDD+ policy framework, including the adoption of the National REDD+ Strategy 2021, Climate Change (Amendment) Act 2023, and the Climate Change (Carbon Markets) Regulations 2024. As a representative of Kenya's pioneering community-led blue carbon project, MP contributed valuable insights on incorporating community-driven data and lessons from mangrove conservation into the operational National Forest Monitoring System (NFMS). MP highlighted the importance of integrating data from coastal ecosystems, such as mangroves, into the NFMS to ensure comprehensive forest sector reporting. The need for accurate data management and integration of technological innovations to support effective climate action was emphasized during the meeting.

In order to comply with the new legislation, the projects will be registered with the Kenyan Government by November 2025 (12 months after the release of the legislation). An Environmental Assessment (EA) will be completed in early 2025. A fee will be paid for this registration, and annually thereafter. A small fee per credit will also be paid to the Kenyan Government on all credits sold.

### 12th October 2024: UNEP Benchmarking Visit to Mikoko Pamoja Office

The United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) visited Mikoko Pamoja in Gazi Bay to understand the blue carbon project's practices in mangrove conservation and carbon offsetting. The visit highlighted the project's positive impacts on local communities, including enhanced livelihoods and environmental stewardship. UNEP explored Mikoko Pamoja's history since 2014, its outcomes in coastal resilience, and the socio-economic benefits of mangrove restoration. The insights gained aim to inform similar global initiatives.

### 14th-15th October 2024: Visit by Self Help Africa

Ruth W. Mukhongo from Self Help Africa (SHA) conducted a visit to Mikoko Pamoja aimed at strengthening SHA's understanding and institutional knowledge in mangrove restoration, shellfish production, and ecotourism in Kenya. The visit aimed to gather evidence and best practices that could inform SHA's ongoing projects, particularly the Irish Aidfunded mangrove project in The Gambia. Key objectives were: networking and knowledge exchange, evidence gathering on carbon trading, learning from best practices and application of Blue Economy Strategies.

# 7th November 2024: Stakeholder Engagement on Environmental Management and Coordination Act (EMCA) Amendment Bill 2023

A stakeholder engagement session was held to review and discuss the proposed amendments to the Environmental Management and Coordination Act (EMCA) 1999, focusing on Section 147. This amendment seeks to enhance Kenya's environmental management by integrating sustainable practices and blue economy principles, specifically aiming to restrict the planting of non-native, water-intensive species and promote ecosystem health and water security. Mikoko Pamoja contributed insights on community-based conservation practices, sharing experiences on the positive impacts of native species planting on biodiversity and local livelihoods. MP's input emphasized the need for inclusive community engagement to achieve the bill's sustainability goals.

### A2: Successes and challenges

### **Successes**

### **Expansion of Conservation Impact**

The project has increased mangrove seedling survival rates through improved restoration techniques. The restoration area has proven to have challenging environmental conditions that has hindered planting and survival of seedlings, but improved restoration techniques have increased seedling survival.

The community woodlots, previously harvested, were replanted to support sustainable livelihoods and reduce pressure on mangroves. These trees included fruit trees, which will provide both food and timber, and casuarina trees which will provide timber.

### **Community Development Projects**

Successful completion of water and sanitation projects in Gazi and Makongeni villages.

Support to local schools through provision of educational materials and minor infrastructure renovations.

### **Strengthened Organizational Capacity**

Employment of a new Assistant Coordinator to support project activities.

Establishment of a new Mikoko Pamoja project office, improving operations, visibility, and community access to information.

### **Strengthened Global Partnerships**

Recognition at regional and international forums as a model blue carbon project.

Enhanced collaborations with Kenya Forest Service (KFS), KMFRI, GIZ, WWF, and local CFAs.

Participation in high-level climate and carbon market dialogues.

### **Capacity Building and Training**

Community training on mangrove restoration, seaweed farming, beekeeping, and ecotourism management.

Awareness-raising workshops on Kenya's new carbon market regulations.

### **Governance Improvements**

Development of updated grievance and benefit-sharing mechanisms to align with national carbon market regulations.

Elections held to ensure transparency and democratic leadership in the project committee. The first female Chairperson, who is also a person with disabilities, was elected.

### **Challenges**

### **Climate Variability**

Erratic rainfall and occasional flooding affected mangrove seedling growth and survival in some restoration zones.

### **Community Expectations**

Managing increasing community expectations regarding benefit-sharing and faster project implementation.

### **Regulatory Adjustments**

Adapting to new government requirements for carbon projects (e.g., 25% government share, compliance paperwork) added operational complexity.

### A3: Project developments

### **Ocean literacy program**

Since its inception, Mikoko Pamoja's Ocean Literacy Program has made significant progress in raising awareness and understanding of marine ecosystems among students. The program started with the goal of educating young people about the blue economy and the importance of protecting vulnerable marine environments. Over time, it has successfully engaged numerous students, providing them with a solid foundation in marine science and conservation practices. The program has not only increased awareness but also fostered a sense of responsibility towards the marine environment among participants. Through interactive learning sessions, field visits, and community outreach, students are gaining practical knowledge and skills to support sustainable marine resource management. As a result, the program is gradually cultivating a generation of environmentally conscious youth who are actively contributing to marine conservation efforts in their communities.

### Beekeeping and seaweed farming project by African Forest Forum (AFF)

The AFF-funded Beekeeping and Seaweed Farming Projects, launched in collaboration with Mikoko Pamoja, aim to promote conservation while providing sustainable income opportunities for local women and youth. The beekeeping initiative focuses on honey production to reduce pressure on mangrove ecosystems, while the seaweed farming component diversified income streams despite challenges such as sedimentation from rivers and unfamiliarity with deep-water (6-10m+ depth) farming techniques. Farming of this type requires swimming, which is not a skill that most local people have. Both projects demonstrate the potential to integrate environmental preservation with economic development, with Mikoko Pamoja working to expand these efforts and enhance sustainability through partnerships, including with the County Government of Kwale.

### **Forest Scholars Program**

The Forest Scholars Program is a transformative initiative aimed at empowering local youth by offering educational opportunities in environmental sciences and conservation to build a skilled generation dedicated to sustainable forestry and mangrove management. Since its inception, the program has engaged 9 participants, 5 of whom were from the Mikoko Pamoja project area, with all graduates contributing to environmental initiatives and securing roles in

conservation projects thanks to the hands-on training and mentorship provided. Funded by Sustainable Ocean Alliance (SOA) through KMFRI and in collaboration with Edinburgh Napier University, the program has significantly strengthened community capacity to manage natural resources. Participants have praised the program for combining theoretical knowledge with practical field-based experiences, though lessons learned highlight the need for increased funding to enhance its impact. As it grows, the program aims to incorporate advanced topics like carbon credit markets, climate change adaptation, and community-led conservation strategies, continuing its mission to promote environmental education and capacity building.

### **Assistant Coordinator Position**

To strengthen project management and enhance capacity, Mikoko Pamoja has appointed an Assistant Coordinator. This position will focus on supporting ongoing conservation and community initiatives, assist in the coordination and implementation of project activities related to mangrove conservation and restoration, support the planning, monitoring, and evaluation of project activities to ensure the achievement of set objectives and facilitate community engagement and training sessions as part of project outreach efforts.

### **Waste management:**

There is no public waste management system in Kwale County, including in the Mikoko Pamoja project area. This means that waste including plastic pollutes the shoreline and is carried out to sea. Some private initiatives collect waste for free, and until recently the nearby Base Titanium company would pay to collect waste from areas including the Mikoko Pamoja project area. However, Base Titanium have recently closed their nearby operations and alternative means of facilitating this waste collection and disposal are being sought.

The primary goal of this project is to mitigate plastic pollution, safeguarding mangroves by implementing effective waste management practices within the community. The waste management project is underway, with initial stages of implementation already initiated. A waste management company has been engaged and has completed sensitisation sessions with the local community, including on how to find markets to sell plastics to and how to repurpose plastics on-site such as through bead-making. While comprehensive details are being finalized, the project is committed to promoting a clean environment and protecting the mangrove forests.

Mikoko Pamoja actively participated in the International Coastal Cleanup (ICC) event. This global initiative aligns with our commitment to combating plastic pollution and preserving the integrity of coastal ecosystems. Within Mikoko Pamoja, efforts to collect and manage waste have intensified. Community engagement and awareness programs have been conducted to foster a sense of responsibility among residents, encouraging them to participate actively in waste collection initiatives.

### **Orchard and woodlot Initiatives:**

KMFRI collaborates with Mikoko Pamoja in the 'Strengthening Restoration and Protection of Blue Carbon Ecosystems for Community Benefits and Environmental Sustainability' initiative under the Imarisha Project, funded by AU-IBAR. Under this programme, orchard and woodlot trees have been planted in the project area.

The planting of fruit trees and terrestrial trees in schools aims to promote environmental education and provide handson experience in conservation practices for students. The benefits extend beyond education, as the conserved and restored habitats contribute to food security and offer potential income sources for communities that rely on mangrove and coastal ecosystems.

Moving forward, the Mikoko Pamoja Project plans to expand these initiatives to the wider community. The idea is to establish community orchards and woodlots throughout Gazi Bay, allowing local households to benefit directly from the fruits and other resources provided by the trees. This expansion will involve engaging local community members in training programs, promoting sustainable land-use practices, and ensuring that the orchards and woodlots are maintained for long-term benefits. Mikoko Pamoja seeks to enhance the resilience of local ecosystems and provide alternative livelihood opportunities, thereby reducing pressure on mangrove resources. This future development aligns with the project's broader goals of sustainable environmental management and the socio-economic empowerment of

coastal communities.

**Energy-Saving Jikos Initiative**: Mikoko Pamoja is continuing to develop its efforts to conserve mangroves by implementing a project focused on low-carbon cooking stoves, known as energy-saving jikos. These stoves aim to reduce the exploitation pressure on mangroves for firewood, contribute to improved respiratory health by minimizing indoor air pollution, and lower carbon emissions. The initiative builds on previous research and pilot trials of energy-saving jikos in Gazi and Vanga.

Currently, Mikoko Pamoja has successfully installed 70 jikos across two villages—Gazi and Makongeni. The long-term goal is to expand this initiative to ensure every household has access to an energy-saving stove. The team will leverage insights and strategies from similar efforts in Vanga Blue Forest to overcome practical challenges and optimize the rollout of this sustainable solution.

### **A4: Future Developments**

**Expansion of the project area:** There is strong interest from the community and the project team in expanding the project area to include more of the forest under forest protection. The development of this has been ongoing for some time now; its progress was delayed by the development of new climate legislation in Kenya governing the activity of carbon markets in the country; until this was finalised, there was a hiatus on the development of new or expansion of existing carbon projects. The expansion aligns with Mikoko Pamoja's mission of scaling up climate resilience and environmental sustainability while promoting community driven stewardship of natural resources.

**Woodlots:** Mikoko Pamoja hoped to extend this initiative by planting trees along the roads in Gazi, which will not only enhance the aesthetic beauty of the area but also act as windbreaks, improve air quality, and create shaded spaces for the community.

### **A5:** Grievances

No new grievances were raised during the 2024 period. Although not a formal grievance, there was continued eagerness to expand the project area and frustration at the barriers to doing so.

In response to feedback from the 2023 annual report, Mikoko Pamoja took deliberate steps in 2024 to strengthen community involvement in the planning and implementation of development initiatives. Regular community barazas (public meetings) were organized to allow members to propose, prioritize, and monitor projects funded through carbon revenue. A select group of community members took part in monitoring exercises to oversee the implementation of community development projects.

These efforts have led to better ownership of activities such as the establishment of the community woodlot, fruit tree planting, and infrastructure improvements. As a result, project efficiency, transparency, and community satisfaction have significantly improved.

# **Part B: Project activities**

### **B1: Project activities generating Plan Vivo Certificates**

Mikoko Pamoja has a single technical specification that covers three activity areas, involving avoided deforestation/forest recovery activities in areas 1 and 2 and planting activities in area 3. The responsibilities for and benefits from these activities are shared communally within the single project community organization.

Table B1: Project activity summary

Name of technical specification	Are a (ha)	No smallholder households	No Community Groups
Natural mixed forest (Activity area 1)	107	1081	1
Indigenous plantation (Activity area 2)	10	1081	1
Degraded beach site (Activity area 3)	0.4	1081	1

# **B2:** Project activities in addition to those generating Plan Vivo Certificates

### **Publicity and awareness raising**

Mikoko Pamoja continues to showcase its work through various platforms, gaining widespread recognition for its contributions to climate change mitigation and community development.

Publicity efforts include active engagement on social media platforms like Facebook, Twitter, and the Mikoko Pamoja and ACES websites, where project updates and achievements are shared. Additionally, Mikoko Pamoja has been highlighted by numerous local and international media outlets, such as UN News, as a model for climate action, biodiversity conservation, and improving livelihoods.

The project's communication efforts continue to inspire global audiences and drive support for sustainable conservation efforts.

### Part C: Plan Vivo Certificate issuance submission

### **C1:** Contractual statement

This issuance is based on signed PES agreements with participants complying with all the minimum requirements stated in these agreements.

# C2: Issuance request for projects where issuance is made on the basis of ongoing activities on land already managed by the project (e.g., avoided deforestation, calculated ex-post).

Table C1: Statement of tCO2 reductions available for issuance as Plan Vivo Certificates based on activity for reporting period 01/2024 - 12/2024

Area ID	Total area (ha)	Tech. spec	tCO2 available from previous periods	Total tCO2 achieved this period	% Buffer	No. of PVCs allocated to the buffer account	No. PVCs requested for issuance from saleable carbon	tCO2 available for future issuances
Project area 1	107	Mikoko Pamoja	0	2259	15	339	1920	0
Project area 2	10	Mikoko Pamoja	0	195	15	30	165	0
Project area 3	0.4	Mikoko Pamoja	0	12	15	2	10	0
TOTAL	117.4		0	2466		371	2074 <sup>1</sup>	0

1this sum represents 98% of credits, after 15% buffer subtraction, given a 1% penalty for area 3 (since we met 50% our threshold planting target).

Table C2: Allocation of issuance request for this reporting period

Buyer name/ Unsold Stock	No. PVCs transacted	Registry ID (if available)	Vintage	Tech spec
Zero Mission	500	NA TRANSFER	2023	Mikoko Pamoja
Yacht Carbon	100	NA TRANSFER	2023	Mikoko Pamoja
Oceans and Lakes	50	PV-PVC-KE-103000000008881- 01012023-31122023-14698956- 14699005-MER-0-P	2023	Mikoko Pamoja
Pelorus Foundation	62	PV-PVC-KE-103000000008881- 01012023-31122023-14698113- 14698174-MER-0-P	2023	Mikoko Pamoja
TROPIMUNDO	229	PV-PVC-KE-103000000008881- 01012023-31122023-14698175- 14698403-MER-0-P	2023	Mikoko Pamoja
Planet Moja	100	NA TRANSFER	2023	Mikoko Pamoja
Citizen Zoo	10	PV-PVC-KE-103000000008881- 01012023-31122023-14698904- 14698913-MER-0-P	2023	Mikoko Pamoja
Levin Sources	42	PV-PVC-KE-103000000008881- 01012023-31122023-14698914- 14698955-MER-0-P	2023	Mikoko Pamoja
Unsold stock	950	NA	2023	Mikoko Pamoja

# **C3:** Data to support issuance request

Please refer to Annex 1.

# **Part D: Sales of Plan Vivo Certificates**

### **D1: Sales of Plan Vivo Certificates**

All sales of Plan Vivo Certificates to date (including forward sold certificates for current issuance request) are presented in table D1.

**Table D1: Sales of Plan Vivo Certificates** 

Vintag e	Buyer	No of PVCs	Price per PVC (\$) *	Total sale amount (\$) *	Price to participants per PVC	% Sale price receive d by particip ants
SALES O	CTOBER 2013 – October 202	L4 (note cha	nge in reporti	ng year)		
2014	Earthwatch	1000				68.3**
2014	Paolo Merlini	10				68.3**
TOTAL/A (2013-14		1,010				68.3
SALES O	CTOBER 2014 – DECEMBER	<mark>2015 (note</mark> (	change in repo	rting year)		
2014	Zero Mission	720				68.3**
2014	Algarve Students	34				68.3**
2014	Imperial College	2				68.3**
2014	Nico Koedam Research Group	38				68.3**
2014	Nico Koedam Family	10				68.3**
2014	Will Ashley-Cantello	10				68.3**
TOTAL/A (2014-15		814				68.3
SALES 20	16					
2014	lain and Julia	10				68.3**
2014	Farid – Tropimundo	189				68.3**
2015	Edinburgh Napier University	660				68.3**
2014	Steve Crooks	30				68.3**
2015	ZeroMission	700				68.3**
2015	SCB Marine Section	1,200				68.3**

TOTAL/AVERAGE (2016)		2,789				68.3		
SALES 20	SALES 2017							
2017	Vrije Universiteit Brussel	100				68.3**		
2016	Zero Mission	1369				68.3**		
2016	Farid – Tropimundo	29				68.3**		
2016	Farid – Tropimundo	20				68.3**		
2016	Farid – Tropimundo	25				68.3**		
2017	Farid – Tropimundo	190				68.3**		
TOTAL/A	VERAGE (2017)	1,733				68.30		
2017	Farid – Tropimundo	178				68.3**		
2017	SCB delegate offsetting	1200				68.3**		
2017	Zero Mission	224				68.3**		
2017	Koedam family	11				68.3**		
2017	CCF conference	9				68.3**		
TOTAL/A	AVERAGE (2018)	1,622				68.3		
SALES 20	19							
2018	Zero Mission	500				94.3		
2018	C Level	25				94.3		
2018	Charles and Kate Hussey	36				94.3		
2018	Ruth Malleson	12				94.3		
2018	Elfin Book NL	9				94.3		
2018	Alison Baker	7				94.3		
2018	Common Seas	18				94.3		
2018	Arcadia Fund	851				94.3		
2018	TROPIMUNDO	190				94.3		
2018	Ruth Malleson	5				94.3		
2018	2018 GRID-Arendal					94.3		
TOTAL/A	TOTAL/AVERAGE (2019)					94.30		
2019	C-Level	200				89.84		
2019	Université Libre de Bruxelles	226				89.84		

2019	Vrije Universiteit Brussel	32		89.84
2019	Vrije Universiteit Brussel	29		89.84
2019	Echo Shoppe	15		89.84
2019	Alison Baker	9		89.84
2019	Zero Mission	500		89.84
2019	Ocean Bottle	432		89.84
2019	SuperFlex	140		89.84
2019	Charlie's Travels	238		89.84
2019	MOYU	20		89.84
2019	Charles and Kate Hussey	30		89.84
2019	Common Seas	26		89.84
TOTAL/A	VERAGE (2020)	1,897		89.84
	<b>SALES 2021</b>		•	
2019	Carbon Chameleon	100		81.8
2020	Zero Mission	500		81.8
2020	Zero Mission	109		81.8
2020	Common Seas	7		81.8
2020	Yacht Carbon	300		81.8
2020	Yacht Carbon	985		81.8
2020	Madeiline Pott	8		81.8
2020	The Association of Surfing professionals, LLC d/b/a World Surf League	100		81.8
2020	Ocean Bottle	31		81.8
2020	Mark Boyd	3		81.8
TOTAL/A	VERAGE (2021)	2,143		81.8
2021	Zero Mission	500		96.8
2021	The Safari Collection	200		96.8
2021	Ruth Malleson	17		96.8
2021	Université Libre de Bruxelles	183		96.8
2021	Université Libre de Bruxelles	101		96.8
2021	Yacht Carbon	250		96.8
2021	Carbon Chameleon	200		96.8
2021	Hannah Lee	5		96.8

2021	Ocean Bottle	300	96.8
TOTAL/AVERAGE (2022)		1,756	96.80
2021	Pelorus Foundation	87	60
2021	Ocean Bottle	200	60
2022	Zero Mission	500	60
2022	Ocean Race	1000	60
2022	Ruth Malleson	17	60
2022	Sustainable Travel International	100	60
2022	Université Libre de Bruxelles/TROPIMUND O	173	60
2022	Yacht Carbon	50	60
2022	Yacht Carbon	200	60
2022	Himaya	3	60
TOTAL/	AVERAGE (2023)	2,330	60.00
2023	Zero Mission	500	78.6
2023	Yacht Carbon	100	78.6
2023	Oceans and Lakes	50	78.6
2023	Pelorus Foundation	62	78.6
2023	TROPIMUNDO	229	78.6
2023	Planet Moja	100	78.6
2023	Citizen Zoo	10	78.6
2023	Levin Sources	42	78.6
TOTAL/AVERAGE (2024)		1,093	78.60
TOTAL/AVERAGE (ALL)		19,099	76.62

- \*Pricing reported for internal monitoring purposes only. Pricing information will be removed from the final published document.
- \*\* Due to a change in the processes by which % share is reported, the % sale price received by participants for the sale of vintages 2014 2017 has been calculated as an average across those years.

### D2: Unsold stock available for sale

The total unsold stock of Plan Vivo Certificates per year of issuance as at reporting period end is presented in table D2.

**Table D2: Unsold stock of Plan Vivo Certificates** 

Vintag e	No of PVCs	Price to participants
2023	950	0

# **Part E: Monitoring results**

### E1: Ecosystem services monitoring

Monitoring results that support the request for new issuances are presented in Annex 1.

### **E2:** Maintaining commitments

All participants maintained commitments this year.

### E3: Socio-economic monitoring

No socio-economic monitoring took place in 2024. This is planned for 2025.

### E4: Environmental and biodiversity monitoring

No environmental and biodiversity monitoring took place in 2024. This will take place in 2025.

# **Part F: Impacts**

### F1: Evidence of outcomes

With adequate funds generated from the sale of Plan Vivo Certificates (PVCs), Mikoko Pamoja prioritized impactful community projects across various sectors, including water, education, and youth empowerment. These initiatives aim to address critical needs and enhance the quality of life for Gazi Bay residents.

Community Prioritization for the Current Round of Funding

In the latest round of community consultations 20th and 21st September 2024, residents suggested several projects, reflecting their most pressing needs. The proposed projects included:

- Construction of a social hall for community gatherings
- Establishment of a madrassa for religious and educational purposes
- A new water tower for the primary school to ensure reliable access to clean water
- Installation of solar panels to improve security within the village
- Construction of a perimeter wall around the primary school to enhance safety
- Provision of a speaker and microphone system for better communication during community events

Following extensive discussions and evaluations, the community prioritized the following projects for immediate implementation:

- 1. Gazi Primary School Water Tower: The construction of a new water tower at the Gazi Primary School was selected as a top priority to ensure consistent access to safe drinking water for students and staff, addressing a significant need within the school.
- 2. Madrassa (Islamic School) Renovation: The renovation of a madrassa was also prioritized, aiming to provide a conducive environment for learning thereby enriching the community's educational landscape.
- 3. Water Project Continuation: Building on the success of last year's water project, further investments are being made to expand and maintain water infrastructure, ensuring continued benefits for the entire community. The lower side of Makongeni village receives less water than the upper side; further investments are planned to address this disparity.

# Gazi Village



Figure 13. The renovation of the madrassa roofing has been completed, addressing structural needs to enhance the learning environment.

### Makongeni Village



Figure 14. The water project continuation from 2023 is progressing steadily (top) and the proposed endowment (Waqf) project in Makongeni to provide accommodation for madrasa teachers (below)

# **Part G: Payments for Ecosystem Services**

### **G1:** Summary of PES by year

Table G1: Summary of payments made and held in trust

1. Reporting year	2. Total payments received (USD)	3. Total payment s made (USD)	4. Value retained by ACES* (USD)	6. Total payments held in trust (USD)
10/13 – 10/14	6081	11,984		0
10/14 – 12/15	9,834	12,510		475**
1/16 – 12/16	29,574	14,833		13,787**
1/17 – 12/17	22,229	13,401		19,544**
1/18 - 12/18	18,216	5,963		32,779**
1/19 – 12/19	23,255	17,562	7,759***	7063**
1/20-12/20	22,999	20,662	3,937***	6,675.37**
1/21 - 12/21	27,401	22,409	6435.58***	4,064.05**
1/22 - 12/22	25,472	24,652	2000	5,955**
1/23 - 12/23	43,939	26,446	11,324	6,926**
1/24 - 12/24	21,132	16,608	2,250	13,024.65**
TOTAL	250,132	187,030	28,924.58	

<sup>\*</sup> Includes operating costs for ACES, Plan Vivo assurance fees and funds ring fenced for verification. Column added in 2020 AR, hence no data pre-2020.

Before transfer to the Mikoko Pamoja Community Organization, funds are held by the charity The Association for Coastal Ecosystem Services (ACES).

<sup>\*\*</sup>The % sale price received by participants (D1) and the 'total payments held in trust' column were reported incorrectly in years 2014-2018, resulting in an apparent accumulation of payments held in trust that did not reflect actual finances (the % sale price was reported as 100% when in fact averaged around 70%; this was an error). The 2019 year 'total payments held in trust' figure is now correct and subsequent years will account for overheads spending reducing the % sale price received by participants.

<sup>\*\*\*</sup>Numbers do not exactly add up due to fluctuations in exchange rates between USD and GBP and year to year carryover.

# **Part H: Ongoing participation**

### **H1:** Recruitment

Mikoko Pamoja has successfully recruited an Assistant Project Coordinator to support the implementation of project activities and enhance overall operations.

### **H2: Project Potential**

**Expansion of Carbon Credit Projects:** Building on the success of its carbon credit initiatives, Mikoko Pamoja seeks to scale up mangrove restoration efforts and explore new areas for expansion. This will enhance carbon sequestration capabilities and contribute significantly to global climate change mitigation. Given the increasing demand for carbon credits, there is a promising opportunity for revenue growth, which will further support conservation and development programs. Approval from the Kenya Forest Service (KeFS) and National Environment Management Authority is being pursued to facilitate these expansions and maximize the environmental impact.

**Low-Carbon Cooking Solutions**: Introducing energy-efficient cooking stoves could reduce the community's dependency on mangrove wood for fuel. This would help decrease deforestation rates and improve health by reducing indoor air pollution from traditional open-fire cooking.

**Broadening Education and Awareness Programs:** The project plans to intensify its educational outreach, targeting schools and local communities. By cultivating environmental stewardship, Mikoko Pamoja aims to strengthen community involvement in conservation efforts. The program will include workshops on sustainable resource management, youth engagement activities, and awareness campaigns to build a broad base of support for current and future initiatives.

**Focused Biodiversity Conservation Efforts:** Mikoko Pamoja remains committed to preserving the rich biodiversity within mangrove ecosystems. Future initiatives will prioritize the protection of the diverse species that inhabit these habitats, such as fish, crustaceans, and birdlife. Proposed plans include habitat restoration projects, community-led biodiversity monitoring programs, and partnerships with research institutions to address threats to local ecosystems effectively.

# **H3:** Community participation

Mikoko Pamoja, an exemplar of community-led conservation, operates through a dedicated committee of 13 volunteer members from Gazi and Makongeni villages. Elected every three years in a democratic and participatory manner, the committee effectively guides Mikoko Pamoja's activities and vision. They play a crucial role in executing annual work plans and actively involve the community in key activities like monitoring, mangrove planting, and nursery management, fostering a sense of ownership and responsibility. The committee also facilitates community consultations, especially regarding the use of income from carbon credit sales, ensuring transparent and equitable benefit distribution. Annual General Meetings, such as the one held in December 2024, provide vital platforms for updating the community on the year's activities and encouraging open communication. Alongside executing annual work plans they involve the community in diverse activities such as open meetings, nursery establishments, attending events and seminars and environmental monitoring. This broad spectrum of involvement fosters a deep sense of ownership and responsibility among community members.

Mikoko Pamoja is governed by a committee consisting of 13 volunteer community members from Gazi and Makongeni villages. The committee is democratically elected every three years, following a participatory and transparent process supervised by the Department of Social Development and other stakeholders.

The next committee elections are scheduled for January 2025. The upcoming committee is expected to comprise six members from Gazi and seven from Makongeni. Efforts will be made to maintain gender balance, with a representation of women and men in the committee.

The committee will be responsible for ensuring the timely implementation of the annual work plan and engaging the community in activities such as monitoring, planting, and nursery establishment. They will also organize consultative meetings to involve the community in decision-making on how to utilize income earned from carbon credit sales.

An Annual General Meeting (AGM) was held in both villages in December 2024 to update the community on the projects and activities carried out by Mikoko Pamoja during the year.



Figure 15. Community attending a community meeting (Baraza) to elect Mikoko Pamoja Committee members. 31/1/2025

The table below provides details on community engagement in different project activities

Activity	Men	Women	Total	Date
1. Community Baraza	87	81	168	20-21/9/2024
2. Environmental and biodiversity monitoring	13	11	24	4-5/10/2024
3. Establishment of community woodlot	33	17	50	26-27/9/2024
4. Capacity building	18	32	50	10-14/6/24
5. Community projects survey	4	2	6	
6. Elections (nil as no election in 2024)	0	0	0	
7. Socio-economic monitoring	4	2	6	12/10/2024
8. Forest scholars training	4	1	5	14/10/2024
9. Forest surveillance	2	0	2	18-20/11/2024
10. AGM	90	134	224	20-21/12/2024

During the 2024 reporting year, Mikoko Pamoja held several meetings to plan and implement key activities. Agendas covered included:

- 1. 10th Anniversary Celebrations: Successfully planning and executing events to mark a decade of community-led conservation efforts.
- 2. Kenya Marine Fisheries Socio-Economic Development (KEMSFED) Grant Implementation: Coordinating activities and aligning priorities for ecotourism, beekeeping, and other supported projects.
- 3. Assistant Coordinator Position: Recruitment and onboarding to strengthen project management and oversight.

4. Seaweed and Beekeeping Projects: Progress discussions on establishing sustainable livelihoods, addressing challenges, and ensuring effective implementation.

These meetings fostered collaboration and set the foundation for achieving Mikoko Pamoja's goals in conservation and community development.

# **Part I: Project operating costs**

### I1: Allocation of costs

PVC sales this year were supplemented by grants given by AU-IBAR and GIZ, as detailed below.

Of carbon income, USD 5,423.90 funded community projects, with the rest (19,228.1) facilitating salary payments and related project activities as detailed below:

Project income (USD)	Average exchange rate	Expenditure	USD	KSH	Amount remaining (Ksh)
1. Carbo	on funds				
21,132	123.12	Community project funds		466,600	
		Salary payments		1,176,000	
		Office expenses		660,000	
		Restoration activities		245,000	
					0
2. Dona	tions			<u>.</u>	
4,370	132.12	Community project funds		573,600	
					0
3. Grant	from GIZ	<u> </u>	1		•
2,954	132.12	Woodlot		52,000	311,660
4. Grant	t from AU-IBAR (	Administered by	KMFRI)		
50,000	132.12	Woodlot and community training		6,500,000	

### **Annexes**

### **Annex 1. Monitoring results for issuance request**

Mikoko Pamoja operates on three main project areas. Area 1 and 2 deliver PVCs through avoided deforestation and forest conservation activities. Area 3 involves planting trees in degraded beach sites that used to support mangrove forests. 98% of the PVCs are generated through activities in Areas 1 and 2. Monitoring targets (of basal area occupied by cut stumps and of stocking rates indicating forest recovery) have been met in these areas. Monitoring targets in area 3 met the 50% threshold (>2,000 trees planted).

### Annex1. 1: Forest protection and surveillance (Areas 1 and 2)

Mikoko Pamoja is doing monitoring twice a year with much involvement of the local community from two villages, i.e., Gazi and Makongeni villages. The data presented here are the averages from these two monitoring sets. In addition to the table below, see Figure A.1 on the next page, which shows the long term trend for stumps and AGB. This demonstrates the major changes in the forest and how this year's data conforms to the longer term trends. So our data this year shows successful forest recovery and no evidence for illegal cutting.

Most of the stumps encountered during monitoring exercise were old with no occurrence of the recent ones. In general, the forest attributes are significantly higher than the baseline and MPCO has not experienced any serious illegal harvesting in its project area during the reporting period therefore the forest condition can be said to be recovering.

Activity area	Forest attribute	Quantity/ha	Measure last year	Baseline	Remarks
1	AGB (t dw)	301	275	118.8 (2012)	The AGB continues to increase and is now 133% greater than at
	Natural regeneration (# juveniles ± SD)	6400±5048	7520±3715		the baseline; whilst this must level off there is no sign yet of an asymptote. Stump
	Stump count Per ha	325	285	2720(2013)	counts broadly follow an exponential decay.
2	Stocking density	3020±420	3020±420		No increase in stumps (only 3 in total recorded this year as last). Stocking density remains the same (suggesting
	Natural regeneration	3620±870	10960±3643		natural thinning has slowed) and recruitment continues a downward
	Mean stump density (ha)	60±89	60±89		trend as the canopy closes further.

\*data for activity area 2, the 10 ha plantation, was based on the 5 plots.

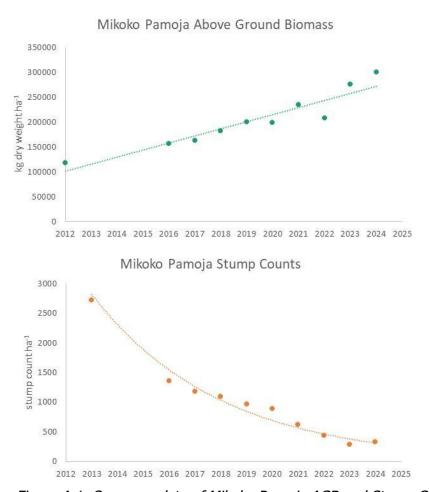


Figure A.1: Summary data of Mikoko Pamoja AGB and Stump Counts

### Annex 1.2: Tree planting (Area 3)

This year, MPCO successfully planted 1,500 *Rhizophora mucronata* (RM) and *Ceriops tagal* (CT) seedlings, achieving a survival rate of 80%. While this marks progress, several new challenges have emerged:

- 1. Sedimentation Issues: High sedimentation rates in planting areas have buried some seedlings, reducing their access to sunlight and oxygen.
- 2. Salinity Fluctuations: Extreme variations in salinity, likely due to reduced freshwater inflow, have affected seedling growth and survival.

Despite these obstacles, KMFRI is continuing to trial alternative planting techniques and exploring more resilient mangrove species to improve future outcomes.

### Table Annex 1.2: Planted seedlings in activity area 1.

Date	Species planted	Number planted	Survival rate %
10/10/2024	RM and CT	1500	80%

# **Annex 2. Community meeting records**

The community meeting records are shown below.

No	Date	Participants	No of participants	Purpose
1	03-02-24	Committee	14	Constitution amendment and community projects
2	11-02-24	Committee	14	Project funds and validation
3	20-03-24	Committee	14	MP 10th anniversary celebrations
5	20/21-09-24	Community Meeting- Makongeni and Gazi	145	Discussing the community projects for Makongeni and Gazi
6	03-08-24	Committee	14	carbon market regulations, merchandise, GIZ and MP expansion
7	14-08-2024	Committee	14	Assistant coordinator and monitoring
8	3/11/2024	Committee	14	International Coastal Clean-up
9	8/11/2024	Community meeting	14	Community projects

Community meetings in Gazi and Makongeni were held during the reporting period in order to prioritise potential community projects for funding through carbon funds. Involving the community in the decision-making process has allowed for transparency and accountability, ensuring sustainability and stewardship of the project.

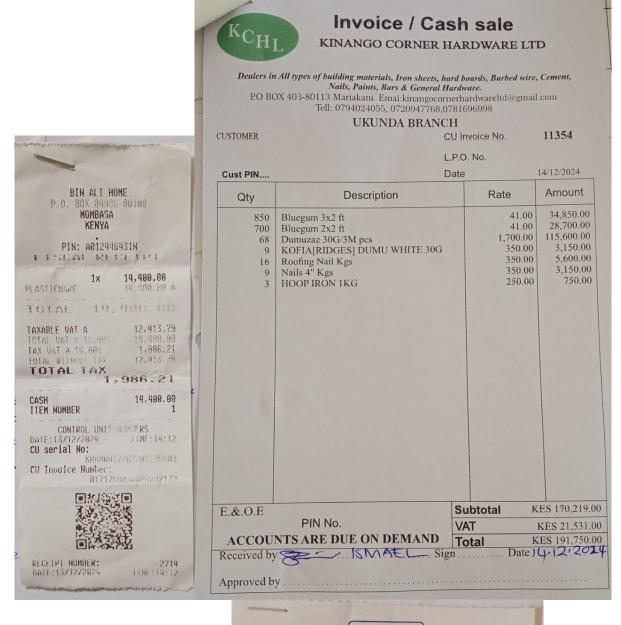
# **Annex 3: Media Appearances**

 $\underline{\text{https://nation.africa/kenya/health/coastal-communities-cash-in-on-carbon-credits-as-others-cry-foul-} \\ \underline{\text{4806702}}$ 

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=GYfCujdzu-A&list=PLyMtWpkBAa9uIvPcwBN-aLPSCF3tn1Oy0

https://youtu.be/b8fTviIFoOU?si=0ceyAEKp6S2\_zVgb

### **Annex 4: Receipts**





# Recept 101124-535

### HAFIDH ART

hafidhart@gmail.com P.O BOX 3 80404 Msambweni 0707813441/0781923611



Bill To

Mikoko Pamoja Community Organisation mikokopamojake@gmail.com Recept Date 10/11/2024

Qty	Description	Unit Price	Amount
1	Painting of walls and ceiling of one room office	5,000.00	5,000.00
2	Painting of 4 interior wall murals	20,000.00	20,000.00

Total 25,000.00ksh

