



Ecosystem Stewardship for Sustainability and Growth in Tanzania

SUSTAIN Eco Annual Report 2023



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SUSTAIN Eco Annual Report 2023

May 2024

About the SUSTAIN Eco Partnership

SUSTAIN Eco is being implemented by a consortium of partners involving IUCN, the International Union for Conservation of Nature, African Wildlife Foundation (AWF), and the Netherlands Development Organisation (SNV). IUCN serves as consortium lead, implementing and executing project management tasks but also providing strategic guidance and technical assistance to the partners across both Kilombero and Sumbawanga landscapes. IUCN's expertise in Integrated Landscape Management (ILM) approaches and environmental sustainability adds value to the implementation process. AWF is active in the Kilombero landscape, focusing on integrating conservation enterprise solutions and enhancing community livelihood through sustainable Natural Resources Management (NRM). SNV is active in the Sumbawanga landscape, leveraging its longstanding presence to foster inclusive growth through sustainable agricultural practices and renewable energy solutions. Together, these organisations deliver the SUSTAIN Eco programme, aiming to ensure ecosystem stewardship and sustainable growth in the agricultural sector in Tanzania through collaborative and strategic landscape-level interventions.



IUCN is a membership Union composed of both government and civil society organisations. It harnesses the experience, resources and reach of its more than 1,400 Member organisations and the input of more than 16,000 experts. IUCN is the global authority on the status of the natural world and the measures needed to safeguard it. In Tanzania, IUCN brings over 20 years' experience, focusing on conservation, forest restoration, natural resource governance, and sustainable agriculture. Our work has been instrumental in integrating environmental and social sustainability into local policies, particularly through engagement with SAGCOT. IUCN's ability to convene diverse stakeholders and provide scientific insights and conservation tools makes IUCN a key player in landscape-level interventions.



AWF has been a pivotal conservation leader in Africa for over 60 years, emphasising practical solutions to natural resource management challenges. In Tanzania, AWF's presence since its inception in 1961 has focused on land management, poverty alleviation, and sustainable resource use. Their work in the Kilombero landscape involves implementing integrated landscape management programmes that promote conservation enterprises, enhancing both natural resource protection and community engagement.



SNV has operated in Tanzania for 50 years, aiming to achieve inclusive growth and sustainable development. Their approach in the Sumbawanga landscape combines local impact solutions with a focus on agriculture, energy, and climate resilience. SNV's established relationships with local and national authorities, as well as with private sector actors, enable them to deliver sustainable solutions across various sectors, enhancing local communities' livelihoods and environmental stewardship.

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Abbreviations

IUCN	International Union for Conservation of Nature
SUSTAIN-Africa	Sustainability and Inclusion Strategy for Growth Corridors in Africa
SAGCOT	Southern Agriculture Growth Corridor of Tanzania
SUSTAIN Eco	SUSTAIN Ecosystem stewardship to balance sustainability and growth
SUSTAIN Pro	SUSTAIN Productive Landscapes for Inclusive Growth
AWF	African Wildlife Foundation
SNV	Netherlands Development Organization
ILM	Integrated Landscape Management
NRM	Natural Resource Management
MEL	Monitoring, Evaluation, and Learning
VNRC	Village Natural Resources Committee
VLUM	Village Land Use Management
VLUP	Village Land Use Plan
WUA	Water Users Association
VGS	Village Game Scouts
VLUP	Village Land Use Plan
TARI	Tanzania Agricultural Research Institute
CEOt	CEO Roundtable of Tanzania
NbS	Nature based Solutions
MSP	Multi-Stakeholder Platform
LRBWB	Lake Rukwa Basin Water Board
RBWB	Rufiji Basin Water Board
WMA	Wildlife Management Area
IWRM	Integrated Water Resource Management
CCRO	Certificates of Customary Right of Occupancy
FM	Forest Manager
FFS	Farmer Field School
CSA	Climate-Smart Agriculture
IGG	Inclusive Green Growth
KSC	Kilombero Sugar Company
KOCD	Kilombero Organization for Community Development
TFS	Tanzania Forest Services Agency
RA	Reforest Africa
AMCOS	Agricultural Marketing Cooperative Society

About SUSTAIN Eco



SUSTAIN-Africa was an IUCN-led initiative implemented from 2014 to 2020 in SAGCOT and the Zambezi Valley in Mozambique. Conceived as a multi-year initiative, SUSTAIN-Africa focused on catalysing climate-resilient development that balances economic growth with ecosystem stewardship and social prosperity. The first phase established a solid foundation of partnerships among businesses, government agencies, local communities, farmer groups, and others in the landscape to deliver on this vision. Building on these networks and the achievements of the initial phase, IUCN initiated a second phase of SUSTAIN-Africa through two complementary programmes: SUSTAIN Eco and SUSTAIN Pro—both underpinned by equity and inclusion and both striving to accelerate a shift from business-as-usual to development paradigms that build resilience in economies, people, and nature. While SUSTAIN Eco emphasises the need to protect and restore ecosystems to secure the services needed for sustainable livelihoods, including agricultural production, SUSTAIN Pro focuses on making agriculture more sustainable.



SUSTAIN Eco aims to enable healthy ecosystems and prosperous communities in Tanzania by improving governance and rights, strengthening sustainable management practices and catalysing investment in the protection and restoration of biodiversity and ecosystems. The delivery strategy encompasses: (i) strengthening coordination amongst governance structures for sustainable and inclusive management of natural

resources; (ii) integrating landscape management to improve ecosystem health and generating inclusive business and livelihood opportunities and (iii) investing in the protection and restoration of ecosystems and their services to strengthen climate resilience for people and ecosystems. The programme is being implemented in two landscapes in Tanzania, Sumbawanga and Kilombero. Sumbawanga landscape covers Tanganyika District, Mpimbwe District, Sumbawanga District, Nkasi District, Mpanda district, and Kilombero landscape covers Kilosa District, Mlimba district, Ifakara and part of Kilolo district.



SUSTAIN Pro a sister programme to SUSTAIN Eco, aims to support sustainable food systems and healthy productive landscapes in Mozambique and Tanzania. The programme has been designed as a 10-year initiative with an operational plan for the first three years from 2022 to 2024. The delivery strategy encompasses: (i) upscaling solutions for sustainable agricultural production; (ii) restoring land health through multi-stakeholder partnerships, and (iii) investing in sustainable and inclusive value chains to drive systemic change. The programme will be implemented in SAGCOT and the Beira Agricultural Growth Corridor in Mozambique.

Together, SUSTAIN Eco and Pro form the continuation of SUSTAIN-Africa, building on its successes and learning from the challenges that were encountered during the first five years of the programme. The geographical footprint and partnerships established in the first phase of SUSTAIN make up the lion's share of interventions in these two complementary programmes, ensuring continuity and aiming at long-term sustainability.

Executive Summary

In 2023, the SUSTAIN Eco programme continued its efforts across the Sumbawanga and Kilombero landscapes in Tanzania, emphasising sustainable ecosystem management and inclusive growth. Throughout the year, the programme integrated sustainable agricultural practices, supported local governance, and strengthened community engagement, which are crucial for promoting sustainable development and building climate resilience.

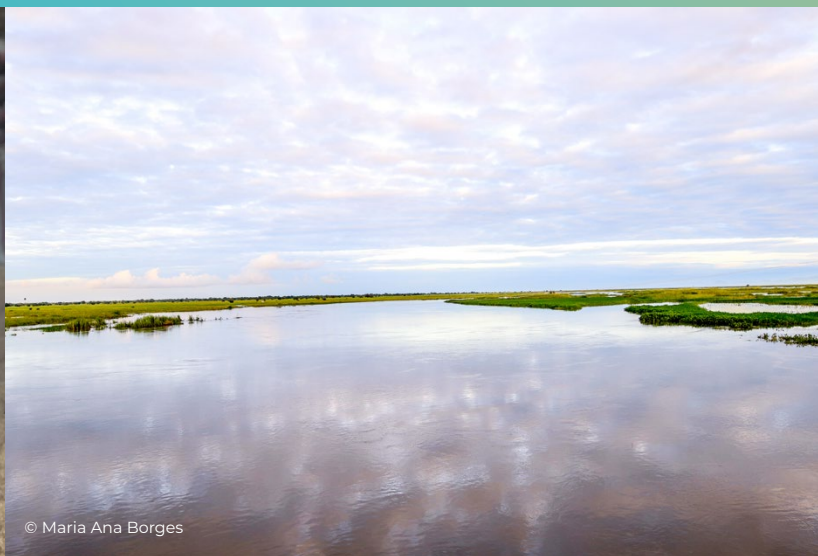
Key activities included the revitalisation and establishment of governance structures such as Village Natural Resource Committees (VNRCs) and Water User Associations (WUAs), which have been important in enhancing local capabilities in sustainable water and resource management. In Sumbawanga, progress was made with 12 VNRCs established across 20 villages, and training provided to 203 members on environmental bylaws and natural resource management. Additionally, the programme focused on protecting ecosystems through baseline surveys and spring assessments, enriching the programme's database with crucial information on hydrology, biodiversity, and land use.

In Kilombero, SUSTAIN Eco advanced conservation and community engagement, securing 19,831 hectares for sustainable land management through the creation of three Village Land Use Plans (VLUPs). The establishment of

31 nurseries further supported conservation efforts, alongside the initiation of a WUA that promotes sustainable water management practices across 15 villages. Community empowerment was key in SUSTAIN Eco activities, with training programmes on wildlife law enforcement, ecological monitoring, and conservation laws empowering local communities to manage and protect natural resources effectively.

The combined efforts of implementing partners, including strategic engagements with key stakeholders like local government authorities and sectoral ministries, have ensured that conservation efforts are both scalable and sustainable. The commitment to Nature-based Solutions and a detailed Monitoring, Evaluation, and Learning (MEL) strategy have enabled effective management and coordination of the SUSTAIN Eco programme across multiple landscapes.

The achievements of 2023 provide a strong foundation for continued efforts to enhance ecosystem health, promote sustainable agriculture, and foster inclusive economic growth. SUSTAIN Eco will continue to refine MEL activities based on lessons learned, enhance stakeholder engagement, and integrate innovative practices such as NbS to achieve the programme's objectives and support sustainable development across the region.



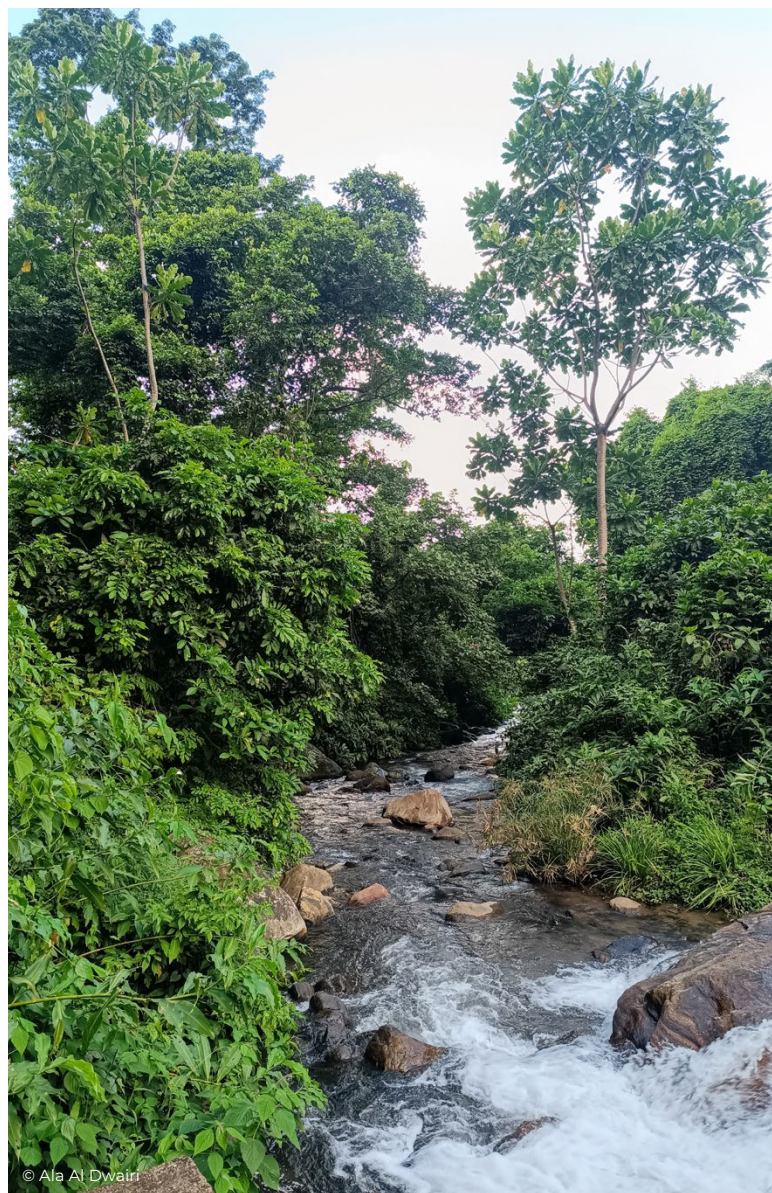
Recap of the inception phase

The Inception Phase of SUSTAIN Eco (January - July 2023) was aimed at establishing a solid foundation for the project, focusing on setting up governance structures, engaging stakeholders, and aligning project activities for effective implementation. Key objectives included mobilising landscape and corridor stakeholders, setting up a programme governance structure, and gathering and analysing baseline information to maximise synergies between existing and new initiatives. This phase also involved finalising operational and MEL plans. Achievements during this period included the execution of partner-led work plans, the establishment of basic project management infrastructure, and capacity building on MEL and environmental and social management safeguards. Two major events, the inception workshop and project launch in the Mbeya region, facilitated national-level stakeholder engagement and provided a platform for presenting operational plans and receiving feedback.

Furthermore, landscape-level technical inception meetings in Sumbawanga and Kilombero were critical in identifying stakeholders, generating project awareness, and securing institutional and political support, which are essential for the project's long-term success and sustainability. These meetings helped to prioritise needs and establish the groundwork for subsequent project activities. During the inception phase of SUSTAIN Eco, the selection of clusters and landscapes was strategically undertaken within the SAGCOT, focusing on the Kilombero and Sumbawanga clusters. These areas, previously part of SUSTAIN-Africa phase 1, are crucial due to their dual role in development and conservation, heightened by the impacts of climate change and land use changes that affect essential crop production and water availability in the Lake Rukwa and Rufiji River basins. The selection process involved extensive field

visits, stakeholder meetings at various levels, and detailed baseline assessments to identify ecological zones and conservation priorities. This careful selection, guided by specific criteria such as conservation value, environmental degradation, and community engagement in resource management, aimed to target areas most in need of intervention.

For more details, see the [inception phase report](#) and refer to Table 1 in that report for the final list of selected wards.



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Progress Highlights

SUSTAIN Eco: A Story of Collaboration and Conservation

(1) Engaging Communities and Protecting Ecosystems in Sumbawanga:

In the landscape of Sumbawanga, SUSTAIN Eco led efforts to deepen our understanding of ecosystems by conducting additional baseline surveys and spring assessments, which contributed to enriching the programme's database with information on hydrology, biodiversity, and land use. These insights also helped ensure that the strategic development of the 2023 and 2024 annual work plans was grounded on solid data to help address stakeholder needs. The main achievements

in the current reporting period include (i) establishing 12 VNRCs across 20 villages, (ii) training 203 members across VNRCs, VLUM Committees, and village leaders on environmental bylaws and natural resource management, (iii) revitalising Msaginya WUA, which was re-registered and capacitated after six years of inactivity, and (iv) developing annual work plans for three river sub-catchments; mainly, Katuma, Msaginya, and Mpanda. These achievements within the first year of SUSTAIN Eco embody our commitment to sustainable water management, promising a better future for Lake Rukwa Basin communities.

Sumbawanga in numbers



VNRCs newly established

12 across 20 villages



Training on environmental bylaws & NRM

203 people (133M, 70F)



Enhanced governance and management of river catchments

1 WUA revitalised and 3 workplans for river sub-catchments developed

Sumbawanga Landscape Summary

The Sumbawanga landscape, spanning the area between Lakes Rukwa and Tanganyika, is a biodiverse region with an important network of protected areas and wildlife corridors. Its ecological integrity supports the livelihoods of local communities through agriculture, fishing, and tourism. Despite its low population density, recent infrastructure improvements have increased access, leading to pressures on natural resources and potential conflicts over land use. Ongoing initiatives aim to enhance natural resource management and promote systemic change trajectories as well as building trust and understanding among natural resource users and the public sector responsible for resource management (e.g., deliver scalable impacts on social inclusion and green investment in various value chains, including rice, maize, sunflower, and other commodities) in Rukwa and Katavi regions.



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(2) Integrated Conservation and Community Development in Kilombero:

In Kilombero, SUSTAIN Eco's focused efforts on conservation and community engagement have advanced sustainable land and resource management. The creation of three VLUPs has secured 19,831 hectares for sustainable land management. Additionally, the initiation of a WUA in the Vidunda sub-catchment, covering 15 villages, has helped promote sustainable water management practices across four wards. SUSTAIN Eco has also made progress on research and development through the establishment of a cocoa research farm at TARI—a centre of excellence for cocoa research in Tanzania. This initiative connects 203 cocoa farmers to enhance agricultural practices and sustainability. The conservation efforts are further supported by 31 newly established nurseries for natural and agroforestry trees in the Vidunda and Mngeta sub-catchments, reinforcing the landscape's ecological resilience.

Community empowerment is central to SUSTAIN Eco's strategy, with the Kilombero team running training programmes on wildlife law enforcement, CyberTracker for ecological monitoring, and conservation laws for 85

community members to effectively manage and protect natural resources. An additional 182 individuals across various committees were empowered to enforce village bylaws and sustain conservation practices through multiple training sessions. Economic integration has also been a priority, with 110 individuals receiving entrepreneurship training and the formation of six beekeeping groups, which have been provided with 60 beehives, fostering economic opportunities while promoting ecological stewardship. To strengthen sustainable agriculture practices, 526 members of cane cooperatives were trained in agrochemical waste management, and extensive agricultural advisory services were provided to 2,020 farmers, ensuring environmentally responsible farming practices.

SUSTAIN Eco has also placed emphasis on community engagement to raise conservation awareness, including through co-organising the ILUMA conservation fun run which attracted over 500 participants. Additionally, through engagement with two national-level stations and two local radio stations, SUSTAIN Eco has expanded its reach by producing 16 radio episodes reaching 184,425 listeners to raise awareness and support for the region's sustainable development.

Kilombero in numbers

	VLUPs created	3 plans placing 19,831 hectares under sustainable management
	WUA established	1 covering 15 villages
	R&D on cocoa and training to enhance law enforcement and support conservation and restoration efforts	580 (386 M, 194 F) farmers, local government representatives, and community members trained
	Native species nurseries established	31
	Advisory services and training to farmers on sustainable agriculture and waste management	2,546 (1569 M, 977 F) trained on sustainable agriculture
	Outreach & awareness raising	184,425 people reached through radio programmes

Kilombero Landscape Summary

The Kilombero Valley, enclosed by major conservation areas including the Selous Game Reserve and Udzungwa Mountains, is a fertile region known for its agricultural productivity and biodiversity. The landscape supports a range of ecosystems and wildlife, including a significant portion of the world's Puku antelope population. The Kilombero Valley Floodplain is one of the largest wetlands in Africa and a designated Ramsar Site due to its importance as a freshwater ecosystem. However, Kilombero faces challenges from agricultural expansion and land use changes, leading to habitat degradation and water management issues. Efforts are underway to implement climate-smart agricultural practices (mainly in the Morogoro Region, encompassing the district of Kilosa, the District Council of Mlimba, and Ifakara Town Council), and improve governance and resource management to enhance local and downstream ecosystem health.



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(3) Unified Efforts for Ecosystem Stewardship:

Throughout SUSTAIN Eco implementation, joint efforts of the partners have been essential in driving the adoption of ecosystem stewardship across the Kilombero and Sumbawanga landscapes. Strategic engagements have involved stakeholders like Local Government Authorities, the Ministry of Agriculture, the Ministry of Water, SAGCOT, and CEOrt, which brings together private and public sector leaders from manufacturing, finance, and agriculture to foster sustainable and inclusive management of natural resources. These interactions are integral to aligning the learning of SUSTAIN Eco with national level strategies, ensuring that conservation efforts are both scalable and sustainable.

A focus on NbS remains a priority, with initial awareness sessions already conducted in the Sumbawanga landscape. These sessions have

engaged participants in understanding NbS and identifying potential initiatives for broader implementation. The commitment to NbS is accompanied by a detailed MEL strategy to capture the interventions' impact. This MEL strategy, along with a comprehensive communications strategy and a gender and youth action plan, enables the effective management and coordination of the SUSTAIN Eco programme across multiple landscapes.

As SUSTAIN Eco progresses, the role of partners will continue help to bridge efforts and amplify impacts at corridor level, ensuring that conservation and community empowerment are aligned with national frameworks. This collaborative approach not only enhances local conservation efforts but also supports sustainable development throughout the region, aiming to achieve significant improvements in biodiversity conservation and community livelihoods.



Progress against outcomes and outputs

Outcome 1 – Coordination strengthened amongst governance structures for sustainable and inclusive management of natural resources

Outcome 1 summary: This outcome focuses on strengthening the integration between governance structures and institutions responsible for natural resource planning and management. It also continues to engage with local governance processes, such as WUAs and VLUCs. Additionally, through delivering this outcome, SUSTAIN Eco will invest in MSPs to facilitate dialogue and collaboration among various stakeholders. One key goal of

Outcome 1 is to strengthen the connection between dialogue and action, ensuring that discussions lead to concrete steps and solutions. Moreover, it aims to create platforms that are genuinely inclusive, ensuring that all relevant parties have a voice in decision-making processes. To ensure the sustainability of actions taken, Outcome 1 emphasises ongoing engagement with and influence over relevant governance structures at different levels. This approach aims to embed learning and sustainable practices into these institutions and networks, moving away from one-off engagements and towards long-term, impactful change.

Output	Summary Deliverables
<p>1.1</p> <p>Integration fostered between local governance structures for natural resources (water, land, forests)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Conducted detailed stakeholder mapping through baseline assessments and consultations, creating a comprehensive stakeholder matrix to clarify engagement strategies. Reinforced relationships with local and national governance entities, including VNRCs and the National Land Use Planning Commission. Led targeted capacity-building initiatives for water resource management with local institutions, enhancing governance and operational efficiency. Revitalised and supported WUAs, facilitating constitutional revisions and the development of governance-aligned annual action plans. Developed and implemented integrated resource management plans, incorporating community interests and conservation priorities into local governance frameworks.
<p>1.2</p> <p>Equitable and balanced participation and leadership by women and men in public and private natural resource governing bodies</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Conducted needs assessments to identify gaps in land tenure security and engaged with district officials to streamline the CCRO process and increase awareness, with a strategic focus on encouraging participation from underrepresented groups such as single, widowed, and divorced women. Successfully developed VLUPs for Vidunda, Chonwe, and Udung’hu villages, integrating the needs and priorities of 13,628 residents through inclusive community involvement in the land use planning process.
<p>1.3</p> <p>Coordination across multiple levels of governance ensures coherent natural resource planning and management as well as equitable sharing of benefits</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Conducted trainings on water resources management in collaboration with LRBWB and on law enforcement and biodiversity monitoring in the Morogoro Region. Provided technical support to village governments and committees in Kilosa District to develop land use plans that integrate local community needs with regional and district planning objectives. Collaborated with RBWB and local councils to establish a WUA in the Vidunda sub-catchment, promoting participatory management and coordination of water resource activities.

During the past year, AWF, SNV, and IUCN have advanced stakeholder engagement and capacity building across local governance structures, progressed towards promoting equitable and balanced participation of women and men in natural resource governing bodies, and strengthened coordination across various levels of governance to ensure coherent natural resource planning and management, as well as equitable sharing of benefits in the Kilombero and Sumbawanga landscapes.

In Kilombero landscape, as part of inception activities, SUSTAIN Eco partners held a series of consultative meetings to align SUSTAIN Eco's activities with the environmental and political needs of the Vidunda sub-catchment and ILUMA-WMA. SUSTAIN Eco contributed to strengthening local governance processes through providing training on policy, guidelines, and bylaw implementation to several groups involved in NRM and village management (e.g., VLUM, VNRC, WUA), including village leaders and community members; in total, 182 individuals (105M, 77F) were trained. Further training, which focused on promoting coherence and collaboration in NRM throughout the region, attracted 90 participants (47M, 43F). In addition to training different NRM governance structures, SUSTAIN Eco facilitated the development of three VLUPs for Vidunda, Chonwe, and Udung'hu villages, covering 19,831 hectares. These plans were shaped through community participation, ensuring that the management of natural resources is inclusive and aligns with local needs and conservation priorities, thereby supporting integrated NRM. Further support was provided through the development of VLUPs in Kilosa District, backed by regional and district-level collaborations, aligning with broader regional objectives. Through a collaborative effort with the RBWB, a new WUA was established in the Vidunda sub-catchment, highlighting the importance of participatory processes in enhancing local water resource management coordination.

In Sumbawanga landscape, SUSTAIN Eco has advanced NRM by strengthening stakeholder capacity and promoting good governance. Detailed stakeholder mapping at both national and landscape levels was completed. Capacity-building activities included a learning event on Equitable Water Resources Management for partners such as the LRBWB and Tanganyika District Council, focusing on IWRM. Furthermore, the Msaginya WUA was revived with SUSTAIN Eco support through a constitutional review and re-registration. This initiative was complemented by the development of annual action plans for the Msaginya, Mpanda, and Katuma WUAs, with training provided to 45 members (34M, 11F) on plan development and execution. Utilising insights from the stakeholder matrix, SUSTAIN Eco facilitated multi-stakeholder dialogues, engaging 70 participants (55M, 15F) in workshops that addressed critical environmental challenges and promoted joint learning and accountability. These workshops precede the selection and implementation of NbS in the landscape. A workshop further supported this initiative, introducing NbS to key stakeholders.

Additionally, a needs assessment was carried out in Mshani, Kasisi, and Mnyamasi villages to tackle the challenges in securing CCROs and enhancing user rights awareness. Despite bureaucratic challenges and low awareness levels about CCROs—particularly among women—SUSTAIN Eco initiated dialogues with district officers to streamline the CCRO process, emphasising the need for greater female inclusion in future efforts. Lastly, in collaboration with the LRBWB, SUSTAIN Eco facilitated a refresher training on equitable water resources management for WUA leaders and local governance officials in the Msaginya, Mpanda, and Katuma sub-catchments, involving 54 participants (31M, 23F) and covering vital topics such as sub-catchment protection and water permitting processes.

Outcome 1 Summary & learning:

Throughout the past year, the collaborative efforts of AWF, IUCN, and SNV under SUSTAIN Eco have significantly strengthened coordination amongst local governance structures across the Kilombero and Sumbawanga landscapes, contributing to the core objectives of Outcome 1. By integrating community insights into natural resource planning, facilitating equitable participation in governance, and enhancing multi-level coordination, these activities have created multi-stakeholder platforms for dialogue and action. These platforms not only ensure inclusivity and sustainability but also systematically foster long-term, impactful changes in NRM, aligning closely with both community needs and conservation priorities.



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Outcome 2 – Integrated landscape management improves ecosystem health and generates inclusive business and livelihood opportunities, especially for women, youth, and vulnerable groups

Outcome 2 summary: This outcome focuses on contributing to a long-term transition towards a climate-resilient economy by altering behaviours within the landscapes where the SUSTAIN initiative operates and amongst key stakeholders who have the power to

influence land and water management decisions. The key objective is to enhance the capacity of these stakeholders by improving their knowledge, practices, and access to technologies, thereby promoting sustainable land, water, and business management practices. The adoption of Integrated Landscape Management (ILM) approaches and the deployment of Nature-based Solutions (NbS) are central elements of SUSTAIN's vision, engaging both the Pro and Eco programmes to achieve scale and impact.

Output	Summary Deliverables
2.1 Implementation, enforcement and compliance with land use, biodiversity and environmental-related laws and regulations	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Established and trained 12 VNRCs, 3 VLUMs, 3 FMs, and 12 village leaders in collaboration with district councils, focusing on environmental laws and resource management guidelines. In partnership with the RBWB, the Vidunda sub-catchment WUA was established, enhancing water resource management across 4 wards and 15 villages.
2.2 Capacity and awareness of farmers and rural communities, especially women and youth, strengthened for sustainable land, water and business management	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Effectively established Farmer Field Schools (FFSs) across 17 villages, provided agricultural advisory and extension services to 2,020 farmers (1,212M, 808F), and trained 10 ward extension officers and 5 district agriculture officers on Climate-Smart Agriculture (CSA) practices and sustainable resource management, involving key crops like maize, paddy, sunflower, sugarcane, and cocoa. Enhanced community participation and awareness of sustainable land, water, and business management practices through innovative communication strategies, including a radio programme that reached 184,425 listeners and interactive sessions that received extensive community feedback via calls and SMS.
2.3 Environmental and social management standards and practices adopted by businesses and their associations	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Agro-chemical waste management training: Implemented training for 526 cooperative members, established 17 new waste collection centres (Kizimba), and enhanced agro-chemical waste management practices. Ongoing collaboration with SAGCOT to integrate and monitor the Inclusive Green Growth (IGG) toolkit, reviewing and providing feedback to ensure it incorporates Nature-based Solutions (NbS) that foster sustainable practices among cooperatives and businesses.

SUSTAIN Eco improved the implementation, enforcement, and compliance with land use, biodiversity, and environmental-related laws and regulations, invested in building the capacity and awareness of farmers, especially women and youth, for sustainable land, water, and business management, and made significant advancements in enhancing environmental and social management practices within agribusiness sectors, particularly in the management of agro-chemical waste across the targeted landscapes.

In Kilombero landscape, SUSTAIN Eco played a crucial role in strengthening local capacities for Natural Resource Management (NRM). This included the formulation and enforcement of bylaws in Vidunda, Udun'ghu, and Chonwe villages, coupled with targeted training for VLUM Committees, VNRCs, and WUAs. A significant achievement was the establishment of a new WUA in the Vidunda sub-catchment, now managing water resources for 15 villages. Agricultural advisory and extension services were also

provided to 2,020 farmers, promoting Climate-Smart Agriculture (CSA) practices through demonstration plots for sugarcane and cocoa. Additionally, a radio programme was launched, reaching 184,425 listeners across multiple regions, to promote sustainable practices and engage the community through interactive discussions and feedback via SMS. Furthermore, SUSTAIN Eco collaborated with SAGCOT and KSC to conduct agro-chemical waste management training for 526 leaders and farmers from 17 cane cooperatives in Kilombero and Kilosa District Councils. This initiative led to the establishment of 17 waste collection centres and the distribution of 18 laptops to enhance record-keeping and compliance with government regulations. Simultaneously, the SUSTAIN Eco team has been contributing to the implementation and monitoring of the Inclusive Green Growth (IGG) toolkit with cooperatives and businesses. This work focuses on integrating Nature-based Solutions (NbS) into district development plans, encouraging sustainable business practices, and refining the toolkit in collaboration with SAGCOT to enhance its effectiveness.

In Sumbawanga landscape, SUSTAIN Eco has effectively collaborated with district councils to establish and enhance local capacities in environmental governance. This effort led to the creation and training of 12 VNRCs, 3 VLUM Committees, 3 FMs, and 12 village leaders. These training sessions, which covered environmental laws and natural resource management guidelines, included 203 participants (133M, 70F). To address the challenge of low turnout during the agricultural season, some actions included targeted outreach to increase female participation and rescheduling sessions to ensure broader involvement. Additionally, priority was placed on establishing FFS and demonstration plots in 17 villages. An intensive four-day training was provided to government extension officers on managing these FFS, with a focus on good agricultural practices for crops such as maize, paddy, and sunflower. This initiative aims to boost agricultural productivity through the adoption of climate-smart techniques, fostering sustainable farming practices across the landscape.

Outcome 2 summary and learning:

Over the past year, the combined initiatives of AWF, SNV, and IUCN under SUSTAIN Eco have advanced Integrated Landscape Management (ILM) across the Kilombero and Sumbawanga landscapes, in alignment with the goals of Outcome 2. These efforts have focused on enhancing local capacities for sustainable resource management and promoting inclusive business and livelihood opportunities, especially for women, youth, and vulnerable groups. Through the implementation of targeted training, the establishment and strengthening of governance structures, and the deployment of Nature-based Solutions (NbS), SUSTAIN Eco has influenced land and water management practices. This approach not only contributes to a climate-resilient economy but also ensures that local actions are progressively integrated with global environmental goals.

Outcome 3 – Investment in the protection and restoration of ecosystems and their services strengthens climate resilience for people and ecosystems

Outcome 3 summary: This outcome focuses on the shift from traditional development approaches to climate-resilient ones by

emphasising greener and more inclusive investments. The programme aims to strengthen the connection between biodiversity data, Nature-based Solutions (NbS), and decision-making processes. Its goal is to make a compelling case for investing in ecosystems and attract innovative financing to support their protection and restoration.

Output	Summary Deliverables
3.1 Improved biodiversity data drives decisions for conservation management and contributes to ecosystem connectivity	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Conducted assessments of 6 springs in the Katavi region to determine water quality and ecological state, leading to the development of targeted conservation actions within the Msaginya and Mpanda river sub-catchments. Delivered a biodiversity monitoring system training on using CyberTracker software, training 50 VGS to collect and visualise data that enhances conservation management and ecosystem connectivity.
3.2 Nature-based solutions (including restoration) deployed to enhance ecosystem functioning and climate-resilient livelihoods	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Established 31 nurseries and raised over 221,010 seedlings, involving community participation in the Vidunda sub-catchment to enhance forest cover and ecosystem connectivity. Coordinated an “Environmental Day” in collaboration with multiple partners including TFS, SAGCOT, RA, KOCD, and others, attracting 650 local participants. Conducted targeted training for 28 stakeholders in the Sumbawanga landscape, focusing on integrating NbS such as water source protection, wildlife conservation, and landscape financing into policy and practice, promoting sustainable development and ecological stewardship across the regions.
3.3 Innovative financing streams available for conservation and restoration of ecosystems and their services	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> To initiate in 2024. A preliminary result includes a young entrepreneur who, following a training on sustainable entrepreneurship, secured a loan for cocoa farming.

In 2023, SUSTAIN Eco strengthened biodiversity data collection and its application to conservation management decisions, initiated engagement with stakeholders to select Nature-based Solutions (NbS) to enhance ecosystem health, and delivered capacity-building training to enhance entrepreneurship and uptake of agroforestry activities to diversify the market and enhance livelihoods. These initiatives have facilitated improved management practices and strategic capacity building among farmers, particularly women and youth, across the Sumbawanga and Kilombero landscapes, ensuring sustainable land, water, and business management.

In Kilombero landscape, SUSTAIN Eco strengthened biodiversity conservation and sustainable land management by delivering training to 50 Village Game Scouts (VGS) (41M, 9F) on using the CyberTracker software. This work has helped enhance the reliability of biodiversity data crucial for conservation management and inform regional and district strategies, which in turn contributes to coordination across various governance levels for effective natural resource management. Additionally, the project's efforts have led to the establishment of 31 nurseries, raising 221,010 seedlings for forest and landscape restoration in the Vidunda sub-catchment. This work involved 614 community members

and contributed to increased forest cover and ecosystem connectivity. An Environmental Day was also organised, engaging 650 participants, and using media coverage to elevate public conservation awareness. Alongside this work, SUSTAIN Eco supported agroforestry and conservation enterprise development by connecting 203 cocoa farmers with research on sustainable practices and enabling the conversion of 101 farms into agroforestry farms. These actions are part of broader initiatives to integrate sustainable practices into local and regional governance frameworks. Noteworthy activities have included co-organising the Iluma fun run and co-hosting the Kilombero Sugarcane Farmers' Day, both aimed at facilitating knowledge transfer within the sugarcane value chain. Moreover, SUSTAIN Eco made progress on entrepreneurial development, training 110 beneficiaries (70M, 40F) in entrepreneurship skills, business network creation, and financial management. One entrepreneur secured a 3,000,000 TZS (approximately 1,200 USD) loan for cocoa

farming. These activities, built on the establishment of public-private partnerships, lay the foundation for the sustainable financing initiatives set to start in 2024.

In Sumbawanga landscape, collaboration with the Lake Rukwa Basin Water Board (LRBWB) to conduct assessments of 6 springs in the Katavi region, focused on water quality and ecological health, highlighted the need for specific restoration actions. As a result, public awareness campaigns were launched to enforce the 60m buffer zone, tree planting on riverbanks was initiated, and beacons to clearly demarcate water sources were installed. Complementing these efforts, NbS training was delivered, engaging 28 stakeholders from various district councils. The training explored sustainable initiatives like water source restoration and the integration of carbon credits trading, aiming to embed these practices into local and regional governance frameworks.

Outcome 3 summary & learning:

Throughout 2023, SUSTAIN Eco has successfully implemented initiatives that reinforce the core aims of Outcome 3 across the Kilombero and Sumbawanga landscapes. The focus has been on enhancing biodiversity data collection to support informed conservation management decisions, promoting ecosystem health through Nature-based Solutions (NbS), and pursuing innovative financing mechanisms to facilitate ecosystem restoration. These efforts have been crucial in integrating sustainable management practices across land, water, and business sectors, particularly benefiting women and youth. By fostering climate resilience and encouraging greener, more inclusive investments, SUSTAIN Eco is working towards building a case for investment in ecosystem conservation, ensuring that conservation efforts are both impactful and aligned with the broader goals of ecological and community sustainability.

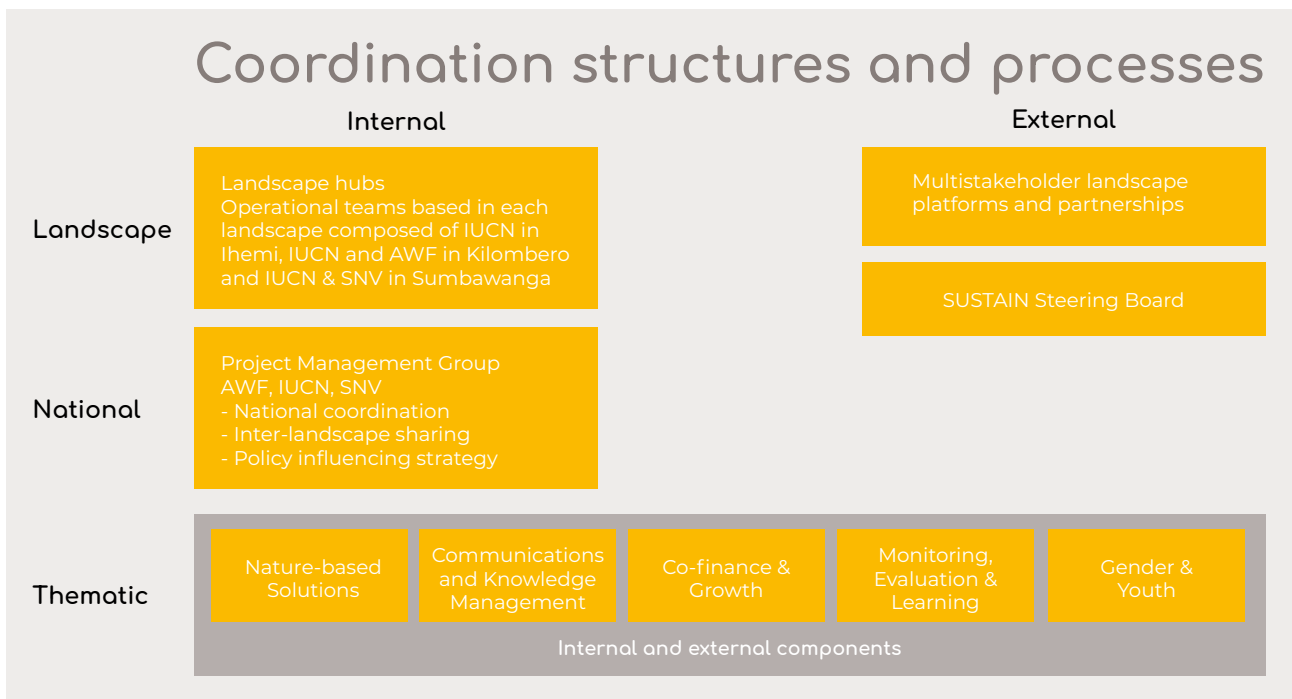
Overview of governance structure

Progress on Project Management Arrangements

In order to ensure coordination and synergies between SUSTAIN Eco partners as well as integration of activities and results with SUSTAIN Pro, a management structure for the SUSTAIN initiative has been put in place (see Figure 1). This structure encompasses landscape, national, and thematic engagements between the partners and projects. At the landscape level, landscape hubs have been set up, bringing together execution teams, composed of IUCN and AWF in Kilombero, and IUCN and SNV in Sumbawanga, to anchor the project's activities. These hubs also facilitate multi-stakeholder engagement through landscape platforms and partnerships, enhancing

communication and collaboration across different stakeholders externally. Thematic engagements under the partnership serve to strengthen cohesion in delivery, programme sustainability, and messaging by the partners. The thematic areas include nature-based solutions, communications and knowledge management, co-finance and growth, monitoring, evaluation, and learning, and gender and youth. At the national level, the Project Management Group (PMG), comprising AWF, SNV, and IUCN, oversees national coordination, inter-landscape sharing, and policy influencing strategies. This internal management is complemented externally by the SUSTAIN Steering Board, which communicates the initiative's progress and goals to a broader audience.

Figure 1 – Diagrammatic representation of the coordination structures & processes for SUSTAIN.



Programme Steering Board (PSB)

The SUSTAIN Steering Board aims to sustain and institutionalise programme results. It advises the PMG and contributes to embedding programme goals into national

institutions. **Box 1** provides an overview of the responsibilities of the PSB. The PSB is shared between Eco and Pro, and its membership includes the Vice President's Office (VPO); the President's Office Regional Administration and Local Government (PO-RALG);

the SAGCOT Secretariat; Sustainable Agriculture Tanzania (SAT); Shahidi wa Maji (Water Witness); Farmer Apex institution – Mtandao wa Vikundi vya Wakulima Tanzania (MVIWATA); and Tanzania Wildlife

Management Authority (TAWA). There is a total of 7 members (3M, 4F). The advisory board meets semi-annually, with two meetings being planned for 2024.

Box 1: Responsibilities of the Steering board

- Provide strategic advice on the implementation of the initiative and achievement of its aims for greater impact;
- Review progress reports and achievements and initiate follow-up actions on lessons and findings from the initiative;
- Provide a channel through which information about the initiative is made available to relevant stakeholders and processes;
- Commit to establishing a high-level forum for discussion on the use of the information and lessons learned from the initiative;
- Act as Champions for furthering SUSTAIN goals with relevant national and subnational institutions;
- Advise on wider policy issues that might affect SUSTAIN and advise on possible steps to be taken; and
- Liaise with other interested parties to advocate and promote the initiative.



Gender and Youth

Recap on Gender & Youth Initiatives (2022 Summary):

In 2022, SUSTAIN Eco conducted a comprehensive [gender and youth assessment](#) that combined a detailed literature review with stakeholder consultations in both the SUSTAIN Pro and Eco landscapes. The assessment, which concluded in April 2023, highlighted several forms of gender inequality exacerbated by socio-economic factors within the landscapes. The assessment revealed significant gender disparities in access to and control over natural resources, decision-making processes, and socio-economic benefits, emphasising the need for targeted interventions to secure land tenure and increase the participation of women and youth in resource governance. The assessment also

emphasised the prevalence of gender-based violence and the critical lack of gender-disaggregated data which hampers effective gender analysis. To address these findings, a Gender and Youth Action Plan has been drafted to guide the implementation of gender-responsive and youth-inclusive strategies throughout the project. This plan prioritises capacity building, equitable participation in decision-making, and enhanced access to natural and financial resources to improve the socio-economic status of women and youth within the project's scope. The main findings and recommendations of the report are summarised in **Box 2**.

Box 2: Key Findings and Recommendations from the SUSTAIN Gender & Youth Assessment

Findings:

- Significant gender inequalities affect access to and control over natural resources, with women and youth often excluded from decision-making.
- Socio-economic barriers hinder the productivity of women and youth, affecting community prosperity.
- Widespread gender-based violence, underpinned by harmful social norms, restricts women's access to health resources.
- A scarcity of gender-disaggregated data hampers effective policy and intervention strategies.

Recommendations:

- SUSTAIN should implement gender-transformative measures that enhance women's roles in resource management and ensure inclusive community participation.
- Increase women and youth's involvement in decision-making by making events accessible and integrating diverse community members into teams.
- Support women and youth in developing nature-based livelihoods and increase their access to financial and educational resources.
- Educate communities on legal rights and gender equality and strengthen support networks for combating gender-based violence.
- Emphasise the collection and analysis of sex-disaggregated data to guide programme strategies and assess impacts on gender dynamics and community outcomes.

In 2023, SUSTAIN Eco prioritised advancing gender and youth inclusivity across its project landscapes, guided by a refined [gender and youth action plan](#). This plan, finalised and adopted by partners, has catalysed actions to integrate gender perspectives into the project's activities, promoting equitable participation among community members. To ensure integration efforts, action plans and training sessions on gender responsiveness were delivered with support from the programme's gender and youth focal point. These initiatives aim to rectify inequalities and ensure balanced participation in all programme events, striving towards a 50:50 gender representation in leadership roles within natural resources management committees and farmer organisations. Despite patriarchal cultural norms in some areas, SUSTAIN Eco's efforts are paving the way for more inclusive

community engagement, particularly empowering women and youth. Upcoming elections for Agricultural Marketing Co-operative Societies (AMCOS) in 2024 are seen as an opportunity to boost female and youth representation, with targeted campaigns planned to influence community and stakeholder perceptions towards more gender-balanced participation.

In Sumbawanga landscape, specific measures were implemented to enhance women's participation in training and events by selecting accessible venues and scheduling sessions outside peak farming periods, making it easier for women, especially those who are widowed, divorced, or unmarried, to attend. Furthermore, explicit inclusion criteria have been included within community agreements to ensure a set number of female participants in leadership and decision-making bodies, promoting a more gender-inclusive governance structure. **In Kilombero landscape**, focus was placed on embedding inclusion within its conservation and community engagement efforts, particularly targeting women's active participation. Recognising the challenges posed by predominantly male leadership and land ownership patterns that disadvantage women in agricultural and conservation activities, training and community meetings have been adapted to be more accessible and relevant to women. Initiatives such as radio shows on land tenure and women's rights, and practical training sessions have been particularly effective. The ILUMA run and other community activities have also seen increased female participation due to these adjustments.

Overall, SUSTAIN Eco's gender and youth initiatives in 2023 have reinforced the importance of targeted, culturally sensitive interventions to enhance gender equity and youth involvement in conservation and natural resource management. These efforts are crucial for achieving long-term sustainability and resilience in the project's landscapes, fostering an environment where all community members can contribute to and benefit from sustainable practices.



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Knowledge management & communications

Table 1 provides further details on assessment, knowledge products and stories during 2023. Since the inception of the project, the communications and knowledge management strategy was finalised, and training to boost programme communications was conducted for project staff from IUCN, SNV, and AWF. Furthermore, SUSTAIN Eco's visibility was enhanced through social media platforms, such as X (formerly Twitter) and LinkedIn. The project flyer has also been distributed at SUSTAIN and partner events to inform stakeholders about project activities and achievements. A project banner was also created for consistent visibility across various events.

In Kilombero, knowledge-sharing and awareness-raising initiatives took place, with the technical inception events involving media engagement and distribution of photos through platforms like Yammer and radio programmes on Pambazuko Radio for wider outreach. Another communications feature initiated in 2023 were "human-focused" stories, with AWF publishing an article highlighting the work of their Ecohydrologist, which aimed to increase global and local awareness of ecological, water, and community interdependencies. **In Sumbawanga**, SNV focused on enhancing project knowledge through the design and printing of programme banners and briefs, used widely during project

workshops to disseminate critical information. Additionally, professional photographs were taken, and stories developed to enrich programme documentation and outreach materials.

In the upcoming year, SUSTAIN Eco is set to enhance its visibility and stakeholder engagement through strategic communications across all landscapes. At landscape level in Sumbawanga, focus will be on grassroots communications through community assemblies and strengthening partnerships with regional stakeholders through targeted workshops, aiming to foster collaborative expertise. Simultaneously, in Kilombero, radio and television programmes will be broadcast to share best practices in conservation and sustainable agriculture, broadening the scope of awareness and promoting environmentally friendly practices. IUCN will continue to engage with media at national level and use social media for enhanced outreach to regional and global audiences, sharing learning from SUSTAIN more broadly. A new SUSTAIN website will also be launched in 2024, as repository of knowledge and stories from the programme. These combined efforts are designed to amplify SUSTAIN Eco's reach and effectiveness in promoting sustainable landscape management and engaging diverse stakeholders at both local and national levels.

Table 1. Assessments, knowledge products and stories in 2023.

Title of assessment, knowledge product, story	Purpose (ID outcome to which it contributes)	Methodology	Status/ completion date	URL link
Inception events in Tanzania	National launch and inception meeting	Inception launch	May 2023	IUCN website National launch photos
Landscape-level inception meetings	Sumbawanga landscape technical inception meeting	Landscape level launch	May 2023	SNV Facebook page
Landscape-level inception meetings	Kilombero landscape technical inception meeting	Landscape level launch	May 2023	Kilombero technical inception ITV news – Kilombero technical inception (from minute 32:35 onwards)
Media engagement – Tadio Radio	Sweden’s 10 billion shillings to protect the environment	Article	June 2023	Pambazuko FM Radio
Article on AWF’s social media	Globally and local awareness on the link between ecology, water, and community activities	Article	August 2023	Story on AWF’s website
Natural resources governance and capacity need assessment	Baseline assessment	Focus group discussion, field visits, interviews	-	Report
Land use/ cover and deforestation analysis for Vidunda Water Catchment areas	Baseline information for outcome 3 to support the investment in the protection and restoration of ecosystems	Land use /cover open access data analysis, Excel, GIS	Completed	Report/maps
Kilombero farmers push for new path to sustainable agriculture	Update on the project status and activities	Story	December 2023	IUCN Website
DC Kilombero: Focus on proper use and conserve the environment	Awareness raising	Story	-	Pambazuko FM Radio
Series of radio episodes (10 in total) covering the work of SUSTAIN	Awareness raising	Radio	-	-

SUSTAIN Eco Launch in Ifakara	Technical launch	Photos	June 2023	Photos
Communications strategy	Programme management	Strategy	November 2023	-
Gender and youth assessment	Programme management	Assessment	April 2023	Report
Gender and youth action plan	Programme management	Action plan	October 2023	Plan
Assessment of the status of Mwali, Kasula, Utobe, Itunya, Siula, Kiji springs	Baseline information/data	Assessment	January 2024	Report
Extended baseline assessment for Sumbawanga landscape	Data on the status of Biodiversity and Ecosystems	Assessment	-	Report
Capacity needs assessment	Inception phase activities		September 2023	

Monitoring, Evaluation & Learning

Throughout the reporting period, advancements were made in the Monitoring, Evaluation, and Learning (MEL) activities under SUSTAIN Eco, with collaborative efforts from IUCN, SNV, and AWF to enhance the programme's effectiveness and impact measurement. The main MEL activities that took place during the reporting period include:

- 1. MEL Plan and Indicator Validation:** the MEL plan was reviewed and agreed upon by implementing partners, establishing clarity on responsibilities for each of the 22 streamlined indicators. The plan emphasises equitable participation and accurate reporting across all parties involved.
- 2. Capacity Building and Training:** A series of MEL capacity-building workshops were conducted to align the project teams with the updated MEL strategies. These sessions were instrumental in refining the data collection tools and methodologies, ensuring all partners are well-equipped to implement the MEL activities effectively.
- 3. Data Collection and Tools Development:** Robust data collection exercises were carried out, employing newly developed and validated tools integrated into platforms like Kobo Toolbox for efficient data management and analysis. These activities were pivotal in gathering accurate information to inform ongoing and future project actions.
- 4. Database Development:** An Excel-based SUSTAIN database was developed to track progress against indicators through a traffic light system, facilitating easy

assessment and necessary adjustments to project strategies based on real-time data.

- 5. Task Management & MEL supervision mission:** A combined SUSTAIN Eco and Pro mission took place to Kilombero landscape in late 2023 to review progress on implementation and provide recommendations linked to programme coherence and technical guidance. The mission also intended to assess the coherence of activities and delivery within the SUSTAIN Initiative goals (as articulated in the programme's Theory of Change).

Lessons Learned:

- Stakeholder Engagement and Governance:** from SUSTAIN-Africa phase 1, there was a clear need for stronger Multi-Stakeholder Platforms (MSPs), particularly at the governance level. Hence, effective stakeholder engagement, especially with key national authorities like the Ministry of Agriculture and Ministry of Water and Irrigation, is prioritised within SUSTAIN Eco and Pro to ensure the integration of local-level initiatives into broader policy frameworks. This engagement is essential for managing natural resource conflicts and ensuring sustainable programme outcomes.
- Access to market:** based on the baseline assessment of SUSTAIN Eco and previous learnings from SUSTAIN phase 1, nearly all households in the landscapes obtain income from farming (85%), so it is not surprising that farm-related problems are the biggest that households face. The



high price of agricultural inputs (84%), crop pests and disease (77%), and a lack of access to loans to purchase inputs (76%) are the most frequently mentioned problems. There has been a recognised gap in support for smallholder farmers, who face significant challenges in marketing their produce and accessing reliable markets and services. SUSTAIN Eco and Pro in are working towards developing mechanisms to support smallholder farmers, ensuring they have reliable markets, predictable pricing, and access to essential services.

- **Land Tenure and Gender Inequality:** based on the baseline assessments for SUSTAIN Eco, although most of the respondents reported their household owned a piece of land for farming (69% of women and 77% of men). However, despite the high percentage of households with land for farming, official land ownership documentation was less common. Only 47% of respondents reported having such documentation. The situation was particularly low in Sumbawanga, where only 21% of respondents reported having official land ownership documentation. SUSTAIN Eco will assist in enhancing the role of local governments in this process and addressing gender biases in Agricultural Extension Services are

necessary to promote equitable land tenure and empower all farmers, especially women.

- **Innovative and Sustainable Agricultural Practices:** there is a clear need to expand the implementation of sustainable and productive agricultural solutions. The project has begun to implement innovative practices such as the Kizimba structure for recycling chemical containers, but more comprehensive solutions are needed across landscapes. Additionally, during the upcoming year, NbS interventions will be deployed and strengthened to enhance landscape health, ecosystem functioning, and climate-resilient livelihoods.
- **Institutional Management:** the outcomes of the MEL indicators and established communication strategy will be used as the basis to enhance internal communications and coordination among the teams. Aiming to enhance the effectiveness of SUSTAIN Eco's implementation.

The coming periods will see a continuation of these efforts, with a strong focus on refining MEL activities based on the lessons learned, to ensure the SUSTAIN initiative meets its strategic objectives in promoting sustainable ecosystem management.

Looking ahead to 2024

In 2024, the project will build upon the foundational year of 2023, focusing on integrated natural resource management, ecosystem health improvement, and strengthening climate resilience. Goals include implementing joint programmes for governance, improving legal compliance in environmental management, conducting targeted needs assessments, and exploring sustainable financing mechanisms. Alignment with SUSTAIN Pro will be an important aspect of this work to ensure synergies are capitalised and duplication avoided. This will be done in a number of ways, including through implementation of the MEL, gender and youth plans, shared communications and knowledge management strategies as well as joint quarterly and annual workplans.

Under Outcome 1, SUSTAIN Eco will launch joint programmes with local natural resources management committees and hold district-level dialogues to improve governance in protected areas, with a specific emphasis on gender mainstreaming and youth engagement. In Kilombero, we will conduct training and workshops to develop action plans and integrate land use into water management. In Sumbawanga, special focus will be placed on empowering women and youth and coordinating environmental restoration planning.

Under Outcome 2, we will enhance compliance with environmental laws, setting up monitoring teams, and assessing needs for sustainable practices, alongside developing environmentally friendly branding schemes, and promoting sustainable finance principles in banking. Implementation of participatory land use plans and pesticide waste standards will be the focus in Kilombero. While in Sumbawanga, there are plans to raise environmental law awareness, provide technical training in sustainable farming, and establish

Farmer Field Schools to foster agroforestry and climate-smart agriculture.

Under Outcome 3, emphasis will be placed on using the land health index under development to link local and national environmental efforts and prioritise Nature-based Solutions. In Kilombero, support to local water basin authorities will be given on biomonitoring technology, linking farmers to research centres, implement the Integrated Water Resources Management and Development Plan, and revising the Iluma Wildlife Management Area's business plan. In Sumbawanga, we will upscale river health assessment technologies, provide monitoring tools to Water User Associations, support soil stabilisation and forest regeneration, and work on hydrological monitoring and joint forest management plans.



Further Information

-  SUSTAIN website: www.sustaininitiative.org
-  Twitter: twitter.com/IUCN_Water
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