

Grievance mechanism for Dahari project: 'A landscape management model for conserving biodiversity in the Comoro Islands'

Project description

The objectives of this project are:

1. Consolidate a community-led model for landscape management for the Comoros, combining forest and biodiversity protection with agricultural and agroforestry development in 10 villages surrounding the Moya forest KBA in Anjouan, and integrate into national policy and legislation
2. Support over 2000 farmers and thus 10,000 direct beneficiaries to improve their revenues from agriculture and agroforestry
3. At least 400 hectares of forest conserving key ecosystem services notably water provisioning will be put under management, and at least 40 hectares conserving biodiversity hotspots

The project has a community-based approach to forest conservation and will support local communities in the identification and management of key forest areas of importance for protecting water resources and biodiversity.

To manage forests sustainably the project will assist farmers to increase their revenues from agriculture and agroforestry in areas surrounding remaining forest, and to identify important areas for water and biodiversity protection and develop reforestation and management regimes for these areas. The process will include the following steps.

1. Scientific surveys to identify key biodiversity areas, mapping of key water catchments. Inform local communities of the survey results.
2. Raise awareness and facilitate initial consultation in all target villages about the benefits of community-based water catchment management
3. Facilitate the establishment of local water management committees, including encouraging women's representation in the groups.
4. Facilitate the identification of water management areas with the committees
5. Engage farmers in these areas towards reforestation and installation of management regimes for these areas
6. Agree rules and regulations for wood-cutting in these zones between the committees and the farmers, and validate with local mayor's office
7. Reforest the zones from community tree nurseries and support committees and local mayors' offices to monitor application of rules and regulations, including applying sanctions
8. Monitor the implementation and effectiveness of the community-managed zones

The entire process will be fully based on the principle of free and prior informed consent. It is expected that the project will increase the agricultural yields and incomes of farmers, as well as improve access to water.

However, the community-led decision making process to manage watersheds will lead to restrictions on the cutting of trees in these zones.

Grievances mechanism

Any comments, complaints, grievances in relation to the general implementation of the project shall be as a first stage reported by phone or in writing to the Dahari office.

Contact person by email: Ibrahim.said@daharicomores.org

Contact person by phone: Ibrahim Said, Executive Director

Office phone: +269 7714048

Office address: Dahari, Hombo, BP 277, Mutsamudu, Anjouan, Comoros,

In the case of grievances reported by phone, a grievance note will be filled out including the name, contact details of the claimant, date of complaint and the detailed description of the complaint/grievance, as well as any comments or suggestions of how to address the complaint. For any grievances submitted by email, please provide the same information in your email.

Dahari will respond in writing to any claimant within 15 days and take immediate action to address those grievances in consultation with the claimant if any resource restriction has been caused by the project. Claims, responses and actions taken to address grievances will be filed and included in project monitoring.

If the claimant is not satisfied with the response by Dahari, the grievance may be submitted to Conservation International Japan (CI Japan), the chair of the Executive Team, directly at: GEF-Satoyama@conservation.or.jp

Conservation International Japan
6-7-1-507 Shinjuku, Shinjuku-ku, Tokyo 160-0022 JAPAN
TEL: +81-3-5315-4790

For escalating a complaint, the complainant can file a report to CI using the following link:
<https://secure.ethicspoint.com/domain/media/en/gui/10680/index.html>

This grievances mechanism will be shared during initial awareness and all consultation meetings.