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**Barclays Embraces REDD+  
Wildlife Works' Kenya project chosen for bank's carbon neutrality program**

*Mill Valley, CA and Voi, Kenya, November 6, 2014* – Barclays has renewed its support for Wildlife Works' pioneering Kasigau Corridor REDD+ (Reducing Emissions from Deforestation and Degradation) Project in Kenya for a second year as part of Barclays' global carbon-offsetting program.

The Kasigau Corridor REDD+ Project protects nearly 500,000 acres of dryland forest, securing the wildlife migration corridor between Tsavo East and Tsavo West National Parks in Kenya. Financed through emission reductions purchased by corporates from across the globe, including Barclays, the project has improved the lives of over 100,000 Kenyans through job creation, increased access to education and clean water, enhancement of food security and support of female empowerment, as well as protecting a vast array of endangered biodiversity.

The project was the first REDD+ project in the world to achieve Verified Carbon Standard (VCS) validation and verification resulting in the issuance of Verified Emission Reductions (VERs) in February 2011, and was awarded Gold Level status by the Climate, Community and Biodiversity Standard (CCB) for exceptional biodiversity co-benefits.

By renewing its partnership, Barclays is now one of the largest supporters of this project.

Some of the project impact highlights include:

- Protection of nearly 500,000 acres of dryland forest, avoiding over 1.8 million tonnes of CO2 annually
- Introduction of a sustainable charcoal enterprise
- 2,500 school bursaries
- Over 300 jobs
- Development of six water projects, bringing water access to thousands of people

Kirsty Britz, Director of Group Citizenship at Barclays said, "The Kasigau Corridor REDD+ Project is a great example of how we are responsibly managing our environmental impact while helping to empower a community to develop sustainable livelihoods and supporting wider, long-term, economic growth."

First Climate, a climate and environmental advisory firm, worked with Barclays to purchase the VERs from Wildlife Works' Kasigau Corridor REDD+ Project

Mama Mercy, a local women's group and community leader in the Kasigau region, has been leading efforts in environmentalism and agroforestry and supporting orphaned children in the area for over 20 years. "When the carbon project came, there was a change. With Wildlife

Works we are focusing on water, education, job creation and sustainability,” she said. “Before REDD+ activities, there were no jobs. Now there are jobs and dignity is restored in our community. We are educating our children to give them a chance for a better future. We are going to have a different nation!”

“There is a bright future for these REDD+ projects if enough global corporations like Barclays voluntarily offset their unavoidable emissions with REDD+ emission reductions,” said Mike Korchinsky, President of Wildlife Works. “REDD+ is a pay-for-performance ecosystem service. The community is protecting its forests because they are receiving greater value from the sale of REDD+ VERs than they would for the destruction of these forests. On behalf of Wildlife Works and the Kasigau community, we are grateful to Barclays for their tremendous support.”

### **About Wildlife Works**

Wildlife Works is a unique private sector forest conservation company founded in 2009 and based in Mill Valley, CA. The company aims to make a massive contribution to reducing global emissions while protecting some of the most important and highly threatened tropical forests in the world.

Wildlife Works is currently engaged in several developing country forest communities, managing their transition away from forest destruction and towards sustainable economic development. Wildlife Works is a private company using the innovative market mechanism REDD+ to finance activities and to provide the financial incentives for those communities and governments to protect their forests.

REDD+ places a value on the natural capital of standing forests as the key element in mitigating climate change and sells that value to willing corporate leaders who are committed to reducing the carbon footprint of their organizations. In addition to reducing emissions from avoiding deforestation, Wildlife Works REDD+ projects deliver unprecedented environmental and social benefits to seriously impoverished parts of Africa that are in desperate need of change.

For more information on the Wildlife Works Kasigau Corridor REDD+ Project, please visit [www.WildlifeWorks.com/WhenATreeStands](http://www.WildlifeWorks.com/WhenATreeStands).

### **Contact**

Gerald Prolman

[pr@wildlifeworks.com](mailto:pr@wildlifeworks.com)

+1 415 548 0973