Building ecological resilience in a rapidly changing landscape

Corin Simmonds
SLR Consulting
United Kingdom
csimmonds@slrconsulting.com

https://www.slrconsulting.com/en
EACOP background

Buried pipeline
1443km long
From Lake Albert to Tanga coast
ESIA in 2018
BAP and BOMP being developed
Biodiversity Interest

- Critical habitat qualifying species include:
  - Ashy red colobus monkey *Piliocolobus tephrosceles* in Burgi Chato NP
  - Pancake tortoise *Malacochersus tornieri* in Talamai Open Area and Mkwere FR

- Large mammals
  - Karamoja apalis *Apalis karamojae* in and around Wemberre Steppe (recently designated a GR)
  - Itigi sumbu thicket
  - Coastal vegetation mosaic
Current state of biodiversity

Logging  
Overgrazing  
Charcoal
Current state of biodiversity
Updated Mapping

- Detailed mapping extended from 2km to 5km minimum
- Latest satellite imagery
- Ground truthed in the field (near total coverage of route)
- Habitats key to infer species presence due to huge size of project
Avoidance review: Talamai OA

- Design review process to review opportunities for avoidance and minimisation of impact upon Critical and Natural Habitat
Avoidance review: Burigi Chato NP

- Design review process resulted in no direct loss of forest habitat
Mitigation
Resilient compensation and offset options

- Full habitat data coverage allowed accurate picture of where impacts on CH are likely
- Habitat condition data available to inform offset accounting
- Understanding of where habitat loss rates were highest helped guide type of offset
- Working with communities is leading the offset design.
- Next steps Ecosystem Service review
- Further development of offset options
Lessons Learnt

- Habitat mapping essential on such a large project
- Importance of habitat condition data
- Avoidance is iterative and should be considered throughout the project
- Ecological resilience can only be achieved with community engagement
Let’s continue the conversation!
Post questions and comments in the IAIA23 app.

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