



SDI Review Form 1.6

Journal Name:	Asian Journal of Environment & Ecology
Manuscript Number:	Ms_AJEE_42130
Title of the Manuscript:	THREATS AND CONSERVATION INCENTIVES FOR SUSTAINABLE MANAGEMENT OF SOUTH WEST MAU FOREST, KENYA
Type of the Article	Original Research Article

General guideline for Peer Review process:

This journal's peer review policy states that **NO** manuscript should be rejected only on the basis of '**lack of Novelty**', provided the manuscript is scientifically robust and technically sound. To know the complete guideline for Peer Review process, reviewers are requested to visit this link:

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PART 1: Review Comments

	Reviewer's comment	Author's comment (if agreed with reviewer, correct the manuscript and highlight that part in the manuscript. It is mandatory that authors should write his/her feedback here)
Compulsory REVISION comments	The strategies for beefing up conservation efforts in the South West Mau Forest in Kenya are feasible and important. However, specific agencies and institutions must be tasked to effect them. For instance, which ministry or agency will carry out the education and sensitization programs? How effective are they in undertaking this conservation initiative? Are logistics and funding necessary? If so, where can they be gotten? This would make your recommendations and conservation strategies suggested more realizable.	
Minor REVISION comments	The findings of the study revealed that the anthropogenic activities of the local forest-fringe communities have resulted in the encroachment of the forest as well as distorting conservation approaches. As a result, you have suggested the sharing of benefits from the forest proceeds. Please, indicate whether such arrangement is there or not. If it is there, how effective have they been? What are the pitfalls? What can be done to avert them? Who in the local communities should be given the sharing? Family heads/clan heads etc.? Farmers? How feasible will the sharing be? Kindly address these concerns. Aside from the sharing of benefits, what are the other forms of benefits can you suggest can minimize or halt completely, the encroachment of the forest by the local communities? My suggestions: 1. Social Responsibility Systems or Agreements (SRS/SRA) 2. Ecotourism benefits 3. Employment as forest guards or rangers to assist conservationists in the field	
Optional/General comments	This is a well structured study with very valuable benefits to conservation, agriculture and ecological sustainability of the forests in Kenya. It is worthwhile, suitable to the journal and will broaden the frontiers of knowledge in conservation of the environment, biodiversity while enhancing the participation of local communities in environmental schemes.	

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