

Agreement on Research Co-operation

Project: Stabilizing Kenya by Solving Forest Related Conflicts (STAKE)

University of Copenhagen (UCPH), Faculty of Law & Forest and Landscape

&

University of Nairobi (Wangari Maathai Institute for Peace and Environmental Studies).

Overall Objective

The overall development objective of the project is to contribute towards stabilizing Kenya by solving forest related conflicts. This will be pursued through two overall project objectives:

- 1) Improved understanding of the drivers of forest related conflicts and of the role of inclusive governance to provide for mutual recognition between State-led and civil society based governance in alleviating conflicts.
- 2) Strengthened capacity of Kenyan partner and the APs for undertaking high quality research education and training on forest related governance and conflict resolution processes. The overall objectives are pursued through collaborative research and capacity strengthening activities. Capacity strengthening activities will focus on strengthening of relevant human and social capital through research collaboration, education of PhD students, developing of new courses and training packages for extension purposes in the field of understanding and solving conflicts. Collaborative research involves senior researchers and four Kenyan PhD students and focuses on forest related conflicts in the Mau Forest Complex, Kenya. A two pronged empirical research strategy will be pursued: (1) a case study of the implementation of the Kenya Forest Act, 2005 (FA 2005) and; (2) investigations of forest related conflicts and their underlying drivers.