

## About the Eco-Schools Programme in Tanzania

**Duration:** Funding for Phase 2 has been committed for 3 years from April 2017 – March 2020.

**Location:** Phase 2 is being implemented in 44 schools in 4 Districts in Morogoro and Iringa Regions (Mvomero, Morogoro Rural, Kilosa and Mufindi). The schools have been selected due to their proximity to the high biodiversity forests of the Eastern Arc Mountains. Engendering environmental stewardship amongst children and youth in these communities is vital for the conservation of these globally unique mountain forests.

**Partnership:** The programme is implemented through a partnership between TFCG, the Danish Outdoor Council (DOC) and, in Uganda, the Conservation Efforts for Community Development (CECOD).

**Funding:** The programme is financed by the Danish International Development Agency (DANIDA).

## Activities

The programme is implementing the following activities:

Increasing awareness and support for children's right to a quality education with a focus on girls;

Increasing the capacity of schools, teachers and district staff to deliver quality ESD;

Supporting schools to follow the Seven Steps framework and to be awarded a green flag;

Promoting ESD at national level.

The programme is promoting the Investigation, Vision, Action and Change (IVAC) educational methodology.

## About the Tanzania Forest Conservation Group

TFCG is a national non-governmental organization established in 1985.

**Mission:** To conserve and restore the biodiversity of globally important forests in Tanzania for the benefit of the present and future generations.

**Vision:** We envisage a world in which Tanzanians and the rest of humanity are enjoying the diverse benefits from well conserved, high biodiversity forests.

TFCG is the Eco-Schools National Operator for mainland Tanzania and is the Associate Member of the Foundation for Environmental Education for Tanzania.

### For more information:

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# ECO-SCHOOLS PROGRAMME IN TANZANIA



## About the Eco-Schools Approach

The Eco-Schools approach was established following the Rio Earth Summit in 1992. It is an international programme that encourages young people to engage with their environment by allowing them the opportunity to actively protect it.

It starts in the classroom where it expands to the school and eventually fosters change in the community at large.

Through this programme, young people experience a sense of achievement at being able to have a say in the environmental management policies of their schools, ultimately steering them towards certification and the prestige which comes with being awarded a Green Flag.

Globally there are more than 49,000 schools with over 16 million students registered with the Eco-School Programme in 64 countries.

Eco-Schools provide a framework for learning and action which affords a wealth of opportunities for linking sustainable development education with the everyday curricular work undertaken by schools - as well as enabling and encouraging closer links between schools and the communities around them.

The eco-schools approach can be adopted at all levels of education from kindergarten to universities.

## Eco-Schools in Tanzania

The first 20 Tanzanian eco-schools were established by the Tanzania Forest Conservation Group (TFCG) in 2016 in rural villages in Mvomero District. TFCG is the National Operator for mainland Tanzania.

## Promoting Eco-Schools in Tanzania

The Eco-Schools Programme in Tanzania is supporting rural schools to adopt the eco-schools approach.

**Overall programme objective:** Promote active citizenship and improved livelihoods through education for sustainable development.

**Immediate Objective 1:** Duty bearers have capacities and resources for the provision of quality education for active citizenship and sustainable development.

**Immediate Objective 2:** Showcase and scale-up Eco-Schools programmes as a catalyst for active citizenship and sustainable development.

**Immediate Objective 3:** Education for sustainable development (ESD) approaches integrated in government policy tools and budgets.

## The Seven Steps Framework

The Eco-School Seven Steps framework is a series of measures which a school must follow in order to maximise the success of their Eco-School ambitions. Involving students, teachers and the community at large, the Seven Steps framework aims to embed sustainability into a school.

Through the eco-schools programme in Tanzania TFCG has provided training and back-stopping to teachers, students, community leaders and local government to follow the Seven Steps framework.

Schools that complete the Seven Steps may be eligible for a Green Flag award. The International Green Flag is an acknowledged symbol for environmental excellence developed and owned by the Foundation for Environmental Education (FEE).

The Tanzanian programme is designed to bring additional benefits to schools particularly in terms of reducing drop-out rates and improving academic performance, particularly amongst girls.

