



Tanzania Forest
Conservation Group
Shirika la Kuhifadhi
Misitu ya Asili Tanzania

Tanzania Forest Conservation Group

Annual Report

2021



Conserving Tanzania's forests
for the Nation
for the World
for the Future

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List of Abbreviations

CBFM	Community Based Forest Management
CBOs	Community Based organizations
CF	Coastal Forest
CoForEST	Conserving Forests through sustainable forest-based Enterprises Support in Tanzania
DC	District Council
DED	District Executive Director
DOC	Danish Outdoor Council
EAM	Eastern Arc Mountains
ESD	Education for Sustainable Development
ESPT	Eco-School Programme Tanzania
FBE	Forest Based Enterprises
FCDO	Foreign, Commonwealth and Development Office
FEE	Foundation for Environmental Education
GN	Government Notice
Ha	Hectare
HR	Human Resources
IVAC	Investigation, Vision, Action and Change
LGAs	Local Government Authorities
MJUMITA	Mtandao wa Mjumita Tanzania
MoEST	Ministry of Education, Science and Technology
NGOs	Nongovernmental Organizations
PFM	Participatory Forest Management
PORALG	President's Office, Regional Administration and Local Government
S-CBFM	Scaling up Community Based Forest Management
SDC	Swiss Development Cooperation
SNRM	Sustainable Natural Resource Management
SGR	Standard Gauge Railway
TAWIRI	Tanzania Wildlife Research Institute
TFCG	Tanzania Forest Conservation Group
TRA	Tanzania Revenue Authority
TRC	Tanzania Railway Cooperation
TTC	Teacher Training College
UFP	Udzungwa Forest Project
VLFRs	Village Land Forest Reserves
WLT	World Land Trust

About the Tanzania Forest Conservation Group (TFCG)

Tanzania's Tropical forests are islands of natural wealth containing hundreds of plant and animal species found nowhere else in the world and underpinning the livelihoods of millions of people. These forests are under threat. With the support of the international community, generous individuals and private companies, and through the hard work and dedication of the Tanzania Forest Conservation Group's staff, committee and partners, we have been able to safeguard parts of these unique forests.

Since the establishment of TFCG in 1985, we have grown into the largest national, environmental NGO in the country. We have achieved this by constantly learning from our experiences and evaluating our progress. This report outlines the progress that we have made in 2021.

Our mission

To reduce poverty in rural communities and to conserve the biodiversity of globally important forests in Tanzania for the benefit of the present and future generations.

Our vision

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

Our Approach

TFCG's experience over the last 36 years has taught us that to succeed in conserving Tanzania's unique forests, we need to approach conservation from multiple angles. There is no silver bullet.

We have adopted seven inter-linked strategies to achieve our mission.

Strategy 1: *Participatory Forest Management – building the capacity of stakeholders to manage reserves and other protected areas;*

Strategy 2: *Community development – supporting people living near to the forests to achieve more sustainable livelihoods;*

Strategy 3: *Awareness raising and environmental education– improving people's understanding of the forests and the steps needed to conserve them and encouraging greater dialogue between stakeholders;*

Strategy 4: *Research– improving our understanding of the forests and their conservation;*

Strategy 5: *Advocacy– improving governance and the legal and political context;*

Strategy 6: *Partnership – Improving networking and partnerships with relevant local, national and international organizations in order to amplify and scale up forest conservation in Tanzania and building the capacity of CBOs;*

Strategy 7: *Institutional development and resource mobilisation – Building the capacity of staff to fulfil their roles in achieving TFCG's mission and targets.*

Key Achievements of the Tanzania Forest Conservation Group in 2021

Strategy 1: Participatory Forest Management

- **203,283 ha has been added to the national CBFM area.** Between 2018 and 2021 TFCG facilitated 60 villages to establish Village Land Forest Reserves (VLFRs) in 10 districts (Kilosa, Morogoro, Mvomero, Kilolo, Kilombero, Liwale, Ruangwa, Handeni, Muheza, and Mtama)
- **30 VLFRs were gazetted by FBD with TFCG support** in 2021 and are registered on UNEP's World Database on Protected Areas.
- Supported 7 villages to complete village land use planning.
- Improved the management of Magombera Nature Forest Reserve, a biologically unique 26km² forest on the edge of Nyerere National Park.

Strategy 2: Livelihoods

- Supported 28 communities to earn TZS 639,423,500 (US\$ 290,647) from sustainable forest-based enterprises, including TZS 470,558,500 (US\$ 213,890) for forest management and community development.
- 1058 forest-based entrepreneurs (666 charcoal producers and 392 timber producers) in 23 villages benefited from sustainable charcoal and 13 villages from timber value chains.
- 13 community development projects worth TZS 85 million were implemented in 11 villages using revenues from village forest reserves.
- 907 households received training and constructed improved fuelwood stoves in Kilombero and Mtama DC
- Communities living adjacent to the forest are trained on how to mobilize fund by using a simple system called Village Saving Loan and Associations (VSLAs). 10 VSLAs were established in Mtama.
- 25 tree nurseries were established and 181,384 seedlings were planted by farmers and schools, raising the number of trees planted to 1.8 million over the last 4 years.

Strategy 3: Environmental Education

- Supported 102 schools in 4 regions to provide environmental education to students by adopting the internationally-recognized eco-school model
- 622 teachers from 97 schools were trained on the eco-school approach to environmental education.
- 49,000 pupils benefitted from environmentally sustainable eco-school micro-projects.
- 26,727 students learned about the environment and good governance through participation in pupil parliaments.

Strategy 4: Communication and Advocacy

- TFCG contributed to three new policy tools
 - i. National CBFM Action Plan
 - ii. National Forest Financing Strategy
 - iii. National Charcoal Strategy
- TFCG raised awareness to 8 villages in Morogoro region to improve the management of their natural forest and conserve biodiversity along the railway line. A total of 694 villagers participated.
- TFCG continues to support MJUMITA at a local and national scale to advocate for CBFM.

Strategy 5: Research

- In collaboration with Sokoine University of Agriculture (SUA) and Tanzania Forest Research Institute (TAFORI), TFCG has supported research on a range of topics including forest regeneration, sustainable financing, forest certification, gender, and improved charcoal production. Reports are available at: <https://www.tfcg.org/publications/>
- A bird survey and assessment of the effect of climate change at the local level and support solutions to increase resilience across the Lindi and Mtwara regions have been conducted.

Cross-cutting issues

TFCG continued implementing Gender Strategies developed in 2020. The organization built the capacity of staff while mainstreaming gender in projects planning and implementation. At the village level, awareness-raising on gender was an important agenda item in village assembly meetings and other village meetings, including village council and sub-village meetings. The key messages on HIV/AIDS continued to be communicated in projects and organization meetings and other events.

Governance

TFCG has continued to promote good governance and social accountability at the district and community levels aiming at improving service delivery, increasing accountability and transparency in the implementation of village development projects, and enhancing sustainable management of forest resources on village land.

Our supporters in 2021

TFCG is grateful to the following for their financial support of our work in 2021:

- African Rainforest Conservancy
- African Rainforest Trust
- Danish Outdoor Council,
- the Eccles Family Trust,
- Foundation Yves Rocher,
- Rainforest Trust,
- Newman's Own Foundation,
- Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation,
- The World Land Trust,
- Tanzania Wildlife Research Institute,
- SWISSAID Tanzania

Also, Mrs. Tasneem A Lukmanji who is the Landlord of TFCG Head Quarter Office has been lenient enough to support TFCG by reducing office rent amount as her contribution to conservation.

Additionally, TFCG has been housed by the Eastern Arc Mountains Conservation Endowment Fund office premises in Morogoro.

Our achievements in 2021

How we have made progress this year toward our strategic objectives.

Strategy 1: Participatory Forest Management

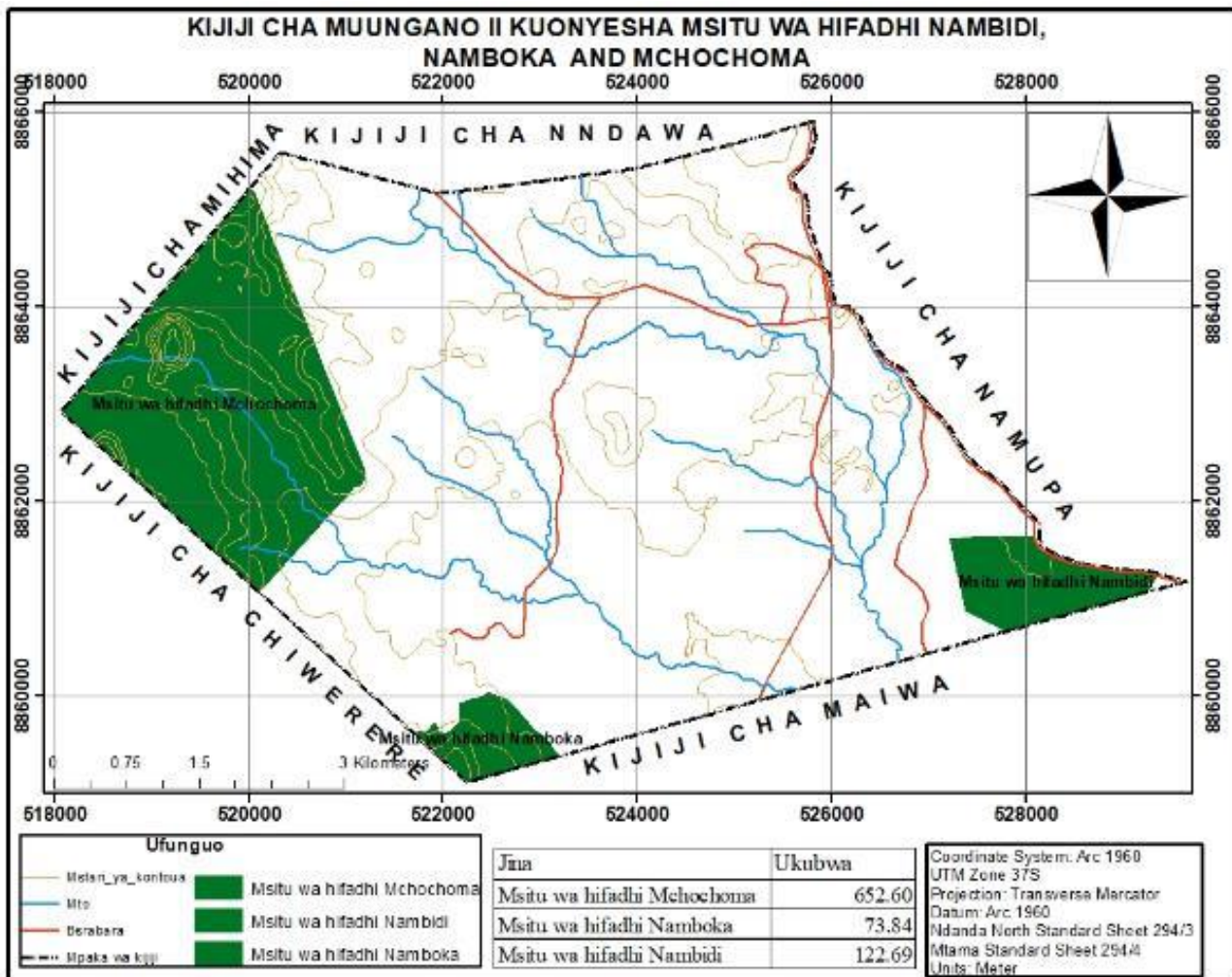
Objective 1.1 Scale up Community Based Forest Management (CBFM) in the Eastern Arc Mountains and Coastal Forests

Target 1.1.1 > additional 250 km² of forest in the EAM and Coastal Forests included in CBFM areas by 2022.

Between 2018 and 2021, TFCG facilitated 60 villages to establish Village Land Forest Reserves (VLFRs) in 10 districts: Kilosa, Morogoro, Mvomero, Kilolo, Kilombero, Liwale, Ruangwa, Muheza, Handeni, and Mtama, with a cumulative area of 203,283 ha (Annex 1).

To support the scaling-up of CBFM, TFCG supported MNRT/FBD to develop a National CBFM Action Plan (2021 -31). The plan has been finalized and includes targets to increase the area under CBFM from 2.7 million hectares to 16 million hectares, by 2031. Map 1 is one of the VLFR maps developed with TFCG support at Muungano II Village in Mtama DC.

Map 1. Muungano Village Forest Reserve (Nambidi, Namboka, and Mchochoma patches)



Source Muungano Village Land Use Plan report, 2021

With the ongoing construction of the Standard Gauge Railway (SGR), the Tanzania Railway Corporation (TRC) collaborated with TFCG to support communities along the railway to implement community based forest management.

Objective 1.2 To reduce deforestation in forests under PFM

Target 1.2.1 Annual deforestation rates in 10 Eastern Arc and Coastal Forest Nature Reserves are < -0.5 % by 2022.



Photo 1. Village Natural Resource Committee making a patrol at Magombera FNR

In reducing deforestation rates in forest nature reserves in Tanzania, TFCG has been working with seven Forest Nature Reserves in collaboration with the Tanzania Forest Services Agency and communities for over 20 years. Currently, the TFCG in collaboration with Udzungwa Forest Project, TFS, and four villages adjacent to Magombera Nature Forest Reserve managed to reserve a total of 26km² globally unique forest ecosystem in Kilombero District, on the edge of the Nyerere National Park (Photo 1). Also, TFCG is supporting ten village land forest reserves in, and around, the Rondo Plateau. To reduce deforestation, TFCG conducted various activities and initiatives such as patrols, the introduction of improved stoves and tree planting.

In Magombera Forest Nature Reserve, 61 TFCG-supported patrols resulting in 54 forest-related offenses have been penalised.

Target 1.2.2 Unplanned annual deforestation rates in 100,000 ha of forest in at least 50 VLFRs are < -0.5 % by

2022.

TFCG assessed deforestation in 32 villages where the average deforestation rate for the 2020-2021 period in all VLFRs was -0.95%, ranging from -0.05% to -5.69%. 14 villages reduced their deforestation rates relative to 2018-20.

Objective 1.3 To improve management effectiveness in Village Land Forest Reserves (VLFR).

Target 1.3.1 50 VLFRs in EAM and CF covering at least 100,000 ha are gazetted and have JB Maps by 2022.

- 30 VLFRs that were gazetted by FBD with TFCG support in 2020 were registered on UNEP's World Database on Protected Areas in 2021. They become the first Tanzanian VLFRs to be listed. An additional 10 village forest reserves in 4 districts covering 33,618 ha were re-surveyed for gazettelement in 2022.
- Village land use planning in 2021: 7 villages (5 in Mtama DC, 1 in Liwale, and 1 in Ruangwa) completed village land use plans with TFCG support.
- TFCG in collaboration with Udzungwa Forest Project, TFS, and four villages adjacent to Magombera Nature Forest Reserve, has supported the management of 26km² of globally unique forest ecosystem in Kilombero District, on the edge of the Selous Game Reserve.

Objective 1.4 To increase and diversify incomes to communities practicing Participatory Forest Management.

Target 1.4.1 At least 50 villages are earning at least US\$ 2,500 per year in fees from their VLFRs by 2022.

- 26 villages are earning revenues (fees) from sustainable charcoal and/ or timber this year (2021). The average fee earned by the community is approximate to US\$ 213,890. The earnings has been increased compared with last year which was US\$ 159,667.

Target 1.4.2 At least 30 villages are earning incomes from two or more sustainable, forest-based enterprises by 2022.

- Total earnings from charcoal and timber this year are TZS 639,423,500 (US\$ 290,647). Of this, village revenue was TZS 470,558,500 (US\$ 213,890) for forest management and community development. 26 villages are active including 22 villages active in charcoal production and 17 villages in timber harvesting while 13 villages are active in both. The average income for the active villages: US\$ 686 per village per month. This reflects an increase in the number of villages earning revenues, and an increase in per village revenue compared with last year (2020).

Target 1.4.3 At least 50 villages are holding Village Assembly meetings at which PFM revenues and expenditures are discussed.

- 26 Villages implemented Sustainable charcoal and timber program and held more than two Village Assembly meetings for discussing revenues and expenditures.

Objective 1.5 To promote sustainable long-term support for communities in the implementation CBFM

Target 1.5.1 Communities in at least 3 districts are receiving technical support in the implementation of CBFM.

- 8 districts (Kilosa, Mvomero, Morogoro Rural, Kilolo, Ruangwa, Liwale, Mtama, and Nachingwea) are receiving technical support in the implementation of CBFM.
- MJUMITA, with backstopping from TFCG, provided the villages with services such as sales support, training, harvest-coupe measurements, tree volume estimation, and market assessment, advice on subsidy scheme development and overall financial management and technical backstopping on various issues. Trade in sustainable timber was promoted through meetings with trader associations, market visits, and national exhibitions resulting in a 70% increase in timber sales compared with last year (2020).

Objective 1.6 To promote cooperation between communities and the Tanzania Forest Services Agency (TFS) in the management of high conservation value forests.

Target 1.6.1 TFS and communities are regularly cooperating in the management of > 5 high biodiversity nature reserves.

- TFCG has supported TFS and four villages adjacent to Magombera Nature Forest Reserve, to manage the 26km² reserve with a total of 26km² globally unique forest ecosystem in Kilombero District, on the edge of Nyerere National Park.
- TFCG is supporting ten village land forest reserves around the Rondo Nature Forest Reserve.

Objective 1.7 To mobilise resources for the management of Eastern Arc Mountain (EAM) and Coastal Forest Reserves

Target 1.7.1 TFCG mobilise at least US\$ 2 million, to support the management of EAM and CF Nature Reserves.

- TFCG in 2021 has spent TZS 587,702,291 (US\$ 255,522) to support Magombera Nature Forest Reserve and Village around Rondo Nature Forest Reserve.
- We continued to support MNRT and LGAs in Resource mobilisation for the Action Plan, including one proposal for scaling-up CBFM that is submitted to the UK government and a fund-raising campaign for CBFM in southern Tanzania that has raised GBP 350,000.

Target 1.7.2 TFS have increased capacity to attract and support tourism in Nature Forest Reserves.

- TFCG has supported the improvement of Magombera tourism facilities including the maintenance of four trails (Mtawala 4km, Mbega t 5km, Ngulumilo 4km, and Nyati trail 15km).
- Advertisement of Magombera through various media have been done and,
- Videos describing the beauty of the nature has been produced and uploaded to the nature reserve website.

Objective 1.8 Formalise forest produce trade from CBFM areas in ways that are sustainable and increase revenues to TFS from transit permits and to Local Government.

Target 1.8.2 Support local government to generate at least US\$ 10,000 per year per district in 4 districts from CBFM.

- Through the TFCG programme namely CoForEST, 1 district managed to get income from CBFM. For instant 26 villages contributed 10% of their CBFM revenues to Kilosa district council which was TZS 30.7 Million (US\$ 13,348).

Strategy 2 Community development and livelihoods

Objective 2.1 To demonstrate and scale-up initiatives that effectively reduce poverty and enhance climate-change resilience in forest-adjacent communities.

Target 2.1.3 At least 100 communities provided with agroforestry support with at least 1 million trees planted.

Tree planting:— In 2021, TFCG collaborated with partners to establish 25 tree nurseries located in Lushoto, Bumbuli, Korogwe, Kilombero, Kilolo, Mtama, Lindi Municipal and Masasi. More than 359,762 tree seedlings were raised of various species including indigenous and exotic species. 181,384 seedlings were distributed and planted in individual farms and schools. Over the last four years, TFCG has supported the planting of 1,769,194 trees (See Photos 2 to 4).



Photo 2. Tree planting in Magombera NFR



Photo 3. A tree nursery established with TFCG support in Korogwe District



Photo 4. Fruit trees for agroforestry

Improved stoves: To reduce this pressure on forests from firewood collection, TFCG trained 567 people in four villages (Katurukila, Magombera, Msolwa Station, and Kanyenja) adjacent to Magombera NFR and 340 people from five villages (Chiwerere, Nndawa, Mihima, Liganga, and Ntene) adjacent Rondo NFR on how to make fuel efficient stoves (Photo5).



Photo 5. Woman participating in the construction of improved stove

Microfinance and alternative income generative activity



Photo 6. Miss Asha took a loan in Mkombozi group of Ndwawa village and is operating tailoring business

In reducing pressure on natural resources dependence, TFCG trained the communities living adjacent to the forest on how to mobilise funds by using a simple system called Village Saving Loan and Associations (VSLAs). The target is to empower the community to access financial services and improve income and livelihood to reduce dependence on the forest. In this reporting period, TFCG supported communities in Mtama DC to establish 10 VSLAs. The groups were initially trained on microfinance education and poultry management which was linked to conservation agriculture in terms of using a piece of farm land and applying livestock manure to their farms for crop yield maximization. TFCG trained a total of 307 people (145 men and 162 women) on Chicken Hut construction, common diseases affecting chickens in Tanzania specifically in southern zone, treatments, Important vaccines and vaccination schedule in chicken from a one day old chick to adult, feeding, watering, natural incubation using female chickens, artificial incubation using machine (Incubator), general management and rising production of chicken meat and eggs. They're also trained on selection of good eggs for chick production which was done practically and all members from all VSLA groups are now familiar with the skills.

This year on June, TFCG conducted a monitoring visit for assess the performance of the VSLA group for a period of one year (January to December 2021). 9 Village Saving and Loan groups visited, it was found that the amount of social fund contributed apart from expenses is TZS 2,567,900, the value of savings (shares bought since the formulation of groups) is TZS 33,812,000 and the total cash in hand (savings plus the profit made without social fund contribution) is TZS 45,156,525. Profit made by all groups is TZS 11,344,525 and it is due to collection of fines from those who went against the VSLA group constitution and loan interest. Again, there were 119 members (66 women and 53 men) from these groups who took loan and made the value of the total loan disbursed to December being TZS 22,799,232. The assessment also observed that, most of the VSLA members operate small businesses from the loan taken in the groups. These businesses include local restaurant, making tea bites, tailoring and selling of clothes like Kanga and Vitenge (Photo 6).

Objective 2.2 To build the capacity of communities to maximize livelihood benefits of sustainably managed forests.

Target 2.2.1 Sustainable forest-based enterprises are contributing to improved livelihoods in > 50 villages.

- As result of continued support from TFCG technical backstopping, 28 villages from Mvomero, Kilosa and Morogoro DC have been active in this year (2021) including 23 villages been active in charcoal production and timber production while 13 villages in timber harvesting. Average income for the active villages: US\$ 850.21 per village per month.

Target 2.2.2 At least 50 communities are benefiting from improved management of forest ecosystem services by 2022.

- From 2018 to 2021, TFCG managed to support 58 communities to establish CBFM and Participatory Village Land Use Plan. These action has contributed to the protection of water sources, soil conservation, improvement of agriculture, and climate regulation in the Eastern Arc Mountains and Coastal Forests

Objective 2.3 To support improved social services, infrastructure and governance in forest-adjacent communities.

Target 2.3.1 >40 villages have improved social services and/or infrastructure paid for using CBFM revenues by 2022.

11 villages are implementing 13 community developments worth US\$ 38,636 financed with CBFM revenues. These projects include construction of teacher houses, class rooms, and dispensaries, toilets for dispensary, village office and primary schools. Construction of village office, local bridge and contribution for construction of ward secondary School (see photos 7 to 13).



Photo 7. Ongoing construction of teachers' house (two in one) for Mlilingwa village primary in Morogoro.



Photo 8. Ongoing construction of 3 classrooms at Nyali village in Kilosa.



Photo 9. Ongoing construction of Mahara primary school classroom in Mvomero



Photo 10. Ongoing construction of Kitunduweta village dispensary in Kilosa



Photo 11. Ongoing construction of pit latrine for primary school at Ulaya Mbuyuni in Kilosa



Photo 12. Ongoing construction at Kikonga primary school, Kisanga village in Kilosa



Photo 13. Ongoing construction of toilet for village dispensary (up to roofing stage) at Chabima village in Kilosa

Strategy 3 Environmental education strategy

Objective 3.1 Scale up environmental education to more schools in the Eastern Arc Mountains and Coastal Forests.

Target 3.1.1 > 30 schools have been awarded Green Flags in accordance with the globally recognized eco schools approach.

In order to cultivate knowledge and concern for the environment amongst the younger generation, TFCG has been implementing the eco Schools Programme Tanzania in 6 districts including Mvomero, Mufindi, Morogoro, Kilosa, Lindi and Masasi. Up to this year TFCG has been scaling up the eco schools approach into 102 schools in Lindi, Morogoro and Iringa Regions. Initially, TFCG commenced the programme with 20 schools, by the end of Phase 2 in December 2019, they were 44 schools. Phase 3 that commenced in January 2020 with 70 schools. In this year TFCG added 32 more schools which makes a total of 102 schools participating in the eco school programme in Tanzania. Those schools have completed the eco school seven steps frame work (Figure 1). This is a series of measures that 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. The 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). Previously, five (5) primary schools had been awarded Green Flags. In 2021, another 15 schools were awarded with Green Flags.

Following training from TFCG, 622 teachers from 97 schools in four districts (Kilosa, Mvomero, Morogoro and Mufindi) have included the Investigation, Vision, Action and Changes (IVAC) methodology in their lesson plans. This approach helps to inspire active learning by students. Also the schools managed to formulate 97 pupils' parliaments with a total of 26,727 members. These parliaments have been pertinent to raising confidence amongst students to demand their rights from the schools and parents

Additionally, TFCG conducted meeting in two districts Lindi and Masasi on awareness raising to the Duty bearers and Programme implementers, for establishment and training of eco school committees in 5 schools (Photo 14) and establishment and Support students' parliaments in 8 schools (Photo 15).



Photo 14. Kinyope village assembly members voting for Eco-committee members; the event was held in Kinyope Primary school grounds.



Photo 15. Lulindi 1 Primary school students voting for their two Class 4 Eco-parliament members

The project also engaged pupils in income generating activities including micro projects such as beekeeping, fish farming, tree planting and horticulture. Some of the schools in Morogoro and Iringa started earning income from micro projects and now are providing lunch for students. Programme schools had been learning and training hubs for students, teachers and parents. For the period of year 2021, 49,000 pupils participated in micro projects (see Photo 16 and 17). These initiatives improved academic performance and reduced dropout rates amongst the schools.



Photo 16. Kanga Hill Secondary school students displaying honey from their beekeeping micro-project



Photo 17. Mkindo primary school pupils inspect their teak woodlot at school compound.

Objective 3.2 Build the capacity of government and other stakeholders to deliver and sustain environmental education

Target 3.2.2 Local government staff are trained in the provision of environmental education, in at least 10 districts.

A training and technical backstopping for 38 (13 female) district, ward and Teachers Training Colleges (TTCs) staff was organized for Mufindi, Kilosa, Morogoro, Lindi, Masasi and Mvomero districts (Morogoro, Lindi, Mtwara and Iringa regions). The training was on Education for Sustainable Development (ESD), Investigation, Vision, Action and Changes (IVAC) methodology and Right Based Approach (RBA) with a particular focus on addressing barriers to girls' education (Photo 18).



Photo 18. Teachers training in Lindi

Also in improving education quality, TFCG engaged Parents and communities effectively to support their local schools, by involving themselves in school governance and demanding quality education from key duty bearers and decision-makers and replicating Sustainable Natural Resource Management (SNRM) methods to protect their environment. In the year 2021, a total of 25 meetings were held with parents and duty bearers lead to having 46,560 parents members who took active part in school governance

Target 3.2.3 At least one other NGO is supporting the eco schools approach in rural communities in Tanzania.

In collaboration with the Ministry of Education, Science and Technology (MoEST) had been supporting the programme in various areas including; reviewing the ESPT learning support

materials, allowing the Learning Support Material (LSM) to be used in schools, participating in the trainings and programme meetings and during the programme activities implementation.

Also, ESPT had been exchanging experiences and ideas with the Tanzania Elimu Network (TEN) that is having more than 100 CSOs. ESPT had been exchanging. TEN was inspired by the eco schools' approach and promised to advocate the programme's approach to all its members.

Furthermore, TFCG distributed LSM including leaflets to TEN and other national CSOs. Some of the CSOs including Roots and Shoots that now are implementing some of the Eco-schools' activities.

Target 3.2.4 Learning outcomes are improved for both girls and boys in at least 20 eco schools.

TFCG this year organized resources mobilization meeting with other stakeholders including Haki Elimu, TAMWA and TAWLA to work with schools in four districts (Mufindi, Mvomero, Morogoro and Kilosa) to overcome barriers to girls' education and encourage other CSOs. As the result the organizations agreed to advocate for increase school budget. Also the Local authority from ward to district level have been so supporting and participating in meetings and dialogues that are aiming at improving the education budget.

Strategy 4. Communication and advocacy

TFCG is raising awareness of the Eastern Arc Mountains and their values among stakeholders. TFCG shares reliable information on forest values, threats, and policy options with stakeholders and decision-makers.

Objective 4.1 Policies are in place that safeguards the forest ecosystem services provided by the EAM and Coastal Forests.

Target 4.1.1 Policies, laws and other policy tools that are supportive of sustainable natural forest management, participatory forest management and reduced deforestation, are in place and are being implemented by 2022. And target 4.1.2 Policy tools, including CBFM and Village Land Use by-laws, include measures to safeguard women's livelihoods.

The TFCG has contributed to the drafting **National Charcoal Strategy and Action Plan** through the TFCG ED's membership of the strategy drafting task force. The draft document draws on experience and lessons learned from the Transforming Tanzania Charcoal Sectors and Conserving Forests through sustainable, forest-based Enterprise support in Tanzania projects. Furthermore, TFCG supported the government in developing the **National CBFM Action Plan** which has been finalized and will now proceed with MNRT's internal approval process. The development process of the plan has been led by FBD while its implementation will be led by PORALG and other stakeholders. The TFCG ED also sits on the National Forest Advisory Committee for the second term.

Resolving issues associated with the **2019 Forest Regulations (GN 417)** has been one of the organization's priorities in this reporting period. The organization liaising with Tanzania Forest Working Group (TFWG), LGAs, and other stakeholders collated empirical evidence of the impact of GN 417 on CBFM to be submitted to MNRT/FBD as requested.

Also, TFCG developed **Policy Note** Implementing charcoal certification in community-based forest management areas in Tanzania. The note came up with the following recommendations;

- There is a need to enhance sensitization on the importance and benefits of certification and TBS standards to all levels of stakeholders in forestry, including national governments so as to profile and improve awareness of certification and standards in Tanzania. Improve linkages among forest owners, managers, and users to various forestry stakeholders for effective uptake of certification and standards.
- Institutionalize/mainstream certification in the university curricula and other tertiary institutions of higher learning offering forestry courses/programmes.
- The certification process should be mainstreamed into national forest management policies and legislation to make it part of the routine implementation process in the forestry sector.
- Given that certification and standards have not been applied in the project area, it is recommended that charcoal producer groups VLFRs in the Kilosa district be considered for certification as a pilot project for capacity building. The certification should be based on NFSS for FM and CoC certification of VLFRs for achieving multiple benefits (e.g., timber, charcoal, fuelwood, nature-based tourism, ecosystem services, NTFPs/NWFPs) through the FSC group certification scheme.
- Finally, during the implementation of charcoal certification, these standards (FSC and TBS) should be linked to leverage each other's merits and hence maximize environmental, social, and economic benefits to producers, contributing to the sustainable development of the local community and the nation at large.

Objective 4.2 To increase knowledge and appreciation of the ecosystem services generated by the EAM and coastal forest

Target 4.2.1 Increased awareness of forest-adjacent communities of the value of EAM and Coastal Forest ecosystem services.

12 media houses (Channel 10, Tanzania Broadcasting (TBC), Tabianchi BLOG, ITV, Magic FM, Daily News, The Guardian, Nipashe Newspaper, Abood TV and Radio, Radio Maashujaa Lindi, Habari Leo and Mwananchi) have broadcasted on CBFM success and challenges, income generating activities and tree planting (Photo 19).



Photo 19. Community member (he is a councillor of Namupa ward) interviewed with one of media at Mtama on the issues of CBFM

TFCG raised awareness to 8 villages in Mrogoro region (Photo 20); 6 Villages (Mkadage, Munisagara, Mzaganza, Kikundi, Mwasa and Mkata) from Kilosa Districts, 1 village (Kimambila) from Mvomero and 1 village (Kinonko) from Morogoro to improve the management of their natural forest and conserve biodiversity along the railway line. A total of 694 villagers participated.



Photo 20. Villagers from Mwasa village participating on the awareness meeting on the importance of CBFM



Photo 21. TFCG staff meetings with Ministers, MPs and other decision-makers

Objective 4.3 To build the capacity of communities and other stakeholders to promote good forest governance.

Target 4.3.1 Representatives of forest-adjacent communities and other CSOs are advocating for improved forest governance.

- 89 communities advocated for economically and ecologically sustainable CBFM through participation in national and local events organized by MJUMITA through the CoForEST Project, including the MJUMITA annual forum, a field visit with Kilosa District leaders, and MJUMITA participation at the Majimaji Selebuka Exhibition in Songea. Through these events, MJUMITA members advocated for CBFM capacity building and investment. Community advocacy has been amplified through media coverage, including 1 TV and radio documentary.

- MJUMITA network members, other CBFM communities, and local government authorities advocated for regulatory changes including GN417 during the various meetings. The 145 community representatives from villages implementing CBFM in 13 districts collaborated to advocate for improved support for CBFM during a National CBFM stakeholders forum in December 2020. The forum was attended by MPs and senior government officers. 83 MJUMITA network members and CBFM communities (59 men and 24 women) have engaged in the policy dialogue aimed at safeguarding CBFM and sustainable forest-based enterprises and addressing governance challenges including the impact of GN 417 in the implementation of CBFM. This happened during a meeting held on 5th November 2021.
- Communities have engaged in a dialogue on forest restoration and ecosystem conservation for improved livelihood. During the meeting they advocated on conducive policy and legal environment for scaling up CBFM and promoting sustainable forest based enterprises. This was during the MJUMITA annual forum conducted on 25th November 2021 in Morogoro. 113 Community members representing 113 MJUMITA networks from 6 zones (76 men and 37 female) participated. Community members from the MJUMITA networks constituted 74% of all the stakeholders participated in the dialogue (Photo 22).
- As the result of advocacy initiatives on legal issues and governance challenges, 7 land related cases in Morogoro district have been resolved. Similarly, Ulaya Mbuyuni village from Kilosa district has managed to remove 33 out of 40 people who were farming in the VLFR.



Photo 22. MJUMITA members participated in 21st Annual Forum and General Meeting in Morogoro region in Nov 2021

Target 4.3.2 Increased awareness and understanding of gender issues in the context of participatory forest management. To raise awareness about forest conservation and advocate for improvement in forest management, TFCG worked with journalists to broadcast the various activities, meetings, achievements, and lessons learned from the various project. During this reporting period, TFCG broadcasted on various radio, TV, drama, social media, newspaper, and websites. Also participated in various meetings and conferences. Sometimes we're using leaflets and posters to raise awareness among communities and policymakers.

Strategy 5. Research

Objective 5.1 To support, conduct and communicate research on forest values, threats and effective conservation with a particular focus on linkages between forest ecosystem services and sustainable economic development.

Target 5.1.1 TFCG contributes to at least 10 peer-reviewed scientific publications on forest conservation;

The TFCG aimed to increase knowledge about the values of the Eastern Arc Mountains and coastal forests and that communities can benefit from the forests in a sustainable way; the direct and indirect threats that the forests face include governance and poverty linkages (<http://www.tfcg.org/publications/>).

- Kilemo, D. and S. Nyagawa 2021. Finding solutions to Community Based Forest Management governance challenges. TFCG Technical Paper 48. The study revealed that the shortage of skills among VNRC members as a result of the turnover of members is a common problem. Reasons include the failure of the CBFM guidelines to state the need to maintain some members of an outgoing committee. The study recommended that at least half of the previous VNRC members be retained, with a staggered election process.
- Kalonga, S. 2021. Implementing charcoal certification in community-based forest management areas in Tanzania. TFCG Technical Paper 49. This study concluded that it would be feasible to link the Forest Stewardship Council (FSC) National Forest Stewardship Standards (NFSS), as they relate to charcoal, with the Tanzania Bureau of Standards (TBS) compulsory standards. TBS already has two standards relevant to charcoal. Broadening TBS standards on charcoal could contribute to improved forest management and improved charcoal quality with

environmental, health, and economic benefits. Barriers to charcoal certification include low awareness and capacity, the costs of implementing certification, and the technical complexities of setting and enforcing standards. Capacity building, research, and piloting of charcoal certification are recommended.

- Hepelwa, A.S. and J.P. Mrema 2022. Financial sustainability for forest-based enterprises in community-based forest management areas in Tanzania. TFCG Technical Paper 51. The study found that the sustainable charcoal model was financially sustainable until 2018 with income sufficient to motivate producers; pay for community development projects; and finance forest management. However, since 2019, demand for sustainable charcoal has declined to result in fewer producers, less production, and less revenue for community development. Reduced demand is due to the increased transaction costs for buyers associated with GN 417. The study recommended building the capacity of charcoal producers to expand their role along the value chain and strengthen linkages between producers and buyers.
- **Bird surveys:** The survey has been carried out in ten villages in Lindi regions with the aim on to assess the bird's species composition in villages along the Rondo landscape and the role of village forests in protecting key bird species such as endemic, near threatened and critically endangered bird species. The study recorded 179 bird species which is 52 more bird species than what was recorded in 2013 by Gwegime et al.

- **Assessment of the effect of climate change at the local level and support solutions to increase resilience across the Lindi and Mtwara region:** The assessment undertaken by TFCG in collaboration with SWISSAID under the project namely Agroecology and Agrobiodiversity for improved Livelihood, food security, and nutrition; Climate change adaptation; and Ecosystems preservation / Crops for healthier diets (AALCE).

The Overall objective was to assess the effect of Climate Change at the local level and identify solutions for increased resilience across Lindi and Mtwara regions. However, the specific objectives were to understand how climate and other hazards affect lives and livelihood resources, understand how



Photo 23. Part of Village Forest cleared for opening new farm

local communities currently respond to the effect of climate changes, identify adaptation strategies to strengthen the threatened livelihood resources and enhance people's resilience, and finally to see how the climate changes affect women, men and other groups in the community. In summary, the assessment revealed that different resources were claimed to be impacted differently by the hazards of climate change. Arable land, farms, and farming are mainly affected by long periods of dryness (drought) that are associated with a shortage of rain, strong winds, an increase in temperature, soil infertility, pests, and crop diseases. Drought was also mentioned to threaten livestock, small businesses, water sources, and dams. Settlements, institutions like schools, and dispensaries were also mentioned to currently be affected by strong winds, and food and water shortages. Again, forests (Photo 23) and wild animals are highly threatened by regular fire outbreaks and cut trees for opening new farms.

Target 5.1.4 Better information and guidelines are available on natural regeneration and forest restoration.

Ecological monitoring: The research has been implemented with SUA in collaboration with TAFORI and PORALG. The objectives of the study were to determine post-deforestation regeneration trends and patterns in areas of woodland on village land: To estimate the amount of charcoal that could be produced sustainably from woodland on village land under different regeneration and harvesting scenarios and to estimate carbon sequestration rates from regeneration in woodland on village land (<http://www.tfcg.org/publications/>)

Strategy 6. Partnerships

Objective 6.1 To foster networking and partnerships with relevant local, national and international organizations.

Target 6.1.1 TFCG is working with at least 8 organizations in joint initiatives by 2022.

To achieve the above-mentioned strategies, TFCG believes in collaboration with local and international partners as conservation needs a networking and collaborative effort. For the year 2021, TFCG is working in partnership with 4 institutions including Tanzania Community Forest Conservation Network (MJUMITA), Tanzania Wildlife Research Institute (TAWIRI), and SWISSAID.

Target 6.1.3 TFCG has a formalised MoU with the African Rainforest Conservancy and the African Rainforest Trust.

- This has been completed in previous reporting time.

Objective 6.2 To build the capacity of CBOs to engage in forest conservation including MJUMITA networks

Target 6.2.1 At least 10 MJUMITA networks are undertaking conservation action in TFCG project areas.

- TFCG through CoForEST project supported MJUMITA Annual General Meeting (AGM) which is an advocacy platform for communities on the issues related to forest management.
- Currently, there are active 40 MJUMITA local networks operating in the TFCG project areas.

Strategy 7. Institutional development and resource mobilisation

Objective 7.1 Resources mobilization

Target 7.1.2 > 3 additional donors are supporting TFCG's work by 2022.

TFCG is grateful to the following for their financial support of our work in 2021:

African Rainforest Conservancy, Danish Outdoor Council, African Rainforest Trust, The Eccles Family Trust, Foundation Yves Rocher, Rainforest Trust, Newman's Own Foundation, Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation, and World Land Trust. The other development partners are Tanzania Wildlife Research Institute and SWISSAID Tanzania.

Also, Mrs. Tasneem A Lukmanji who is the Landlord of TFCG Head Quarter Office has been lenient enough to support TFCG by reducing office rent amount as her contribution to conservation.

Additionally, TFCG has been housed by the Eastern Arc Mountains Conservation Endowment Fund office premises in Morogoro.

Target 7.1.3 > 6 donors providing support at the start of the strategic planning, have committed support beyond 2022.

- 4 donors (WLT, DOC, Yves Rocher Foundation and Rainforest) have committed support TFCG beyond 2022.

Objective 7.2 To develop a team of highly motivated and skilled staff working together to achieve TFCG's mission.

Target 7.2.1 Staff skills, competencies and qualifications are being developed.

TFCG has a training program and is continually being developed to ensure employees are adequately trained at all levels. The organization established on-the-job training for the field and head office staff. The senior staff trains the junior staff based on meeting orientation, fieldwork, and face-to-face discussion. The project managers had one meeting and field visit this year for the purpose of sharing experiences from different project sites.

In addition, 20 staff out of 41 attended training on hepatitis facilitated by Assemble Insurance and 1 staff attended training on accounting facilitated by Audit tax International one other attended on social security issues facilitated by NSSF. Similarly, one staff who is seconded to SWISSAID Tanzania attended beekeeping training at Njiro Arusha.

Target 7.2.2 Annual participation by project staff in committee meetings.

TFCG Committee Members in 2021

As the mentioned early that, TFCG is an NGO that operates here in Tanzania and is managed by board members (Table below) who take overall responsibility for the organization including the possibility of reviewing the performance of the management plan, monitoring and identifying the risk areas of existing projects and considering significant financial matters. The committee is also responsible for ensuring that a comprehensive system of internal control, policies, and procedures is operative, and for compliance with sound organizational governance principles.

The following are the members of TFCG committee;

1. John Salehe, Chairperson
2. Thabit Masoud - Vice Chairperson
3. Andrew Yohana - Treasurer
4. Tom Blomley
5. Carter Coleman
6. Felician Kilahama
7. Gertrude Lyatuu
8. Neil Burges
9. Ruzika Muheto
10. Pantaleo Munishi

TFCG Staff attended board meeting

1. Charles Meshack, Executive Director
2. Nike Doggart, Senior Technical Advisor
3. Emmanuel Lyimo, Personal Assistant Executive Director
4. Daniel Zacharia, Finance and Administration Director
5. Mwajuma Charokiwa, Human Resources Manage

TFCG governing policy and procedures

TFCG has three policies, a code of contact, and five years strategic plan. The existing policies which guide the organization are ICT, HR manual, and Financial policy and procedures. These policies and strategies are regularly updated according to the needs but for the year 2021 policies were not updated.

Target 7.3.2 Compliance with national laws.

Compliance with national laws.

TFCG is complying with government regulations. Each year the organization submits statutory documents to the government as per law required. This year we submitted 2 documents (Return of SDL and PAYE) to TRA. TFCG also pays 0.6% of each employee's salaries to the Workers Compensation Fund (WCF)-A form of insurance providing wage replacement and medical benefits to employees injured in the course of employment. TFCG submits contributions of all staff to the Social Security fund (NSSF & PSSF) each month.

Moreover, TFCG submits an annual NGO report to the Ministry of Community Development Gender Elderly and Children each year as per law required.

Target 7.3.5 All TFCG's annual institutional audit reports receive an 'unqualified' opinion. Our Audit Financial reports for the year 2020 were carried out on March 2021 (Findings are available at the TFCG website. TFCG audited financial statement 2020: <http://www.tfcg.org>). The year 2021 will be carried out in March 2022. Therefore, the findings of the audited financial reports for the year 2021 will be available on the organization's website in April 2022.

Target 7.3.3 All projects have at least one gender champion in place between 2018 – 22. And Target 7.3.4 Effective, gender-sensitive monitoring and evaluation systems are in place.

TFCG is striving to ensure that Tanzania's high biodiversity forests are being managed in ways that are effective, sustainable, and equitable; and to tackle the direct and indirect drivers of deforestation, in ways that bring tangible benefits to women, men, and children living in adjacent villages; enhance good governance; promote gender equity, and integrate climate change adaptation and mitigation. To achieve this goal TFCG is continuing to implement Gender Strategies developed in 2020.

- The TFCG built the capacity of staff while mainstreaming gender in project planning and implementation.
- At the village level, awareness-raising on gender was an important agenda item in village assembly meetings and other village meetings, including village council and sub-village meetings.

- Trainings on good governance, poverty alleviation, and gender were conducted. A total of 15 LGA staff (four women) from Liwale, Kilolo, Ruangwa, and Nachingwea Districts participated. The training also included participants from NGOs (Tanzania Natural Resources Forum, Kilombero Valley Teak Company, SULEDO, Mpingo Conservation Development Incentives, and Ministry of Natural Resources and Tourism).

Gender research in community-based forest management in Tanzania was conducted. The conclusions and recommendations from the study are included in project implementation and shared with stakeholders. The report is available at <http://www.tfcg.org/gender-in-community-based-forest-management-in-tanzania/>

Annex 1. List of CBFM villages under TFCG project from 2018 to 2021

Village	District	VLFR total (ha)	Status
Chabima	Kilosa	9,659	Gazetted
Dodoma Isanga	Kilosa	2,492	Gazetted
Gongwe	Kilosa	2,949	Gazetted
Ihombwe	Kilosa	10,207	Gazetted
Kigunga	Kilosa	1,012	Gazetted
Kisanga	Kilosa	10,546	Gazetted
Kisongwe	Kilosa	4,522	Gazetted
Kitunduweta	Kilosa	2,007	Gazetted
Madizini	Kilosa	571	Gazetted
Mbamba	Kilosa	1,560	Gazetted
Mfuluni	Kilosa	1,852	Gazetted
Msimba	Kilosa	27,571	Gazetted
Muhenda	Kilosa	6,692	Gazetted
Mvumi	Kilosa	721	Gazetted
Nyali	Kilosa	5,636	Gazetted
Rudewa Gongoni	Kilosa	2,272	Gazetted
Ulaya Kibaoni	Kilosa	461	Gazetted
Ulaya Mbuyuni	Kilosa	2,834	Gazetted
Unone	Kilosa	2,938	Gazetted
Zombo	Kilosa	1,021	Gazetted
Diguzi	Morogoro DC	2,514	Gazetted
Lulongwe	Morogoro DC	2,742	Gazetted
Matuli	Morogoro DC	1,567	Gazetted
Mlilingwa	Morogoro DC	2,555	Gazetted
Tununguo	Morogoro DC	2,013	Gazetted
Kihondo	Mvomero	2186.2	Gazetted
Maharaka	Mvomero	5,161	Gazetted
Misengele	Mvomero	4,205	Gazetted
Msongozi	Mvomero	4,677	Gazetted
Sewekipera	Mvomero	8,440	Gazetted
Magunga	Mvomero	406	Gazetted
Masimba	Mvomero	675	Gazetted
Msolokelo	Mvomero	865	Gazetted
Ndole	Mvomero	418	Gazetted
Diburuma	Mvomero	295	Gazetted
Mahenge	Kilolo	9,147.80	Approved at District level
Nambinda	Liwale	6,839.80	Approved at District level
Malolo	Ruangwa	1,589.00	Awareness raising
Gole	Handeni	6,679.40	Approved at District level
Kwedikabu	Handeni	3,472.30	Approved at District level
Kitumbi	Handeni	7,705.30	Approved at District level
Ntene	Mtama DC	5,101.50	Approved at District level
Mihima	Mtama DC	4,149.27	Approved at District level

Village	District	VLFR total (ha)	Status
Nndawa	Mtama DC	1,627.26	Approved at District level
Liganga	Mtama DC	4,176.99	Approved at District level
Chiwerere	Mtama DC	817.00	Approved at District level
Muongano	Mtama DC	849.13	Approved at District level
Namupa	Mtama DC	114.14	Approved at District level
Mnamba	Mtama DC	542.35	Approved at District level
Chiobya B	Mtama DC	2,885.18	Approved at District level
Mnara	Mtama DC	470.64	Approved at District level
IDUNDA	Kilombero	64.25	Approved at District level
MHANGA	Kilombero	892.61	Approved at District level
ULUTI	Kilolo	197.78	Approved at District level
ITONYA	Kilolo	14.00	Approved at District level
UKWEGA	Kilolo	5748.022	Approved at District level
KIMARA	Kilolo	344.48	Approved at District level
ITONGOWA&KIDETE	Kilolo	2300	Approved at District level
UDAGAJI	Kilolo	599.99	Approved at District level
MNGETA	Kilombero	711.77	Approved at District level
Total		203,283	

How you can help

Spread the word about the Eastern Arc Mountains and coastal forests and about the Tanzania Forest Conservation Group.

Participate in our annual fund raising events in New York and London organised by our sister organisations, the African Rainforest Conservancy and the African Rainforest Trust.

Visit the forests – Tourism provides a valuable incentive to conserve the forests. There are tourism facilities in the Udzungwas, East and West Usambaras, North Pare and Nguru South Mountains.

Donate to TFCG - We rely on grants and donations from development partners, foundations, individuals and the private sector to enable us to conserve the Eastern Arc Mountains and Coastal Forests biodiversity Hotspot. Please donate generously to TFCG (see www.tfcg.org for details) or the African Rainforest Conservancy (see www.africanrainforest.org) to enable us to carry on making a difference to the future of our planet.

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TFCG is a registered NGO No 1760