



Tanzania Forest
Conservation Group
Shirika la Kuhifadhi
Misitu ya Asili Tanzania

Tanzania Forest Conservation Group

Annual Report

2023



*Conserving Tanzania's Forests
for the Nation
for the World
for the Future*

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List of Abbreviations

AFON	Amani Friends of Nature
AGM	Annual General Meeting
ARC	African Rainforest Conservancy
ART	African Rainforest Trust
CBFM	Community Based Forest Management
CBTs	Community Based Trainers
CCROs	Certificate of Customary Right of Occupancy
CF	Coastal Forests
CoForEST	Conserving Forests through Sustainable, Forest-Based Enterprise Support in Tanzania'
DC	District Council
DOC	Danish Outdoor Council
EAM	Eastern Arc Mountains
EAMCEF	Eastern Arc Mountains Conservation Endowment Fund
EFT	The Eccles Family Trust
ESD	Education for Sustainable Development
FBD	Forest and Beekeeping Division
FBE	Forest-Based Enterprises
FEE	Foundation for Environmental Education
FITI	Forest Industries Training Institute
FNR	Forest Nature Reserve
FORVAC	Forest and Value Chains Development Programme
FTI	Forestry Training Institute
GN	Government Notice
IVAC	Investigations, Visions, Actions and Change
LGA	Local Government Authorities
MCDI	Mpingo Conservation Development Initiative
MJUMITA	Mtandao wa Jamii wa Usimamizi wa Misitu Tanzania
MNRT	Ministry of Natural Resources and Tourism
NGOs	Non-Government Organizations
NOF	Newman's Own Foundation
PFM	Participatory Forest Management
PO – RALG	President's Office - Regional Administration and Local Government
RBA	Right Based Approaches
RT	Rainforest Trust
SCF	SULEDO Community Forest
SDC	Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation

SFBEs	Sustainable Forest-Based Enterprises
SWTA	SWISSAID Tanzania
TAFORI	Tanzania Forest Research Institute
TAWIRI	Tanzania Wildlife Research Institute
TFCG	Tanzania Forest Conservation Group
TFS	Tanzania Forest Service
TFWG	Tanzania Forest Working Group
TM	Tuhifadhi Maliasili
TNRF	Tanzania Natural Resource Forum
USAID	United States Agency for International Development
VC	Village Council
VLFRs	Village Land Forest Reserves
VLUM	Village Land Use Management
VNRC	Village Natural Resources Committee
VSLAs	Village Saving Loan and Associations
WLT	The 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. However, 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 safeguarded parts of these unique forests.

Since establishing TFCG in 1985, we have grown into the most prominent 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 made in 2023.

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 38 years has taught us that we must approach conservation from multiple angles to succeed in conserving Tanzania's unique forests. There is no silver bullet.

We have adopted seven interlinked 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 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 organisations 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 2023

Strategy 1: Participatory Forest Management (PFM) Strategy

- ✓ 18,918.26 ha of forest protected in new Community-Based Forest Management areas.
- ✓ Capacity-building helps five Eastern Arc and Coastal Forest flagship Nature Forest Reserves to minimise deforestation.
- ✓ The sustainable charcoal model was introduced to three villages (Kikundi, Munisagara and Mzaganza) in the Kilosa district.
- ✓ 8 villages have developed Village Land Use Plans (VLUP), improving land management and livelihoods.
- ✓ Forest restoration is underway across 28 hectares of Magamba Nature Forest Reserve.
- ✓ 24 project-supported villages are still actively engaged in sustainable forest harvesting of forest products.
- ✓ TFCG, in collaboration with Reterra Ltd, initiated a REDD+ project in Tanzania through Village Climate Solutions Limited (VCSL).
- ✓ TFCG developed boundary revision maps for 56 VLFRs and 1 Local Authority Forest Reserve (LAFR) under the REDD+ programme.
- ✓ VCSL obtained consent letters from 58 forest managing authorities (56 villages and 2 Local Government Authorities).
- ✓ 30 ha of bracken fern have been cleared by 40 villagers in the Magamba Nature Forest Reserve

Strategy 2: Community Development Strategy

- ✓ 24 villages have earned revenue of TZS 416,973,430 (\$181,293 through sustainable charcoal and timber activities).
- ✓ 40% and 60% of the revenues from charcoal and timber were allocated to support forest management initiatives and community development projects, respectively.
- ✓ Sustainable charcoal and timber producers received a combined income of TZS 132,846,000 (\$57,759).
- ✓ The 21 VSLA groups in the Mtama district collectively generated a profit of TZS 22,449,150, primarily sourced from fines and loan interest. That money was invested in agriculture.
- ✓ 13 new VSLA groups were established in Muheza district with a total of 552 people.
- ✓ 184,191 tree seedlings of different species were distributed and planted in 6 districts.

Strategy 3: Environmental Education Strategy

- ✓ 13 schools were awarded The International Green Flag by the Foundation for Environmental Education (FEE) as an acknowledgement symbol for environmental excellence.
- ✓ Supported 165 schools in 5 regions (Morogoro, Iringa, Mtwara, Lindi and Tanga) to provide environmental education to students by adopting the internationally-recognized eco-school model.
- ✓ 254 teachers from 165 schools were trained on the eco-school approach.
- ✓ 114,000 tree seedlings, including timber, fruits and natural seedlings, were distributed to 134 programme schools in the six program districts of Mufindi, Kilosa, Morogoro, Mvomero, Masasi and Lindi.
- ✓ 31 eco-committees with 351 members from 31 schools were trained on Eco-school programme approaches.

Strategy 4: Communication and Advocacy Strategy

- ✓ National Charcoal Strategy was disseminated to 2 TFS zones (7 regions and 24 districts), while the National CBFM Action Plan was disseminated to 7 TFS zones (25 regions and 74 districts).
- ✓ In the fiscal year 2022/2023, seven project-supported districts allocated funds in their budgets for Community-Based Forest Management (CBFM) activities. The new districts of Liwale, Nachingwea, Ruangwa, and Kilolo allocated 46,100,000 (\$20,043) for CBFM support. Among them, the Kilosa, Mvomero, and Morogoro districts allocated a total of TZS 54,050,000 (\$23,500).

Strategy 5: Research Strategy

- ✓ TFCG contributed to three scientific publications and one technical report.
- ✓ 309 bird and butterfly species occurrence records have been collected and uploaded to the TAWIRI website. <https://bioanuwai.tawiri.or.tz/>
- ✓ Two MSc students from the University of Dar es Salaam were sponsored through TFCG.

TFCG achievements in 2023 by strategy

Strategy 1: Participatory Forest Management

Objective 1.1 Scale up community-based forest management in the Eastern Arc Mountains and Coastal Forests

Target 1.1.1 More than 250 km² of forest in the EAM and Coastal Forests included in additional CBFM areas by 2023.

In 2023, TFCG supported the establishment of 8 new community-based forest management areas (CBFM) protecting 189 km² of forest and woodland (Table 1). Since 2018, TFCG have supported the protection of an additional 2,211 km² (221,143 ha) of forest and woodland in 70 villages and 11 districts (Annex 1). This effort contributed to Tanzania's national CBFM target of 130,000 km² additional CBFM by 2031.

Table 1: Scale up of CBFM in EAM and CF

S/N	Village	District	Size	Status
1	Kikundi	Kilosa	3,105.5	Approved at District level
2	Munisagara	Kilosa	11,622.3	Approved at District level
3	Mzaganza	Kilosa	1,738.4	Approved at District level
4	Kizerui	Muheza	28.1	Approved at District level
5	Kwezitu	Muheza	4.5	Approved at District level
6	Antakae	Muheza	13.6	Approved at District level
7	Shambangeda	Muheza	4.05	Approved at village level
8	Mputwa	Mtama DC	2,401.81	Approved at village level
9	Total		18,918.26	

Source: TFCG projects annual reports, 2023



Photo 1: PFM team conducting Participatory Forest Resources Assessment (PFRA) at Kwezitu Village Forest Reserve

Source: CAN Forest project annual report, 2023

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 less than -0.5 % by 2023.

TFCG supported seven villages to increase forest connectivity between Amani and Nilo Forest Nature Reserves. The communities have benefitted from village land use planning and capacity building to protect forest connectivity and climate change. Under the Tuhifadhi Maliasili (TM) project in connecting



Moreover, forest restoration is underway across 28 hectares of Magamba Nature Reserve. 46,000 seedlings have been transplanted, and 50-meter-wide firebreaks have been cleared around all areas where seedlings were planted. Additionally, 30 hectares of bracken fern have been cleared from the Magamba reforestation zone, with 40 villagers involved. These efforts have significantly increased support and understanding among villagers residing near the border of the reserve about the importance of forest regeneration between the two largest forest fragments. They have also reduced the likelihood of fires spreading into the forest regeneration zone.

TFCG continues to support villages surrounding Rondo Nature Forest Reserves to avoid deforestation in this flagship East African Coastal Forest, home to the Endangered Rondo Galago. Support includes training for Village Natural Resource Committees, establishing village forest reserves around the nature reserve, and supporting actions to reduce pressure on the high-biodiversity forest.

Photo 2: Signboard indicating that Msasa IBC, a village in the East Usambara Mountains, now has a village land use plan

Target 1.2.2 Unplanned annual deforestation rates in 100,000 ha of forest in at least 50 VLFRs are < -0.5 % by 2023
15 VLFRs with a combined area of 59,835 ha of forest had annual deforestation rates of less than 0.5% in 2023.

Objective 1.4 To increase and diversify incomes to communities practising 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 2023.

Throughout this reporting period, 24 TFCG-supported villages actively participated in charcoal and timber activities. The sales from charcoal operations yielded TZS 263,110,000 (\$114,396), while timber sales amounted to TZS 153,863,430 (\$66,897) annually.

Objective 1.5 To promote sustainable long-term support for communities in implementing CBFM.

Target 1.5.1 Communities in at least 3 districts are receiving technical support in implementing CBFM.

Through an independent financing mechanism for CBFM, established by TFCG, MJUMITA has provided technical support to 30 communities from 6 districts (Kilosa, Mvomero, Kilolo, Ruangwa, Nachingwea and Liwale). This enhances the sustainability of community-based forest management.

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 managing > 5 high biodiversity nature reserves.*

TFCG is committed to supporting the government in protecting the high biodiversity forests in Tanzania's Nature Reserves. In 2023, TFCG collaborated with the Tanzania Forest Services Agency to provide support for five nature reserves, Magamba, Magombera, Rondo, Nilo, and Amani including:

- ✓ Strengthening conservation efforts in ten village land forest reserves surrounding the Rondo Nature Forest Reserve. This initiative includes comprehensive capacity-building and awareness campaigns to preserve the delicate ecosystems within these areas.
- ✓ Enhancing forest connectivity by connecting the Amani and Nilo Nature Forest Reserves. This involves intensive capacity-building sessions focusing on forest protection and establishing Village Land Forest reserves across seven pivotal villages: Kizerui, Antakae, Msasa IBC, Magoda, Shembangede, Kwezitu, and Kwemdimu.
- ✓ 120,000 seeds were collected and germinated, and 46,000 seedlings were transplanted to Magamba Nature Forest Reserve and distributed to the community.
- ✓ 30 ha of bracken fern have been cleared by 40 villagers in the Magamba Nature Forest Reserve. And TFCG still supports Magombera Forest Nature 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 resources including at least US\$ 2 million in funding, to contribute to the management of Tanzania's EAM and CF Nature Reserves over 5 years (2018 – 2022)*

TFCG secured an additional ~TZS 5.8 billion (US\$ 2.3 million) to implement two new projects in the Eastern Arc Mountains (the Integrated Forest and Biomass Energy Solutions for Tanzania and the Forest Rights and Livelihood projects in Nguu Mountains and West Usambara Mountains, respectively).

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 2.1.2 *Climate change resilience has been increased in at least 30 forest adjacent communities by 2023*

TFCG has empowered 1107 individuals, including 730 women, from 15 communities in Mtama and Muheza Districts to engage in village savings and loan associations actively. Through comprehensive training sessions, members have been equipped with essential business selection, planning, marketing and management skills. These initiatives are designed to enhance their capacity to develop small-scale projects prioritising environmental sustainability and improving resilience to climate change. Moreover, 100 women farmers from Misalai village have been trained in agroforestry.



Target 2.1.4 *At least 100 communities provided with agroforestry support with at least 1 million trees planted*

Over 30 communities were provided agroforestry support, and 119,658 trees were planted.

Photo 3: Distribution of seedlings to communities in the Lindi region

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

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

28 communities improved their public services using revenue from sustainable charcoal and timber. The communities spent TZS 48,693,000 (\$ 21,171) on projects, including the construction of classrooms, school toilets and school teacher houses).

Target 2.2.2 *At least 50 communities are benefiting from improved management of forest ecosystem services by 2023.*

In 2023, 47 villages benefited from improved forest ecosystem service management due to TFCG support. In total, 70 villages have benefited from TFCG support since 2018.

Target 2.2.3 *At least 10 communities in Lindi are benefiting from REDD+ under a sustainable financing and management model by 2023.*

33 communities in Lindi, Mtwara, and Morogoro Region are involved in REDD+ after TFCG partnered with Village Climate Solutions Limited (VCSL). The VCSL obtained consent letters from 58 forest managing authorities (56 villages and 2 Local Government Authorities—LGAs), conserving more than 333,469 ha of natural forests. Additionally, 4 communities in the Morogoro and Iringa Regions benefited from a forest restoration initiative through a partnership between TFCG and Udzungwa Corridor Limited.

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 *At least 30 schools in communities adjacent to the EA Mountain and Coastal Forests have been awarded Green Flags in accordance with the globally recognized eco schools' approach by 2023.*



In 2023, TFCG, through the Eco-schools programme in collaboration with the Foundation for Environmental Education, awarded The International Green flag to 13 schools that successfully implemented the Eco-schools Seven Step framework as a recognition symbol for environmental excellence. The Green Flag Award ceremony occurred at Manyinga Primary School in Mvomero on December 18, 2023. The event was attended by Dr. Charles Msonde, the Deputy Permanent Secretary (PO RALG) as the guest of honour, who handed green flags to 13 schools from Kilosa, Mvomero, Morogoro, and Mufindi District Councils.

Photo 4: Since 2018, 33 schools have been awarded International Green Flags by the Foundation for Environmental Education in recognition of their excellence in environmental learning due to TFCG support.

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

Target 3.2.1 *At least four district councils are allocating resources, including funding, to support environmental education in schools in communities adjacent to EAM and CF by 2023.*

Eight district councils (Masasi, Lindi, Mtwara, Kilosa, Mvomero, Morogoro Rural, Mufindi and Muheza) supported Eco-Schools with resource persons in 2023.

Targets 3.1.2 *Teachers in at least 200 primary and secondary schools in EAM and CF are providing environmental education to the students in their schools by 2023.*

254 teachers from five districts (Mvomero, Kilosa, Morogoro, Mufindi and Muheza) were trained on the eco-schools approach, including Education for Sustainable Development (ESD), Right based approach (RBAs) and Investigations, Visions, Actions and Change (IVAC) as a teaching/learning approach used by Eco-schools to implement education for sustainable development.

Moreover, 14 tutors from 7 teacher training colleges (TTCs) were trained on eco-school methodologies. The training aimed at building tutors' capacity on eco-school methodologies, including IVAC, HRBA, and ESD, and consulting with principals and tutors from TTCs on how the eco-school programme can be institutionalized and implemented. By training trainers at TTCs, TFCG aims to accelerate the uptake of the eco-school approach.

Target 3.2.2 *There are District Education Officers and Ward Education Officers trained in the provision of environmental education, in at least 10 EAM and CF Districts by 2023 in a way that promote gender equality and human rights-based approach.*

TFCG has trained 83 duty bearers, including District Education Officers (DEOs), Quality Assurance Officers (QAOs) and Ward Education Officers (WAEOs). Five districts were trained in environmental education, Education for Sustainable Development, eco-school program implementation, the use of the IVAC approach in teaching and learning, human rights, and Eastern Arc Mountain ecology.

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

Two NGOs (Swissaid Tanzania and Nature Tanzania) support the eco-school approach in rural Tanzania, following TFCG training and support.

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

Eco-Schools' action-based learning methodologies and micro-projects have increased the relevance of primary education by connecting it to the specific context and lives of the learners.



Photo 5: Pupils demonstrate the eco-school program during the Green Flag Award ceremony.



Photo 6: Pupils demonstrate the eco-school program to Dr. Charles Msonde, the Deputy Permanent Secretary (PO RALG), during the green flag awarded ceremony.

Strategy 4. Communication and advocacy

TFCG is raising awareness of the Eastern Arc Mountains and coastal forests 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 safeguard the forest ecosystem services provided by the Eastern Arc Mountains and Coastal Forests.

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.

TFCG raised awareness of the importance and critical threats to the coastal forest in 60 villages in the Lindi, Morogoro, Mvomero, Kilosa, Nachingwea, Ruangwa, Liwale, Mvomero and Mtama districts.

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

TFCG built the capacity of 360 villagers, including members of Village Councils (VC), Village Natural Resource Committees (VNRC), Village Land Use Committees (VLUMC), Village Land Councils (VLC), and respected elders, religious leaders, ward leaders and gender champions. This capacity-building initiative focused on enhancing our understanding of forest connectivity- a crucial element in our collective endeavour to conserve and sustainably manage forests and their intricate ecosystems. Forest connectivity, in essence, denotes the ability of various forested areas to uphold essential ecological processes, enable species mobility, and adapt to evolving environmental dynamics. Additionally, 211 (75 women) were trained in forest fire fighting and other forest threats.



Target 4.3.2 Increased awareness and understanding of gender issues in the context of participatory forest management.

TFCG provided gender training to 360 villagers, comprising women, men, and youth, as well as key community stakeholders such as Village Councils (VC), Village Natural Resource Committees (VNRC), Village Land Use Committees (VLUMC), Village Land Council (VLC), respected elders, religion leaders, Ward leaders, and passionate gender champions.

Photo 7: The Gender Champion from Antakae led an energizing activity during the training session.

Strategy 5. Research

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

The TFCG aimed to increase knowledge about the values of the Eastern Arc Mountains and coastal forests. Those communities can benefit from the forests sustainably; the direct and indirect threats that the forests face include governance and poverty linkages.

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

TFCG contributed to three scientific publications and one technical report in 2023:

Neate-Clegg, M.H.C., Etterson, M.A., Tingley, M.W., Newmark, W.D., 2023. The combined effects of temperature and fragment area on the demographic rates of an Afrotropical bird community over 34 years. *Biological Conservation* 282, 110051. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.biocon.2023.110051>

Stuart, S.N., Magige, F.J., Hamerlynck, O., Newmark, W.D., Stephano, F., Spawls, S., Nahonyo, C., Mgaya, Y.D., Moyer, D.C., Msuya, C., 2023. Tribute to Kim Monroe Howell (1945–2022). *African Zoology* 58, iii–v. <https://doi.org/10.1080/15627020.2023.2173433>

Doggart, N., Mugasha, W.A., Mpiri, A., Morgan-Brown, T., Sallu, S.M., Spracklen, D.V., 2023. Agricultural fallows are the main driver of natural forest regeneration in Tanzania. *Environ. Res. Lett.* 18, 054008. <https://doi.org/10.1088/1748-9326/accbd6>

Doggart, N.H., Meshack, C.K., 2023. Situation analysis of the Udzungwa Mountains landscape. Southern Tanzania Elephant Program. https://stzelephants.or.tz/download/udzungwa_landscape_strategy/Udzungwa-Mountains-Situation-Analysis-May-2023_2.pdf

309 bird and butterfly species occurrence records have been collected and uploaded to the TAWIRI website. <https://bioanuwai.tawiri.or.tz/>

Target 5.1.2 20 young Tanzanian scientists supported to conduct research relevant to the conservation of the Eastern Arc Mountains and Coastal Forests

- ✓ TFCG sponsored two MSc students from the University of Dar es Salaam with academic supervision from Dr. George Sangu and Dr. Henry Ndangalasi. The students are examining (1) the regeneration potential of forest vegetation and (2) the soil seed bank and chemical properties in the North and South Gaps in the Magamba Nature Reserve.

Target 5.1.3 At least 3 research recommendations from TFCG publications are adopted by other stakeholders by 2022.

- ✓ TFCG engaged in various platforms and meetings to share research findings, including:
- ✓ The AFF workshop focused on forest and tree-based ecosystem services for socio-ecological resilience to climate change in Africa. During these events, TFCG shared its experiences in Community-Based Forest Management, which integrates sustainable charcoal and timber practices to benefit forest-adjacent communities.
- ✓ TFCG disseminated research findings at various events, including the National Clean Cooking Stakeholders' workshop by WFP, the Tanzania Energy Statistics project workshop on biofuel supply and use report by EU, and the University of Dar-es-Salaam's session on the role of LPG in Tanzania. Furthermore, active participation occurred at the Africa Forest Forum meeting, climate change symposium, and Expo program organised by FORUM CC. TFCG also explained the sustainable charcoal concept during the formulation of the 2024 – 2028 strategic plan for the Sustainable Energy Forum (SEF).

Strategy 6. Partnerships

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

Target 6.1.1 TFCG is working with at least 8 organisations in joint initiatives by 2023.

TFCG believes in collaborating with local and international partners to achieve the strategies mentioned above, as conservation needs networking and collaboration. For 2023, TFCG is working in partnership with twelve institutions, as indicated in the table below.

Table 2. TFCG projects, partners and donors for the year 2023.

S/N	Project	Partners	Donor
1	Conserving Forests through sustainable, forest-based Enterprise Support in Tanzania – CoForEST. (Dec 2020 to Nov 2022).	TFCG, MJUMITA, LGAs and Central government (TFS, FBD, PO RALG)	Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation (SDC)
2	Biodiversity Data Collection and Training Conservationists in East and West Usambara, Tanzania” (January to December 2023).	TFCG, TAWIRI, AFON, University of Dar es Salaam, Department of Botany, Natural History Museum of Utah, and University of Utah	JRS Biodiversity Foundation.
3	Consumption of Resilient Orphan Crops & Products for Healthier Diets in Mtwara and Lindi Regions (CROPS4HD)	SWISSAID Tanzania in collaboration with TFCG and other organizations	SWISSAID Tanzania
4	The connecting Amani and Nilo (CAN) Forest Project (November 2022 to October 2025).	TFCG and Muheza DC	United States Agency for International Development (USAID), through the Research Triangle Institute (RTI).
5	Scaling up Community Based Forest Management in the Coastal Forest (June 2020 to July 2023).	TFCG and Mtama DC	World Land Trust (WLT).
6	Eco-school programme.	The programme is implemented in six districts namely; Mvomero, Kilosa Morogoro DC in Morogoro region, Mufindi district in Iringa region, Masasi in Mtwara region and Lindi in Lindi region	Danish Out door Council (DOC) and France aid through SWISSAID Tanzania.
7	Taking Action to protect Eastern Arc EDGE Species	The project works in 5 (Kazita, Kwemsoso, Mgambo, Kisiwani and Zirai) villages in the East Usambara Mountains, Tanga Region.	On the EDGE.
8	Lindi and Morogoro REDD+ Project	TFCG in collaboration with Reterra Ltd, is establishing REDD+ project in Tanzania through Village Climate Solutions Limited (VCSL). The initiative aims to help as many villages as possible to participate in REDD+.	The Nature Conservancy (TNC) and UBS Optimus Foundation Europe (UBS-OF).
9	Improve Livelihood of Women and Youth for Climate Change Resilience in Rural Communities	TFCG, Muheza DC and Misalai village	African Forest Forum (AFF)
10	Magombera Nature Forest Reserve Conservation Project	TFCG and Reforest Africa	Rainforest Trust
11	Support the Strategic Plan	African Rainforest Conservancy	African Rainforest Conservancy and African Rainforest Trust
12	Capacity building of six ELCT Dioceses on sustainable and just stewardship of natural resources.	TFCG and Six ELCT Dioceses.	DANMISSION

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

- This was completed in the previous reporting period.

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.

- ✓ Currently, 40 MJUMITA local networks are active in the TFCG project areas.

Strategy 7. Institutional development and resource mobilisation

Objective 7.1 Resources mobilisation

Target 7.1.2 > 3 additional donors are supporting TFCG's work by 2023.

TFCG is grateful to the following for their financial support of our work in 2023:

- African Rainforest Conservancy (ARC),
- African Rainforest Trust (ART)
- African Forest Forum (AFF).
- Danish Outdoor Council
- DanMission
- European Union (EU)
- Foundation Yves Rocher,
- JRS Biodiversity Foundation.
- On the EDGE
- The Nature Conservancy
- Rainforest Trust (RT)
- Reterra ltd
- Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation
- SWISSAID Tanzania (SWTA)
- Tanzania Wildlife Research Institute
- UBS Optimus Foundation (UBS-OF)
- United States Agency for International Development (USAID),
- World Land Trust

Also, Mrs. Tasneem A Lukmanji, the Landlord of the TFCG Head Quarter Office, has been lenient enough to support TFCG by reducing the office rent amount as her contribution to conservation. Additionally, TFCG has been housed by the Eastern Arc Mountains Conservation Endowment Fund (EAMCEF) office premises in Morogoro. Other partners are Village Climate Solution Limited and Udzungwa Corridor Limited.

Additionally, TFCG is grateful and sincerely appreciates the level of confidence and cooperation rendered by the vital sector Government Ministries, District Councils, village councils, Institutions and critical individuals during the execution of its work. This has contributed significantly to the achievements recorded this year.

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

Eight donors: African Rainforest Conservancy, African Rainforest Trust, World Land Trust, Danish Outdoors Council, Rainforest Trust, USAID, JRS Biodiversity Foundation and the European Union have committed to support TFCG beyond 2023.

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's training program is continually being developed to ensure employees are adequately trained at all levels. The organisation 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.

Target 7.2.2 Annual participation by project staff in committee meetings.

TFCG is an NGO that operates here in Tanzania and is managed by board members (names listed below) who take overall responsibility for the organisation, 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 organisational governance principles.

The following are the members of the TFCG committee;

1. John Salehe, Chairperson

2. Thabit Masoud - Vice Chairperson
3. Andrew Yohana - Treasurer
4. Tom Blomley – Member
5. Carter Coleman – Member
6. Felician Kilahama – Member
7. Gertrude Lyatuu – Member
8. Ruzika Muheto – Member
9. Pantaleo Munishi – Member
10. Shukuru Nyagawa – Member
11. Tuyeni Mwampamba - Member

TFCG Staff attended the board meeting.

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

TFCG governing policy and procedures

TFCG has three policies, a code of conduct, and a five-year strategic plan. ICT, the HR manual, and financial policies and procedures are the existing policies that guide the organisation. These policies and strategies are regularly updated according to the needs.

According to Tanzania Financial Reporting Standard 2020 guidelines, all NGOs are regarded as public entities, so financial statements must be published. TFCG Financial and Human Resources manual was updated in 2023.

Target 7.3.2 Compliance with national laws.

TFCG is complying with government regulations. Each year, the organisation submits statutory documents to the government as required. This year, we submitted two documents (Return of SDL and PAYE) to TRA. TFCG submits the contributions of all staff to the Social Security fund (NSSF & PSSF) each month. TFCG also pays 0.6% of each employee's salary to the Workers Compensation Fund (WCF), a form of insurance providing wage replacement and medical benefits to employees injured during employment. Moreover, TFCG submits an annual NGO report to the Ministry of Community Development for the Gender Elderly and Children as required by law each year.

Target 7.3.5 All TFCG's annual institutional audit reports receive an 'unqualified' opinion.

Our Audit Financial reports for 2022 were carried out in March 2023 (the Findings are available at the TFCG website: TFCG audited financial statement 2022: <http://www.tfcg.org>). An audit for the year 2023 will be carried out in March 2024. Therefore, the findings of the audited financial reports for the year 2023 will be available on the organisation's website in April 2024.

Target 7.3.3 All projects have at least one gender champion in place between 2018 – 23. 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 will continue implementing Gender Strategies developed in 2020.

- TFCG built staff capacity while mainstreaming gender in project planning and implementation.
- At the village level, awareness-raising on gender was an essential agenda item in village assemblies and other village meetings, including village council and sub-village meetings.
- Training on good governance, poverty alleviation, and gender was conducted.

Annex 1 List of CBFM villages under the TFCG project from 2018 to 2023

No.	Village	District	VLFR total (ha)	Status
1	Chabima	Kilosa	9,659	Gazetted
2	Dodoma Isanga	Kilosa	2,492	Gazetted
3	Gongwe	Kilosa	2,949	Gazetted
4	Ihombwe	Kilosa	10,207	Gazetted
5	Kigunga	Kilosa	1,012	Gazetted
6	Kisanga	Kilosa	10,546	Gazetted
7	Kisongwe	Kilosa	4,522	Gazetted
8	Kitunduweta	Kilosa	2,007	Gazetted
9	Madizini	Kilosa	571	Gazetted
10	Mbamba	Kilosa	1,560	Gazetted
11	Mfuluni	Kilosa	1,852	Gazetted
12	Msimba	Kilosa	27,571	Gazetted
13	Muhenda	Kilosa	6,692	Gazetted
14	Mvumi	Kilosa	721	Gazetted
15	Nyali	Kilosa	5,636	Gazetted
16	Rudewa Gongoni	Kilosa	2,272	Gazetted
17	Ulaya Kibaoni	Kilosa	461	Gazetted
18	Ulaya Mbuyuni	Kilosa	2,834	Gazetted
19	Unone	Kilosa	2,938	Gazetted
20	Zombo	Kilosa	1,021	Gazetted
21	Diguzi	Morogoro DC	2,514	Gazetted
22	Lulongwe	Morogoro DC	2,742	Gazetted
23	Matuli	Morogoro DC	1,567	Gazetted
24	Mlilingwa	Morogoro DC	2,555	Gazetted
25	Tununguo	Morogoro DC	2,013	Gazetted
26	Kihondo	Mvomero	2186.2	Gazetted
27	Maharaka	Mvomero	5,161	Gazetted
28	Misengele	Mvomero	4,205	Gazetted
29	Msongozi	Mvomero	4,677	Gazetted
30	Sewekipera	Mvomero	8,440	Gazetted
31	Magunga	Mvomero	406	Gazetted
32	Masimba	Mvomero	675	Gazetted
33	Msolokelo	Mvomero	865	Gazetted
34	Ndole	Mvomero	418	Gazetted
35	Diburuma	Mvomero	295	Gazetted
36	Mahenge	Kilolo	9,147.80	Approved at District level
37	Nambinda	Liwale	6,839.80	Approved at District level
38	Malolo	Ruangwa	1,589.00	Awareness raising
39	Gole	Handeni	6,679.40	Approved at District level
40	Kwedikabu	Handeni	3,472.30	Approved at District level
41	Kitumbi	Handeni	7,705.30	Approved at District level
42	Ntene	Mtama DC	5,101.50	Approved at District level
43	Mihima	Mtama DC	4,149.27	Approved at District level
44	Nndawa	Mtama DC	1,627.26	Approved at District level
45	Liganga	Mtama DC	4,176.99	Approved at District level

No.	Village	District	VLFR total (ha)	Status
46	Chiwerere	Mtama DC	817	Approved at District level
47	Muungano	Mtama DC	849.13	Approved at District level
48	Namupa	Mtama DC	114.14	Approved at District level
49	Mnamba	Mtama DC	542.35	Approved at District level
50	Chiobya B	Mtama DC	2,885.18	Approved at District level
51	Mnara	Mtama DC	470.64	Approved at District level
52	IDUNDA	Kilombero	64.25	Approved at District level
53	MHANGA	Kilombero	892.61	Approved at District level
54	ULUTI	Kilolo	197.78	Approved at District level
55	ITONYA	Kilolo	14	Approved at District level
56	UKWEGA	Kilolo	5748.022	Approved at District level
57	KIMARA	Kilolo	344.48	Approved at District level
58	ITONGOWA&KIDETE	Kilolo	2300	Approved at District level
59	UDAGAJI	Kilolo	599.99	Approved at District level
60	MNGETA	Kilombero	711.77	Approved at District level
61	LIONJA B	Nachingwea	681.1	Approved at District level
63	Kikundi	Kilosa	3,105.50	Approved at District level
64	Munisagara	Kilosa	11,622.30	Approved at District level
65	Mzaganza	Kilosa	1,738.4	Approved at District level
66	Kizerui	Muheza	28.1	Approved at District level
67	Kwezitu	Muheza	4.5	Approved at District level
68	Antakae	Muheza	13.6	Approved at District level
69	Shambangeda	Muheza	4.05	Approved at village level
70	Mputwa	Mtama DC	2,401.81	Approved at village level
	Total		222,881.52	

How can you help?

Spread the word about the Eastern Arc Mountains, coastal forests, and 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 conserve the Eastern Arc Mountains and Coastal Forests biodiversity Hotspots. Please donate generously to TFCG (see www.tfcg.org for details) or the African Rainforest Conservancy (see www.africanrainforest.org) to enable us to make a difference in the future of our planet.

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