

RESULTS SUMMARY

Transforming landscapes for conservation and sustainable livelihoods

Author: Danmission (2024)

[Find project on OpenAid](#)

PROJECT	Title:	Forest Rights and Livelihoods (ForLIVES)
	Partner:	Tanzania Forest Conservation Group (TFCG)
	Country:	Tanzania
	Period:	January 2024 – November 2025

CHANGE	<p>In the West Usambara Mountains of Tanzania, the Tanzania Forest Conservation Group (TFCG), with support from Danmission, has increased communities' livelihoods and enhanced the sustainability of 1,289 farmers' use of soil and forest reserves, thereby protecting invaluable natural resources from misuse and supporting the existing biodiversity of the mountains. Through support to village leaders and community-based trainers in applying and distributing climate-smart agriculture techniques within their villages, the villages' agroforestry has been upscaled with the planting of more than 1,000 trees in endangered forest areas.</p>
--------	---

CONTEXT	<p>With the high population density in Korogwe district, located in the West Usambara Mountains of Tanzania, farmers often make use of their minimal land access and small farms through unsustainable agricultural practices. This leads to soil degradation, a decrease in soil fertility, and water pollution. In addition to this, the population faces challenges of limited opportunities for livelihood alternatives, which, combined with reduced farming possibilities, results in increased poverty levels. This situation forces farmers to encroach on the forest, cutting down trees, to sustain their families' livelihoods, thereby unintentionally harming the environment and the sustainability of their villages.</p>
---------	--

CONTRIBUTION	<p>TFCG and Danmission strengthened community leaders' and members' access to climate-smart agriculture and land management, adding to the sustainability of new farming initiatives by collaborating with District and Ward Agriculture Extension Officers. This led to the establishment of eight demonstration plots in the district showcasing sustainable farming practices, such as trench construction and mixed cropping, tailored to each village's needs. This has promoted a more sustainable management of the village lands and made the new techniques and methods accessible to more people.</p>
--------------	---

IMAGES	<div><p>Mashindei village filling polythene pots during the spice tree growing training</p></div> <div><p>Bagamoyo village harvesting vegetables in their demonstration plot</p></div>
--------	---

[See next page for more details](#) →

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

ACTIVITIES

The project conducted training for 136 farmers and Village Natural Resources Committees members (84 men, 52 women) across four villages on tree planting and different vegetables to enhance farming income and strengthen forest conservation. The training sessions covered nursery management, organic fertilisers, and organic pesticides, with each village receiving seedlings and equipment. By the reporting period, a total of 7,895 seedlings were raised, and eight Farmer Field Schools were established. Further, the newly formed and registered Farmer Groups were trained in good governance to support the groups' management the villages' natural resources and to support a more just and equitable distribution of resources.

LESSONS

The success of the project depended on the effective coordination of the different stakeholders and the technical team involved. A clear lesson from the preparatory phase of the project has been to set aside enough time to ensure a successful inclusion of religious and community leaders, as their acceptance and participation in the project have been crucial for the broader implementation. Furthermore, the project has enhanced its reach in the communities by cooperating with Church leaders, as they have provided invaluable assistance in spreading awareness and knowledge of alternative farming methods to protect the resources of the surrounding forests.

EVIDENCE

The change created is documented by ongoing project monitoring, data from which is kept in the Korogwe Farmers' Association database. In addition to the data on the new agroforestry initiatives, results have also been collected by harvesting outcomes. The harvested outcomes show how farmers who have applied the new methods have already improved their income and are thereby also cutting down fewer trees in the mountain's forests.

DOMAINS

Development strategy priorities:

Democracy and Human Rights

Changes in the lives of people facing poverty, marginalisation or vulnerability

X

Changes in laws, policies and practices that affect people's rights

-

Changes in the capacity of organisations and communities to support rights

-

Changes in partnerships and collaborations that support people's rights

-

Changes in participation of groups facing poverty, marginalisation or vulnerability

X

Changes in local leadership of development and humanitarian work

-