



# **MAMBOYA ECOVILLAGE PROJECT**

## **ONGOING PROGRESS REPORT**

*Community Capacity Building on Climate Change Adaptation  
Strategies*

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*Submitted by*

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## BACKGROUND

This project aims to enable community members in Mamboya villages to conserve and restore the environment which has been far degraded by human activities such as charcoal making, deforestation and over exploitation of natural resources. These activities had impact on microclimatic condition and vegetation coverage around Mamboya village for which immediately strategies were required to rectify the negative situation started to occur. Transformation of community mindset required a participatory approach that will allow the community themselves to take actions in reflection to the impact they witness occurring due to environmental degradation and climate change.

The project aims to promote the cultivation of fruit as well as shade trees varieties using ecological techniques and building capacity for preserving, multiplying, and distributing improved varieties within and between communities. This project will significantly enhance community seedling development efforts by initiation of tree nurseries, preservation and restoration of historical sites. Capacity building will also occur through an educational component on ecological production and seedling production techniques. The project aims to reduce food insecurity, improve livelihoods and empower common groups by transferring resources and knowledge into the communities through local channels. The expected outcomes include:

- ✓ Improved access by rural community to improved fruit and wooden plant materials
- ✓ Improved nutrition and dietary diversity within the communities
- ✓ Increased income for Common groups involved in the Environmental conservation
- ✓ Enhanced capacity of community to preserve, multiply, distribute and save tree and food seeds

## PROJECT OUTCOMES

The project aims to source, propagate and multiple locally available and traditional varieties of fruit, wooden and shade tree species. Community seed and seedling needs will be regularly assessed using participatory methods. Using participatory methods, the project has identified locally appropriate and appreciated varieties that will meet the specific needs of each project community. Progress has been made in the following key areas:

### Seed Propagation

Fruit, wooden, and shade tree species were sourced from Tanzania Forest Service Agency within the Morogoro region. The project nurseries were established in Mamboya village and training materials were supported to simplify the availability of seedlings in the village. The nurseries established are now the primary source for the availability and multiplication of tree varieties in the community.

### Distribution of Plant Materials

Active learning farms have been established in a project community where Mazingira group and Church have voluntarily planted the trees and some seedlings distributed to community members. Fruit trees varieties has been established in accordance to specific community priorities and preference. However, transplanting activities for the second season is expected to commence at the peak of the wet season in October. Community planning and preparation of dry season vegetable gardens will also take over in the following months to ensure gardens are promptly established following the harvest period.

NURSERIES INVENTORY	
SEED SPECIES	QUANTITY
Cashew Tree	1011
Papaya (Pawpaw)	300
Lime	450
Moringa	623
Leucaena	123
Mango	280
Orange	350
Thorn Tree	279
Soursop Tree	91
Avocado Tree	140
Cedrela	244
<b>GRAND TOTAL</b>	<b>3,891</b>

**Community and Group Action Plan:** The community members are starting to understand the importance of preserving and conserve their natural resource and they agreed together to start planting trees varieties by preference, including differentiated lists for backyard fruit trees and community woodlots. This initiative calls for more training and planting materials for the community to multiply more seedlings of different varieties in order to accurately reflect changes in community preferences as the project progresses. It is likely that community understanding of agro-ecological issues will evolve with the farmer-to-farmer sharing experience. Regular community level meetings will ensure that project activities continue to accurately reflect community needs, challenges and priorities.



*Community members during training on capacity building on Climate Change Adaptation Strategies at Mamboya village. The two on sat are religious leaders from Anglican Churches Mamboya parish.*



*Mr. Chiduo one of the Mazingira Group member attending the tree seedlings which are planned to be distributed among members planted on October this year on individual farm*

#### Woodlot Tree Rankings (Mamboya Village)

Ranking	Species	Community Reasoning
1	Eucalyptus	Salt tolerance species for flooded or riverside areas; Provides sustainable building materials and can generate income
2	Acacia Albida	Communities generally aware of benefits to soil fertility
3	Moringa	Consumption and nutrition
4	Cedrela Odorata	Provides sustainable building materials and can generate income

The Church Congregation representative and Mazingira group will act as a guiding framework for tree planting activities, including the coordination of 2022 nursery activities. Together they will furthermore address the logistical concerns of transplanting, maintenance and monitoring. This is particularly imperative for community to arrangements for protective fences for nurseries, land preparation and community management strategies preparation, including plans for the other livelihood options and proper resource utilization.

*Fruit trees and other perennial crops have a huge impact on nutrition and food security. They are vitally important during the “hunger”*

**Risk Management:** Community level risks to tree survival include bush fires, severe erosion, termites, unethical behaviour of livestock keeper for uprooting the planted trees and the cutting down of trees for fuel or building materials. Regular meetings between village government with the beneficiaries ensure these threats are adequately and promptly addressed. Lessons learned from the during nursery establishment and tree planting will be applied to upcoming activities. For example, challenges were encountered in managing planted trees as the livestock keepers tends to graze their animals on the tree planted farms and in other case cut down and or remove the newly planted one.

**Community Partnership and Engagement:** Without adequate protection of seedlings, the survival rate of tree seedlings can be seriously jeopardized. Protection measures must both address physical fencing and the motivational interest of caretakers to water seedlings diligently. To ensure proper care and follow-up of planted trees Mazingira group have taken initiative of hiring a guard and themselves they regularly visit the farm to ensure everything goes as planned. The community nursery plots also will allow continuous seedling production at the village level, which will strengthen reforested efforts even after the end of the project

### Ecological Farmer Training

Ecological farmer training was implemented to build awareness to community members on adaptation and mitigation strategies that they can cope to reduce the effect of climate change that seem to affect their daily activities and as together they draw a plan, including techniques for utilization of resource, collection, alternative management practice such as bee keeping and selection of tree varieties to plant.

Farmer representative and local artisan were trained on the way they can make improved beehives that will enable the community to protect the trees and earn extra income from selling of honey as alternative livelihood therefore, community have received introductory trainings on agro-ecological farming techniques. As trainings progress, community members will enhance their knowledge and techniques around tree propagation and protection, seed production and saving as well as ecological vegetable production methods.



*Community members trained on how to make bee hives at Mamboya village*

Agro-ecological training modules include food security through dry season vegetable gardening; seed conservation, plant material propagation and multiplication; agro-forestry and community nursery management. As it is currently the harvesting season in Mamboya village, the upcoming training schedule will reflect the agro forestry activities whereas the majority of trainings will be concentrated between September and January when community have more available time.



*Bee feeding on Flower at Mamboya village showing the richness how it is essential to preserve and restore the environment these important pollinating agent*



*Members of Mazingira Group on a Group photo showcasing their initiative in conserving the environment through Bee keeping and Tree planting at Mamboya Village*