

TFCG's conservation activities.

Participatory forest management.

The future of Tanzania's forests depends on cooperation between stakeholders. Using its experience in working with communities, TFCG is facilitating the development of participatory forest management in over 30 villages in the Eastern Arc and Coastal Forests.

Network. TFCG's Community Forest Conservation Network links communities and organisation participating in forest management so that they can share information and learn from each other's experience.

Tree planting. Over the last ten years TFCG has supervised the planting of over one million trees. Local communities have planted the majority of these trees with technical help from TFCG. The trees are a resource aimed to reduce communities' dependence on natural forests.

Biodiversity research. TFCG supports researchers documenting the rich biodiversity of the Eastern Arc and Coastal Forests. Ongoing research includes botanical collections in partnership with the Missouri Botanical Gardens and a doctoral study of nocturnal primates.

Raising awareness about Tanzania's forests. TFCG publishes two biannual newsletters the Arc Journal and Jarida la Safu ya Milima. These are distributed free of charge to government authorities, institutions and individuals with an interest in forest conservation. TFCG also provide regular lessons to primary schools in 30 rural villages adjacent to the Eastern Arc and coastal forests.



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TFCG has recieved support from:

Africa Rainforest Conservancy, NORAD through CARE Tanzania, Netherlands Committee for IUCN, World Wide Fund for Nature, Singing for Change, M.A. Dobie and Irish Aid.

If you would like to support the conservation of Tanzania's forests please send a cheque today to the TFCG.



Tanzania Forest Conservation Group (TFCG)

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Working to Conserve Tanzania's Forests



Tanzania Forest Conservation Group (TFCG)

Tanzania's forests; an irreplaceable national and global asset.

Biodiversity

The number of endemic species per unit area is higher in Tanzania's Eastern Arc and Coastal Forests than in any other terrestrial habitat in the world.

Based on Myers et al. 2000 NATURE VOL. 403



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The Eastern Arc Mountains stretch from southern Kenya to southern Tanzania. Forests, rich in biodiversity, grow on their steep slopes. They are home to at least 74 endemic vertebrates and over 120 endemic plants. The Coastal Forests are a chain of forest fragments along the East African coast from Somalia to Mozambique. Many of these forest are very small, less than 200ha. Despite their small size they contain over 550 endemic plants.

Water The forests of the Eastern Arc are an important water catchment area. Hydropower stations supplying over 60% of Tanzania's electricity use rivers that start in the forests of the Uluguru, Usambara and Udzungwa Mountains. These forests are also the source of water for Dar es Salaam, Morogoro and Tanga as well as many other smaller communities. Forest destruction will reduce the quality of water available.

Threats to the forest The area of forest is decreasing at an alarming rate. In the Ulugurus alone one third of the forest has been cleared since 1955. Tanzania is losing its forest resource as a result of the spread of agricultural land, uncontrolled fires, charcoal production and trade in timber.

1 Ambangulu, West Usambara Mountains

For its small size, Ambangulu is possibly the richest site in all of eastern Africa according to biologist Bill Newmark. Through joint forest management with communities, the district government and the Ambangulu Tea Estate, TFCG seeks to protect this important site.

3 Kambai, East Usambara Mountains

Since 1993 the Kambai project has worked with four villages adjoining 5900 ha of evergreen forest. The project supports self-help groups engaged in tree planting. Over 60000 trees have been planted.

4 Lugoda-Lutali, Udzungwa Mountains

TFCG has assisted the communities and the District Government to develop a sustainable forest management strategy for six small forest patches.

5 Lulanda, Udzungwa Mountains

Originally a district forest reserve, TFCG has supported the re-gazettement of this forest as a village forest reserve and is assisting the community to manage it. TFCG are also assisting the community to reforest a corridor between the three forest fragments.

2 Ngulwi Forest West Usambara Mountains

An afforestation and ecotourism programme on the denuded slopes of the west Usambaras.

6 Ngaramia

By establishing participatory forest management between local communities, private land owners and the District Government, TFCG aims to conserve this small patch of coastal forest.

7 Pande 8 Ruvu South

Only 30 km from Dar es Salaam these forests are under heavy pressure. Through joint forest management, TFCG seeks to conserve these threatened patches of coastal forest through the Misitu Yetu project.

