

THE RESTORATION INITIATIVE



Newsletter

Featuring news stories and impact of The Restoration Initiative and our work with partners across the globe

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Restoring Hope: Success Stories and Milestones of The Restoration Initiative



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From Seeds to Forest: The Collaborative Journey of Chitral's Chilghoza Forests Landscape Restoration in Pakistan

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Rural women lead the change, address answers to economic and social questions of their communities through the restoration activities in DRC



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*A project implementer holds a tree seedling at a TRI intervention site in Sao Tome and Principe.
Photo - TRI / STP*



*TRI project beneficiaries producing seed balls crafted by locals to revive degraded forests.
Photo – TRI Pakistan*



From Seeds to Forests: The Collaborative Journey of Chitral's Chilgoza Forests Landscape Restoration in Pakistan

The TRI Project in Pakistan, a testament to the power of community collaboration, employed seed balls, crafted by local communities, to revive 200 hectares of degraded Chitral Chilgoza Forests. This initiative showcased an inspiring model for Forest Landscape Restoration (FLR) and underscored the significant ecological and socio-economic impact that can be achieved when local communities are empowered and involved in such projects.

FAO Pakistan is implementing the project "Reversing Deforestation and Degradation in High Conservation-Value, Chilgoza Pine Forests in Pakistan" under The Restoration Initiative (TRI). TRI aims to improve local livelihoods through increased productivity and enhanced services and functions of Chilgoza forests in Pakistan, responding to the vision that FLR is more than just planting trees; it is restoring a whole landscape to meet present and future needs and offering multiple benefits and land uses over time. The project is operative in the District Chitral of Khyber Pukhtunkhaw, Sherani District of Balochistan, the South-Waziristan District of the former Federally Administered Tribal Areas, and Diamer District of Gilgit-Baltistan, and applies the FLR approach holistically.

The Chitral Chilgoza Forests landscape, a vital resource for the indigenous Kalash and Khow communities, has faced challenges. However, hope was restored through the use of a simple yet innovative solution – seed balls, which actively involved local communities. This led to the revival of over 200 hectares of previously degraded forest, significantly improving the livelihoods of these

communities and fostering a sense of optimism for the future. These seed balls were then thrown into identified degraded sites with potential for FLR, which were jointly identified by project staff and local Chilgoza Forest Protection Committees during the annual ANR survey and monitoring in the target valleys in Chitral.

Mr. Unat Baig Kalash, a 55-year-old village elder and project beneficiary, emphasised the pivotal role of seed balls, saying, "We planted hope in the form of seed balls, and now our forest is flourishing with life. It is a testament to what a united community can achieve, and we are overjoyed to witness this beautiful transformation. Our seed balls have brought our forest back to life, and they symbolize the power of collective action and a shared commitment to our Forest restorations.

The local people, including women, prepared 3 million seed balls of Chilgoza Pine and deodar and sown in the forest areas before and after the snowfall. These seed balls sprouted into young plants, lovingly nurtured by the local community under an Assisted Natural Regeneration system, with the aid of a local guard, a Forest Negihban, hired and supported by the project to protect these ANR sites.

Another beneficiary, Ms. Sachin Gul, 54 expressed her delight, "These tiny seed balls are just magical! They have completely transformed our approach to forest restoration. Now, whenever we head into the forest for grazing or collecting Non-Timber Forest Products, we carry these seed balls with us and scatter them around. They are truly amazing", added Sachin Gul.



Pakistan Stove distribution ceremony in South Waziristan. Photo – TRI Pakistan



Beyond the ecological renewal, this project has empowered local communities by offering socio-economic benefits, including improved ecosystem services, increased availability of non-timber forest products, and new ecotourism opportunities.

The success of the seed ball-based approach in Chitral serves as an invaluable model for restoration efforts for FLR elsewhere. Its scalability and potential for replication, along with the integration of modern technology, shed light on the promising future of this nature-based restoration method.

Chitral's success story is a testament to what can be achieved when nature and communities work hand in hand.

The FAO under TRI Chilgoza Project collaborated with various stakeholders, including the Khyber Pakhtunkhwa Forest department, local community members, dedicated village volunteers, and female groups. Together, they received comprehensive training sessions on making seed balls and techniques for Forest Landscape Restoration.

This training aimed to empower them to actively rehabilitate degraded and deforested areas within the forest landscape. The initiative sought to harness their collective efforts in distributing seed balls strategically across these affected regions, fostering a proactive approach to environmental conservation and restoration.



Project implementers produce seed balls in Pakistan. Photo - TRI / Pakistan

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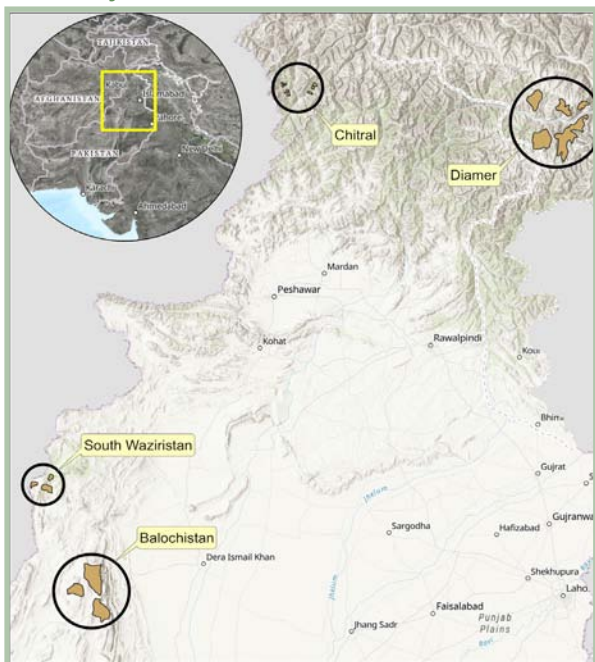
“These tiny seed balls are just magical! They have completely transformed our approach to forest restoration. Now, whenever we head into the forest for grazing or collecting Non-Timber Forest Products, we make sure to carry these seed balls with us and scatter them around. They are truly amazing.”

- Ms. Sachin Gul, a beneficiary of TRI Project in Pakistan

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Pakistan - Our Journey, Our Impact

TRI Project Sites



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Project Updates and Achievements

In Pakistan, the TRI Project introduced safe, ergonomic tools and provided 600 Chilgoza harvesting toolkits and capacity-building initiatives. These empowered local collectors to adopt sustainable harvesting practices, resulting in increased production, healthier forests, and time savings. Among other achievements reported are:

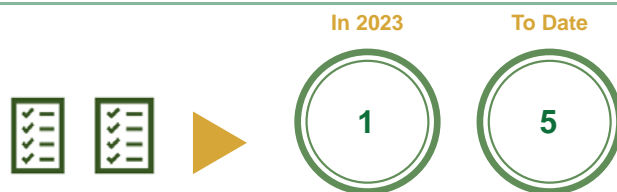
- Fourteen Chilgoza Forest Conservation and Protection Committees (CFPCs) have been constituted, which play a key role in restoration efforts. The project has established 48 Assisted Natural Regeneration (ANR) sites covering an area of 2853 hectares (ha). Due to the grazing exclusion by the CFPC, around 11 million seedlings have emerged.
- Agroforestry: This activity is in line with the Ministry of Climate Change (MoCC) 10 Billion Tree project, and is a good tool to divert pressure from natural forests. Thus far, the project has provided 919,655 forest and 77,397 fruit plants, covering 953 ha of land.
- The project has prepared a forest management and utilization plan for Baluchistan covering 26,000 hectares, which is unique in its type as it focuses on the production in forest restoration. Overall, 815 stakeholders (700 male; 115 female) received training and participated in capacity development workshops.

The TRI project in Pakistan implemented a forest conservation project successfully and rehabilitated 35,000 hectares of the Pine Nut Forest Landscape using ANR. Similarly, natural regeneration in devastated areas has significantly improved, gradually restoring the forest landscape.

To counter fuelwood overuse, the project introduced fuel-efficient stoves and fast-growing firewood species, positively impacting resource conservation. Fuel wood consumption has decreased while renewable energy sources have increased, making the efforts worthwhile and consumption now sustainable.

Impact in numbers

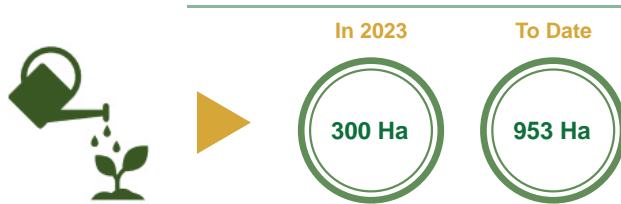
Adopted policies to support forest & landscape restoration



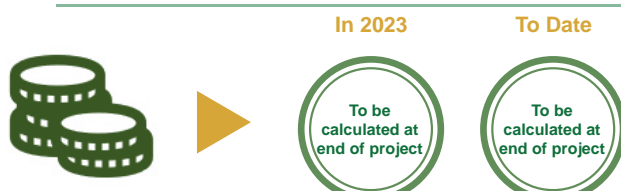
Area of land under restoration



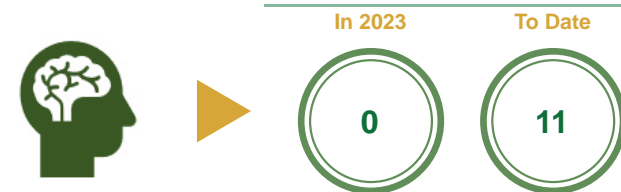
Area of land under improved management



Value of resources for forest & landscape restoration



TRI knowledge products produced





Forest and land management experts inspecting a project intervention in Sao Tome and Principe.



Enabling the Financial Sector as the Driving Force of Forest Landscape Restoration

One of the key barriers to expanded and scaled-up implementation of Forest Landscape Restoration (FLR) is a lack of financing and credit for businesses, including smallholder farmers, to invest in FLR.

Many businesses that have seen their farms, wood lots, landholdings and supply chains impacted by land degradation would like to invest in restoration measures that offer a potentially good return. However, access to capital for restoration can be hard for several reasons. These include unfamiliarity with FLR within the banking sector, uncertainty on how to price risk and compensate investors for the multiple benefits, including public benefits, that come from FLR, and lack of even basic lines of credit for many smallholders.

The TRI project in São Tomé e Príncipe (STP) is working to address these barriers. In collaboration with the Association of Banks (ASB), an umbrella institution representing the five largest private banks that operate in the country, and the public Central Bank of STP, the project is helping advance an ambitious program of work encompassing changes to national policy, along with capacity building and development of tailored financial instruments for the financial sector.

The goal is to help spur new flows of public and private finance into restoration and sustainable land management in STP.

In April 2023, two training courses on Green Finance were held under FAO's TRI project in STP. The activities

were foreseen under Cooperation Agreements signed between the FAO STP and the Central Bank of the country, which is also its banking and insurance regulator, as well as the Association of STP Banks, which brings together the four banks operating in the country: BISTP, Afriland, Ecobank and BGF.I.

The first of the trainings also had the participation of members of public bodies of STP as speakers: representatives of the Directorate-General of the Environment and Natural Resources, the Directorate of Geology and Mines, the National Institute of Water, the Directorate of Energy, the Directorate of Forests and Biodiversity and the Ministry of Agriculture, which presented the main legislations of the country in their areas of activity, the most critical environmental, social and climate problems and the relevant data they can make available to the financial sector.

The training phase was successful, as attendance was high and we managed to involve entities that were not on the project radar at the beginning, such as insurance companies.

In October 2023, TRI Project hosted the second training which was exclusive to the Central Bank of STP. It focused on how banking and insurance regulators worldwide have addressed socio-environmental and climate issues in their regulations, providing guidelines and strategies for evaluating STP's financial market. Topics such as green, social, sustainable sovereign bonds, microfinance, FinTechs, and developing Green, Social, or Sustainable Taxonomies were explored.



The contents of the training addressed the various stages of socio-environmental and climate risk management, from identifying risks (and which sources of information are needed), their assessment and classification, their monitoring and how this can be considered in the decision process of granting credit or insurance coverage.

Governance aspects of the topic in banking and insurance institutions were also addressed, as well as financial products with a positive environmental or social impact and appropriate ways to report on sustainability issues.

The Project is now implementing a second training phase, which is planned to start in July 2024. Under the cooperation agreements, TRI STP will deliver the following:

- Technical support to the Central Bank in analysing the inputs and contributions that will stem from the public consultation process on the management of environmental and socio-environmental risks in the financial sector.
- Deepening the dialogue with the insurance sector of STP on climate and socio-environmental-related risks and opportunities.
- Dialogue with the executive and legislative authorities of STP on the proposed legislation on the sustainable taxonomy of economic activities and projects.

- Dialogues with the executive authority on the need to strengthen environmental inspection measures and greater transparency/accessibility of information about the activities of the public institutions in charge of forest conservation/restoration and related matters, including the Directorate of Forests and Biodiversity, the Directorate of Geology and Mines Directorate, and the Directorate of the Environment.
- Preparation of sectoral questionnaires containing:
1) a list of legal compliance items to be verified;
2) questions regarding key climate and socio-environmental performance indicators to be posed to client companies/potential credit borrowers – which will be adopted as a voluntary initiative by the ABS.

The financial component of the TRI project includes elaborating proposals for banking and insurance regulations in STP on Environmental, Social and Climate, as well as a Code of Conduct for the Banking Association.

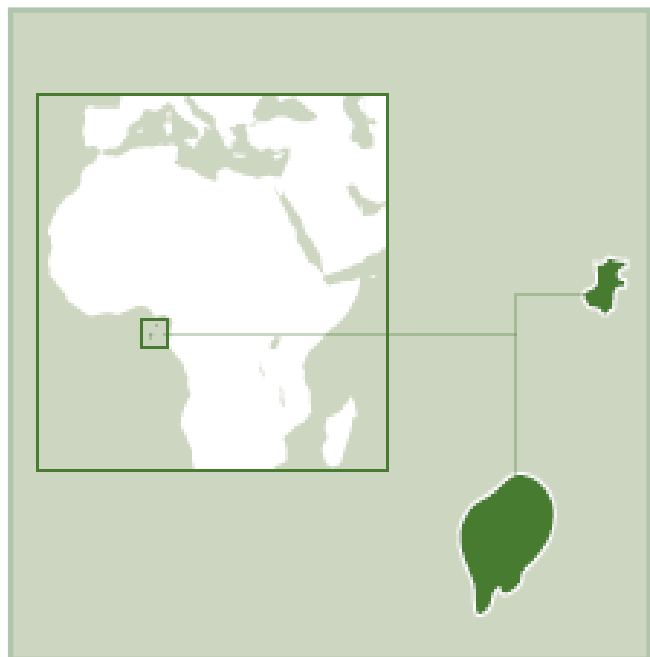
The goal is to shift the financial sector away from financing activities that cause environmental, social, and climate degradation towards supporting the transition to a green economy and aligning capital flow with the country's sustainable development needs.



*Project implementers plant trees at a TRI Intervention site in Sao Tome and Principe.
Photo - TRI / STP*

Sao Tome and Principe - Our Journey, Our Impact

TRI Project Sites



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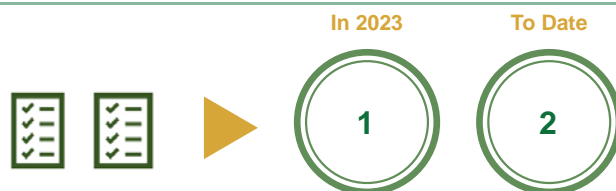
In Sao Tome and Principe, the project established a network of 31 public and private nurseries, which so far have produced more than 200,000 seedlings from over 30 species.

The nurseries produce endemic and high-ecological value species, together with fast-growing ones and species of economic interest (i.e., fruit trees) that are being used in the FLR program.

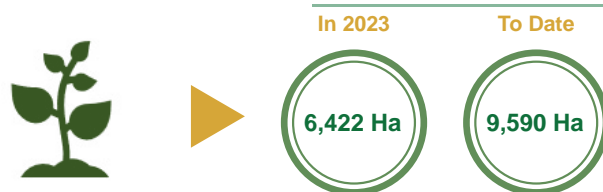
For the first time in the country, nurseries have been set up for the specific production of mangrove species.

Impact in numbers

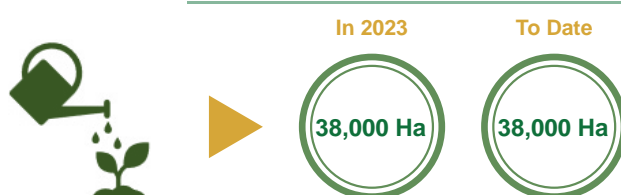
Adopted policies to support forest & landscape restoration



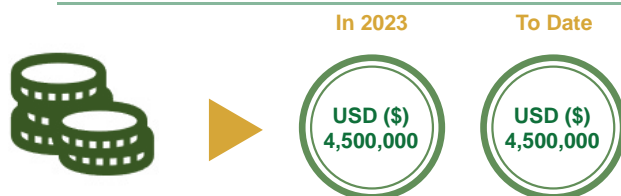
Area of land under restoration



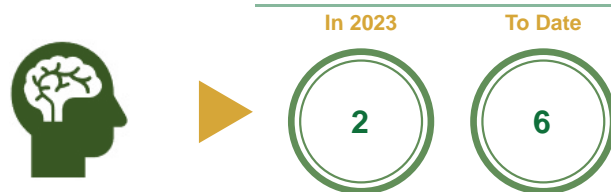
Area of land under improved management



Value of resources for forest & landscape restoration



TRI knowledge products produced



Project Updates and Achievements

The Restoration Initiative in Sao Tome and Principe achieved the following

- 9590 hectares of degraded secondary forest and agroforestry land under restoration.
- 91,401 seedlings belonging to 61 different tree species produced in 2023 by a network of public and private nurseries.
- 5,723 beneficiaries reached by the FLR program of TRI-STP, including recipients of training of FLR and seedling production, and people directly involved in the FLR works.
- Second phase of the partnership with Association of Banks of STP and Central Bank successfully completed.
- NTFP value chain projects in four communities (honey and whelks) completed with the involvement of 831 beneficiaries.
- New project successfully submitted to the GEF8-Ecosystem Restoration Integrated Programme (ERIP) to extend the work of TRI.
- Eight bankable projects under implementation



A fodder plantation in Ilalasimba village in Tanzania. Photo: IUCN Tanzania

Empowering Women in Ilalasimba: 400% Yield Increase through Forest Landscape Restoration

In Ilalasimba village, located in Tanzania’s Iringa Region, women primarily engage in agricultural activities. A recent visit by the project team to the village working with The Restoration Initiative highlighted the story of Amina Mtuya, a 54-year-old housewife and livestock farmer. Read her story below.

“For many years, I have been living on subsistence farming. Because of low yields, I highly depended on forest resources for collecting firewood for household use and selling. We have used a small number of cattle to graze freely in the forest reserve. We noticed the trend of a declining landscape but cared more about our own well-being and our livestock. As a farmer, I have been faced with many challenges – inadequate rains, poor farming practices, deteriorating soils and pests and diseases. All these resulted in very low yields. Our cattle did not increase in numbers as anticipated due to limited access to nutritious fodder and inadequate extension services. I could hardly get a litre of milk per cow per day. The combined income from crop and milk sales couldn’t help meet family needs.” Said Amina.

A community meeting about environmental protection and sustainable livelihood practices introduced Amina to TRI. Amina added, “I heard about the TRI at a community meeting organised to sensitise villagers on environmental protection and sustainable livelihood practices. The Community Development Officer called for community participation in this project to help address land degradation and improve our livelihood. I was glad to

learn that the project will support environmentally friendly income-generating activities to reduce dependence on natural resources. I mobilised my colleagues to be ready to participate in this opportunity”.

Amina continued, “Through TRI, fellow members of our women group and I were supported with 3 improved local breeds of cattle and received training on raising improved local cattle breeds. We were trained to grow fodder for livestock and apply climate-smart agriculture (CSA) practices and technologies. We received further support for post-harvest management and marketing of milk. With TRI support, milk yield has increased more than fivefold from 1-2 litres to 10 litres per cow per day. In terms of revenues, based on an average price of TZS 950 (USD 0.41) per litre, this represents an increment in revenues from TZS 1,900 (USD 0.8) to TZS 9,500 (USD 4.1) per cow per day”.

“

We are just at the beginning. Rearing improved local cattle is a new thing to us in this community. We are seeing the value of this project, and so are many community members, particularly women and youth. Other villagers are contacting us and the district officials to connect to this initiative.

”



Village assembly discussing village land use plans and by-laws in Nkanga village, Sumbawanga District. of Tanzania. Photo - NLUPC.



She spoke on how her community has also been impacted or changed because of being a part of The Restoration Initiative.

“We are excited to get this much milk and income from fewer cattle. In this early stage of the TRI Project, I would say my life is under transformation”. she added.

Amina continued, “We are just at the beginning. Rearing improved local cattle is a new thing to us in this community. We are seeing the value of this project, and so are many community members, particularly women and youth. They are contacting us and the district officials to join this initiative. More agro-pastoralists are eager to convert to sustainable livestock management practices to reduce encroachment and degradation of the forest reserves and water sources”.

She further provided insights into her plans - “We are now operating as a group, which is a farmer field school in our community. Our plan, however, is for each group member to have their own cattle. We are keen to intervene along the milk value chain and explore a bigger market for our milk products.

We are opening a fodder farm to meet the pasture needs of our cattle and sell the remaining to other villagers. While doing this, CSA will be the way to go in agriculture while also participating actively in the protection of our forest resources and water sources”, added Amina.

She concluded, “TRI is a miracle. We are so proud of what they have done already and are planning to do in the future. Our lives are forever changed. Our livelihoods

are saved. Our environment is undergoing restoration”. The TRI Tanzania project has strengthened governance mechanisms and capacities for sustainable land management, with over 3,826 community members (2,038 men and 1,788 women) already directly benefitting from capacity-building opportunities on climate-smart agriculture (crop, livestock, fisheries), sustainable forest management and sustainable livelihoods initiatives.

TRI’s project in the United Republic of Tanzania is designed to strengthen integrated natural resource management and restoration of degraded landscapes for resilient socioecological systems in the United Republic of Tanzania.

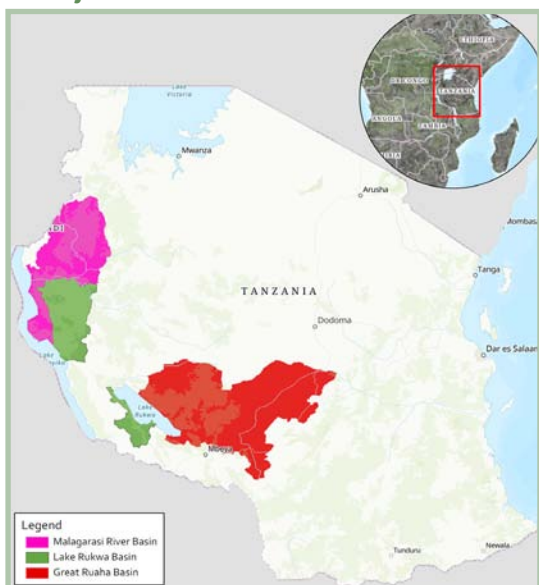
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Our environment is undergoing
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United Republic of Tanzania - Our Journey, Our Impact

TRI Project Sites



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Project Updates and Achievements

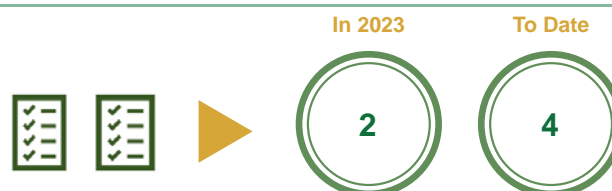
- An area of 22,971 hectares of community forests has been demarcated and conserved; established 12 tree nurseries with 1,006,838 seedlings; and 304,780 trees planted in degraded areas.
- Facilitated 2,500 households to access clean water for domestic, livestock and irrigation use through the provision of three (3) deep wells and 7 water distribution points with 6,350m distribution network.
- Supported the preparation of Village Land Use Plans in 15 villages thus enhancing sustainable management of natural resources and livelihoods.
- Enhanced capacity of 3,142 community members (1,372 women) through tailored training on climate smart agriculture and livestock; supported with 15 pasture demo plots and 31 farmer field schools (FFS).
- Supported engagement of 684 community members in alternative income generation activities, to reduce overdependence on forest resources, on fish farming beekeeping (682 beehives), livestock keeping (6 dairy cows and 95 dairy goats) and a 5,000 litres per day milk collection centre.

TRI project team in Tanzania supported the establishment of 12 tree nurseries holding 1,006,838 seedlings and 304,780 trees were planted in degraded areas. This will improve the flow of ecosystem services, biodiversity conservation and community resilience and livelihoods.

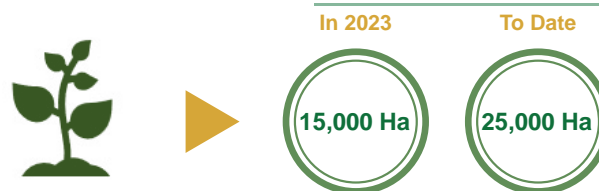
The project also supported 2,500 households to access clean water for domestic, livestock and irrigation use through the provision of three (3) deep wells and 7 water distribution points with 6,350 m distribution network.

Impact in numbers

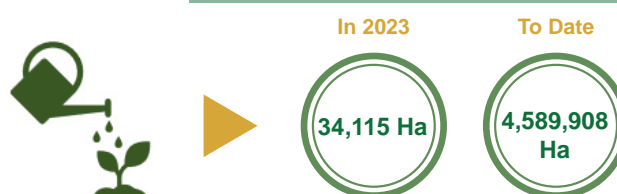
Adopted policies to support forest & landscape restoration



Area of land under restoration



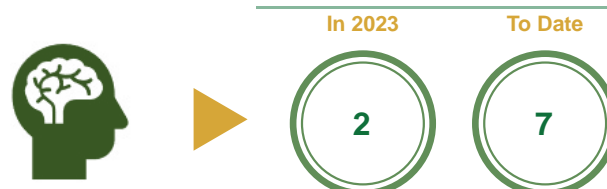
Area of land under improved management



Value of resources for forest & landscape restoration



TRI knowledge products produced





Mwaimiriza Angeline at one of the tree nursery plantations in DRC. Photo – TRI / DRC

Rural Women Transform Communities through Forest and Landscape Restoration in DRC

TRI in DRC is working to bring positive change, by helping stakeholders to design and put into place restoration interventions that meet the needs of local communities and landscapes.

One way the TRI project in DRC is working is by supporting the development of a Provincial Forest and Landscape Restoration Strategy. This strategy lays out priority sites and approaches for restoration, including assisted natural regeneration, agroforestry, and protection of the watershed through anti soil-erosion plantings and other measures.

Our project team interviewed a beneficiary of the TRI Project in Kashanja Village, located in Walungu Territory, a territory located within the South Kivu Province in the eastern part of the Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC)

Mwaimiriza Angeline, a female member of a local development initiative in Kashanja village and a member of club Dimitra in the Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC) tells her story.

“We work for the development of our communities through the planting and installation of nurseries for the production of seedlings of forest and agro-forestry species. One of our objectives through this program is the empowerment of rural women. In the context of environmental protection and with the technical support of our partners (FAO) and APES), our capacities were built on the production of tree seedlings”, said Angeline.

She continued, “Our goal is to reforest the bare hills over there (pointing to the hills in the TRI project site), fertilise our soils, combat erosion, and produce wood / timbre products for our own needs. Our association also has an objective of mutual aid. We carry out income-generating activities such as breeding guinea pigs which was initiated through the support of Village Savings and Loans Association (VSLA). This allows us to provide assistance to one another in the community in times of need. I can therefore conclude that from this small initiative of producing seedlings, our group has been able to promote agricultural activities, and from this, we are now able to address the answers to the economic and social questions of our members here in our village Kashanja, in the chiefdom of Ngweshe, in the Territory of Walungu, Province of South Kivu, in the Democratic Republic of Congo” added Angeline.

She spoke on their challenges, “Initially we encountered difficulties on the availability of forest seeds for planting. As a solution, we now collect seeds locally from trees that we really like and that are of interest to our members. This activity has helped us and is of great interest to members of our community in this village”.

Addressing land degradation is a priority for South Kivu, the TRI project is supporting government and community partners in this effort in several ways including the development of a provincial-level strategy for forest landscape restoration (FLR) in the chiefdoms of Kabaré and Ngweshe.

The Democratic Republic of Congo - Our Journey, Our Impact

TRI Project Sites



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Project Updates and Achievements

Some of the notable achievements in the DRC are:

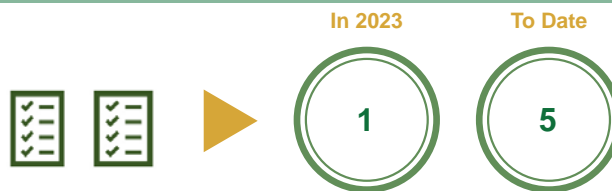
- Kabare and Ngweshe chiefdoms, located in the Walungu territory of the South Kivu region, are implementing FLR activities successfully, thereby reducing degradation through the promotion of good forest and landscape restoration practices, including reforestation, erosion control, agroforestry, NTFP and fruit trees planting.
- To this end, 65 micro-restoration projects were financed and implemented in the two chiefdoms, with 12% of the beneficiaries' own contributions.
- Educational materials, illustrated guides and technical sheets (grafting of fruit trees, erosion control, agroforestry) have been developed by the project and used by members of the Dimitra Clubs to guide the restoration of agricultural and forest lands.
- The Provincial Coordination of Environment has received training to enhance its capacity to coordinate restoration actions across the South Kivu Province, with the Provincial Strategy for FLR adopted. The two chiefdoms have drawn up appendices to the Local Development Plans (LDP), which incorporate restoration and sustainable management approaches for their forests and degraded lands.

In DRC, the TRI Project produced and distributed at least 3,022,402 seedlings of various appropriate species to 5,828 beneficiary households for the implementation of restoration options on 3,920 ha through: pure reforestation, erosion control, agroforestry, and fruit trees.

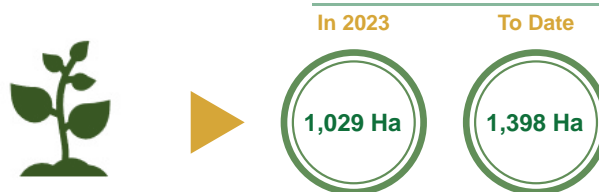
Various products and technical sheets (fruit tree grafting, erosion control and agroforestry) have been developed and used by Dimitra Club members to put agricultural and forest land under restoration.

Impact in numbers

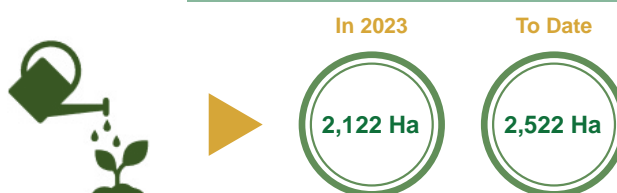
Adopted policies to support forest & landscape restoration



Area of land under restoration



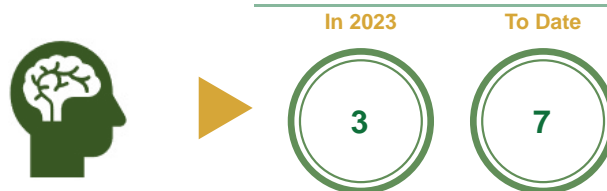
Area of land under improved management



Value of resources for forest & landscape restoration



TRI knowledge products produced





Tree Seed collection and pre-sowing treatment. Photo - TRI / UNEP Kenya

Restoration and green value chain development increase communities' resilience to drought in Kenya's Tana River Delta Region

The economy and livelihoods of communities in the Tana Delta largely depend on natural resources derived from wetlands, rangelands, forests and farmland. Restoration and sustainable management of these resources are therefore critical, given their crucial role in sustaining life-support systems and powering the economy.

Since 2022, the TRI Tana Delta project has supported communities in making notable progress in integrated natural resource management and restoring degraded landscapes. A significant achievement is local communities' enhanced resilience to climate change's adverse effects, partly due to their access to restoration and green value chain development benefits.

Overgrazing caused by overstocking is one of the drivers of degradation in the Tana Delta. The establishment of pasture seedbanks supports the local community in growing and managing their pasture to ensure sufficient supply during drought. Pasture seedbanks have multiple benefits: the restored grass sequesters carbon, besides supporting livestock production. It also helps bind soil, enhancing water infiltration and soil organic matter. Biodiversity, such as grassland birds, has increased on lands where pasture has been re-established. The pasture seedbanks contributed to reducing drought severity in 2022 in the Tana Delta Region of Kenya.

Between July 2023 and May 2024, an additional 106.5 ha of pasture seed bank was established by 275 beneficiaries, bringing the cumulative figure of land

under pasture seedbanks to 561.48 ha.

Management of the planted pastures is done by beneficiaries who treat them as a crop and make efforts to secure them from free-ranging livestock. The county government and local administration played a key role in community sensitisation and peacebuilding, contributing to social fencing and safeguarding planted pasture seedbanks.

On this front, the TRI Tana project has facilitated several meetings convened by the county commissioner's office to address grazing control issues. At the policy level, the project has supported the Tana River County government in preparing and endorsing the Livestock Grazing Control Act, which provides a basis for regulating grazing.

The TRI Tana Delta project promotes a community-driven approach to restoration. Over the period of one year (2022 – 2023) the project built the community's indigenous tree seed collection capacity. The project also facilitated community groups to collect 2,940 Kg of seeds that were dried and sown on degraded lands totalling 1,500 ha.

Restoration through seeding was guided by the Restoration Opportunity Assessment Methodology (ROAM) and aligned to restoration action plans of the respective local resource user groups. During the same period, the TRI Tana project supported communities in producing 159,000 tree seedlings (86,000 in 2022 and 73,000 in 2023) planted on 226 ha of degraded forest land, cropland, wetlands and rangelands.



*Participatory Forest Management Plans (PFMP) launch event in Kenya Tana Delta region.
Photo - UNEP Kenya*

Another notable achievement was the Shakako Community Conservancy, measuring approximately 1,800 ha, registered with the Kenya Wildlife Conservancies Association.

This is a critical step towards realising the project's target of having 116,867 ha of multiple-use Indigenous community conservation areas (ICCAs) in the Tana Delta to benefit globally important biodiversity. Establishing and registering conservancies, as stipulated by the Wildlife Conservation and Management Act of 2013, provides a stronger legal framework for restoration work in Tana than the informal ICCA framework.

The Tana ICCA was established within the framework of 'other effective area-based conservation measures' (OECMs), which are areas that are achieving the long-term and effective in-situ conservation of biodiversity outside of protected areas.

Significant progress was also made towards the development of green value chains and the establishment of market linkages.

This helped to deliver economic benefits to households and promoted biodiversity conservation by encouraging sustainable land management and restoration in production processes.

Eleven functional cooperatives were established focusing on nature-based enterprises (fish farming, beekeeping, crop production, galla goat rearing, dairy production, and agroforestry).

A suite of seven biodiversity-linked/nature-based income-generating activities (IGAs) was implemented, directly benefiting 5,045 (2369M, 2674F) households from nature-based livelihoods, earning USD 280,223, and products valued at USD 460,077 were consumed at household level.

The capacity of 17,152 (8,370 males, 8,782 females) individuals drawn from four Community Forest Associations, five Water Resource Users Associations and 11 cooperatives was enhanced on FLR.

Equator Kenya Ltd, a private company, is already engaged in the chilli value chain. Discussions are ongoing with four potential companies (Afritec Seeds Limited, Burton & Bamber Co Ltd, Kilifi Moringa, OLVEA-Simsim) to invest in other value chains. Accessibility to benefits associated with green value chains strengthened community resilience, enhancing their adaptive capacity to cope with the negative impacts of climate change.

During 2023, 101,971 Ha was put under participatory forest management with the completion of four Participatory Forest Management Plans for Chara, Kipini, Kilelengwani, and Ozi forests. In addition, Community Forest Associations (CFAs) negotiated and signed forest management agreements with the Kenya Forest Service for four forests.

Developing green value chains has fostered an environment conducive to restoration and biodiversity conservation in production systems, significantly contributing to the project's objectives.

Kenya Tana Delta

- Our Journey, Our Impact

TRI Project Sites



The boundaries and names shown and the designations used on this map do not imply official endorsement or acceptance by the United Nations.



Project Updates and Achievements

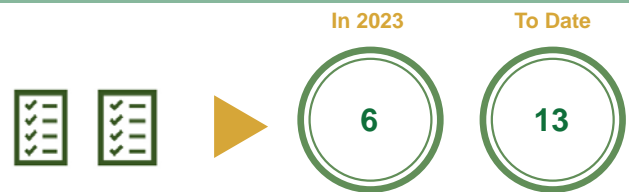
- In order to create an enabling policy environment for FLR, 11 policies have been endorsed. In addition, 130,000 ha of Tana Delta has mechanisms in place for sustainable land management. Similarly, 116,867 of the 130,000 Ha is under Indigenous Community Conservation Areas (ICCAs), with ongoing capacity-building actions to strengthen the adoption of sustainable land management.
- Cumulatively, 8,462 ha of degraded areas has been brought under direct restoration through seeding using indigenous tree seeds, tree planting via seedlings & establishment of pasture seed banks.
- 17,152 people (8370 Male, 8782 Female) drawn from the community within Lamu and Tana Delta were trained on assorted topics as relates to restoration, enterprise development and sustainable land management.
- The Green Heart Joint Committee is in place attracting investors to invest in green value chains under Green Heart Initiative, where 11 functional cooperatives are in place investing in six value chains. Out of this, 5,045 (2369M, 2674F) HH benefited from nature-based livelihoods, earning USD 280,223, in addition to products valued at USD 460,077 consumed at household level.

The TRI Kenya Tana delta project has developed 21 enabling policies (5 Policies and 6 Legislations on FLR endorsed), which triggered access to USD 6,795,917 for FLR through climate financing by Tana and Lamu County governments and brought 8,462 Ha of degraded land under restoration.

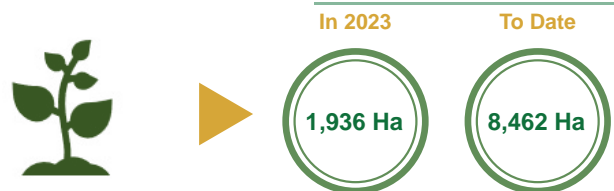
The project has facilitated community consultations with Community Forest Associations (CFAs) for the elaboration of 4 Participatory Forest Management Plans (PFMPs) and Forest Management Agreements (FMAs), whose signature with KFS has led to 101,971 hectares put under Participatory Forest Management.

Impact in numbers

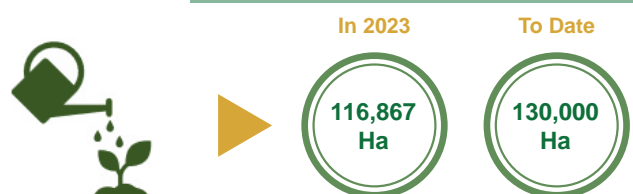
Adopted policies to support forest & landscape restoration



Area of land under restoration



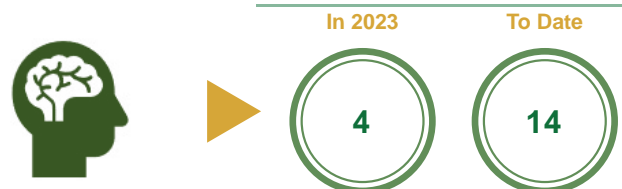
Area of land under improved management



Value of resources for forest & landscape restoration



TRI knowledge products produced



Photonews



A fruit plantation at a TRI intervention site in Sao Tome and Principe, Photo - TRI / STP



Project implementer displays some of the tree seedlings at the Campo do Milho nursery in Sao Tome and Principe. Photo - TRI / STP



TRI stakeholders meeting in Pakistan. Photo - TRI/Pakistan



Sunflower farmer tills his farm in Tana Delta Region of Kenya - Photo - UNEP Kenya



Women in Kenya Tana Delta region engaging in the production and sale of honey. Photo - UNEP Kenya.



TRI stakeholders carry out the Implementation of erosion control in Mulungu, DRC. Photo - TRI / DRC,



TRI intervention site in Tanzania. Photo - TRI / Tanzania



Tanzania Project engages stakeholders from Team Greater Ruaha in a group photo. Photo - TRI / Tanzania

The Restoration Initiative (TRI) unites 10 countries and three Global Environment Facility agencies – the International Union for Conservation of Nature, the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations and the United Nations Environment Program (UNEP).

TRI works together with governments and strategic partners to overcome existing barriers to restore degraded landscapes for people and nature, as a contribution to the Bonn Challenge and the UN Decade on Ecosystem Restoration 2020 - 2030.

To learn more, visit [The Restoration Initiative webpage](#). 

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