



GLOBAL ECOLOGY RESTORATION FOUNDATION

ANNUAL REPORT 2024.



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A WORD FROM: OUR EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR.

As we reflect on 2024, we celebrate a year of meaningful progress in our mission to restore ecosystems, empower communities and advance climate resilience across Tanzania. Through the dedication of our team the trust of our partners and the participation of local communities, GERF has continued to turn environmental challenges into opportunities for sustainable growth.

This year marked important milestones from training small tree growers on carbon markets and piloting solar energy solutions to engaging women, youth and people with disabilities in community restoration efforts. These initiatives have not only strengthened environmental stewardship but have also improved livelihoods and social inclusion

Our work reaffirms that ecological restoration is more than planting trees, it is about rebuilding relationships between people and nature. As we look ahead to 2025, GERF remains committed to deepening partnerships, scaling community led solutions and championing a future where both people and the planet thrive together.



Mr Chris Mahundi | ED.



OUR MISSION

To provide people with the opportunity of repair ecological damage while also improving the human condition. Ecological restoration becomes a fundamental component of conservation and sustainable development programs throughout the world by virtue of its inherent capacity.

OUR VISION

To encourage the science, practice and policy of ecology restoration to sustain biodiversity, improve resilience to climate change, and re- establish an ecologically healthy ecosystem between nature and culture.

OUR OBJECTIVES

- To simplify and conjoin the global conservation, restoration and education programs.
- Engage the community in conservation, restoration, protection and education on ecological activities for habitual practical change.

Community Empowerment.

GERF believes that knowledge is the foundation of lasting change, by training communities especially women, school children, youth and people with disabilities on carbon projects opportunities, environmental conservation and green livelihoods, we equip them with the skills to access resources, build sustainable future

Nature and Environment.

Our intervention in tree growing, ocean clean ups and ecological conservation show that restoring ecosystems leads to healthier communities and new opportunities.

Through grassroot actions, we promote climate resilience and inspire stewardship of natural resources.

Pathway To Impact

Clean and Renewable Energy.

We recognize that renewable energy is central to development, by piloting productive use of solar energy, GERF empowers farmers, pastoralist, food vendors, salon operators and community at large to harness clean power for improved

Advocacy & Partnerships

Through proposal writing and strategic collaborations, GERF mobilizes resources and strengthens partnerships that scale community driven solutions. This ensures the marginalized voices are included in national and global conservation on climate and development.



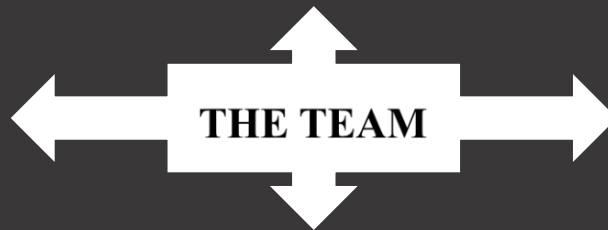
CHRIS MAHUNDI
EXECUTIVE
DIRECTOR



FORTUNATUS HENRY
PROJECT MANAGER
&PDO



MARY ARAKA
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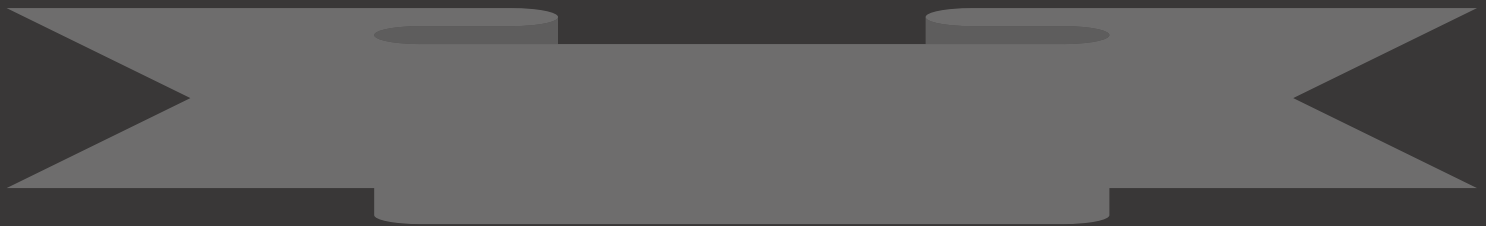


JESCA ALEX KOMBE
PROJECT OFFICER &
PDO



JACKSON NGUMBA
OPERATION MANAGER

**COMMUNITY
INITIATIVES,
PROGRAMS AND
ACTIVITIES FOR
YEAR 2024.**



In 2024, GERF implemented a range of community-centered initiatives aimed at mobilizing grassroots actions, advocating for inclusive climate solutions, educating stakeholders, empowering vulnerable groups, promoting environmental conservation and advancing sustainable development. These programs reflected our commitment to working with women, youth, children, people with disabilities and local communities to create lasting change.

TRAINING ON CARBON PROJECTS AND MARKETS.

GERF in partnership with Tanzania Tree Growers Association Union (TTGAU) trained 25 small tree growers through a Training of Trainers (TOT) on carbon projects and markets in Kilolo District, Iringa Region. The training aimed to build their understanding of the entire cycle of carbon projects from how carbon credits are generated, monitored and verified to how investors engage in nature-based solutions such as tree planting and forest conservation.



THE MOTIVATION BEHIND:

Many small holder's farmers in Tanzania possess limited understanding of carbon markets and how carbon projects operated. This lack of knowledge hinders their ability to participate in carbon credit initiatives and benefits from climate finance opportunities.

Participants were equipped with knowledge on the opportunities and challenges and the session cover both technical and practical aspect of carbon market, including community benefits, investors expectations and sustainable management of tree growing projects. By targeting small tree growers, GERN ensured that the whole Tanzania Tree Growers Association Union (TTGAU) farmers and local communities are not only aware of carbon financing mechanisms but are also capable of leading discussions and negotiations when investors express interest in their land and resources.

These 25 trainers are now positioned to cascade their learning within their farmer groups and villages, creating broader awareness, encouraging participation in carbon initiatives and enhancing community readiness to benefit from climate finance.



SMALL TREE GROWERS PROPOSAL DEVELOPMENT

Following the training for small tree growers on carbon trade and market opportunities, GERN organized a focused proposal development activity to translate the knowledge gained into a concrete plan for supporting community-based tree-growing initiatives. Over the course of one week, GERN staff collaborated closely with TTGAU staff to develop a detailed project proposal targeting small-scale tree growers.

The proposal is designed to support growers in sustaining and expanding their tree production while creating additional income opportunities through participation in carbon credit projects. The process involved identifying challenges faced by small tree growers, exploring market

opportunities for carbon credits, and designing practical strategies to link tree-growing activities with income generation.

This activity not only strengthened GERF's internal capacity in project planning and proposal development but also fostered collaboration between staff and partners. By enabling small tree growers to benefit economically from carbon projects, the initiative contributes to environmental conservation, promotes sustainable livelihoods, and enhances community resilience against climate change.

OCEAN CLEAN UP's

GERF implemented results-oriented beach clean-up interventions that contributed to reduced coastal pollution, improved community awareness, and strengthened environmental stewardship. The initiative resulted in systematic beach waste collection, with waste segregated and sorted to support recycling and proper disposal pathways, thereby reducing the volume of waste entering the marine ecosystem.

Environmental education and awareness sessions reached community members and volunteers, leading to increased understanding of marine pollution, plastic reduction, and sustainable waste management practices. Sanitation and hygiene materials were distributed, contributing to improved public health and cleanliness in coastal areas.

Ecosystem restoration outcomes were supported through mangrove and coastal tree planting activities, while marine litter data was collected to inform evidence-based planning, monitoring, and future programming. Strong community engagement and volunteer mobilization enhanced local ownership and participation, improving the sustainability of project results.

To reinforce long-term behavior change, waste bins and environmental signage were installed at strategic locations. Documentation and media coverage were conducted to ensure transparency, accountability, and donor visibility, while also supporting learning and knowledge dissemination.



ogy Restoration Foundation)

PRODUCTIVE USE OF SOLAR ENERGY (PUSE) PILOT TRAINING

Under the Productive Use of Solar Energy (PUSE) Project implemented in Morogoro, GERN conducted targeted capacity-building training for farmers, small entrepreneurs, and livestock keepers to enhance the productive and income-generating use of solar energy. The training specifically engaged small business operators such as saloon and barbers, as well as livestock keepers, particularly those rearing cows and goats.

Training sessions focused on practical applications of solar energy in daily economic activities, including the operation and maintenance of solar systems, energy efficiency, and the use of solar-powered equipment to improve service delivery and reduce operating costs. Farmers and livestock keepers were trained on the importance of solar-powered refrigeration for milk storage, emphasizing loss reduction, improved product quality, and increased income through extended shelf life and better market access.

In addition, participants received training on basic business and financial management, value addition opportunities, and climate-smart practices, enabling them to link clean energy solutions to sustainable livelihoods. Cross-cutting themes on environmental conservation, climate change mitigation, and social inclusion were integrated to support long-term adoption and sustainability of project outcomes.



PROGRAMMING EVENTS.



INNOVATION WEEK

GERF had the privilege to participate in Innovation Week Tanzania 2024, held under the theme “Innovation for a competitive economy”. The event brought together government, NGO’s, companies, academia and innovators to exchange ideas on how innovation can accelerate Tanzania’s digital transformation, green economy and inclusive development. Our participation allowed us to connect with key partners, learn about emerging solutions and share our own experiences of working with communities, especially women, youth, children and people with disabilities.



CLEAN COOKING SYMPOSIUM

In June 2024, GERF attended the Clean Cooking Symposium hosted by UNCDF under the Cook Fund program in Dar es salaam. The symposium held under the theme “Market and Technological Transitioning Toward Clean Cooking in Alignment with the 2024-234 National Clean Cooking Strategy” brought together government, development partners, private sector actors and NGOs. Our participation enabled GERF to gain valuable insight into the latest clean cooking technologies and financial mechanisms as well as to explore strategies for accelerating household adoption of clean cooking solutions. The event also provides opportunities to strengthening partnership with technology providers, policy makers and fellow NGOs. As an organization committed to community wellbeing and environmental sustainability, GERF will apply these learnings to promote affordable, safe and sustainable cooking practices within the communities we serve with a particular focus on marginalized groups.



MWANANYAMALA HOSPITAL TREE PLANTING, LIFE SAVING INITIATIVE AND CLEAN UP

GERF participated in the “Kijanika Okoa Maisha” clean-up campaign, following an invitation from Kijanika Afrika. As part of our engagement GERF staff joined hands with various environmental organizations in both environmental clean-up activities and a blood donation drive. Through this initiative we sought to contribute not only to a healthier environment but also to

saving lives, particularly supporting individuals facing critical health challenges such as complication during child birth. Our participation reflects GERF's ongoing commitment to community well-being, environmental sustainability and collective action for positive social impact.



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DREEM-CONFERENCE

GERF participated in the DREEM Conference held in Dar es Salaam, which brought together participants from Uganda, Kenya, and Tanzania, including organizations and companies supported by the Mott Foundation. The conference provided a platform to showcase achievements and innovative initiatives in solar energy development across the region.

Through participation, GERF was able to exchange knowledge and experiences with peer organizations, learn about emerging technologies and best practices in solar energy deployment, and explore opportunities for collaboration and scaling of productive use energy projects. Insights gained from the conference are expected to inform GERF's ongoing and future interventions in renewable energy, contributing to improved project design, community impact, and sustainable livelihoods.



PET-PRO

GERF, represented by Ms. Mary Araka, the Partnership Officer, attended the PET pro stakeholder event in Dar es Salaam in 2024. The event brought together industry players, government officials, waste management practitioners, and civil society partners to discuss extended producer responsibility (EPR), plastic waste recycling innovations, and opportunities to strengthen PET collection and recycling value chains. Participation in the event provided GERF with valuable insights into circular economy practices for plastics, enhanced understanding of sustainable waste management frameworks, and opportunities to network and collaborate with stakeholders working to improve environmental outcomes through industry-led recycling initiatives.



FINANCIAL VIEWPOINT

During the reporting period, GERF maintained prudent financial management to ensure transparency, accountability, and effective use of resources in support of its programmatic objectives. Income for the period was primarily received from TTGAU, supporting the training of Trainers of Trainers (TOTs), and from KCIC for the implementation of the Productive Use of Solar Energy (PUSE) Project in Morogoro. These funds enabled GERF to conduct capacity-building activities, community engagement, and project implementation in alignment with donor objectives.

Expenditure focused on program activities, including training sessions, proposal development, community interventions, and operational costs such as staff allowances, office administration, and monitoring activities. All expenses were carefully managed to maximize program impact while adhering to donor guidelines.

At the end of the reporting period, GERF held assets including office equipment and vehicles, with sufficient cash reserves to support ongoing and planned activities. There were no outstanding liabilities that posed a risk to operational continuity.

Financial procedures were rigorously followed, and records are subject to independent audit to ensure compliance, accountability, and transparency. Looking ahead, GERF anticipates continued donor support, which will strengthen its capacity to expand interventions in renewable energy, environmental conservation, and community livelihoods.

APPRECIATION!!!

INVALUABLE SUPPORT AND COLLABORATION

We extend our heartfelt gratitude to all our partners and donors for their unwavering support and meaningful collaboration throughout 2024. Your contribution has been instrumental in driving change and empowering communities across Tanzania.

As we look ahead to 2025, we are excited to strengthen our existing partnerships and explore new opportunities to create even greater impact together.



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