



ambakofi

"restoration inspired ecosystem"

Quarterly Newsletter – Volume 2, April – June 2018.

Dear readers, supporters, beneficiaries, donors and all friends! Welcome to the word of ambakofi! Our 2018 second quarterly Newsletter now is on air. During the past three months, we succeeded to put ambakofi on the map of the country and the entire world. What is it? Be with us, please. Our journey to bring the desired change we want to see is now on track. You're welcome to find out the highlights and updates.

After the long struggles of ups and downs finding registration status, finally, ambakofi is officially registered. It was on 1ST June 2018 when ambakofi gets registration Certificate from the Business Registrations and Licensing Agency (BRELA). The registration number is 136719319. At BRELA, ambakofi being registered as a Company Limited by Guarantee (with no share capital), meaning ambakofi is not for profit making company.



For this achievements, now we are fully motivated and well prepared to provide our service to Tanzania's degraded environments. With support from the rural and urban communities, government authorities from national to the village level we dream to see our vision becomes true and fulfilled.

ambakofi is envisioned to see "nature paying back wellbeing and fortune for whoever investing in living forests and natural environment".

Through this vision, four programs are on the ground for the implementation under ambakofi. Afforestation by employing the agroforestry tactic, Environmental Education, Cost-effective clean energy solutions for cooking, and beneficiaries' network.

In this quarter, ambakofi starts to execute two projects at Mkange Village. The village is now located in the new District of Chalinze. This comes after Bagamoyo District divided into two Districts where Chalinze born.

On the third week of May 2018, we started to implement the Trees Nursery project. In this project nine species of wood tree seeds bought at the Tanzania Tree Seed Agency (TTSA) in Morogoro. This tree seed includes; Afzelia quanzensis (Red African Mahogany), Albizia Lebbeck, Khaya anthotheca, Gmelina arborea (White Teak), Sesbania Sesban, Gliricidia Cepium, Acacia Nilotika, Tectona Grandis, Papaya and Melia Azadarch (Neem). The trees nursery is expecting to have more than 10,000 trees seedlings by the end of December 2018. More tree seeds will be bought

in the near future. By the end of June 2019 tree nursery project is planning to raise 20,000 trees seedlings, both for timber and fruits. This will be our target for every year. Produced seedlings will be planted in the areas facing the effects of deforestation in several villages ambakofi requested.



Project beneficiaries in Mkange village, Bagamoyo Tanzania preparing Red African Mahogany seeds ready for sowing in the nursery.



Project beneficiaries preparing polythene tubes for sowing trees seeds at Mkange Village.

Raised trees seedlings will be provided to the project beneficiaries for free, and by small donation to other villagers who wish to establish trees farming for the income generation and conservation activities.

Agroforest project is our second initiative to be launched in this three months period, the project starts on this June in the same site where nursery tree project is conducted. 50 acres of degraded land by cutting of natural forests and grazing cattle is now under the restoration efforts. However, ambakofi is looking to get another 50 acres land area in Kikaro village after requesting from the village government. The upgrading is now under crucial preparation turning it productive forest for the environmental health and economic paybacks, direct for the beneficiaries and later for the entire community.



Proposed Agroforest project site in Mkange Village; the scene before the initiative. The area was surrounded by grasses and bushes, no trees around.

In this two project, there are 23 beneficiaries whereby 18 are women and five men. Still, the number is low in the village of more than 3000 residents. We encouraged villagers to show up since the benefits will be on their hands soon. Though the model of works needs hard workers people with passion and adoration to the conservation works. The project still welcomes interested young and elders to join. There, existing beneficiaries put some simple rules for the newcomers to join. For example, if a person wants to join should pay a small fee or extend working hours in the project to compensate for the work done by their peers. The joining fee can be paid in instalment.

The preparation is still going on and all beneficiaries are energetic and motivated. For them, this is the first kind of tangible project that can be seen and the hope for a great return for them is high. Cleaning the site for the nursery tree project, digging planting holes, preparing the desirable soil for sowing seeds, cutting of polythene tubes (viriba) for sowing seeds, clearing of the shrubs

and to boundaries for planting green fence are amongst of the serious activities practised in the project.

In the agroforest project varieties of wood and fruits tree, pineapple, banana, cassava, sunflower, cowpeas, spice crops like ginger and garlic, and vegetables will be grown. Wood trees like neem, all species of Mahogany, Teak, White Teak, Cedrela, African Blackwood, and Gum Arabica, while fruits/food trees are Mangoes, Guava, Jackfruits, Sour soap, Custard apples, Orange, Tangerine, Lemon, Cashew nuts, Moringa Oleifera and papaya.

Why we use Agroforest approach in forests restoration in Tanzania? Most of the environmental conservation projects are not much convincing since it didn't give back quick results to the beneficiaries. People want to see tangible benefits as soon they involved in the project. But planting woods trees only in the area for the restoration use it to take some years before beneficiaries get the benefits.

Regardless of other potential value of this kind of projects like improving soil, protect the underground water, fixing carbon dioxide and many more but in reality, people want to get direct benefits on their hands. So here the idea of employing agroforestry method comes because countless paybacks will be achieved.

Consequently, in this mission and the other coming projects, beneficiaries are expecting to start generating cash and taking home some crops. Fruits and vegetables like papaya, okra, eggplants, amaranth, spinach, cucumber and onions will be available ready for harvest six months after this initiative to takeoff.

Whilst keeping servicing the planted wood and fruits trees, beneficiaries are expecting additional payback in the coming twelve months. Crops like pineapple, bananas, sunflower, garlic, ginger, cowpeas, and cassava will be harvested and improve the livelihoods of the target beneficiaries.

Apart from this advantages, agroforestry is offering a number of support for environmental and conservation efforts. Each plant/tree support the others hence reduce competition to water and nutrients intake as happening in monoculture type of farming. All in all, how deforestation will occur if the forests have a mixture of food crops, fruits and wood trees? So agroforestry is the



Some of the project beneficiaries participate in cleaning the site for trees nursery at Mkange village, Bagamoyo Tanzania

ideal approach to restore and protect our forests as well as providing sustainable income to people since production is done throughout the year.

While we are heading to the busy months of planting trees, bananas, pineapples, papaya, spices and other food crops in our project site we highly encourage and request your support. We need your worth support because we believe you're a part of this conservation family and interested to see ambakofi succeed in its mission. For a donation, please click link <https://ambakofi.org/donate/>

Dear readers, supporters, beneficiaries, donors and friends of ambakofi. As we are finishing this second quarter I would like to send our sincere thanks for the great support. We cordially appeal from you the same spirit of in the coming months. Please, help ambakofi to share this Newsletter. Until the next time, we wish you the best of luck.

Sincerely,

Gumbo Majubwa

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