

TFCG Committee

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- Nicholas Kisonga, **Field Assistant Southern Udzungwas**
- Edina Yohana, **Field Assistant East Usambaras**
- Peter Cosmas, **Field Assistant East Usambaras**
- Simon Siwale, **Driver/Messenger**

The Tanzania Forest Conservation Group

TFCG is a Tanzanian non-governmental organisation first established in 1985 with the mission of promoting the conservation of forests with high biodiversity in Tanzania. The group has field projects in the Usambara, Udzungwa and Coastal Forests.

Initial activities of the TFCG included:

Lobbying parliament for the gazettelement of the Udzungwa Mountains National Park – the first rainforest National Park in Tanzania;

The acquisition of the Mazumbai forest in the West Usambara Mountains for research purposes by the University of Dar es Salaam; Lobbying for the development of the East Usambara Conservation and Development Project (EU-IUCN/Ministry of Livestock and Agriculture).

In 1991 the TFCG laid the groundwork for a network of participatory based conservation projects in the Eastern Arc Mountains. Now in 2003, five such projects are operational.

A committee oversees TFCG's activities. Members of the committee include government representatives, academics and representatives from other NGOs.

TFCG's activities include:

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 Network Unit links communities 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'S FIELD PROJECTS

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.

have also promoted extensive tree planting including the reforestation of a corridor linking two forest fragments.

Ngulwi Forest Conservation Project

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

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 and has assisted two villages to establish village forest reserves.

Ruvu South

Only 30 km from Dar es Salaam this forest is under heavy pressure. Through joint forest management, TFCG seeks to conserve these threatened patches of coastal forest. The project is a partnership with CARE-Tanzania and WCST.

Mufindi, Udzungwa Mountains

TFCG has worked in Mufindi District to establish participatory forest management for eight Local Authority forest reserves. TFCG

Ngaramia

By establishing a clear programme of forest management with the local village, TFCG aims to conserve this small patch of coastal forest.

Tanzania Forest Conservation Group – African Rainforest Conservancy

The African Rainforest Conservancy (ARC) was founded in 1990. ARC is based in New York City and is a non profit making organisation that raises money for conservation initiatives in Tanzania. ARC is run by a group of voluntary committee members committed to forest conservation in the Eastern Arc and Coastal Forests of Tanzania.

If you would like to help in the conservation off Tanzania's Eastern Arc Forests please write a cheque today to:
African Rainforest Conservancy
480, Broadway
Suite 403
New York
New York 10013, USA

Tanzania Forest Conservation Group

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TFCG is grateful to the following for their support:

African Rainforest Conservancy
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M.A. Dobie

The Arc Journal

Newsletter of the Tanzania Forest Conservation Group
The Arc Journal welcomes articles on forest conservation and biodiversity in Tanzania. If you would like to contribute, please send your article to the Editor on diskette or by e-mail and accompanied by drawings or good quality photographs.
Our next edition is due out in December 2003.

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Did you know that we also produce a Swahili newsletter called Komba?