

# 3<sup>rd</sup> National Biomass Energy Workshop

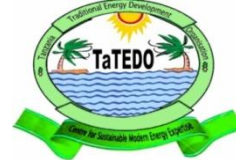
## Workshop Overview: Towards a national forest policy that promotes natural forest values and sustainable rural livelihoods, in Tanzania

Charles Meshack

Executive Director

Tanzania Forest Conservation Group

3<sup>rd</sup> November 2017



Schweizerische Eidgenossenschaft  
Confédération suisse  
Confederazione Svizzera  
Confederaziun svizra

# Workshop Objectives

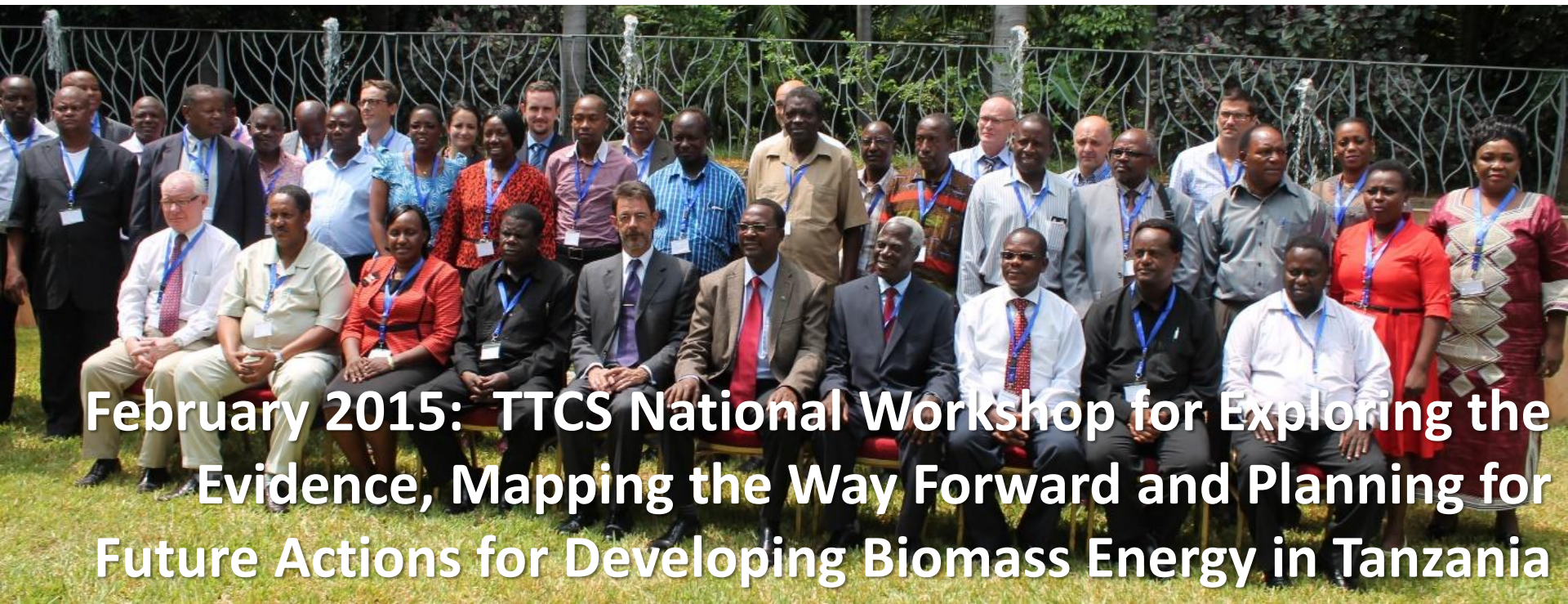
- i) **To contribute positively to the ongoing National Forest Policy development** by collectively analysing the key issues, and strategically setting an agenda for promoting sustainable natural forest management.
  
- ii) **To enhance key stakeholders' understanding of the relative impact of the major drivers of deforestation in the country** with the aim of defining each sectors' role in addressing deforestation.
  
- iii) **To share best practices on integrating sustainable, forest-based enterprises in Community Based Forest Management in Tanzania** with a focus on how enterprise-oriented CBFM contributes to avoiding deforestation on village land
  
- iv) **To agree on priority, cross-sectoral policies needed to promote sustainable, well-governed forest-based enterprises** that contribute to rural development, national energy security and reduced deforestation.



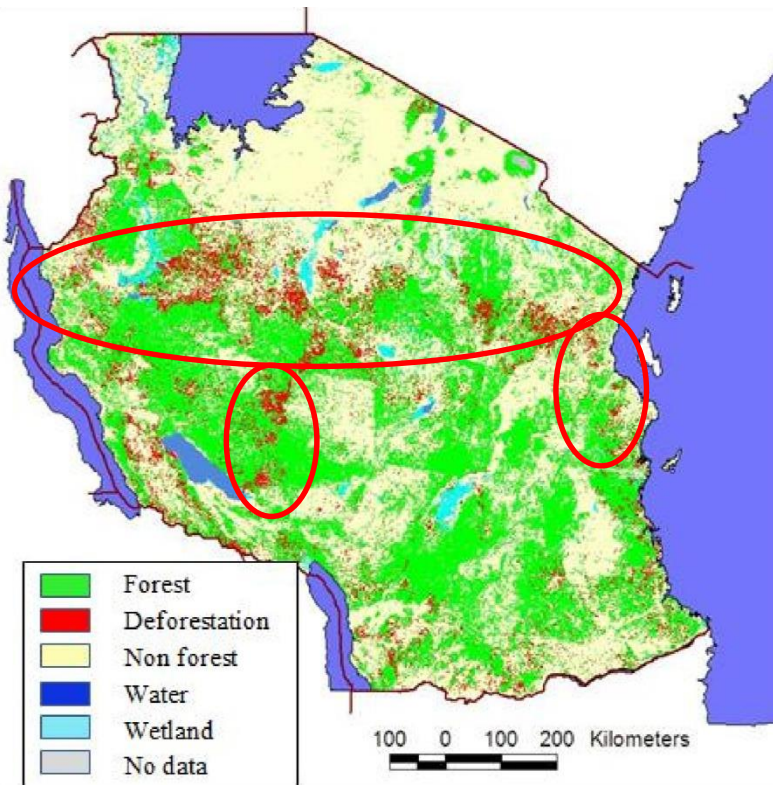
# Workshop Rationale

Key issues identified by stakeholders in 2015

1. **Absence of a supportive policy** environment for charcoal and biomass energy;
2. **Low investment** in biomass energy;
3. **Misconceptions** and lack of awareness about charcoal;
4. Expense and **complexity of the land use planning process**; and
5. **Informality** of the biomass energy sector.



**February 2015: TTCS National Workshop for Exploring the Evidence, Mapping the Way Forward and Planning for Future Actions for Developing Biomass Energy in Tanzania**



2002 – 2013

**Deforestation 2002 / 13: 5,159,000 ha**

Average annual deforestation 2002/13 - 469,000 ha

Source: URT, 2017. FREL



2010 – 2016

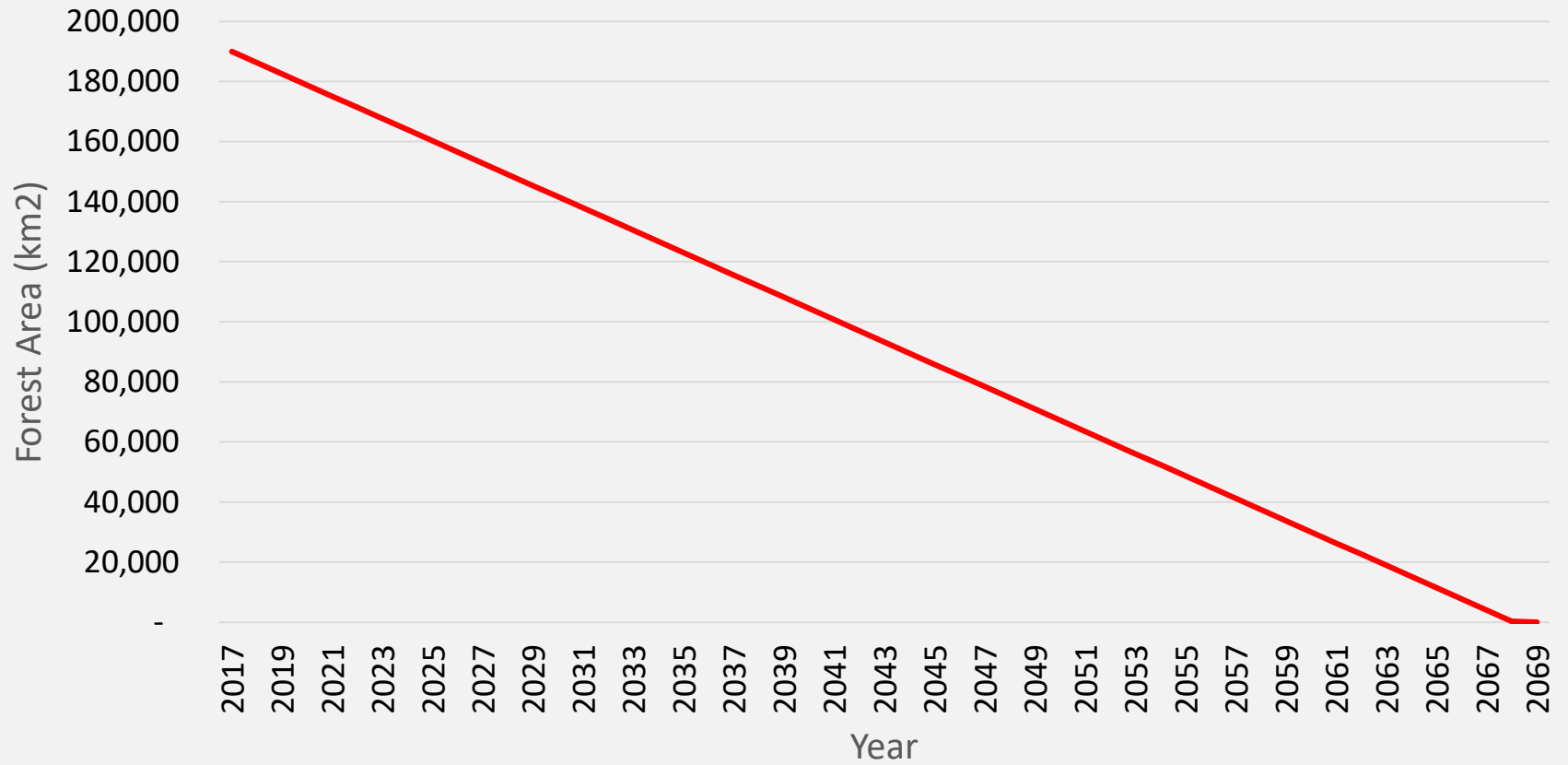
**Deforestation between 2010 and 2016: 2,747,345 ha**

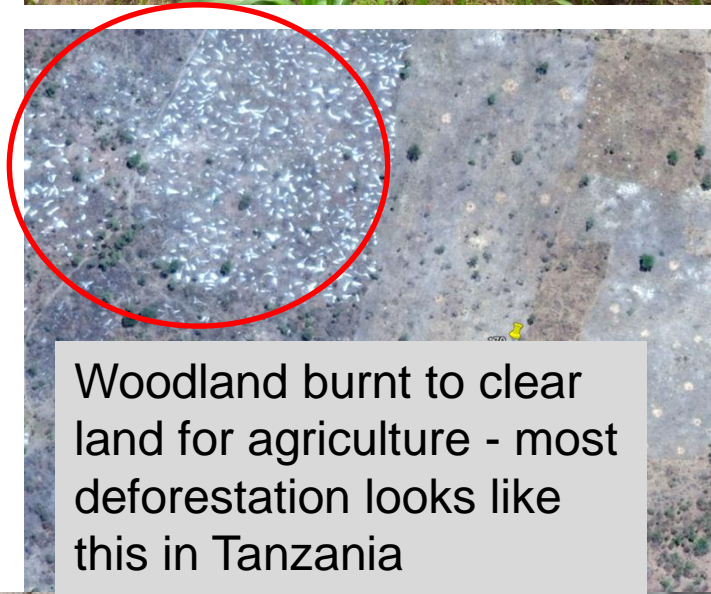
Average annual deforestation 2010 / 16: **457,891 ha**

Source: Morgan-Brown 2017



# Projected Forest Loss on Village Land 2017 - 2069





Woodland burnt to clear land for agriculture - most deforestation looks like this in Tanzania

**Demand for agricultural land** is the main driver of deforestation across Tanzania.

Forest is often just cut and burnt to clear a farm, and provide a once-off nutrient input.







## Tanzania needs its forests for:

- **environmental services:** water catchment and soil protection, biodiversity, reducing emissions of greenhouse gases, wildlife corridors;

- **biomass energy:** 96% of households in Tanzania use fuel wood or charcoal for cooking; 91% of households in Dar use charcoal for cooking;

- **rural livelihoods**







**National biomass demand:**  
45.3 million m<sup>3</sup>/ yr.

**Legally available wood:**  
42.8 million m<sup>3</sup> / yr

If the current area of woodlands were managed sustainably they could **supply 94% of national biomass demand.**





To meet that demand, requires that woodlands remain as woodlands, and natural regeneration be protected.



# Transforming Tanzania's Charcoal Sector Project

Research + Communication + Advocacy



Practice

## Project Goal

A pro-poor and climate resilient transformation of the economics and governance of charcoal and other forest product value chains



Policy

Implementation



# Project Partners

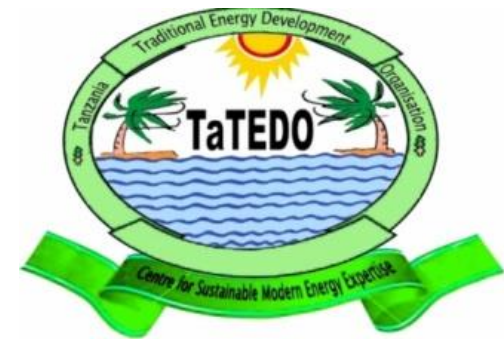


Schweizerische Eidgenossenschaft  
Confédération suisse  
Confederazione Svizzera  
Confederaziun svizra

**Embassy of Switzerland in Tanzania**



Tanzania Forest  
Conservation Group  
Shirika la Kuhifadhi  
Misitu ya Asili Tanzania

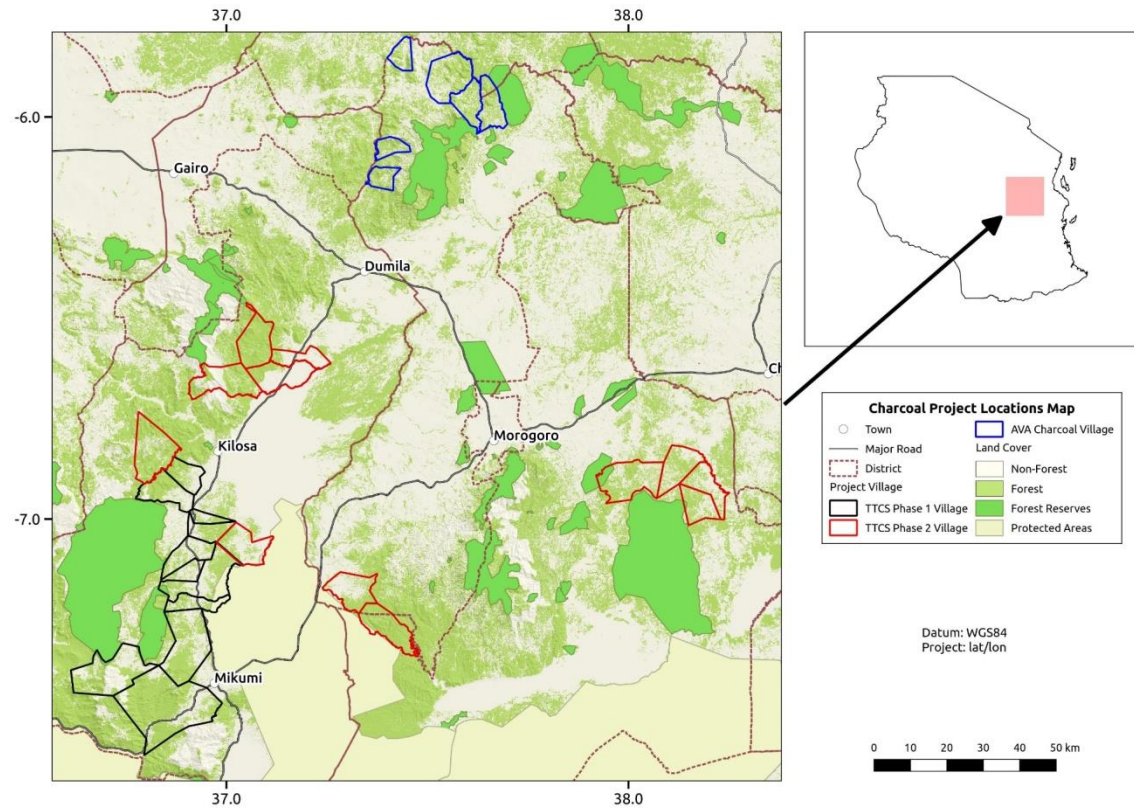


# Location of piloting activities

## Kilosa District

-20 villages (including 10 villages from Phase 1)

Mvomero and Morogoro Rural Districts  
- 10 villages



# Theory of Change

**Formalise village  
forest and land  
management and  
tenure**

**Apply sustainable  
harvesting principles**

**Organise producers  
and improve  
production  
efficiency**

**Sustainable  
charcoal  
production  
embedded in  
community  
based forest  
management  
- VLFRs  
generating  
employment**

- Communities chose to maintain forests rather than converting them to agriculture – deforestation reduced.
- Improved livelihoods for forest-owning communities
- National biomass demand met whilst protecting ecosystem services provided by natural forests
- CC adaptation and mitigation



# Challenges

Land and agricultural policies promote conversion of natural woodland to agriculture. National Forest Policy (NFP) does not recognise the primacy of agriculture in driving deforestation.

NFP does not set clear objectives to limit conversion of forest land to agricultural land.

No policy objectives or targets to ensure sufficient natural woodland to meet national biomass demand, based on natural regeneration – how much sustainably managed, natural woodland is needed to meet national biomass energy demand?

Absence of a clear, consistent national policy on charcoal.

NFP does not recognise charcoal as a 'wood-based industry' – barrier to formalisation.

Unsubstantiated assumptions that planting of exotic tree species in plantations is a better strategy for providing biomass than protecting regeneration in natural woodlands.

Structural challenges in the forestry sector are contributing to deforestation on village land e.g. national revenue targets set irrespective of sustainable harvesting limits.



# Opportunities



- Woodland on village land could provide sufficient biomass to meet 94 % of national demand for biomass energy;
- Enterprise-based CBFM reduces deforestation by incentivizing communities to allocate more of their land for forests (rather than converting all / almost all of their land to agriculture);
- Sustainable charcoal production in Morogoro Region shows that woodlands on village land can be managed sustainably to provide woodfuels; generate rural employment and support community development;
- Increasing awareness and capacity to manage productive village land forest reserves.





# Way forward

## What is needed?

Political will.

Strategic thinking about how much woodland Tanzania needs to meet its development goals – target setting.

More policy focus on preventing conversion of forests to agricultural land.

Support from multiple stakeholders to enable scaling up sustainable charcoal production into other and additional CBFM areas;

Policies and policy tools that support scaling-up, and the formalisation of sustainable charcoal, are needed;

Removal of regulatory barriers for sustainable forest management in CBFM areas, and provision of incentives including fiscal incentives.

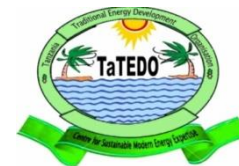
Research on deforestation drivers, and on strategies that reduce deforestation.



# Recommendations for the revised National Forest Policy

- Recognise that demand for agricultural land (rather than demand for forest products) is the main driver of deforestation, and include clearer strategies to address that trend, particularly on village land;
- Recognise charcoal as a wood-based industry (rather than just a ‘forest product’) and include statements that promote a well-governed, sustainable, formalised trade including from sustainably managed natural woodlands;
- Recognise that enterprise-oriented CBFM, including through integration of sustainable charcoal and timber production and REDD+, can reduce deforestation by incentivizing communities to retain forests on village land;
- Promote investment in sustainable natural forest management as a source of woodfuel and timber, as well as for ecosystem services.





# Asanteni sana



Schweizerische Eidgenossenschaft  
Confédération suisse  
Confederazione Svizzera  
Confederaziun svizra

**Embassy of Switzerland in Tanzania**

