

# FOREST JUSTICE IN TANZANIA PROJECT PHASE 2 (FJT2)

## PROJECT BRIEF

“Every Village with forest resources on its land has a right to establish and sustainably manage its own Village Land Forest Reserve”

### About Forest Justice in Tanzania (FJT Project)

The Forest Justice in Tanzania initiative, is a partnership project between the Tanzania Forest Conservation Group (TFCG) and Community Forest Conservation Network of Tanzania (MJUMITA). Phase 1 of the project was implemented between 2011 and 2015, and phase two will be implemented for the period of 24 months, 2020 to 2021. The project is funded by the UK's Department for International Development (DfID) through Accountability in Tanzania phase 2 (AcT 2) program, managed by KPMG. FJT is a demand-driven process that reflects a growing call for change within the forest sector from Participatory Forest Management (PFM) stakeholders, including village governments, Members of Tanzania Forest Working Group, and Community Based Organizations (CBOs) established by villages participating in Community Based Forest Management (CBFM) in Tanzania.



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CHA GOLE(A) WENYE UKUBWA  
WA HEKTA 6,703  
HAIRUHUSIWI: UVUNA H BILA KIBALI,  
KUCHOMA MOTO, KILIMO,  
MAKAZI, KUCHUNGA MIFUGO  
HDANI YA MSITU

## Phase 1 of the Forest Justice in Tanzania (FJT1) Project

The first phase of the FJT project (FJT1) was implemented in 6 MJUMITA zones, 30 districts and 13 regions and reached 10,370 members of 110 Community Based Organization (CBOs). The project benefited 451 PFM villages, with population of about 1,029,000 men and women. The following were some of the success of the FJT 1 project:

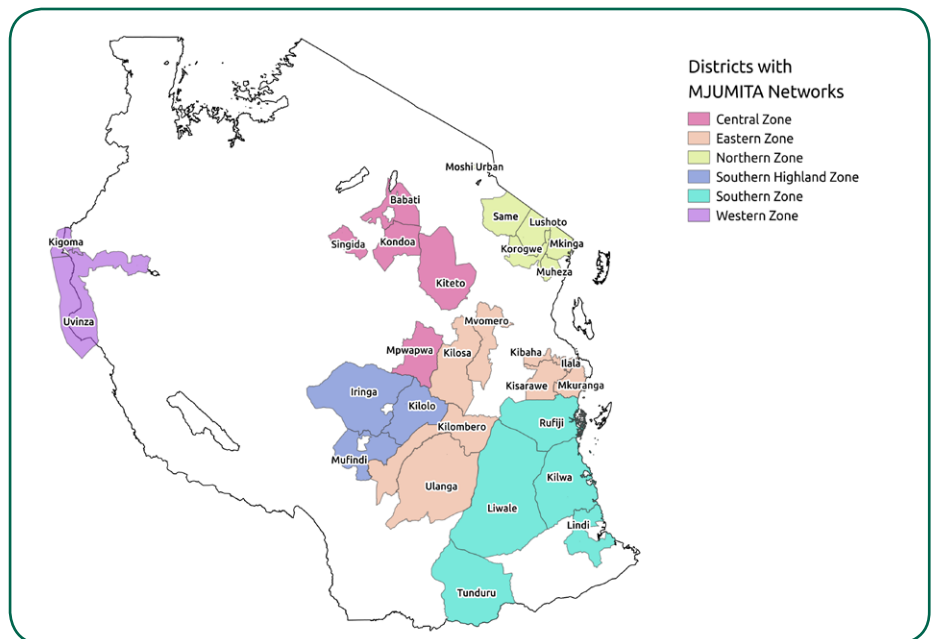
- A total of 904 (452 women and 452 men) community members, 12,250 members of Village Natural Resource committees (VNRCs) and village councils were acquainted with skills to undertake village forest governance monitoring process. About 400 villages implementing PFM were empowered on the use forest governance dashboard tool to address village governance shortfalls and increased accountability for village governments;

- Forest Conditions for 6 forest reserves with high biodiversity hotspot i.e. Chome Nature Forest Reserve, Rondo Nature Reserve, Pugu, Kazimzumbwi, Ruvu South and Udzungwa Scarp Forest Reserves; were monitored and assessed. The results from these interventions were shared publicly through media and stakeholder meetings, which lead decisions to improve management effectiveness of

these forest ecosystems;

- Supported MJUMITA networks (CBOs) and CBFM villages to address a total of 101 forest crimes through legal systems. There was a steady increase in the percentage of reported forest crimes that reach the courts of law over the lifetime of the project, from 0% in year 1 to 16.1% in the last 6 months of 2014;

- A total of 300 community members from 6 MJUMITA zones were trained on forests products certifications and REDD+ standards. This increased their understanding in the management of natural forests, for improved management effectiveness in Managing Village Land Forest Reserves.



## Why Forest Justice in Tanzania Project Phase 2 (FJT2)?

Forest Justice in Tanzania Project phase 2 was driven by the existing challenges facing forest sector in Tanzania specifically the unreserved forests within the village land. Some of the challenges to be addressed by the project are as follows:

- More than 17.6 million hectares of forest cover which is equivalent to 80% of forests found in the village land are not legally reserved;
- More than 469,000 hectares of forests are cleared every year in Tanzania with most

deforestation occurring on unreserved forests within the village land, mostly due to small-scale, slash-and-burn agriculture and illegal/unsustainable harvesting of forest product;

- New government regulations attempting to recentralize control of decisions on forest-based enterprises in the Village land Forest Reserves (VLFRs). Example, the GN 417 of 24th, May 2019 has recentralized decision on preparation of harvesting plan and approval of buyers of forest products from VLFRs. This is disincentivizing communities to conserve more forests on the village land.



## Project goal

The goal of FJT2 project is to increase accountability and responsiveness of central and local government to protect the climate and other ecological services that natural forests provide to Tanzanian citizens.

### How will Forest Justice in Tanzania (FJT 2 Project) achieve its desired objectives?

Project will achieve its goal under three big changes:

#### **Change 1: More communities in Tanzania have more power to manage and benefit from their natural forests;**

##### Activities to be implemented under change 1:

- Building the capacity of at least 1,000 community leaders from at least 30 MJUMITA local networks covering at least 100 villages, on scaling up CBFM, forest governance, advocacy and gender;
- Support at least 30 local Community Based Organisations (CBOs) covering at least 100 villages to develop and implement advocacy strategies and action plans to advocate for scaling up CBFM and promoting good governance in management of forests within the village land;
- To support villages implementing CBFM program to address forest crimes through the legal systems.

#### **Change 2: International climate finance and investment by the government is reaching communities involved in protecting forests found in the village land.**

##### Activities to be implemented under change 2:

- To conduct a study on climate financing options for CBFM in Tanzania and present the findings to stakeholders including senior government officials;
- To develop at least two projects proposals worth about 3 US\$ for supporting the government of Tanzania to address deforestation through CBFM approach;
- To engage media and attending UNFCCC-CoP to advocate for International Climate Finance to support CBFM in Tanzania.

#### **Change 3: Deforestation in 3 nationally and internationally important forests is addressed**

##### Activities to be implemented under change 3:

- To work closely with Tanzania Forest Service and other stakeholders to study the drivers of deforestation in Mkingu Nature Forest Reserve, Chome Nature Forest Reserve, Udzungwa Scarp as well as Village Land Forest Reserves;
- To facilitate stakeholders meeting to raise awareness on issues affecting 3 national forest reserves and agree the strategies to address those issues;
- To support villages and other stakeholders to participate in developing national CBFM strategy.

## Project boundary partners

For the project to achieve its goals, it aimed to work with the following boundary partners

- President's Office-Regional Administration and Local Government and Local Government Authorities;
- Forest and Beekeeping Division (FBD), and Tanzania Forest Service (TFS);

- Elected leaders i.e. Member of parliaments and ward councilors
- Village councils

The project will also work with different strategic partners including media, law enforcement institutions, local and national auditors, courts of law and other oversight authorities.

## Where will the project operate?

The project will operate from village to national levels, but more specific activities will be implemented in three MJUMITA zones as follows

S/N	Zone	Field Office Location	Regions and Districts to be involved	Mobile contact numbers
1	Nothern Zone	Korogwe town	Tanga Region- Mkinga, Muheza, Korogwe, Handeni, Kilindi and Bumbuli districts;	Zonal coordinator 0768636735  Assistant Zonal Coordinator 0784812158
2	Southern Highland Zone	Iringa town	Iringa Region- Iringa, Kilolo and Mufindi districts;	Zonal coordinator 0754257247  Assistant Zonal Coordinator 073720 4424
3	Southern Zone	Kilwa Masoko	Coastal region- (Rufiji district), Lindi Region- (Liwale, Mtama, Nachingwea and Kilwa) and Ruvuma- (Tunduru district).	Zonal coordinator 0752566586; Assistant Zonal Coordinator 0654898154

## Project implementing partners

### Tanzania Forest Conservation Group (TFCG)

TFCG is a national non-governmental organization whose mission is to conserve and restore the biodiversity of globally important forests in Tanzania. TFCG is the lead partner in the implementation of FJT Project

**TFCG's Mission:** To conserve and restore the biodiversity of globally important forests in Tanzania for the benefit of the present and future generations.

#### For detail about TFCG

Website: [www.tfcg.org](http://www.tfcg.org)

Email: [tfcg@tfcg.or.tz](mailto:tfcg@tfcg.or.tz)

### Tanzania Community Forest Conservation Network (MJUMITA)

*The Mtandao wa Jamii wa Usimamizi wa Misitu Tanzania (MJUMITA)* in English also known as *The Community Forest Conservation Network of Tanzania* is a network of local community-

based organizations (CBOs) involved in Participatory Forest Management (PFM) in Tanzania. MJUMITA currently has 117 affiliated local area networks (also known as CBOs), which are made up of Village Natural Resource Committees (VNRCs), Environmental/Forest User Groups, beekeeping groups and charcoal makers founds in 13 regions, 30 districts and 450 villages involving 500 CBOs with more than 10,000 members

**MJUMITA's Mission:** To secure the rights of local communities to own, manage, and benefit from sustainably managed natural forests, to provide platforms for learning, experience sharing, and amplifying the voice of MJUMITA members to advocate for their institution and national goals.

#### For more detail about MJUMITA:

Website: [www.mjumita.org](http://www.mjumita.org)

Email: [mjumitaorg@mjumita.org](mailto:mjumitaorg@mjumita.org)