



Tanzania Forest
Conservation Group
Shirika la Kuhifadhi
Misititu ya Asili Tanzania

Annual Report 2014

The Tanzania Forest Conservation Group

Conserving Tanzania's forests for the nation
for the world

for the future



The Tanzania Forest Conservation Group – conserving Tanzania’s globally important forests

Tanzania’s Tropical forests are islands of natural wealth containing thousands of species of plants and animal found nowhere else in the world and underpinning the livelihoods of millions of people. These forests are under threat. With the support of the international community, generous individuals and private companies, and through the hard work and dedication of the Tanzania Forest Conservation Group’s staff and committee, we have been able to safeguard parts of these unique forests.

Since 1985 when we established TFCG, we have grown into the largest national, environmental NGO in the country. We have achieved this by constantly learning from our experiences and evaluating our progress. This report outlines the progress that we have made in 2012.

Our mission

The mission of TFCG is to conserve and restore the biodiversity of globally important forests in Tanzania for the benefit of the present and future generations. We achieve this through capacity building, advocacy, research, community development and protected area management, in ways that are sustainable and foster participation, co-operation and partnership.

Our vision

We envisage a world in which Tanzanians and the rest of humanity are enjoying the diverse benefits from well conserved, high biodiversity forests.

TFCG’s Approach

TFCG’s experience over the last 24 years has taught us that in order to succeed in conserving Tanzania’s unique forests, we need to approach the issue from multiple angles. There is no silver bullet.

We have adopted five inter-linked strategies to achieve our mission.

Participatory Forest Management - building the capacity of stakeholders to manage reserves and other protected areas.

Advocacy – improving governance and the legal and political context;

Communication and education – improving people’s understanding of the forests and the steps needed to conserve them and encouraging greater dialogue between stakeholders;

Community development – supporting people living near to the forests to achieve more sustainable livelihoods ;

Research – improving our understanding of the forests and their conservation.

With TFCG's support in 2014

1.7 million trees planted around critical forests

Five village forest reserves covering 7,645 ha were established

4600 people are participating in village savings and loans schemes

110 teachers were trained to integrate environmental education into their teaching

11,500 people have participated in awareness raising events

1246 women and men have received training on conservation agriculture and / or agroforestry

US\$ 4.2 million was invested in forest conservation projects

290,000 ha of forest were conserved at TFCG project sites

160 villages are benefiting from TFCG programmes

92 staff are employed on conservation projects

14 Districts have ongoing TFCG field-based activities



Participatory Forest Management strategy

Our 5 year Strategic Targets: An additional 2,000 km² of high biodiversity forest and adjacent woodlands including at least 20% of the Eastern Arc Mountain endemic vertebrate species and 2,000 km² of coastal forest mosaic including at least 20% of the Tanzanian Coastal Forest endemic plants are under effective, participatory management.

Achievements in 2014

With TFCG's support in 2014, five villages have established new village forest reserves covering 7,645 ha of woodland in Kilosa and Mvomero Districts; and 8 villages in Kilosa, Mvomero and Korogwe Districts have developed village land use plans.

With support from the European Union, TFCG have supported 20 villages living around Chome (14,283 ha) and Mkingu (23,287 ha) Nature Reserves to progress towards joint government - community management of these two Eastern Arc Mountain Nature Reserve. This has included assisting the communities to re-establish their village natural resources committees; and developing joint management plans and by-laws.

TFCG continued to support 27 communities to manage 151,866 ha of forest and woodland in Lindi, Mpwapwa and Kilosa Districts with linkages to REDD+. This includes 32,168 ha of woodland and forest in 10 village forest reserves in Lindi; 16,103 ha in Mpwapwa, 103,595 ha in Kilosa. In Lindi, the ten communities participating in REDD+ achieved measurable reductions in emissions of greenhouse gases as a result of reducing deforestation in their village land forest reserves. 40,178 tons of CO₂-e of *ex post* net anthropogenic GHG emission reductions were recorded.



Awareness Raising and Environmental Education strategy

Our 5 year Strategic Targets: As a result of capacity building and dialogue with local and central government, an additional 100 schools in communities close to Eastern Arc and Coastal forests are integrating environmental education in their teaching with tangible improvements in pupil's knowledge of forest conservation issues.

At community level, we will see measurable positive changes in awareness, attitudes and practices amongst women and men in at least 100 villages.

Forest conservation issues, including those raised by TFCG, will regularly be on the front page of prominent newspapers and will be covered on national radio and television. The number of unique visitors to our website per year will have doubled by the end of the 5 years.

Achievements in 2014

Environmental Education

In order to nurture knowledge and concern for the environment amongst the younger generation, 110 teachers from over 100 primary schools in the Eastern Arc Mountains were trained on environmental education from 5 Districts and were provided with teaching materials to integrate environmental education into their teaching. In addition 19 primary schools in forest-adjacent communities were supported to establish Environmental Clubs.

Media

In order to raise awareness about forest conservation and advocate for improvements in forest management, TFCG worked with journalists to broadcast 73 radio programmes, 4 television programmes and 2 documentaries. 11 articles were published in national newspapers describing TFCG's work. We also continued to maintain three websites: www.tfcg.org, www.easternarc.or.tz, coastalforests.tfcg.org

1 edition of the Arc Journal was developed and communicates recent research about the value of the Eastern Arc Mountains.

Meetings

TFCG also managed a stand at the national nane nane event to raise awareness on forest conservation and sustainable charcoal; and held community-level awareness raising meetings and video shows involving more than 11,500 people.

Assessing impact

An assessment of changes since 2004 in knowledge, attitudes and practice in relation to forest conservation amongst stakeholders in the Eastern Arc Mountain and Coastal Forests was published. The study found that broad categories of forest values were understood by all stakeholders. The most commonly mentioned forest value was water followed by timber, fuel wood, biodiversity, mitigating climate change, building materials, food, traditional medicine, beekeeping, source of rain, tourism, wildlife, soil conservation, hydropower and REDD+. Stakeholders at all levels were supportive of forest conservation.

Community Development strategy

Our 5 year Strategic Targets: As a result of TFCG's interventions, by the end of five years, at least 20,000 women and men (of whom at least 35 % are women) from at least 100 communities earn an additional US\$ 50 per annum from ecologically sustainable livelihood activities including agriculture; 3 million trees have been planted; at least 50,000 people have access to more secure and sustainable supplies of water and forest products; and at least 1000 families have better access to family planning.

Achievements in 2014

Promoting sustainable forest-based enterprises

Sustainable charcoal – TFCG has assisted 8 villages in Kilosa District to integrate sustainable charcoal production into the management of their village land forest reserves. As a result, 555 charcoal producers in the 8 project villages earned US\$ 64,609 from the sale of the charcoal and the villages earned an additional US\$ 84,193 from harvesting permits. This has contributed to the communities reducing the rate of deforestation in their village land forest reserves.



REDD+ – Since 2010, TFCG in partnership with MJUMITA have been supporting the development of a pro-poor, community-oriented model for REDD+. In 2014, the project was externally validated and verified by the Verified Carbon Standard and the Climate, Community and Biodiversity Project standards. The project achieved triple gold status under CCB and 36,000 t CO₂eq were verified. In August 2014, 15,169 community members in 6 villages were paid their first trial payments. A total of TZS 31,939,000 was paid. The communities decided to invest all of it in community development projects.

Beekeeping – in the West Usambara Mountains, beekeepers trained by TFCG earned ~US\$ 5000 from the sale of their honey.

Improving non-forest based enterprises

Conservation agriculture – 1246 farmers in Kilosa, Chamwino, Lushoto and Korogwe Districts were trained on conservation agriculture including soil management and the use of improved varieties.

Microfinance – through training and technical support, TFCG has assisted 4,600 farmers in Mvomero, Korogwe, Lushoto and Kilosa Districts to participate in village savings and loans associations.

Tree planting – 1.7 million trees were planted by farmers with TFCG's support in 34 villages in Korogwe, Lushoto and Mufindi Districts.

Providing cleaner and more accessible water - In the West Usambaras, TFCG supported 21 villages to establish two micro-catchment water user associations to improve watershed management; and to construct improved water supply systems including 4 storage tanks and 21 domestic points in 4 villages supplying cleaner more accessible water to 7620 people.



The District Commissioner of Korogwe Officially open the Domestic

Improved stoves - 200 community members (140 women and 60 men) were trained on construction and maintenance of improved stoves and stoves were constructed in 243 households.



Primary school pupils learn about conservation agriculture in Lindi District

Research strategy

Our 5 year Strategic Targets: To regularly communicate relevant research findings to communities, local government and the general public; to document lessons learned and best practices from the implementation of forest conservation activities; to build the capacity of at least 20 young Tanzanian scientists; to generate at least 5 scientific publications on Eastern Arc Mountain and Coastal Forest values and threats; to implement partnership projects with at least 5 international research institutes and 2 national research institutes; to support biodiversity surveys in at least 5 less well known sites; and to contribute to red-listing assessments of at least 20 species.

Achievements in 2014

In collaboration with University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, TFCG continued to oversee the implementation of an impact evaluation of Joint Forest Management in Tanzania that was partially funded by the International Initiative for Impact Evaluation (3ie) through the Global Development Network. Field work and data analysis were finalised in 2014 and the report will be published in early 2015.

In collaboration with Conservation International, TFCG implemented the Vital Signs project in Tanzania. The project aims to provide current data, analytical methods and risk management approaches to guide sustainable agricultural development. The project focused on data collection in the Ihemi and Kilombero Clusters.

1 TFCG staff member enrolled in the international biodiversity conservation training programme offered by the Zoological Society of London known as the EDGE programme.

Reports and publications from 2014

- Aklei, A. and E. Monga 2014. Are district officials playing their part in providing forest justice in Tanzania? A report on a survey of forest governance at District level. Forest Justice in Tanzania Technical Report.
- Albert, A. 2014. Monitoring changes in forest governance at village level in Tanzania between 2011 and 2013. MJUMITA and TFCG pp. 1-60. pdf 967 kb
- Gwegime, J., J. Latham, M. Mwangoka, E. Mulungu, J. Kitenana, R. Mwakisoma, R.E. Gereau and N. Doggart (2014). The biodiversity and forest condition of Chome Nature Reserve. TFCG Technical Paper 42. TFCG, DSM, Tz. 1-77 pp. 6 MB
- Gwegime, J., M. Mwangoka, E. Mulungu, J. Latham, R.E. Gereau and N. Doggart (2014). The biodiversity and forest condition of Mamiwa-Kisara North Forest Reserve. TFCG Technical Paper 41. TFCG, DSM, Tz. 1-86 pp. 2.5 MB
- Lyimo, E. 2014. An analysis of the stakeholders and drivers of deforestation and forest degradation in the South Nguru landscape. TFCG Technical paper 45. TFCG, DSM, TZ. 1-59.
- MJUMITA and TFCG. 2014. Policy Brief: Monitoring village forest governance with the MJUMITA dashboard tool. 4 pp
- Pallangyo, E. and N. Doggart. 2014. A survey of stakeholders' knowledge, attitudes and practices in relation to the Eastern Arc Mountain and Coastal Forests of Tanzania, in 2012. TFCG Technical Paper 44. DSM pp 1 – 154

Advocacy strategy

Our 5 year Strategic Targets:

By the end of the 5 years, we aspire to have contributed to the following changes:

- Communities involved in JFM benefit are receiving a regular share of revenues by 2016;
- Active local MJUMITA networks are functioning in at least 50 villages where TFCG is operational;
- The National REDD Strategy and the National Forest Policy recognizes that unreserved forests on village land are under the control of the village authorities and communities can access REDD revenues from emission reductions from village land;
- National REDD and FSC standards have been agreed and are being applied;
- Nature Reserves, Dar's greenbelt forests and other high biodiversity forests are receiving a minimum of US\$ 10,000 per annum for management activities including increases in revenue from eco-tourism;
- The Eastern Arc Mountains is included on the list of World Heritage Sites;

Hunting and wildlife trade from forest and nature reserves are properly addressed in the national forest policy with increased investment in enforcing laws protecting wildlife in Forest and Nature Reserves.

Achievements in 2014

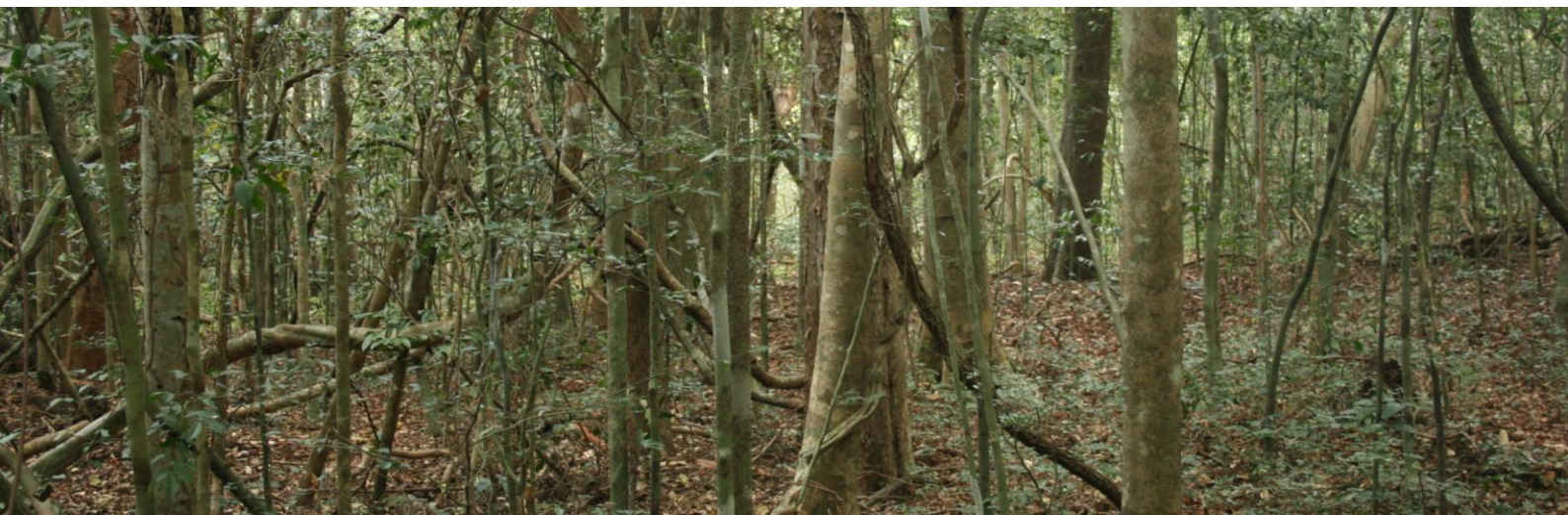
The draft National Forest Policy was reviewed and TFCG submitted recommendations to the Ministry of Natural Resources and Tourism.

170 (79 women) MJUMITA network members from six zones were trained on how to follow legal procedures to prosecute forest crimes.

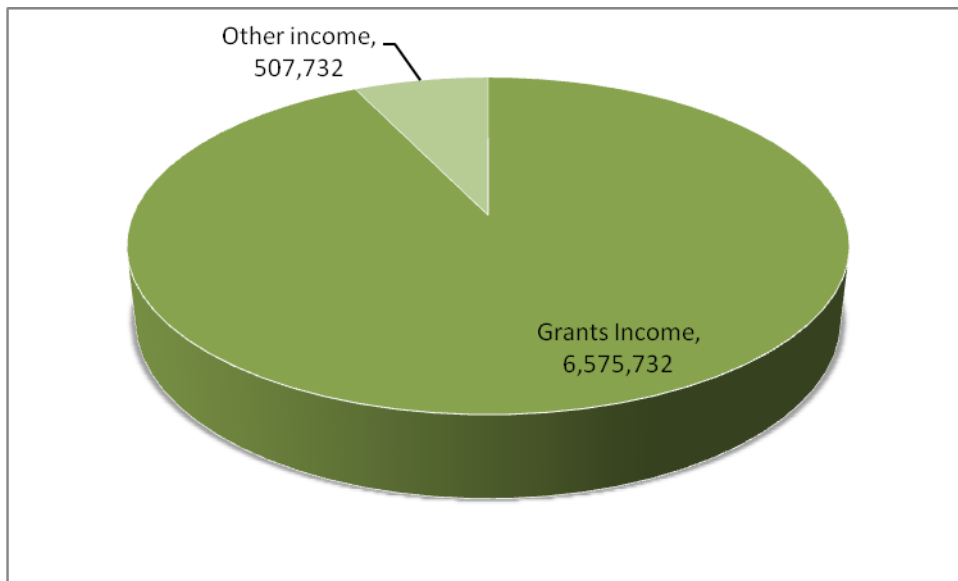
Village level forest governance monitoring was implemented. The monitoring results found a slight positive trend between 2011 and 2013 in village-level governance.

There has been a steady increase in the % of reported forest crimes that reach court over the lifetime of the project from 0% during Year 1 (2011) of the project to 16.1% of the reported cases in August – December 2014. See chart below.

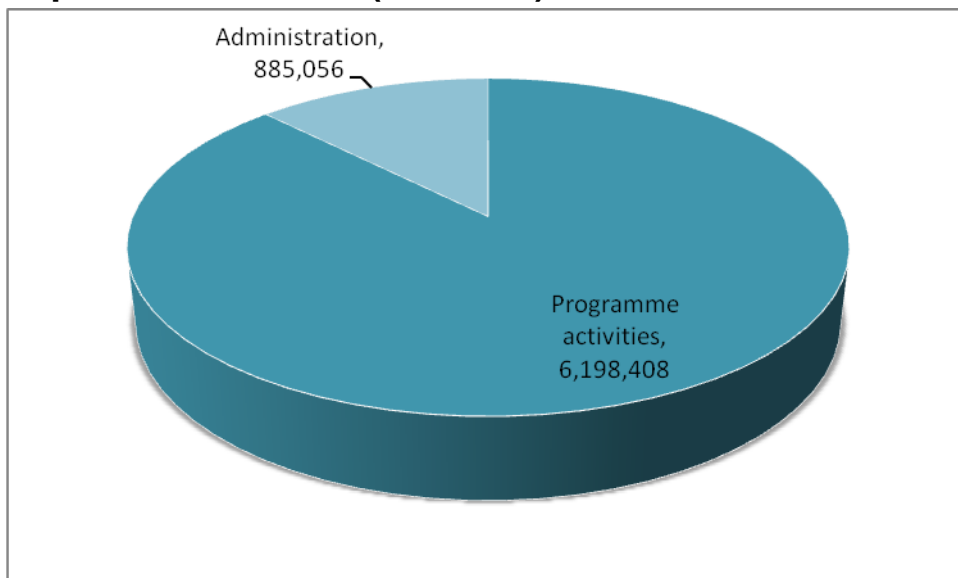
Through the Transforming Tanzania's Charcoal Sector project, TFCG successfully piloted a change in fiscal measures whereby royalties on charcoal produced sustainably from village forest reserves are now flowing to the communities. The communities have invested these funds in managing the village forest reserves; and development projects ranging from construction of a house for a medical officer; maintenance of school classrooms; and a water project.



Income in 2014 ('000 TZS)



Expenditure in 2014 ('000 TZS)



Institutional development

TFCG conducted a thorough review of its financial and human resources policies and practices culminating in the development of revised financial and human resources manuals. TFCG also initiated a review of the governance structure of the organization.

TFCG's Donors in 2014

Accountability in Tanzania Programme - DfID
African Rainforest Conservancy
African Rainforest Trust
Associazione Mazingira
Conservation International
Critical Ecosystem Partnership Fund
Eastern Arc Mountains Conservation Endowment Fund
European Union
Global Giving
Gorta
McKnight Foundation
Museo delle Scienze, Trento
Newman's Own Unrestricted
Norwegian Ministry of Foreign Affairs
Songas
Swiss Agency for Development Cooperation
Trentino Insieme
Tusk Trust
Unilever
United Bank of Carbon
United Nations Development Programme
William Eccles



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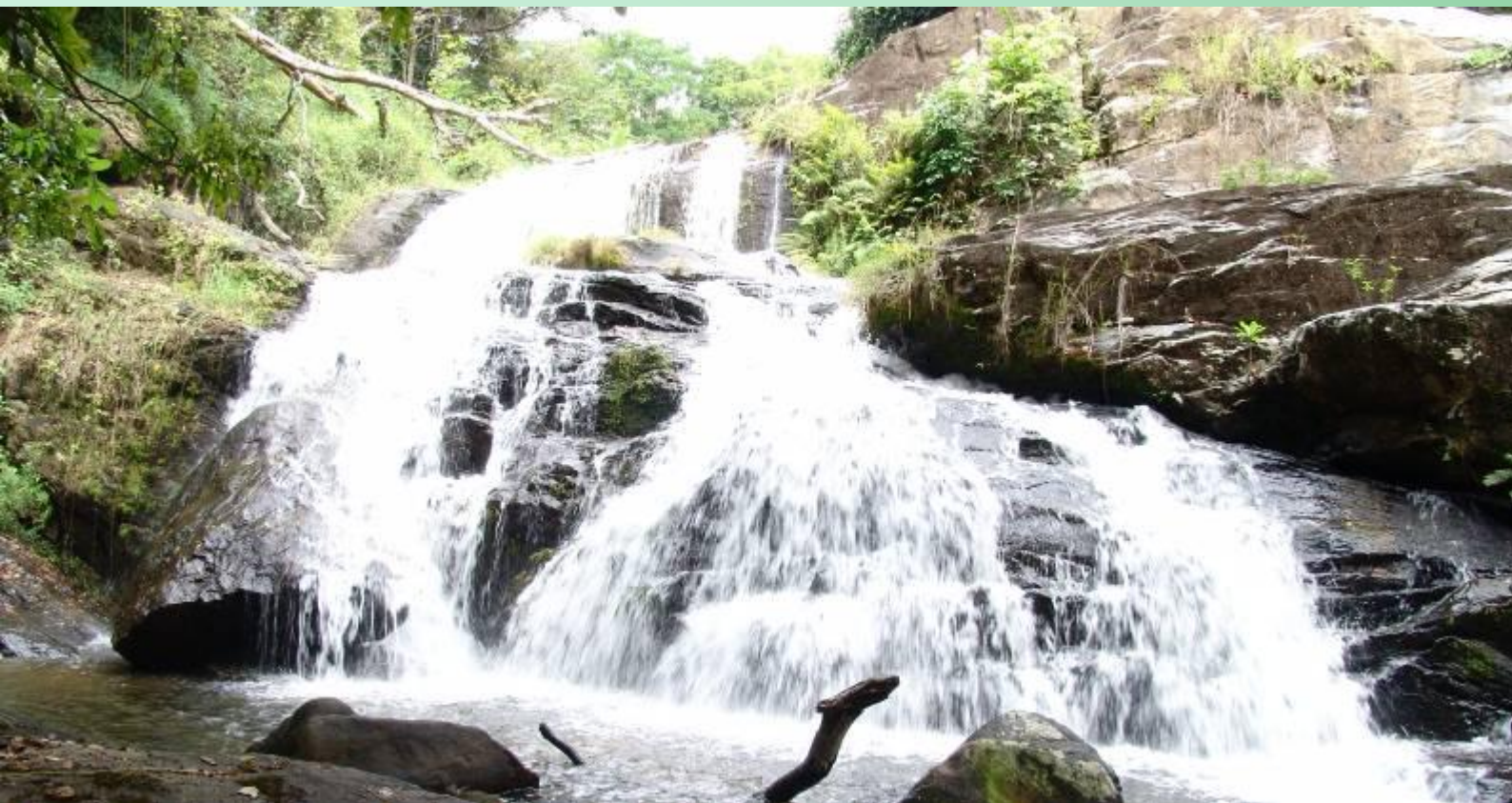
How you can help

Spread the word about the Eastern Arc Mountains and coastal forests and about the Tanzania Forest Conservation Group

Participate in our annual fund raising events in New York and London organised by our sister organisations, the African Rainforest Conservancy and the African Rainforest Trust.

Visit the forests – tourism provides a valuable incentive to conserve the forests. There are tourism facilities in the Udzungwas, East and West Usambaras and North Pare Mountains.

Donate to TFCG - We rely on grants and donations from development partners, foundations, individuals and the private sector to enable us to conserve the Eastern Arc Mountains and Coastal Forests biodiversity Hotspot. Please donate generously to TFCG (see www.tfcg.org for details) or the African Rainforest Conservancy (see www.africanrainforest.org) to enable us to carry on making a difference to the future of our planet



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