

PROJECT FUNDING REQUEST

Project title: Promoting Ecological Conversion through Birthday Tree Planting



- **Project location:** Dodoma, Singida, Kagera, Manyara and Arusha Regions Tanzania.
- **Legal holder and executor of the project:** The A'ray Justice and Peace Initiative (TAJPI)
Contact person responsible for the project (project coordinator)
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Starting Date 27 September 2022

ending date 04 October 2026

Place Rhotia Village in Karatu District

Signature

Introduction and Background

The A'ray Justice and Peace Initiative (TAJPI) was initially registered as the Cornel A'ray Peace Foundation (CAPF) under Tanzanian law in 2014 with registration No. 113831. In 2018, the Tanzanian government mandated that all registered organizations must comply with the NGO Act No. 24, 2002 (amended in 2005). Consequently, CAPF was re-registered as an NGO and officially became TAJPI on April 1, 2019, with certificate No. 00010156.

Founding and Mission

TAJPI was established by a member of the Capuchin Friars Minor Province of Tanzania, alongside professional lawyers and experts in social issues. Its mission is to address community challenges through reconciliation and mediation, utilizing traditional, religious, and governmental principles based on justice, peace, and the integrity of creation (JPIC). The organization focuses on several key areas, including combating Female Genital Mutilation (FGM) and gender-based violence, promoting women and youth empowerment, advocating for justice, peace, and accountability, protecting children, and conserving the environment.

Objectives and Areas of Focus

The overall goal of TAJPI is to enhance the capacity of communities to address their economic, cultural, social, and environmental issues for sustainable development under the values of JPIC. Specific objectives include advocating for women and youth empowerment, particularly in land ownership, and promoting child protection through pastoral care and rehabilitation for victims of trafficking and abuse. The organization also aims to combat FGM and gender-based violence, which have severe social and economic impacts, and to work towards environmental conservation to protect the planet's resources for future generations.

Project profile

Ecological degradation is a global concern, with the international community recognizing its potentially devastating impact on humanity if left unaddressed. The resulting drastic changes in the environment and nature could threaten the habitability of Mother Earth—our common home, whose generous provisions have enabled civilization to flourish. Adequately addressing the immense challenges posed by ecological degradation requires action at all levels. Instigating behavioural changes at the individual and communal levels is a necessary response, yet it remains an issue that has yet to be effectively tackled.

As the world grapples with the consequences of global warming and environmental crises, environmental protection is becoming an increasingly important topic in global discussions. Planting trees with schoolchildren offers a unique opportunity to teach them about the importance of healthy foods and nutrition. Whether the fruit-eaters are children, animals, or impoverished neighbours, fruit trees utilize Mother Nature's resources to provide shade, condition the soil, feed wildlife, and sustain both humans and animals alike. And it lasts for decades! That's a lot for one simple plant to give us. The project aims to provide generations of children and teachers with healthy nutrition options and environmental education opportunities in green spaces.

The major approach of this project is Education, Information and Communication (EIC) on the one hand and active community participation on the other. It will also involve activities that will aim at leaving a "green mark" on Tanzanian's landscape. These projects will make a real contribution towards our priorities of re-forestation, natural resource protection, environmental enhancement, sustainable and community participation based on economic motivation and awareness. This project will also contribute to national priorities regarding environmental conservation.

Funding Considerations

Considering that young people may not own resources on their own especially land on which to grow trees, the general community will be sensitized such that the youth can easily ask for space on which to plant trees around their homesteads, schools or public land. The project will promote a greater appreciation of environmental protection and management, that is, focusing on school environments and homesteads.

The project aims to support the student communities in both secondary and primary schools. A key aspect of its sustainability will focus on encouraging schools to establish their own tree woodlots, with an emphasis on tree species diversity. This initiative seeks to promote self-sufficiency in firewood supply, improve nutrition, and create liveable environments conducive to learning. Additionally, it aims to make a significant impact on reversing environmental degradation in Tanzania.

The sustainability of the project is further supported by its design, which explicitly prioritizes the documentation and demonstration of environmental conservation mechanisms. While this approach requires more time and effort and may slow down the delivery of immediate results, it is a deliberate choice over simply "getting the job done." Once these environmental conservation methods are demonstrated and institutionalized, they will become part of the regulatory framework and operational procedures in the schools. This will help reinforce sustainable habits among students long after the project concludes.

The project will have the following specific objectives:

- To enable children to enjoy healthy diets and to create a healthy eating culture within primary and secondary schools.
- To promote environmental education for the protection and ecological integrity to the young people.
- This project will encourage more children to taste and enjoy a variety of fruits and vegetables, thereby reaping the long-term benefits of consuming at least five portions a day, as recommended for good health for both children and adults. Tree planting will also serve as a practical way to introduce and integrate environmental education in schools.

Major Goal:

To promote participatory micro-interventions in environmental conservation and protection, focusing on individuals, schools, and communities through Birthday Tree Planting.

Specific Objectives:

- To engage youths in environmental conservation micro-interventions that involve individual, group, and community participation.
- To equip secondary and primary school students with knowledge and skills on environmental protection, preservation, and conservation, as well as sustainable practices to profitably use the environment while ensuring its future viability.
- To enhance green cover in Dodoma, Singida, Kagera, Manyara and Arusha regions through reforestation initiatives, including Birthday Tree Planting in schools, homesteads, and public spaces.
- To create and promote self-sustaining environmental clubs in primary and secondary schools.

Activities:

School Yard Habitat: This main project activity will be crowned with a festival. Conferences and workshops will educate students about environmental conservation within their schools.

Forming Small Student Groups: Students will be encouraged to form teams of five or more to pursue tree planting activities, linked to their birth months.

Forming Environmental Clubs: Students will establish an Environment Club to coordinate various teams and liaise with school administrators. These clubs will explore questions like “How green is our school yard?” and “How can we make it greener?” Students will work with school administrators to find larger spaces for tree planting.

Awareness and Training Workshops: Workshops will be held to sensitize students on the role of trees in environmental conservation. Training on tree planting and management will be provided, and students will be encouraged to form environmental clubs.

Tree Planting in Schools: After training, students will receive tree seedlings to plant within school grounds, woodlots, and along boundaries. Each school will aim to plant 2,500 trees. Students will also be encouraged to replicate this initiative at home.

Environmental Essay Writing Competition: Secondary school students will compete in an essay writing contest. Essays must be original and endorsed by a teacher. Three independent adjudicators will assess the essays, with prizes awarded to the top three winners.

Radio and TV Talk Show: A radio/TV talk show will be held, addressing key environmental issues such as environmental degradation, the role of individuals in protecting the environment, and the importance of vegetation conservation. The show will encourage tree planting and feature contributions from the public.

Natural Environmental Conservation Awareness: A campaign will raise awareness about the importance of protecting natural resources, such as forests and water sources, for sustainable living.

Environmental Hazards Awareness Campaign: After project activities, an awareness campaign will highlight areas in Dodoma rural where environmental degradation has been caused by human activities. This will include a radio talk show, flyers, posters, banners, and T-shirts with environmental messages.

Social Environmental Impact Assessment: In each project area, a Social Environmental Impact Assessment will be conducted to identify and address both positive and negative impacts during the project’s implementation.

Green Living Experience Festival: The project’s grand finale, where participating schools and teachers will share their experiences. Winners of the drawing and essay competitions will be recognized, and the broader community will engage in celebrating the green living theme, with a special focus on the Birthday Tree Planting Campaign.

Expected Results/Outcomes:

- Primary and secondary schools will be equipped with nursery beds.
- Neighbouring communities will be mentored.
- Approximately 600,000 trees will be planted across the project areas in five year.

- Environmental youth clubs will be established in rural districts across the five regions.
- Increased environmental awareness within communities for sustainable development.
- Pupils and teachers will be well-trained in tree planting and conservation techniques.
- Natural resources will be better conserved and managed.
- Over 120,000 students across various schools will participate in the project.
- The broader community will be educated through radio talk shows and informational materials.

Project Locations

The project will be implemented across five regions: Dodoma, Singida, Kagera, Manyara, and Arusha, which will serve as the pilot areas for the first five years. After this phase, the project is expected to become sustainable and expand to other regions of Tanzania, with funding and grants supported by the community.

Implementation Timeframe

Activities	2022					2026									
	Sept	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Marc	April	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sept	Oct	
Project arrangement and introduction to respective stakeholders															
Project Inauguration															
Conduct Dialogues in all selected regions															
Prepare the Resolution on Ecological Conservation															
Climate Strike															
Monitoring, Evaluation & Report															

Monitoring and Evaluation

Monitoring of project activities will be carried out by the entire project team. A monthly monitoring report will be produced and shared by the team to address any deviations or issues with the project. These reports will also serve as the basis for the final evaluation of the project.

Reporting

Progress reporting will be standardized to capture both quantitative and qualitative results, as well as financial delivery. The project team will provide monthly progress reports, along with comprehensive reports every six months from the start of the project. A final report will be submitted to the funding agency within eighteen months of the end of the implementation period.

<u>Estimated budget per annual</u>			
<u>Project Expenses</u>	<u>Donor fund (\$)</u>	<u>In-Kind (\$)</u>	<u>TOTAL (\$)</u>
Awareness and management Allowance: \$ 100 x 3 persons x 12 months	3,000	600	3,600
Postage & Printing: \$ 250	200	50	250
Travel, Meals & Lodging: 5 persons x \$ 30 x 100 days	10,000	5,000	15,000
Data collection and analysis: \$ 1,500	1,000	500	1,500
Training facilitation 1person x \$ 80 x 78 days	6,000	240	6,240
Purchasing of Seedlings from breeders \$ 0.10 x 120,000	10,000	2,000	12,000
Transport Seedlings from breeders to collection point: \$ 0.20 x 4000	600	200	800
Provision of water cane, pipe, manual and barbed wires for protection of fruits: \$ 130 x 8 schools	1,000	500	1,500
Total US \$	<u>31,600</u>	<u>9,900</u>	<u>41,500</u>

