

PROJECT TITLE

5,000 Trees, 20 Water Tanks, 8,000 Students: Transforming Kayonza's Schools for a Resilient Future

Here For Hope Foundation · Kayonza District, Rwanda's Eastern Province

5,000

TREES PLANTED

20WATER TANKS
(5,000L)**8,000**STUDENTS
SERVED**20**SCHOOLS
TRANSFORMED

Project Summary

This project transforms drought-affected schools in Rwanda's Eastern Province by planting **5,000 trees**, installing **20 large-capacity water tanks (5,000L each)** with full rainwater harvesting systems, and creating vegetable gardens to provide nutritious meals, clean water, and shade for **8,000 students**—improving attendance, health, and climate resilience for generations.

Implementation Approach: We will implement this project in phases, with each phase corresponding to fundraising milestones. As funds are raised, we will

expand to additional schools—ensuring every donation immediately translates to impact.

The Issue, Problem, or Challenge

In Kayonza District, Rwanda's Eastern Province, climate change is not a distant threat—it is a daily reality. Erratic rains, prolonged droughts, and severe soil degradation have devastated small-scale farming communities. Harvests are shrinking. Families are struggling. And children are paying the highest price.

Walk through any school in the sectors of Ndego, Mwiri, or Rwinkwavu, and the problem is painfully visible:

Barren, Dusty Schoolyards

No trees. No grass. No shade. Just exposed earth that turns to dust with every gust of wind, causing respiratory illnesses in children. Temperatures soar, making it difficult for students to concentrate.

Empty Stomachs

School feeding programs often run out of funds. When food is scarce, children go hungry—and hungry children cannot learn. Many simply stop coming to school.

No Clean Water

Schools lack reliable water sources for drinking, handwashing, or irrigation. Adolescent girls miss up to 5 days of school each month because there is no water for menstrual hygiene management.

Girls Left Behind

When families face economic hardship, girls are the first to be pulled from school—to work at home, to save money, or to marry early. This project removes two key barriers: food and water on school grounds.

What We Have Already Proven

Our pilot schools—**E.P. Gisubizo, E.P. Naybubare, and Mukarange**—tell a different story. Children are eating meals from their own gardens, drinking clean water, and leading environmental action in their communities. We know this model works. Now we need to scale it.

How This Will Solve the Problem

We will implement a proven, integrated approach across 20 schools, delivered in phases based on funds raised.

5,000 Trees for Shade, Food, and a Greener Future

Tree Type	Quantity	Purpose
Avocado	1,200	Nutritious fruit, income generation
Mango	1,200	Nutritious fruit, shade
Guava	600	Vitamin-rich fruit, easy to grow
Lemon	500	Vitamin C, culinary use
Orange	500	Vitamin C, juice production
Shade Trees	700	Cooling schoolyards, reducing erosion
Palm Trees	300	Shade, aesthetic value
TOTAL	5,000	

Impact: 5,000 trees will sequester carbon, reduce wind erosion, create a cooler microclimate for learning, and provide free, nutritious fruit for thousands of students for decades.

20 Water Tanks (5,000L Capacity Each) with Full Rainwater Harvesting Systems

Component	Purpose	Cost per School
5,000L Water Tank	Primary water storage	\$390
Guttering & Downspouts	Channel rainwater from roofs into tanks	\$15
Tank Foundation & Installation	Concrete/stone base and plumbing accessories	\$300
Water Filters (Ceramic/Sand)	Ensure safe drinking water	\$35
Total per School		\$740

Impact: 100,000 liters of clean water storage capacity across all 20 schools —a reliable water source for drinking, irrigation, and hygiene year-round.

Vegetable Gardens in Every School

Each school will establish a productive vegetable garden growing:

- Cabbages, carrots, spinach
- Eggplants
- Traditional greens (Sukhuma Wiki, Dod)

Impact

- Fresh, nutritious produce to supplement school meals
- Reduced school food costs by at least 20%
- Hands-on learning for students in sustainable agriculture
- Surplus produce can be sold to fund replacement tools and seeds

 Environmental Clubs: Building a Generation of Stewards

Component	Details
Teacher Training	40 teachers (2 per school) trained in agroforestry, organic gardening, and club mentoring
Student Clubs	20 environmental clubs established, with elected student leaders
Hands-on Learning	Irrigation, composting, organic pest control, tree care
Leadership	Female students actively encouraged to take leadership roles

Impact: *Students don't just learn—they lead. They take ownership of their trees and gardens. They teach their parents. They become environmental stewards for life.*

Phased Implementation Approach

Since this project is funded through GlobalGiving, we will implement in phases based on funds raised. Each phase is a complete, self-contained project that delivers meaningful impact.

Phase	Schools	Students	Funding Needed	Activities
Phase 1	5 schools	2,000	\$8,500	Full transformation: trees, water tanks, gardens, clubs
Phase 2	5 schools	2,000	\$8,500	Full transformation: trees, water tanks, gardens, clubs
Phase 3	5 schools	2,000	\$8,500	Full transformation: trees, water tanks, gardens, clubs
Phase 4	5 schools	2,000	\$8,500	Full transformation: trees, water tanks, gardens, clubs
TOTAL	20 schools	8,000	\$34,000	Complete transformation

How It Works

- Funds are raised through GlobalGiving
- Each \$8,500 milestone triggers the transformation of 5 additional schools
- Every school receives the full package: trees, water system, garden, training, and club materials
- No school is left half-completed—we only start a phase when full funding is secured

Donation Options

Amount	Impact
\$10	Provides vegetable seeds
\$25	Supplies a complete gardening toolkit for one school's environmental club
\$50	Plants 15 fruit trees—avocado, mango, guava, lemon, or orange—that will feed students for decades
\$75	Supports a student's full participation in the environmental club for one year
\$150	Funds a complete water filtration system for one school—ensuring clean drinking water
\$390	Purchases one 5,000L water tank for a school
\$500	Supports land preparation and tree planting for 200 trees at one school
\$740	Transforms one entire school with a full water harvesting system
\$1,500	Fully transforms one school with water system, trees, garden, and club materials
\$8,500	Transforms an entire phase of 5 schools—2,000 students served

Monitoring & Evaluation Framework

We are committed to transparency and accountability. Every phase of this project will be rigorously monitored and evaluated using the following indicators:

Core Indicators (Tracked for Every Phase)

Indicator	Target	Data Source	Frequency
Tree Survival Rate	≥80% at 12 months	Physical headcount	Monthly (3, 6, 12 months)
Students Directly Served	400 per school	School enrollment records	Baseline & completion
Water Tanks Installed	1 per school	Site verification	Installation & completion
Clean Water Access	All students have safe drinking water	School water quality test	Installation & quarterly
School Gardens Established	1 per school	Site verification	Installation & monthly
Gardens Producing Food	Within 3 months of planting	Weighing records	Monthly
Students in Environmental Clubs	50 per school	Club registration	Monthly
Teachers Trained	2 per school	Training attendance	Training completion

Nutrition & Health Indicators

Indicator	Target	Data Source	Frequency
Students Receiving Nutritious Meals	≥400 per school	School feeding records	Monthly
School Food Cost Reduction	≥20%	School budget records	Quarterly
Garden Harvest (kg/month)	≥100kg per school	Weighing records	Monthly
Vegetable Variety in Meals	≥3 additional types	School meal records	Monthly

Gender & Inclusion Indicators

Indicator	Target	Data Source	Frequency
Girls' School Attendance	≥15% increase	School attendance records	Monthly
Girls in Club Leadership	≥40%	Club election records	After elections
Female Teachers Trained	≥40%	Training attendance	Training completion
Girls Attending During Menstruation	≥20% increase	Pre/post survey	Baseline, 6 months, completion

Education Indicators

Indicator	Target	Data Source	Frequency
Overall School Attendance	≥15% increase	School attendance records	Monthly
Student Dropout Rate	≥10% reduction	School dropout records	Quarterly
Students with Practical Agriculture Skills	≥80%	Student assessment	Baseline & completion
Environmental Knowledge	≥70% score	Knowledge assessment	Pre/post

Environmental Indicators

Indicator	Target	Data Source	Frequency
Trees Planted	250 per school	Planting records	Planting completion
Trees Surviving	≥80% at 12 months	Physical headcount	3, 6, 12 months
Schoolyard Shade Coverage	≥30%	Aerial/photo assessment	Baseline, 6, 12 months
Soil Erosion Reduction	Visible improvement	Visual inspection	Baseline, 6, 12 months
Water Harvested (Liters)	5,000L capacity per school	Tank level monitoring	Monthly

Sustainability Indicators

Indicator	Target	Data Source	Frequency
Environmental Clubs Active	100% (all schools)	Club attendance records	Monthly
Student-to-Student Knowledge Transfer	≥30% of students teach family	Student/family survey	6, 12 months
Surplus Produce Sold	Tracked per school	Sales records	Monthly
Income from Surplus	Funds replacement tools/seeds	Sales records	Monthly
Teacher Continuation	100% of trained teachers still mentoring	Staff records	6, 12 months

Data Collection Methods

Method	Purpose	Frequency
Physical Site Visits	Tree counts, garden assessment, water system inspection	Monthly
School Records Review	Attendance, dropout, meal records	Monthly
Student Surveys	Knowledge, attitudes, practices	Pre, 6 months, completion
Teacher & Staff Interviews	Program progress, challenges, successes	Quarterly
Focus Group Discussions	Community perceptions, impact	6 months, completion
Photo & Video Documentation	Visual evidence of transformation	Monthly
Weighing & Harvest Records	Garden productivity	Monthly

Potential Long-Term Impact

This project creates change that will last far beyond the implementation period:

Environmental Regeneration

- 5,000 trees planted on degraded land
- Carbon sequestration and climate mitigation
- Reduced wind erosion and improved local microclimate
- Increased biodiversity

Sustained Nutrition

- Fruit trees bearing for decades—free, nutritious food year after year
- Vegetable gardens producing fresh food every season

- Students equipped with agricultural skills they take home to their families

Improved Education Outcomes

- Better nutrition → better concentration and attendance
- Clean water → girls attend school during menstruation
- Practical skills → students learn sustainable agriculture
- Environmental clubs → leadership development and civic engagement

Institutional Sustainability

- Trained teachers remain in schools, mentoring new generations
- Environmental clubs create a culture of ownership
- District Education Office provides ongoing institutional support
- Income from surplus produce funds replacement tools and seeds

Community Ripple Effect

- Students share knowledge with their families
- Community members learn from school demonstrations
- Food security improves beyond school gates
- A culture of environmental stewardship spreads

Comprehensive Project Budget (Per Phase)

Category	Item	Quantity	Unit Cost (USD)	Total (USD)	Notes
WATER SYSTEMS					
	5,000L Water Tank	5	\$390	\$1,950	Primary water storage
	Guttering & Downspouts	5 schools	\$15	\$75	Channels rainwater from roofs
	Tank Foundation & Installation	5 schools	\$300	\$1,500	Concrete/stone base, plumbing
	Water Filters (Ceramic/Sand)	5 schools	\$35	\$175	Ensures safe drinking water
	Subtotal - Water Systems			\$3,700	
TREES					
	Tree Seedlings	1,250	\$0.60	\$750	Assorted fruit, shade, palm
	Land Preparation	5 schools	\$100	\$500	Clearing, terracing, planting holes
	Mulch & Initial Aftercare	5 schools	\$50	\$250	Moisture retention, dry season
	Subtotal - Trees			\$1,500	
GARDENS					

Category	Item	Quantity	Unit Cost (USD)	Total (USD)	Notes
	Vegetable Seeds	5 schools	\$15	\$75	Diverse nutritious vegetables
	Gardening Tools	5 schools	\$20	\$100	Hoes, rakes, watering cans
	Subtotal - Gardens			\$175	
TRAINING					
	Teacher Workshop	10 teachers	\$15	\$150	One-day training
	Club Materials & T-shirts	5 schools	\$50	\$250	Registration, materials
	Subtotal - Training			\$400	
OPERATIONS					
	Transport & Logistics	3 months	—	\$500	Delivering supplies to remote schools
	Staff Supervision & Monitoring	3 months	—	\$375	Regular visits, troubleshooting
	M&E Data Collection	12 months	—	\$100	Surveys, photos, reporting
	Subtotal - Operations			\$975	
CONTINGENCY & ADMIN					

Category	Item	Quantity	Unit Cost (USD)	Total (USD)	Notes
	Contingency Fund (5%)	1	\$340	\$340	Unforeseen costs
	Final Audit Fees	1	\$60	\$60	Certified financial audit
	Subtotal - Contingency & Admin			\$400	
TOTAL PER PHASE				\$7,150	
TOTAL FOR 4 PHASES (20 SCHOOLS)				\$28,600	

Complete Project Budget (All Phases)

Category	Total (USD)	Percentage
Water Systems (Tanks, Guttering, Installation, Filters)	\$14,800	43%
Trees & Landscaping	\$6,000	18%
Gardens & Agriculture	\$700	2%
Training & Capacity Building	\$1,600	5%
Operations & Monitoring	\$3,900	11%
Contingency & Administration	\$1,600	5%
GlobalGiving Platform Fees (10%)	\$5,500	16%
TOTAL REQUESTED	\$34,100	100%

Note: GlobalGiving platform fees are calculated based on the total funds raised. We include these transparently so donors understand that 100% of their "project donation" goes to project costs, while GlobalGiving's fee is a separate line item.

About Here For Hope Foundation

Our Story

Here For Hope Foundation was born from lived experience, not just observation. Founder **Bigirimana Feston** grew up in Kayonza District experiencing the harsh realities of climate vulnerability, hunger, and poverty firsthand. What began as one individual's resolve has grown into an organization that has mobilized thousands.

Our Impact to Date

Metric	Achievement
Trees Planted (2025)	139,800
Schools Engaged	5 (pilot model)
Youth Mobilized	600
Community Members Engaged	300
Indirect Beneficiaries	5,000+
Land Restored	10 hectares (with German Embassy partnership)

Our Team

Name	Role	Qualifications
Bigirimana Feston	Founder & Director	Studying BA in Theology & Leadership, Africa College of Theology
Mutuyimana Liliose	Project Manager	Bachelor of Agribusiness; managed projects at Kirimo Trust
Gilbert Bizimpunga	Field Supervisor	BA in Crop Production, University of Rwanda (CAVM)

Legal Status

- **Registration:** N° 62/RGB/FDN/LP/07/2024
- **Registered with:** Rwanda Governance Board (RGB)
- **Legal Form:** Common Benefit Foundation
- **Established:** 2024

Reporting to Donors

We are committed to transparency. Every donor will receive:

Report	Contents	Frequency
Progress Updates	Photos, videos, stories, milestone tracking	Quarterly
Phase Completion Report	Detailed impact per phase	Each phase completion
Final Narrative Report	Full story of transformation	Project completion
Financial Audit	Certified independent audit	Project completion
Impact Stories	Individual student and teacher stories	Ongoing

All reports will be shared through GlobalGiving's reporting system and our website.

Why Your Support Matters

The UN Sustainable Development Goals this project directly supports:

SDG 2
Zero Hunger

SDG 3
Good Health and Well-being

SDG 4
Quality Education

SDG 5
Gender Equality

SDG 6
Clean Water and Sanitation

SDG 13
Climate Action

SDG 15
Life on Land

This project also directly aligns with Rwanda's national priorities:

- Reducing malnutrition
- Improving school retention
- Building climate resilience
- Empowering youth and women

Contact Information

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Bank Details (Equity Bank Rwanda PLC):

- **Bank Name:** Equity Bank Rwanda PLC
- **Address:** Grand Pension Plaza, Floor 1, KN 4 Ave, Kigali, Rwanda
- **SWIFT/BIC Code:** EQBLRWRW
- **Account Name:** HERE FOR HOPE FOUNDATION

Join Us

Every child deserves a school with shade, food, and clean water. Every community deserves a greener, more resilient future. Every donation—whether \$10 or \$10,000—plants a seed of hope.

Together, we can transform 20 schools, 8,000 students, and countless communities.

Give today. Change tomorrow.

"Building resilient, thriving communities working in harmony with nature and humanity through sustainable environmental action, climate-smart agriculture, youth and women empowerment, and circular economy solutions."

— Here For Hope Foundation Mission

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