

PROJECT PROPOSAL

10 TREES PER FAMILY

Project Proposal: 10 Trees Per Family

Restoring Land, Creating Jobs, and Building Climate Resilience
in Kayonza and Gatsibo Districts, Rwanda



50,000

TREES PLANTED

5,000

FAMILIES SERVED

100+

YOUTH & WOMEN
JOBS

\$50,000

FUNDING REQUEST

Project Overview

Element	Details
Project Title	50,000 Trees for 5,000 Families in Rwanda
Themes	Environment, Climate Action, Food Security, Economic Growth
Location	Kayonza and Gatsibo Districts, Eastern Province, Rwanda
Duration	12 Months
Target Beneficiaries	5,000 families
Lead Organization	Here for Hope Foundation
Total Funding Request	\$50,000

Project Summary

In drought-prone Kayonza and Gatsibo Districts, 5,000 families struggle with land degradation, poverty, and missed export opportunities. This project provides 10 trees per family—50,000 total—including avocado, mango, orange, Grevillea, and indigenous trees. We offer agronomist training, create nursery jobs for youth and women, and establish market linkages for harvests. Families gain nutrition, income, and climate resilience. \$50,000 restores land, creates jobs, and builds a sustainable future for 5,000 families.

The Problem

Kayonza and Gatsibo Districts sit on the frontlines of climate change in Rwanda's Eastern Province—the country's most drought-prone region. The challenges are severe and interconnected.

Land Degradation and Deforestation

Between 2009 and 2019, Kayonza District lost **18,179 hectares** of forest, while only **5,174 hectares** were restored through afforestation—a net loss of nearly three times the area replanted. Forest cover declined by **14 percent** over the decade, averaging a **1.4 percent loss per year**. The worst-hit area was Ndego Sector, which lost **51 percent** of its shrub and forest cover, while afforestation accounted for just **1 percent**.

In Gatsibo District, the situation is equally dire. Overall, across the Eastern Province, agroforestry tree cover is estimated at only **5.2%**, leaving farmers exposed to climate vulnerability due to prolonged droughts. Low tree cover degrades soil, disrupts the water cycle, and exposes farmers to devastating climate shocks.

Climate Shocks and Agricultural Devastation

The impact of this deforestation is already being felt. In 2016, drought affected **47,300 households**, with Kayonza and Nyagatare among the hardest-hit districts. In Kayonza alone, **16,119 hectares** of crops were damaged. According to research, **90% of cropland in the Eastern Province is dominated by annual crops exposed to prolonged drought causing crop failure** that affects livelihoods in the region.

Poverty and Missed Opportunities

The low tree cover has a negative influence on soil organic carbon, making land more degraded and fragile. This compromises crop productivity and exposes farmers to poverty. This reality is reflected in the **consistent net forest loss across Kayonza District** between 2009 and 2019.

Meanwhile, **Rwanda's avocado export market has surged—from \$840,500 in 2019/20 to \$8.6 million in 2024/25, a ten-fold increase**. The government targets **\$12.9 million by 2029**. Yet families in Kayonza and Gatsibo—where **88 percent of avocado trees are between zero and six years old**—remain locked out of these opportunities. The Eastern Province currently contributes only **10% of avocado production** despite its potential.

An Urgent Window of Opportunity

The TREPA project, a \$33.8 million Green Climate Fund initiative, has already restored **43,777 hectares** across Eastern Province, distributing **289,339 fruit trees to 72,334 households**. But TREPA ends in 2027. Without continued investment, families in Kayonza and Gatsibo will be left behind.

The Need Is Clear

Families in Kayonza and Gatsibo need:

- **Trees** to restore degraded land
- **Training** to ensure trees survive and thrive
- **Market linkages** to connect harvests to export opportunities
- **Jobs** for youth and women in nurseries
- **Nutrition** from fruit trees
- **Climate resilience** for generations to come

How This Project Solves the Problem

We transform degraded land into productive, climate-resilient farms. Families receive agronomist-led training before and after planting—ensuring **85%+ survival rates**. Nurseries employ youth and women, providing income and skills. Harvests connect to NAEB and private exporters, unlocking avocado and coffee markets. Trees improve soil fertility, retain water, and reduce drought impact. Families gain nutrition from fruit, income from sales, and long-term climate security. This integrated approach breaks poverty cycles while restoring ecosystems.

Our Integrated Approach

Component	Description
10 Trees Per Family	5,000 families × 10 trees = 50,000 trees planted
Tree Varieties	50% Avocado (25,000), 20% Coffee (10,000), 20% Agroforestry/Grevillea (10,000), 10% Indigenous/Imisave (5,000)
Agronomist Training	Pre- and post-planting training for all families—ensuring 85%+ survival
Youth and Women Employment	Over 100 jobs created in tree nurseries
Market Linkages	Connecting harvests to NAEB and export markets
Carbon Capture	50,000 trees sequester carbon, mitigating climate change

Tree Varieties and Their Purpose

Type	Species	Quantity	Purpose
Fruit Trees	Avocado	25,000 (50%)	Export revenue, nutrition, household income
Fruit/Cash Trees	Coffee	10,000 (20%)	Export revenue, household income
Agroforestry	Grevillea	10,000 (20%)	Soil restoration, timber, firewood
Indigenous	Imisave	5,000 (10%)	Biodiversity, ecosystem restoration

Why These Trees Matter

- **Avocado** exports surged from \$840,500 to \$8.6 million, with \$12.9 million target by 2029. Families with avocado trees can access these lucrative markets.
- **Grevillea** is fast-growing and profitable—farmers can harvest branches for firewood and climbing beans.
- **Indigenous trees** like Imisave restore biodiversity and are increasingly valued in agroforestry systems.
- **Coffee** remains a key export crop with established market channels.

Target Beneficiaries

Group	Number	Impact
Direct Beneficiaries	5,000 families	Receive trees, training, and market access
Youth and Women	100+ jobs created	Nursery employment and skills training

Group	Number	Impact
Indirect Beneficiaries	25,000+ family members	Nutrition, income, and climate resilience

Selection Criteria

- Families in Kayonza and Gatsibo Districts
- Vulnerable households with limited land and income
- Active participation in training and tree care
- Commitment to maintaining trees long-term

Potential Long-Term Impact

This project transforms **5,000 families**. With **25,000 avocado** and **10,000 coffee trees**, families access export markets—avocado exports surged 923% to **\$8.6M**, targeting **\$12.9M by 2029**. Agroforestry (10,000) restores land and soil; indigenous trees (5,000) protect biodiversity. All **50,000 trees** capture carbon, mitigating climate change. Over **100 jobs** created for youth and women, with skills transfer ensuring lasting knowledge. A self-sustaining cycle: restored land, empowered families, thriving communities.

Environmental Impact

- **50,000 trees** planted across Kayonza and Gatsibo Districts
- Restored green cover reduces drought impact and erosion
- Carbon sequestration—mitigating climate change
- **Biodiversity protection** through indigenous tree planting
- Soil health improved and protected from erosion

Economic Impact

- **5,000 families** gain income from avocado, coffee, and timber sales
- Export market access for avocado and coffee
- Over **100 jobs** created in nurseries for youth and women
- Skills transfer ensures knowledge lasts beyond the project

Social Impact

- Nutrition improved through fruit consumption
- Women empowered through employment and income
- Youth employed—reducing rural-urban migration
- Community resilience built for future climate shocks

Project Timeline (12 Months)

Month	Activities
Month 1-2	Community mobilization and family selection
Month 3	Nursery establishment and seedling production
Month 4-5	Agronomist training for all families (pre-planting)
Month 6	Tree distribution and planting
Month 7-9	Post-planting monitoring and training
Month 10-11	Market linkage establishment
Month 12	Final evaluation and reporting

Donation Options

Amount	Impact
\$10	Plants 10 trees for one family—restoring their land and future
\$25	Provides agronomist training for one family—pre- and post-planting
\$50	Creates a nursery job for one youth or woman for one month
\$100	Supports 10 families with trees and training—100 trees planted
\$250	Supports 25 families with full package—trees + training + jobs
\$500	Supports 50 families—500 trees planted
\$1,000	Supports 100 families—1,000 trees planted
\$5,000	Supports 500 families—5,000 trees planted
\$10,000	Supports 1,000 families—10,000 trees planted
\$50,000	Full project: 5,000 families, 50,000 trees, jobs, training

Budget

Budget Line Item	Cost (USD)
Tree Seedlings	
Avocado (25,000 × \$1.00)	\$25,000
Coffee (10,000 × \$0.80)	\$8,000
Agroforestry/Grevillea (10,000 × \$0.50)	\$5,000
Indigenous/Imisave (5,000 × \$0.50)	\$2,500
Subtotal - Seedlings	\$40,500
Training & Support	
Agronomist Training (pre- and post-planting)	\$4,000
Nursery Establishment & Operation	\$3,000
Subtotal - Training	\$7,000
Operations	
Transport & Logistics	\$1,000
Monitoring & Evaluation	\$1,000
Administrative Costs	\$500
Subtotal - Operations	\$2,500
TOTAL	\$50,000

Why This Project Matters

Alignment with National Priorities

Priority	Alignment
Rwanda's "Five Fruit Trees Per Household" Program	Directly supports government's Rwf18 billion initiative

Priority	Alignment
TREPA Restoration Project	Complements 43,777 hectares restored in Eastern Province
Vision 2050	Climate resilience, economic transformation, job creation
NAEB Export Strategy	Avocado exports target \$12.9 million by 2029

UN Sustainable Development Goals

SDG 1

No Poverty

SDG 2

Zero Hunger

SDG 5

Gender Equality

SDG 8

Decent Work and Economic Growth

SDG 13

Climate Action

SDG 15

Life on Land

About Here for Hope Foundation

Our Track Record

Metric	Achievement
Trees Planted	139,800 (2025)
Years in Kayonza	3+ years
Youth Mobilized	600
Community Members	300
Indirect Beneficiaries	5,000+
Land Restored	10 hectares (with German Embassy partnership)
Pilot Schools	5 schools transformed

Our Team

Name	Role	Qualifications
Bigirimana Feston	Founder & Director	BA in Theology & Leadership (ongoing); lived experience in Kayonza
Mutuyimana Liliose	Project Manager	Bachelor of Agribusiness
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

Monitoring & Evaluation Framework

Indicator	Target	Data Source	Frequency
Families reached	5,000	Distribution records	Monthly
Trees planted	50,000	Planting records	Monthly
Tree survival rate	85%+	Physical headcount	3, 6, 12 months
Families trained	5,000	Training attendance	Per training
Jobs created	100+	Employment records	Monthly
Avocado trees planted	25,000	Planting records	Monthly
Coffee trees planted	10,000	Planting records	Monthly

Contact Information

Contact	Details
Organization	Here for Hope Foundation

Contact	Details
Email	info@h4hfoundation.com
Telephone	+250 787 192 428
Website	https://h4hfoundation.com/

Join Us

For **\$10**, you plant 10 trees for one family—restoring land, creating jobs, and building climate resilience.

Every tree plants hope. Every family transforms. Every community thrives.

"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