



TRILLION TREES



ReForest Fund Update - October 2022

The world is at a crucial moment in defining how we steward our planet. Trillion Trees believes preserving and restoring forests is critical to responding to the challenge of the biodiversity and climate crises.



Restoring forests – for people, nature & climate

The Trillion Trees ReForest Fund returns the right trees to the right places, and in the right way. Our projects focus on recovering and regrowing natural forests, but we take a landscape approach, using a wide range of methods, and looking for opportunities to provide livelihoods improvements and address the underlying drivers of deforestation. This ensures our efforts make a lasting contribution to reducing carbon in the atmosphere and preserving critical biodiversity.

Thanks to the generous support of individuals, foundations and companies that have donated to the ReForest Fund, we've been able to support seven projects around the world so far. In 2021, we supported projects in Kenya, Madagascar and Tanzania. In 2022, we've added additional projects in Kenya and Tanzania, but also in Brazil and Papua New Guinea. And we're just getting started!

In Kenya and Tanzania, project teams have been working hard to carefully monitor and maintain the restoration sites planted in 2021, to ensure the seedlings are surviving and thriving, and preparation is underway at the two new sites in Kaptagat, Kenya and the Usambara Mountains, Tanzania. In Madagascar, the team has been focused on the important work of maintaining the areas of forest that have been restored. Groundwork is also underway in Brazil to support forest restoration in the Atlantic Forest and WCS is working with communities in the Bismark Mountains of PNG to identify planting sites for the coming planting season.

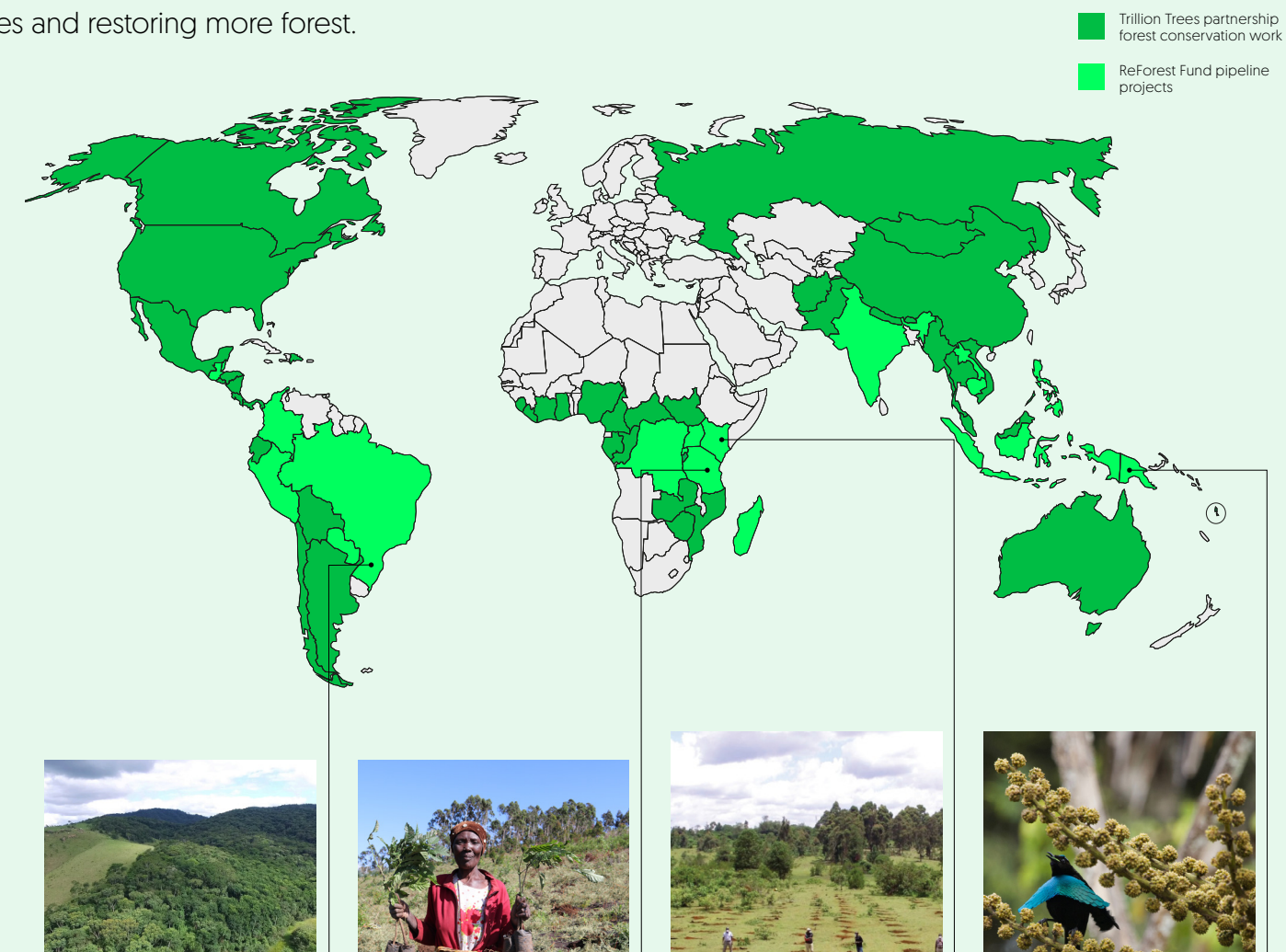
To ensure long term success of restoration efforts, project teams monitor restoration areas over several years, carrying out necessary maintenance to keep trees growing. This year we have been rolling out the use of our mapping tool – FORMAPP - to track the performance of restoration efforts and providing training to teams on how to use it effectively.

In all, Trillion Trees has more than 50 projects worldwide that need support to restore degraded forest and re-create habitat for endangered species; such as helping prevent landslides and maintain water quality in Peru's Madidi Tambopata forest landscape, home to 300 mammal species, or working with communities to restore leopard habitat in Laos. With your support, we can deliver assistance to more of these projects, bringing back biodiversity, while also benefitting the climate by removing carbon dioxide.

Restoring forests, ending deforestation: New ReForest Fund projects for 2022-23

At each place, we have built trusting relationships with local communities and work with them to develop appropriate solutions for all stakeholders. Support from the ReForest Fund helps these projects expand their efforts on the ground and increase their scale of ambition: planting more trees and restoring more forest.

But there is much more to be done. With your help, we will expand our support to more projects restoring forests and tackling the causes of deforestation in some of the world's most biodiverse forest ecosystems.



Atlantic Forest, Brazil

This project is investing in 'food forests,' blending the best economic, environmental and social returns through agroforestry. It aims to enhance connectivity between natural forest fragments, while ensuring food security and access to market for farmers.

Usambara Mountains, Tanzania

The restoration project aims to use innovative and multiple landscape restoration approaches to both enhance human wellbeing and biodiversity. This will enable natural regeneration, sustainable management of community forests and more sustainable sources for fuelwood and livelihoods.

Kaptagat, Kenya

This region is an important water tower and also a training ground for elite athletes. The project is establishing agroforestry and clean energy solutions within a forest-based landscape and laying the foundations for work over the coming years that will reduce emissions, contribute to poverty alleviation and address land degradation.

Bismarck Mountains, Papua New Guinea

This project is working with local communities to restore tree cover in deforested areas and enrich degraded forest with species of key importance for animal food, stabilising soil, ensuring clean water provision, and enhancing socio-economic benefits to rural communities.

2022 Projects

Connecting forest patches in Madagascar

Restoring and maintaining key forest corridors in Madagascar

The Reforest Fund supports the restoration of degraded forest in Makira natural park, focusing on particular forest ‘corridors’ which are important to increase the resilience of the forest landscape, and to allow forest-dependent species such as Makira’s famous lemurs greater freedom to move. This contributes to Madagascar’s national reforestation target. Trillion Trees partner, the WCS, also works in partnership with local communities, who manage community use zones around the protected area buffer zone.

The target restoration area is a forest corridor known as “Anjanaharibe,” which surrounds a community-managed forest that is within Makira protected area. Support from the ReForest Fund has allowed the project to restore a further 40 hectares of degraded forest within Makira Natural Park. This year, the project has continued the important work of maintaining the areas of the forest that have been restored. A total of 60.3 hectares of degraded forest have been restored since the beginning of the project. And just under 36,000 trees planted over the last six months.

Transplanting saplings. Photo: WCS Madagascar



Setting up the nursery. Photo: WCS Madagascar

In addition to supporting ecological forest restoration, the project also works with local farmers to improve farmer livelihoods, aiming to reduce the pressure on forest land. WCS supports farmers to adopt agroforestry techniques and grow cloves and vanilla, which perform well in forest gardens and can attract good prices.

The Trillion Trees ReForest Fund Makira project is featured on Restor.eco, a global hub for nature restoration and the largest network of conservation and restoration sites across the globe. See the project’s profile [here](#). And Restor’s feature on it [here](#).

2022 Projects

Restoring forest and saving water in Kenya

Maintaining restored forest in Mt Kenya and restoring a degraded landscape for nature and elite athletes

In the forest landscape of Mount Kenya, BirdLife International Partner, Nature Kenya has been focusing on looking after the newly restored forest, nurturing the 25,000 trees that were planted through the ReForest Fund throughout 2021, ensuring that they thrive, and protecting the saplings from grazing animals and other threats. In this Key Biodiversity Area and UNESCO World Heritage site, the rich biodiversity includes 778 plant species, animals including the African elephant, leopard and endangered black rhino as well as endangered bird species. Support from the ReForest Fund has enabled this work to continue.

Our new site in the 32,000 hectare Kaptagat landscape, is an important carbon sink, water tower and livelihood source for eight different local communities who rely on the region for water, wood-based goods and agriculture. It's also home to a world-renowned, high-altitude training camp for elite athletes, including Olympic marathon champion and world record holder, Eliud Kipchoge. Under the UK Government's Partnering for Accelerated Climate Transitions [PACT] and Trillion Trees support, WWF-Kenya is partnering with the Eliud Kipchoge Foundation and the Ministry of Environment and Forestry to implement the 'Greening Kaptagat: Establishing agroforestry and clean energy solutions within a forest-based landscape in Kenya' project.

The project is laying the foundations for work over the coming years that will reduce emissions, contribute to poverty alleviation and address land degradation. So far, a significant start has been made to the project - a perimeter fence has been set up to safeguard the site, restoration work has been initiated including the planting of seedlings from community nurseries, and more than 150 community members have benefitted through being involved in this work. Already they have restored over 50 hectares and now, with support from the ReForest Fund this important work will continue, benefitting local communities, boosting biodiversity and helping in the fight against climate change.



Community members planting seedlings ©WWF Kenya

The Kaptagat forest © WWF Kenya



Restoring degraded forest in Tanzania

Working with local communities to protect and restore forest in the Usambara Mountains

Trillion Trees partner WWF, with support from the ReForest Fund, has expanded its forest landscape restoration work in Tanzania from the coastal forests near Dar es Salaam to the Usambara Mountains. This mountain range in north-eastern Tanzania is one of the country's most important biodiversity hotspots but is threatened by unplanned clearing of the forest for agriculture, in particular fruit farming, and to supply the high demand for charcoal used as fuel.

The restoration project aims to use innovative and multiple landscape restoration approaches to both enhance the wellbeing of local people and support biodiversity. This approach enables communities to engage in supporting natural regeneration, through the sustainable management of community forests to generate more sustainable sources for fuelwood and livelihoods.

Planting saplings in the Usambara Mountains © WWF Tanzania



Restoration sites in the Usambara Mountains © WWF Tanzania

Recently the project has been restoring forest patches, particularly in the Mbaramo area, supporting native tree-planting along river catchments to promote habitat connectivity for wildlife and improve water quality and supply to the area. WWF has already supported the Friends of Usambara to carry out restoration activities in the West Usambara Mountains which provides water for the lowlands including Mkomazi National Park and Uмба Steppe.

The project has provided seedlings to community groups to grow trees around water sources, along streams and on farms, on degraded lands and on school campuses, alongside an environmental awareness programme for students and the local community helping to reinforce the message that planting trees and conserving forests along rivers can improve water quality and prevent erosion and flooding.

In the East Usambaras, WWF is working with 4H Tanzania to engage primary and secondary schools, reaching 600 young people and 150 households with information about how forest restoration can benefit the landscape and the people.

Now, support from the ReForest Fund will enable the project team to maintain and nurture the areas of forest that have been restored, as well as continue the restoration efforts, working with local community groups to improve outcomes for people, nature and climate.

FORMAPP: Tracking our progress

Trillion Trees partners are committed to ensuring forest restoration activities supported by the ReForest Fund are tracked and monitored, ensuring transparency and accountability and allowing us to measure our impacts over time.

We track the performance of restoration efforts using a mapping tool that has been developed for the ReForest Fund. The tool, called FORMAPP, uses open-source software, and allows projects to map their restoration sites via the free Cybertracker smartphone application.

FORMAPP allows projects to create their own database of restoration sites and permits the automatic sharing of restoration information with Trillion Trees without the need to invest in technical GIS skills or expensive GIS software. The tools are provided freely to projects benefiting from ReForest Fund support.

In 2022, we have been rolling out the use of FORMAPP with the projects. Trillion Trees provides training to project staff on how to tailor the process to their project's needs, and how to ensure they can access and analyse the data that is collected in the field. Over time we will offer more monitoring tools through the platform, such as tools for measuring social impact, and sampling biodiversity. We're also working with Restor.eco to integrate our local level data into their global platform.



The right trees, in the right places

Trillion Trees applies a science-led approach to regrowing the right trees in the right places – and in the right way.

This means we prioritise the restoration of natural forests with native species; we apply the landscape approach to address the underlying drivers of forest loss; and we ensure local people are in control of decision making.

We aim to always ensure that our efforts conserve biodiversity, sustain ecosystems, and lift people out of poverty.

We recognise that restoring forests in the right way takes time and money.

- **Native species, locally sourced:**
Our projects promote natural regeneration where possible, and source seeds locally when planting is needed to restore natural forest. We support community groups to establish nurseries to provide for future plantings.
- **Consultation and consent:**
We choose projects that have long commitments in landscapes, and have taken the time to develop effective partnerships with local community structures. Our funds help projects to develop and deepen these relationships.
- **Monitoring and verification:**
We ask our projects to map their restoration sites, so that the eligibility of the land can be independently verified, and so that the success of restoration efforts can be monitored in the future. We use a custom-built data storage system to track the progress of our projects.





Thank you

Thanks to the generous support of Starling Bank, Global Returns Project and Climate and Land Use Alliance and all of the individual donations that have made the ReForest Fund possible.

With continued support, we can restore our forests and protect the future of our planet.

For further information about Trillion Trees and how you can play a vital role, please contact **action@trilliontrees.org**

You can donate directly to the ReForest Fund at **trilliontrees.org/reforest-fund**