

MONTHLY NEWSLETTER

A WORD FROM JEAN-PAUL, MANAGING DIRECTOR

Welcome to the March 2024 edition of our Newsletter

This month, Better Globe Forestry (BGF) has redefined its Vision and Mission after two decades of dedication to sustainable agroforestry and forestry.

Our updated Vision aims to integrate environmental sustainability, social prosperity, and commercial success in the agroforestry industry, with a focus on positively impacting local communities while meeting wood trade demands.

In honor of International Women's Day on March 18th, we acknowledge the invaluable contributions of women in forestry.

Despite facing barriers, women play a crucial role in sustaining forests and livelihoods worldwide. At BGF, we're committed to promoting gender diversity and empowering women's leadership through community forestry initiatives.

Lastly, the Kenya Carbon Markets Conference 2024, where we participated, underscored the urgent need for global collaboration on climate change. Prime Cabinet Secretary Hon. Musalia Mudavadi emphasized Africa's vulnerability and the crucial role of carbon markets in driving climate action.

Thank you for joining us on our journey towards sustainability and progress.

PROMOTING WOMEN IN FORESTRY



Musovo mukau growers SHG group photo (behind are water tanks purchased through IGAs). Women figure prominently in the group. Photo BGF

On March 18th, the world celebrated International Women's Day, recognizing women's achievements globally. Despite being historically underrepresented, women in forestry are gaining recognition for their significant impact. With over one billion women relying on forests for their livelihoods worldwide, they play a crucial role in sustaining household income and managing forests sustainably. Women face various barriers hindering their full participation and acknowledgment in forestry. Gender stereotypes portray forestry as male-dominated, limiting women's access to education, training, and career opportunities. Cultural biases confine women to lighter tasks, excluding them from decision-making roles. Limited access to resources and economic opportunities exacerbates challenges for women in forestry. Unequal access to land, credit, and technology impedes their involvement in forest management and entrepreneurship, perpetuating economic dependence and gender disparities.



Kathonzweni mukau growers BGF farmer group doing table banking as an Income Generating Activity (IGA). Women are most active in the group. Photo BGF

In addition, forestry workplaces pose extra challenges for women due to physical demands and safety risks. Lack of proper infrastructure and safety measures further limit their participation and affect their health.

At Better Globe Forestry, we value women's contributions and prioritize efforts to overcome obstacles they face. We promote gender diversity across all levels of our organization and provide equal training and mentorship opportunities. Ensuring safe workspaces is paramount, with open communication channels and appropriate protective equipment.

Furthermore, we challenge gender stereotypes by encouraging women to participate in all forestry tasks. Women's leadership is empowered through community forestry initiatives, with a focus on advancing conservation and sustainable livelihoods.

By addressing these challenges and advocating for gender equality, we strive to create a more inclusive and sustainable forestry sector. At Better Globe Forestry Limited, we are committed to fostering an environment where women have equal presence and opportunities to thrive.

BGF'S CHANGE OF VISION & MISSION



View of our staff in Dokolo. Photo BGF

After almost two decades of commitment to sustainable agroforestry and forestry practices, Better Globe Forestry (BGF) is undergoing a shift in its Vision and Mission, driven by its wealth of experience and insights accumulated over the years. In the past, the Vision was to combat poverty in Africa through forestry projects, and the Mission was to plant as many trees as there are people on earth, both through our own projects and on behalf of our clients, to support the vision in a sustainable manner.

Our updated Vision envisions a world where environmental vitality and social prosperity harmonize with commercial success in the agroforestry industry. As a leading force in this

sector, our commitment to innovative and ethical approaches remains steadfast. BGF aims not only to meet the demands of wood trade and processing but also to make an impact on local communities through social entrepreneurship. The company is dedicated to creating a legacy that transcends mere business success, contributing to the well-being of both the planet and its inhabitants.

Our Mission has evolved to encompass cultivating an ecosystem where commercial viability integrates with social responsibility. We are committed to empowering communities, fostering sustainable development, and prioritizing environmental conservation.

KENYA CARBON MARKETS CONFERENCE 2024



Prime Cabinet Secretary Hon. Musalia Mudavadi addressing the Conference

Prime Cabinet Secretary Hon. Musalia Mudavadi addressed the Kenya Carbon Markets Conference, held on 26-27th March of 2024 in Nairobi, emphasizing Kenya's need to collaborate with global leaders in tackling climate change.

He highlighted Africa's vulnerability to climate change despite its minimal contribution to global emissions and the importance of carbon markets in catalyzing climate action. They are crucial for Kenya's growth, with the country being a leader in the continent in this regard.

Despite progress, Mudavadi expressed concerns over scandals in carbon markets and called for integrity measures. He outlined their potential to drive green growth and employment while stressing the need for end-to-end integrity.

The conference, although limited on forestry, featured expert discussions, including on the Paris Agreement's Article 6. Unfortunately, discussions on certain aspects of it collapsed, but regulatory developments in Kenya, including a draft Carbon Regulation, aim to ensure compliance. Forthcoming considerations on tax implications were also addressed, underscoring Kenya's commitment to start on the right foot in carbon market regulation.

Other high-level guests were Hon. Soipan Tuya, Cabinet Secretary, Environment, Climate Change and Forestry, Hon Prof. Njuguna Ndungu, Cabinet Secretary, Investments, Trade and Industry and Ali Mohamed, Special Envoy for Climate Change.