



2024

Highlights

Championing historically marginalised communities in Rwanda to conserve their environment and enhance their well-being.

We are the Rural Environment and Development Organisation (REDO), a local Rwandan NGO established in 1999. Since our founding, we have focused on implementing environmental conservation initiatives while advocating for the social integration of historically marginalised communities. Our work includes supporting income-generating activities and promoting energy conservation through improved fuel stoves. We also foster sustainable practices such as beekeeping, tree planting, soil conservation, and water harvesting for irrigation and household use, as well as developing pottery and handicrafts.

These ongoing initiatives align with our mission to empower communities - particularly historically marginalised groups - to actively improve their livelihoods. We are dedicated to eradicating poverty, enhancing food security, and expanding access to markets that create economic and social opportunities. At the same time, we prioritise grassroots environmental protection, employing a participatory and sustainable approach in everything we do.



OUR 2024 HIGHLIGHTS

Restoring critical landscapes in Rusizi District



725 hectares

Targeted for restoration in partnership with the Terrafund.



320 jobs

Created through this project, benefitting women and youth and enhancing community livelihoods.



50,000 trees

Already planted in 2024, contributing significantly to landscape recovery.

At the beginning of 2024, REDO, in partnership with Terrafund, launched the project titled **“Restoration of Forest Landscape and Livelihoods in Rusizi District.”** The project aims to restore 725 hectares of degraded landscape by planting 150,000 trees by 2025. This year, significant progress has been made, with approximately 50,000 trees already planted, contributing to the restoration of the landscape. The project created 320 jobs, benefitting women and youth who played active roles in its implementation. This has enabled many to pay for health insurance, school fees, and personal development initiatives.

The beneficiaries are enthusiastic about the project’s positive impacts on their lives. Beyond the income earned, which has improved their living standards, young community members gained valuable skills in data collection using the Flority App.

Additionally, three agricultural cooperatives involved in the project were empowered through access to low-interest loans. These loans are helping to combat malnutrition and enhance the cooperatives’ overall productivity and standards.

Promoting resilience to climate change



60 trainers 

Trained in tree nursery establishment and seedling production techniques in Ruhango District.

168,082 trees 

Planted along roads, schools, and households to improve climate resilience and community livelihoods.

In 2024, REDO, in partnership with AVSI and REMA, launched the project titled “**Improved Green Culture and Climate Change Resilience within Rwandan Rural Communities**” in Ruhango District, Rwanda. In June, the project trained 60 trainers on tree nursery establishment, seedling production management, and tree planting techniques, leading to the formation of three cooperatives. These trained youth have since passed on their knowledge to cooperative members, resulting in the establishment of 20 tree nurseries.

In just two months (October and November), 168,082 trees were planted in schools, households, and along roadsides. The project has had a significant positive impact, enhancing climate change resilience while also improving community livelihoods.

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The trees enhance our compound's beauty while teaching students environmental stewardship.

Headmaster of a local school

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The fruit and agroforestry trees we received have transformed our household, improving our food security and soil quality.

Local resident

“

The skills gained through this project have given me hope for a sustainable future.

Youth cooperative leader

New agreement with the Rwanda Green Fund



This year, REDO and the Rwanda Green Fund finalised an agreement to implement the project **“Promoting Climate-Smart Agriculture for Food Security and Climate Resilience in Bugesera District.”** The project aims to enhance inclusive agriculture value chains, particularly for fruits targeting local markets in Bugesera, while improving families' living standards.

Key interventions focus on enhancing water management for irrigation across 15 hectares, building capacity through knowledge sharing, promoting climate-smart farming practices, and supporting land restoration initiatives through agroforestry. 60,000 trees will be planted in degraded areas.

The primary beneficiaries will be farming households in the Rweru sector, who are especially vulnerable to drought and the impact of erratic weather patterns and climate change.



Promotion of low carbon technologies

In partnership with JAC Trust, REDO has launched a project to promote low-carbon technologies and strengthen the capacity of Mahama refugees and host communities to adopt climate-resilient solutions for improved livelihoods in Kirehe District.

The project aims to empower these communities to cope with the effects of climate change by promoting the use of briquettes as an effective and affordable clean cooking solution. The project will benefit 10,000 households - 5,000 from host communities and 5,000 from refugee camps - by introducing briquettes into their daily lives.

Briquettes, as a renewable and sustainable source of energy, will bring significant environmental benefits by reducing deforestation, lowering greenhouse gas emissions, decreasing waste, and promoting energy efficiency.



A new partnership to strengthen our organisation

One of our latest partners, made possible by the Bezos Earth Fund, is Maliasili, a team dedicated to strengthening local conservation and environmental organisations across Africa by helping them become more effective. Through this partnership, Maliasili in collaboration with the Bezos Earth Fund, will support REDO in becoming an even more impactful organisation, enhancing our role in championing the rights of marginalised communities and promoting environmental preservation.

November marked the beginning of an active partnership phase with Maliasili, which was highlighted by a workshop on organisational assessment and situational analysis. We're excited by this collaboration that will strengthen REDO's leadership, communications, strategic planning, and overall capacity.





The REDO team extends its profound gratitude to our partners, collaborators, and stakeholders whose unwavering support has helped us make 2024 a year of significant milestones and achievements. Onwards!