



WK
Wazalendo
Foundation

**IGEMBE MITI UHAI &
CONSERVATION CENTRE
PROJECT PROPOSAL**

BASIC INFORMATION	
PROJECT TITLE	IGEMBE MITI UHAI & CONSERVATION CENTRE
PROJECT TYPE	Modern Tree Nursery, Conservation of Endangered Tree Species Care and Research Center
PROJECT LOCATION	Igembe North Sub-County
AREAS TO BE COVERED	Igembe North Sub-County
POPULATION (Source 2019 Census)	Igembe North Approximately 169,317
IMPLEMENTING AGENCY	WK Wazalendo Foundation
PARTNERS	1.KEFRI 2.KFS 3.FSK 4.Wazalendo Kirindara Youth Group 5.St.John Self-Help group 6.Kirindari Mwicuri Youth Group 7.Matuire Community Group 8.Vision Destiny Youth Group 9.Laare Slaughter House Youth Group 10.Imani Self Help Group 11.Munyaka Women Group 12.Angels Group 13.KK Baimula Self Help Group
BENEFICIARIES	Igembe North Populace
PROJECT PERIOD	1 Year
PROJECT PROPONENT	Name: ANDREW MEME Title: Director, WK Wazalendo Foundation Address: P.O Box 22 – 60601, LAARE Tel: +254 723 887 659 Email: director@wkwazalendofoundation.org Website: www. wkwazalendofoundation.org
PROJECT ASSETS	½ Acre land
PROJECT BUDGET	KSH. 8,274,000

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I. PROJECT BACKGROUND

According to a report by the United Nations Environment Programme, there are approximately 100,000 tree species in the world, and many of them are threatened with extinction. The report also highlights the importance of identifying the components of biodiversity and the threats they face to plan for conservation action. The conservation of biodiversity and its sustainable management are internationally recognised as vital global concerns. Identification of the components of biodiversity and the threats they face are important steps in planning for conservation action. Tree species are ecologically, culturally and economically valuable components of biodiversity and their conservation is essential to the well-being of people in all countries of the world.

A recent article by The Conservation states that one-third of the world's tree species are threatened with extinction. The article emphasizes the need to protect threatened trees, restore degraded forests, and ensure that the harvesting of useful tree species is sustainable.

Further Global Forest Watch reported that in 2010, Igembe North had 10.5 kha of tree cover, extending over 9.8% of its land area. In 2022, it lost 7 ha of tree cover, equivalent to 3.07 kt of CO₂ emissions.

Igembe Miti Uhai & Conservation Centre Project is a proposal by WK Wazalendo Foundation that seeks to address the above issues that are facing the world but narrowed down to our very own community of Igembe. This also will form part of our Environmental Conservation program as one of our key pillars and in line with our dream of "[Let's Go Green](#)" launched in the year 2021 in partnership with PACJA. The program started by planting 500 trees in Laare Township and within the first year our target was about 2,000 trees in Ntunene ward and eventually we plan to do 20,000 trees per year in Igembe North.

II. PROJECT JUSTIFICATION

Planting trees and environmental conservation are crucial for achieving the **Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)**. The SDGs are a set of 17 goals adopted by the United

Nations General Assembly in 2015 to end poverty, protect the planet, and ensure prosperity for all by 2030.

SDG 15 aims to “protect, restore and promote sustainable use of terrestrial ecosystems, sustainably manage forests, combat desertification, and halt and reverse land degradation and halt biodiversity loss”. It is accompanied by 10 targets, which include integrating ecosystem and biodiversity values into national and local planning, development processes, and poverty reduction strategies and accounts, and a target to mobilize and significantly increase from all sources financial resources to conserve and sustainably use biodiversity and ecosystems.

In Kenya, the government has initiated a tree-planting campaign that aims to plant 15 billion trees by 2032. This move is aimed at reducing greenhouse emissions, stopping and reversing deforestation, and restoring 5.1 million hectares of deforested and degraded landscapes through the African Landscape Restoration Initiative . There are also several tree planting programs in Kenya that aim to restore degraded forest lands, support farmers to plant trees for fuel wood, timber, nitrogen balance, soil improvement, fruits, fodder, and general agroforestry trees.

Benefits of Igembe Miti Uhai & Conservation Centre Project

Social and economic benefits this project:

- It will contribute to environmental conservation by restoring of endangered trees and degraded lands, enhancing soil fertility, reducing erosion, sequestering carbon, and increasing biodiversity
- It will provide a source of healthy and quality planting materials for various purposes, such as agroforestry, landscaping, fruit production, fuel wood, timber, etc.
- It will support local businesses, offer educational opportunities, and encourage social interaction between WK Wazalendo, The Groups and the community.
- It will generate income and employment for WK Wazalendo foundation ,The Groups, as well as the community who will benefit from various commercial seedlings.

Positive Impacts on the Youth, Women and Self Help Groups

Youth especially face many challenges in the society ranging from lack of job opportunities, drug abuse, crime and poverty. WK Wazalendo Foundation through an MOU with this various groups, will task Youth to run the project in order to uplift their economic and social activities through youth empowerment programs that include;

1. Creation of job opportunities
2. Equip the youth with knowledge through research and exposure
3. Other affiliated programs like bee farming and fruit farming
4. Participation on advocacy on climate change
5. Agro-Forestry

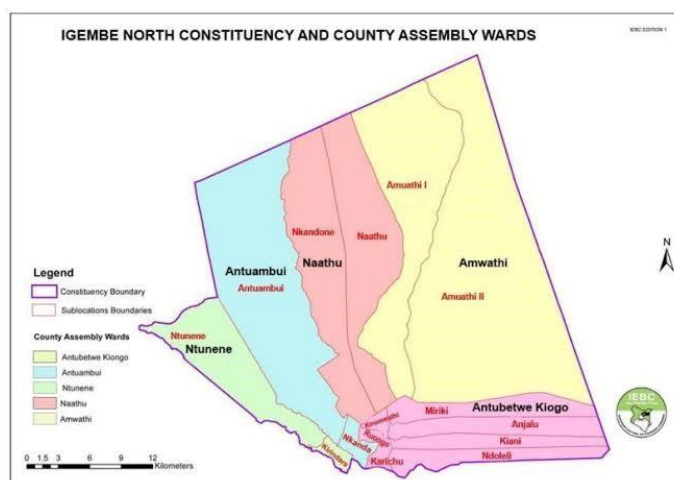
This project will positively influence the residence of Igembe North Constituency at large while opening more opportunities for them to build a sustainable future for the coming generations.

III. PROJECT LOCATION & INFORMATION

Ntunene Ward Igembe North Constituency

The project office, Nursery and operations will be setup at Laare town Ntunene Ward. Ntunene Ward is located in Igembe North Constituency one of the electoral Meru County. The ward has a population of approximately 20,000 as at 2018 when the census was conducted and an area of 145.10 km². It lies between Latitude 0°19'46.3"N and Longitude 37°56'00.7"E.

Map of Igembe North Constituency



Project Goals

- To protect and restore the endangered tree species
- To engage students, youth and women in organized tree planting.
- To recruit about 10,000 tree partners as volunteers by 2030.
- To plant and nurture cumulatively a total of 100,000 trees per constituency in the next 1 year, and a total of 1 million trees over a 10-year period in Igembe North region.
- A minimum of 1000 people will be enrolled into the project annually to reach our 10-year goal.
- To sustain the climate change campaign against deforestation using various conventional and social media platforms.

Project Objectives

- To raise awareness on endangered tree species
- To raise awareness on the dangers of deforestation.
- To mobilize resources for the expansion of research centers across Igembe North.
- To monitor and support communal afforestation efforts.
- To promote the planting of trees as a lifestyle in order to meet our 2030 goal

IV. PROJECT SCOPE

Special Programs

Tujali Miti Program – This program focuses on restoration of endangered tree species that have been cut down and seeks to support in reforestation activities of the same.

Miti Kijiji Program – This program focuses on planting of 1000 trees in every ward by engaging the youth and school going children. This program will also focus in educating them on the importance of environmental conservation and emphasis on restoration of endangered tree species.

Miti Nyumbani Program – This program focuses on empowering every home specifically on regenerative agriculture, permaculture and agroforestry practices.

This is in essence for the rural farmers not to cut down trees but to learn how to grow food while also safeguarding their soil and environment.

V. PROJECT ACTIVITIES

Nursery Establishment

1. Selection of Site

The site selected for raising a nursery should preferably be located near marketing centres for the convenience of transportation of the products with minimum or no damage. The site should be convenient enough for transportation of input materials also. It is important to have or develop a perennial source of water inside the nursery. If need arises, wind breaks of tall plants may be planted to provide necessary shade and protection.

2. Establishment of nursery

Nursery is developed gradually and planting rows established and labeled according to the Alphabetical order of the plant names and what the projects want to achieve in long term for example seclusion of endangered plants beds and sections for research purposes, proper care and management.

3. Seedbed and nursery beds

For raising flower seedlings, some permanent or temporary structures for seed bed may be prepared. These beds will be minimum 0.5 to 0.75 m high from ground level. The beds may be 0.75m to 1.00m in breadth and length may be as per the availability of land. The nursery beds will be prepared for storing of perennial plants or the plants that should be kept for sale.

4. Collection and planting of mother plants

The plantation of mother plants is an important work for developing a nursery. The mother plants must be true to the type and true to the variety. The plants should be properly labelled. Collection of exotic type of mother plants is a continuous process or job. The mother plants may be maintained properly for their vigorous growth; otherwise number of propagated plants will get reduced.

5. Planting

The mother plants planted for vegetative and seed propagation and seed propagated plants such as seasonal flower, seedlings are raised for sale simultaneously in their sections. Important factors considered for establishing a nursery are agro-climatic conditions, soil types, soil pH, location, area, irrigation facilities, communication, market demand, availability of germplasm or mother plants, skilled persons, etc.

Note: Germplasm is the term used to describe the seeds, plants, or plant parts useful in crop breeding, research, and conservation efforts. Plants, seed, or cultures are germplasm when maintained for the purposes of studying, managing, or using the genetic information they possess.

6. Storage of dried, cleaned soil and compost manure

For raising flower seedlings during rainy or early winter season, the soil and compost would be stored during hot or summer months. In rainy season, collection of dried soil and manure is very difficult. Without these, the seedlings cannot be raised during rainy season.

7. Production of flower seeds

Production of flower seeds is highly specialized job. The seeds should be produced carefully. If the quality of seed is good, the percentage of seed germination, seedlings vigour, vegetative and reproductive growth of the crops will be good. After harvesting of quality seeds, germination percentage of seeds and seedling vigour should be checked before marketing of seeds.

8. Storage of propagated plants in nursery beds

The propagated plants are planted in nursery beds for better growth or hardening the plants. In general, this type of nursery bed is prepared under partial shade.

9. Manuring

Manuring is to be done very carefully. Vigorous growth of plant is always attractive to the buyer. Again, heavy manuring is not beneficial for storage of plants.

10. Watering

Like manuring, watering is also important. Watering will be done according to need of the plant. The nursery should have a water source or its own borehole

11. Drainage

For sufficient vegetative and reproductive growth of plants, good drainage system must be developed in between the beds and around the nursery. Adequately gentle slope in the pot bed surface is also desirable. It is extremely important to ensure that water logging does not occur in and around the pots and beds.

12. Plant protection

Keen observation on attack of different pests and diseases is required. If the mother plants are infected, the propagated plants will be infected also. Necessary control measures should be taken immediately on observation

13. Harvesting and Transportation

Before harvest, nursery stock should be mature. The tissues are hardened against water loss and shrinkage. It is a common practice to defoliate shrubs and trees some days before they are to be dug out. This can be done by chemical defoliants, by withholding water or by hand. Live plants intended for transport are sent with a ball of earth around their roots

14. Distribution

There will be about 5 channels of distributing the seedlings for transplanting purposes across Igembe North and its surroundings.

- Tujali Miti Program of reforestation
- Miti Kijiji Program of planting 1000 trees in every ward annually
- Miti Nyumbani Program
- Selling of seedlings to customers
- Tree donation to institutions on special occasions

VI. COST OF THE PROJECT

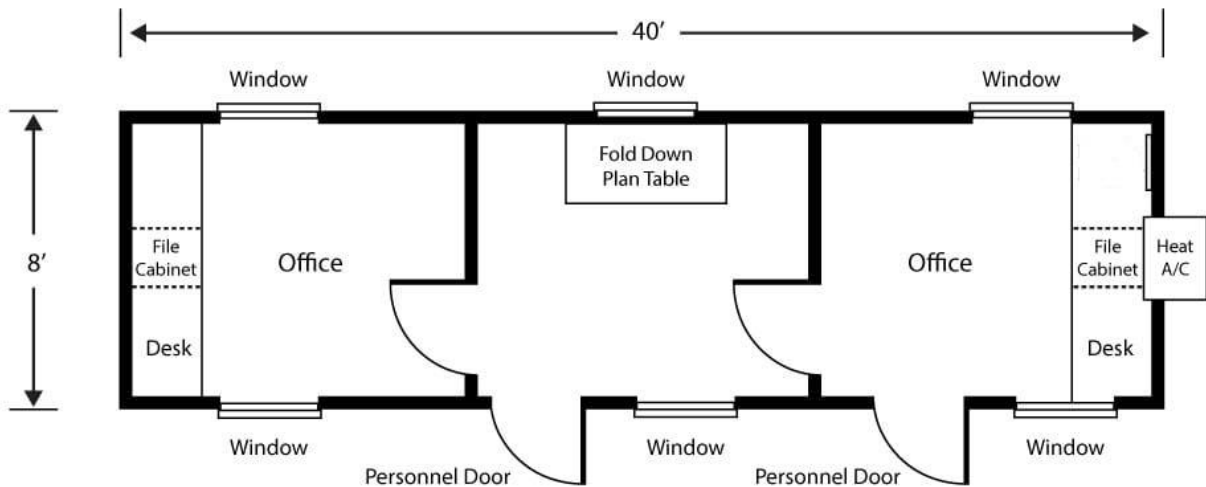
Assets owned by WK Wazalendo Foundation

Land measuring ½ acre worth Ksh. 10,000,000

1. Office Establishment

We intend to have a container office next to the tree nursery for the operations to run well. Below is the sketch of a sample container office intended and costs of fabrication.

Note: The office will also utilize solar power for its operations.



Cost of buying Container, Transportation, Office Fabrication, Solar Power, Supplies, equipment and Furniture

Item	Description	Qty	Unit Cost	Amount in Ksh
1.	40ft High cube Containers	1	550,000	550,000
2.	Fabrication	1	350,000	350,000
3.	Solar Power wiring and installation	1	100,000	100,000
4.	Office Furniture	1	120,000	120,000
5.	Office equipment & supplies(2 Desktop Computers,1 Smart Phone, Stationary and Printer)	1	100,000	100,000
6.	Office Admin,Finance and Staff Allowances	12	100,000	1,200,000
7.	Toilet Construction		45,000	45,000
			Total	2,465,000

2. Borehole Establishment

Below is a standard 450Meter borehole drilling, test pump and solar pump installation costs .Borehole drilling cost vary from place to place.

Item	Description	Qty	Rate	Amount in Ksh
1.	Borehole drilling	450	6,500	2,925,000
2.	Hydrological Survey,	1	100,000	100,000
	NEEMA Authorization,	1	100,000	100,000
	County Application fees	1	80,000	80,000
3.	Pump Testing	1	100,000	100,000
4.	Complete Solar Kit	1	650,000	650,000
	1. 450M Solar Borehole Submersible Pumping System			
	2. 545watts 10pcs Solar Panels			
	3. 5.5Kw solar pumping Inverter			
	4. Submersible cable			
5.	Installation, wiring and setup	1	130,000	130,000
			Total	4,085,000

3. Nursery Setup and Running Cost (1 Year Projected)

Below is our Intended Nursery Layout Plan



Costs

tem	Description	Qty	Unit	Unit Cost	Total in Ksh.
1.	Water Storage Tanks 20,000 liters	2		302,200	604,400
2.	Nursery water piping, sprinklers, works	1		50,000	50,000
3.	Nursery Supplies & Equipment's	1		350,000	350,000
4.	Initial Staff costs nursery attendants	4	12	60,000	720,000
				Total	1,724,000

VII. PROJECT IMPLEMENTATION

Partnerships

WK Wazalendo foundation will partner with the following local groups in order to implement **Igembe Miti Uhai & Conservation Centre Project**

1. Wazalendo Kirindara Youth Group
2. St. John Self-Help group
3. Kirindari Mwicuri Youth Group
4. Matuire Community Group
5. Vision Destiny Youth Group
6. Laare Slaughter House Youth Group
7. Imani Self Help Group
8. Munyaka Women Group
9. Angels Group
10. KK Baimula Self Help Group

Terms of Partnership with the Groups

WK Wazalendo Project Coordinator will arraign a meeting, which shall be attended by all the listed beneficiary groups of the project. This meeting will be a sensitization meeting where the groups shall be educated on benefits and terms of partnership with WK Wazalendo Foundation.

Formation of Project Committees

The implementation and management committee of the project will be constituted during this meeting. All the committee members shall work under WK Wazalendo Foundation Project Coordinator who will be the overall manager overseeing the project.

Project Committee Roles

This committee will be responsible for overall implementation of the project. At least three members per group will be nominated/elected. Its main responsibilities will include:

- Act as officials of each particular group coordinating **Igembe Miti Uhai & Conservation Centre Project** agenda.
- Supervision and execution of the project on the grassroots
- Liaise with WK Wazalendo Foundation
- Follow instructions from Project Coordinator and relaying it to their relevant members
- Keep record of the supplies provided by WK Wazalendo Foundation for project
- Prepare weekly progress report of the project and submit to WK Wazalendo Foundation

VIII. PROJECT MANAGEMENT

WK Wazalendo Foundation and the Group officials will jointly manage implementation and operations of the project in the grassroots. WK Wazalendo Foundation as the main Project Manager will run the main operations from its office with the help of the selected group coordinators who will be the main grassroots project implementors.

IX. FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT

WK Wazalendo Foundation Accounts Department and programs section will be fully responsible for financial management. The responsible Project coordinator with the help of grassroots committee will be responsible to provide financial records to Accounting Department. They will also be tasked to check the project progress and quality at every stage.

X. PROJECT MONITORING

Financial Records – Record keeping will be key in this project especially on the financial part. This will be used to track the financial efficiency of the project. In addition, it helps in analyzing the expenditure of the allocated budget and also the sales records.

External Auditing – WK Wazalendo external auditor will work with our finance team to make sure that the funds allocated to projects is spent exactly for the purpose it was

intended for. This will ensure that the team is diligent and geared towards our course of action.

Nursery Plant Population Records – WK Wazalendo Foundation will use customized excel sheet specifically to register and monitor records pertaining the plants, population and distribution within the nursery.

Tree growth – WK Wazalendo intends to make extensive follow up for all trees planted through the various programs in order to realise its 10 year goal. The program coordinators will be expected to submit timely reports that touch extensively on the activities whilst stating the numbers of persons reached, number of seedlings surviving, challenges encountered during the reporting period and a suggestion on recommendation that shall assist in making the nursery a better place.

Engagements – WK Wazalendo Foundation will monitor the number of visitor's i.e. students, general public, institutions, volunteers and trained participants. These will be required to share their feedback on their learning experience, and this will be collected to help WK Wazalendo Foundation to understand if their goals are being met.

XI. PROJECT EVALUATION

WK Wazalendo Foundation through one on one feedbacks, Q&A and random text messaging surveys will be able to evaluate its work. The number of variables to be used in evaluating our work are:

- Number of groups trained
- Number of visits to the center
- Number of trees planted within timelines
- Areas covered
- Referrals to the center

XII. PROJECT SUSTAINABILITY

WK Wazalendo Foundation through **Igembe Miti Uhai & Conservation Centre Project** seeks to be sustainable by ensuring that all its projects once funded will be self-sustaining. WK Wazalendo Foundation plans to generate its income from:

- Sales of tree seedlings sold to the public and Institutions. The funds raised for this are for the management of the nursery and its upkeep. Additionally, the target is to establish one of a kind tree nursery with rare aesthetic and therapeutic plants, this will enable the program to expand and open up selling distribution kiosks that can generate more income.