



Be the Change Foundation and Pioneers of Change

Eden Reforestation Projects

Turasha, Kenya | One year update report

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Project period

June 2021 - June 2022

Summary

We are excited to report on 1 year of progress at our Turasha planting site. In April 2021, we partnered with Be the Change Foundation and Pioneers of Change to plant 2,500,000 trees.

As of this report:

- We have planted **316,716** trees
- We employ an average of **21** workers at this site
- Your support has created an average of **22** working days per employee per month

Seedling planting at this site mainly occurs during the long rains (April - June) and short rains (November - December). The other times the teams will plant seed balls that should germinate during the rainy season.

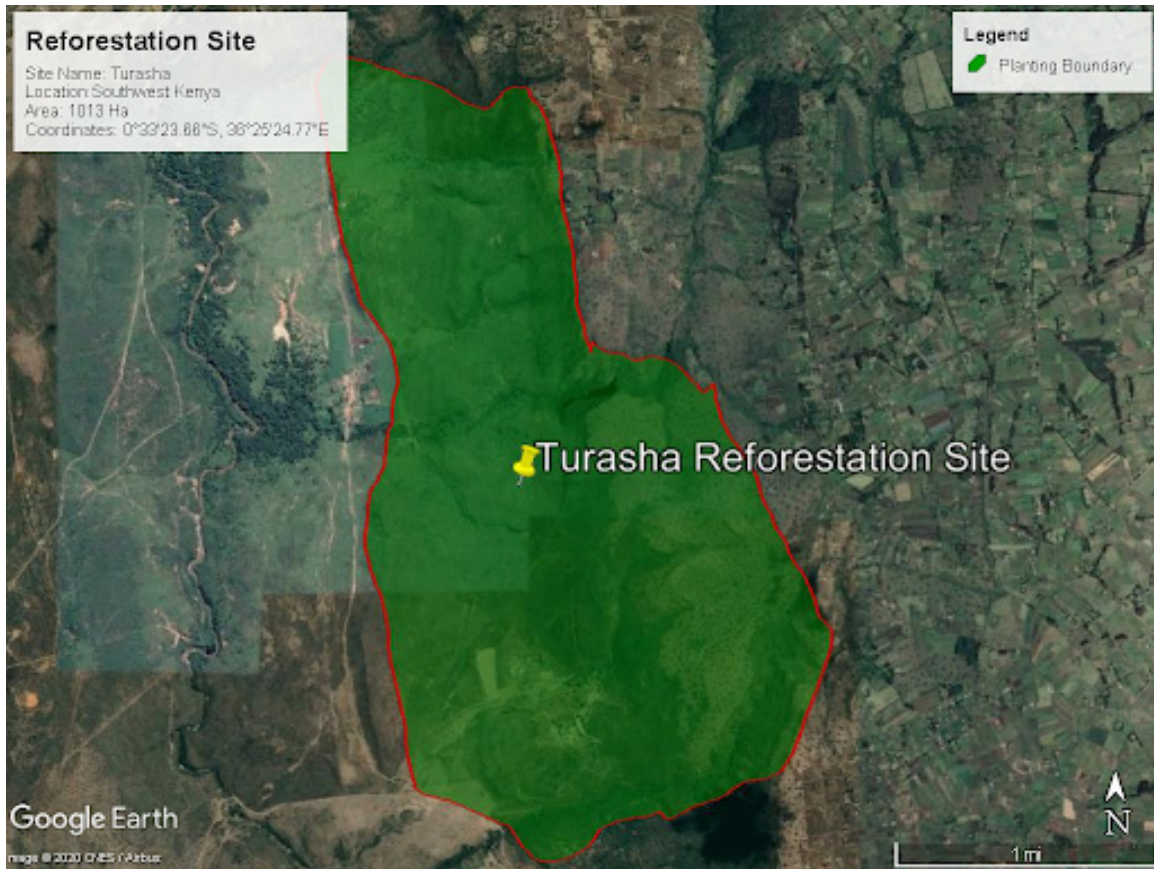
Turasha quick stats

*See Appendix B for Site Description

Forest type	Coordinates	Planting density	Plantable area
Afromontane	0°33'23.66"S, 36°25'24.77"E	2,500 trees/hectare	1,013 hectares

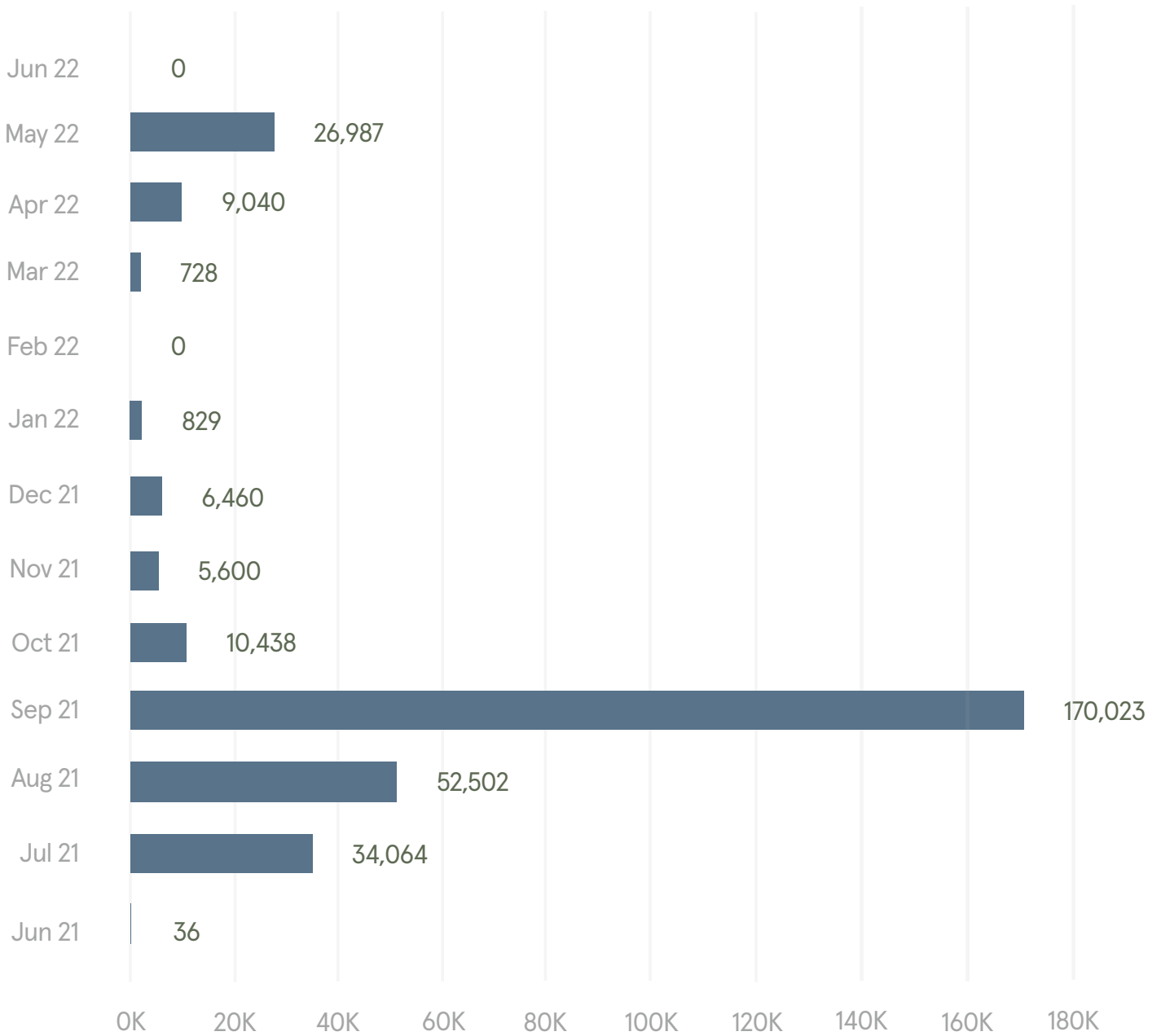


Site maps



Trees Planted Per Month

June 2021 - June 2022



Socioeconomic impacts

With the help of generous support from Be the Change Foundation and Pioneers of Change, the Turasha reforestation site has significantly impacted local livelihoods.

- Projects at this site have created a minimum of 5,022 employment days since June 2021.
- Women's empowerment is a core principle and goal for us in Kenya. 43.7% of the Turasha team is female.
- Reforested areas help reduce soil erosion and protect local residents from landslides.

With a steady income, our employees can put savings aside, invest in their households, start micro-enterprises to diversify their income opportunities, and provide healthcare and everyday needs for their families.

Additional significant socioeconomic impacts include improved diets and health due to purchasing nutritious food as well as increasing education as families can afford to send their children to school.



What's next?

We will continue to plant at Turasha until we reach the estimated capacity of 2.5 million trees needed to restore this area. Throughout this project, our teams will actively protect the site and replant any losses to ensure the native Afromontane ecosystem reaches its full potential. In addition, many of these trees will mature and produce their own seeds, helping the forest return to the point of natural equilibrium.

We are grateful for your continued support of our projects in Kenya. Your contributions help us complete this site and work towards reforesting some of the 5.1 million hectares that the Kenyan government has committed to restoring by 2030 as part of the AFR100 initiative.

Thank you for helping us to plant trees to improve livelihoods!



Progress Photos

Nursery workers transporting seedlings ready to be planted



A seedling thriving in the field







The Matathia Nursery serves the Turasha site as well as several of our other sites in the Kijabe region



Photo album link: [Turasha](#)

Appendix A. Species Planted

Species	Description	Photo
<p>East African Pencil Cedar <i>Juniperus procera</i></p>	<p><i>Juniperus procera</i> or East African Pencil Cedar is a primary forest species of dry Afro-montane forest that can grow up to 40 meters tall. It is highly prized for its beautiful timber, which is highly resistant to insect pests. Due to overexploitation, it is increasingly rare in the country. A craft gin distillery (Procera Gin) buys cedar berries from community members to make its one of a kind, world-class gin.</p>	
<p>Croton Tree <i>Croton megalocarpus</i></p>	<p><i>Croton megalocarpus</i> is a deciduous tree that grows up to 35 meters tall. It is relatively fast-growing, provides good forage for bees, and produces heavy leaf-fall - making it excellent for restoring soils. It fruits prolifically, and the seeds can be collected and used to produce biofuel.</p>	
<p>White Stinkwood <i>Celtis africana</i></p>	<p><i>Celtis africana</i> is a medium to large-sized deciduous tree growing to a height of about 20 to 25 meters (66 to 82 ft). This tree received its common name due to the unpleasant smell the wood emits after it is cut, and the similarity of that smell to the <i>Ocotea bullata</i> (Black Stinkwood). The dense canopy is often good habitat to a wide variety of birds.</p>	
<p>Strangler Fig <i>Ficus thonningii</i></p>	<p><i>Ficus thonningii</i>, also known as the Strangler Fig or Wild Fig, is a medium size tree that can grow to around 20 meters (66 feet). <i>Ficus thonningii</i>'s fruit has a wide array of medicinal uses including treating diarrhea, urinary tract infections, and respiratory infections.</p>	

Source: Eden Reforestation Projects

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Appendix B. Site Description

From Open Forest [Profile](#)

Tursasha is a village of approximately 4,000 people located in the Nyandarua County of Kenya. Water runoff from the slopes of Turasha and the rest of the Aberdare Range leads to the river Malewa. The river Malewa then feeds Lake Naivasha, one of the most important lakes in Kenya's tourism, horticulture, and floriculture businesses, and a crucial water source in this semi-arid region. Restoring the forests of Turasha will greatly benefit this interconnected ecosystem.

Owned by the Kenya Agricultural Research Livestock (KALRO), the forest on this land has been largely depleted over time, leading to major environmental repercussions on the local community. The Turasha community approached KALRO and us in order to reforest, restore, and protect the land. Through the community's request, we have partnered with KALRO to gain access to the land and KALRO has agreed to use its land as a protected zone for reforestation.