

GreenLife CSR

Trees for Life Namibia

Restoring Landscapes, Revitalizing
Biodiversity through community-based
Agroforestry in Uukolonkadhi

 Namibia | 76,419 ha



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Project Background



Land use

Agroforestry landscape restoration project located in the Northwestern part of Namibia, in the Owambo basin, in a tree and shrub savanna vegetation zone close to the Angolan frontier.

72%

covered by sparse and savanna woodlands

17%

Comprised of dry shrubs



Ecosystem services

The project area provides various ecosystem services such as improving soil health, conserving water resources, enhancing biodiversity, and improving local livelihoods.

The Uukolonkadhi Community Forest, abundant in faunal diversity, is ideal for conservation. It hosts herbivores like elephants and mountain zebras, alongside predators such as leopards and cheetahs, while serving as a sanctuary for ostriches, baboons, and hippopotamuses.

Also supports diverse wildlife and sustains ten nearby villages, vital for their subsistence, cattle farming, and harvesting non-tree products, boosting the local economy.

26

tree species inhabit

1,100

hectares of degraded land are targeted for restoration by 2026

The project

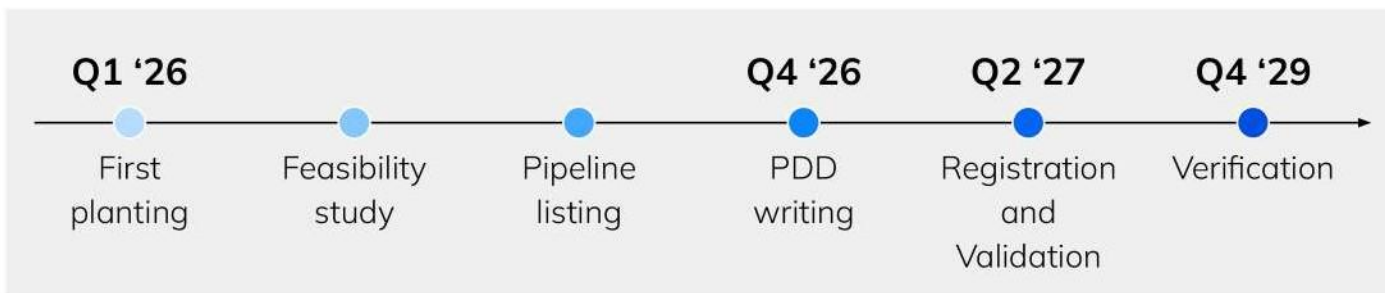
This project type is ARR (Afforestation and Reforestation) comprises numerous degraded land plots that have been selected for restoration within a community-owned woodland called Uukolonkadhi.

The project's long-term goal is to restore 76,420 hectares of degraded land through agroforestry with the goal of improving soil health, conserving water resources, enhancing biodiversity, and improving local livelihoods.

Uukolonkadhi sustains the livelihoods of ten villages which rely on the woodland for their daily needs, practising subsistence farming and cattle farming. The project will provide these communities with access to non-timber products, adding value to the local economy.

Trees for Life offers a distinct chance to finance long-lasting restoration in a Southwest African savanna, allowing organizations to combat climate change, safeguard vital ecosystems, foster local economic growth and development.

Project Timeline



Key Metrics

Project lifetime credits

3,001,689
tCO₂e

Annual average

100,056
tCO₂e / ha / year

Annual average per hectare

1.31
tCO₂e / ha / year

Project activity

Agroforestry

Standard

VCS, CCB

Stage

Pre-feasibility

Methodology

Methodology for Afforestation, Reforestation, and Revegetation Projects

Land Tenure

Community Forest

Project Type

ARR
Afforestation and Reforestation

Stakeholders



Project Developer

Thryve.Earth



Thryve brings together (i) Corporate buyers, (ii) Institutional investors, (iii) Local communities, and (iv) Field organizations on our platform, and develop equitable high-quality nature-based carbon projects.

Project Proponent

GreenLife CSR



GreenLife CSR is the world's only carbon-offsetting organization that does not outsource projects. Our non-governmental organization manages the project, getting back to you with progress reports on your investment in a matter of hours rather than weeks.

Other Stakeholders

HSBC Climate Asset Management Fund UK



Climate Asset Management was formed in 2020 as a joint venture of HSBC Asset Management and Pollination, with the ambition to grow the world's largest asset management company dedicated to natural capital. We aim to provide investment solutions that are good for nature, people, and our planet.

Oshiwambo community

Resident communities residing within the Uukolonkadhi Community Forest.

Other Stakeholders

Environment Investment Fund, Namibia



The EIF has been established to mobilize funding and allocate funding to activities and projects, which promote the sustainable use and efficient management of natural resources for the benefit of all Namibians.

Development Aid from People to People Namibia



DAPP Namibia (Development Aid from People to People) is a Namibian organization registered as an Association Not for Gain number 21/90/45 since 1990 and as a Welfare Organisation number WO 85 since 1992. The objective of DAPP Namibia is to "carry out welfare and development work of any nature and assist the people of Namibia to improve the quality of life in the country. To help children, young people, and families in distress or in need".

Infrastructure for Social Development

i4SD is a Social Enterprise that structures public-private partnerships between donors and governments, local entrepreneurs, and social impact investors to develop sustainable and resilient projects, expanding access to infrastructure and generating social, economic, and environmental returns

Quality attributes (1/2)



Carbon

- The Uukolonkadhi Community Forest, a savanna woodland that supports diverse flora and fauna, faces threats like subsistence farming, droughts, and fires, impacting carbon emissions and storage.
- The Trees for Life project aims to mitigate these threats, improving woodland health and sequestering over 3.25 million tonnes of CO₂, thus underscoring the project's critical role in enhancing carbon sequestration and supporting climate change mitigation efforts.

Additionality

- The Trees for Life project demonstrates additionality by committing to restore and conserve the Uukolonkadhi Community Forest beyond regulatory requirements.
- Addressing socio-economic challenges like malnutrition, water scarcity, and poverty, it relies on carbon credit revenues for financial viability.
- The project aims to mitigate threats such as droughts, fires, and pressures from local communities and external cattle farmers by increasing biomass and implementing conservation measures.
- Without the project, these pressures would likely worsen, leading to further forest degradation and negative impacts on carbon sequestration, communities, and biodiversity, highlighting its critical intervention.

Quality attributes (2/2)



Permanence

- The Trees for Life project acknowledges various threats like droughts, large herbivores, pests, fires, and human disturbances, with preventative measures and mitigation strategies established in collaboration with local communities and the national government.
- Mitigation actions include reinforcing fencing, strict monitoring, meticulous management of non-timber products, and safeguarding of new plantings until they reach a stage where they can withstand pressure from larger herbivores.
- In addition, alignment with both the local Uukolonkadhi Community Forest Management Body and the national government of Namibia, are promising signs of strong long-term commitment at both levels.

Leakage

- Trees for Life is an ARR project and hence faces low leakage risks. Nonetheless, these risks could increase under certain circumstances:
 - Given restrictions on access to resources, villagers may relocate activities outside the project, leading to increased degradation and emissions elsewhere.
 - Restrictions on timber extraction could raise prices, causing deforestation elsewhere as the market adjusts.
 - Reforestation may prompt farmers and herders to move activities, risking deforestation or land degradation in new areas.
- Therefore, proactive measures to mitigate these risks include sustainable management practices and alternative income opportunities to mitigate risks, fostering community engagement in agroforestry and sustainable harvesting.

SDGs (1/2)



Zero Hunger

Potential Project Activities:

Implementation of community-based agroforestry where families will be provided with a 3x5m plot of land between the trees for growing vegetables.

Indicators: Increase in local food production and food security, reduction in malnutrition rates.



Good Health and Well-being

Potential Project Activities: Improved nutrition through agroforestry. Improved air and water quality through afforestation activities.

Indicators: Decrease in the rates of water-borne diseases and complications brought by malnutrition.



Clean Water and Sanitation

Potential Project Activities: Develop a water management system based on traditional knowledge systems. Implement water harvesting and catchment systems, conserve water resources and reduce water scarcity.

Indicators: Improvement in water quality, increase in availability of clean water



Affordable and Clean Energy

Potential Project Activities: Provide affordable and clean energy to the communities such as solar energy.

Indicators: Number of solar panels installed and number of houses given access to electricity.

SDGs (2/2)



Decent Work and Economic Growth

Potential Project Activities: Hiring of locals in tree planting and tree maintenance. Locals will also benefit from the agroforestry project's by-products such as crops.

Indicators: Number of jobs created, economic growth in the community.



Climate Action

Potential Project Activities: Carbon sequestration through afforestation and reforestation, contributing to the mitigation of climate change.

Indicators: Amount of CO2 sequestered, decrease in local temperature variations.



Life on Land

Potential Project Activities: Restoration of natural habitats, reduction in habitat fragmentation, increasing biodiversity, ecosystem functioning and resilience. Increase in ecosystem services.

Indicators: Increase in native species, increase in structural and functional diversity, reduction in soil erosion and crop pests, increase in nutrient recycling.



Partnerships for the Goals

Potential Project Activities: Establish partnerships with local communities, governments, and relevant stakeholders to implement the carbon project

Indicators: Number of partnerships formed, stakeholders engaged, and communities supported.

Co-benefits



Biodiversity

- The Uukolonkadhi Community Forest area is home to a diverse and thriving range of animal species including **18 floral species, 21 faunal species, and at least 2 threatened species.**
- Within the project area, herbivores such as Damara Dikdik (*Madoqua namaquensis*), African elephants (*Loxodonta africana*), and African hippopotamuses (*Hippopotamus amphibius*) can be seen foraging.
- The Uukolonkadhi Community Forest hosts iconic African predators like leopards, jackals, hyenas, and cheetahs, contributing to ecosystem balance.
- Other inhabitants include ostriches, baboons, and crocodiles, while the forest supports two threatened species according to the IUCN Red List: the Black-faced impala and the Mountain zebra.
- Its biodiversity is enriched by **18 floral species**¹ that are crucial to ensuring the long-term health and sustainability of the woodland and savanna.



Community

- The project area covers ten villages and surrounds Ruacana and Onesi constituencies, with a population of **41,167 residents as per the 2010 census.**
- These communities primarily rely on subsistence farming, cultivating crops like pearl millet, and practice cattle and goat husbandry, while also engaging in sustainable non-timber product harvesting.
- The area is legally classified as a **community forest**, thus ensuring its land use remains unchanged and preserved for its intended purpose.
- Community involvement will include employment opportunities at nurseries, selection of tree species, and sustained co-product harvesting, thereby fostering a strong partnership between the project developer and the communities.



1. 18 species include *Baikiaea plurijuga*, *Commiphora africana*, *Commiphora glandulosa*, *Commiphora angolensis*, *Colophospermum mopane*, *Terminalia sericea*, *Commiphora mollis*, *Terminalia prunioides*, *Combretum collinum*, *Spirostachys africana*, *Combretum apiculatum*, *Acacia reficiens*, *Dichrostachys cinerea*, *Philenoptera nelsii*, *Combretum imberbe*, *Combretum albopunctatum*, *Acacia erioloba*, and *Peltoporum africanum*.

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Interested in learning more?



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