

## The Green Village: From Seed to Tree



### Overview

"The Green Village: From Seed to Tree" is a project designed to teach the methods and cultivation of a permaculture garden to local community members in Chanika, Tanzania. Planting fruit trees will improve small-scale environmental conditions and the nutritional situation of the project participants. The workshops will be held at the House of Talents, a community and acrobatics center, and in its garden. Topic-specific acrobatic and theatrical performances will support the knowledge building.

<b>Goals</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Imparting knowledge on permaculture, sustainability and environmental protection through workshops and continuous mentoring</li> <li>• Improvement of the food and water situation</li> <li>• Strengthening of the village community</li> <li>• Support of children in the community</li> </ul>
<b>Outcomes</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Reforestation of the area with up to 300 trees</li> <li>• Establishing of recycling concept</li> <li>• Raising awareness of sustainability and environmental issues</li> <li>• Addressing the connection between the environment, nutrition, and health</li> <li>• Showing solutions to problems/working out and implementing them together</li> <li>• Teaching in the form of theater and acrobatics</li> </ul>
<b>Beneficiaries</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 50 families with small arable land properties in the area around Chanika, Lubakaia</li> <li>• The environment</li> </ul>
<b>Budget &amp; Funding</b>	CHF 5'420. The project will be financed with donations.
<b>Duration</b>	End of September 2024 to May 2024
<b>Leadership</b>	Jackson Kweka and Astrid Stingelin

## Contents

<b>1. INTRODUCING THE ORGANIZATION .....</b>	<b>2</b>
<b>2. REGION, CLIMATE, AND ENVIRONMENTAL ISSUES .....</b>	<b>3</b>
<b>3. PROJECT.....</b>	<b>4</b>
3.1. GOALS .....	4
3.2. IMPLEMENTATION & CONTENT.....	5
3.3. PREPARATION .....	5
3.4. WORKSHOP PROGRAM.....	6
3.5. INTERIM SUPPORT & PROJECT CONCLUSION .....	8
3.6. RISKS & MITIGATION.....	8
<b>4. BUDGET, FUNDING, AND ORGANIZATION'S CONTRIBUTION .....</b>	<b>9</b>
<b>5. APPENDIX.....</b>	<b>10</b>
5.1. TIMELINE .....	10
5.2. TEAM.....	10

## 1. Introducing the Organization

The project is being planned and implemented by the Children and Youth Community Organization (CYCO). CYCO was founded two years ago by Astrid Stingelin and Godlisten Igenga and is certified as an NGO in Tanzania.

The team of seven—five of whom are professional acrobats with performance experience in Asia, Europe and the United States—runs the House of Talents, an acrobatics and community center in Chanika, a village outside Dar es Salaam. The center also includes a school and a permaculture garden.

The Swiss organization Friends of Tanzania's Young Talents ("Förderverein für Tansanias Junge Talente", FTJT), which is recognized as a non-profit and is tax-exempt, provides fundraising support for the NGO. Together they enable the framework project, "Talents of Tanzania".



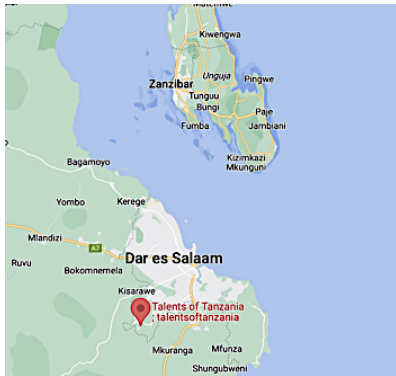
	<b>Children and Youth Community Organization (CYCO)</b> <i>Tanzania</i>	<b>Förderverein für Tansanias Junge Talente (FTJT)</b> <i>Switzerland</i>
<b>Leadership</b>	Godlisten Igenga & Astrid Stingelin	Astrid Stingelin
<b>Certification &amp; Address</b>	Registration-Nr. ooNGO/R/ Mandai Street 41 2214 P.O. Box 20950 Dar es Salaam Tanzania	UID-Nr. CHE-227.051.043 Thujastrasse 42 8038 Zürich Schweiz
<b>Fundraising Account</b>	IBAN: CH04 0070 0114 8055 0334 1 Förderverein für Tansanias Junge Talente, Thujastrasse 42, 8038 Zürich Zürcher Kantonalbank	

Donations within Switzerland are tax-exempt.

More information about the organization and team, contact Astrid Stingelin ([talentsoftanzania@gmail.com](mailto:talentsoftanzania@gmail.com) or +41 76 344 34 87) or visit [www.talentsoftanzania.com](http://www.talentsoftanzania.com).

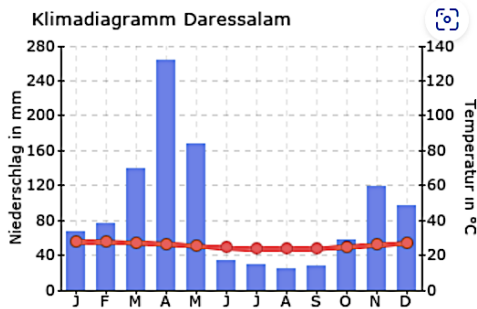
## 2. Region, Climate, and Environmental Issues

CYCO operates the House of Talents in Chanika, an administrative district in the Dar es Salaam region, about 30.8 km from the center of the most densely populated city in Tanzania. The rapid population increase in Chanika has transformed the village into a vibrant residential area. While some residents live in poor mud houses, others live in well-constructed new buildings.



Rapid population growth has been accompanied by deforestation and slash-and-burn clearing, as well as an increase in plastic waste and unsustainable agricultural activities. The destructive impact on the environment is striking.

Many people in this region do not have access to healthy food or clean drinking water as a result of poverty. Younger generations hardly eat fruits or vegetables. Knowledge about the connection between nutrition and health is lacking or neglected.



The region of Dar es Salaam has a tropical savannah climate with balancing temperatures in both the rainy and dry seasons. The average annual temperature Dar es Salaam is 26°C and the annual rainfall is 1'100 mm.

Interventions in the natural environment have a direct consequence for humans and animals: due to widespread deforestation, the soils dry out. Torrents that occur during the rainy season wash away the thin layer of soil, making it impossible to cultivate fields over the long term. The consequence is hunger and water shortage for the local population.

### 3. Project

#### 3.1. Goals

The goal of the project is to impart sustainable farming practices to the local community as well as the reforestation in our village.

Our organization is committed to serving the community in Chanika: By building the House of Talents, we created a place that focuses on the well-being and growth of children and youth through exercise and education, as well as interaction with their families and the village community. A guiding principle of our organization is sustainability: not only in the sense of continuous improvement of social and economic circumstances, but also in the sense of sensible, responsible and appreciative treatment of nature.

This is why we created the House of Talents garden according to permaculture principles, using not only organic growing practices, but also incorporating local culture and our community spirit.

For this project, this garden will serve as a foundation for the expanded teaching of ecologically sustainable principles. Among other things, it will illustrate the following:

- Sustainable reforestation reduces drought and soil heat. Trees provide shade, keep the soil cool and hydrated. By planting primarily fruit trees, we not only protect the quality of the soil, but also improve the food situation.
- By recycling PET bottles, plastic containers and cement bags that we collect for growing seedlings, the waste problem is addressed.



### 3.2. Implementation & Content

The project will offer four workshops on reforestation and education in the House of Talents and its garden. Each workshop includes both a theoretical and a practical part, focusing on the following:

#### Practice:

- *Planting and maintenance:* 300 trees will be planted by the end of the project

#### Theory

- *Principles of permaculture:* determination of the most suitable plants for cultivation and the ecological cultivation of trees in harmony with the climate
- *Sustainable cultivation as a community:* responsibility and organization of the care of the trees
- *Waste problem:* recycling methods and the impact of waste on the environment
- *Nutrition:* the relationship between nutrition and health

In addition, our acrobatics and artistic school will develop performances integrating environmental themes. There will be a performance at each workshop. This will allow us to involve the children and youths who participate in our acrobatic trainings and school lessons in a creative way while introducing them to the subject matters related to sustainability and environmental awareness.

After the workshop phase, the participants will be mentored in the independent care of the cultivated seedlings and plants. At the end of the project, remaining questions will be answered, and the collective progress will be reviewed.

### 3.3. Preparation

#### *Expert consultation*

To prepare the project, members of the organizing team have undergone continuing education about permaculture. In addition, several experts with many years of experience in permaculture and agriculture will be involved in the development and implementation of the project.

#### *Development of the workshops and materials*

The structure and documents for the workshops are developed with the help of the experts and team members with experience in the field. Knowledge of the local community and culture also plays an important role.

#### *Selection of participants*

Before the beginning of the workshop series, potential participants will have to be contacted and recruited. Several criteria are considered in the selection of participants. The focus is on families who have a small piece of land that can be cultivated. In addition, families living in the vicinity of the House of Talents are included – not only for practical reasons, as home visits are part of the project, but also because prior connection and trust will facilitate collaboration. The inclusion of children and young people is also key, as they can benefit from the project as a community experience but also as an element of their education.

### *Performances and acrobatics*

Thematic performances are developed and rehearsed with the children and young people who train, dance and perform at the House of Talents before each workshop.

### *Material and infrastructure*

Various materials need to be procured for the cultivation: seeds, seedlings and gardening tools and clothes, as well as PET bottles, plastic containers, and cement bags. In addition, a shed must be built for the materials. Because there are many free-roaming chickens that peck and scrape out seedlings, a fence must also be built. The seeds and seedlings, as well as the area and the workshop space must also be prepared.

## **3.4. Workshop Program**

<b>Workshop I</b> September 2023	
<b>Introduction</b>	Elaboration of the project's goals
<b>Part 1: Theory</b>	<p><i>Cultivation</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• What mix of tree varieties are needed for good soil quality?</li> </ul> <p><i>Waste separation</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• How should organic from inorganic waste be separated?</li> <li>• What is the purpose of waste separation?</li> </ul> <p><i>Discussion round</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• What to do with inorganic waste?</li> </ul>
<b>Break</b>	Lunch and acrobatic performance
<b>Part 2: Practice</b>	<p><i>Cultivation</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Study of the types of tree seeds and how to care for them</li> </ul> <p><i>Waste</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Illustration of how to deal with organic waste</li> </ul>
<b>Part 3</b>	<p><i>Home visit</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Discussion with our project members about the types of trees they would like around their homes and what makes sense, e.g., in terms of a mix of tall, more sparse shade trees, different types of fruit trees, or local tree species</li> </ul>
<b>Aims and tasks for the next workshop</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Collect seeds for planting the trees</li> <li>• Collect PET bottles for the seedlings and practice conscious waste management</li> </ul>

Workshop II October 2023	
<b>Part 1: Theory</b>	<i>Cultivation</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• How to care for a garden using organic methods of cultivation?</li> <li>• What kinds of seeds are there and how do we handle them?</li> <li>• How can resources be saved thanks to organic cultivation?</li> </ul>
<b>Break</b>	Lunch and acrobatic performance
<b>Part 2: Practice</b>	<i>Cultivation</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Practice handling seeds and preparation for cultivation of seedlings</li> </ul>
<b>Aims and tasks for the next workshop</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Practice handling of seeds</li> </ul>
Workshop III November 2023	
<b>Part 1: Theory</b>	<i>Nutrition</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• What is healthy nutrition?</li> <li>• How does are diet and health connected?</li> </ul> <i>Cultivation</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• How do we handle saplings?</li> </ul>
<b>Break</b>	Lunch and acrobatic performance
<b>Part 2: Practice</b>	<i>Cultivation</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• How to select seeds and plant them in PET bottles, plastic containers and cement bags</li> </ul>
<b>Aims and tasks for the next workshop</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Care of the saplings</li> <li>• Between now and the next workshop, there will be visits to the homes of participants to see the progress of the saplings and provide assistance and advice as needed</li> </ul>
Workshop IV December 2023 (rain season)	
<b>Part 1: Practice</b>	<i>Cultivation</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Saplings are planted, illustrating the necessary care of the corresponding tree species</li> <li>• Establishment of responsibilities for the continuous care and watering of the trees</li> </ul>
<b>Break</b>	Lunch
<b>Part 2: Theory</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Answering of questions and discussion with participants about what kind of support they would like to see in the coming months</li> </ul>
<b>Conclusion of the workshop series</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Distribution of gifts to participants (watering cans, sun hat for gardening, fruit fly screen, seed dryer screen, kitchen blender, etc.).</li> <li>• Final acrobatic performance</li> </ul>



### **3.5. Interim Support & Project Conclusion**

After the fourth workshop, a follow-up is conducted by our team every week, following the development of the participants and their trees. In addition, fertilizer and gardening tools will be provided to the participants.

In May 2024, a final community walk will be held with all participants to review all planted trees and discuss the impact of the project. Members of our team will regularly visit participants to observe the planted trees and address any questions or issues participants may have.

The development and results of the project as well as feedback from the participants will be recorded in a report and shared on the project page.

### **3.6. Risks & Mitigation**

#### *Cultivation and irrigation*

There is always the risk that seeds do not sprout and/or saplings do not thrive well due to weather conditions. This must be accounted for in the budget. In addition, assigning the responsibility for proper irrigation to participants is key to ensure that designated people will intervene, especially during drought. We will also ensure that everyone has access to the tools needed to provide adequate care for seeds and saplings.

#### *Reliable participation*

The commitment of participants is central to a successful outcome; irregular attendance is a risk, however. To counteract this, participants are informed at the beginning about the phases of the project and the needed commitment. This also includes finding out exactly what participants hope to get out of the project, i.e., what they want and need.

#### *Sustained commitment after the end of the project*

The project requires long-term commitment beyond the project period, as its effect and results will not be immediate. However, there is a risk that the motivation of participants will wane during and after the project. By involving families with whom our organization already has a connection, we build on existing trust. In addition, we will continue to be in contact with participants after the project ends in May 2024 to monitor progress and support participants in the practice of the sustainable farming.

## 4. Budget, Funding, and Organization's Contribution

### Budget in CHF

Garden shed for tools and fence around garden/nursery	1'000
Garden tools: bushwhackers, hoes, rain gear, rubber boots, watering cans	700
Meals and cutlery for workshops	900
Saplings, seeds, fertilizer	700
Administration, compensation	720
Gifts for participants	400
Material and costumes for shows and theater	600
Wages for experts	400
<b>Total</b>	<b>5'420</b>

### Funding

Total project costs	5'420
Committed support contribution by EcoSolidar	1'000
<b>Outstanding Amount</b>	<b>4'420</b>

Any surplus will be donated to the framework project "Talents of Tanzania".

### Organization's Contribution

- Provision of the infrastructure (House of Talents & garden) for the workshops
- Labor and voluntary commitment of the project management and the local population (children and adults) participating in the project
- Land made available by CYCO

