


## Project summary

Summary title of the project	Community-based management of the Rungwa corridor III				
Project FGC reference	23-40				
Member organisation	Association for the Development of Protected Areas				
Country / Location(s)	Tanzania, Districts of Mlele, Sikonge. Chunya and Itigi				
Main theme	Community-based management of natural resources				
Total amount of the project	CHF 797,474				
Contribution requested from the FGC	CHF 458,974				
Project duration	June 2023 to May 2026 (3 years)				
Contribution to the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)					
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 30%		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 30%		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 40%

### The project in brief (pitch)

The forests of the Rungwa River Forest Reserve and the Northern and Southern Corridors are subject to human pressures that threaten the ecosystems and resources they harbor, while the communities depend on them for their livelihoods. The aim of the project is to include neighboring villages in the management of the Rungwa River Forest Reserve, to formalize the existence of the corridors and to support added-value chains such as beekeeping, wild mushroom picking and extensive pastoralism throughout the region.

### Background to the project

The Rungwa River Forest Reserve (2,100 km<sup>2</sup>), the Southern Corridor (950 km<sup>2</sup>) and the Northern Corridor (850 km<sup>2</sup>) link Ruaha and Katavi national parks. These areas are subject to intense human pressure for timber, bushmeat, grazing and land. The communities living adjacent to Rungwa River Forest Reserve are not involved in its management, even though they are subject to its restrictions. The Northern and Southern corridors on village land need the completion of their land use plans to be legally recognized and become a management unit. At the same time, products such as honey and wild mushrooms are under-valued and their added value is not created by local producers but by businessmen from the main cities.

### Planned approach to the problem

The project plans to support a *Joint Forest Management* process to involve 4 riverside villages in the management of the Rungwa River Forest Reserve. It will also finalize the land-use planning process for the villages that contribute to the Northern and Southern corridors. The project also plans to support the development of the beekeeping and wild mushroom sectors in order to improve the quality and increase the quantity of products, which will enable communities in 16 villages to generate income from the forests without clearing them. Finally, the project will provide ways of mitigating the effects of intensive pastoralism in the region and will train primary school pupils in agro-ecology.

### Local partner

Village Natural Resources Committees of the villages of Ilunde, Isegenezya, Ipwaga and Mapili  
Association for the Development of Protected Areas Tanzania

### Objectives

The co-management documents for the Rungwa River reserve and land-use planning for the Northern and Southern Corridors are submitted to the government.  
Producers in the 16 villages can sell their products through an association that certifies them, and have access to equipment and know-how to improve quality.  
Young people, women and livestock farmers are more involved in developing and protecting forest resources.

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## Planned activities

Preparation of a management plan and agreement for Rungwa River FR.  
Participation of the JFM committee in the management of Rungwa River FR.  
Validation of the Northern Corridor and Southern Corridor village development plans.  
Capacity-building and acquisition of equipment to certify the products of umbrella associations of producers.  
Mushroom drying facilities and study of the nutritional properties of wild miombo mushrooms  
Offering training to producers to help them produce products that meet certification standards.  
Raising awareness among agro-pastoralists about the use of pesticides  
Setting up agroforestry plots and tree nurseries in 7 schools

## Beneficiaries

Direct :

Village Natural Resources Committees (48 pers)  
Association Kululu Nature Initiatives (36 people)  
Ilunde Natural Honey Beekeeping Organization (32 people)  
Village Forest Guards (31 people)  
Beekeepers (700 people)  
Mushroom pickers (300 people)  
Agro-pastoralists (500 people)  
Children (490 pupils)  
Indirect: 70,000 people

