

STEWARDSHIP REPORT 2018



COMMUNITY
FORESTS
INTERNATIONAL

Since 2008, Community Forests International has been implementing climate change adaptation programs in some of the world’s most vulnerable island regions.

Community Forests International (Forests Intl.)’s extensive work in Tanzania focuses on adaptation and directly assisting vulnerable rural communities to overcome poverty, food & water insecurity, and gender inequality in a rapidly changing climate. This work currently reaches 29,758 beneficiaries in 35 communities in the Zanzibar Archipelago.

Projects in Canada compliment these efforts by emphasizing climate change mitigation and innovating for inclusive, low-carbon rural development. The organization has planted over 2 million trees, conserved over 1,200 acres of threatened Acadian forest, and reached thousands of forestry professionals through direct training, research publications, and re-skilling workshops.

Forests Intl. is guided by core values of trust, empowerment, and sustainable abundance. Through hard work and learning over the past 10 years, we have identified impact pathways that play to our strengths and enable our small team to achieve out-sized results.

Enterprise: Like many front-line non-profits, Forest Intl. is very effective at innovating solutions, but not always capable of scaling those solutions by ourselves. To increase the reach of our work, we build partnerships with institutions and companies bigger than us and build our own impact-driven enterprises when needed.

Storytelling: We strive to tell the most important stories from the frontlines of climate change in a way that amplifies underrepresented voices, moves audiences to positive action, and recognizes that failure is valuable when it contributes to collective learning.

Empowerment: How we work is just as important as the work itself. People empowered through respect, equity, and a platform to have their voices heard are the restorative force that the world needs.



Staff and Board



Canada

- Daimen Hardie
Executive Director
- Zach Melanson
Communications Director
- Monica Allaby
Communications Coordinator
- Joel Baylis
Social Enterprise Manager
- Megan de Graaf
Program Director
- Kim Grant
Financial Officer
- Anne Herteis
Grants & Foundations Manager
- Jata McCabe
Data Analytics Intern
- Dale Prest
Ecosystems Services Specialist

Tanzania

- Mbarouk Mussa Omar
Executive Director
- Hamoud Abdullah
Operations Manager
- Rehema Abdulrahman Alawy
Alternative Building Officer
- Masoud Bakar Masoud
Forestry Officer
- Maryam Bakar Shariff
Office Manager
- Ali Hamad Ali
Agroforestry Officer
- Raymond Kilango
Beekeeping Officer
- Siti Makame
Agricultural Officer
- Omar Msellem
Enterprise Development Officer

Naushat Salim
Financial Officer

Yayha Suleiman
Horticulture Officer

Mike Tritchler
Data and Financial Officer

Board of Directors

- Jeff Schnurr
CEO, Jaza Energy
- Dr. Jane Thompson
Executive Director, TD Scholarships
- Kathleen Potter
Controller, Civilized
- Karina LeBlanc
Executive Director, Pond Deshpande Centre
- Jenelle Sobey
Managing Partner, Code + Mortar

Partners

Government

- African, Caribbean, and Pacific Group of States
- Employment and Social Development Canada
- Environment and Climate Change Canada
- New Brunswick Environmental Trust Fund
- The Global Climate Change Alliance Plus Initiative

Foundations and Not-for-Profits

- Echo Foundation
- Innoweave
- Intact Financial Foundation
- J.W. McConnell Family Foundation
- Sussex Area Community Foundation
- The United Nations Association in Canada
- Venture for Canada

Corporate Partners

- Acre Architects
- Brinkman & Associates Reforestation Inc.
- Canadian Pine Pollen
- Community Forests Canada Inc.
- DIALOG
- Hemmings House Pictures
- Lush Cosmetics Ltd.
- Our Paper Life
- Royal Bank of Canada





Impact 2018

canada

55,000 TREES PLANTED

2 FOREST CARBON
WHITE PAPERS

3 NEW CARBON
OFFSETS CONTRACTS

700 ACRES OF FOREST
CONSERVED

pemba

9,730 NEW BENEFICIARIES

11 CLIMATE-SMART
COOPERATIVES

228,800 TREES PLANTED

28 HECTARES OF NEW SPICE
FOREST

264 HECTARES OF LAND UNDER
COMMUNITY MANAGEMENT



Forest Restoration

Restoring Pemba's forest ecosystems for climate benefit

Ten years ago, we teamed up with communities in Pemba to bring back lost forests. We began to collect seeds from nearby forests. These seeds were sprouted in nurseries, which were built in the center of each participating village. These nurseries became community centers, serving as a place for people to meet, socialize, and grow trees.

Over the years, communities trained each other, shared best practices, swapped seeds and even shared seedlings when pests or disease destroyed neighbouring nurseries.

When we began this experiment in community-led restoration, we had no idea where it would take us, and this year, we reached 2 million trees. In 2018 alone, the team in Pemba planted 228,800 seedlings and established tree nurseries in 13 communities while providing training in nursery management to 28 new community leaders.



Mubarouk Mussa Omar, Executive Director of Community Forests Pemba, in a community tree nursery.

Mangrove Restoration

In 2018, the team in Pemba planted more than 8 hectares of degraded mangrove forest

Mangrove forests are crucial resources for maintaining the livelihoods of fishing communities. With the support of the GCCA+ and the Sustainable Lush Fund, we launched a pilot project to restore these ecosystems. The project was hugely successful and the team nearly doubled planting targets. The success of the project was due to the motivation within communities to replant and protect these special forests. In 2019, Forests Intl. will work alongside five new communities to replant and protect mangroves in areas heavily affected by illegal cutting.



Spice Forests

Bringing key spices to market and growing the capacity of all stakeholders in the value web.

Picture a jungle of trees and vines all producing valuable spices—things like cinnamon, black pepper, vanilla, and cardamom. This regenerative method of farming and associated fair trade opportunities is better for people and the planet. The production technique requires restoring and conserving healthy forests, and the high value products build wealth for small farmers.

The Spice Forest movement draws inspiration from Pemba's long history of spice growing, from Tanzania's proven agroforestry and permaculture traditions, and from a vision of working with forests to address some of today's most pressing challenges: social, environmental, and economic.

Following a successful pilot in 2016, support was provided from Lush Cosmetics to quickly scale-up the movement in 2017. Forests Intl. established the Zanzibar Spice Farmers Association (ZASFA), a farmer-run collective designed to lead the continued growth of a regenerative spice trade and drive as much wealth and empowerment into the hands of small farmers.

Maintaining project momentum, in 2018, Forests Intl. partnered with Terra Genesis International to conduct a market analysis and supply web assessment to understand wider spice trade opportunities and risks. This ongoing work now informs scale up efforts to bring key spices to market at higher volume and quality while growing the capacity of farmers to organize and advocate for their self-made industry.





Women's Empowerment

Helping women build wealth by regenerating environmental health

In Pemba, women bear a disproportionate share of the negative impacts of climate change due to their traditional responsibilities in the home economy. Forests Intl.'s activities have been designed to alleviate these burdens on women, and to in turn achieve multiplier effects that foster further community development and resilience.

In 2018, with support from the Intra-ACP Global Climate Change Alliance Plus Programme, Forests Intl. developed a **gender responsive business curriculum** to compliment its existing livelihood activities and to support women-led enterprises. There are many barriers to creating climate-smart enterprises and it can be even more challenging for women.

The curriculum developed by Forests Intl. helps women both increase the profitability of their climate-smart businesses and work together in networks to reach larger markets. The training materials are aligned with Forests Intl.'s forest restoration, clean energy, and regenerative farming programs and focused on building three additional skill sets: financial management, business planning, and marketing

The curriculum is meant to directly complement the front-line projects already being done by Forests Intl. by empowering beneficiaries to elevate their individual home-scale innovations and to form larger coordinated ventures together.

FieldView

Streamlining project monitoring and evaluation

Collecting project data is the first steps towards evaluating the effectiveness of a project. A successful project needs to provide reliable and accurate information on achievements in the context of project indicators.

In 2018, we came up with a tablet-based data collection and analysis system called FieldVIEW. This program analyses project data against the indicators to provide real-time and high-level evaluation of project progress. This streamlined monitoring system allows all project staff to have up-to-date access to key monitoring data and to understand what is working and what needs improvement.



Community members use low-cost and fuel-efficient stoves that cut fuel consumption in half.



More Forests

Reinventing our relationship with forests for a climate secure future

We’re losing forests in the Maritimes faster than anywhere else in Canada, at a time when the vital climate regulation services that healthy forests provide to the world are needed more than ever. Through a three-pronged program of restoration, conservation, and sustainable management that engages both public and private partners, Forests Intl. is conserving old forests and planting new forests at a steadily increasing rate.

To date, the New Forest program has enabled Forests Intl. and social enterprise partners at Community Forests Canada Inc. to conserve and **reforest over 600 acres in New Brunswick, planting over ½ million native trees** in the process and creating pathways to restoring endangered Acadian forests in communities that depend on them.

In 2018, Forests Intl. purchased an additional 90 acres of sensitive forestland near the border of Fundy National Park that was recently clearcut. A diverse mix of 55,000 native trees was planted on-site to begin a long-viewed and hopeful process of ecological repair.

In 2018 Forests Intl. also made major strides to increase protections of Old Forests by growing its carbon offset service. Forests are some of the most powerful carbon capture structures on the planet, and in a time of global climate breakdown they are more important than ever. Working with coaches at Impakt, Forest Intl. formalized development process to enable growth with integrity. To date Forests Intl. has conserved more than 1,200 acres of endangered forest land and sequestered over 25 thousand tonnes of emissions.





Ecosystem Collective

Innovating for a cooperative green economy

Forests Intl. uses business creation as a key impact pathway, recognizing that livelihoods are critical to a just transition and that market forces can be leveraged to create wide scale change. Working in this sector, Forests Intl. has identified a demand for formal tools and supports that are tailored to climate-smart business development in rural communities specifically. As a result, Forests Intl. has become a de facto backbone for climate-smart rural innovators, providing a growing network of people and companies with convening, coaching, and advocacy services.

With core support from the J. W. McConnell Family Foundation, Forests Intl. launched an ambitious two-year project that strives to put rural communities and social entrepreneurs at the forefront of Atlantic Canada's transition to a low-carbon economy.

The initiative brings a new level of sophistication to Forests Intl.'s largely organic process of innovation and climate smart enterprise development. The Ecosystem Collective will be incorporated as a for-profit multi-stakeholder cooperative in early 2019.

This project has already resulted in the creation of a new enterprise: the Climate Forest Company. A specialized forest carbon consultancy and project development agency, the Climate Forest Co. deploys our unique approach to climate-smart forest management and makes it accessible to forest managers in Canada and abroad. The venture is partially owned by Forests Intl. to recognize the formative role that the organization played in creating the company and with the long-term view of driving value back to fund the organization's next innovation.

Acadian Forest Carbon Initiative

Building the tools and knowledge required to help landowners access carbon markets

Since 2016, we have been working alongside stakeholder groups including long-standing forest product co-operatives to develop carbon storage inventories and protection plans on 5,764 acres of private forestland. This readiness project delivers key knowledge products and re-skilling opportunities to forestry professionals, ensuring that rural Maritime economies and surrounding forests are well-positioned to engage with emerging national and international regulated carbon markets.

Through this initiative, Forests Intl. has brought together 10 family forest owners from across the three Maritime provinces and is working to create **the first ever aggregated Improved Forest Management (IFM) project**. Together, these forests have an inventory of over 185,000 tonnes of carbon dioxide with over 150,000 tonnes in additional sequestration potential over the next 30 years.

Statement of financial position

	2018 TOTAL	2017 TOTAL
ASSETS		
Cash	167,750	173,794
Guaranteed investment certificates	107,650	-
Accounts receivable	22,771	14,936
Prepaid expenses	3,760	1,200
Property and equipment	413,508	407,623
TOTAL ASSETS	\$715,439	\$597,553
LIABILITIES		
Accounts payable	14,869	36,591
Government remittances payable	3,969	3,513
Deferred revenue	34,733	33,644
Current position of long-term debt	-	14,130
Deferred capital contributions	28,345	31,352
TOTAL LIABILITIES	\$81,916	\$119,230
NET ASSETS		
General Fund	604,331	365,448
Pemba Fund	21,542	54,225
Stewardship Fund	7,650	58,650
TOTAL NET ASSETS	\$633,523	\$478,323
TOTAL LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS	\$715,439	\$597,553

Changes in net assets

	GENERAL FUND	PEMBA FUND	STEWARDSHIP FUND	2018	2017
Net Assets					
Beginning of year	416,448	54,225	7,650	478,323	431,234
Excess (deficiency) of revenue over expenses	187,883	(32,683)	-	155,200	(13,911)
Contributions to acquire land	-	-	-	-	61,000
END OF YEAR	\$604,331	\$21,542	\$7,650	\$633,523	\$478,323

Revenues and expenses

	2018 TOTAL	2017 TOTAL
REVENUES		
Donations	183,382	144,964
Grants	191,324	152,865
Pemba Fund	46,560	89,450
Consulting	8,276	41,043
Carbon Offsets	109,156	63,534
TOTAL REVENUES	\$538,698	\$491,856
EXPENSES		
Projects	108,645	185,627
Salaries and Wages	217,718	258,745
Fundraising	5,519	2,767
Operating and Administrative	43,882	52,824
TOTAL EXPENSES	\$375,764	\$499,963
EXCESS OF REVENUES OVER EXPENSES FROM OPERATIONS	\$162,934	\$8,107



CANADA 2019

Community Owned Climate Forests

Supporting rural communities in creating local to global benefits through managing forest carbon.

This project will demonstrate that climate action can create prosperous economies and paths to reconciliation with Indigenous Peoples. In 2019, Forests Intl. will begin a process of convening and movement building to advance community-owned climate forests across the country. These community forests will aggregate threatened forests through collective local ownership and optimize those lands for carbon storage.

Forest Infrastructure Adaptation Project

Innovating how we value and manage our natural infrastructure for flood reduction.

Successful adaptation requires innovating how we value and manage natural infrastructure—the forests and waterways surrounding our communities, which serve as shock absorbers in extreme weather. This project will engage citizens, public & private sector investors, and institutional partners including in an ambitious venture to improve climate change resiliency of forests and adjacent communities hand-in-hand.

PEMBA 2019

Pemba Community Ownership Project

Securing community land rights and promoting climate change adaptation

Forests Intl. works to provide land rights to vulnerable communities along with supports to build restorative livelihoods on those lands. This involves transferring legal ownership to rural communities and developing governance structures designed for regeneration and increased decision-making power for women. In 2019, the team will continue this work by establishing Community Forest Management Agreements between the government of Zanzibar and 6 new rural communities.

Islands of Hope

Repeating our success on Kokota in two other vulnerable island communities.

Climate change is causing sea levels to rise around the many small islands in the Zanzibar Archipelago, contaminating drinking water and flooding farmland. With the generous support of our partners and donors, Forests Intl. has been able to set up rainwater harvesting systems in four remote communities to date. In 2019, Forests Intl. will bring clean water, solar energy, and coastal forest restoration to two more island communities: Njao and Kisiwa Panza.



COMMUNITY
FORESTS
INTERNATIONAL

10 School Lane, Sackville, New Brunswick E4L 3J9
1 (506) 536-3738 | info@forestsinternational.org
forestsinternational.org