



# RESTORING FORESTS

a TBA training course for  
project managers

Restoring forests and degraded land in Africa is an urgent priority for organisations working towards sustainable development and biodiversity conservation.

However, organisations and programme funders often find that managers who are given responsibility for restoring forest land lack the capacity to be effective. This TBA course builds the skills that managers need for success.

## The need for training

Forests provide essential services, such as clean air and water, food security, conservation of biodiversity and mitigation of climate change. When they are destroyed or degraded, people and biodiversity suffer.

In recent decades, the loss of forest land has been widespread, which is why, today, restoring forests and promoting sustainable use of forest land is an urgent priority. This is enshrined in the UN's Sustainable Development Goals, set out to guide global policy and practice up to 2030.

The need is paramount in Africa, where population growth, and the use of wood for domestic energy needs have dramatically increased the loss of forest land.

Even small-scale restoration projects can make a difference, if they are well-managed from the outset. Building the capacity of managers is therefore paramount if projects are to have impact.



## What the TBA course provides

The TBA course can help to ensure that reforestation projects succeed. There is no single solution to restoring degraded forest land, which has led to many common misunderstandings. Managers need to understand the social and political context of their own projects.

People often think that restoring forest is simply a question of planting more trees, but this is not necessarily the answer. We show people how to evaluate which approach is best for them.

*“The course was well designed from desk talks to field visits where we visited different types of forest restoration systems and managements.”*

Dominique Bikaba, Democratic Republic of Congo



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### Programme outline

This course is developed to strengthen relevant skills and knowledge, including:

- How to identify the drivers and underlying causes of forest degradation, and to integrate these into specific project aims.
- Understanding and evaluating the range of restoration approaches.
- Designing effective restoration plans, which incorporate diverse stakeholders.
- How to measure impact.

Course duration: 5 -7 days

TBA training teams combine international and local specialists in capacity building and in reforestation.

### Track record

*“I used to think that restoration was all about planting trees and planting again, but I discovered we can use the power of nature and help forests to recover naturally ... now I really want to do this on our site.”*

Rakotonarivo Rinah Zo  
Nandrianina, Madagascar.



*Below and overleaf:* Project managers from six African countries learning reforestation skills on the TBA course, requested by the Russell E. Train Education for Nature Program.



*“I am going to develop a concept on integrating our (restoration) work with a business model for sustainability.”*

David Kihagi, Kenya

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