

2023

Progress Report

Jeji Restoration



REPORT PROGRESS REPORT PROGRESS REPORT PROGRESS



Stats

11,882

TREES PLANTED

2

SITES

1

SEED BANK

120+

BENEFICIARIES

7

PERSONS EMPLOYED

Summary Overview

Jeji Restoration is a tree planting initiative that works closely with indigenous communities and internally displaced people affected by war and environmental conflicts to restore degraded landscapes by planting trees as a means of livelihood development.

Over the course of 5 years, the project seeks to plant 250,000 trees which will restore 500 hectares at an average density of 500 trees per hectare. This will also provide 1,000 people with income, food and shelter, 70% of which are women previously affected by war and/or environmental conflicts.

Progress So Far

Since the launch of Jeji Restoration in 2021, we have launched two sites, consisting of 2ha and 6ha respectively and have planted 11,882 trees in total. During this period, we have engaged with relevant government offices to secure allocation for the sites, and have included community members in planning and execution of the restoration activities; specifically as it relates to capacity building, community mobilization and employment.

At one of the sites, we have planted trees using the process of agroforestry, and have initiated a plant nursery and vegetable garden.

We have also encountered many risks, setbacks and challenges many of which we have overcome, while some, we continue to learn and evolve from. Such challenges are in terms of land management and sustainability of the trees themselves.

Our tree planting sites are located in arid - dryland regions with little rainfall per year. With this, we struggled to sustain trees at the beginning of the project, where in most cases we end up replanting sometimes two or three times a year as a result of trees dying just a few weeks after they've been planted.

To address this, we had to take stock in effectively managing the land by bringing in a consultant to support us on an advisory level, regarding strategies and practices to embark on that will advance soil health. In addition to this, we dug a water borehole that is powered by solar, and hired local site attendants that will manage the sites on a day-to-day basis.

Security Issues



Mango Tree



Aside from our recorded progress, we have encountered a number of security challenges in one of our sites, where some locals have stolen some items from the site. This included angle iron used for fencing and some farm and site tools as well.

We also had issues with locals vandalizing some of the facility items, like the water tank we've made available to them, or wild animals that eat off some of the seedlings in the nursery.

We've also had incidents of rabbits and other wild animals eating off the trees when planted. To counter this, we took a measure to hire two night watchmen on site as security guards.

EXPANSION PLANS

To build on our efforts, we have been liaising with the government through our government relation consultant to access 100ha of land that will be restored between 2023 - 2024. This will be done in partnership with the Kano State government, and shall be executed within the stipulated timeline with available resources to do so.

What we are looking at for this expansion is to have 2 - 4 woodlot sites with shelter belts, each 25 - 35 ha in size - consisting of a model “Miyawaki forest” of about 2ha each.

Plant Species in site:

Mango, Cashew,
Guava, Tangerine,
Orange, Lime,
sweet apple &
Acacia Senegal



2023 Tree Planting

Activities

Our Restoration work encompasses a number of activities from tree planting, to community engagement and setting up seed bank

1 | Agroforestry / FLR

Our tree planting efforts have always been to restore degraded forest lands. To achieve this, we incorporated the practice of agroforestry to improve land use management and increase soil fertility. In addition to this, the land is used as crop land by selected beneficiaries of the project.

2 | Community Engagement

We engage with community members on advocacy and capacity building basis. We also provide support and incentives where need be, depending on the scope of our program. We opened up employment opportunities where 7 individuals are permanently employed through the project. As part of our engagement with local farmers, we provide them with our restoration land to grow crops, and distribute incentives such as wheelbarrow, seeds, farming tools; rake, shovel, spade etc and manure, among others.

3 | Seed Bank

We have erected a structure in the site, and will initiate a seed bank. We intend to use the seed bank as a placeholder for numerous food crops in Nigeria and across Africa. The seed bank will serve as a space that promotes local conservation of indigenous seed species. It will seek to promote the importance of seed diversity, drawing from cultural aspects and advocacy against hybrid and GMO seeds.

Measuring Progress

Jeji Restoration - Uses NOAA Restoration Center Monitoring and Evaluation Guiding Principles.

Our goal for implementing this framework is to improve our planning, decision-making, information sharing, effectiveness at achieving desired outcomes, and contributions to the community of restoration practice.

The key elements of the framework are:

- Tiered monitoring targeted for our primary forest land restoration approaches
- Increased emphasis on data management
- Focus on information sharing and feedback to projects and programs
- Reliance on partnerships

Our M&E report, consisting of indicators and outcome will be available to partners in the coming months.

Site Pictures



Lime Tree



Orange Tree



Tangerine Tree



Loading Seedlings to cart



Acacia Spp

Site Pictures



Mango Tree



Cashew Tree



Moringa Seedlings



Organic Manure

Site Pictures



Bean Plant



Seedlings ready to be planted



Planted Seedling



Cashew Plant



Solar Powered Borehole



Tree Planting

GET TO KNOW

Surge Africa's



CONSERVE 10% POLICY CAMPAIGN!

The policy seeks to conserve 10% of Kano's state forest land and promote sustainable forest management which will address forest degradation while increasing direct benefits to the people, the environment and the state. Given the socio-economic and political landscape of Kano State, conserving 10% of its forest land will ensure that state lands are protected from land grabbing, illegal logging is restricted, biodiversity and wildlife are protected and environmental health and public health, in general, is ensured

KEY OUTCOMES

- Protect state lands from land grabbing by public and private entities
- The policy will promote activities of small and large-scale tree planting. Knowing that certain areas are protected by law, organizations and projects will be confident to invest and contribute to land restoration.
- This will signal to the federal government that Kano State is ready to lead the Northern part of the country in its bid to advance climate and environmental sustainability. In light of the Climate Change Act, this policy will create a paradigm shift on how states should respond to the climate crisis, and make Kano a vanguard state on climate change adaptation.
- Create opportunities for new projects and investments to flow into the State. In light of the climate crisis, this law will protect lands from being sold off for resources extraction or mining while promoting many opportunities for investments in forest commodities.
- Promote wildlife conservation and tourism.



We thank you for your continued support in our efforts to contribute to the forest land restoration

Contact

Program Support:
Nasreen@surgeafrica.org

General:
Info@surgeafrica.org

Website:
www.surgeafrica.org/jeji-restoration

All pictures used in this report are from the Jeji Restoration Site

