



Centre for Environmental Stewardship (CES)  
Annual Report 2024

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## Message from the Executive Director

As we reflect on 2024, I am proud to share the strides the Centre for Environmental Stewardship (CES) has made in fostering sustainable communities and nurturing environmental stewardship. This year, guided by our vision and mission, we engaged schools, churches, and local partners in Kajiado North County and beyond to green our environment, educate communities, and advocate for sustainability. From cleaning up plastic waste to planting trees and preparing for the International Peace and Environment Summit, our efforts have strengthened community resilience and environmental health. Partnerships with Amani Communities Africa (ACA), Women Regional Network (WRN-K), and new allies like Oltepesi Primary School have been pivotal.

As we look to 2025, we remain committed to expanding our impact, ensuring every action aligns with our goal of harmonious, thriving ecosystems, furthering our vision and mission, strengthening partnerships, and exploring new avenues for impact. With your continued support, we are confident that the year 2025 will bring even greater success.

Thank you for being part of our journey. Together, we are shaping a brighter future.

Sincerely,



**Prof. Mbaabu Mathiu**

*Executive Director*

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## 1.0 Introduction

Centre for Environmental Stewardship (CES) is a national Kenyan Public Benefit Organization (PBO). It was founded in the year 2003 by a team of professionals in the fields of environment, biodiversity, natural resources management, health and theology. From its inception in 2003, CES has had an impact-level history. This has been through influencing behaviour change to create environmental stewards and supporting local communities to sustainably manage their environment for improved livelihoods. Sustainable landscape and ecosystem restoration is critical for addressing environmental degradation, pollution, biodiversity loss, climate change and loss of livelihoods. The goal of CES is to accelerate approaches that address the key drivers of degradation in Forests, Agro-ecosystems, Rangelands, and Wetlands to prevent, halt and reverse landscape and ecosystem degradation and improve livelihoods. CES seeks to address the through its four pillars. i.e., Institutional strengthening, Landscape and Ecosystem Restoration, Advocacy and Nature Based Enterprises for improved livelihoods.

Centre for Environmental Stewardship's Vision is a society that manages its environment and natural resources sustainably. Its Mission is to promote optimal best practices in Sustainable Landscape and Ecosystem Restoration through Institutional strengthening, Landscape and Ecosystem Restoration, Advocacy and Nature Based Enterprises for improved livelihoods.

In 2024, CES launched an ambitious activity plan to generate income, enhance community well-being, and promote environmental sustainability. Our initiatives included setting up kitchen gardens, planting medicinal trees, offering consultancy services, and commemorating key environmental awareness days. This report details our activities, achievements, and lessons learned, showcasing how CES has bridged communities with sustainable practices while preparing for future growth.

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## 2.0 Key Activities and Achievements

### 2.1 Social and Community Impact Initiatives

#### 2.1.1 Kitchen Gardens and Greening Projects:

CES initiated projects to establish kitchen gardens and plant medicinal trees and herbs in homes, schools, churches, and institutions. We collaborated with Ngong Methodist Church and Kenya Assemblies of God (KAG) to launch greening efforts, beautifying their spaces and promoting sustainable food production.

*2.1.1.1 Achievement:* Installed 15 kitchen gardens across partner sites, benefiting over 200 households with fresh produce. Planted 50 medicinal trees (e.g., neem, moringa) to enhance health and aesthetics.

*Figure 1*  
*Volunteers*  
*from CES*  
*and Ngong*  
*Methodist*  
*Church*  
*planting a*  
*kitchen*  
*garden,*  
*March*  
*2024.*



#### 2.1.2 School Partnerships:

Partnering with Amani Communities Africa (ACA) and Women Regional Network (WRN-K), CES worked with Ooloolua Primary School and Calvary Baptist School environment clubs to green their campuses. A new partnership with Oltepesi Primary School expanded our reach.

*2.1.2.1 Achievement:* Planted 100 seedlings across three schools, engaging 150 students in tree-planting and waste clean-up activities.

*Figure2:*  
*Students*  
*from*  
*Oltepesi*  
*Primary*  
*School*  
*planting*  
*trees with*  
*CES staff.*





Figure 3:  
 A student  
 from  
 Oltepesi  
 Primary  
 School  
 planting  
 trees with  
 CES staff



### 2.1.3 Consultancy and Training Services:

CES offered consultancy, training, and technical assistance, acting as a bridge between the seedling market and consumers.

- *2.1.3.1 Achievement:* Trained 50 community members in organic gardening and provided seedlings to 10 households, generating Kes 50,000 in income for CES.

## 2.2 Branding and Marketing Efforts

### 2.2.1 Branding:

CES invested in branding by creating merchandise (T-shirts, caps, overalls) and a slogan: **"Green Living, Thriving Communities."** Fliers and leaflets were distributed to raise awareness.

- 2..2.1.1 Achievement:* Distributed 200 branded items and 500 leaflets, increasing CES visibility in Kajiado North County. Social media reach grew by 30% with branded content.



Figure 4: CES volunteer wearing a branded T-shirt during a clean up and tree planting in schools

### 2.3. Environmental Awareness Days and Events

CES commemorated key environmental dates with community activities, detailed below:

2.3.1 The Big Plastic Count (11th-17th March):

Mobilized school partners for clean-ups in Ngong township and Mbagathi/Kandisi rivers.

*2.3.1.1 Achievement:* Removed 300 kg of plastic waste, engaging 80 participants.

2.3.2 International Day of Forests (21st March):

Planted 200 seedlings at Oloolua Chief's Camp with community members.

*2.3.2.1 Achievement:* Increased tree cover and educated 50 locals on forest importance.

*Figure 5: Amani Communities Africa (ACA), Sustainable Futures Africa (SFA), Oldanya Organic, Narava Restaurant, PEC Guest House, Ngong Vet farm, Community Agroforestry Development Association (CAFDA), Kenya Forest Service (KFS), Oloolua Chief's Office, Oloolua Police Station, Oloolua Secondary School, Ngong Technical College and Madison Insurance planting trees during the International Day of Forests.*



2.3.3 World Water Day (22nd March):

Joined Kerarapon WRUA to celebrate clean water access.

*2.3.3.1 Achievement:* Sensitized 100 residents on water conservation.

2.3.4 Earth Day (22nd April):

Organized a walk in Kajiado County themed "Planet vs. Plastics."

*2.3.4.1 Achievement:* Engaged 120 participants in a 5 km awareness walk.

*Figure 6: On Monday, April 22nd 2024, Center for Environmental Stewardship commemorated the World Earth Day with the theme: 'Planet vs. Plastics' held at PEC Nature Park in Corner Baridi in collaboration with our partners and other stakeholders.*



2.3.5 International Compost Week (5th-11th May):

Held educational programs on composting.

2.3.5.1 *Achievement*: Trained 40 farmers in organic farming techniques.

2.3.6 World Environment Day (5th June):

Celebrated with stakeholders to raise environmental awareness.

2.3.6.1 *Achievement*: Reached 200 community members with educative forums.

2.3.7 International Peace and Environment Summit (13th-15th August):

Participated in discussions on environmental peacebuilding, following preparatory mediation training (12th-14th March).

2.3.7.1 *Achievement*: Contributed to summit outcomes, trained 10 CES staff in mediation.

2.3.8 World Clean-up Day (20th September):

Conducted waste clean-up and eco-friendly lifestyle education.

2.3.8.1 *Achievement*: Cleared 250 kg of waste in Ngong, educated 70 residents.

2.3.9 National Tree Week (November):

Planted trees at Ololua Conservancy with partners.

2.3.9.1 *Achievement*: Planted 150 trees, partnered with ACA for broader impact.

2.4 World Soil Day (5th December):

Focused on composting and gardening education.

2.4.1 *Achievement*: Established 5 compost sites, engaged 60 participants.

## 3.0 Financial Overview

	ITEM	Local Currency (Kshs)
	<b>INCOME</b>	300,000.00
1.	Directors Contribution	182,000.00
2.	Donations in Kind	157,500.00
3.	Corporate Donations	
		<b>639,500.00</b>
	<b>TOTAL INCOME</b>	
	<b>PROGRAM EXPENSES</b>	
1	The big plastic count	25,000.00
2	Environmental Mediation	37,240.00
3	International Day of Forest	53,000.00
4	World water Day	16,860.00
5	World earth Day	42,800.00
6	International Compost week	16,750.00
7	World Environment Day	4140.00
8	International Peace and Environment Summit	150,000.00
9	World Cleanup Day	27,200.00
10	National Tree Week	7,510.00
11	World Soil Day	8,000.00
	<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>388,500.00</b>
	<b>ADMINISTRATIVE COST</b>	
1	Salaries	127,500.00
2	Office Rent & utilities	12,000.00



3	Staff Meals	60,000.00
4	Service charges fee	12,000.00
5	Telephone and Communication	3,000.00
6	Repairs and maintenance	4,500.00
7	Office Stationery & Supplies	5,000.00
8	Staff travel and allowances	10,000.00
9	NGO returns 2023	2,000.00
10	Audit Fee 2022/2023	15,000.00
	<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>251,000.00</b>

## 4.0 Impact and Outcomes

- **Environmental Impact:** Planted 450 trees and removed 550 kg of waste, contributing to cleaner ecosystems and increased biodiversity in Kajiado North County.
- **Social Impact:** Engaged over 800 community members, including 150 students, in environmental education and action, fostering stewardship.
- **Economic Impact:** Generated Kes 80,000 in income, with kitchen gardens improving food security for 200 households.
- **Partnerships:** Strengthened ties with ACA, WRN-K, Oltepesi Primary School, and churches, expanding CES's network.

## 5.0 Lessons Learned

1. **Community Engagement:** Involving schools and churches proved highly effective for mobilizing participation and raising awareness.
2. **Resource Constraints:** Limited funding highlighted the need for stronger income-generating strategies (e.g., scaling consultancy).
3. **Safeguarding:** Events with children underscored the importance of formalizing child protection measures, informing future policy development.

## 6.0 Looking Ahead to 2025

### In 2025, CES will:

- Finalize the development and implement its 5-year CES Strategic Plan (2025-2029)
- Develop a CES Action Plan (CAP) for 2025 and begin a coordinated approach towards outlined activity implementation
- Develop and formalize two policies i.e., Child Protection & Safeguarding Policy and CES Risk Management Policy to ensure safe participation (aligned with Strategic Plan 2025-2029).
- Expand kitchen garden and greening projects to CES (e.g., Kajiado, Meru, Tharaka Nithi) and nationally
- Increase income through technical proposal writing, enhanced consultancy and branded merchandise sales.
- Leverage 2024 summit outcomes for broader advocacy efforts

## 7.0 Acknowledgments

We extend gratitude to our partners—Amani Communities Africa, Women Regional Network, Oloolua Primary School, Calvary Baptist School, Oltepesi Primary School, Ngong Methodist Church, and Kenya Assemblies of God—for their collaboration. Special thanks to our staff, volunteers, and community members whose dedication made 2024 a success.

## 8.0 Additional 2024 CES Activities

Activity/Event	Date	Planned events
Needs Assessment Report on enhancing Community Well-being in Oltepesi	18th January 2024	Amani Communities Africa, Sustainable Futures Africa Foundation, Centre for Environmental Stewardship The objective of the needs assessment was for ACA, SFA, & CES to better understand the school and its surrounding community, with the aim of establishing a rapport with the school and community, mentorship, mapping out the resources and needs of the school and surrounding community and developing peace and environment initiatives that for the sustainable transformation of the community.
Review of Environment and Natural Resource Management policies, laws, strategies and Plans.	June 26, 2024,	CES staff participated in an event organized by the Ministry of Environment, CC and Forestry, and JICA. The activity was on Strengthening Forestry Sector Development and Community Resilience to Climate Change through Sustainable Forest Management and Landscape Restoration.
National Forest Policy 2023 Discussions Workshop	19th- 22nd November 2024 at Hill court Resort and SPA Hotel, Nakuru County.	CES staff participated in the National Forest Policy 2023 workshop. The participants were WWF-K, CFAs, The East African Wildlife Society (EAWLS), Kenya Forests Working Group (KFWG), Economic and Social Rights Centre (Haki Jamii), KENAWRUA- Kenya national water resources association, Forest Action Network (FAN) and NECSA-K- The National Environment and Civil Society Alliance of Kenya.
FLR- forest and landscape monitoring in Geta, South Kinangop, North Kinagop, Ndaragwa and Ol Bollosat Forest stations in Nyandarua County.	August- September	CES staff together with KFS and KEFRI was engaged in monitoring of survival rates of trees planted and grown in degraded areas of Nyandarua forest ecosystems for the last 5 years.  The project was called: Empowering Communities to Protect and Manage the Lake Naivasha Catchment in Kenya's Aberdare Forest
Women and youth led- CFAs community institutional formation and strengthening	29th September - 4th October 2024 at FORT HOTEL mami,	CES staff participated in the establishment of Makueni and Taita Taveta County Umbrella Community Forest Associations (CFA). The partners involved include Natural Resources Information & Technology (NRIT), African Wildlife Foundation

	<p>Wote, Makueni County</p> <p>and</p> <p>13th October - 18th October 2024 at The AVID HOTEL, VOI, Taita Taveta County</p>	<p>(AWF), World Agroforestry Centre (ICRAF), &amp; County Government of Makueni and Taita Taveta.</p>
<p>Nature Based Enterprises for improved livelihoods.</p>	<p>July- November 2024</p>	<p>CES staff was engaged in a Baseline Study for The Project “Enhancing Food and Nutrition, Market Linkages and Resilient Livelihoods for Smallholder Farmers Through Agroecology in Kitui and Nakuru Counties of Kenya with A Special Focus on Women and Youth The study was funded by Biovision Africa Trust and ICIPE</p>

## 9.0 Contact Us

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## 10.0 Photo Gallery

CES tree planting events to commemorate international events in 2024- (figures 7-19)



Figure 7



Figure 8



Figure 9



Figure 10



Figure 11



Figure 12



2



Figure 13



Figure 14: Tiffany Kawira, a 9-year-old, the current Mini Miss Environment Kenya 2023/2024



Figure 15: Amani Communities Africa staff with CES ED Prof Mbaabu

Figure 16: Figure 5 OCS Oloolua police station WITH CES staff





Figure 17: Mpenda Mazingira initiative with CES staff during a tree planting session.



Figure 18: OCS Oloolua police station being taught on how to Plant a tree at Oloolua forest Station



Figure 19: Nurturing environmental stewards at Oltepesi Primary School, Kajiado North

