

# Annual Report 2024






We started our tree planting programme with the aim of planting and caring for 30,00 trees each year. In 2024 Discover partners planted well over 60,000 trees.



We thank all our many supporters for giving us a total budget in 2024 of 44,000 Euro, and especially Winnenden town that contributed 15,000 Euro of that total. Of that total, no less than 98.8% was used directly by our partners in Africa.




Our colleague Makabuli Yusuf in Uganda could not be more passionate about planting trees, and especially about protecting indigenous species, many of which are threatened with extinction. He wrote: “Thank you Discover for organizing us to discover ourselves!”




Yusuf is one of more than 15 partners of the Discover network in Africa, who are mainly active in Uganda, but also in Zimbabwe, Kenya, Ghana and Malawi. Please read below the summary of their reports of their work in 2024.




Name and Organisation	Place	Achievements and quotes	Picture
<p>1. Kenja Thomas Brothers of St Joseph the Worker</p> <p>Kasese Network</p>	<p>Under the Rwenzori Mountains,</p> <p>West Uganda</p>	<p>Kenja Thomas is a member of the order “Brothers of St Joseph the Worker”. Many years ago, he founded a group of women and orphans with the aim of helping poor, destitute women to earn their own living. Kenja Thomas is in regular contact with many communities on the slopes of the Rwenzori Mountains. In 2023, torrential rainfall caused a landslide that destroyed many houses and claimed lives. To prevent such disasters in the future, Thomas planted almost 5,000 tree seedlings with members of 10 communities and schools in 2024. Together with the residents of the local slum, he also planted over 600 bamboo plants along the nearby riverbank to protect the village from flooding.</p> <p>Thomas wrote, “As I have visited villages, schools, and communities, I was often told that tree planting has benefited families and communities more than they ever expected”. He wrote further, “Villages which used to experience constant droughts and crop failure, which led to child malnutrition, now receive more reliable rainfall, good crop yields, and look greener than before we started planting trees in communities 8 years ago.”</p>	 <p>Thomas plants bamboo with local residents to secure the riverbank.</p>


<p>2. Robert Bwambale</p> <p>Discover Maliba Kasese Network</p>	<p>Maliba, under the Rwenzori Mountains, West Uganda</p>	<p>Robert Bwambale works in the laboratory at the hospital in Kasese. He lives in Maliba. Through his church and community work, he has persuaded many farmers and families to plant trees and practise agroforestry.</p> <p>Farmers in Maliba have planted 3,800 seedlings of fruit trees and indigenous trees under his guidance this year and almost all farmers are practising agroforestry. The trees were planted along property boundaries, on riverbanks, in river valleys, on agroforestry farms and in school gardens and grounds.</p> <p>Robert wrote, <i>“Giving people knowledge of tree planting and why all these disasters (floods and landslides which lead to loss of lives) are happening is the only sustainable solution.”</i> and <i>“Now people realise how important trees are, they are asking for far more than I am able to give them.”</i></p> <p><i>“Thanks to the support from Discover Germany in 2024, my community Maliba has been transformed through tree planting. The trees we planted have reduced the amount of storm water runoff, which reduces erosion and flooding. This Rwenzori region has continually suffered as the rivers have burst their banks. Many species of wildlife depend on trees for habitat and today we see many more birds. Many families benefit from fruits from the trees such as mangos, papaya and jackfruit and all families in Maliba are now well nourished.”</i></p>	 <p>Robert with the indigenous <i>Prunus africana</i> which is becoming scarce</p>
<p>3. Emmanuel Masereka</p> <p>Mbalhamia Healing Forest Kasese Network</p>	<p>Kirembe, under the Rwenzori Mountains, West Uganda</p>	<p>Many years ago, Emmanuel Masereka founded the "Mbalhamia Healing Forest", where many indigenous trees grow, which also provide raw materials for natural remedies. Like Kenja Thomas, Emmanuel Masereka also has good contacts with many village communities living in his area in the Rwenzori Mountains.</p> <p>Emmanuel and his team planted almost 13,000 trees in 2024. Some were planted on the slopes of a hill that, like many others, was completely bare and therefore prone to erosion and landslides. He and his team set up a tree nursery growing native trees, fruit trees and vegetables. They rebuilt 2 bridges that had been destroyed by the torrential rains.</p> <p>On 24 February, 44 people in the village of Kabuker took part in a clean-up day that he organised. They collected 40 bags of rubbish and planted 200 trees.</p> <p>44 people in Kabukero village took part in a clean-up day on 24 February. 40 sacks of rubbish were collected, and 200 trees were planted.</p>	 <p>Emmanuel with an acacia seedling he had planted on a steep hillside.</p>

<p>4. Eric Kihuluka Mikwano (meaning friendship)</p>	<p>Kaliro District  Uganda</p>	<p>Over many years, Eric Kihuluka has gained the trust of farmers, teachers, religious leaders and local administrators throughout the Kaliro district. Today, many of them are working together to change their environment and create a positive attitude towards environmental protection.</p> <p>Eric writes: <i>"Thanks to support from Discover we are establishing the agroforestry and livestock-based assets demonstration and training centre with a functional irrigation system on a 4.5-hectare site. This is already recognised as being a centre of excellence in organic agricultural innovation. We host student interns, farmers groups and local government groups from neighbouring districts.</i></p> <p><i>For this reason, we have been invited to host the Energy Exhibition and the Agricultural Best Practices Exhibition, which will take place in June 2025. - As I write this, we urgently need \$5,000 to complete the purchase of the land for the demonstration and training site and to buy seedlings and equipment to make the centre self-sustaining. Up to 24 young people, mainly school drop-outs, are working every day to prepare the land and grow the plants. We are looking for people who will continue to support our project."</i></p>	 <p>Eric in front of his goathouse</p>
<p>5. Joachem Nyamande Green4Life</p>	<p>Mutare and Maradona District West,  Zimbabwe</p>	<p>Dr Joachem Nyamande has many years of experience in community work, training interns and developing natural remedies. Today he is a lecturer at the University of Zimbabwe in Harare in the Department of Community and Social Development.</p> <p>In recent years, he has set up the Ecofarm, a training and demonstration centre for agroforestry, beekeeping and natural tree regeneration.</p> <p>He also founded the "Green4Life" project, which aims to teach ecological principles in schools in Mutare and to further develop th EcoFram.</p> <p>He writes: <i>In 2024 we drilled a 95m borehole at Ecofarm equipped with suitable pumping system, planted 500 assorted indigenous trees. The farm is a training and demonstration centre for agroforestry, bee-keeping and natural regeneration. We conducted monitoring visits to Sacred Heart and Fern Valley Primary Schools near to Mutare town. The schools also benefitted from game fence, bee hives and trees some of which have started to bear fruits which are being enjoyed by the pupils.</i></p>	 <p>Joachem in the tree regeneration site</p>

<p>6. Makabuli Yusuf</p>	<p>Elgon Mountains East Uganda</p>	<p>Makabuli Yusuf knows more than anyone else about the indigenous trees of Uganda. He has set up many tree nurseries and planted his own large forest of indigenous trees. His vision is to work with the local communities to cover the Elgon Mountains with trees to prevent further landslides and thus protect the lives of the people there.</p> <p>He writes: <i>Discover has enabled us to establish an effective tree seed collection project; we pay community members for collecting tree seeds, and especially indigenous tree seeds, which we clean and make available to community groups even as far away as northern Uganda.</i></p>	 <p>Yusuf in one of the many nurseries that he has established</p>
<p>7. Christopher Nyakuni Greening Arivu</p>	<p>Arivu, North-west Uganda</p>	<p>Christopher is a catechist in the Catholic Church and is often asked to mediate conflicts, sometimes with the church organisation and often between opposing clans.</p> <p>Christopher writes: <i>In 2024 we planted trees in the grounds of churches, schools and mosques to provide shade, timber, fruits and medicine and to mark land boundaries. I enabled the community at Nyara to end the decades long conflict between the members of two warring clans. To cement this reconciliation, together with members of both communities, we planted 160 seedlings of the shea butter tree that we had raised in our own nursery. The shea butter is a valuable, indigenous tree that is threatened with extinction.</i></p>	 <p>Christopher in Nyara Church where he is catechist. They plant trees and practice agroforestry.</p>
<p>8. Rehema Namyalo Vumbula (Discover) Masaka</p>	<p>Near Masaka, Central Region, South Uganda</p>	<p>Rehema Namyalo has an excellent knowledge of horticulture, agroforestry and the use of medicinal plants. She gives many training courses and is highly regarded throughout the region.</p> <p>Rehema writes: <i>In 2024 I visited groups in 8 parishes in my subcounty and distributed almost 2500 agroforestry and medicinal tree seedlings and provided training which created awareness of our work and services in the community. I conducted follow-up support visits which has greatly helped the community to improve on their nutrition and health using their fruit and medicinal trees for treating common diseases like malaria, diarrhoea, cough and flu and for boosting low immune systems.</i></p>	 <p>Rehema with a papaya from her own garden.</p>

<p>9. Obaikol Gideon,</p>	<p>Soroti and Ongoromo  North-East Uganda</p>	<p>Obaikol Gideon is a trained carpenter and has trained many school dropouts, helping them to become more independent.</p> <p>Gideon writes. <i>In 2024 we planted 50 tree seedlings in each of the grounds of 10 primary schools in Soroti town. At Pioneer Primary school we built attractive brick surrounds to protect the tree seedlings from roaming animals, and as a demonstration for what other schools could do</i></p> <p><i>In Ongoromo village 32 farmers are now practising agroforestry.</i></p>	 <p>Giddeon smiling as he presented Arapai Primary School with vegetable seeds.</p>
<p>10. Judith Nambi</p>	<p>Kirimya and Kasasa Central Region,  Soth Uganda</p>	<p>Judith is the head teacher of a primary school that she founded herself. She has convinced many other head teachers to plant trees with their pupils. She has set up a small agroforestry centre in her community.</p> <p>Judith writes: <i>In 2024 I planted 600 trees myself and encouraged schools, homes and churches to plant 2000 trees.</i></p> <p><i>I promoted agroforestry and natural regeneration. I established a nursery. I bought piglets and kids (young goats) to support women with very poor and needy families, Thank you so much Discover, I and all the many people I work with will always be grateful!</i></p>	 <p>Judith with a musizi tree she planted 2 years ago</p>
<p>11. Mpuuga Edigar Jartin</p>	<p>Mayuge  South Uganda</p>	<p>Mpuuga Edigar is a social worker and teacher and has been able to convince six schools in Mayuge to plant trees on their school grounds over the past 18 months.</p> <p>Mpuuga writes: <i>"In 2024 we have supported climate clubs in six schools in Mayuge, equipping learners with knowledge and resources to restore their environment. With support from Discover we have planted over 1500 trees, which is fostering a culture of environmental stewardship among young people."</i></p>	 <p>Mpuuga with some of his pupils</p>

<p>12. George Zokli</p>	<p>Volta Region Ghana</p>	<p>George Zokli is an independent expert with extensive experience in the training of underutilised, indigenous medicinal plants such as Moringa.</p> <p>George writes: <i>Many thanks to Discover for their support in planting trees on the grounds of 6 schools, on farms in Adaklu Anfoe and on the land of 2 churches. We were able to organise a 2-day training course with 24 people on the production of Moringa soap. The leaves of the Moringa tree can be used to make medicinal soap, which saves the farmers money and creates another source of income."</i></p>	 <p>George with pupils at the Bethel Christian Academy in Akuetty</p>
<p>13. Tamima Omondi Fweny (Discover) Network</p>	<p>South Nyanza, Kenya</p>	<p>Tamina Omondi is a nurse. Over many years, she built up a network of women's self-help groups, which she trained in the use of locally available medicinal plants and in planting trees.</p> <p>Tamina writes: <i>In 2024 we planted many fruit and medicinal trees on small farms, the compounds of health centres, churches, schools and community groups. As a result of our educational work many people now understand how important trees are and they are eager to plant more."</i></p>	 <p>Tamina planting trees in the grounds of a hospital last year.</p>
<p>14. Nelson Moyo</p>	<p>Chongoni, Malawi.</p>	<p>Nelson Moyo is based near a church training centre where he has built up a large tree nursery.</p> <p>Nelson writes: <i>With support from Discover we were able to develop good tree nurseries that have brought us in contact with people of different ages and backgrounds from nursery, primary as well as secondary schools, religious groups, traditional leaders and others. Through our visits to where the plants from our nursery have been planted, we were also able to learn from the people managing the trees.</i></p>	 <p>Nelson in his tree nursery in Chongoni</p>

<p>15. Enid Kiviiri</p>	<p>Kalerwe, Kampala,  Uganda</p>	<p>Enid and her husband, who is a pastor in the Church of Uganda, work in the Kalerwe slum in Kampala. Life in Kalerwe is hard; when it rains, all the houses are flooded. Enid set up a self-help group.</p> <p>She writes:  <i>"Thanks to Discover, we were able to teach eight women how to make fireless cookers. "Fireless" cookers are baskets that are so well insulated that meals can continue to cook in them. The families in Kalerwe are now saving money because they need much less charcoal. Even here in the city centre, we can contribute to improving the environment."</i></p>	 <p>Three trainees holding one of their "fireless cookers".</p>
-------------------------	--	--	--

Discover e.V. Web: [www.discover-src.net](http://www.discover-src.net). Bank, IBAN: DE92 6009 0100 0349 6100 02