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## Our Mission & Vision



### Mission

To restore, conserve and sustainably manage the Mt. Elgon ecosystem through community empowerment, partnerships and climate action.



### Vision

A thriving ecosystem and prosperous communities

## About Us

Mt. Elgon Ecosystem Conservation Trust (MEECT) was registered in November 2022 to restore the Mt. Elgon Forest Ecosystem.. It is headquartered in Kitale. MEECT has 9 Trustees and a secretariat.

With financial and technical support from USFS, MEECT's mandate to address the consistent lack of a credible local representation and advocacy for CFAs in the Mt. Elgon ecosystem and the need for concerted, targeted capacity building. MEECT's mission is to elevate Mt. Elgon CFAs as agents of forest stewardship, economic development, and community-based natural resource governance and serve as a unifying force, providing advocacy, technical support, and political representation to the forest communities of Mt. Elgon.

## Our Goals

1. Strengthen the capacity of Community Forest Associations (CFAs) for sustainable management of the Mt. Elgon Ecosystem.
2. Secure resources for community-led development initiatives focused on forest conservation and livelihoods.
3. Provide and coordinate technical support to CFAs, facilitating collaborative forums.
4. Promote collaboration at national, transboundary, regional, and global levels for the conservation of the Mt. Elgon ecosystem.

## Project Examples



Kennedy Moss, MEECT's Program Officer, engages in a tree-planting exercise with a member of the Suam CFA during an outreach and awareness creation event in June, 2024. The activity aimed to familiarize the Board and Secretariat with the initiatives of all 11 CFAs, while fostering interaction with over 80 community members across the Mt. Elgon ecosystem.



A CFA member actively engages with the facilitator during a training session for CFA executive committees. The training, which covered communication, governance, human resource management, financial management, and strategic planning, aimed to strengthen the capacity of CFAs for the sustainable management of the Mt. Elgon ecosystem. This initiative supports MEECT's goals of fostering partnerships, advocating for benefit-sharing frameworks, and promoting community-led conservation and climate adaptation efforts.

A CFA member presents a proposed strategy for planning, implementing, monitoring, and reporting on development projects during a capacity building session facilitated by MEECT. Through training, coaching, and mentoring, MEECT provided technical assistance and reporting templates to enhance CFAs' ability to effectively communicate progress to stakeholders such as KFS, ensuring transparency and accountability in forest conservation and community development efforts.



Here, MEECT conducted a session on community development methodologies aimed at enhancing community ownership, public participation, accountability, and sustainability in projects such as beekeeping, tree nursery management, fishing, grazing, firewood extraction, and cultural activities. The training included documenting sustainable funding strategies for CFAs, increasing community member participation through best practices and user rights management, and developing a comprehensive monitoring and evaluation plan. This plan defines key indicators, methods, data sources, and measurement frequencies, establishing baselines and targets to track the progress and impact of the initiatives effectively.



## Our Partners

