



# Regreening Africa: Inclusive and Evidence-Based Approaches to Accelerating Land Restoration in Rwanda

## Challenges and Lessons learnt

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# Challenges



## Challenges

- ✓ Coordination of restoration activities at different levels
- ✓ Limited research on links of trees on farms and biodiversity
- ✓ Low number of indigenous species in agricultural landscape (diversity)
- ✓ Low availability of indigenous tree species propagation materials
- ✓ Limited knowledge on propagation of indigenous species
- ✓ Fruit tree pests and diseases control and management
- ✓ Mind-set majorly from pastoralists
- ✓ Land tenure issues (Farmers in mining zones belonging to government less interested to plant trees)
- ✓ Limited availability of grafting materials (scions)
- ✓ COVID-19 interrupted project activities.



## Lessons learnt

- Working with local communities in seedling production increase ownership and participation into tree planting by community members (community tree nurseries)
- Establishing rural resource centers in the proximity improves farmers participation into landscape restoration, it also provide business opportunities.
- Joint planning, monitoring, implementation, reflection and learning brings multiple benefits to the project
- Sites lead by Lead farmers who are opinion leaders (village, health, farmer promoters) shown better adoption (tree survival + diversity)
- Farmer to farmer exchange visits are important tools for mindset change



# lessons learnt on scaling



- Limited Immediate livelihoods options for farmers (promotion of restoration VCs)
- Understanding farmer priorities and needs facilitate adoption.
- Seedling availability into farmers proximity improves farmers participation into tree planting
- Farmer to farmer exchange visits are important tools for mindset change
- Close collaboration with government partner institutions facilitate alignment and accelerate the implementation of national restoration priorities.
- EU Rwanda delegation close collaboration during project implementation was fundamental towards meeting donor expectation.
- Monitoring tools such as the Rwanda dashboard and Regreening App accelerate restoration



# Lets restore Africa's degraded land together!

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