

The Green Belt Movement

Annual Report 2006

2006

Highlights

- Planted over 4.6 million trees in Kenya
- Launched global campaigns in partnership with international organizations
- Initiated a tree-planting rehabilitation project over 2,000 hectares in the Aberdare and Mt. Kenya Forests with the Clean Development Mechanism (CDM)
- GBM School Environmental Education linked school children to elders through community reforestation activities

Achievements in 2006

GBM's approach to community development begins with tree-planting at the grassroots level. The current strategy is focused on planting trees in farms and public lands, in addition to the rehabilitation of degraded forest areas on the five major mountains that serve as water catchments in Kenya: Mt. Kenya, the Aberdare Range, the Mau Complex, Mt. Elgon, and the Cherangani Hills. Over the past century, gazetted forests in Kenya have diminished from 30% to less than 2% – far below the 10% recommended by the UN to deliver essential ecosystem services. As forest cover continues to decrease, water catchment areas are under threat.



To date, GBM has planted over 35 million trees in Kenya. In 2006 and with the support of partners, GBM communities planted over 4.6 million trees. Other achievements this year include:

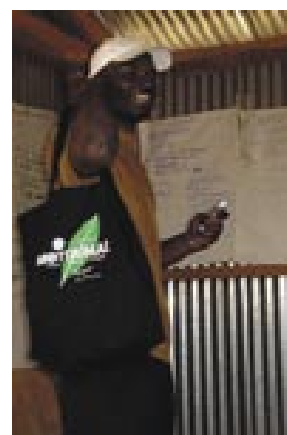
- The first step of GBM's unique 10-step tree-planting procedure includes empowerment workshops known as Civic and Environmental Education (CEE). Through these community workshops, 200 new tree nursery groups were formed this year across Kenya. Some groups were formed in constituencies never before exposed to GBM activities. CEE training sessions also facilitated the establishment of Community Forest Associations (CFAs), which enable communities to participate in the sustainable management of the forests in partnership with Kenya Forest Service. As a result, GBM activities are now taking place in new areas, including gazetted forests.



- A record number of 4.6 million trees were planted in Kenya by tree nursery groups and networks supported by GBM. This was an 11% increase from 2005. To date, GBM has formed over 500 tree nursery networks to manage the large-scale cultivation and distribution of seedlings. New tree-planting efforts began in the Aberdare Forest ecosystem, Mt. Kenya Forest, and expanded to 110 of Kenya's 220 constituencies. New institutions and corporations that participated in tree-planting activities included prisons, churches, Kenya's General Service Unit (GSU), schools, garbage collectors, and the World Bank.

- At the 12th Conference of Parties (COP 12) on Climate Change in Nairobi during November 2006, GBM launched a Forest Restoration Project in collaboration with the World Bank. The project aims to rehabilitate 2,000 hectares in the Aberdare and Mt. Kenya Forests as part of the efforts to mitigate against climate change through the Clean Development Mechanism (CDM).

Through mass tree-planting in forests, the project contributes to the restoration of ecosystem services in these two vital water towers of Kenya. With the support of the Forest Department, GBM will work with community groups living around these forest ecosystems to grow tree seedlings and



plant them in designated forest locations. A tripartite relationship was established to ensure that the community, GBM, and the Kenyan Forestry Service share a mutual understanding of their role and responsibilities in this initiative.

By the end of 2006, GBM completed the Baseline and Economic Social Impact Assessment Surveys – both critical elements of the project. Site selection was also completed, and planting is expected to begin in 2007.

■ Advocacy & Network activities raised awareness on the linkages between governance and sustainable management of resources. In 2006, GBM advocated for the resolution of issues such as: illegal land appropriation including essential wetlands, land clashes and evictions. The program also halted the planned excision of parts of the forest of Ngong Hills.

■ The Green Belt Safaris (GBS) program offers unique cultural experiences through community visits combined with conventional tourism itineraries. This year, GBS hosted a record number of 595 guests. Safari groups visited the Maasai Mara, Aberdare National Park, local universities, and interacted with GBM communities through site visits and home-stays.

■ The School Environmental Education project hosted an experiential learning opportunity for 60 students from Utafiti primary school into the Aberdare Forest. The goal of this excursion was to expose young students to the wonders of nature and inspire them to protect the environment. The total number of trees planted in schools this year was 22,000. In addition to field excursions, this project educated students of all ages on the importance of riverine ecosystems through the Leaf Pack experiment.

■ With the Africa Biodiversity Network, GBM held Cultural Biodiversity workshops in 15 schools across Kenya this year. Cultural mornings were held to discuss biodiversity issues and the ways participants can preserve aspects of indigenous culture that enable biodiversity to thrive.

■ This year, a grant was received to support the development of a Geographic Information Systems (GIS) Lab at GBM's headquarters in Kenya. The new GIS technology will transform GBM's monitoring system, particularly in data collection for baseline studies, site identification, and tree-planting verification. Trainings for all members of GBM staff will include basic use of data capture devices and map analysis. The Lab has benefited greatly from in-kind donations, such as satellite imagery, Geographic Positioning System (GPS) devices, mapping software, and computers.



Global Campaigns

GBM's experience and approach continues to influence environmental activities across the world. In 2006, two international charitable organizations were established to advocate for and support the work in Kenya. They are the Green Belt Movement International – North America (GBMI-US) and the Green Belt Movement International – Europe (GBMI-E). The global interest in GBM's work continues to expand as issues closely related to our local challenges emerge internationally. The following global campaigns involving GBM and Prof. Wangari Maathai are examples:

■ **Economic, Social and Cultural Council (ECOSOCC) of the African Union:**

The Kenya Chapter of the African Union's Economic, Social and Cultural Council (ECOSOCC) was established in 2006 by civil society organizations based in Nairobi. GBM was identified as the lead organization in Kenya to encourage other civil society organisations to engage in mobilizing support for the Kenya chapter of ECOSOCC. Prof. Wangari Maathai guided this effort as ECOSOCC's first Presiding Officer. She presented Kenya's civil society with a unique opportunity to play an active role in charting the country's future, alongside local communities and government leaders.

■ **Protection of the Congo Basin Forest Ecosystem:**

In 2005, Prof. Maathai was invited by the ten Heads of State of the Congo Basin region to serve as the Goodwill Ambassador for the Congo Basin Forest. In 2006, she raised global awareness about the need to protect the Congo Basin Forest for its role in mitigating climate change. During COP 12 in Nairobi, a press conference was held with the Ministers from the Central African region to highlight the opportunities and challenges in protecting this critical ecosystem.

■ **Billion Tree Campaign:**

Also during COP 12 in Nairobi, the Green Belt Movement launched the Billion Trees Campaign in partnership with the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) and the World Agroforestry Centre (ICRAF). Prof. Maathai and His Serene Highness Prince Albert II of Monaco were selected as patrons of this global campaign to encourage collective action for the environment. The goal of the Billion Trees Campaign is to address climate change through the planting of one billion trees before COP 13 to be held in Bali during December 2007. Individuals, companies, governments, and NGOs around the world were invited to pledge, plant, and register trees on the 'Plant for the Planet' website. Visit www.greenbeltmovement.org and click on the 'Plant for the Planet' logo for more information.

■ **The "Mottainai" Campaign:**

In 2005, Prof. Maathai and Mainichi Newspaper launched the Mottainai campaign in Japan. The goal was to mobilize the general public of Japan to use resources more sustainably in their daily lives. The term "Mottainai" is an ancient Japanese Buddhist concept that urged people not to waste limited resources, to be grateful for they have, and use what they have with respect and care. Prof. Maathai was introduced to the concept by Mainichi and has since adopted it as a global campaign symbolic of the protection and care of the environment. Through the continued support of Mainichi, GBM extended the "Mottainai" campaign to Kenya in 2006 to address the issue of waste management, particularly the common use of "flimsy" plastic bags which cannot be recycled or re-used.

Thank you

to all of our generous supporters. Major partners in 2006 include: AEON Foundation . Agency for French Development (AFD) . African Union (ECOSOCC) . Atticus Capital LP . Comic Relief (UK) . DLA Piper . Environmental Systems Research Institute (ESRI) . Google . Green Cross, Sweden . Heinrich Boell Foundation . Iara Lee & George Gund Foundation . KPMG Norway . LEICA Geosystems . Mainichi Newspapers . Mitsubishi Corporation . Presbyterian Church, White Plains . Restore UK . Shaklee Corporation . Sidhu-Singh Family Foundation . The Basque Government . The Goldman Foundation . The Government of Spain . The Nature Conservancy . Trimble Inc. . Tyco International (US) . UNEP . USAID . Wallace Global Fund . Wangari Maathai

About GBM

Mission: To mobilize community consciousness for self determination, justice, equity, reduction of poverty and environmental conservation using tree planting as an entry point.

Vision: To create a value-driven society of people who consciously work for the continued improvement of their livelihoods and a greener, cleaner environment. This vision is achieved through the protection and rehabilitation of the environment.

Values: Volunteerism for community benefit
Love for the environment
Action and self-improvement
Accountability and transparency
Self and community empowerment

Programs: Tree-Planting
Civic & Environmental Education (CEE)
Advocacy & Networking
Women for Change
Green Belt Safaris (GBS)
Society of Greens
Pan African Initiative
Watershed Management

The Green Belt Movement (GBM) Approach

GBM has an extensive grassroots network that facilitates the mobilization of communities around local development activities. The focus for GBM is environmental education, conservation activities, and livelihood creation.

GBM engages communities through its unique 10-step tree-planting procedure in a development model that mobilizes them to take action and improve their livelihoods. Through this process they learn to make linkages between the challenges they face and the degradation of their natural environments. This leads to community-led action and commitment to safe guard their community's resources.

To date, GBM has facilitated the formation and sustenance of over 4,000 community groups, of which 70% are women. These groups have created over 500 networks across Kenya. Today, GBM is leveraging this development model in other parts of Africa and across the world.

Board of Directors

Professor Wangari Maathai, Mrs. Rahab Mwatha, Mr. Njogu Kahare, Professor Vertistine Mbayu, Mrs. Lillian Njehu, and Mrs. Jane Ngugi

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501(c)3 registered non-profit organization



www.greenbeltmovement.org

Financial Summary

Consolidated Income and Expenditure for 2006

	2006	2005
INCOME STATEMENT	\$	\$
Grants Received	992,096	714,858
Interest Income	3,244	795
Miscellaneous Income	10,120	0
	1,005,461	715,653
EXPENDITURE		
Tree-Planting	441,262	6,789
Civic & Environmental Education	100,642	1,548
Advocacy & Networking	66,259	1,019
Women For Change*	18,030	277
Program Management	263,682	4,057
TOTAL EXPENDITURE	889,875	13,690
Surplus For The Year Transferred		
To General Reserves	115,586	701,963

	2006	2005
BALANCE SHEET	\$	\$
Non-Current Assets		
Property and Equipment	535,104	489,870
Current Assets		
Receivables	186,747	164,209
Cash Balance	73,036	2,047
	259,783	162,161
TOTAL ASSETS	794,887	652,031
RESERVES AND LIABILITIES		
RESERVES		
General Reserves	698,520	627,775
CURRENT LIABILITIES		
Payables	96,367	24,256
	794,887	652,031

Notes:

1. Women for Change*: This includes funds spent on cross-cutting program activities shown as Gender Equity and Capacity-Building in the full GBM audited accounts.
2. For the year 2006, the surplus transferred to reserves of \$1,312,856 represents 100% restricted program funds carried over to be spent in the following year.
3. The above figures are a summarized version of the Green Belt Movement's financial statements for the year ended December 31, 2006. A full set of accounts can be obtained from the headquarters in Nairobi.
4. The Accounts of GBMI-Europe and GBMI-US are available upon request.
5. The figures have been valued at the exchange rate as at the end of each financial year, and are expressed in US dollars to assist appreciation of the overall funding position.

