



Annual Report 2017

TABLE OF CONTENTS

MESSAGE FROM THE CHAIR	1
OUR MISSION, VISION, VALUES	
TREE PLANTING AND WATER HARVESTING	
GENDER LIVELIHOOD AND ADVOCACY	6
CLIMATE CHANGE	8
CORPORATES	10
MAINSTREAM ADVOCACY	11
GREEN BELT SAFARIS	12
LIST OF DONORS FOR 2017	13
2017 FINANCIAL REPORT	14

Message from the Chair

Dear Friends,

It is an exciting time to be at the Green Belt Movement (GBM) and an important moment in the history of the organization. Since GBM began in 1977, we have been tackling environmental challenges from the grassroots including the loss of forests, reliable water and livelihoods, and the biggest challenge of all - climate change.

With the passing of our founder, Professor Wangari Maathai, in 2011 we mourned her and took time to reflect on GBM's future direction. Wangari remained at the helm of the organization until the last. It was her words that helped us redouble our efforts going forward: "We cannot tire or give up. We owe it to the present and future generations of all species to rise up..." It is in this spirit that I am truly delighted to share with you GBM's ambitious plans for the challenges ahead.

GBM's integrated and holistic watershed based approach to supporting African communities is integral to addressing the environmental and social issues we face globally. Our first step is helping African communities recognize the links between environmental degradation, energy poverty and climate change impacts. GBM's overarching aim is to realize our vision of a cleaner, greener world, and we have determined five strategic goals, as detailed, in our new Case for Support:

Our first goal is an "Integrated and Holistic Restoration of our Priority Watersheds using tree planting as entry point" which is aligned with the global movement to tackle deforestation as a key driver of climate change, and the AFRI 100, an initiative launched for forest restoration in African countries.

Spanning forty years, our work at GBM focuses on the issues that rural African women face in the daily struggle to meet the needs of their families. Our second goal is to empower and improve livelihoods for women through a focus on "Gender and Community nature" based enterprises".

Wangari taught us to connect what happens in rural Kenya with international decision and policy -making platforms. Our third goal does this through GBM's "Advocacy: from local to global".

Our fourth goal is our response to the on-going interest in our methodologies, and possibilities that lie in peer learning and partnership: "Sharing the GBM approach: a Pan-African initiative".

GBM's fifth and final goal is very close to the heart and minds of all of our friends and family: "Sharing the legacy of Wangari Maathai". We are thrilled to present here plans for the Wangari Maathai House and its Educational Programmes, which will ensure that her teachings will continue. The House will be a place where "conviction will meet action" in order to create change; a space of African stories on how to tackle the collective challenges we face.

Our achievements are shared achievements, accomplished by thousands of rural women and their families, with the support of partners and friends worldwide. On behalf of the GBM family, I hope that the following pages will inspire you to support us so that, together, we continue to shape a better world.

With warmest regards,

Wanjira Mathai Green Belt Movement, Chair

OUR Mission Vision and Values

The Green Belt Movement (GBM) is an environmental organization that empowers communities, particularly women, to conserve the environment and improve livelihoods. GBM was founded by Professor Wangari Maathai in 1977 under the auspices of the National Council of Women of Kenya (NCWK) to respond to the needs of rural Kenyan women who reported that their streams were drying up, their food supply was less secure, and they had to walk further and further to get firewood for fuel and fencing. GBM encouraged the women to work together to grow seedlings and plant trees to bind the soil, store rainwater, provide food and firewood, and receive a small monetary token for their work.

Our Vision

A values-driven society of people who consciously work for continued improvement of their livelihoods and a greener, cleaner world.

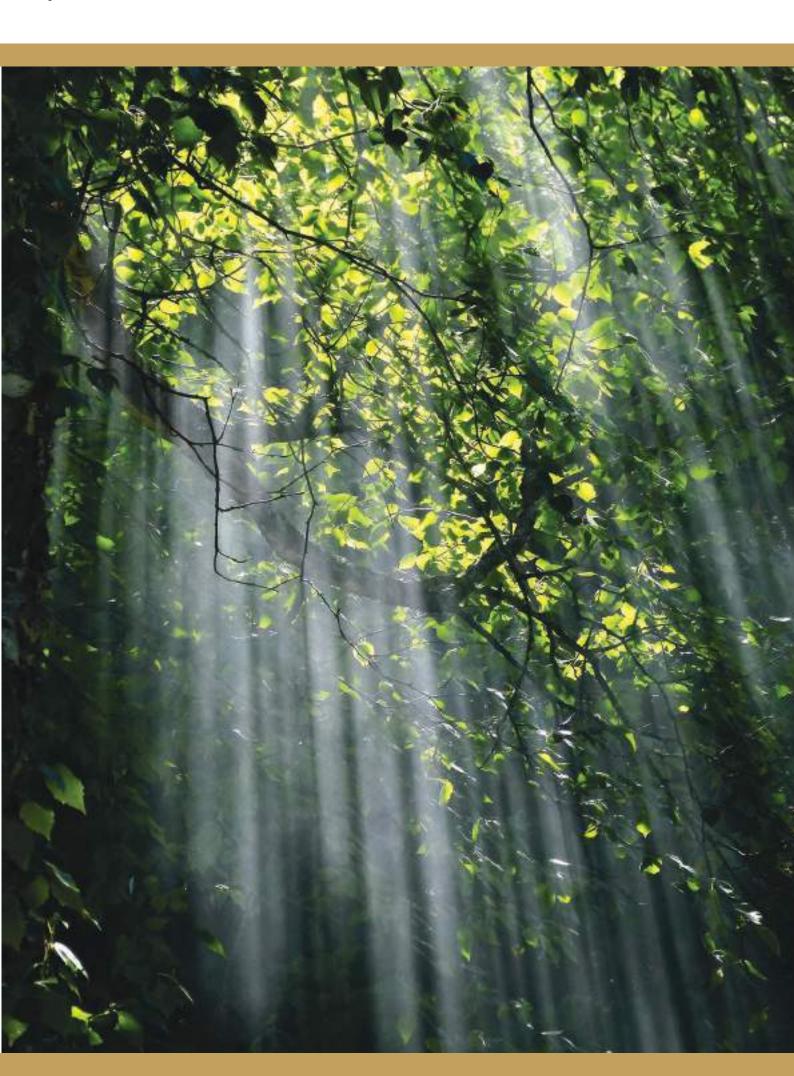
Our Mission

We strive for better environmental management, community empowerment, and livelihood improvement using tree-planting as an entry point.

Our Values

- Love for environment conservation
- Self and community empowerment
- Volunteerism
- Accountability, transparency and honesty







The Green Belt Movement began as a tree-planting movement to address the challenges of deforestation, lack of water and healthy soil, and became a vehicle that empowers women and their communities to address the impacts of forest destruction and climate change through an integrated approach. GBM members gain knowledge through practical training about the importance of land-use planning, sustainable livelihoods, restoring forests and protecting watersheds using tree planting as an entry point.

Bamboo integration for landscape restoration, climate resilience and livelihoods improvement

With financial support from the INBAR, we implemented a one year pilot project in Aberdare Water- tower for effective watershed restoration and livelihoods improvement. The ultimate goal of this project was sensitizing communities on the need for protection of biodiversity as well as providing viable alternatives to exploitation of forest resources and sustainable energy through use of bamboo biomass.

Working with INBAR regional and the national coordination office and KFERI, the project focused on community empowerment in innovative production of bamboo seedlings, training on products and entrepreneurial skills.



Five bamboo seedling propagation nurseries and demonstration sites were established within the project area with capacities to produce 5000 seedlings each. The nursery sites became centers of experiential learning to foster knowledge exchange on high value bamboo production.

As a step in realizing the project goals, we conducted community environmental and empowerment trainings for stakeholdes and 21 women leaders as Trainers of Trainees (TOTs).





IAAF World U18 Championships A Community Legacy Project

2017 marked a major global milestone for Kenya, as the first country in Sub-Saharan Africa to host the tenth and last edition of the IAAF World U18 biennial international athletics competition for youth Championships.

The IAAF, in conjunction with the Local Organizing Committee (LOC), designed a community legacy project in partnership with the Green Belt Movement that run alongside the Championship event. The project entitled "The Track Tree Challenge – implemented in Dundori forest, an important water catchment area for Lake Nakuru and Lake Elementaita, sought to catalyze the youth momentum and cognizance towards better watershed management.



The main goal of the project was to raise environmental consciousness among 100,000 youth as future environmental stewards by inspiring them to establish tree nurseries and plant trees in schools and selected forests.

GBM selected 18 schools within Nakuru County where 29,000 indeginous trees were planted bringing the total number of trees planted in the forest and schools to 101,000.



Implementation of the Upper Tana Nairobi Water Fund



In partnership with The Nature Conservancy, the total area brought under conservation through this project in both Micro catchments and Mukurwe-ini west ward was 7110.29 acres (421.25 + 6689.04) which is equivalent to 2877 Hectares.

To assess and demonstrate the impact of environmental conservation, we empowered communities to monitor water resources at the grassroots. The overall goal was to empower local communities with basic skills to monitor the quality of water resources in the catchments. This initiative demonstrated the relationship between flow and quality/purity of rivers and springs and tree planting in the watersheds.

The deductions made from the results collected showed a remarkable reduction in the quantities of E.coli in the water sources with minimal contamination/ pollution as compared to 2014 results where the levels of contamination were alarming.

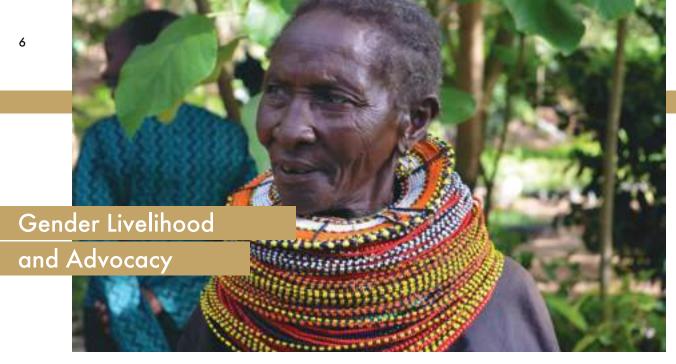
Cumulatively, the project protected and conserved riparian riverine catchment of a total length of 26.58 kilometers in the micro catchments. This was attributed to water-harvesting measures particularly the use of arrow trenches and bound methodology as an alternative to riverine/wetland cultivation.

As a result of these conservation activities, a total of 7150 Coffee Farmers were certified under Rainforest Alliance and issued with a three year trading contract (2017 to 2020) to sell premium coffee. This yielded additional 30% income streams to the farmers.

55

African women in general need to know that it's OK for them to be the way they are - to see the way they are is strength, and to be liberated from fear and from silence.

Prof Wangari Maathai, 2004 Nobel Peace Prize Laureate



Studies have shown that gender inequality is one of the underlying causes of low productivity as it does, among other things, hamper the participation of at least half of the country's population. In recognition of this fact, GBM has taken various measures to promote gender equality and gender equity.

Sound Chemicals Management Mainstreaming and Upops Reduction in Kenya

Kenya is party to the Stockholm Convention on Persistent Organic Pollutants (POPS) whose main aim is to protect human health and the environment against the release and careless storage and disposal of these chemicals.

With support from the Global Environment Facility (GEF), the Green Belt Movement partnered with among others, the Ministry of Environment and Natural Resources, to implement a project aimed at mainstreaming chemical management and minimizing releases of Unintentionally Produced Persistent Organic pollutants (UPOPs) from open burning of waste.

Through this partnership, the project provided technical management of waste by adopting a 3R approach – reduce, reuse and recycle as well as piloting alternative solutions for waste disposal.

Green Belt Movement rolled out an awareness creation programme using different media modes and focusing on specific groups of the population in the counties.

We conducted awareness workshops and trainings for stakeholders and community groups involved in waste recycling.

Further more, we developed a network 'Waste to Wealth' of community groups actively involved in recycling and this provided them an opportunity to be recognized in the project.

Being a relatively new area, there is no specific legislation in Kenya aimed at reducing the release of UPOPs and there is therefore a need to ensure that developers and policy makers understand the linkages between chemicals

and waste management in relation to development and poverty reduction.

Nakuru county, Green Belt start anti-open waste burning drive

by Roy Lumbe.

Nakura county government in conjunction with the Green Belt Movement has embarked on a sensitisation campaign on health hazards brought about by open burning of solid waste.

According to Green Belt Movement's programme director Teresia Muthoni, burning of solid waste has extended into residential areas triggering respiratory complications after residents inhale toxins from the smoke,

Speaking in Gilgil yesterday, Muthoni (victured) said continued exposure to the poisonous fumes leads to babies being born with congenital illnesses.

"Locals need to be more informed about the health hazards brought by open burning. Many are suffering from respiratory infections and the root cause has been narrowed down to the fumes," she said

The programme which has also begun in Nairobi. Mombasa and Kisumu brought together clergy, teachers, public health professionals and private solid waste collectors.

The campaign, which National Environment Management Authority has joined, also seeks to educate the public against use of plastic as a way to support to the national ban on plastics.

Gender Livelihood and Advocacy

The 'water towers' of East Africa: Policies and practices for enhancing co-benefits from joint forest and water conservation

In partnership with CIFOR, we sought to restore the degraded watersheds in Mau and Mt Elgon in order to enhance their functions and improve the livelihoods of local communities adjacent to these water towers.

The project used an integrated approach that combined biophysical monitoring with governance assessments to develop and implement capacity strengthening programs in forest and water monitoring, cross-resource coordination, gender integration, community participation, negotiation and legal literacy.

GBM was tasked with the delivery of the following project milestones:

- mplementation of capacity development programs among Community Forest Associations (CFAs) and Water Resource Users Associations (WRUAs) to strengthen gender integration, conflict resolution, community negotiation and participation
- Generation and validation of content for the radio programs and video documentaries together with groups and individuals and lastly
- Serve as intermediaries between CFA & WRUA leadership and representatives of forestry and water agencies in Kenya

We conducted three reconnaissance and baselines activities for South West Mau and Mount Elgon as well as training 125 WRUA and CIFOR leaders on joint conservation of both forest and water resources.



The experiences in Africa and Kenya specifically, indicate that women especially those from marginalised arid and semi-arid area are the most vulnerable to the effects of climate change. This is because; they are in charge of most of the domestic and livelihood activities. They are often responsible of their families and most of their time is spent looking for food and water which are often scarce in such regions.

Implementing Strategies for Regional Transitions to Low-Emissions Rural Development in Indonesia, Peru, Mexico, Colombia and Kenya

In partnership with IKI - Kenya, this project significantly contributed to the works of both national entities and global processes. The project had abearing on the following initiatives:

1. Green Economy Strategy and Implementation Plan 2016 - 2030, (GESIP) A low carbon, resource efficient, equitable and inclusive socio-economic transformation for Kenya.

The plan noted that about 42% of Kenya's gross domestic product and 70% of the overall employment is derived from natural resource related sectors, these include tourism, agriculture, mining, forestry and fishing. These sectors are sensitive to climate change and variability, making Kenya's economy highly vulnerable. To address these vulnerabilities several low carbon and resource efficient initiatives were adopted. In this regard, the Ministry of Envrionement and Natural Resource spearheaded the development of a Green Economy Strategy and Implementation Plan (GESIP 2016). This is the first green economy strategy in Kenya. The GESIP has five thematic areas and a number of strategies aimed at accelerating a transtion towards a globally competive low carbon pathway.

2. Strategic Environmental and Social Assessment (SESA)

The project supported the government with its ongoing REDD+ preparedness programme, especially with respect to the strategic environmental and social assessments of REDD+. The project supported the implementation of the strategic environmental and social assessment (SESA) roadmap for REDD+ for ensuring that potential negative impacts are mitigated and positive aspects are strengthened.

3. System for Estimating Land-based Emissions in Kenya (SLEEK)

The project was and is still consistent with the ongoing government initiatives on low carbon emissions in the country for instance the government-led process for estimating land-based emissions in Kenya (SLEEK) which will build into a carbon monitoring programme. The Green Belt Movement is a stakeholder through the bio-mass technical group.

4. African Forest Landscape Restoration Initiative (AFRI)

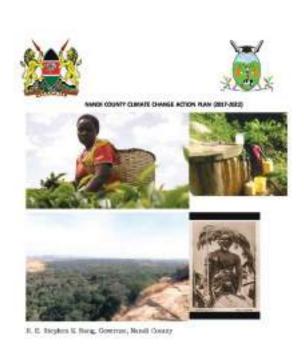
Through global initiatives like the Bonn Challenge and regional initiatives like the African Forest Landscape Restoration Initiative (AFR100), Kenya is now the 13th African country to commit to bringing over 46 million hectares of land into restoration by 2030 Kenya. In September last year, Kenya announced a significant commitment to restore 5.1 million hectares of land, nearly 9 percent of its total landmass by 2020. Through the IKI support, GBM as a partner will continue to implement the various landscape restoration options identified.

Climate Change

5. Kenya's Climate Change Act, 2016

Kenya is one of the first countries in Africa, and among only a few globally, to enact a comprehensive law and policy to guide national and subnational responses to climate change (6 May, Kenya's Climate Change Act, 2016). The Green Belt Movement, as a key player, has been slotted to represent the CSOs in the Council. Through the IKI project, GBM contributed towards key actions required in operationalising the law: developed relevant guidelines and disseminating information on the Act and its implications to stakeholders.

In line with the above actions, GBM held community workshops for over 120 community leaders on climate change policies, the National Action plan, the National Response Strategies and the Climate Change Act 2016. Additionally, GBM selected the Institute of Environment and Water Management (IEWM) Consultants as Experts on climate change policy to develop County Climate Change Action Plans for Nakuru and Nandi Counties as from October 2017. IEWM has been a key player in addressing natural resource management, water and sanitation in the East African region by fostering efficient and effective institutions and processes through training and capacity building, skills development, research and knowledge management.



Since climate change does not respect political boundaries, my government will work closely with the national government and the neighboring counties as we implement this plan. I wish to reiterate that Nandi County Government is committed in ensuring that this action plan is implemented.

H. E. Stephen Sang Governor, Nandi County





Nakoro County Climare Change Action Plan

Nakuru County Climate Change Action Plan

The preparation of this action plan was facilitated by Green Belt Movement with funding from the 'International Climate Initiative (IKI)' of the Federal Ministry for the Environment, Nature Conservation and Nuclear Safety (BMU), Germany for the project 'Implementing Strategies for Regional Transitions to Low-Emissions Rural Development in Kenya. We are very grateful for this support.

H. E. Lee Kinyanjui Governor, Nakuru County



Since GBM's founding in 1977, we have partnered with many organisations, institutions, and civic bodies who are committed to conserving the precious natural resources on which all of us depend. Over the years, we have also welcomed leaders of corporations and businesses who are concerned about the impact of climate change in Africa, the loss of forests and wellbeing of rural Africans, and have embraced our ethos.

Greening urban ecosystems through corporate partnerships

Tree planting with schools is an idea that GBM has focused on especially with schools around Nairobi County. This is in line with one of our priorities in the corporate partnership strategy which is effective planning and implementation of urban schools' environmental rehabilitation program.







To the young people I say, you are a gift to your communities and indeed the world. You are our hope and our future.



Popular indegenous tree seedlings planted under the Corporates Department

Botanical name

- podocarpus falcatus
- olea africana
- polyscias kikuyensis
- prunus africana
- markhamia lutea
- croton megalocarpus
- croton macrostachyus - teclea nobilis
- warbugia ugandensis
- brachylaena huillensis
- vitex keniensis
- syzigium guinensis

Common name

- podo
- African olive
- polyscias
- prunus
- markhamia
- croton
- croton - teclea
- warburgia
- silver oak
- meru oak
- syzigium





The Green Belt Movement continues to work on a wide range of advocacy issues in Kenya, often policies in place are in direct contradiction to the efforts to preserve and protect critical forest watersheds. GBM identifies key policy issues to develop advocacy campaigns. Such campaigns would facilitate successful implementation of programs. In recent years, we ran a successful campaign against the production of very thin plastic bags that were one-time use only.

GBM has an extensive experience in advocacy, implementing community based projects, conducting community awareness and supporting participatory governance.

The goal is to mobilize public support and scale up our advocacy work in relation to environmental conservation and protection of public spaces i.e. wetlands, parks, forests etc. To ensure sustainable development



Protecting urban wetlands

Over the years, land has become a currency of political patronage among Kenya's elites. Corrupt land transactions including the illegal and irregular transfer of title deeds by officials of the relevant authorities has become an all-too-common reality for Kenyans.



The work of the Greenbelt Movement stands as a testament to the power of grassroots organizing, proof that one person's simple idea—that a community should come together to plant trees—can make a difference.

President Barack Obama
Former President of the United States of America

The Green Belt Movement continues to fight this type of threats to law and order in the country and the rate at which greedy and corrupt individuals are slowly taking over all open spaces

Big win for Karura Forest As 151 title deeds revoked

The fight to preserve this unique place begun in 1997, when the Green Belt Movement discovered that the public soil of Karura Forest was allotted to private companies. The project aimed to develop a compound of luxury buildings in the heart of the forest, which would led, as a result, to a consistent deforestation.

The battle to restore this place was long, risky and characterized dramatic events. During a peaceful demonstration, meant to plant some trees in the forest,

GBM members were attacked with sticks and Wangari was seriously injured. But this episode did not discourage GBM and the people involved to give up their protest. Finally, in 1999, after two years of efforts and struggles, the developers decided not to continue with the construction of the buildings.

In July 2017 these and other efforts culminated in the revocation of 151 title deeds of irregularly acquired land in the forest by the National Lands Commission.

GBM welcomed the timely move that saw an estimated 2,000 acres reverted to the Kenya Forest Service.



With over 4,500 Green Belt Movement community groups across the country, Green Belt Safaris (GBS) offers the ultimate community-based tour and a wealth of experience from empowered men and women.

Over the years, a lot has been written about the work of Professor Maathai and the Green Belt Movement but what better way to learn more than experiencing this work first-hand with the communities in rural Kenya where life is as idyllic as you could imagine.

In light of the African proverb 'it takes a village to raise a child', we believe that likewise it requires a community of likeminded and empowered individuals to tell the Green Belt Movement story that spans four decades and is deeply entrenched in the heart of rural Kenya.

NABARD delegates exchange visit to Kenya

The Green Belt Movement collaborated with the World Resources Institute India (WRI India) to host the National Bank For Agriculture & Rural Development (NABARD) delegation from 3-8 December 2017.

Established in 1982, NABARD's mission is to promote sustainable and equitable agriculture and rural prosperity through innovative initiatives.

The goal of the visit was to share best practices in watershed management, sustainable land management, landscape restoration and financing rural development.

The week-long visit saw the team visit different GBM tree nurseries and restoration cites across the country where they learnt more about: soil and water resource management, climate change adaptation, mitigation and climate proofing.



Promoting conservation through GBS

Through GBS, the Green Belt Movement offers an intercultural journey to our guests by engaging them in conservation, ecotourism and community experiences all while generating an income for the communities involved and supporting the work of the Organization.

Green Belt Safaris offers travelers a truly invaluable opportunity to learn about day-to-day life in rural Kenya and the work of one of the most prominent grassroots Organizations in the world and to contribute to the development and sustainability of both.

You too could be part of this once in a lifetime experience.



THANK YOU TO OUR DONORS!

We warmly thank everyone who supported us and made our work possible in 2017.

\$100,000+

- Ecosia Berlin Germany Ecosia GmbH, Schinkestra ße 9 12047
- IAAF World U18 Championships through Government of Kenya (GoK) Ministry of sports, culture and Arts and LOC
- UNDP-GEF through the Ministry of Environment (MENR) on "Sound Chemicals Management
 Mainstreaming and UPOPs reduction project in Kenya"
- The Nature Conservancy (TNC Phase II)
- International Climate Initiative (IKI) through the Federal Government of German (BMUB)

\$10,000+

- International Network for Bamboo and Rattans (INBAR) (Dutch-Sino)
- Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ) Through Center for International Forestry Research (CIFOR)
- The Honey Hollow Foundation (US)
- The Mainichi Newspapers Ltd
- Oikos-Credit Regional Development Centre East Africa

\$1000+

- Legacy Donation from Dagmar Jutta (German)
- Kenya Bankers Association

FINANCIALS

Statement on comprehensive income Year Ended 31 December 2017

Deficit for the Year	18,125,794	2,873,101
TOTAL EXPENDITURE	85,241,407	135,720,111
Audit Fee	701,800	663,308
Water Harvesting and Food Security	378,843	1,773,606
Depreciation	2,720,899	2,969,727
Bank Service Charges	427,826	558,599
Repair and Maintenance	1,273,408	1,490,315
Other overheads - Administrative costs	4,252,166	3,397,236
Foreign and Local Travel	3,880,427	9,512,842
Capital Purchases	0	855,507
Project Overheads	4,596,255	5,459,394
Technical & Professional Services	5,362,910	2,641,119
Monitoring & Evaluation	1,651,847	10,291,317
Gender & Advocacy	451,840	6,841,862
Corporate Engagement	890,142	515,320
Climate Change	606,571	1,181,323
Contractual (Consulting fee)	912,064	0
Communication & Contractor	1,954,201	3,598,085
Community Initiatives	6,945,390	0
Environmental Rehabilitation	4,319,116	13,416,609
Personnel Costs	43,915,702	71,217,250
EXPENDITURE		
TOTAL INCOME	67,115,613	132,847,010
Other Income	5,829,156	29,113,298
Grants Received	61,286,457	103,733,712
INCOME		
	Kshs	Kshs
December 2017	2017	2016

FINANCIALS

Green Belt Movement Statement of Financial Position Year Ended 31 December 2017

	2017	2016
	Kshs	Kshs
NON-CURRENT ASSETS		
Property and Equipment	679,868,963	682,156,292
CURRENT ASSETS		
Accounts Receivable	2,737,396	226,569
Cash and Bank	45,752,263	52,825,597
TOTAL CURRENT ASSETS	48,489,659	53,052,166
CURRENT LIABILITIES		
Accounts Payables	46,072,089	34,652,811
Net Current Assets	2,417,570	18,399,355
Net Assets	682,286,533	700,555,647
REPRESENTED BY:		
REFRESERVED DT.		
Share Capital	0	552,108
Revaluation Reserve	680,963,540	637,501,991
Restricted Funds	14,497,829	14,497,829
Unrestricted Funds	28,333,046	23,040,815
Retained Earnings	(41,507,882)	24,962,904
TOTAL FUNDS	682,286,533	700,555,647

FINANCIALS

Green Belt Movement Statement of Cash Flows Year Ended 31 December 2017

	2017 Kshs	2016 Kshs
Cash Flows from Operating Activities		
Deficit for the year	(18,125,794)	(2,873,101)
Operating Balance Before Working Capital Changes	(18,125,794)	(2,873,101)
Adjustment for:		
Depreciation	2,720,899	2,969,727
Inter Fund Adjustments	(4,883,443)	(136,827)
Opening balance adjustments	4,740,123	0
Change in working capital		
(Increase)/Decrease in Accounts Receivable	(2,510,827)	2,625,839
(Increase)/Decrease in Accounts Payable	11,419,279	(7,561,651)
Net Cash used in Operating Activities	6,639,763	4,976,013
Cash Flows from Investing Activities		
Purchase of Property and Equipment	(433,570)	(816,890)
Net Cash Used in Investing Activities	(433,570)	(816,890)
Net Decrease in Cash & Cash Equivalents	(7,073,334)	(5,792,903)
Movement in Cash and Cash Equivalents		
Cash and Cash Equivalents 01 January	52,825,597	58,618,500
Net Decrease in Cash & Cash Equivalents	(7,073,334)	(5,792,903)
Cash & Cash Equivalents - 31 December	45,752,263	52,825,597 ————



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