



# **5<sup>th</sup> July Rau Forest Reserve Clean up Drive Campaign Report.**

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## **Participants:**

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Pangani Basin.

Tanzania Forest Services Agency (TFS).

Easy Amazing Tanzania.

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# Overview

5<sup>th</sup> June of each year is the World Environment Day, the biggest international day for the environment. Led by the United Nations Environment Programme ([UNEP](#)) since 1973. This day has grown to be the largest global platform for environmental outreach and is celebrated by millions of people across the world. Tunza Foundation commemorated the *World Environment Day* this year by organizing a successful clean up drive in the Rau Forest Reserve (on 5<sup>th</sup> June 2024) with a close collaboration and support from the **TFS**.

During the campaign on the 5<sup>th</sup> June, some challenges and opportunities were noticed and observed and one of them was the overwhelming amount of trash and plastic materials that were rather dumped in the forest by the meandering channel of the Rau River which flooded as a result of the heavy seasonal rainfall in the best parts of the March, April and May 2024.

As an act of annulling the effects of the recent floods and to pursue the environmental opportunities that lay in the Rau Forest Reserve, Tunza Foundation decided to conduct a cleanup drives in the Rau Forest reserve on the 5<sup>th</sup> of every month and hence this campaign on this faithful day.

# Activities

## 1. Clean Up

During the campaign, the participating members picked up trash and plastic wastes that were dumped on the forest grounds by people passing by and mainly by the river floods.

The clean up drive campaign was conducted with joy and enthusiasm from the participating members and a total of **370.9 kg** of plastics were collected.

Below are some photos of the event



[370.9kg of plastic collected during the clean up]





[Clean Up Activity with enthusiasm and joy]



## 2. Environmental Education

Simultaneously with the Cleanup, valuable forest's information and an engaging environmental and conservation education was given to the participants from the very able guide *Emmanuel Peniel* from the *Easy Amazing Tanzania organization* who is also a volunteering conservative at the Rau Forest Reserve.

Below is a picture of the activity:







[Emmanuel Peniel giving useful information to the participants]



### 3. Adventure and Local Tourism

The participants got an opportunity to enjoy the nature, the air, the sounds and the beauty and the attracting beauty of the forest and the wildlife that thrive in the forest such as the *African Colobus Monkey* who is found only in Tanzania and *the oldest tree in East Africa*.

Below are some photos:



[African Colobus Monkey known locally as *mbega* found only in Tanzania]



[Oldest Tree in East Africa]

## Impacts

We collected a total of **370.9 kg** of plastic from the forest grounds. This is an impactful help to the environment, the wildlife and the ecosystem of the Rau Forest.

We also got valuable information about the Rau Forest reserve, its sources and attraction, its touristic value, its value to the climate and the ecosystem. We also learned about the daily challenges that face the forest such as illegal harvesting of trees products.

Also it was an opportunity for environmental organizations that participated to come together and network.





## Acknowledgments

We would like to extend our hand of gratitude to the Tanzania Forest Services Agency for their support and for allowing us to conduct this cleanup campaign.

We would like to thank the Pangani Water Basin for their full participation and collaboration which we found very crucial to the success of this campaign.

We would like to thank Easy Amazing Tanzania for their selfless support, guidance and education during the campaign.



## Thank You