



ACTION STORY



GIERI, South Kivu

10,000 Trees for a Resilient South Kivu

Background

Based in Bukavu, Groupe d'Intervention pour l'Encadrement et la Réhabilitation Intégrale (GIERI) leads the Global Landcare network in the Democratic Republic of Congo. In South Kivu, heavy rain on bare, deforested hillsides causes erosion and flooding that damage homes, roads and farmland around Uvira and Bukavu. Bush burning and uncontrolled tree cutting make it worse, while falling soil fertility deepens hardship for farming families.

Solutions

GIERI first planned a three-province project with fellow Global Landcare DRC members in South Kivu, Kinshasa and Équateur. With a Global Landcare small grant of AUD \$1,000, the team made the practical choice to focus on South Kivu, leading tree planting, awareness campaigns and support for farmers to adopt agroforestry and climate-resilient farming.

10,000 Trees in the Ground

Around 10,000 trees were planted around Uvira and Bukavu, including fruit trees, fast-growing reforestation trees, soil-protecting grevillea, calliandra and eucalyptus, and local indigenous species.



Young People Leading the Way

Schools and young people were at the heart of the project, joining tree planting days and awareness activities. This strengthened environmental education and inspired a new generation to act on climate change.



Women and Farmers Together

Rural women's associations developed nurseries, ran planting campaigns and shared knowledge. Farmers learned agroforestry practices that improve soil fertility, reduce erosion and support sustainable food production.



Moving Forward

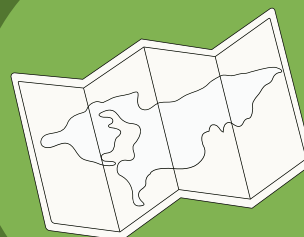
Around 5,000 people took part in or benefited from this work, including smallholder farmers, women, youth, community leaders, students and local volunteers. The trees planted will help stabilise soils and control erosion for years to come, and the skills shared will keep growing long after the planting season. GIERI's work shows how a focused, locally led effort can build lasting resilience.



5,000 People



10,000 Trees



1 Province