

## The Forever Forest

## Why Reforesting East Africa is an important part of Saving the Rain.

The earth is an interdependent system, all living things play a part within it. Trees play a remarkable role in the cycle of life. They supply us with oxygen, they play a crucial role in the water cycle, and they are some of the world's best rain water harvesters! Deforestation in Africa has created insurmountable obstacles like famine. It also played a part in the Hurricanes that devastated the North American East Coast in 2017. Without trees and vegetation to slow down the aerosols blowing over the continent of Africa, high speed winds hit the Atlantic and headed straight for North America. Though Africa may seem far away, it is our neighboring continent and we are one big interconnected family.

Africa is suffering deforestation at twice the world rate. One factor contributing to the continent's high rates of deforestation is the dependence by 90% of its population on wood as fuel for heating and cooking. Massive deforestation threatens food security in many African countries. Without trees to call the rains and to irrigate and infiltrate the soil, accessibility to clean water is compromised. Without water, there is no food. This is a complicated issue, what are people to do when there are little affordable options for heat, cooking fuel and light?

## How to Get Involved

To help put an end to deforestation in East Africa, Save the Rain has created the Forever Forest Campaign. Forever Forest was designed so everyone can get involved in reforesting the landscape of Tanzania. For \$1.50 you can plant a tree. For an additional \$1.50, you can contribute to the prevention of hundreds of trees being cut down by funding biogas systems in the same communities. For every school we install a rain water harvesting system in, with your help we can plant trees and teach the students about their important role in the water cycle. Our Water Cycle Curriculum will be taught to each of these students. You can even color in our Water Cycle Map for us to post in their classrooms so they may teach more generations to come about the importance of the forest.

In the same communities we have set out with the goal to install and teach villagers how to replace wood fires with biogas systems fueled by human waste. With your help, we can build these biogas systems on primary schools alongside our rain water harvesting tanks. Trees are needed to call the rains, rain water is a source of clean water we are experts in harvesting. The relationship of the two will create sustainability for many generations to come!

We have many tools and resources available for you so you may host a successful fund-raiser. Whether you want to get out into your community and share your knowledge on the importance of the forest, or you'd like to start a fund-raiser from the comfort of your own home, we are here to help you each step of the way. Visit <a href="https://www.savetherain.org/get-involved/#resources">https://www.savetherain.org/get-involved/#resources</a> for more resources to help you on your journey to reforest Africa!