CONCEPT NOTE

A LIVING FOREST & A LASTING LEGACY

Investing in trees, sustainable enterprise and community transformation

BACKGROUND

Uganda's forests and trees are under increasing pressure from timber harvesting, agricultural expansion and the conversion of forested land into farmland. For many communities, trees are valued mainly for timber, meaning that once the timber market becomes less attractive, there is little economic incentive to keep the trees standing. Tokens of Life Uganda believes there is an opportunity to change this narrative by demonstrating that a forest can generate continuous economic value without being destroyed.

Our vision is to establish a sustainable forest enterprise on Buvuma Island, beginning with the acquisition and development of approximately five acres of land. The forest will be planted with carefully selected trees whose leaves can, when mature, be sustainably harvested and processed into oils and other value-added products. The project will therefore combine environmental conservation, climate action, income generation, employment creation and community development.

THE PROPOSED INVESTMENT

Tokens of Life Uganda is seeking a strategic donor to support the purchase of approximately five acres of land on Buvuma Island and the establishment of a sustainable tree plantation.

The investment will support:

- Acquisition of suitable land
- Land preparation and establishment of the forest
- Planting of quality tree seedlings
- Protection and maintenance of the plantation
- Development of sustainable leaf-harvesting systems
- Future establishment of leaf-processing and oil-extraction capacity
- Development of a sustainable commercial model around the forest

Buvuma Island presents an attractive opportunity because land is relatively affordable and the island's natural environment provides favourable conditions for tree growing. The plantation will serve both as a productive forest asset and a demonstration site for sustainable forestry and community development.

FROM A FOREST TO A SUSTAINABLE ENTERPRISE

Once the trees mature, their leaves will provide a renewable raw material for the production of oils and other value-added products. Unlike conventional timber production, where the economic value of a tree is realised primarily when the tree is cut down, this model seeks to generate repeated value from a living forest.

Through responsible harvesting and management, the trees will remain standing while their foliage becomes a renewable resource. This creates the potential for the forest to become a long-term productive asset that continues generating economic value year after year. The tree remains alive, the forest continues growing and the economic value continues flowing.

ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT

The proposed five-acre forest will contribute to environmental conservation and climate resilience by:

- Increasing tree cover on Buvuma Island
- Supporting carbon sequestration through growing trees and foliage
- Protecting soil and reducing land degradation
- Supporting biodiversity and local ecosystems
- Contributing to improved environmental awareness within communities
- Demonstrating an alternative to destructive tree harvesting

As the project grows, Tokens of Life Uganda intends to use the model to encourage communities to view trees not simply as timber, but as long-term environmental and economic assets.

CREATING JOBS AND OPPORTUNITIES

The forest will create opportunities throughout its development and value chain. Employment and income opportunities can arise from land preparation, tree planting, nursery development, plantation maintenance, forest management, harvesting, transportation, processing, packaging and marketing. Particular emphasis will be placed on creating opportunities for young people and women, helping them participate in productive economic activities while contributing to environmental conservation.

TURNING FOREST INCOME INTO SOCIAL IMPACT

The long-term ambition is for income generated from the forest enterprise to support the wider humanitarian mission of Tokens of Life Uganda.

A portion of future revenues can be reinvested into programmes such as:

- **Education**: School fees, scholastic materials and support for vulnerable children
- **Skills development**: Vocational and practical training for youth and women
- **Employment creation**: Expanding sustainable livelihood opportunities
- **Women and youth empowerment**: Supporting income-generating activities
- **Environmental conservation**: Establishing additional forests and community tree-planting programmes
- **Community development**: Supporting vulnerable families and elderly people • Other charitable programmes implemented by Tokens of Life Uganda.

The objective is to create a cycle in which the forest generates income, the income creates opportunities and those opportunities transform lives.

AN INVESTMENT IN A LIVING LEGACY

We invite you to see this investment as more than the purchase of land and planting of trees. It is an opportunity to establish a living legacy.

A building can deteriorate. A one-time donation can eventually be spent. But a well managed forest can continue growing and producing value for decades.

Imagine five acres of land on Buvuma Island transformed into a thriving forest because of your investment. Imagine future generations walking through those trees knowing that they were planted because someone believed in the future of the environment and the people of Uganda.

Imagine that the forest continues to provide economic opportunities, supports education, creates employment, contributes to climate action and helps finance humanitarian programmes long after the initial investment has been made.

That is a legacy that does not simply remain in history — it continues to grow.

OUR VISION

Tokens of Life Uganda seeks to establish a model where:

Land becomes forest. Forest becomes a sustainable enterprise. The enterprise creates income. Income creates opportunities. Opportunities transform lives.

We invite you to partner with us in making this vision a reality on Buvuma Island.

Your investment will not only plant trees. It will plant hope, opportunity and a legacy for generations to come.

The Organization is responsible to cater for of all other costs in the process.

TOKENS OF LIFE UGANDA

"Live to Give Hope"

Prepared By: MUKASA CHRISTOPHER

Email: mukasa1christopher@gmail.com / mukasachris@tokensoflifeuganda.org

Contact: +256752847372

Estimated Cost: 1 Acre of Land costs **13,670,000 UGX** (3,700 USD)

5 Acres of Land cost **68,350,000 UGX** (18,500 USD)