

A PRODUCTIVE 2023 FOR PLASTIC HEROES!

Thanks to your generous donations, our plastic projects continue to develop positively.

Our focus in 2023 was to spread our message further in schools through our teaching method, [Happy Green Tanzania](#) - Growing the skills & development programme within the Roots & Shoots clubs of the Jane Goodall Institute.

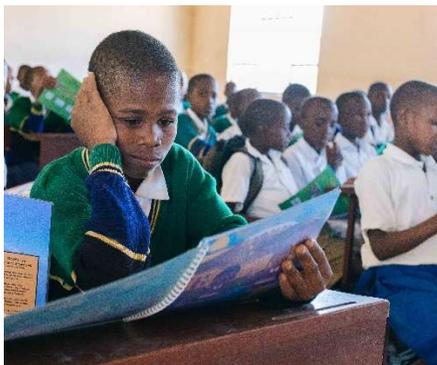
We are also pleased to announce the completion of our third workshop.



It brings our recycling workshops to a total of 3 in the Kilimanjaro area to BomaN'Gombe, Moshi and Arusha. These workshops facilitate children from nearby schools, resulting in almost **1,500 actively involved children from 21 schools**. Furthermore, we are active in two primary schools in Dodoma, Tanzania's capital city. Our Roots & Shoots team is busy implementing the plastic recycling programme at these schools. The children are very enthusiastic about their newfound skills and opportunities.

Happy Green Tanzania

In Spring 2023, Marlou Bessem, the writer of Happy Green Tanzania, our education materials, joined us in Tanzania. Marlou conducted several workshops on rubbish and plastic waste. Our Happy Green Tanzania school textbook illustrates in words and pictures the problem/effect of pollution on our environment, animals and nature. As teaching materials on climate and environmental care are not available at public schools in Tanzania, these books are invaluable and loved by the children. We have distributed over 1200 books to 25 schools in the Kilimanjaro area through which we reach thousands of kids because teaching materials are shared here.



Waste is a big problem in Tanzania - litter is everywhere, in the streets and nature. Happy Green Tanzania gives the children information, insight and solutions to become proactive. Marlou's visit was a great success and a valuable partnership, inspiring teachers and students. Sharing knowledge and experience and enabling discussions on how to do something about the waste problem together is very important; learning from each other and knowing that you are not alone. Our Plastic Heroes programme also teaches pupils what plastic and plastic waste mean to the environment, so the project goes beyond learning to clean up plastic waste.

Refuse, Reduce, Re-use and Recycle

The key points of our plastics programme, **Refuse, Reduce, Re-use and Recycle** were again clearly highlighted.

School furniture is lacking and many tables and chairs are broken. The good news is that children are now learning to make table and chair legs from recycled plastic.

The arrival of the (new) heat press means that pupils now can make different products, such as pots for seedlings, coasters and artwork. It extends their creativity and increases their skills.

Recycling machines

Mark Bachrach, our designer and builder of the shredders and extruders used in our workshops, has designed a mini plastic tabletop recycling machine. Greenmanjaro has ordered three tabletop models - the shredder (hand-driven), the press and the extruder. These machines are easier and cheaper to transport from the Netherlands to Tanzania and can be moved from one school to another, enabling more children to participate. They also require less or no electricity.

We hope to introduce these machines in March 2024.



Short term Plans

The next three years are about deepening technical and creative knowledge, spreading the message further and making more young people aware of the need to recycle plastic and

waste. From the 2024 academic year, we will start organising various activities during Graduation Day, Parents Day, World Environment Day and Neighbourhood Clean Ups.

Soon, the plastic recycling project will become part of Jane Goodall community mapping models to digitally map the impact and effectiveness of clean-up actions and education through a GIS platform, including a standardised survey.

We aim to create a network of young people wanting to spread our message; the first participants, now final-year students who graduate from school this year, will be our young Greenmanjaro ambassadors!