



The Forestry and Wood Industries Training Centre (FWITC) was established by the Private Forestry Programme (PFP) in 2016 to answer to the need for comprehensive and appropriate practical forestry and wood technology short courses close to the heart of the industry in the Southern Highlands. The center is equipped with key sawmilling and forestry equipment and tools. Staffing includes personnel specialized in sawmilling and harvesting operations and management. FWITC is located in Mafinga town, Mufindi district, about 75 km from Iringa. The center is strategically well located and easily accessible to all forestry and wood industry companies operating in the Southern Highlands of Tanzania.

FWITC has been registered by National Council for Technical and Vocational Education and Training (NACTVET) with registration number **REG/NACTVET/0775P** to offer both long and short course in forestry and wood processing.

During the PFP programme the Forestry and Wood Industries Training Centre (FWITC) was established to offer training and technical advisory services for forestry and wood industries with wood processing and forestry facilities to support development and the sustainability of the centre. FWITC's sawmill and the forest tree nursery have key functions in supporting the centre in its sustainable training activities. By producing forest products and tree seedlings the centre will generate income that will be used for maintaining and developing the centre, especially the infrastructure, machinery and equipment used in training. The upcoming centre will provide employment directly to local people close to the facilities and indirectly to farmers, forest owners and SME saw millers within the Southern Highlands of Tanzania.

## **Vision**

Centre of Excellency” for knowledge and training in forestry, forest industries and wood technologies.

## **Mission**

To provide practically oriented skills development and training for forestry and wood processing personnel, with emphases on tree growing and support for micro, small and medium enterprises

Through its mission FWITC trains people and provides technical advisory services with practical examples and demonstrations on how to organize small-scale forestry and wood processing operations in Tanzania.





# Long NACT-VET courses offered

## Forestry attendants course

Aim: of the course:

To provide practical skills, knowledge and correct attitude in forestry field to meet labour market demand and enable trainee for further training.



## Wood processing attendants course

Aim of the course:

To provide practical skills, knowledge and right attitudes to people who want to become wood processing attendants to meet the employment demands of the labour market and also widen chances for further training in Wood Industry and related field.

## Short courses Programmes offered



### **Chain Saw Operation and Harvesting Technique**

Objective of the course: After the course, participants will be able to use and maintain chainsaw and hand tools safely and efficiently

Duration

Freshers: 3 weeks

Refreshers: 1 Week



# Timber Seasoning Techniques



After the course the participants will be able to increase the value of sawn timber by reducing losses during drying and through improving stacking apply best practice and adhering to standards

Durations:

Freshers: 2 Weeks

Refreshers: 1 Week



## Timber Treatment course



After the course the participants should be able to treat timber and poles as per technical specification

Duration:

Fresher: 3 Weeks

Refreshers: 1 Week

## Charcoal and Briquette course



After the course the participants should be able to produce charcoal and briquette by using different technologies.

Duration

Fresher: 3 Week

Refresher: 1 Week



## Sawing for high recovery and value-added wood products course



After the course, participants will be able to saw timber using correct methods to improve recovery, operate machines by adhering safety rules to improve machinery life span, reduce injuries to workers

Duration:

Fresher: 3 Weeks

Refresher: 1 Week



## Band saw maintenance

After the course, participants will be able to maintain saw blades properly by adhering safety rules and regulations

Duration:

Fresher: 3 Weeks

Refresher: 1 Week

Short course training on circular and band saw blade maintenance will build and expand this knowledge to the industry. Through this training, trainees acquire skills and knowledge to make him/her competent in maintaining saws.





## Circular saw maintenance course



After the course, participants will be able to maintain saw blades properly by observing safety rules and regulations

**Duration:**

**Fresher: 3 Weeks**

**Refresher: 1 Week**



## Joinery and carpentry course

After the course the participants should be able to make carpentry and joinery components by using various technologies.

Duration:

Fresher: 3 Months

Refresher: 2 Weeks



## Plantation Established and Management of Young Stands



After the course, the participants should be able to apply appropriate knowledge and skills on various techniques for forest plantation and woodlot establishment as well as management

Duration:

Fresher: 3 Weeks

Refresher: 1 Week



## Tree and Nursery Establishment and Management



To impart participant with knowledge and skills on tree nursery establishment and management

Duration:

Fresher: 2 Weeks

Refresher: 1 Week



## Forest Fire Prevention and Control course



To provide participant with knowledge and skills on protection of forest resource against fire damage

Duration:

Fresher: 3 Weeks

Refresher: 1 Week



## Plantation management of Mature Stands course



To impart appropriate knowledge and skills on plantation management operations for best performance of plantation forest

Duration:

Fresher: 2 Weeks

Refresher: 1 Week

## Seed Orchard Establishment and Management Course



After the course the participants should be able to establish and manage seed orchards.

Duration

Fresher: 2 Weeks

Refresher: 1 Week

Management and Occupational Health and Safety (OSHA) in forestry Operation course.



## Mobile training unit

The training center has its mobile training units with forestry container and Wood processing container. This container is equipped with forest tractor and can deliver training from the village level.

These mobile unit has advanced technology to the forestry operations.







## **FWITC income generating activities**

FWITC has introduced a range of businesses for training and demonstration purposes as well as to generate income for the centre.

## Nursery

There is a commercial containerized tree seedling nursery to demonstrate a more advanced option for producing tree seedlings.



## Sawmill Section

We produce quality timber by using modern technologies for timber processing, including a Slide Tec sawing machine, saw spec band sawing machine, two lines of double arbor circular sawing machines, improved ding dong machine, vertical and horizontal band sawing machines.

Competence-based training on sawing for high recovery and value-added wood products is provided by adhering to VET standards.





## Saw-doctoring Section

FWITC maintains both circular saws and band saws on commercial basis for training, demonstration and income generation.

Maintenance processes include cleaning of saws, jointing, leveling, tensioning, sharpening of saw teeth, joining of narrow band saw blades, and repairing of saw blade cracks. These operations are conducted by competent personnel (saw doctors) trained from recognized institutions.



## Low cost wood drying kiln







This kiln technology which was developed at FWITC is the most cost-effective choice for smaller businesses and will substantially enhance the value of the wood they process.



## Joinery and Carpentry Workshop



FWITC has a busy commercial furniture manufacturing enterprise. Qualified technicians operate the facility, provide training and broadly support wood processing enterprises with advice.



Quality furniture is produced from well dried timber species such as teak, eucalyptus, pine and cypress.



**Teak office table with side drawer.**

## Briquette and Charcoal production

As the ban on harvesting trees solely for charcoal-producing purposes is spreading across Tanzania, major opportunities are arising in producing charcoal from wood waste. At the same time producing charcoal and briquettes from wood waste will eliminate an ever-increasing problem of waste management. The better option for safety and health in the kitchen is that does not create sparks and reduces exhaust fumes (charcoal burns cleanly compared to firewood). Environmentally friendly option, because no forest is cut down to produce charcoal



As the production uses already available material, it reduces the harvest of natural forests. Charcoal production has cheap or free raw material that is readily available. Additional benefits are low production costs and low required technical skills. In addition to charcoal manufacturing, several different production possibilities for briquette making exist.







## TanzFinn Furnishings-Prototype.

FWITC worked with Finnish designer and local carpenters to develop a range of affordable flat-pack designer furniture to meet market demands from the urban middle class.

The initial set of design has been completed.







# **Forestry and Wood Industries Training Centre**

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