

Background

The lack of proper vocational level training services has been a hindrance for the development of forestry and wood industries in Tanzania, particularly within the Southern Highlands, despite the fact that this area is the centre of forestry and wood industries in Tanzania

The Private Forestry Programme has established a **Forestry and Wood Industries Training Centre (FWITC)** to fill this void. FWITC was opened by Hon. Japhet Hasunga, the Deputy Minister of Natural Resources and Tourism of Tanzania on December 1st 2017.

FWITC offers a wide variety of services ranging from practical training in all forestry related issues, to support and advice in business planning, management and development. Additional services include product development, machinery procurement, networking and finding funding for establishing or developing a forestry related business.



Training principals of the Forestry and Wood Industries Training Centre

Practicality that will ensure you proper skills

All training organized by the Forestry and Wood Industry Training Centre is practical hands-on training which gives you the necessary skills to be able to perform your duties with precision and care. Theory is covered only in parts that are necessary, as most of the training time is allocated for practise under supervision.

Skilled trainers with years of practical experience

All our trainers are skilled experts with years of experience in the field. They can help you identify the improvement needs in your skill sets, while encouraging you to appreciate your strengths.

All our training focuses on the entirety of the course topic and professional field, while paying attention to key skills.

Safety first

FWITC technical courses include free use of FWITC personal protective equipment and adheres to occupational safety and health (OSH) regulations. All training is followed by an OSH expert., who ensure your safety during tuition. Technical courses also include training in OSH planning and management that you can directly apply in your work.

Team work

All courses include a large amount of group work to ensure that you learn how to reflect your freshly learned skills. Hence, when you return to your work, you will automatically know how to tutor and assist others. This ensures efficient use of time and funds used for training and a permanent positive trickle-down effect throughout the workplace.



Here you can see one of you trainers showing appropriate personal safety equipment used during harvesting: helmet with earmuffs and vizor (which are lowered when felling trees to protect hearing and eyesight), safety vest and trousers (with padding to protect the legs from a moving blade during accidents), gloves and safety boots. It is imperative that harvesters are visible during operations, even if the area is sealed off.



Course curriculum

Courses in general administration, management and entrepreneurship

- Basics of IT (Information Technology)
- Advanced skills in IT
- Basic health and first aid in forestry and sawmilling operations
- Advanced health and first aid in forestry and sawmilling operations
- Communication skills
- Introduction to entrepreneurship and business
- Business management
- Marketing
- Bookkeeping and accounting
- Financial management
- SME enterprise management and business planning
- Supervisory and management skills

Courses in forestry

- Forest work and financial planning
- Establishing a TGA (Tree Growers' Association)
- Managing a TGA
- Managing occupational health and safety in forestry operations
- Ensuring occupational health and safety in forestry operations
- Basic maintenance: Preventive maintenance of forest tools, machines and equipment
- Advanced maintenance: Managing preventive maintenance of forest tools, machines and equipment
- Establishing a tree nursery
- Managing a tree nursery
- Plantation establishment & management of young stands
- Plantation management of mature stands (pruning, thinning and harvesting)
- Forest inventory
- Forest fire prevention and control
- Successful natural regeneration
- Charcoal production

Courses in sawmilling

- Bandsaw blade maintenance
- Circular saw blade maintenance
- Production planning in sawmill operations
- Sawing for high recovery and value added wood products
- Efficiency, productivity and economy in SME sawmill operations
- Records keeping in sawmill operations
- Sawn timber drying by air seasoning
- Bandsaw mill and track alignment
- Circular breakdown and re-saw operations
- Bandsaw breakdown and re-saw operations
- Circular and band sawmill machine maintenance alignment and trouble shooting
- Quality control in sawmilling operations
- Quality requirements, value and utilization of raw material
- Safety in sawmilling
- Board edging and trimming of sawn timber
- Sawn timber sorting and grading
- Introduction to kiln drying in SME sawmilling operations
- Sawn timber preservation
- Stellite and carbide technology in sawdoctoring

Other services offered by FWITC

In addition to high quality practical training, FWITC offers services and advise on:

- Machinery demonstrations
- Process development
- Business planning
- Business management and development

In addition, FWITC offers support on machinery procurement, networking and finding funding for business establishment or development. The centre can also be used for organising workshops, events and client meetings.

Contact and how to get there

Forestry and Wood Industry Training Centre (FWITC)
Kinyanambo
Mafinga

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Driving instructions: Junction of CF Madibira Rd., drive straight about 1,5 km. The junction to FWITC is opposite to the briquetting factory, on the left side of the road.

About the Private Forestry Programme (PFP)

The Private Forestry Programme (PFP) supports private forest ownership, particularly the establishment and management of plantations by smallholders, as well as the wood industry and the development of mature timber markets that would benefit all stakeholders. The programme operates in four regions: Iringa, Njombe, Morogoro and Ruvuma.

The Programme is supported by the Ministry for Foreign Affairs of Finland and the Ministry of Natural Resources and Tourism of Tanzania.