

TANZANIA HERITAGE FOUNDATION

Heritage, Conservation, Education, and Empowerment.



Arpakwa M. Sikorei: Executive-Director,

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Preamble: Tanzania is blessed with an abundance of natural and cultural treasures that comprise the nation's unique heritage. These resources are both tangible and intangible. Their importance to our national identity is too often overlooked.

Currently, Tanzania lacks an organization capable of identifying and protecting these treasures, let alone intervening to protect them in times of trouble or calamity. Establishing such an organization can inspire local activists and build an appreciation for the nation's history and resources throughout Africa and the rest of the world.

The Tanzania Heritage Foundation (THF) would work with all willing parties to build a better future, by understanding and learning from our past and applying proven methods to preserve our special culture – threatened by globalization -- and protect our sensitive natural resources.

The THF will establish an inventory of threatened heritage resources, including important natural areas and historic places and structures that helped to shape the nation's identity. The THF will develop plans for protecting them and advise the public on how they may best be preserved and enhanced.

THF will also focus on linking these heritages to both social and economic development so that each historic site, building or natural area can serve as direct or indirect sources of income to communities.

At the same time, we want to make local communities the centers of heritage management, to ensure that residents have a stake in protection plans, while preventing significant impacts from globalization, mass tourism and mass developments.

Registration Status:

Tanzania Heritage Foundation-THF, is now registered under the NGO's Act Number 24 of 2002, and holds the registration No. 00NGO/R/2283, with authorization to operate in the whole Country of Tanzania.

The Organization shall be autonomous, non-profit-making, non-partisan, and a body corporate capable of carrying out research, education, advocacy and when necessary, legal action.

How it Started:

The organization idea was formulated since 2017 by the current Executive Director Arpakwa M. Sikorei, a graduate Master in World Heritage and Cultural Project for Development, who studied in Turin, Italy. Arpakwa has extensive experience working with various United Nations agencies and government entities. He seeks to fill a significant baseline need for the preservation of his nation's cultural and natural heritage. He wants to build an organization to specifically address them, carefully and technically, for the sake of the society and the Nation.

The THF was then founded by 10 members with various qualifications, abilities and interests, ranging from academicians, to community traditional leaders, who are all are very committed to work in collaboration. The THF will work with traditional pillars, public and private development partners, stakeholders, and interested parties worldwide. THF also will welcome honorary members from national and international circles.

The THF recognizes the importance of conservation and sustainable development of traditional and community cultural heritage. It considers it necessary for the organization to promote and empower communities to preserve, protect and maintain their natural heritage, cultural heritage and environment. The THF desires to promote, strengthen and to create an economic stake in the conservation of biodiversity and its associated cultural knowledge and management systems so that nature and people can prosper together.

Vision Statement:

THF envisions a Tanzanian community in which both natural and cultural heritage is preserved and conserved for social and economic development.

Mission statement:

To promote and facilitate education at the community level and carry out lobbying and advocacy activities to relevant local, national and international authorities for preservation and conservation of heritage and biodiversity.

General Objectives:

- 1) Promote Natural and Cultural Heritage of Tanzania
- 2) Provide policy research and consultancy on cultural heritage
- 3) Raise awareness on proper usage of natural and cultural resource
- 4) Promote education on natural and cultural resources
- 5) Empower communities, women and youth, socially and economically
- 6) Promote access to clean and safe water via better land management
- 7) Promote the use Traditional Indigenous Knowledge (TIK) on various forms including use of Resources and Rangeland Management.

Detailed Objectives:

The THF will explore Tanzania's heritages, both natural and cultural, and advise the community and nation on use of the resources. First, we explore. Second we inventory. Third we inform the relevant communities and leaders. Fourth we work together on ways to preserve and enhance the natural and cultural sites and other cultural treasures. Concurrently, the THF will carry out policy research and consultancy on issues related to cultural heritage, and use that expertise to advise local, national and international protection efforts.

Membership:

THF shall have two categories of membership;

- (a) Ordinary members open to all persons interested in the objectives of the organization, and any other objective determined by the Organization/Foundation as provided under this constitution.
- (b) Honorary members shall be any person by his/her skills and experience or conferred membership from any group or institutions. The executive committee shall determine membership criteria with consideration to organization regulations and wisdom at the Special General Meeting.

Area of operation

The organization (THF) shall operate in the United Republic of Tanzania, Headquarters will be located in the Arusha Region.

Programs and projects

- Sensitize members of the community on natural and cultural heritages issues.
- Lobby and advocate on policies that empower beneficiaries of cultural and natural endowment.
- Conduct annual events in primary, secondary schools as well as colleges and public arena to raise awareness on cultural issues.
- Work very closely with Ngorongoro Safari to School on an educational program for traditional communities, especially children, to achieve right to education.
- Carry out policy research and consultancy on issues related to cultural heritage in Tanzania.
- Carry out awareness trainings among community leaders with view of improving supervision and organization of natural and community heritage.
- Facilitate community development projects that employ the use of modern technology and techniques for sustainable preservation and conservation of cultural heritage for social and economic empowerment.
- Assist, support and supplement efforts and initiatives of the government and international organizations in identifying new sites, carrying out technical assistance projects, and supervise conservation of sites.
- Combine scientific and traditional knowledge in order to create the capacities for local communities to sustainably manage biodiversity (Seuseu).
- Strengthen cultural values and preserving heritages and history

Human Resource

The THF is oriented toward skilled workers. The organization's employee will be hired based on their required skills and experience. For this reason, the THF will maintain a Human Resource Policy that emphasizes various capacity building is done in order to strengthen skills of workers' and boost their accountability. Therefore, THF will emphasize the development of workers and their qualifications and the planning of programs to accomplish this, while working to conquer any difficulties while implementing assigned duties.

Governance

The THF's governance is Annual General Meeting (AGM) followed by Board of Directors meeting, which consist of eight (8) members headed by a Chairperson.

Monitoring and Evaluation

Project monitoring tools will be in place to track progress on monthly and quarterly basis, and then formulate annual reports. This will involve checking on all on-going activities to see if they are on the right track or not. The Program Coordinator and Project Officers in collaboration with stakeholder's team will perform this. Monthly progress and financial reports will also be produced by Project Officers for THF and other stakeholders.

Auditing and Control

The books of accounts shall be kept at the registered office or head office of the Foundation, or at such other place or places as the Steering Committee deems fit, and shall always be open to inspection by the members.

A copy of the Auditor's Report shall be served to all persons entitled to attend the Committee's meetings not less than seven days before the date of the meeting.

Evaluation

The external evaluation will be done at the end of implementation of the program. This will show achievements against targets by using the set objectives. Apart from external evaluators, the program staff, Stakeholders Support Team (SST) and community members will participate.

Project Dissolution

The Foundation may be dissolved if at least two thirds of the members present and at least three members of the Steering Committee voting at an Annual General Meeting or in a Special General Meeting convened for that purpose vote in favor of the dissolution.

Upon dissolution of the Foundation, the Steering Committee shall supervise the cessation and the disposal of the liabilities. Assets of the Foundation shall be distributed to organizations with similar

objectives, institution or authority. Members or office bearers of the Foundation do not have rights over properties of the Foundation.

Conflict resolution

In case of the arise conflict due to bona fide activities of the Foundation; the Steering Committee may appoint an ad hoc committee of three impartial members of the Foundation to entertain the matter. A party who is aggrieved by the decision of the Coordinator's ad hoc committee may appeal to Steering Committee which shall make a final decision.