



# LIKANO

## IBANDA MAKERA PROJECT

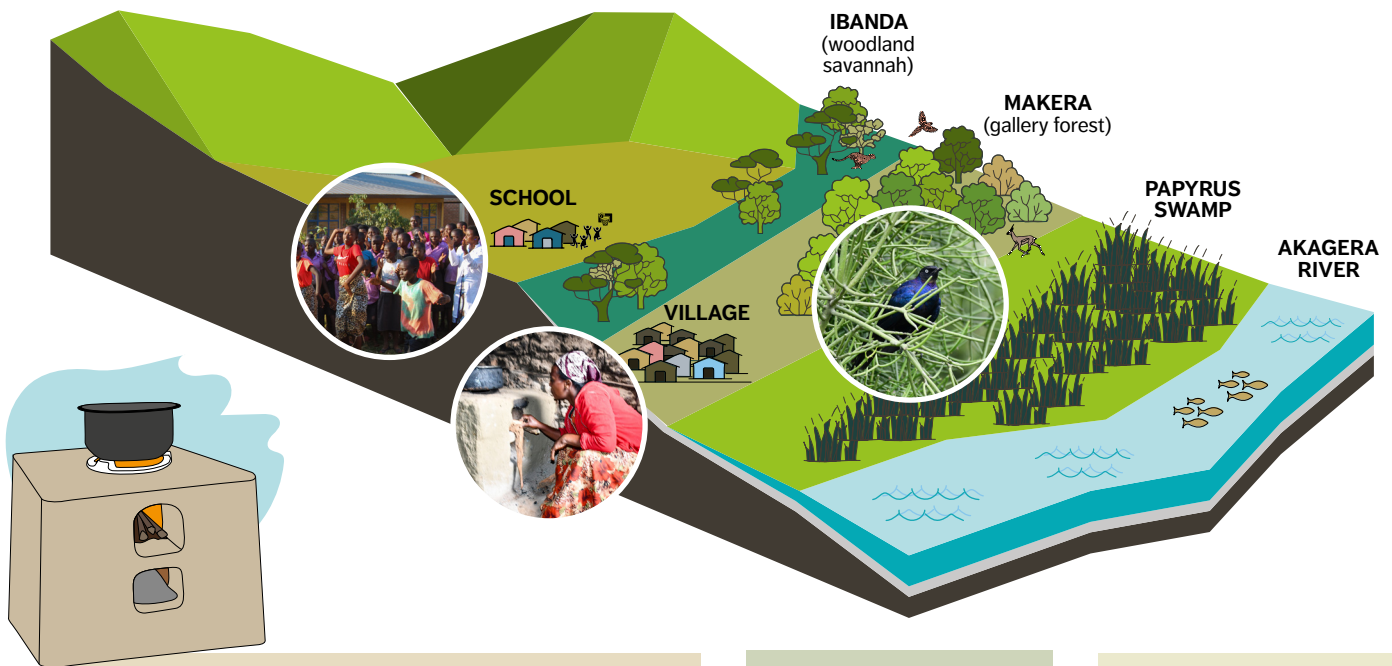
A Micro-Scale Voluntary Project Activity for the PoA African Improved Cookstoves and Clean Water Programme

**Gold Standard**  
Climate Security & Sustainable Development



### PROTECTING THE FAUNA & FLORA AND ENHANCING THE LIVING CONDITIONS WITH THE CANARUMWE STOVE.

The **Ibanda-Makera Forest Cook Stove Project** plans to distribute over 70,000 **Canarumwe improved cooking stoves** to rural households in the Kirehe district in the southeast of Rwanda. Cooking is traditionally carried out on thermally inefficient three-stone-fire, which leads to incomplete combustion and high indoor air pollution, which is a threat to the respiratory system. Our improved cook stoves are produced locally and therefore create valuable jobs, reduce wood consumption significantly and as a result, less CO<sub>2</sub> is emitted.



#### THE COOKING STOVE

The locally manufactured stove reduces the amount of fuel wood needed for cooking by two thirds. This has significant positive impacts:

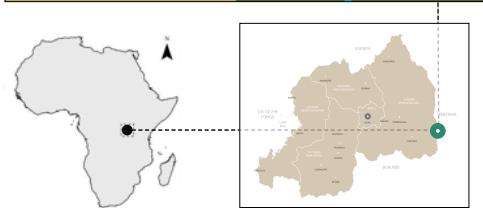
- Reduced deforestation;
- Reduced soil erosion;
- Reduced risk of flooding;
- Reduced poverty, as cooking fuel expenses decrease;
- Reduced adverse health effects associated with smoke inhalation;
- Reduced cooking and wood collection time, allowing more time for other household tasks;
- Reduced pressure on the protected forests and the Makera Natural Forest;
- Reduction in burns and injuries, as the CANARUMWE Stove is safer to cook on.

#### PLANTING INDIGENOUS TREES

The Ibanda-Makera forest is one of the few remaining natural forests in Rwanda. The additional afforestation activities (without being certified for carbon credits) promotes actions towards sustainable land use and natural resources management, supporting food security and reducing the vulnerability to the impacts of climate change.

#### THE SCHOOL

Conservation education helps pupils understand and appreciate the country's natural resources and learn how to conserve them for future generations. The children also develop critical thinking skills, as they learn to understand the complexities of ecological challenges. By supporting the Ibanda primary school, we contribute to conserving the neighbouring Ibanda-Makera forest.



## Improving the cooking infrastructure

In most rural communities, it is the women's and girls' responsibility to take care of family meals. Collecting firewood is part of this task. If they can't find nearby and safely accessible natural resources, women and girls will walk long distances to find sufficient firewood to cook for their families. By reducing the time needed to collect firewood, children can dedicate more time to learn for school and women to produce woven handicraft. These products are then sold at local markets and generate income for their family.

## Implementing the Cook Stove Project

The stoves will be disseminated to households ranking in low categories of poverty (categories I & II) in all sectors of Kirehe district with LIKANO's local partner REDO (Rural environmental and Development Organisation). REDO and RDB (Rwanda Development Board) will promote the use and benefits of the stoves in collaboration with district, sector, cell and village representatives. They also select, raise awareness and provide training to households of beneficiaries of the project. For every project developed by LIKANO we encourage beneficiaries to bring in a small personal contribution: This can be a financial contribution or by actively working on the setup. For the latter, the household members build their stove under REDO's local field officers' guidance. This approach supports the know-how-transfer, strengthens the local people's self-confidence and their competence in working with international organizations.

The households' feedback is very positive. Beneficiaries, especially women, have reported the benefits of the stove such as less wood consumption, reduced indoor-air pollution and important health improvements.

## Planting over 110,000 indigenous trees

The two forests Ibanda and Makera cover 169 hectares. They are two of the few remaining natural forests in Rwanda after the severe deforestation of the last decades. Ibanda is a woodland savannah located in the East. Makera is a gallery forest located in the South-West with a papyrus swamp in the South extending to the Akagera River. One of the challenges in the protection of Rwanda's natural forests is the acknowledgement of an exact border where the farmland ends and where the forest starts. In Ibanda-Makera, all stakeholders were invited to participate in this process and, for the first time, a border was recognized by the whole community: A milestone in the conservation of this unique ecosystem.

To highlight the border and create a buffer zone, the indigenous pencil tree (*Euphorbia tirucalli*) was planted as a living fence between the farmland and the forest. Overall, more than 110,000 indigenous trees species, like the *Acacia sieberiana*, the *Dracaena afromontana* or the *Markhamia lutea*, have been planted by LIKANO and its local partner REDO to extend the forest area and create new wildlife habitat. Several awareness and trainings programs allow to further consolidate the afforestation activities.

## The School

The Ibanda Primary school welcomes over 1,200 pupils from the age of 6 to 13. Many schools in Rwanda have no or only few funds for new equipment. The new chair-table-combination sponsored by Likano and manufactured by local carpenters enables the teaching of more students at the same time, enhancing the comfort for the children and the teachers. A new playground will also allow the children to play volleyball and basketball.

