SMALLHOLDER PLANTED FORESTS AND TREES FOR CLIMATE, RESTORED LANDSCAPES, AND HUMAN LIVELIHOODS IN KENYA

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• M.Sc. in Forestry – Tropical biology and Silviculture
• National Chairperson – Farm Forestry Smallholder Producers Association of Kenya (FFSPAK)
• Vice-President – International Family Forest Alliance (IFFA)
• Member – Forestry Society of Kenya (FSK)
• 18 years Forestry practitioner
An umbrella organization based in Nairobi and working with grassroots farmer groups in Kenya to promote and champion the interests of farm forestry smallholder producers.

- Established on 15th May 2012 with support from WeEffect/IFFA/Swedish Farmers Federation
- Registered in May 2013.
- Founded by 6 regional associations.
FFSPAK Background

• Currently has **15 Affiliate associations** across the country with **45,000** members and recruitment is ongoing

• **Vision Statement:** - “An outstanding farm forestry umbrella organization providing quality services to smallholder producer organizations in Kenya”

• **Mission Statement:** - “To strengthen the capacity of member organizations to enable farm forestry producers improve their livelihoods”.
Organizational Objectives

• To facilitate exchange of experiences and information and encourage networking among farm forest producers associations.

• To provide for a voice for Kenyan forest policies, laws and regulations from a farm forestry perspective.

• Capacity building for member associations and awareness creation on farm forestry.

• To promote farm forestry in order to increase the number of trees at household level and the conservation and sustainable utilization of forests in Kenya.

• To promote commercialization of farm forestry in order to increase income levels and improve rural livelihoods.

• To promote and defend the rights and common interests of farm forest owners.

• The Society has non-political objects.
Key Achievements

✓ Expanded from 6 affiliate associations with 4,500 members in 2013 to 15 affiliate associations and over 45,000 members in 2023.

✓ Established six marketing cooperatives with others under mobilization

✓ Trained over 30,000 individual smallholder producers

✓ Strengthened secretariat from 2 staff members to 8 currently with key programme areas- Forestry, Marketing and Value chain development and Institutional Capacity Development

✓ Enhanced partnerships with a wide range of stakeholders/supporters ie. GoK, FAO, Agricord and We Effect


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Challenges

- Overstretched internal technical capacity/constrained support from government agencies
- Limited gender participation with existing Land tenure system playing a big role
- Unregulated and largely informal market for forest products
- Limited knowledge on value of products and marketing systems among producers
- Poor quality germplasm leading to low productivity
- Unfavorable policy environment to tree growers/investors
Way Forward

• Plans to **expand in membership and organizational capacity** to offer enhanced services to members

• **Enhance partnerships with Government and other partners** for better service delivery

• **Enhance enterprise development** through promotion of business entities like cooperatives and targeting women and youth
Main Partners

- Kenya Forest Service
- Forest and Farm Facility
- WE EFFECT
- International Family Forestry Alliance
- Agricord

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Thank you