Forestry & Forest Protection

The Purpose of the Website Section

The Forestry & Forest Protection section of the Alphome Community Farms website is designed to present our integrated, community-led approach to addressing deforestation in the Democratic Republic of Congo. This section communicates our strategic focus, implementation model, and measurable impact to partners, donors, policymakers, and the general public.

It highlights how Alphome Community Farms responds to deforestation drivers that are prevalent in rural and forest-adjacent communities, while positioning our work within broader national and global environmental and development priorities.

Program Focus

Alphome Community Farms works to protect Congo's forests by addressing the root causes of deforestation at the community level. Our forestry program focuses on reducing forest loss driven by:

- Uncontrolled artisanal mining
- Charcoal production
- Brick-making reliant on wood fuel
- Unsustainable agricultural expansion

These activities continue to place significant pressure on primary forests and surrounding ecosystems, particularly in underserved rural areas.

Community-Based Implementation Approach

Our approach centers on empowering local actors as stewards of forest protection. We train farmers and youth as community forest monitors, equipping them with practical skills and digital tools to:

- Track forest cover change
- Identify high-risk deforestation zones
- Document and report environmental threats

Through agroforestry, sustainable land-use planning, and alternative livelihood activities, we support communities to meet their economic needs while reducing dependence on destructive forest practices. This integrated model ensures that conservation outcomes are aligned with local livelihoods and food security.

Data-Driven and Participatory Conservation

By combining local knowledge, data-driven monitoring, and coordinated community action, Alphome Community Farms contributes to the long-term protection of DR

Congo's vital ecosystems and the livelihoods that depend on them. The website section serves as both an informational and accountability platform, presenting our work transparently and linking conservation efforts to measurable outcomes.

Measurable Impact Indicators

The following indicators are presented on the website to demonstrate accountability, scale, and results:

Forest Monitoring Coverage

- 8,000–12,000 hectares of forest monitored annually using community patrols and digital monitoring tools
- High-risk zones mapped around artisanal mining, charcoal production, and brick-making areas

Forest Restoration & Agroforestry

- 50,000–80,000 trees restored or planted through agroforestry and reforestation activities over a 24-month period
- Promotion of mixed tree–crop systems to reduce forest encroachment and improve soil resilience

Youth & Farmer Engagement

- 300–500 farmers trained in sustainable land-use and agroforestry practices
- 150–250 youth engaged as community forest monitors and data collectors

Environmental Protection Outcomes

- Reduction in illegal tree cutting linked to charcoal production, brick-making, and artisanal mining
- Improved community awareness and increased local reporting of environmental threats

For Partners and Policymakers

Alphome Community Farms implements a community-led forestry program that addresses deforestation driven by artisanal mining, charcoal production, brick-making, and unsustainable land use. By training farmers and youth as community forest monitors and promoting agroforestry and alternative livelihoods, the program reduces pressure on primary forests while strengthening local resilience. Our approach combines local knowledge, digital monitoring tools, and measurable impact indicators to support long-term forest protection and sustainable development in the Democratic Republic of Congo.