

Villages reap 125m/- as carbon credit revenue

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By DAILY NEWS
Reporter

A NORWEGIAN firm, Green Resources Limited, has handed over some 125m/- to four villages in Mufindi and Kilombero districts in Iringa and Morogoro regions accordingly under the Carbon Credit Revenue initiative.

The beneficiary villages in the first phase of the scheme include Uchindile and Kitete in Kilombero as well as Chogo and Mapanda in Mufindi.

Speaking during the handing over ceremony in Dar es Salaam yesterday, the Permanent Secretary in

the Ministry of Natural Resources and Tourism, Dr Ladislaus Komba, said the company had shown a good example to motivate afforestation in a bid to join global calls to curb climate change.

He noted that the company had, in its efforts to encourage planting of trees and environmental conservation, invested over 10bn/- in different regions in the country.

Efforts by the company to encourage afforestation have come at a time when deforestation is estimated at between 150,000 and 412,000 hectares per annum, whereas the rate of planting trees is still minimal, much

as the country has vast areas which could be used for the purpose.

The Mufindi District Commissioner, Ms Evarista Kalalu and her Kilombero counterpart, Everist Ndikilio said the company has been on the forefront in environmental conservation and extension of social corporate responsibility activities to surrounding villages.

The Green Resource Public Relations and Community Development Manager, Mr Hamis Malinga, said the proceeds were part of sale of 130,000 tonnes of carbon dioxide that fetched 1.25bn/-.

"From the above pro-

ceeds, ten per cent has been dishd to surrounding villages," he said.

From its activities in the East African region, the company has been able to provide 5,200 jobs, he explained.

The company first came to Tanzania in 1997 and has projects in Iringa, Morogoro, Lindi and Tanga. It has already planted trees in an area measuring 11 million hectares.

Other countries undertaking the Carbon Credit projects to curb climate change are Uganda, Mozambique, Sudan and Malawi where a total of 150bn/- has so far been invested.