

## Trash to treasure

The "Trash to Treasure" program was established to address the pressing challenges of waste management and bridge the clean energy gap. Led by our founder, Laurel Kivuyo, this innovative initiative draws inspiration from her roots in the Maasai indigenous community, where nature plays a crucial role in agriculture and pastoralism. Laurel's upbringing instilled a deep appreciation for the environment. Her experiences observing the rapid urban expansion of Arusha and the resultant surge in waste—60% of which ends up in dumps—transformed her perspective. She began to see waste not as a mere problem but as a potential treasure, thus sparking the Trash to Treasure movement.

In October 2023, we launched the "Trash to Treasure" conducted in the Arusha region of Tanzania. The program's primary objective was to train and empower young people in sustainable waste management practices. Through innovative techniques, participants learned how to transform various types of waste materials, including paper waste, charcoal dust, and cow dung, into eco-friendly briquettes.

In 2024, our 'Trash to Treasure' was further funded by the global greengrants which fueled our mission. With a network of over 103 young climate leaders, creating an alumni network and nurturing youth employment in green initiatives across Arusha and Dar es Salaam, our passion lies in educating more young people about the potential in trashed treasures, empowering them to create value from the waste surrounding us.

Every small step counts, and with your support, we can collectively contribute to a cleaner, greener planet. Explore the possibilities with The Climate HUB Tanzania as we turn trash into treasures, one innovative idea at a time. Together, let's redefine our relationship with waste and pave the way for a more sustainable and conscious future.