

If this email does not appear correctly, please [view it](#) in your web browser.



**Dear Friends and Supporters,**

Many of you have been in touch in recent days to ask about Wangari and the Green Belt Movement. We have all been very concerned about the violence in Kenya that erupted after the elections in late December. The events that have unfolded in Kenya are tragic and we watch with deep concern and sorrow.

Unfortunately a few of our staff have suffered displacement and loss of property. Because GBM is active in areas of the Rift Valley most affected by the tension, we are exploring interventions that would support those displaced at this difficult time. Emotionally, everyone is deeply affected and this will take time to heal.

Wangari has been working tirelessly since the election results were announced. She has been involved in various groups that are working hard to find a lasting solution to this crisis. This has included meetings with religious leaders (most notably a meeting with fellow Nobel Peace Laureate Archbishop Desmond Tutu), politicians, and with other representatives from Kenya's strong and vibrant civil society. She has also given many interviews to local and international press explaining the genesis of the conflict and in support of dialogue and reconciliation. Several of these pieces are on our website (<http://www.greenbeltmovement.org/>).

Members of staff have also been following the events with great interest and concern. Upon the opening of the office on January 8, the management team decided to postpone our Annual Program Review meeting to next month, to allow time for staff to return to Nairobi and settle their families. The current situation has also resulted in the postponement of school openings. As a result, staff have requested additional time off to manage this change.

We do not know yet how these events will impact our programs, as some rural areas where GBM is active are still experiencing unrest. However, GBM's approach of bringing communities together to resolve problems becomes even more critical at times like this. As the violence continues to subside, there will be plans to visit the affected areas and begin a process that will bring healing and reconciliation. We hope and believe that GBM communities will continue building upon their programs and planting more trees to help bring about peace.

Staff and supporters of GBM will continue to do everything in their power to support the communities to make sure this happens.

Once again, we would like to thank all our friends around the world for their concern and support. We will continue to post information on the [website](#) as the situation unfolds.

**Kenya Office:** Hughes Building, 1st Floor, Muindi Mbingu Street, Kenyatta Avenue Wing, PO Box 67545-0020, Nairobi

**Europe Office:** Development House, 56-64 Leonard Street, London EC2A 4LT

**North America Office:** 4245 N. Fairfax Avenue, Suite 860, Arlington, VA 22203

**[Support the Green Belt Movement](#)**

**[www.greenbeltmovement.org](http://www.greenbeltmovement.org)**



[Forward this email to a friend](#)

Please [let us know](#) if you wish to be taken off this mail list.

immaculate