



## MENTEE

**Elizabeth Mbogo Mwenda**

CEO, Botanic Treasures



Kenya

Elizabeth, the founder of Botanic Treasures, a 100% women-owned enterprise, collaborates with over 1500 farmers to establish food forests by intercropping local staples with beneficial trees. Sixty percent of these farmers and 70% of the employees are women. Elizabeth, a former film producer turned nutritionist, ventured into nutrition after facing challenges with breastfeeding. Moringa, brought by her partner from elderly farmers, addressed her concerns, inspiring her to establish Botanic Treasures. After studying Nutrition and Dietetics at Kenyatta University and pursuing CIM marketing, Elizabeth and her team developed nutritious health products to combat malnutrition in children, mothers, and the sick, utilizing the drought-tolerant "Moringa oleifera" and other beneficial trees like baobab, neem, and African cherry.

### Botanic Treasures

BOTANIC TREASURES pioneered the Moringa value chain in Kenya, training over 2000 farmers and reaching 50,000 people through nationwide Ministry of Agriculture shows. This initiative led to the creation of 30 Moringa ventures and over 100 village green businesses, generating approximately 3000 jobs and planting over 2 million trees, contributing to biodiversity and reforestation. Their innovative Moringa-based products, including teas, smoothie blends, porridge flours, and probiotic drinks, are distributed in 150+ supermarkets nationwide and sold in their Nairobi CBD theme shop. The company has received numerous awards, such as the Maple Award, Africa Seed Award, TIMELESS WOMAN OF WONDER UN AWARD, Crown Women Rising & AWEP - Young Exporter Award, LAND RESTORATION Award 2021, Women in Climate Award 2022, and Circular Economy Award 2023. The presidential endorsement for their TREES4NUTRITION Program by former President Uhuru Kenyatta supports greening schools with Moringa oleifera, providing an alternative vegetable for school feeding programs and a conservation tool for communities. The project's uniqueness lies in promoting increased consumption of underutilized Moringa as a low-cost, nutrient-dense ingredient for both local and international food and beverage markets.



## MENTOR

**Stella Thomas**

Owner,  
Tecni Seeds Limited