



Eco-Village Adaptation to Climate Change in Central Tanzania

SEPTEMBER 2019

The Eco-Village Adaptation to Climate Change in Central Tanzania (EcoACT) is one of five projects, which falls under the European Union (EU) funded Global Climate Change Alliance (GCCA). The project encompasses the eco-village approach, and aims to increase and diversify incomes, and strengthen resilience and reduce vulnerability to climate change. The eight targeted communities are located in a semi-arid landscape in Dodoma Region and depend on the ecosystem for their livelihoods, which is increasingly becoming threatened due to climate change.

At the end of its second phase of European Union funding, the project has strived to take the best eco-village interventions and expand these measures into other communities in the same area. The idea is to increase the resilience of the rural poor to climate change. This has been achieved by introducing new skills and techniques into people's everyday lives to adapt to drought and flooding conditions.

The project has contributed to Tanzania's poverty reduction strategy and improving the livelihoods of communities. EcoACT is aligned with Sustainable Development Goal 13 (SDG 13) – CLIMATE ACTION.

KEY INFORMATION

Sector:	Climate Change
Lead Partner:	Institute of Rural Development Planning
Other Partners:	TOAM, MAMADO, Tanzania Agriculture Research Institute - Hombolo (TARI - Hombolo), DONET, Dodoma MC, Chamwino DC
Budget:	€ 1,999,802
Duration:	2015 – 2019

BACKGROUND

Central Tanzania is home to many climate-vulnerable farming communities, dependent on rain-fed agriculture, communal grazing and shared natural resources for their livelihoods. The area is highly affected by climate change, particularly recurrent drought.

EcoACT builds upon the success of the EU-funded Chololo Eco-village project, which has resulted in major improvements in food security, increased incomes, especially for women, and increased resilience to climate change. Activities that were expanded included planting drought-resistant crops, tree planting, using local quality declared seeds, and improved roosters in poultry farming and billies in goat farming. Solar water pumps have been installed providing access to safe water.

Based on a vulnerability assessment, the project aims at rolling out the best practices from Chololo Eco-village and introducing new innovations. EcoACT has worked towards strengthen-



ing the capacity of local government institutions in Chamwino and Dodoma Municipal Districts to formulate strategies and adapt to climate change. An effective knowledge system has been established for learning and sharing, and ensuring the sustainability of interventions, which increases the potential for expanding activities into other areas of Tanzania. A significant achievement is that women's voices have been heard in terms of prioritising project activities.



Feeding livestock in the dry season with locally grown watermelons

GCCA +

THE GLOBAL CLIMATE CHANGE ALLIANCE PLUS INITIATIVE



Funded by
the European Union



TANZANIA

PROJECT DETAILS

The project has been implemented in partnership with the Institute of Rural Development Planning (IRDP); Tanzania Organic Agriculture Movement (TOAM), Maji na Maendeleo Dodoma (MAMADO), Dodoma City Council (DCC), Chamwino District Council (CDC), Dodoma Environmental Network (DONET).

The project has targeted 17,952 people in four villages in two wards of Kikombo in Dodoma Municipal Council and Idifu in Chamwino District Council. The project also targeted local government institutions and other key stakeholders.

The main activities of the project have been:

- Scaling up the most effective, affordable, and gender-oriented climate change adaptation innovations from Chololo Eco-village concerning water, agriculture, energy and forestry;
- Enhancing institutional climate change adaptation capacity in Idifu and Kikombo wards through training, mainstreaming climate change issues in development plans, enforcement of bylaws; and
- Establishing a comprehensive climate change knowledge management system for sharing best practices on climate change adaptation and mitigation strategies.

The project has used the following approaches:

- Participatory approach involving village community in all stages (design and feedback);
- Holistic approach encompassing major aspects of rural community life;
- Public-Private Partnership and interdisciplinary approach in implementing the project;
- Project planning that considers relevance of the action to the country and beneficiaries; and
- Project management and coordination that involves beneficiaries.



Expected Results

- Integrated eco-village approach extended across two wards, with innovations in agriculture, water, energy and forestry
- Enhanced institutional climate change adaptation capacity in the two wards/districts
- Comprehensive climate change knowledge management system established and disseminated

Achievements

- A total of 20,430 farmers across Kikombo and Idifu wards have access to improved seeds (Sorghum NACO and MACIA and Sunflower Record) aimed at building resilience to drought from 2015 to 2019 (project implementation period).
- 48 Quality Declared Seed producers (Sorghum and Sunflower) have been registered by the Tanzania Official Seed Certification Institute (TOSCI).
- 60 Idifu farmers have installed contour terraces (Fanya juu/chini terraces) for controlling soil erosion and on farm rain water harvesting.
- Increased sales of improved chicken, eggs and goats enabled the farmers to increase incomes by 30%.
- The project has received an Environment Impact Assessment Certificate for its vegetable leather tannery in Idifu village.
- The project has installed electricity and leather making goods machines in Idifu leather factory.
- The project has trained 30 youths on leather goods making and the use of installed leather making goods machines.
- Production of leather goods (shoes, sandals, footballs and belts) has started in the factory.
- Construction of water tanks and installation of solar water pump have increased water accessibility to the community, schools and health centres of Idifu and Kikombo wards.

- Construction of 45m³ rain water harvesting systems in Mugu and Miganga primary schools have increased water accessibility to school communities.
- Rehabilitation of an earth fill dam in Idifu has improved accessibility of water for horticulture and livestock.
- 22 individuals and 3 institutions in Idifu village have received traditional title deeds after Village Land Use Plan were completed.
- Harvesting of honey with 225 modern beehives installed in Kikombo and Idifu wards have started.
- A total of 147,246 trees have been planted in Kikombo and Idifu wards since the 2015
- 277 pupils from Kikombo and Idifu wards primary schools have been trained in environmental conservation and Climate Change knowledge.
- A total of 369,524 regenerative stumps of natural trees in household and farm land have been managed.
- The project has equipped 326 households with solar lighting systems in Miganga and Idifu villages.
- 2,605 energy saving stoves have been constructed for household use for reducing firewood use.
- 42 extension staff and 81 farmers have been trained on the use of climate and weather information and connected to the Tanzania Metrological Agency (TMA) for receiving weather information.
- A comprehensive study on climate change adaptation innovation and experience has been completed.
- Three case studies on climate change have been prepared and published.
- Project villages are used for practical training on climate change adaptation practices for more than 300 students from the University of Dar es salaam, University of Dodoma and Institute of Rural Development Planning (IRDP).

Sustainable Future

- End line survey and external final evaluation
- EcoACT's second national climate change adaptation conference

- Continuing with project activities through the Institute of Rural Development Planning, Dodoma City Council and Chamwino District Council and the rural community



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