

Farmers avoid farming near to water sources in this mountainous areas, to better protect natural springs

What is the Global Climate Change Alliance Plus?

The Global Climate Change Alliance Plus (GCCA+) is a European Union (EU) flagship initiative which is helping the world's most vulnerable countries to address climate change. Having started with just four pilot projects in 2008, it has become a major climate initiative that has funded over 70 projects of national, regional and worldwide scope in Africa, Asia, the Caribbean and the Pacific.

This EU initiative helps mainly Small Islands Developing States (SIDS) and Least Developed Countries (LDCs) increase their resilience to climate change.

The GCCA+ also supports these group of countries in implementing their commitments resulting from the 2015 Paris Agreement on Climate Change (COP21), in line with the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and the new European Consensus on Development.

Ten years of GCCA+

2018 is a special year for GCCA+. In 2007, the European Union proposed launching a global alliance with developing countries that were most vulnerable to climate change. It became operational the year after.



10 years of GCCA+ in action

The EU GCCA+ initiative is making a significant contribution towards achieving the overall target of at least **20 % of the European Union budget spent for climate action.**

All GCCA+ projects must primarily aim at facilitating the transition to a climate-resilient, low-carbon future in line with the 2°C target.

70+ projects worldwide **€737m** GCCA+ 2007-2020

What role does Tanzania play in the GCCA+?

The programme was initiated in Tanzania in 2010 to support Tanzania's Government in strengthening the capacity of some of the most affected communities against the impacts of climate change. Now in a second phase of EU funding, 5 community-based projects began their implementation in mid-2015 and are scheduled to end in 2019.

Tanzania's economy is very dependent on sectors affected by climate variability

and change, notably agriculture. Current climate variability already results in significant economic damage. It is estimated that climate change will lead to large future additional economic costs, possibly amounting to 1-2% of GDP per year by 2030.

The Government of Tanzania has developed a national climate change strategy addressing both adaptation and mitigation. Strengthening capacities to cope with climate change impacts remains a priority, particularly in highly vulnerable sectors such as agriculture.



Communities rely solely on natural springs for clean and safe water



River Committee members manage and conserve natural springs

Communities conserve their natural springs to provide water for future generations

The Integrated Approaches for Climate Change Adaptation in the East Usambara Mountains project in Tanzania, which is funded by the EU has worked alongside the district authorities to encourage communities to preserve their natural springs, as villagers rely solely on these water sources for domestic use.

A bylaw has been introduced to fine any villagers 10,00.00 Tanzanian Shillings (4USD) who farm too near to the water sources or pollute the water in any way. Washing clothes, motorbikes and bathing at the spring are all activities that are now discouraged.

Ignatio Mzalia, Executive Officer of Kwamsoso Village in Muheza District has noticed that since the bylaw has been introduced, alongside closely monitoring the springs, the

condition of the water sources has improved. Training from the project and its partner, the Tanzania Forest Conservation Group means villagers are more aware of the need to protect these sources.

"There are many activities that affect the water sources and in the past the villagers didn't realise they were contaminating their community water sources. Farming of onions, tomatoes, cabbages, and yams and villagers herding their livestock nearby in the dry season, make this a real problem," said Ignatio Mzalia.

Villages in the project area have elected members of a River Committee to protect and manage the water sources. People now claim the area around the springs is beginning to regenerate. There are now more green spaces and trees. Most importantly, the amount of water has also increased. The level of water had dropped in the area.

Project facts

147 people have received training on the **Water Policy, Water Resource Management Act and Environmental Act**

142 people have received training on **Climate Change** impacts and **conservation of water** sources

147 people have received training on **gender roles** when conserving water resources

How River Committees work:

River Committees are the lowest appropriate level of management. Committees are responsible for local level management of water resources, mediation of disputes among users and between groups within areas of jurisdiction. They are also responsible for the collection of various data and information, to participate in the preparation of water utilization plans, and the conservation and protection of water sources and catchment areas. They enforce the law and control pollution.

Farmers like Shabani Joho also from Kwamsoso village have given up farming near to the water sources, even though farming land is scarce in this mountainous area. "I have seen the benefits as we now have more water and the trees I am planting are growing well," he said.

Villagers are now beginning to see how conservation efforts will benefit their communities in the future.

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