



Supporting Communities in the East Usambara Mountains to Adapt to Climate Change

The Integrated Approaches for Climate Change Adaptation in the East Usambara Mountains implemented by ONGAWA is one of five projects, which falls under the European Union (EU) funded Global Climate Change Alliance (GCCA). The project promotes the EU eco-village approach, and strives to increase and diversify incomes, and strengthen resilience and reduce vulnerability to climate change. The eight targeted communities are located near to high biodiversity forests in the East Usambara Mountains and depend on the ecosystem for their livelihoods, which are increasingly becoming threatened due to climate change.

KEY INFORMATION

Sector:	Climate Change
Lead Partner:	ONGAWA 'Engineering for Human Development'
Other Partners:	TFCG 'Tanzania Forest Conservation Group'; Muheza District Council
Budget:	€ 1,364,449
Duration:	2015 – 2019

BACKGROUND

Climate models for the project area predict an increase in annual average temperatures. Rainfall is expected to be less reliable with a longer and hotter dry season from June to October. In 2017, parts of Tanzania experienced serious drought and in 2018 severe flooding took place. These unpredictable weather patterns continue to test the eight communities targeted: Kwemsoso, Mgambo, Misalai, Kazita and Shambageda, in Misalai ward, and Kizerui, Zirai and Kwelumbizi in Zirai ward. The villages, which surround Nilo Nature Reserve, are located in a high biodiversity area, and rely on the Zigi River, which experiences a flow that has varied significantly during the last few decades, with increasing flow peaks and decreasing minimum flows. These trends, coupled with an increased downstream demand for water, higher pollution due to unsustainable agricultural practices and a lack of income generating alternatives hindering forest conservation, pose a



threat for future generations. However, the project has made significant progress engaging river committees to develop action plans. Fuel efficient stoves, which reduce pressure on firewood, are being widely adopted, and school children are learning how to adapt to climate change, and care for the environment and share this knowledge with their families.



Hashim Ramadhani, Misalai villager in Muheza District benefits from a new water point supported by the project.



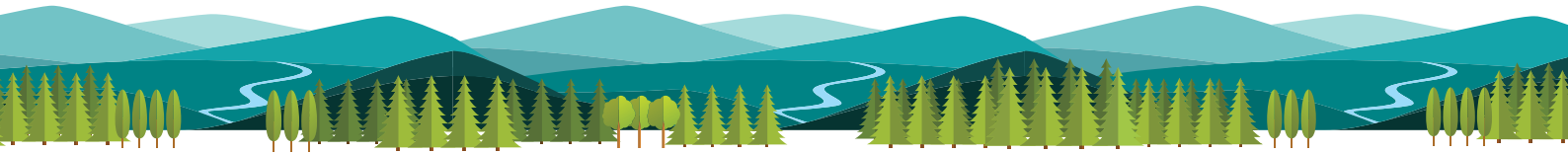
THE GLOBAL CLIMATE CHANGE ALLIANCE PLUS INITIATIVE



Funded by the European Union



TANZANIA



PROJECT DETAILS

The project covers an area of 56 square kilometers. The main climate change related activities being implemented in order to reduce the vulnerability of villagers are as follows:

- Improved access to basic services (water, sanitation and energy through low-cost and climate change-adapted solutions)
- Put in place organizations and mechanisms to manage natural resources in a sustainable and integrated way
- Help small-scale farmers to shift from unsustainable agricultural production models to climate-smart agricultural practices
- Support communities to incorporate new market-driven enterprises and business initiatives based on the management plan of forest resources
- Increase capacity of schools to provide skills to students to understand and increase their resilience to climate change
- Increase capacity at District, Ward and Village level to cope with the negative effects of climate change by incorporating adaptation measures in planning tools and mechanisms
- Develop improved governance at village level including a guarantee by all relevant actors of accountability towards all villages and the incorporation of a gender approach

In addition to the project partners, the project counts on the help of the following associate:

- University of Leeds

Expected Results

- Integrated eco-village model extended to eight communities, including efficient management of natural resources, climate-smart agriculture techniques, improved water supply and sanitation services and sustainable technologies
- Institutional capability to assess, plan and implement climate change strategies is enhanced in eight villages
- Knowledge Management System is improved
- Spices nursery groups have already produced 135,000 seedlings
- 83 ward and district level representatives trained, linked and properly guided in the participatory planning cycle and now able to identify and budget climate change adaptation measures
- One paper titled 'Assessing the integration of climate change and development strategies at local levels: insights from Muheza District, Tanzania' has been produced and published



Achievements

- 21% of households of the eight selected eco-villages are constructing efficient cooking stoves beyond the project support
- 35% of the population of the eight eco-villages have already gained access to improved, reliable, low-cost and environmentally sustainable water supply services
- A community-lead total sanitation campaign is fully deployed in all 30 hamlets in the project area
- The number of people annually infringing by-laws related to water resources management has already started to decrease due to the work performed by the three river committees
- 27 farmers groups trained on soil and water conservation measures and 27 community-based trainers fully operational and supporting them in adopting climate smart agriculture techniques

Next Steps

- Promotion of improved dairy cattle with provision of in-calf heifers and artificial insemination
- 10 vulnerable families trained in new beekeeping hives use and alternative selling channels
- Registration and training of three Community Owned Water Supply Organizations that manage the new water schemes
- Mgambo, Kwemsoo and Kazita Village Land Use Plans approved by Muheza District Council
- 13 additional water sources demarcated through tree planting



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