



Project partners support communities to adapt to climate change

## 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.



Focussing on drought resistant crops builds resilience to climate change

## Farmers adapt to climate change

### Planting drought resistant crops builds resilience

For farmers like James Maligana from Chololo village, which is in the semi-arid region of Dodoma in Tanzania, adapting to the negative impact of climate change is a harsh reality. However, James has proved to be resilient and adapts in multiple ways, using locally sourced materials, innovation and courage.

**"I strive to adapt to climate change in the following ways, firstly I must have good seeds, secondly, I prepare my farm**

**by making contour ridges along slopes to prevent soil erosion and catch precious rainwater. Thirdly, I grow drought-tolerant crops including sorghum and pearl millet and apply farm yard manure to my crops,"** said James.

The Eco ACT project, which falls under the GCCA Tanzania programme, funded by the EU has assisted almost 2,832 households in Dodoma City Council and Chamwino District by providing drought tolerant seeds. Quality Declared Seeds farmers (QDS) are certified by the Tanzania Official Seed Certification Institute (TOSCI) and have begun producing their own drought tolerant seeds and selling them to their communities, which aims to make the activity sustainable in the long term.



### Bucking the trend

As well as using QDS and climate-smart agricultural, the project has also encouraged other alternative sources of income. Providing improved goats to community members is also a component of the Eco ACT programme. Debora Mahenge -Kikombo Villager, breeds goats for a living. A quality buck was provided by the Eco ACT project and she now breeds with other farmers in the area. She is meticulous about keeping her buck healthy and inspects potential breeders' pens and the health of potential female goats to see if they are suitable, before allowing her buck to breed.

**"The Eco ACT project provided me with an improved buck for increasing the productivity of my local goats and I have gone on to sell the crossbred goats' off spring. This year I have earned 840,000.00 TZS (400 USD) from the sales of 12 crossbred goats who are one year-old. In the past, using local goats I could only earn 480,000.00 TZS (210 USD) from a two year-old. I am now doubling my income in half the time. I also help my community to breed goats and provide support,"** said Debora.

### Team effort

The Eco ACT project works with partners, including the local district to mainstream climate change into their District Development Plans. The Eco ACT project has capacitated 66 Dodoma City and Chamwino District council staff responsible for the development of the plans with knowledge in climate change adaptation and mitigation, use of weather forecast information and has also linked

up with the Tanzania Meteorological Agency. Local Government Authority staff are also equipped with guidelines on mainstreaming climate change adaptation and mitigation in their District Development Plans and the also work in line with the Tanzania national climate change strategy. These tools enable them to identify and propose relevant climate sensitive activities that can be considered in the District Development Plans for sustainability, and scaling up

Gilbert Mbumi from Kikombo village, who bought QDS from a neighbouring farmer, Eliakim Kutusha acknowledges that from the seeds he bought and planted on his 15 acre farm, he has harvested 10,368 kilograms of sorghum in the 2017/2018 cropping season. This has greatly improved his food security and he has an excess for sale. In total, Kikombo and Idifu wards have 105 QDS trained farmers out of which 34 are qualified to produce QDS.

**"At first it was difficult to get farmers like James on board as they were very resistant to change. After time, the community began to trust us and are now benefitting from our technical support,"** said Dr. Francis Njau, Eco ACT Project Manager.

### Eco ACT Fast Facts

**105** farmers trained on QDS

**107** farmers trained on breeding improved bucks

**Annual income** at household level has **increased** from **585,042.00 TZS** to **690,360.00 TZS** between 2016 to 2017

**Women's incomes** have **increased** from **341,389.00 TZS** to **560,344.00 TZS** between 2016 to 2017

**Increase in crop production:** sorghum has seen an increased average yield from **234 kilogram** per acre to **351 kilogram** per acre in 2016/17 and 2017/18 respectively.



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