



TANZANIA

EcoACT

Eco-Village Adaptation to Climate Change in Central Tanzania

Now in its second phase of European Union funding, previously called the Chololo Eco-village, now EcoACT, the project strives to help semi-arid communities in rural Tanzania to adapt to the adverse effects of climate change and to also reduce poverty. By taking the best eco-village interventions and expanding these measures into other communities in the same location, the idea is to increase the resilience of the rural poor to climate change. This is being achieved by introducing new skills and techniques into people's everyday lives to adapt to drought conditions. The project falls under the Global Climate Change Alliance Tanzania (GCCA) funded by the European Union.

KEY INFORMATION:

Sector:	Climate Change
Lead Partner:	Institute of Rural Development Planning
Other Partners:	TOAM, MAMADO, ARI - 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 recurring drought.

EcoACT builds upon the success of the EU-funded Chololo Eco-village project, which resulted in major improvements in food security, increased incomes, especially for women, and increased resilience to climate change. Activities being expanded currently include planting drought-resistant crops, tree planting, using local quality seeds, and improved roosters in poultry farming. Solar water pumps have also 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 continues to strengthen the capacity of local government institutions in



Chamwino and Dodoma Municipal Districts to formulate strategies which adapt to climate change. An effective knowledge system has been established for learning and sharing, and ensuring the sustainability of interventions which increase the potential for expanding activities into other areas of Tanzania. A marked success in phase two has seen women's voices heard in terms of prioritising project activities.



Phoebe Nzenje, Idifu villager. Communities here have benefited from a solar water pump, which provides cost-effective, clean and safe drinking water.



Funded by
the European Union



PROJECT DETAILS

The project is implemented in partnership with the Institute of Rural Development Planning (IRDP); Tanzania Organic Agriculture Movement (TOAM), Maji na Maendeleo Dodoma (MAMADO), Dodoma Municipal Council (DMC), Chamwino District Council (CDC), Agricultural Research Institute Hombolo (ARI-Hombolo), Dodoma Environmental Network (DONET).

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

The main activities of the project are:

- 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 uses the following approaches:

- Participatory approach involving village community in all stages (design and feedback);
- Holistic approach touching 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, implementers and high-level management

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
- Sixty (60) modern beehives have been installed in Idifu and Miganga villages
- 42 farmers have been trained on Farmer Managed Natural Regeneration technique and have managed 68 acres of land and 920 tree stumps
- The project has distributed 200 solar lighting system and 50 battery charger, also trained 50 youths on making solar power lighting system and battery charger



Achievements:

- A total of 1832 farmers across Kikombo and Idifu wards had access to improved seeds (Sorghum NACO and Sunflower Record) aiming at building resilience to drought in 2016/2017 cropping season
- Forty eight (48) Quality Declared seed producers (Sorghum and Sunflower) have been registered by Tanzania Official Seed Certification Institute (TOSCI) during 2016/2017 cropping season
- Forty (40) Idifu farmers installed contour terraces (Fanya juu/chini terraces) in 25 acres for controlling soil erosion and on farm rain water harvesting
- Increased sales of improved chicken, eggs and goats enabled the farmers to increase income by 30%
- The project has trained 13 youths on leather goods making
- The project received Environment Impact Assessment Certificate for Vegetable leather tannery in Idifu and the construction of the tannery has started
- Constructed water infrastructures (solar pump, rainwater harvesting tanks) have increased water accessibility for domestic use and health centers to all 4 villages of Kikombo and Idifu ward
- Rehabilitation of earth dam in Idifu has improved accessibility of water for horticulture and livestock
- Village Land Use Plan for Miganga and Idifu village indicating different land uses have been made



Next Steps:

- Completion of construction of vegetable leather tannery and leather goods making
- Production of vegetable leather and leather goods
- Completion of comprehensive study on climate change adaptation and experience
- Construction of 45m³ rain water harvesting system in Miganga Primary school
- Conduct training on use of climate and weather information to district extension staff
- Equip households with Solar lighting
- Strengthen Climate Change Clubs



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