



TANZANIA SCALABLE RESILIENCE: OUTSPREADING ISLANDS OF ADAPTATION

Increasing Resilience to Climate Change in Pemba

SEPTEMBER 2019

The Scalable Resilience: Outspreading Islands of Adaptation project was one of five projects, which falls under the European Union (EU) funded Global Climate Change Alliance (GCCA). The project has encompassed the eco-village approach, and has aimed to increase and diversify incomes, and strengthen resilience and reduce vulnerability to climate change. The 26 targeted communities are located in and around the island of Pemba, part of the Zanzibar Archipelago and they depend solely on the ecosystem for their livelihoods, which is increasingly becoming threatened due to climate change.

The project has built on Community Forests Pemba's (CFP) efforts to help rural communities build a green economy while adapting to climate change. Activities have included tree planting, agroforestry, renewable energy generation, rainwater harvesting and permaculture kitchen gardens.

The project, now at the end of its second phase of EU funding, has shared and demonstrated the idea that truly sustainable development can benefit both people and the planet. Marginalized people on adjacent islets off Pemba have also been included in project activities.

The project contributed to Tanzania's poverty reduction strategy and improving the livelihoods of communities. Community Forests Pemba activities are aligned with Sustainable Development Goal 13 (SDG 13) – CLIMATE ACTION.

KEY INFORMATION

Sector:	Climate Change
Lead Partner:	Community Forests Pemba
Other Partners:	Community Forests International, Wete District Authority
Budget:	€ 1,250,000
Duration:	2015 – 2019

BACKGROUND

Small islands are particularly vulnerable to the negative effects of climate change, and Pemba (part of the Zanzibar archipelago in Tanzania) is no exception. Sea level rises, coastal erosion and shifting weather patterns, including unpredictable rainfall, threaten everyday life, as rural communities work to feed their families and earn a living. The resilience of Pemban communities is tied directly to the ability of the inhabitants and the local environment to adapt to climate change and reduce poverty.

Establishing regenerative relationships between people and local ecosystems, supported by appropriate technology and education, are steps being taken to achieve this aim. Furthermore, to enable long-term investments in community-based adaptation, major barriers to human development, including gender inequality, food and energy insecurity and access to safe water must be addressed. CFP is working to fill the gaps in government policy, and encourage grassroots implementation of climate change mitigation measures.



Formal partnerships and Memorandum of Understanding were established with nine institutions spanning the district, the region and ministerial levels of government. An advisory committee, comprising stakeholders from both government and community leaders, has been established with regular meetings held to encourage buy-in. Baseline studies were conducted in the project design phase consulting all target communities. A marked success witnessed women's voices heard in terms of prioritizing project supported activities.



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PROJECT DETAILS

The project, which spans an area of approximately 1,000 square kilometers, and covers 26 communities, is implemented in partnership with Community Forests International and the Wete District Authority. To date, communities have benefitted from agroforestry, spice forest polyculture, afforestation, beekeeping, multistrata kitchen gardening, rainwater harvesting, improved stoves, charcoal substitute production, and interlocking earth block production.

CFP is organizing spice growers around a farmer-owned and operated association that has already begun selling spices to a commercial UK buyer. 120 hectares of degraded land has been deeded over to community ownership as part of the establishment of Participatory Natural Resource Management Plans. Both government and community stakeholders have received training in permaculture – a system of improving food security by utilizing natural processes including beekeeping and preservation techniques for adding value to local crops.

The direct engagement of local and national government authorities has resulted in the improved institutional capacity to develop and implement successful climate change strategies.

Project experiences and best practices are being shared through instructional videos; and a full-length feature film was aired around the world to much acclaim. The documentary has won several awards including the Eric Moe Award for Best Short Film on Sustainability at the world's largest 'Eco' film festival in Washington DC, and throughout Tanzania on three major television networks. Mbarouk Mussa Omar, Executive Director of CFP was short-listed for the prestigious BBC Outlook Inspirations Award in 2018.

A tablet based monitoring and evaluation system has been put in place aimed at streamlining data collection for results analysis and providing data for an online climate adaptation database.



Expected Results

- A comprehensive array of adaptive, community-based appropriate technologies are demonstrated locally
- Adaptive capabilities of eighteen at-risk target villages are improved
- Climate change adaptation is mainstreamed and the capacity of local and national government institutions to implement successful strategies is improved
- Successful community-based climate change adaptation strategies are documented and communicated regionally, nationally and internationally

Achievements

- 35,419 final beneficiaries to date
- 88% of trainees have increased their overall income from project interventions
- 90% of beneficiaries have increased awareness of adaptive livelihood activities
- 83% of beneficiaries know at least one non-direct beneficiary household that has also adopted at least one project innovation
- 61% of direct beneficiaries are female
- 59% of beneficiary women indicate that they completely control the income they generate from project activities
- 87% of farmers indicated improved



Said Khalifa Seif, Agroforestry Farmer, Kinazini Village, Wingwi Mapofu ward, Michweni District has been trained by the project to increase his yield and therefore earns a decent living

Sustainable Future

The eco-village approach lives on with commitments from the district authorities to mainstream climate change into their budgets and plans. Communities and stakeholders have plans for the following:

- Focus on large scale Public Private Partnerships and climate-smart supply chain developments to support the continued growth of adaptive livelihood activities such as spice forestry.
- Increased enterprise development paired with adaptation activities especially for women who are key change agents within their communities.

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