

INTEGRATED ACTION FOR CLIMATE CHANGE RESILIENCE AND LIVELIHOOD IN MOUNTAINOUS TANZANIA



The intervention

- Tanzania Forest Conservation Group, Albertine Rift Conservation Society together with their Danish partner, Danish Outdoor Council (Friluftsrådet)
- DKK 998,354
- April 2023-March 2024 (12 months)

The intervention aims to support climate change resilience in mountainous communities.

By applying a **participatory community approach**, this intervention has performed a **climate vulnerability assessment** using the **CRiSTAL** tool. The results have informed the development of climate change adaptation activities.

To **ensure local anchorage and sustainability** of the results, the intervention involves relevant stakeholders such as **other CSOs and local authorities** at both Ward and District level including capacity development among the district staff in conducting climate vulnerability assessments.



The CRiSTAL tool

is a project planning tool to help identify climate vulnerabilities and inform the design of activities that support climate change adaptation at the community level. The tool is **thorough in addressing local needs** and participatory as it involves a broad range of members of the local communities as well as local authorities.

Activities and results

The CRiSTAL **enabled strong involvement from the communities** in the eight villages, **mapping the local climate impacts and raising their needs**.

This climate vulnerability assessment (CVA) was conducted in close collaboration with the Korogwe District Office – the district counselors were involved and trained to co-facilitate the CVA.

The CVA identified that changing rainfall patterns, drought, diseases, and pests are the main challenges to the communities caused by climate change. After the CVA, the **facilitators assisted the communities in suggesting solutions** (activities) to those hazards that were categorized as the biggest threats.

The communities prioritized activities, such as introduction of quality seeds and drought resistant crops, and the district counselors in cooperation with the partners conducted technical training and support in implementing these activities.

Context

West-Usambara in Tanzania is a biodiversity hotspot that provides numerous **ecosystem goods and services vital for the survival and livelihoods of small-scale farmers and pastoralists**. The forests form an important catchment area and water source. The 8 communities involved in the intervention are **vulnerable to unsustainable agricultural practices, environmental degradation, and population growth, which paired with climate change**, adds on the continued increasing pressure on agricultural land and forests.

At outcome level, this inclusive and collaborative process, has led to:

- **Leadership by the communities** in testing the new methods e.g. in relation to farming.
- Local anchorage and decision-making within the communities which is **in line with the principles of locally led adaptation**.
- Capacity development and ownership by the District and Ward, which is an **advantage in relation to the future support and sustainability of the project**.
- That the **activities are designed based on the most critical needs** and are perceived as relevant to the communities and local authorities.
- An opportunity to demonstrate the promoted adaptation solutions to the Ward and District and to **influence the District Development Plan and corresponding budget**.