



# Country Update

## Dealing with Agricultural issues after the Paris Agreement: views on the EAC INDCs and the way forward

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### Introduction

An agriculture issue under convention is guided by the principles of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change particularly the Principle of Equity and that of common but differentiated responsibilities and respective capabilities. Article (v) of the Convention require all Parties to promote and cooperate in the development, application and diffusion, including transfer, of technologies, practices and processes that control, reduce or prevent anthropogenic emissions of greenhouse gases not controlled by the Montreal Protocol in all relevant sectors, including the energy, transport, industry, agriculture, forestry and waste management sectors.

The Conference of the Parties (COP) by decision 1/CP.13 (the Bali Action Plan) and decision 2/CP.17, paragraph 75, requested the Subsidiary Body for Scientific and Technological Advice (SBSTA) to consider

issues relating to agriculture. At its thirty-eighth session, the SBSTA invited Parties and admitted observer organizations to submit their views on the current state of scientific knowledge on how to enhance the adaptation of agriculture to climate change impacts while promoting rural development, sustainable development and productivity of agricultural systems and food security in all countries, particularly in developing countries, while taking into account the diversity of the agricultural systems and the differences in scale as well as possible adaptation co-benefits. The issue relating to agriculture have been considered in SBSTA 40 and 41.

The Paris Agreement recognizes the fundamental priority of safeguarding food security and ending hunger, and the particular vulnerabilities of food production systems. Article 2 of the agreement also stresses the need to strengthen the global response to climate change in a manner that does not threaten food production.

# Overview of Tanzania

## INDC and agriculture

The implementation of country INDCs will be guided by the principles of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change particularly the Principle of Equity and that of common but differentiated responsibilities and respective capabilities.

Climate change and its associated impacts on agriculture sector is a major concern in Tanzania. Thus adaptation is the highest priority for the country. The National Climate Change Strategy (URT, 2012) also provides basis for identifying short, medium and long-term adaptation activities designed to address existing and emerging climate change threats.

More than 80% of the population in Tanzania depends on climate sensitive rain fed agriculture as source of livelihood. Reducing vulnerability of the sector to climate change will significantly contribute to socio-economic development and ensure food security. Potential adaptation options that would help to integrate resilience in agricultural policy decisions, influence planning processes, and implement investments on the ground include improving agricultural land and water management; accelerating uptake of climate smart agriculture; protecting the most vulnerable against climate-related shocks; and strengthening knowledge and systems to target climate action.

According to Tanzania's INDC, the potential adaptation in the livestock sector include promoting climate change resilient traditional and modern knowledge on sustainable pasture and range management systems; promoting development and implementation of land use plans countrywide; and enhancing development of livestock infrastructure and services. Other adaptation options include promoting development of livestock insurance

strategies; strengthening weather forecast information sharing for pastoralists; promoting livelihood diversification of livestock keepers; and promoting improved traditional livestock keeping systems.

In fisheries the strategic interventions include those for enhancing monitoring of fisheries habitat and species; facilitate enhancement and/or development of integrated data management systems in the fisheries sector; promote aquaculture; and to enhance protection and conservation of aquatic ecosystems; and to support alternative livelihood initiatives for fisheries community.

The INDC further elucidates that for Agriculture sector to adapt to Climate Change, improving productivity and sustainability serves as best means. Therefore, the INDC's contribution to agriculture include efforts such as Up-scaling the level of improvement of agricultural land and water management; Increasing yields through inter alia climate smart agriculture; Protecting smallholder farmers against climate related shocks, including through crop insurance; Strengthening the capacity of Agricultural research institutions to conduct basic and applied research; and Strengthening knowledge, extension services and agricultural infrastructures to target climate actions.

## Summary of various stakeholder perspectives on their INDCs and the ways Agriculture is dealt with in this national plan

### Do you consider Tanzania's INDC as a positive outcome for the country's agriculture?

There was a general agreement that the country's INDC is a positive outcome to the

agriculture sector particularly due to the reason that the country's adaptation program recognises agriculture and food security as most vulnerable sectors.

Yes. The Country INDC has a positive outcome because it addresses adaptation in agriculture since Tanzania's National Adaptation Program of Action (NAPA, 2007) ranked agriculture and food security as the most vulnerable and important sector that is severely impacted by climate change and advocated that studies on the impact of climate change in the sector and on food security be a priority activity.

*Mr. Joseph Kihale, Principal Environmental Officer, Vice President's Office- Environment*

### **Do you think the implementation of your country INDC will directly impact your organization/business? In what ways?**

It is believed that effective implementation of the country's INDCs will have a direct impact to the agriculture sector because it is in line with the country's national policies and plans. The agriculture sector itself does not address direct mitigation as sector but through its intervention such as conservation of ecosystems will minimize CO<sub>2</sub> emission. The forest ecosystems are major sources of various ecosystem goods and services. They cover and protect most of the water catchments in the country and serve as a link in the agriculture-water-energy nexus.

The country INDC in other way will promote the use of technologies for the agriculture production with an aim of increasing food production and security. It will improve and sustain agricultural advisory services that include climate applications for agriculture that help farmers to better make informed decisions in the face of risks and uncertainties, in addition to the integrated management of present and emerging pests and disease challenges. The INDC will promote value chain integration that

will consider input supply, production, agricultural services, traceability, marketing and business support services. Through mainstreaming adaptation in agriculture sector, this will minimize the mitigation of climate change impact in one way and reduce poverty and improve the living standard of the people on the other way.

However, it was pointed out that:

For these INDCs to have greater impact to agriculture in Tanzania, implementation should be in line with National and Local Government Programmes, Plans and Budget. The planning should involve series of steps covering the setting of objectives, targets, activities and inputs.

*Mr. Prosper Makundi, Principal Agriculture Officer, Ministry of Agriculture Livestock and Fisheries (Environmental Unit)*

### **How could your INDC be implemented or revised in a way that is beneficial to your country's agriculture?**

When asked on how best the INDC could be implemented in a most beneficial way, Mr. Joseph Kihale revealed that in order to realise benefits from the INDC, the government along with international community, should meet their commitments in terms of financial and technological support. Specifically for Tanzania, it is indeed very important that developed countries provide the required financial support as for effective implementation of the INDC, more than USD 500 million is required per annum.

The implementation of INDCs requires unwavering financial support of not less than USD 500 million. The International Community should play a major role in supporting its implementation so as to realise the desired goals.

*Mr. Joseph Kihale, Principal Environmental Officer, Vice President's Office- Environment*

## **Are you ready to adopt new ways of producing that is more climate-aware? If yes what will be the main challenges and opportunities?**

The stakeholders' consultations revealed that there is a general willingness among key stakeholders to adopt new ways of producing that is more climate aware. However, several challenges were raised that may inhibit the process:

- a) Unreliable rainfall and frequent droughts over the years have resulted into massive crop failure.
- b) Lack or inadequate technologies and knowledge of production.
- c) Declining production trends of crops grown in same agriculture ecological zones.
- d) Increased the incidences of crop pests over the past few decades, and that the pests have become more prevalent with time.
- e) Inadequate participation of the private sector in climate change-related agricultural systems.
- f) Insufficient harmonization of climate data and information across the region.
- g) Low budget and inadequate financial for the climate change in agriculture sector.

On the other hand opportunities could be:

- a) Developing Regional and National Strategies, Programmes, plans and Project to address climate change in agriculture sector such as Comprehensive Africa Agriculture Development Programme (CAADP), East Africa Community Food Security Action Plan East Africa Community

Climate Change Policy, Tanzania Development Vision (TDV) 2025, National Agricultural Policy Tanzania Agriculture and Food Security Investment Plan (TAFSIP), Agricultural Sector Development Programme (ASDP)

- b) Increase investment in irrigation
- c) Research and development on drought tolerant seed varieties
- d) Promotion of the involvement of the private sector in agricultural transformation under improved regulatory and policy frameworks.

## **General recommendations to policy makers and climate negotiators**

The following are recommendations gathered from stakeholders:

- a. Establish mechanisms for fostering new innovative and inclusive partnerships bringing together private, public and civil society actors (state and non-state actors) to support emerging climate change adaptation initiatives in agriculture;
- b. Assess means to strengthen policy, legal and institutional framework to increase efficiency and effective implementation of climate change adaptation in the agriculture sector;
- c. Improve infrastructure to support value addition including for support for emerging production systems, marketing channels, process industries, trade and postharvest management;
- d. Discuss means to develop financing

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mechanisms to solicit resources through national, international and public private partnerships to support climate change adaptation in agriculture sector;

e. A need to promote champion enhancement of the country's capacity in early warning systems across sectors, improved research and systematic observations, improved climate change institutional capacity and coordination through involvement of international expertise from the developed world.; and

f. Put in place strategies aiming at reducing dangerous anthropogenic activities through research, awareness raising, advocacy, mobilization and empowerment of most vulnerable communities.

g. There is a great need to make the general public aware of the ongoing discussions through the UNFCCC framework. There is still a huge mass of Tanzania's who really do not understand even whether Tanzania has drafted the INDC document, and what it would mean to their day to day life.



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