



## CLIMATE SMART AGRICULTURE: INVESTMENTS IN SORGHUM PRODUCTION IMPROVE FOOD SECURITY AND INCOME FOR SMALLHOLDER FARMERS



William and Anita are sorghum farmers who are part of the Climate Smart Agriculture Project (CSAP) which enables farmers to improve resilience of their crops. Photo: © WFP

In the semi-arid region of Dodoma in central Tanzania the UN World Food Programme (WFP) is working with smallholder sorghum farmers' to improve their resilience to climate change and access to markets. This has had a catalytic effect on the sorghum market with high-quality sorghum being sought by breweries that are providing farmers with guaranteed markets at premium prices. WFP is also procuring sorghum directly from these farmers for its operations in South Sudan.

With funding from Irish Aid, WFP

started the Climate Smart Agriculture Project (CSAP) in 218 villages in six districts of Dodoma, namely, Bahi, Chamwino, Chemba, Kondoa, Kongwa and Mpwapwa. The CSAP empowers smallholder farmers to practice sustainable production and marketing through training in good agricultural practices as well as access to improved post-harvest handling and storage.

Traders sourcing for regional markets benefit from improved yields and quality produce, with income going directly into the pockets

of smallholder farmers. In 2021 alone, WFP purchased USD 4.4 million of sorghum from farmers supported by the CSAP. The initiative's original goal was to increase tradeable produce to 10,000 metric tons (mt) by 2022 and it had reached more than 25,000 mt as of 2021.

Kisima village is a prime example of the CSAP's impact. Located in Mpwapwa District, the village has a population of over 4,000 of which over 1,600 are farmers with a ratio of 50:50 men and female. Within two years of the project

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## HIGHLIGHTS

- Report Sheds Light on the Impact of Discriminatory Social Norms on Women's Empowerment
- SYP Realizing the potential of every young person: "Kijana Acha Alama"
- Official Launch and Dissemination of the Assessment Report of the Re-Entry Policy of Pregnant Adolescent Girl Students in Zanzibar
- Training on prevention and response to trafficking in persons in Kigoma region: a crucial tool in combatting human trafficking in Kigoma

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commencing, there has been an increase in productivity as farmers embraced new farming practices including the use of quality certified seeds, manure, crop rotation and use of threshers to reduce post-harvest loss. In the 2019 season, sorghum harvests in Kisima village was 600 kgs per acre. In 2021, productivity jumped to an average of 800-900 kgs per acre increasing farmers' income. Farmers are now food secure, and households have become more resilient. The project continues to change their lives in many ways. Connecting farmers directly to buyers has removed market in-

termediaries and increased the share of revenue going to farming households. The current sorghum price – Tsh. 550 per kg – is the highest the farmers in the village have ever secured from private buyers. This is an increase of 120 per cent compared with prevailing market rates before the initiation of the CSAP. *"This has never happened in my lifetime here in the village,"* said Kisima village chairperson.

Kisima village has experienced a spillover effect from these benefits such as an increase in income-generating activities through vegetable gardening and small

animal keeping. Additionally, more residents are constructing modern houses as more farmers transition from thatched roofed to iron corrugated houses. For 84-year-old farmer Makarangwa and his wife Anita, this has been life-changing. Towards the end of 2021, they completed the construction of their dream house. They moved into their new three-bedroom brick house roofed with corrugated iron sheets. *"We are celebrating our 63rd anniversary this year. It feels good to see that we can see our dream come to reality,"* said Makarangwa.



The Climate Smart Agriculture Project empowers smallholder farmers to practice sustainable production and marketing through training in good agricultural practices as well as access to improved post-harvest handling and storage. **Photo: © WFP**

## REPORT SHEDS LIGHT ON THE IMPACT OF DISCRIMINATORY SOCIAL NORMS ON WOMEN'S EMPOWERMENT



A community mobilizer speaking to residents of Kongwa District, Dodoma Region, at a meeting aimed at transforming gender discriminatory social norms. Photo: © UN Women

Tanzania has made significant efforts to promote women's empowerment and gender equality. National development plans have prioritized women's empowerment and taken a gender-sensitive approach with gender being mainstreamed in numerous sectoral policies. Yet, according to the UN Women and the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD) *Social Institutions and Gender Index (SIGI) Country Report for Tanzania*, deep-rooted discriminatory social norms and practices continue to affect women and girls' economic freedom and safety.

Launched on March 6th in the lead-up to International Women's

Day, the report, developed with support from the Government of Ireland and in collaboration with the National Bureau of Statistics (NBS) and the Office of Chief Government Statistician (OCGS) Zanzibar, provides a new evidence-based approach to promoting gender equality through the elimination of discriminatory social institutions.

It reveals new data on the role social norms and traditional gender roles play in limiting women's economic opportunities and decision-making in the home; the persistent barriers that threaten women and girls' physical autonomy - where 50 per cent of Tanzanian men and women believe

that a man can be justified in hitting or beating his wife under certain circumstances; and harmful practices such as child marriage - where in the last year, 16 per cent of women aged 20-24 years had been married, divorced or widowed before turning 18.

High-level and long-term actions recommended in the report include the need to update laws and eliminate legal provisions that discriminate against women and girls, integrate gender perspectives across all government ministries and sectors, and maintain and expand Tanzania's commitment and investment in sex-disaggregated data collection.

## SYP REALIZING THE POTENTIAL OF EVERY YOUNG PERSON: “KIJANA ACHA ALAMA”



UNFPA Representative, Mr. Mark Bryan Schreiner thanked the Government of Switzerland for their sustained support and highlighted the importance of empowering young people. Photo: © UNFPA Tanzania

The Safeguard Young People (SYP) programme was officially launched in Dar es Salaam, Tanzania, by the Deputy Minister of State in the Prime Minister's Office; Labour, Youth, Employment and Persons with Disability, Hon. Patrobas Katambi. SYP is a co-funded programme by United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA) and the Embassy of Switzerland to be implemented in Tanzania for three years (2021-2022) with a budget of approximately USD 5.1 million. This programme acknowledges and builds on the role of young people as change agents and partnering with them is at the

core of the programme.

“The SYP Programme in Tanzania is part of the implementation of a National Agenda. Therefore, I would like to take this opportunity to urge all implementing sectors and stakeholders to ensure that the implementation of the programme is in line with national goals for investment in health and youth development, but also in line with Vision 2025,” said Mr. Katambi.

The SYP program intends to improve the policy and legal environment for addressing young

people's issues, increase adolescents' and young people's knowledge and skills towards the adoption of protective sexual behaviour and scale up the integration of youth-friendly sexual reproductive health (SRH) and HIV services.

Speaking at the event, the UN Resident Coordinator, Mr. Zlatan Milisic, acknowledged the importance of youth involvement in finding solutions to their challenges. “I argue all of us who are here, Government, development partners, the UN family, youth organizations, young people and the private sector and the media to work

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together harmoniously in putting young people's agenda forward to reap the demographic dividend. Nothing for youth, without youth," he said.

UNFPA Representative, Mr. Mark Bryan Schreiner thanked the Government of Switzerland and highlighted the importance of empowering young people. "The SYP programme acknowledges and builds on the role of young people in making this continent better. Young people cannot be ignored any longer, and SYP builds on making sure that young people's voices are loud, precise, and clear.

Partnering with young leaders to move faster and deeper as we ensure the realization of sexual and reproductive health and rights for all of them in the region and the country," he emphasized.

At the national level, the programme will focus on interventions that create a conducive socio-economic, legal and policy environment and develop capacities for adolescents' SRH. At the regional and district level, the interventions will focus on strengthening the capacities of institutions to deliver quality life skills education and scale up integrated youth friendly service provision, including social

behaviour change and communication in and out of school.

*"I urge all of us who are here, Government, development partners, the UN family, youth organizations, young people, the private sector and the media to work together harmoniously in putting forward the young people's agenda so that Tanzania can reap the demographic dividend. Nothing for youth, without youth."*

**Mr. Zlatan Milisic,  
UN Resident Coordinator  
in Tanzania**

## GOVT, KOICA, UNOPS PARTNER TO IMPROVE SECONDARY SCHOOL EDUCATION IN ZANZIBAR



The Ministry of Education and Vocational Training, the United Nations Office for Project Services (UNOPS) and the Korean International Cooperation Agency (KOICA) are collaborating to improve the teaching and learning of science in schools in Zanzibar as part of KOICA's Enhancing Quality of Secondary School Education (EQSSE) project. Photo: © UNOPS/Atsushi Shibuya

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Funded by the Korea International Cooperation Agency (KOICA) as part of its Enhancing Quality of Secondary School Education (EQSSE) project in Zanzibar, the United Nations Office for Project Services (UNOPS) is working with the Ministry of Education and Vocational Training (MoEVT) in Zanzibar to improve the teaching and learning of science in secondary schools. This project supports UN Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) 4 to achieve quality education for all by 2030 and is aligned with the Government of Tanzania's Vision 2025.

UNOPS supports KOICA in the

delivery of the EQSSE project to improve science laboratories in which the infrastructure or materials are insufficient for quality learning – this has been identified as a key challenge for Zanzibar's Secondary Education. With funding of USD 3 million, UNOPS is set to build science laboratories and supply equipment to ten secondary schools in Pemba, Unguja and Tumbatu. The construction work commenced in April 2022 and will be completed by the end of the year.

KOICA Country Director for Tanzania, Mr. Kyuchool Eo, said the Government of the Republic of Korea will continue to support Tanzania in different sectors, especially

in the education sector. Mr. Eo hopes that the project will improve the quality of science classes and contribute to achieving the overall education system.

Project Manager and UNOPS Head of Office in Tanzania, John Fofanah, expressed his gratitude for the fruitful partnership with KOICA. He underscored commitments to deliver the new science laboratories with equipment and reagents for physics, chemistry, and biology classes while assuring all agreed health, safety, social and environmental guidelines are adhered to take place during the construction.

## OFFICIAL LAUNCH AND DISSEMINATION OF THE ASSESSMENT REPORT OF THE RE-ENTRY POLICY OF PREGNANT ADOLESCENT GIRL STUDENTS IN ZANZIBAR

UNESCO in collaboration with the Ministry of Education and Vocational Training (MoEVT) with support from the Swedish International Development Agency (SIDA) launched the *Re-entry Policy Assessment Report* in late March in Zanzibar.

The event brought together high-level representation from the Zanzibar House of Representatives, the MoEVT; the Ministries of Health and Information; SIDA; UN agencies; school committee leaders; headteachers; students; religious leaders; young mothers; parents; civil society; and media practitioners.

The event was officiated by the

Minister of Community Development, Elderly, Gender, and Children in Zanzibar, Hon. Riziki Pembe Juma, who called for communities to collaborate in the fight against sexual violence among adolescents and young children and ensure that no one is left behind in completing compulsory education. She said, "I urge the Government and private institutions, parents, guardians as well as teachers and the community at large to work together on eradicating child abuse and early pregnancies while ensuring no one is left behind in education."

UN Area Coordinator for Zanzibar, Ms. Dorothy Temu-Usiri, reiterated

the UN's commitment to ensuring that every girl is given the opportunity to complete their education and highlighted some of the UN's work in this area. "With the support of the re-entry policy, to prevent

early pregnancies, the United Nations has actively participated in increasing access to comprehensive sexuality education for 'young people in and out of school' and supporting the provision of youth friendly sexual reproductive health services," she said.

The report identified five leading factors that contribute to pregnant girls dropping out of school, which are: stigma, disgrace, suspended

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support from parents or relatives, poor understanding of the policy and additional parental duties. The results imply that factors that influence school dropout for pregnant adolescent learners vary geographically, culturally and traditionally in the context of Zanzibar.

Receiving limited support from their fathers is a challenge that all young mothers face and three testimonials given at the launch challenged male participants' perceptions by demonstrating that girls can prosper when they are given a second opportunity in ed-

ucation. Among those who shared their story was Dafroza Faustin, a young mother who completed basic education after receiving a second opportunity from the Mo-EVT. She is now a third-year student pursuing her Bachelor of Science in Nursing.



The Government, Swedish International Development Agency (SIDA) and UN launch the Assessment Report of the Re-Entry Policy of Pregnant Adolescent Girl Students in Zanzibar. From left to right: SIDA Representative, Ms. Theresia Moyo; UNESCO Officer-in-charge, Ms. Faith Shayo; Minister of Community Development, Elderly, Gender and Children in Zanzibar, Hon. Riziki Pembe Juma; Education Officer In-charge from Pemba, Muhamed Nassor Salim; UN Area Coordinator in Zanzibar, Ms. Dorothy Temu-Usiri. **Photo: © UNESCO**

## WHO LAUNCHES A NEW COUNTRY COOPERATION STRATEGY WITH GOVERNMENT OF TANZANIA



The World Health Organisation (WHO) Country Representative, Dr. Tigest Ketsela Mengestu (left), and Ministers of Health for Tanzania and Zanzibar - Hon. Ummu Mwalimu (center) and Hon. Nassoro Mazrui (right), launch WHO's new Country Cooperation Strategy. Photo: © WHO Tanzania

The World Health Organization (WHO) Tanzania Country Office launched the third WHO Country Cooperation Strategy (CCS) which provides a roadmap for WHO support to the United Republic of Tanzania for the next five years (2022-2027). The launch event took place in Dar es Salaam and gathered senior Government officials from Tanzania Mainland and Zanzibar, representatives of sister UN agencies, ambassadors, health partners, and members of the media.

In her remarks, the Minister of Health in Mainland, Honorable

Ummu Mwalimu who was the guest of honor, highlighted the relevance of having a cooperation strategy and cited achievements realized in the sector through support of health partners. "Tanzania has been successful in reducing newborn and child mortality, as well as childhood malnutrition. Mortality due to major communicable diseases including HIV, Tuberculosis (TB) and malaria is decreasing. The number of health facilities has nearly doubled, and medicines have become much more available. Domestic funding for health has doubled in the last decade but falls short of creating

access to quality care for all. Governance of the health sector was strengthened through decentralisation by devolution. The contribution of partners like WHO in the realization of the vision, goals and targets set by the Government is indispensable," she said.

The Minister of Health in Zanzibar, Hon. Nassor Mazrui, also recognized WHO's contributions to the health sector achievements highlighting that, "WHO has been working closely with the Revolutionary Government of Zanzibar through the Ministry of Health by

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availing resources for implementation of the Health Sector Strategic Plan III and contributed to notable reductions in the morbidity and mortality of under five children and significant reduction of malaria morbidity and mortality rates. We are pleased that this CCS has does not only respond to country needs and priorities but also addresses the vision of providing high-quality livelihoods to its people, as stated the Tanzania Development Vision 2025 and Zanzibar’s Vision 2050.”

Speaking on behalf of the UN in Tanzania, UN Resident Coordinator, Mr. Zlatan Milisic commended how well the Government, UN and

other stakeholders have been collaborating in the health sector over the years. “I commend the strong partnership between WHO, other sister UN Agencies, the Ministries of Health in Mainland and Zanzibar and all stakeholders which has facilitated delivery of complementary mandates. This CCS is therefore timely as we all have the responsibility to work together. I am confident that through continued partnership, the health sector will be able to meet its ambitious goals towards improving the health and well-being of the population,” he said.

WHO Tanzania Representative, Dr. Tigest Ketsela Mengestu ac-

knowledged the efforts and contributions that led to the development of the strategy. “Today, WHO renews its commitment to collaborate with the Government of the United Republic of Tanzania for the next five years towards achieving health sector goals in improving the health of its population and bringing in transformative changes in the health sector. We are confident that working together and guided by this strategy, the Ministry of Health, WHO and health partners in Tanzania will contribute towards a common mission to promote health, keep the world safe and serve the vulnerable,” she said.

## Key Focus Areas of WHO Country Cooperation Strategy

**Estimated Budget:**

**USD 73 Million**

Strengthening health systems to ensure universal access to quality reproductive, maternal, newborn, child and adolescent health (RMNCAH) and other essential health services.

Protecting communities against emergencies of infectious diseases and other public health events.

Reducing exposure of individuals to risk factors that threaten their health and well-being.

Improving efficiencies in the health sector through better, equitable health governance, leadership, and accountability.

## TRAINING ON PREVENTION AND RESPONSE TO TRAFFICKING IN PERSONS IN KIGOMA REGION: A CRUCIAL TOOL IN COMBATTING HUMAN TRAFFICKING IN KIGOMA



Immigration officers, magistrates, police officers, state attorneys, labor officers, social welfare officers, community development officer and community leaders recently met in Kigoma to work on improved solutions for responding to cases of trafficking in persons and violence against women and children (VAWC). **Photo:** © IOM Tanzania

The International Organisation for Migration (IOM) together with the Anti-Trafficking Secretariat under the Ministry of Home Affairs in Tanzania recently conducted a training for front-line workers and law enforcement officers on prevention and response to trafficking in persons in the Kigoma Region.

The capacity-building workshop was organized by IOM Tanzania in collaboration with the Anti-Trafficking Secretariat (ATS) under the framework of the United Nations Development Assistance Plan (UNDAP II) through the United Nations Kigoma Joint Programme (KJP) and in response to the National Plan of Action to End Violence Against Women and Children (NPA-VAWC 2017-2022).

The training featured participants from multiple sectors that are involved in response to cases of trafficking in persons and violence against women and children (VAWC) in the region. The objective of the training was to impart knowledge, skills and increase coordination among the law enforcement officers and frontline workers on prevention and responding to cases of trafficking in persons and violence against women and children.

The success of combating trafficking in persons requires multisectoral cooperation among actors, especially on prevention and response, while ensuring the victims of human trafficking receive maximum protection tailored to their needs. This training brought

together immigration officers, magistrates, police officers, state attorneys, labour officers, social welfare officers, community development officer and community leaders to find ways of working together for a successful response to cases of trafficking in persons and VAWC in Kigoma.

The training created synergies between law enforcement officers and frontline workers and also complimented the efforts of community leaders who have been facilitating community dialogues and awareness-raising sessions on prevention and response to VAWC in the three districts of Kigoma Region (Kasulu, Kakonko and Kibondo).

## 25 FRONTLINE VETERINARY OFFICERS GRADUATE FROM FAO'S USAID-FUNDED IN-SERVICE APPLIED VETERINARY EPIDEMIOLOGY TRAINING (ISAVET) PROGRAM



A graduate trainee receiving her certificate from the Permanent Secretary of the Ministry of Livestock and Fisheries, Mr. Tixon Nzunda (centre). Next to him are FAO Representative in Tanzania, Dr. Nyabenyi Tipo (immediate right) and Prof. Hezron Nonga, Director of Veterinary Services at the Ministry of Livestock and Fisheries (immediate left). **Photo: © FAO/Alice Maro**

Following a four-month home-based and field training programme under the supervision of academic and institutional mentors, 25 Tanzanian frontline veterinary officers recently graduated from the In-Service Applied Veterinary Epidemiology Training (ISAVET) programme. With funding from the United States Agency for International Development (USAID), the ISAVET programme was implemented through the Global Health Security Agenda (GHSA) initiative.

The ISAVET program allowed trainees to review surveillance data from health facilities and animal disease surveillance, as well as strengthen the network among all stakeholders for better prevention, detection, and response to emerging infectious diseases (EIDs) and transboundary animal diseases (TADs), including zoonoses in the country. Veterinary officers, data managers, laboratory technicians, and integrated disease surveillance and response (IDSR) focal persons were among the trainees.

The Permanent Secretary at the Ministry of Livestock and Ministry, Mr. Tixon Nzunda, officiated at the graduation ceremony, which was also attended by FAO and USAID representatives both online and in person. He urged the graduates to use their newly acquired knowledge to help improve Tanzania's health system and praised FAO for their ongoing support in strengthening the country's health security agenda.



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plementation of the Nutrition Sensitive Agriculture Action Plan (NSAAP) and the National Multisectoral Nutrition Action Plan (NMNAP). The NSAAP, which was funded by the EU, guides stake-

holders in the implementation and reporting of nutrition-sensitive agriculture, whereas the NMNAP, which is steered by the Prime Minister's Office (PMO) and coordinated by the Tanzania Food and Nutrition Centre (TFNC), is a

five-year strategy to combat malnutrition by scaling up prevention and management of micronutrient deficiencies and integrated management of acute malnutrition.

## WHO SUPPORTS CRITICAL CARE SERVICES IN ZANZIBAR

The COVID-19 pandemic has highlighted the need for a higher standard in the provision of critical care services to save lives in Zanzibar. An assessment conducted jointly by the Ministry of Health and the World Health Organisation (WHO) found gaps in the provision of standardized critical care management among health workers in Tanzania.

During the COVID-19 epidemic surges, it was found that there was a significant gap in the management of severely sick patients at all levels. The gaps ranged from lack of equipment to inadequate skills and knowledge for emergency and critical care management. For instance, Zanzibar had only four critical care nurses and one emergency physician.

Improper management of critically ill patients results in a significant mortality rate. The need for critical care services surged with the COVID-19 pandemic. As documented in different research initiatives, 15 per cent and 5 per cent of COVID-19 patients would experience severe and critical illness, respectively.

The Ministry of Health through the Directorate of Curative Services



has been collaborating with WHO and other stakeholders to build critical care capacities, including improving human resource skills. With support from WHO, 20 Medical officers and nurses from differ-

ent health care facilities in Zanzibar gained skills and experience through a clinical attachment under the guidance of critical care experts from Muhimbili National Hospital, a tertiary hospital in Dar es Salaam for two weeks in March 2022. The training sharpened clinical skills in the management of critically ill patients and is expected to improve the provision of critical care services in Zanzibar.

One of the participants, Dr. Masoud Hakim Bakari, an ear, nose and throat (ENT) specialist from Mnazi Mmoja referral hospital in

Mjini, said the training was useful because it was broad, and he gained knowledge about tests and equipment that he can use to improve the quality of service to patients.

“We have learnt practical skills and knowledge that I find useful in my work,” he said, adding that, “We are now advocating for procurement of key equipment that will facilitate further the application of this knowledge and skills.”

The trained medical personnel will be instrumental in improving critical care management in their respective health facilities. The trainees came from Mnazi Mmoja referral hospital, Kivunge hospital, Abdallah Mzee hospital, Makunduchi, Chake Chake, Wete hospital and Micheweni hospital.

## UPCOMING INTERNATIONAL DAYS

**22<sup>nd</sup> May** - International Day for Biological Diversity

**23<sup>rd</sup> May** - International Day to End Obstetric Fistula

**29<sup>th</sup> May** - International Day of UN Peacekeepers

**5<sup>th</sup> June** - World Environment Day

**7<sup>th</sup> June** - World Food Safety Day

**8<sup>th</sup> June** - World Oceans Day

**12<sup>th</sup> June** - World Day Against Child Labour

**13<sup>th</sup> June** - International Albinism Awareness Day

**14<sup>th</sup> June** - World Blood Donor Day

**20<sup>th</sup> June** - World Refugee Day

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