UNITED NATIONS TANZANIA

JOINT SDG FUND

Joint Programme on

DATA FOR DIGITAL AGRICULTURAL TRANSFORMATION (D4DAT)

INTRODUCTION

The Joint Programme on Data for Digital Agricultural Transformation (D4DAT) is a three-year (2024-2027) initiative co-financed by the European Union (EU) and the United Nations through the Joint SDG Fund. The US$3 million programme aims to drive Tanzania's agricultural transformation by harnessing digital technologies to enhance food security, empower rural communities, and accelerate the implementation of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), paying special attention to women and youth. The programme seeks to address the systemic challenges faced by smallholder farmers by improving digital infrastructure, data systems, and access to digital services to increase productivity and resilience in agriculture.

KEY PARTNERS

Gov. Tanzania

UNCDF (Lead Agency)

FAO

IFAD

FUNDING PARTNERS

MAIN GOALS

Aligning with the national priorities for transforming the agriculture sector, the programme will contribute to key SDG targets, including SDG 1 (No Poverty), SDG 2 (Zero Hunger), SDG 5 (Gender Equality), SDG 8 (Decent Work and Economic Growth), and SDG 13 (Climate Action).

Enhancing agricultural productivity — SDG 2

by improving data systems for evidence-based decision-making, particularly through a unified farmer registry.

Promoting economic empowerment — SDG 5

of rural communities, especially women and youth, through digital literacy and skills development.

Strengthening digital ecosystem — SDG 9

by supporting agri-tech solutions that provide critical services such as access to markets, extension services, and financial products.

Fostering Climate Resilence — SDG 13

by improving the capacity of smallholder farmers to adopt climate-smart agricultural practices.

KEY STRATEGY

To achieve its goals, the Joint Programme will implement a coordinated, multi-pronged approach utilising the following key strategies:

Leveraging Digital Platforms and Technology

The JP will implement a robust digital infrastructure that integrates data systems, enabling better decision-making for policymakers, Agri-tech companies, and smallholder farmers. This includes supporting interoperability and sharing of digital agricultural data, to better inform the development of more inclusive, evidence-based policies that effectively address the unique needs of smallholder farmers, especially women and youth. This is to ensure that planning, policy development and digital agricultural products and services are more targeted and responsive to the specific challenges faced by these grovups.

Building Capacity and Enhancing Skills

To ensure the sustainability of digital agricultural solutions, the programme will provide targeted training and capacity building for local government extension workers and smallholder farmers. This will focus on improving digital literacy and equipping farmers with the skills to effectively use digital platforms and technologies. Extension workers will be trained to support farmers in adopting climate-smart practices and utilising digital tools.

Strengthening Partnerships with Public and Private Sectors

The JP will foster strong partnerships between the government, private sector, and civil society organisations to develop and scale agri-tech solutions. By engaging tech startups, financial institutions, and market access platforms, the programme will drive innovation and ensure that digital services are tailored to meet the needs of smallholder farmers, particularly women and youth.

Ensuring Gender and Youth Inclusion

A core element of the JP's approach is empowering women and youth. The programme will prioritise their inclusion in all interventions, from access to digital tools and services to participation in decision-making processes. Gender-sensitive and youth-focused strategies will be embedded in all programme activities to ensure these groups benefit equitably from the digital transformation.

Facilitating Policy and Regulatory Support

The JP will work closely with the Government of Tanzania to ensure that supportive policies and regulations are in place to facilitate the digital transformation of agriculture. This includes promoting data-sharing policies, strengthening digital infrastructure, and ensuring the regulatory environment is conducive to the growth of agri-tech innovations.

MAIN BENEFICIARIES

The JP aims to directly benefit at least 500,000 smallholder farmers in Ruvuma, Manyara, Kigoma and Dodoma regions, focusing on empowering women (60%) and youth (20%). By building their digital literacy and improving their access to digital services, the programme will improve their capacity to increase agricultural productivity, access markets, and improve livelihoods.

TARGET REGIONS

Ruvuma Manyara Kigoma Dodoma

500,000 Smallholder Farmers

60% Women Farmers

20% Youth Engagement

Increased Productivity

Market Access

Betterlivelihoods