

## Promoting Climate Resilient Food Systems for Increased Agricultural Productivity and Food Security

Climate change threatens crop yields in Africa. Many countries across East Africa have been experiencing rising temperatures, unpredictable rainfall patterns, and increasing extremities such as floods and prolonged droughts. Climate change is having far-reaching consequences not only for the agricultural sector but also for the management of natural resources as well as the food security situation for the growing urban and rural population. It is estimated that the cost of inaction may add up to 20 fold the

investment costs of adapting agricultural practices now. This calls for solutions that integrate improvements in food security with climate adaptation and mitigation of food crop production and supply systems. This, together with leveraged investment in interventions that promote market-driven adoption and scaling of inclusive climate-smart business developments will enhance climate resilience along the selected agricultural value chains.

The population in East Africa has continued to grow, currently averaging 3% in Tanzania and Uganda, and 2.5% in Kenya. Food production in Kenya, Tanzania and Uganda will have to increase significantly to feed this growing population. Adoption of climate smart and ecologically sustainable production methods is key to improving productivity of the existing food crop production and supply systems. It however, requires concerted efforts and joint investments by supply chain and public partners, as well as support agencies in the different value chains to support effective adaptation and mitigation strategies.

The Climate Resilient Agribusiness for Tomorrow (CRAFT) project was designed to address these climate change related

challenges affecting the agriculture sector in in Kenya, Tanzania and Uganda. This five-year project, with funding from the Netherlands Ministry of Foreign Affairs, is implemented by SNV Netherlands Development Organisation in partnership with Wageningen University and Research, CGIAR's Research Program on Climate Change, Agriculture and Food Security, Agriterra, and Rabo Partnerships. The project will leverage €10 million in additional private sector investments. The consortium offers a strong platform to not only manage and coordinate a robust climate smart agriculture project, but also provide targeted technical assistance, business facilitation, as well as research and knowledge management support.



The overall project goal is to contribute to increased availability of accessible and climate resilient food for the growing population in Kenya, Tanzania and Uganda. This will be realized through the implementation of three strategic objectives, namely:

**01**  
**Increase income for smallholder farmers and SMEs**

Increased adoption of climate smart practices and technologies among smallholder farmers, SMEs and Cooperatives.



**02**  
**Increase business performance for agribusiness SMEs and cooperatives due to climate related investments.**

*This will be achieved through:*

Increased investments and business growth in climate smart value chains; and Increased involvement of women and youth agribusiness development.



**03**  
**Improve the enabling environment favourable for large scale roll out of CSA.**

Increased collaboration and exchange among public-private actors on large scale roll out of CSA.



*Cross cutting themes:*

Learning and Knowledge Sharing

Gender and Youth Inclusion



## Key Activities

- Climate risk analysis of major food value chains and identification of business opportunities in CSA;
- Business case development and climate smart investments support to the private sector, SMEs and cooperatives;
- Investment leveraging through facilitating access to finance;
- Policy influencing and operationalisation of climate plans;
- Feedback on practical applicability of CSA technologies, models and climate science;
- Knowledge sharing among countries and networks.

Knowledge sharing and learning will be a cross-cutting element of the project. Practices, technologies, approaches and methodologies that have proven to be successful will be shared and scaled to increase impact. Gender equality and opportunities for youth employment will be fully integrated in the project's implementation.

Through the application of an inclusive business approach to climate smart and resilient agriculture the project envisions not only attaining business impact, but also societal and environmental impact. The project thus expects to deliver impact in the following areas:

- Increased productivity and income for 300,000 smallholder farmers;
- Improved business performance for 50 agribusiness SMEs and 30 cooperatives (of which at least 25% are managed by women and/or youth);
- Climate resilient sustainable food production practiced on 600,000 hectares.

The CRAFT project objectives are in line with the current Multi-Annual Strategic Plans (MASP) of the Dutch Embassies in the three target countries, as well as the East African policies and plans on food security and climate change.