



NEWSLETTER

July - September 2024

ISSUE # 12



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MESSAGE FROM GARETH PHILLIPS

*MANAGER, CLIMATE & ENVIRONMENT
FINANCE DIVISION*

Dear Reader,

We are pleased to share with you the 3rd edition of our 2024 quarterly Newsletter. This edition highlights some progress in implementing the Africa Climate Change Fund's 2024 Work-plan.

During this reporting period, the ACCF launched its 4th Call for proposals aiming to select innovative and impactful proposals that will contribute to Gender Transformative Methane Reduction. The deadline for submission is November 29, 2024.

In Mozambique, the United Nations Population Fund convened a well-attended workshop on the impact of climate change on sexual and reproductive health and rights and gender equality.

In Senegal, the project implemented by sub-national governments, organized stakeholder's consultation meetings in Saint-Louis and Fatick Regions for Development of Concept Notes for submission to the Green Climate Fund and the Adaptation Fund.

In Malawi and Mozambique, the OXFAM Malawi raised awareness of local communities on ending violence against women and girls and promoted women's participation in climate resilience initiatives.

The African Technology Policy Studies Network and partners trained 72 National Focal Climate Change Champions across the 12 participating countries. Of these, 36 were contracted to collect national data in their respective countries.

The UNFCCC Regional Collaboration Centre conducted virtual trainings for Women Negotiators on gender and climate change with the objective to providing introductory sessions on the UNFCCC processes, international climate change governance and diplomacy, including negotiation preparations, techniques, and qualities of an excellent negotiator.

The IGAD trained seventy-six stakeholders (including local government officials, policy makers, Civil Society Organizations, grass root women and women leaders, and elders to promote gender transformative climate change adaptation in Mandera county of Kenya.

In Kenya, the Inclusive Climate Change Adaptation for sustainable development in Africa organized a gender transformative workshop with the objective of empowering Women with Disabilities to participate actively in climate action.

In Rwanda, the project contributed to business growth and promotion of product accessibility in Kirehe and Nyagatare districts by constructing fruit selling points and cold rooms for fruit conservation.

We look forward to sharing more about our project results in the coming months and hope you find our progress report insightful. Your feedback is invaluable to us, so please don't hesitate to reach out for further discussion on any relevant issues.

Thank you!

ACCF Launches Fourth Call-For-Proposals On Gender Transformative Methane Reduction



On October 31, 2024, the ACCF secretariat launched its fourth Call for proposals on Gender-Transformative Methane Reduction. Methane is the second most abundant greenhouse gas (GHG) after carbon dioxide (CO₂), accounting for 14 percent of global emissions. Though methane is emitted into the atmosphere in smaller quantities than CO₂, its global warming potential (i.e., the ability of the gas to trap heat in the atmosphere) is 25 times greater. As a result, methane emissions currently contribute more than one-third of today's anthropogenic (human-caused) warming. The Fund is seeking innovative and bankable proposals that:

- Address gender-specific challenges and vulnerabilities, ensuring that gender roles are adequately considered to enable women and men to equitably mitigate methane emissions.
- Support African countries in transitioning to gender-transformative methane reduction, fostering climate change mitigation, low-carbon development, and scaling up access to climate finance

The Call for proposals focuses on five priority Areas: (1) Supporting the empowerment of women, men, and youth through climate-smart agriculture using mitigation technologies and innovative practices to reduce methane emissions; (2) Supporting the enabling environment conditions for methane abatement in the oil and gas sector; (3) Supporting Gender-Transformative Solid Waste Management; (4) Supporting Gender-transformative Wastewater Methane Mitigation and Recovery Approaches; (5) Supporting African countries in achieving their Nationally Determined Contributions by using carbon markets as a transferable mechanism through the creation of comparable and transferrable carbon credits, across different industries and countries.

ACCF funding strategy is structured to award small grants ranging from \$250,000 to \$1 million, to beneficiaries, (i) Governments Ministries Departments and Agencies and Subnational Governments of Bank Regional Member Countries; (ii) Regional or sub-regional intergovernmental bodies and other intergovernmental organizations including climate centers, River basin organizations, regional economic communities from the public sector, UN Agencies may be considered on a case-by-case basis; (iii) African Funds; (iv) Non-governmental organizations and Community Based Organizations; (v) African research institutions and (vi) Private sector.

Proposals from consortia are allowed if all members of the consortium are eligible beneficiaries.

These potential beneficiaries must be legally registered in the following African Development Fund countries: Algeria, Angola, Benin, Botswana, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cameroon, Cape Verde, Central African Republic, Chad, Comoros, Congo, Côte d'Ivoire, Democratic Republic of Congo, Djibouti, Egypt, Equatorial Guinea, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Gabon, Gambia, Ghana, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Kenya, Lesotho, Liberia, Libya, Madagascar, Malawi, Mali, Mauritania, Mauritius, Morocco, Mozambique, Namibia, Niger, Nigeria, Rwanda, São Tomé & Príncipe, Senegal, Seychelles, Sierra Leone, Somalia, South Africa, South Sudan, Sudan, Swaziland, Tanzania, Togo, Tunisia, Uganda, Zambia, Zimbabwe.

All proposals must be submitted ONLY through a dedicated online platform available [HERE](#) before 23:59 GMT on November 29, 2024.

MOZAMBIQUE

UNFPA ESARO Takes Gender-Transformative Adaptation To Mozambique, Launches Regional Climate Innovation Challenge

The UNFPA held its second workshop on the impact of climate change on gender equality, sexual and reproductive health and rights (SRHR) in Maputo, Mozambique, from 20 to 23 August 2024. The workshop, which followed that in Kenya, was organized in collaboration with National Health Institute as part of the Resilient Future project funded by the ACCF.

The workshop was actively attended by 45 participants from different sectors and institutions including, environment management, climate change, DRR and humanitarian relief, national institutions, UN agencies, and civil society organizations. The UNFPA Representative, Mr. Cheikh Fall noted that women and girls, as seen in other countries, are disproportionately affected by disasters. Mr. Fall highlighted the impact of climate events on sexual and reproductive health rights and gender-based violence. and encouraged stakeholders to provide practical recommendations that enhance gender-transformative climate action for the well-being of women and girls, with focus on building a resilient future.

The last day of the workshop focused on gaps in national climate policies and plans, identifying opportunities for including SRHR and gender equality issues. This stakeholder consultation culminated with the draft of an Action Plan endorsed by the ministries represented in the workshop, which covered nine main areas:

Climate-Resilient Health Systems; SRHR, GBV, and other harmful practices; climate data and research; youth climate action; gender transformative approaches; Climate Finance; National Climate Policies; monitoring and Evaluations; and Natural Disasters Preparedness and Response. Policies; monitoring and Evaluations; and Natural Disasters Preparedness and Response.

The workshop highlighted the nexus between climate change, SRHR, and gender equality among the different participant stakeholders, and identified strategies to address the impacts of climate change on SRHR and gender equality in Mozambique. The workshop also made several recommendations for policy and program actions. Building on the momentum, the UNFPA Mozambique and Regional office identified a set of steps that can be implemented to advance the advocacy work which started with the workshop and ensure the implementation of the recommendations. One of these recommended included that UNFPA will work closely with the stakeholders involved in climate action (Government, CSO, INGOs, Youth Coalitions, etc.) to ensure that the workshop's outcomes are translated into concrete actions that improve the lives of women and girls in Mozambique.

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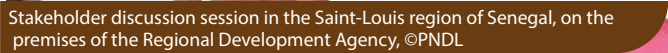


Group Photo of Participants to the workshop in Maputo, Mozambique, ©UNFPA

- Increased awareness of local stakeholders of the issues and challenges of climate change, and the need to create a collaborative dynamic around the issues of adaptation and resilience.

- If the projects are to be implemented in the future, these meetings will help to establish a constructive dialogue, which will ensure ownership by all stakeholders and is essential for success.

For more information, please contact: Babacar Dia at diababacar@hotmail.com.



Oxfam Raises Awareness On Ending Violence Against Women And Girls And Promotes Women's Participation In Climate Resilience Initiatives



Hon. Grace Kwerepeta speaking during the Campaign in Zomba District, ©OXFAM

Oxfam in Malawi, through its Gender Transformative Climate Resilience Initiatives for Malawi and Mozambique, recently spearheaded an awareness campaign to address two critical issues: Ending Violence Against Women and Girls (EVAWG), and promoting women's participation in climate resilience efforts. The project aims to foster gender-transformative, low-carbon, and climate-resilient development in vulnerable communities, with a specific focus on empowering women and girls.

On August 7, 2024, Oxfam held a campaign in Traditional Authority Mwambo in Zomba District to raise awareness about the roles and responsibilities of local leaders, including chiefs, Members of Parliament, and women's movements such as Rural Women Assemblies, in tackling EVAWG. A major part of the event also centered on promoting women's involvement in climate resilience initiatives, such as diversified crop production and irrigation farming. These initiatives are essential for improving food security and ensuring women's economic empowerment in a safe and sustainable way.

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The campaign saw a total of 375 attendees, including 145 men and 230 women, and provided a platform to share key messages on EVAWG and women's roles in climate resilience. Through the Gender Transformative Climate Resilience Initiatives project, participants were encouraged to take part in development governance systems and politics to further empower women in their communities.

The event also featured a display of agricultural products cultivated by rural women's groups, underscoring the success of these women in climate-smart agriculture.

A highlight of the day was the presentation of certificates to local traditional leaders, including T.A. Mwambo and Group Village Headmen Chirunga and Mindando, recognizing their roles as champions in ending gender-based violence (GBV) within their communities. These leaders were encouraged to take a proactive stance in raising awareness about GBV prevention and reporting mechanisms, helping to build safer and more resilient communities.

Ms. Lingalireni Mihowa, Oxfam's Country Representative in Malawi, served as the Guest of Honour at the event. She emphasized the importance of the ACCF-funded project's key interventions, which span areas such as transformative leadership, EVAWG advocacy, climate-smart agriculture, small-scale irrigation farming, and women's participation in governance systems. She reaffirmed Oxfam's commitment to supporting communities impacted by recent climate shocks, ensuring that all project activities are geared towards improving the welfare of the affected populations.

Through these campaigns, Oxfam is not only advancing the fight against gender-based violence but also advocating for greater women's involvement in climate resilience initiatives. By focusing on both EVAWG and climate resilience, Oxfam aims to create more inclusive, equitable, and sustainable communities across Malawi.

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For more information, please contact: Elias Khozombwe at ekhozombwe@oxfam.org.uk.

Driving Africa's Climate Ambitions: A Collaborative Path To Tracking NDC Implementation Progress

The African Technology Policy Studies Network, in collaboration with the Pan African Climate Justice Alliance and the West Africa Green Economics Development Institute, is executing the ACCF-funded project titled 'Building the Capacity of Selected Sub-Saharan African Countries to Effectively Measure Progress in their NDCs Implementation Using Tracking Tools and Indexes', across 12 Africa countries.

A major highlight of the project is the development of a specialized NDC implementation tracking tool and index, designed to assist countries in monitoring essential elements like governance, finance, mitigation, adaptation, and Measurement, Reporting, and Verification systems. Identifying gaps and highlighting successes, the project not only enhances national climate policies but also encourages collaboration between and amongst countries in the region.

One of the most notable achievements of the project in the last quarter is the training of 72 National Focal Climate Change Champions across the 12 participating countries (six per country). Out of these, 36 were contracted to collect national data in their respective countries. These champions serve as key connections between their national governments and the project team, ensuring the smooth deployment of the data collection tools and supporting climate strategies on the ground. Significantly, 30% of the champions are women, which is a deliberate effort to ensure gender inclusivity in the project. This approach recognizes the critical role women play in climate action and ensures that their voices and perspectives are well-represented. By bringing this gender balance into the project ensures that a range of experiences and ideas are contributing to the development of more comprehensive climate solutions.

The co-development of a robust data collection tool, tailored to the specific needs and targets from each country, was another key milestone during the last quarter. The tool tracks progress in critical areas such as financial commitments, governance systems, mitigation strategies, adaptation actions, and MRV systems. Involving the National Climate Change Champions in the development process ensured that the tool was practical, relevant, and aligned with national priorities and will be able to measure actual achievements against set targets from each country.

This collaborative effort has laid a strong foundation for accurate data collection, which will provide valuable insights for improving future climate policies and strategies.

Capacity building has been at the heart of this initiative. To ensure that the champions can effectively use the data collection tools, two regional workshops were held during the last quarter that brought together participants from all the participating 12 countries. These workshops not only provided deeper technical insights on the subject matter but also created an opportunity for knowledge exchange and the sharing of best practices amongst the participating countries. The sense of community and collaboration fostered during these workshops have been instrumental in promoting cross-border cooperation on climate action.

Looking ahead, the project will be showcased at the upcoming NDC.3 Regional Forum in Kigali, Rwanda, from 7-9 October 2024. This event is a significant opportunity to present the initial findings from the data collection efforts and demonstrate the innovative tracking tools and indexes developed as part of the project ahead of the Conference of Parties (COP 29) in Baku. The forum will provide a platform for the project team to engage with a wider network of climate stakeholders, share results so far, and discuss emerging challenges.

As the project progresses, the focus will shift towards analysing the data that were collected and generating NDC implementation indexes for each country. These indexes will clearly indicate how well each country is advancing toward its NDC targets and where further improvements are

As the project progresses, the focus will shift towards analysing the data that were collected and generating NDC implementation indexes for each country. These indexes will clearly indicate how well each country is advancing toward its NDC targets and where further improvements are necessary. The indexes generated could inspire healthy competition when country performances are analysed and compared. This could spur and encourage countries to enhance their performances and climate ambitions. In the coming months, the project team will continue to support the National Climate Change Champions, equipping them with the knowledge and tools needed to advocate for more ambitious climate policies at the national level. As the data collection phase continues and the project's findings are shared, the initiative promises to shape the future of climate policy in the region and contribute significantly to global efforts to combat climate change impacts.

For more information please contact: Dr. Nicholas Ozor, at executivedirector@atpsnet.org or visit the project's website at:



Sierra Leone Climate champions and NDC Focal Persons during the training on the use of NDC tracking tools that took place in Freetown, Sierra Leone ©ATPS

UNFCCC Regional Collaboration Centre Conducts Training For Women And Gender Negotiators

The UN Climate Change Regional Collaboration Centre for East and Southern Africa (RCC ESA Africa), with funded from the Africa Climate Change Fund is implementing a project to build the capacities of women and gender negotiators in 19 countries of the East and southern African region to enhance their knowledge in undertaking Gender Transformative action related to Climate Change policies in their respective capacities.

From 18th June to 12th July 2024, the project convened a virtual training of 6 modules delivered by the Africa Group of Negotiators Expert Support (AGNES) team. The training aimed at:

- Providing introductory sessions on the UNFCCC processes, international climate change governance and diplomacy, including negotiation preparations, techniques, and qualities of an excellent negotiator.
- Exploring priority thematic UNFCCC workstreams through a gender and intersectional lens, including adaptation, mitigation, means of implementation (climate finance, capacity building, technology development and transfer), transparency, Loss and Damage, and just transition.
- Discussing the evolution of gender consideration in the UN Climate Change process, including relevant mandates and initiatives like the 5-year enhanced Lima Work Programme on Gender and expectations towards the future.

The choice of a virtual training allowed participation of 4 people from each of the 19 countries in the region, nominated by their UNFCCC National Focal Point. Throughout the training period, there was an average attendance of 60 participants daily. Prior to the training, a pre-assessment survey was carried out and all the respondents were interested in gaining a better understanding of gender mainstreaming in climate policy; enhancement of their negotiations skills in the context of climate change;

and learning about the current priorities in climate change negotiations and climate action – these are important elements that would contribute to their readiness to provide informed input and undertake Gender Transformative action in relation to Climate Change policy formulation in their different roles.

The methods used included hands-on simulation and role-playing which were integral to the training and provided a practical and experiential learning opportunity.

The overall quality of the training was highly rated by participants, with 53% rating it as excellent and 45% as good, giving an overall rating of 98% of the trainees perceiving the quality as either excellent or good.

The result demonstrated that majority of the participants felt adequately equipped with skills to integrate gender considerations into their daily work while also actively engaging in climate change negotiations. The survey also assessed the relevance of the training to participants' current role and responsibilities, where most participants (61%) agreed that the training was highly relevant to their current roles and responsibilities. This is an indication that the knowledge and skills gained from the training is likely to be put into daily practice, underscoring the significance of the training.

In conclusion, and as a way forward, testimonials received from participants pointed out how they intended to use the knowledge gained, and there were several responses spanning from using the skills in global climate negotiations, to developing gender and climate change action plans, application to other multilateral environmental agreements, and mentoring others. These are important indicators as the skills would solidify their knowledge towards ensuring they provide input that should eventually embed Gender Transformative approaches in decision making and policy discussions.

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The National Gender Climate Change Focal Points and other stakeholders including participants from Regional Bodies – EAC and IGAD in one of the workshops in Nairobi

Seventy-Six stakeholders Trained To Promote Gender Transformative Climate Change Adaptation In Mandera County Of Kenya



Training of women leaders and women led organizations, ©IGAD

From 23rd – 28th September 2024, IGAD conducted series of trainings targeting local government officials, policy makers, Civil Society Organizations (CSOs), grass root women and women leaders/elders in Mandera County to bridge the capacity and awareness gaps on the need to close the gender gap in planning and decision-making processes on climate change policies and interventions at national and local levels. The trainings also aimed at enhancing capacities of participants to drive gender transformative climate resilience initiatives by providing them with comprehensive knowledge, practical skills, and strategic tools necessary to effectively address climate change impacts, advocate for gender-responsive approaches and implement and monitor sustainable solutions within their communities. The trainings were attended by 76 participants (with 53% women) drawn from various institutions and traditional structures.

"Women bear the brunt of climate change more than men because they undertake a lot of work at their homesteads. This being a patriarchal society, the law and community tradition are discriminatory on the part of women as they rarely participate in key decision making. We are thankful to IGAD for empowering women in leadership to up their voices on matters of decision-making pertaining to their livelihoods." Mr Patrick Meso

The trainings created awareness across relevant actors and enhanced understanding on the systemic inequalities that can lead to differential vulnerability to climate change impacts for women, men, and other sections of the community. This collaborative project also significantly contributes towards creating safe spaces that encourage acutely vulnerable women to actively participate in land reform processes and be at the center of gender transformative climate change adaptation programmes and plans. IGAD, through its convening mandate of facilitating dialogue and provision of technical support to its Member States, will continue to advocate for increased representation and empowerment of women from national to community-levels to advance the development of effective climate change mitigation and adaptation policies and strategies at all levels.

It is generally acknowledged that women and girls face the heaviest burden of climate change because of limited access and/or ownership to productive resources such as education, land, agricultural inputs and extension services, modern technologies and tailor-made financial services. Yet, women play pivotal role in successful dissemination of adaptation and mitigation interventions through their critical knowledge, experience, agency and unique role in agriculture, food security, livelihoods, income generation, management of households and natural resources in diverse ecosystems. The differential impacts of climate change on men and women are more noticeable in regions like IGAD (Intergovernmental Authority on Development) where violent conflict, political instability and economic strife continue to challenge Member States in achieving sustainable socio-economic development.

IGAD acknowledges that integrating gender in climate action at regional and national levels is important to guarantee solutions that will transform the root causes of the inequalities faced by women for a just climate transition. However, the lack of capacity and proper advocacy platforms is among the main reasons restraining women's engagement in political decisions making processes related to climate change and land governance. Against this backdrop, IGAD is implementing a project focusing on "Enhancing gender equality in access to land resources for transformative climate change adaptation in the IGAD region" with funding from the Africa Climate Change Fund (ACCF) of the African Development Bank (AfDB). The overall goal of the project is to enhance gender transformative climate resilience through equal access to and security of tenure over land and other natural resources.

The project's target countries are Djibouti (Tadjoura), Kenya (Mandera County) and Uganda (Kotido).

For more information, please contact: Mrs Joselyn Bigirwa at at.Joselyn.Bigirwa@igad.int

Empowering Women With Disabilities: Building An Inclusive Climate Action Alliance

On September 18 and 19, 2024, Nairobi hosted a transformative workshop aimed at empowering Women with Disabilities (WWD) to participate actively in climate action. This event, organized by the Inclusive Climate Change Adaptation for a Sustainable Africa (ICCASA) and the Centre for Minority Rights Development (CEMIRIDE), marked the official launch of **the African Alliance for Women with Disabilities in Climate Action (AWAC)**. The event is part of the Strengthening the Voices of Women with Disabilities to Actively Participate in Climate Change Policy and Negotiations (STREVOW) project funded by the African Development Bank's Africa Climate Change Fund (ACCF). The STREVOW project focuses on amplifying the voices of women with disabilities across 12 Eastern African countries: Burundi, Comoros, Ethiopia, Kenya, Madagascar, Malawi, Mauritius, Rwanda, Seychelles, South Sudan, Tanzania, and Uganda.

The workshop gathered women from Eastern Africa, focusing on capacity building and the creation of an alliance that addresses the unique challenges WWDs face in climate action. Its goals were twofold: to enhance WWD's advocacy skills and leadership potential and to establish a network for ongoing collaboration for inclusive climate action in the region.

Women with Disability across Eastern Africa shared their personal experiences, illustrating how climate change disproportionately affects them. Faustina Urassa from Tanzania recalled being left behind during a flood due to her physical disability, highlighting the need for heightened public awareness of the vulnerabilities faced by WWDs during climate emergencies. Similarly, South Sudan's Caroline Atim emphasized the economic and cultural barriers that limit WWD participation in decision-making processes, calling for better facilitation of such women in climate-related discussions.

Paul Mugambi, a disability-inclusive humanitarian expert from Kenya, spoke about the importance of assistive technology in empowering WWDs and stressed the need for innovative solutions to ensure their full participation in climate action.

During expert discussions, the need for WWDs to play a greater role in climate decision-making was repeatedly stressed. Dr. Cromwel Lukorito, Vice Chair of IPCC Working Group II, called on WWDs to contribute to collective climate action, and stakeholders should avoid redundancy by scaling proven solutions. Hawa Gedi from IGAD stressed that while Africa has comprehensive climate policies, stakeholders must align with these frameworks to ensure WWD inclusion.

Experts also underscored the need for disaggregated data

collection on WWDs to guide inclusive policymaking, ensuring marginalized groups are not overlooked.

Government representatives at the meeting expressed their dedication to advancing inclusive climate policies. Yvonne Ndanu, representing the State Department for Gender and Affirmative Action, emphasized that empowering people with disabilities (PWDs) in climate negotiations fosters justice and equality while creating more resilient climate strategies. Similarly, Michael Okumu, Deputy Director of the Climate Change Directorate, reaffirmed the government's commitment to providing WWDs with the tools and skills needed to participate in climate change policy discussions at all levels.

The 2-days workshop achieved key significant results as below:

1. **AWAC Formation:** African Alliance for Women with Disabilities in Climate Action (AWAC), a network designed to empower and unify WWDs across Africa was launched. AWAC will provide a platform for collaboration, advocacy, and sharing of resources to ensure that the voices of WWDs are heard in climate policy and action.
2. **Capacity Building:** Participants gained crucial advocacy and leadership skills to engage in climate policy at national and international levels.
3. **Data Collection:** Participants committed to gathering data on WWDs to drive inclusive policy.
4. **Accessibility:** Calls were made for greater accessibility in public participation and decision-making processes.
5. **COP29 Participation:** Lessons from the workshop will be used to prepare WWDs for active involvement in COP29's Gender Day.
6. **Case Study Documentation:** Participants will document the impacts of climate change on WWDs to support advocacy for more inclusive policies.
7. **Gender Lens in Policy:** Future climate programs and policies will include considerations of gender and disability.

Overall, the creation of AWAC marked a new era of inclusive climate advocacy in Africa. Armed with new knowledge and a collaborative network, participants are now well-equipped to push for change at forums like COP29 and beyond.

For more information, please contact: Wambui Muchaba at tmuchaba@iccasa-africa.org



Participants at the WWD Alliance workshop in Nairobi, September 2024 – ©ICCASA

Constructing Fruit Selling Points And Cold Rooms For Business Growth And Promotion Of Product Accessibility In Kirehe And Nyagatare Districts



Handover of the selling point and cold room to the Mayor of Kirehe, ©ICRAF

Fruits are fragile produce that depreciate their quality and price after harvesting if not well stored due to their perishable nature. In Rwanda, selling points are built to facilitate business growth and promote product accessibility. The introduction of a cold room to preserve the quality of fruits and reduce fruit wastage was an innovative twist to promoting trade and market. Selling points and cold room were constructed in Kirehe and Nyagatare districts. The two selling points have the capacity to accommodate 73 (each) fruits and vegetables sellers. The associated cold room serve as the short-term storage of the unsold produce and allow farmers to sell fruits at a realistic price without worrying on their spoilage, while at the same time reducing fruit wastage. The temperature of the cold room varies between 5 to 8 degrees Celsius and use solar panel as source of cheaper and clean source of energy. These facilities have increased farmers' resilience to climate change risks through access to markets for their farm produce. The facilities, selling points and cold room, are pivotal to food security, income generation and contribution to the economic transformation especially in rural areas. The selling point and cold room of Kirehe are operational and were handed over to the local authorities and farmer beneficiaries in the presence of the implementers (ICRAF, University/ CoEB, RAB), donor represented by the AfDB Rwanda Country Office, Mayor of Kirehe district and farmer beneficiaries on August 1, 2024.

During the handover ceremony, Dr. Athanase Mukuralinda who spoke on behalf of the project implementing consortium members, thanked the AfDB/ACCF for funding the project and local authorities for their contribution by offering land. He also commended farmers who planted massive fruit trees and beneficiaries of these facilities.

On behalf of the AfDB Country Director, Bernis Byamukama expressed appreciations to the project team for the good transformative work, adding that the Bank will continue to support projects that aim at enhancing farmers' resilience to climate change shocks.

The mayor of Kirehe encouraged beneficiaries of the selling point and the cold room to maintain the property for their full benefit thereof. He applauded the implementers and the AfDB for contributing to the development of Rwanda and particularly to the district of Kirehe. Considering the accessibility of the market by the buyers, he was grateful that there would be mutual benefit of both the sellers (income generation) and the passengers (food accessibility) using the road.

Beneficiaries expressed their satisfaction and commented that the cold room will allow them to keep everything which was not sold, hence avoiding wastage and loss while increasing their income. The selling point in Kirehe is used by 72 people in total, 62 women and 10 men.

The selling point and cold room were handed over to the Kirehe district authorities for management and maintenance beyond the project lifespan. The selling point and cold room are located on the main road of Tanzania - Kigali and suggests that this strategic point will lead to vibrant market that will contribute to significant reduction of poverty and resilience to climate change.

The Nyagatare selling points and cold room will be handed over in October 2024.

For more information, please contact: Rose Onyango at R.Onyango@cifor-icraf.org.

OUR DONORS





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