



Tanzania

Tanzania boasts diverse cultures and landscapes. Since the mid-1990s, the country has experienced steady economic growth. Agriculture remains a key driver of the country's economy, accounting for approximately 28% of its [GDP](#) and providing [livelihoods](#) to over 75.5% of the population. With its current growth rate, Tanzania's population is expected to [reach](#) 140 million by 2050.

A high urbanisation growth rate accompanies rapid population growth, and while these factors create opportunities, they also put a strain on the environment. Expanding farmland, for instance, has consumed forests and is a key reason Tanzania ranks third in Africa for deforestation, losing 469,000 hectares [annually](#). This phenomenon contributes to land degradation that affects over half the country.

Since 1973, SNV has been working in Tanzania, leveraging technical expertise and strategic partnerships across the energy, water, and agri-food sectors. The organisation collaborates with the Government of Tanzania, donors, and partners to build climate-smart solutions that accelerate the achievement of Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). SNV aims to contribute to the country's development agenda by advancing sustained investment and meaningful systems change that are crucial in making a lasting impact.



633K people

gained access to improved water, agri-food, and energy services.



Over 28.5K smallholder farmers and cooperatives

embraced climate-resilient agriculture.



2.2K people

contributed to climate change mitigation through training on environmental sustainability.



More than 600K improved cookstoves sold

expanding the adoption of clean cooking practices.

** 2024-2025 achievements



Responding to the climate crisis

Climate change is causing erratic rainfall, frequent floods, and prolonged droughts in Tanzania, all of which make environmental and livelihood challenges steeper. In an effort to address these challenges, the Government of Tanzania has launched the [National Climate Change Response Strategy \(2021-2026\)](#), which guides climate adaptation and mitigation efforts across various sectors. It focuses on sustainable land use, water resource management, and the protection of ecosystems.

SNV supports the government's efforts by advancing climate resilience and inclusive development through an integrated approach. It promotes climate-smart agriculture by encouraging income and crop diversification, adoption of drought-resistant seeds, and dryland restoration among other measures. To ensure equitable access to water resources, SNV reinforces watershed and wetland governance, contributing to groundwater protection and recharge by installing climate-resilient latrines.

SUSTAIN Eco | Three regions | 2023-26 | €2M

The Sustainability and Inclusion Strategy for Growth Corridors in Africa – Ecological Landscapes (SUSTAIN Eco) programme focuses on enabling healthy ecosystems and thriving communities by improving governance, implementing sustainable management practices, and investing in biodiversity conservation.

SUSTAIN Eco promotes nature-based solutions and integrated landscape management in Rukwa, Katavi, and Morogoro regions. Since 2023, the programme has trained 70 Water User Association members, educated 232 community members on environmental laws, and supported nearly 1,000 farmers with climate-smart agriculture and agroforestry techniques. It has established 16 village natural resource committees, protecting 2,000 hectares along key rivers, and supported beekeeping initiatives to generate income and promote forest conservation.

Partners: SIDA, SNV, IUCN, and AWF

CRAFT | Multi-country | 2018-25 | €12.1M

The Climate Resilient Agriculture for Tomorrow (CRAFT) is a multi-country programme that addresses climate change-related challenges in the agricultural sector. In Tanzania, CRAFT supports agribusinesses that commit to inclusive, climate-resilient practices, offering a clear value proposition for all stakeholders, particularly smallholder farmers.

CRAFT has partnered with 21 agri-enterprises and cooperatives to co-develop and co-fund climate-smart business concepts and cases. Through its Climate Innovation and Investment Facility, CRAFT supports agribusinesses in implementing their business cases and becoming resilient to climate change. To date, 68,799 smallholder farmers have adopted climate-resilient farming practices, and 39,885 farmers have reported increased incomes.

Partners: DGIS, SNV, WUR, ILRI CGIAR, Agriterro, and Rabo Partnerships

SCRP | Simiyu Region | 2023-25 | €399K

The Simiyu Climate Resilience Project (SCRP) focuses on building climate resilience across the Busega, Bariadi, and Itilima districts, with a special emphasis on empowering women and small-scale farmers. The project integrates behaviour change communication and sanitation improvement strategies, enhancing access to hygiene facilities and reducing environmental impact.

SCRP supports the construction of 1,000 water-saving latrines and promotes the development of sustainable, gender-sensitive public toilets. So far, it has completed 80 latrine substructures, made 22 toilets ready for use, and developed 131 latrine substructure types. By pairing infrastructure with local engagement, SCRP promotes sustainable sanitation solutions and enhances public health outcomes. These targeted projects lay the groundwork for sustainable development and climate-adaptive living in the Simiyu Region.

Partners: Green Climate Fund, KfW, Government of Tanzania, and SNV

Accelerating inclusive development

As of 2024, Tanzania has demonstrated strong [labour force participation](#), with rates of 87.4% for men and 80.2% for women; however, a 9.1% employment gap persists. Rural communities face food insecurity, with many dependent on subsistence farming lacking access to markets and climate-resilient technologies.

In response, Tanzania's Third [Five-Year Development Plan](#) (FYDP III 2021/22–2025/26) prioritises inclusive growth through investments in education, health, infrastructure, and job creation. Furthermore, Tanzania's active participation in global development platforms (UN Climate Conference, African Union Agenda 2063) is indicative of its ongoing commitment to inclusive initiatives and strategic collaboration. SNV promotes inclusive development by equipping stakeholders with the critical knowledge and fostering the connections needed to scale innovations.

EnDev | Nationwide | 2023-26 | €3.5M

The Energising Development (EnDev) programme focuses on building sustainable markets for improved cookstoves and e-cooking technologies. Over the past decade, SNV has developed and expanded a significant national clean cooking programme in the country, contributing to its widespread adoption.

EnDev employs a market-based approach to provide affordable and sustainable clean cooking solutions to people. Today, over 150 cookstove entrepreneurs across 20 regions sell an average of 118,000 cookstoves every year. To reach last-mile households, EnDev is collaborating with local partners, including solar companies, e-cooking suppliers, and Savings and Credit Cooperative Societies, to create awareness and provide financing for the clean cooking technologies. By promoting clean cooking, EnDev is reducing fuel consumption, enhancing health, and lowering household costs.

Partners: Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Netherlands, Norad, SDC, GIZ, Netherlands Enterprise Agency and SNV

NOURISH Tanzania | Five regions | 2024-28 | €17.1M

The Empowering Smallholder Farmers for Food Security and Climate Resilience (NOURISH) project contributes to strengthening the food security of 168,000 smallholder households in the regions of Manyara, Singida, Dodoma, Songwe, and Rukwa. These regions face high levels of food insecurity and malnutrition, and are particularly vulnerable to the impacts of climate change.

As part of the project, 115 extension officers received specialised training on soil health, and 4,800 soil samples were analysed, providing evidence-based information on best practices for soil health. Across the regions, connecting 6,000 farmers to trusted input suppliers facilitated their access to quality farming inputs, and more than 400 lead farmers were introduced to climate-smart agriculture methods. Closer to home, 500 community health workers were trained in essential nutrition practices, helping disseminate this information across households.

Partners: Norad, SNV, Farm Africa, T MARC, MIICO, and RECODA

'At first, I sold stoves on the streets and in various markets. However, after collaborating with Clean Cooking Advocates as sales agents, I have increased my sales and saved time for other activities like spreading awareness about the proper use of energy.'

Juma Anthony, Jiko Matawi,
Producer, Mwanza region.



Strengthening governance and institutions

Inclusive governance is increasingly recognised as key to addressing diverse community needs. Tanzania has embraced this by promoting decentralised structures that empower local authorities and residents through participatory processes. Initiatives such as the [National Development Vision 2025](#) and Tanzania's [Climate Change Strategy](#) underscore the government's commitment to community-led approaches and integrated planning. Communities are now engaged in shaping development priorities through village, ward, and district-level committees.

SNV strengthens institutional capacities, ensuring they are accountable, effective, and transparent in delivering sustainable development. Through partnerships, policy support, and stakeholder engagement, the organisation fosters inclusive governance and helps communities build responsive structures that accommodate the needs of all. Participatory decision-making ensures equity in the delivery of public services for water, energy, and agri-food.

IKI KATUMA | Katuma Catchment Area | 2024-27 | €500K

The Conservation of Biodiversity in Wetlands through Integrated Water Resources Management (IKI Katuma) programme aims to strengthen local institutional capacity in managing land and water resources. It seeks to generate tangible outcomes that could serve as a blueprint for similar changes nationwide.

The purchase of hydrological monitoring equipment and capacity-building efforts with the Rukwa Basin Authority are enabling more effective prediction and management of hydrological flows and water quality. Water resource management by diverse sectors is enhanced by user-friendly hydrological information templates, which help bridge communication gaps. These systems enable more informed, timely, and inclusive decision-making processes.

Partners: BMUV, International Climate Initiative, GIZ, Rikolto, IUCN and SNV

WS4H | Multi-country | 2024-27 | €5.8M

The WASH Systems for Health (WS4H) partnership supports Tanzania and Malawi in strengthening systems for reliable and inclusive WASH services. In Tanzania, WS4H is active in six districts, where it focuses on professionalising rural water supply, implementing safe sanitation models, promoting responsive hygiene, and ensuring sustainable WASH in healthcare facilities. These efforts contribute to a reduction in preventable maternal, child, and infant deaths.

The initiative has strengthened government institutions, from the ministry-level to district WASH authorities, by focusing on systems transformation linked to planning, financing, as well as learning and adaptation. Furthermore, the partnership is advancing the country's vision of safely managed sanitation by contributing to regulatory processes that are being adopted through policies and guidelines.

Partners: FCDO, Water for People, and SNV

WASH SDG | Multi-country | 2017-24 | €59M

The seven-country WASH SDG programme improved sanitation and hygiene across five towns in Tanzania, reaching over 53,000 people, increasing access to safely managed sanitation by 67%. A key milestone was the launch of the first Faecal Sludge Treatment Plant (FSTP) in Shinyanga in January 2022, which now functions as a learning centre for other city governments. The plant serves 200,000 residents, and its treatment technology was selected through an informed and deliberative process involving multiple stakeholders.

Working with a systems approach, WASH SDG supported sanitation workers to organise and advocate for their rights to occupational health and protective equipment. The partnership successfully negotiated the formal recognition of their work and supported the development of national policies relating to on-site sanitation and climate risk screening.

Partners: Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Netherlands, Shinyanga and Arusha local governments, and SNV

SNV is a global development partner deeply rooted in the African and Asian countries where we operate. With 60 years of experience and a team of approximately 1,600 people, we strengthen capacities and catalyse partnerships that transform agri-food, energy and water systems. Working on the core themes of gender equality and social inclusion, climate adaptation and mitigation, and strong institutions and effective governance, we tailor our approaches to different contexts to achieve large-scale impact and create sustainable and more equitable lives for all.

Contact SNV in Tanzania

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Visit the SNV website for an overview of our projects in Tanzania.

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