

Integrating Climate Action Across the Mission

Embassy of Ireland Tanzania, Approach Paper, November 2019

This paper provides an update on the Embassy's approach to-date in integrating Climate Action across all the work of the Mission. It is designed to contribute to the Mission's Midterm Review and inform future Strategy.

Key Messages:

- *Integrating Climate change into "all our programmes" will not happen without taking strategic and practical action. To scale up Climate Action in our Mission strategy requires a specific climate action plan, and sustained technical support of the Mission team and selected partners.*
- *A gender responsive climate adaptive approach to integrating climate action into programmes will reduce the burden on women and girls and contribute to sustain positive development outcomes.*
- *The Mission in Dar es Salaam should lead by example and demonstrate Ireland's commitment to reduce carbon emissions and contribute to address climate change impacts in Tanzania.*

Background

The Paris Agreement on Climate Change was approved by 196 countries in December 2015 and entered into force the following year. The Agreement highlights the importance of supporting LDCs to adapt to climate change, and advocates for the adoption of a rights-based approach, including "human rights, the right to health...local communities...children...as well as gender equality, and empowerment of women,"¹ Both Ireland and Tanzania have ratified the Paris Agreement.

The SDGs were also approved in 2015 by the UN General Assembly to be a "blueprint to achieve a better and more sustainable future for all" and intended to be achieved by the year 2030, SDG 13 calls for action on climate change raising awareness, building resilient societies through improved

adaptation and integrating climate into programmes and plans.

Ireland's International Action on Climate Breakdown promises to ensure that climate action is gender responsive, and contributes to reducing humanitarian need. "Working in our core intervention areas of agriculture, health, education, social protection, and disaster risk reduction, we aim to build climate adaptation into all our programmes especially in countries where we give bilateral assistance". Action 156 proposes to "Include climate as a core theme in all new Irish Aid Country Strategies with the first new strategy to be concluded in 2019"²

Ireland has launched a new policy for International Development, "A Better World", in 2019, which places emphasis on climate action as one of the priorities to reach the furthest behind first when working to achieve the SDGs.

SDG 13: Take urgent action to combat climate change and its impacts
13.1 Strengthen resilience and adaptive capacity
13.2 Integrate climate change measures into national policies, strategies and planning
13.3 Climate change education, awareness and capacity

The policy highlights that "Gender equality and supporting social movements and institutional transformation are important elements for generating ambition in climate action" in LDCs in sub-Saharan Africa. It goes on to say that in the case of SIDS in the

¹The Paris Agreement.
https://unfccc.int/sites/default/files/english_paris_agreement.pdf
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² Climate Action Plan 2019 To Tackle Climate Breakdown page 130

Indian Ocean we will support “interventions directly related to oceans and the Blue economy.”³

Tanzania Mission Strategy

The 2017-2021 Mission Strategy interventions to be supported propose to “ensure appropriate adaptation and mitigation measures that address challenges of climate change, based on specific climate change vulnerability assessments.”

Lessons from the previous 2011-2016 Tanzania Mission strategy highlighted that “Analysis on gender and climate change will enhance planning of the new strategy and mainstreaming capacity will need to be strengthened across the programme team.”

The current Mission Strategy advocates for “adaptation and mitigation strategies to be included in programme designs. We plan to generate learning on the link between climate change and gender, and use learning for our own programming interventions, and also contribute and engage with the climate change learning platform supported by HQ.”

The strategy shifts emphasis onto social protection as part of sustainable livelihoods and if correctly climate proofed can contribute to achieve Climate Justice.

Climate Change in Tanzania

Tanzania is highly vulnerable to climate change due to its reliance on natural resources. Impacts of climate change are an added pressure to already stressed systems. Tanzania has little influence over the global causes of climate change but urgently needs to adapt to its impacts. Trends show an increase in temperatures and changes in precipitation, and extreme weather events are becoming more frequent. Enhancing resilience to climate change is vital to protecting the country’s food security, jobs, and economic growth, especially in rural areas.⁴

Tanzania recently became a water-stressed country (World Bank, 2017b). Projections suggest that the

situation will get worse because of inadequate water management, increased agricultural demand, rapid population growth⁵, and climate change impacts. Water-stress increases the burden on women and adolescent girls not only due to sourcing and carrying domestic water but also due to lower yields in food crops and reduction in firewood availability.

Tanzania’s wealth per capita has declined because its rapid population growth has outpaced investment. This decline in wealth is almost entirely accounted for by its “renewable natural capital” loss, consisting of the country’s agricultural land, cropland, forests, forest products, and protected areas. Tanzania cannot afford another 10 years of the same negative trends in resource degradation. The opportunity Tanzania faces is to reconcile the use of natural resources to meet the demands of the population and economy with the need to maintain functioning ecosystems.⁶

Tanzania’s Second Five Year Development Plan (FYDP II) sets positive environmental goals alongside development goals. By 2020, the FYDP II calls for expanding energy derived from renewable resources by 50 percent; increasing natural forest cover by 130,000 ha; planting 100 million trees countrywide; reducing charcoal consumption in urban areas by 60 percent; and increasing the proportion of districts with climate change and disaster risk reduction strategies to 60 percent (MOFP, 2016). All these goals are consistent with future growth that is clean, green, and resilient to climate change.

It is worth noting that the President has prioritised investments, particularly infrastructure, over environmental concerns. However, new infrastructure (government buildings, schools, health facilities, etc.) is generally not future-proofed and doesn’t include off-grid renewable energy, energy efficiency, water harvesting, waste management, urban and transport planning. Rapid and early uptake of climate mitigation strategies could a) improve access to energy for infrastructure especially in rural areas and b) reduce the long-term energy, building and operations costs

³ Ireland’s International development policy –“ A Better World” Page 19

⁴ World Bank Group. 2019. Tanzania 2019 Country Environmental Analysis: Environmental Trends and Threats, and Pathways to Improved Sustainability. World Bank, Washington, DC. © World Bank.

⁵ 138 million total projected population by 2050

⁶ “World Bank Group. 2019. Tanzania 2019 Country Environmental Analysis: Environmental Trends and Threats, and Pathways to Improved Sustainability. World Bank, Washington, DC. © World Bank. <https://openknowledge.worldbank.org/handle/10986/31643> License: CC BY 3.0 IGO.”

which are rapidly increasing – along with reducing its carbon footprint. Climate considerations are not adequately integrated into sectoral and local planning.

Approach

To date, the approach adopted to integrating Climate Action into development programming has centred on three areas:

1. Strengthening the capacity of the Embassy team to understand the causes and impacts of climate change, to influence policy and to use future weather scenarios in climate adaptive development programming.
2. Raising awareness with partners and researching the linkages between gender and climate that conspire to undermine the equality and welfare of women and girls.
3. Taking responsibility for our own impact on the climate system through mitigation and adaptation actions at Mission level.

Strengthening Capacity

The Mission has hosted a number of training workshops and Banda sessions for staff facilitated by the HQ Climate and Development Learning Platform. Training focused on understanding the causes and impacts of climate change, and the use of climate information and future weather scenarios when planning development programmes. Training was also provided to improve the use of Rio Markers in tracking climate finance in Ireland's development cooperation support to Tanzania.

In addition, coordination with other partners, particularly GIZ, provided a better understanding of National Adaptation Planning which is in its initial stages in Tanzania. Together with GIZ, the Mission reviewed the Health sector National Adaptation Plan for Tanzania on behalf of the Development Partner Group (DPG) Health. The Climate focal point in the Embassy maintains the Tanzania page on the Climate and Development Learning Platform website and climate has been integrated into the Mission's partner grant management guidelines.

A number of partners have taken some initial steps to include climate when planning their programmes. AMDT included a climate impact assessment when

selecting crop varieties to be used. I4ID has a number of programmes that are designed with climate adaptation measures to address urban flooding and waste management. They include specific assessment of potential climate impacts on programme delivery at the design stage. COUNSENUH has factored in future climate scenarios in its nutrition plans for Chemba District and considering extreme water stress, will support the drilling of deep wells as a climate adaptation measure to reduce the burden on women and girls and address nutrition issues.

Research and Learning

Climate change awareness has been included in partner coordination workshops supported by IIED as part of the support provided by the Climate and Development Learning Platform. Two pieces of research were undertaken by IIED in 2019. The first as part of a longitudinal study in Misungwi District to look at the linkages between climate and gender - "the Effectiveness of health provision for women and girls in the context of gender inequalities and climate change". The second in the context of development and humanitarian need and in response to environmental degradation, the search for domestic energy solutions and the impact on women and girls: "Calibrating cooking for refugee camps and surrounding host communities in Kigoma". These two papers have informed this Policy-to-Practice approach paper.

Greening the Mission

The Mission has started a process of awareness raising among staff of the importance of reducing waste, increasing energy efficiency and reducing the Mission's carbon footprint. The first action taken was to establish a programme to promote recycling. A company has been commissioned to provide recycling services for the Mission including setting up a recycling collection point within the Embassy compound for glass, paper, cans and plastics. To improve water usage a company has been contracted to repair and upgrade the water harvesting capacity in the Embassy building to cover the basic needs of the gardens and transport.

Solar water heating and solar lighting are used in the Embassy kitchen and it is proposed to convert the

whole Embassy to solar power for daytime use. To improve energy efficiency at the Embassy, an energy audit to measure the Mission’s electricity use was commissioned and the results of this study provide a baseline against which future Mission energy efficiency will be measured. Plans have been developed to change the lighting to LEDs and staff now turn off computers, ACs and lights when not in use. All ACs will gradually be replaced with inverter type high efficiency models.

Learning

Integrating Climate change into “all our work”⁷ will not happen without taking strategic and practical action. Currently, there is limited use of climate information in development planning and there is little or no clarity regarding mainstreaming climate risk management into programme planning, as well as district and sectoral development planning.

Rural women and girls bear the brunt of the effects of climate change – it exacerbates their situation by increasing labour needed to obtain food, water and fuel while suffering greater exposure to SGBV⁸. A gender responsive climate adaptive approach to integrating climate action into programmes will reduce the burden on women and girls and contribute to sustain positive development outcomes.

Improved understanding of climate change impacts and future climate scenarios is key to better

programme planning and staff and partners require sustained support to plan and monitor climate action. Climate Adaptation and Mitigation measures need to be practically implemented at the local level to be effective and to move from policy to climate action.

Results

- Awareness of the negative impacts of climate change on development programming is increasing among Embassy staff and partners.
- Two climate change training workshops for staff and two Banda sessions have been conducted to increase awareness among staff, with support from IIED through the Climate and Development Learning Platform.
- Climate change was integrated into the Health Sector National Adaptation Plan with support from the Mission.
- Two study reports have been completed. The Misungwi study looks at the linkages between Gender and Climate: “The effectiveness of health provision for women and girls in the context of gender inequalities and climate change”. The study “Calibrating cooking for refugee camps and surrounding host communities in Kigoma”, has been disseminated in a UNHCR workshop bringing together stakeholders working in cooking energy, including government, development partners, private sector and the Missions’ own partners.

Case Study: Gender, Nutrition and Climate

Chemba district in Dodoma region is particularly water-stressed, suffering from drought and flash floods. Unpredictable water availability affects food availability and diversity, increases risk of water-borne diseases, and increases workload mostly for women and girls, making nutrition outcomes difficult to attain. COUNSENUTH is implementing a community-based nutrition programme in Chemba aimed at reducing stunting through addressing gender drivers of malnutrition. The programme uses a gender-transformative, locally-led approach where village leaders and community members are supported to identify bottlenecks to gender equality, and develop strategies to address them. The close relationship between COUNSENUTH and the LGA and village leaders, as well as the on-going gender capacity building being provided to them, provides an opportunity to layer on locally-led climate adaptation interventions. In this year, this will begin with the drilling of protected deep wells in two sites selected by the local community.

⁷ Ireland’s International development policy – “A Better World”
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⁸IIED study report: The effectiveness of health provision for women and girls in the context of gender inequalities and climate change - A case study of Misungwi District, Tanzania

- Climate change has been included in three partner workshops, and is integrated into the partner monitoring guidelines.
 - Partners are taking practical steps to integrate climate action into existing programmes. AMDT is conducting an assessment of climate risk and adaptation strategies in ten districts in Tanzania. Renovated Health facilities are including solar energy systems to maintain access to electricity. Water harvesting is being introduced for health facilities in water-stressed Districts. I4ID is considering climate and environment impacts when supporting local government development planning.
 - The Mission has started a process of “Greening the Mission” which is designed to lead by example and includes waste recycling, water harvesting, energy efficiency and solar energy generation.
- Documenting experience and learning over the next 18 months will be a key part of preparation for planning the next 5 year Mission Strategy. Building on research already completed, conduct specific climate research to better understand the linkages between climate and gender with a focus on health, livelihoods, social protection and nutrition in Tanzania to inform the next Mission Strategy.
 - Continue and deepen the “Greening” of the Mission and the Residence in Dar es Salaam with the active participation of the Embassy Staff: conversion to solar energy, increasing energy efficiency, water harvesting, improving waste management, minimising the use of plastics, consuming locally produced foods and offsetting our carbon footprint for travel, etc. Raise the embassy’s profile on climate action by participating in climate coordination structures and public activities.

Way Forward

- Engage a consultancy to support the Embassy over the period 2020/21 to scale-up climate action in the current mission strategy and to advance thinking ahead of a new strategy in 2022. A starting point for this support will be taking stock of the current climate context in Tanzania, including gaining a better understanding of the decision making bodies and institutional structures.
 - Including climate as a core theme in the new Mission Strategy will require identifying entry points, partnerships, modalities and opportunities to intensify good practice. Climate will be integrated across all pillars of the Mission strategy and consideration will be given to institutional partnerships, Fellowships, innovative areas of policy engagement, human rights and climate justice.
 - Provide technical training on integrating climate action into development programming for staff and extend the training to include relevant partners so as to integrate tangible climate action into Mission supported programmes.
- Facilitate linkages with Irish institutions and the Africa Ireland Fellows programme to strengthen actions that contribute to develop the Blue Economy including in Comoros and Seychelles.
 - Seek opportunities to strengthen synergies across policy priorities by linking gender, youth, and climate Justice.
 - To “future proof” our development cooperation requires integrating Climate Action into the Mission’s strategies, business plans, programmes and performance measurement. The Mission Strategy MTR recommended that we put in place a Climate Action Plan to prepare to include climate as a core theme in the new Mission Strategy 2022-2026.