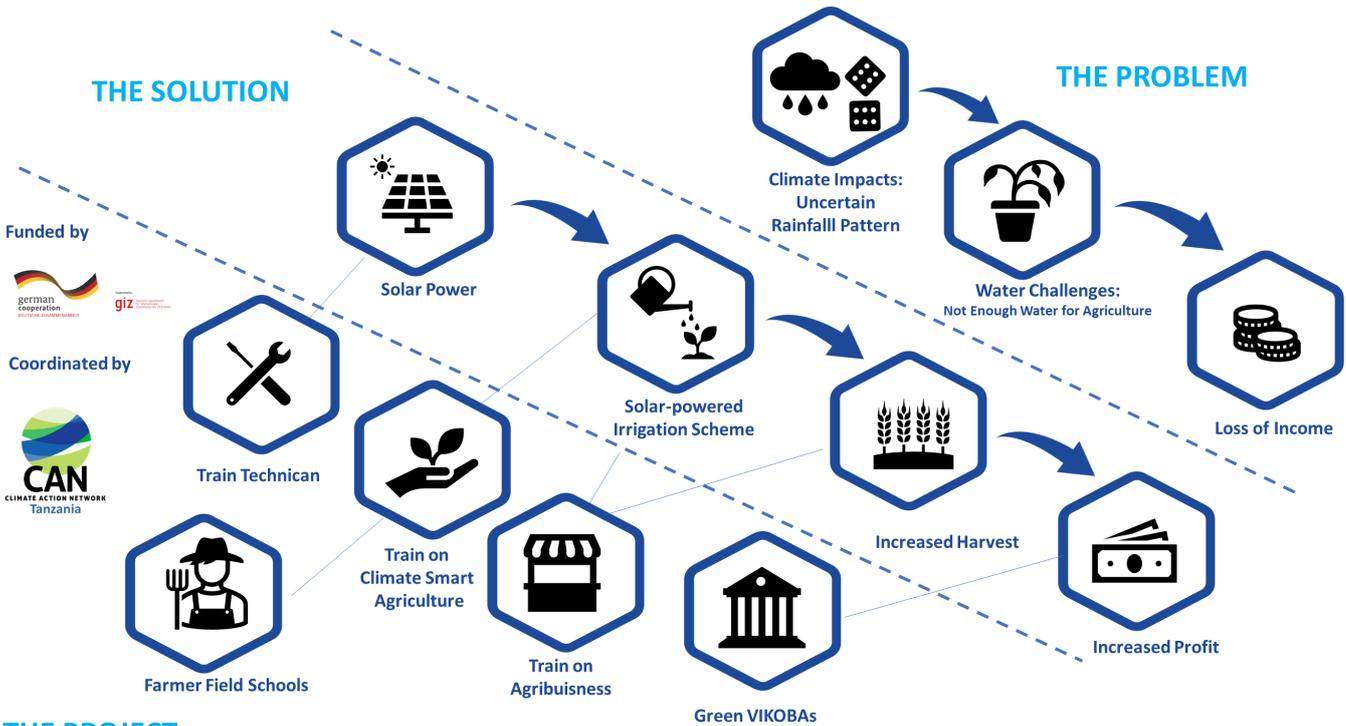


SOLAR-POWERED IRRIGATION SECURES AGRICULTURAL BUSINESS

CONTACT: contact@cantz.or.tz This Factsheet highlights insights the concept of the solar irrigation project implemented by CAN TZ. More: www.cantz.or.tz/programmes/2



THE PROJECT

THE PROJECT

Water from solar powered-pumps

The Project will install solar-powered pumps in 3 villages in Hai District, Tanzania. Technicians will be trained to sustain the irrigation schemes and solar systems. To pay the maintenance Agribusiness trainings and trainings in climate smart Agriculture and Village Community Banks (VIKOBAs) ensure that sufficient profit will be generated to reinvest.

Climate Smart Agriculture

To ensure the sustainability of the project farmers are trained in climate smart farming and agribusiness. By this approach farmers build the capacity to utilize the solar irrigation to change their farming from rain-fed to all-year-round and using the surplus of the harvest to finance maintenance cost and reduce poverty.

Uncertain Rain Fall

Due to climate change water stresses in most Tanzania communities increased. Research shows that the effect of severe droughts in Hai District impact agriculture production and food security significantly. Traditionally for irrigation water from river diversions or natural springs were used. This secured the food security and income to the majority of farmers in Hai District. However, the situation has changed in recent years so farmers are no longer able to rely on traditional irrigation techniques. Due to the change of rainfall patterns streams and rivers do not flow anymore predictably throughout the year. This project addresses therefore the need for a sustainable all-year-round irrigation.

THE PROBLEM

Drilled: We are thrilled !

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The Solar Irrigation System

Drill the Boreholes

The Climate Action Network Tanzania (CAN TZ) commissioned the drilling of boreholes in 3 villages in Hai Districts Tanzania. The area suffers under uncertain rainfall patterns but has sustainable underground water reservoirs.



Sustainable is to maintain

Previous Solar-powered Irrigation projects failed because the irrigation schemes were not sufficiently maintained. Therefore elementary to this project is to train the technicians and to build locally the capacity to run and maintain the system.

Additionally, training in Climate Smart Agriculture and Agro-Business ensures that the surplus of water will also be transferred into a surplus on harvest and income. The surplus can fund the maintenance cost and further development in the communities.

Train Technicians

The Climate is Changing—So we change how we farm

Climate Smart Agriculture

Be smart—Be prepared

Farmers and smallholders learn in workshops important best-practices how to farm in a climate resilient way. They reflect on climate impacts and ways to cope with them. A huge problem in Hai District are climate-induced post-harvest Loss. Therefore the communities learned how to use solar driers to minimize post-harvest loss and persevere the harvest for longer.



Learn from the field

To teach, share and test best-practices farmers field schools are established. Farmer field schools give farmers the opportunities to test and learn together on a shared common ground. The community plan together what they want to test on the field and conduct all important activities together. This help to find best-practices and promote them across communities.

Farmer Field Schools

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Strong Business—Resilient Communities

Agribusiness

Beyond subsistence

In Agribusiness workshops farmers learned how to design their agribusiness. From choosing an investment to making a finance plan on how to fund their projects. The community members mapped out together investment options and discussed participatory how to assess them. After wards investment and finance options were mapped and compared. To enhance planning the farmers were encouraged to start and maintain record keeping of their input and outputs. As an additional model the participants learned about value chain and how to add value to crude raw agricultural products. Adding value by processing the agricultural products can generate additional sources of income. More of the value chain can be owned by the community members and therefore also more surplus remains within the communities. This surplus can be reinvested and saved over VIKOBA's— This unlock a overall development of the communities and also to fund the maintenance of solar irrigation schemes.



WOMEN INVEST IN A GREEN FUTURE

The surplus of income generated by the solar-power irrigation schemes has to be invested into sustainable and viable project in order to sustain a positive impact for the communities. Therefore this project established 4 Village Community banks (VIKOBA). In the banks 10 –40 people come together to save their money together and to give each other loans. This allows easy loans to attractive rates due to the trusted relationships among the members. The 4 VIKOBAs established in scope of this project

NUMBER OF
VIKOBA'S

4

focus in specific on green and sustainable investment projects. The minority of VIKOBA member in the project are women. Women experience often larger challenges to access finance and loans.

VIKOBA MEMBER
135

Village Community Banks

VIKOBA Member by Gender



Female

65.1 %



Male

34.8 %