

Building Tanzania's Climate Resilience Through Innovation: Introducing the Adaptation Innovation Cluster

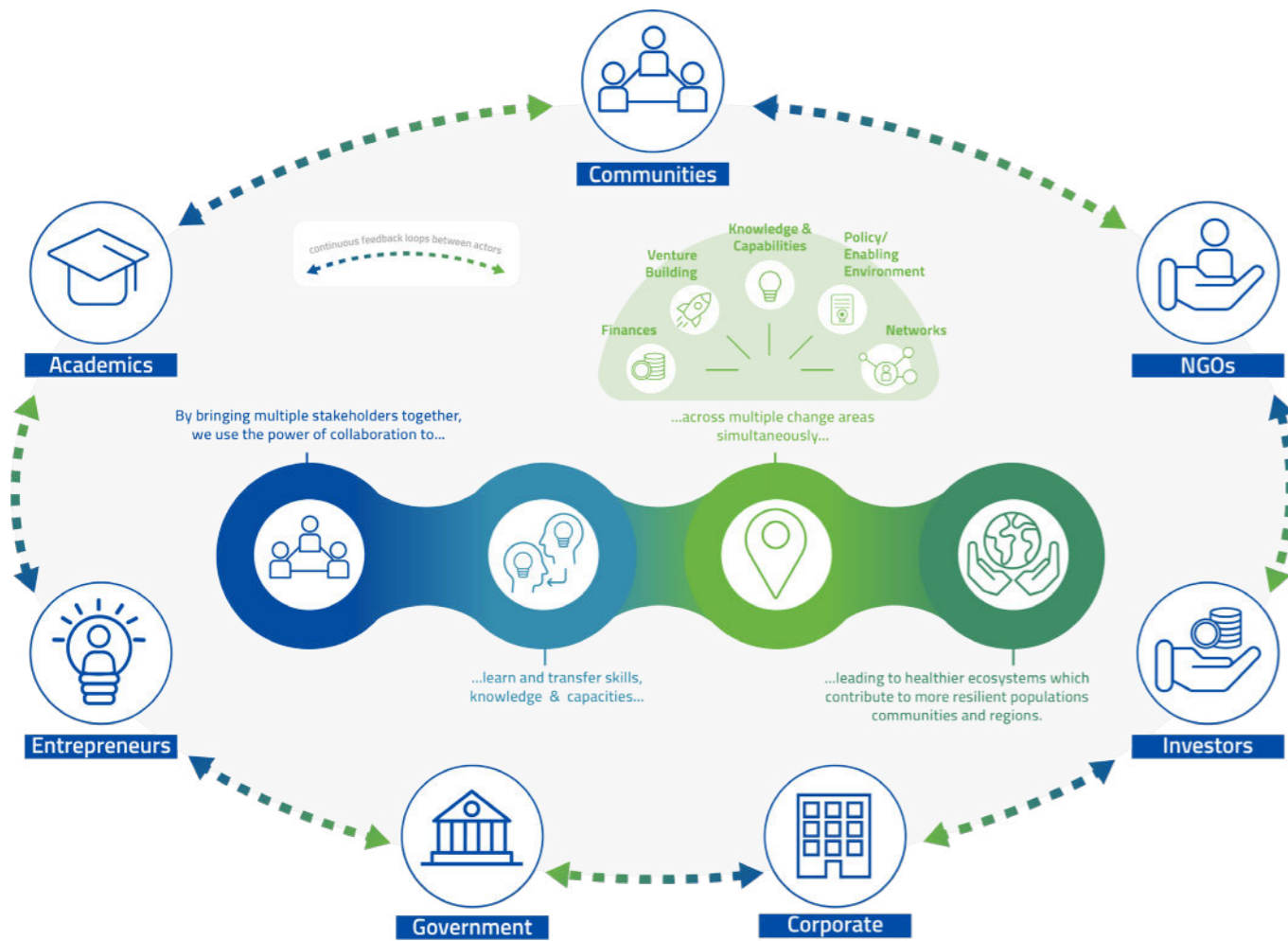
To accelerate Tanzania's efforts to tackle climate change, EIT Climate-KIC launched a programme to build a climate Adaptation Innovation Cluster. The programme aims to increase resilience and sustainable development by supporting locally developed adaptation solutions for the rural communities in Tanzania. EIT Climate-KIC and partners aim to create an enabling environment that promotes green innovation throughout the country, stimulating the growth of new green start-ups, employment and investment as well as supporting rural stakeholders such as communities to understand their climate vulnerabilities and develop adaptation strategies to build resilience.

Building an Adaptation Innovation Cluster in Tanzania

Over the past decade, EIT Climate-KIC pioneered an innovation clusters approach to tackle climate change challenges in different regions, helping to build and direct local innovation ecosystems to tackling major climate-related challenges. Innovation Clusters act as collaborative platforms, uniting stakeholders, such as businesses, universities, citizens, investors, governmental agencies and NGOs, to foster collaboration and drive the development of innovative solutions. Clusters link the supply of innovations to the needs of local communities, governments and organisations, to not only generate new ideas, solutions and jobs, but also investment in the local economy.

Examples of innovative adaptation solutions that address climate impacts include:

- Crop Insurance and Weather Index: A tool for stabilising farmer's income by providing timely payouts directly linked with weather parameters.
- Digital Agriculture Platform: Agri-tech approach to crowdfunding, matching investors with smallholder farmers.
- Solar-Powered Pumps: Increases crop yields while conserving water and fuel. The pumps also reduce carbon emissions and pollution from diesel generators.

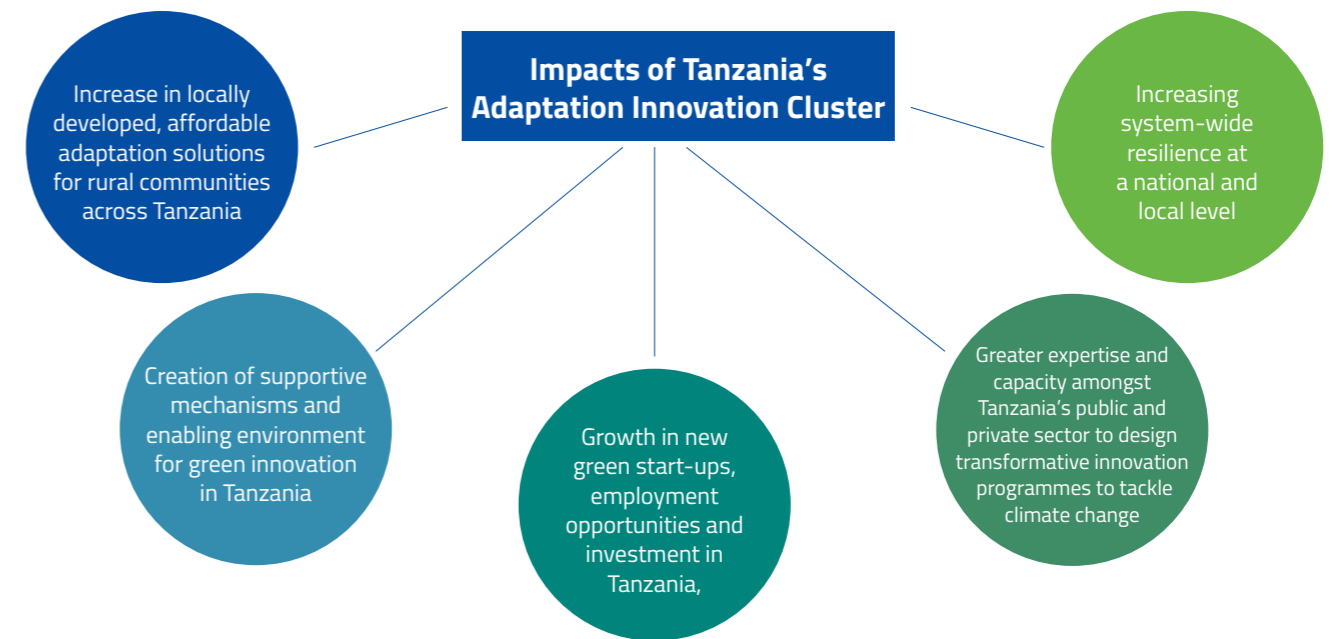


Reaching the furthest behind

Climate risks have the potential to worsen poverty levels and deepen food insecurity, particularly among agriculture-dependent households. Given that agriculture is a substantial contributor to Tanzania's socio-economic growth and a primary employer, the programme focusses on enhancing the resilience of rural communities and landscapes. It aims to enhance the capacity of smallholder farmers to adapt to climate change to ensure solutions reach the most vulnerable rural communities and are effectively deployed. This involves an ongoing process of gathering and learning from local knowledge and experiences, as well as strengthening the dynamics between local communities and the private sector.

Three ways to impact through an Adaptation Innovation Cluster

1. Building an inclusive ecosystem	2. Connecting innovative solutions to demand	3. Promoting a fertile policy and institutional environment
Long-term goal: equip the innovation ecosystem to recognize and address adaptation risks and challenges effectively.	Long term goal: establish a functioning adaptation economy fuelled by innovations, leading to creation of new green jobs.	Long term goal: establish a conducive institutional and policy framework which can be observed through increased political will and lower barriers to entrepreneurship.
How: EIT Climate-KIC is creating an innovation ecosystem, engaging local entrepreneurs, support organisations, and investors. Through capacity building, stakeholders gain skills to identify opportunities, scale models, and tackle finance challenges. This strategy bolsters Tanzania's public and private sectors, advancing climate change innovation. In rural areas, it enables sustainable solutions, integrating environmental sustainability into decisions. With heightened expertise, sectors can drive transformative climate initiatives.	How: EIT Climate-KIC collaborates with ESOs and local implementation partners to support local entrepreneurs and green businesses building the resilience of local communities. By supporting entrepreneurs, a foundation is established for impactful climate innovation. This involves early and late-stage acceleration efforts, addressing local adaptation needs, guiding ideas into solutions and scaling existing approaches. This also ensures solutions are closely tied with the needs of rural communities and demand owners.	How: EIT Climate-KIC and its partners engage with decision-makers and influential bodies in the policy and finance sectors to promote dialogue and collaboration across institutional boundaries while building a foundational understanding of climate-related topics. Acknowledging the role of financial accessibility, the Adaptation Innovation Cluster's mission focuses on identifying and facilitating access to funding, as well as examine innovative funding mechanisms to support climate solutions.



About EIT Climate-KIC

EIT Climate-KIC is Europe's leading climate innovation agency and community, supporting cities, regions, countries and industries around the globe to meet their climate ambitions through systems innovation and place-based transformations. The Adaptation Innovation Cluster programme works in conjunction with other complementary projects in Tanzania, such as ClimateLaunchpad, the WINnERS project, and the Climate Smart Forest Economy Programme (CSFEP), the AfroGreen ClimAccelerator and the Adaptation and Resilience ClimAccelerator.

Want to learn more?

EIT Climate-KIC is planning on launching new Adaptation Innovation Clusters around the world.

If you want to learn more about this, or on the project in Tanzania, reach out to:

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Partners

