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**Building Climate Resiliency and Strengthening EAC Adaptive Capacity for Food
Security
(Project concept)**



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PROJECT SUMMARY

PROPOSAL TITLE	Building Climate Resiliency and Strengthening EAC Adaptive Capacity for Food Security
REGION/COUNTRIES	East African Community (EAC)- Republic of Burundi, Republic of Kenya, Republic of Rwanda, Republic of South Sudan, United Republic of Tanzania and Republic Uganda
PROJECT DESCRIPTION & RATIONALE	<p>The EAC region is frequently affected by food shortages although the region as a whole has potential and capacity to produce enough food for regional consumption and a large surplus for export to the world market. The major challenge to food security in East Africa is its underdeveloped agricultural sector that is characterized by over-reliance on primary agriculture, low fertility soils, minimal use of external farm inputs, environmental degradation, significant food crop loss both pre- and postharvest, minimal value addition, minimal product differentiation and inadequate food storage and preservation.</p> <p>There is low farm input investment including on fertilizers, seeds and technology adoption. Access to fertilizer use is constrained by the high prices which limit small scale rural farmers to purchase fertilizer and other inputs, poor infrastructure, limited development of output, input and credit markets. A significant amount of the food is lost through pre- and post-harvest losses which are further increased by poor handling and storage: self-sustaining domestic markets for food are non-existent in the rural areas due to lack of purchasing power, most of the food is consumed by those who produce it and most of the surplus production is left to go to waste. In addition, the region presents substantial untapped potential for the development and efficient utilisation of the region's water resources for increasing agricultural production.</p> <p>The overall impacts of climate are also threatening food security in East Africa region. Agriculture is extremely vulnerable to climate change as higher temperatures and more erratic rainfall patterns reduce yield, encourage weed and pest proliferation and increase the likelihood of short run crop failures and long run production declines. Large parts of Eastern Africa are arid and semi-arid with very little rainfall which is subject to a high degree of unreliability. Drought and other climatic extremes such as floods are major factors contributing to food insecurity in the region. Climate change reduces crop yields and agriculture productivity due to an increase in the temperature. The elevated</p>



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	<p>temperatures can result in increased incidences of pest attacks, restricted availability of water, exacerbated drought periods, reduced soil fertility through reduction of soil moisture and affected livestock productivity (directly by influencing the balance between heat dissipation and heat production and indirectly through its effect on the availability of feed and fodder among others). Drought is the most catastrophic natural event that causes widespread periodic famine in the region though it is not the only natural hazard facing Eastern and the Horn of Africa. In addition, floods afflict localized parts of even the driest areas.</p> <p>Investment in agriculture and improving resilience among farmers in the region remain key to providing sustained access to food for all and reducing vulnerability to price volatility and natural disasters such as drought and floods. Improved seeds and farm management techniques, as well as irrigation and fertilizer that sustainably increase productivity and reduce production risk must be delivered to farmers especially smallholders.</p> <p>The proposed project/programme seeks to strengthen EAC adaptive capacity for enhancement of food security in the region through the increase of production and access of affordable food, improved market linkages as well as improved risk management</p>
<p>PROJECT OBJECTIVES</p>	<p>The overall objective of the proposed intervention is to support priority climate change adaptation actions in the EAC region to enhance the resilience of communities and contribute to the enhancement of food security in the East African region through the increase of production and access of affordable food, improved market linkages as well as improved risk management.</p> <p>The specific objectives are to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (i) Increase agricultural (crops, Livestock and Fisheries) productivity in the EAC region (ii) Promote efficient management of water for agriculture and rangelands in rain fed systems including supporting rain water harvesting technologies (iii) Improve stability of food supply and access in the EAC region from areas of surplus to areas of deficit within the East Africa region including construction of target feeder roads in high potential producer areas and end market



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	<p>areas</p> <p>(iv) Promote value addition and Agro-processing of food</p> <p>(v) Establishment of EAC Early warning system for monitoring food insecurity in the region</p> <p>(vi) Promote development of insurance instruments to cover food production and supply and price risks and encourage investment in agriculture sector (Crops, Livestock and Fisheries)</p>
<p>IMPLEMENTING/ EXECUTING INSTITUTION</p>	<p>East African Community (EAC) Secretariat, Department of Environment and Natural Resources PO Box 1096 Arusha, Tanzania Email: kleonidas@eachq.org ; eac@eachq.org</p>

1.0 BACKGROUND AND INTRODUCTION

1.1 Regional Climate Change Situational Analysis

The adverse impacts of climate change in the EAC region are a significant threat to the region's socio-economic development, negatively affecting livelihoods and economies. These are evidenced through extreme weather phenomena (droughts and floods) that are occurring with greater frequency and intensity and results in food insecurity, energy insecurity, land degradation, loss of biodiversity, reduced revenue from tourism, increase in pests and diseases, sea level rise, water scarcity, natural resource based conflict and severe damage to infrastructure among others. All EAC Partner States have put in place national climate change policies, strategies and action plans and institutional structures as appropriate. These include: Burundi's Climate Change Policy and Strategy (2013); Rwanda's Climate Change and Green Growth Strategy (2012); Kenya's National Climate Change Response Strategy (2010) and National Climate Change Action Plan (2013-2017) and a draft Climate Change Bill; Tanzania's National Climate Change Strategy (2012); and Uganda's National Climate Change Policy and Strategy (2013). National Climate Change structures have also been established in ministries and authorities responsible for environment and natural resources management. These are in line with national policies on environment and natural resources, national development strategies and plans national Constitutions.

The EAC has developed the EAC Climate Change Policy approved by the EAC Heads of State Summit on 19th April 2011. The aim of the EAC Climate Change Policy (2011) is to contribute to regional integration through harmonized and coordinated regional climate change strategies, programmes and actions. The purpose of the Policy is to guide Partner States and other stakeholders in the collective implementation of sector specific climate change response measures within the context of sustainable development. Other regional instruments are: Climate Change Strategy (2012/13-2016/17), Master Plan (2013-2033), Disaster Risk Reduction and Management Strategy. These are in line with the provisions of the EAC Treaty and the Development Strategy (2011/12-2015/16). The process for formulating the EAC Climate Change



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Bill to provide the legal and regulatory framework has also been initiated.

The Policy identifies climate change adaptation and mitigation as a priority for the region. The Policy's overall adaptation objective is to institute and implement climate change adaptation measures with the aim of: reducing vulnerability, enhancing socio-economic resilience and building adaptive capacity to secure the region's human, natural and ecological systems in the region from the negative impacts of climate change. The EAC has further developed an EAC Climate Change Strategy (2012/13-2016/17) and EAC Climate Change Master Plan (2033) aimed at elaborating on short and medium term measures, and providing the long term blueprint in responding to climate change at the regional level respectively. Both documents are geared towards the implementation of the Climate Change Policy. The EAC Partner States identified and prioritized Agriculture and Food Security as the most vulnerable sector to climate change (EAC Climate Change Master Plan).

1.2 Rationale and Justification

As a Regional Economic Communities (REC), the EAC has a critical role to play in responding to the impacts of the climate change that cut across national borders with adverse impacts on regional development thus affecting the achievements of EAC's objectives. This is in accordance with the provisions of the Treaty for the Establishment of the EAC on environment and natural resources management (Articles 111- 114), the EAC Protocol on Environment and Natural Resources Management (2006)- Articles 23, 24, 30 and 35 addressing combating desertification and drought, climate change, pollution control and management and environmental disaster preparedness and the EAC Climate Change Policy, Strategy and Master Plan.

Proposed project shall contribute to the achievement of:

- EAC climate change strategic goal to have a highly resilient community which has sufficient capacity to monitor, anticipate and respond to the challenges of climate change and disaster risks in an efficient and cost-effective manner
- EAC Climate Change strategic objective 1 which aims among others at developing adaptation framework for agriculture to improve agricultural productivity and enhance food security
- Strategic objective 3 which is to strengthen climate change knowledge generation through research, monitoring, detection and prediction which will be achieved through: Modernizing meteorological infrastructure and Strengthening early warning systems among others

The project proposed activities are in line with EAC Climate Change Master Plan identified adaptation measures in the agricultural sector:



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- (i) Creation/provision of special livestock and crops insurance schemes using weather insurance index;
- (ii) Promotion of water-efficient irrigation agriculture;
- (iii) Creation of strategic grains reserves as a form of post-harvest management;
- (iv) Provision of agricultural inputs, e.g. improved seeds and other plant materials through subsidies and other financial tools
- (v) Investment in water capture and storage infrastructure to harvest and store rainwater for agricultural use;
- (vi) Creation of a robust early-warning system (EWS) to provide extension, advisory & outreach services to farmers and other users.

2.0 PROJECT DESCRIPTION

a. Problem statement

The overall impacts of climate are threatening food security in East Africa region. Agriculture is extremely vulnerable to climate change as higher temperatures and more erratic rainfall patterns reduce yield, encourage weed and pest proliferation and increase the likelihood of short run crop failures and long run production declines. Large parts of Eastern Africa are arid and semi-arid with very little rainfall which is subject to a high degree of unreliability. Drought and other climatic extremes such as floods are major factors contributing to food insecurity in the region. Climate change reduces crop yields and agriculture productivity due to an increase in the temperature. The elevated temperatures can result in increased incidences of pest attacks, restricted availability of water, exacerbated drought periods, reduced soil fertility through reduction of soil moisture and affected livestock productivity (directly by influencing the balance between heat dissipation and heat production and indirectly through its effect on the availability of feed and fodder among others). Drought is the most catastrophic natural event that causes widespread periodic famine in the region though it is not the only natural hazard facing Eastern and the Horn of Africa. In addition, floods afflict localized parts of even the driest areas.

Investment in agriculture and improving resilience among farmers in the region remain key to providing sustained access to food for all and reducing vulnerability to price volatility and natural disasters such as drought and floods. Improved seeds and farm management techniques, as well as irrigation and fertilizer that sustainably increase productivity and reduce production risk must be delivered to farmers especially smallholders.

The proposed project/programme seeks to strengthen EAC adaptive capacity for enhancement of food security in the region through the increase of production and access of affordable food, improved market linkages as well as improved risk management

2.3 Project Objectives and Expected Outcomes



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The overall objective of the proposed intervention is to support priority climate change adaptation actions in the EAC region to enhance the resilience of communities and contribute to the enhancement of food security in the East African region through the increase of production and access of affordable food, improved market linkages as well as improved risk management.

The specific objectives are to:

- (i) Increase agricultural (crops, Livestock and Fisheries) productivity in the EAC region
- (ii) Promote efficient management of water for agriculture and rangelands in rain fed systems including supporting rain water harvesting technologies
- (iii) Improve stability of food supply and access in the EAC region from areas of surplus to areas of deficit within the East Africa region including construction of target feeder roads in high potential producer areas and end market areas
- (iv) Promote value addition and Agro-processing of food
- (v) Establishment of EAC Early warning system for monitoring food insecurity in the region
- (vi) Promote development of insurance instruments to cover food production and supply and price risks and encourage investment in agriculture sector (Crops, Livestock and Fisheries)

Project expected outcomes;

- (i) Increased food availability in quantity and quality and level of vulnerability to food insecurity in the EAC is reduced
- (ii) Reduced post-harvest losses and food wastages
- (iii) Increased Intra-regional trade share in regional food products
- (iv) Enhanced resiliency of East Africa to the effect of climate change on agriculture and food security

2.1 Project proposed components and activities

(i) Increase agricultural productivity in the EAC Region

- Implement a crop intensification programme including ensuring agricultural inputs are available on time at affordable prices
- Promote efficient water utilization for agriculture and support to joint irrigation programme for shared water resources (adoption of cost effective irrigation techniques)
- Contribute to the eradication of trans-boundary pests and diseases within the region and Promote soil conservation measures

(ii) Improve Stability of food supply and access in the EAC Region

- Establish and introduce EAC Food Information System and regulatory measures to ensure accurate information of available food at any time



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- Facilitate development of community based storage facilities for food commodities in target areas
- Promote Agro-processing and handling of food
- Avail trade finance targeting intra-regional trade in food products
- Construction of targeted feeder roads in high potential producer areas and end market areas
- Increase access to credit for rural communities, through the provision of microfinance services

(iii) **Improve capacity for emergency preparedness and adaptation to climate change impacts and response.**

- Establishment of EAC Early warning system for monitoring food insecurity in the region
- Harmonize and strengthen capacity of the relevant institutions in food and feeds security emergency response
- Promote development of finance/insurance instruments to cover food production and supply and price risks and encourage investment in agriculture sector