

Empowering Women Through Sustainable Agriculture: Launch of the "Her Resilience, Our Planet Project"

.....To Foster Job Creation for Youth and Women

The Honourable Ahmed Hussen, Canada's Minister of International Development, unveiled a six-year initiative at Koga Farm in Mkuranga, Pwani Region. Announced on May 15, 2024, this initiative, backed by CAD 20 million (approximately TZS 38 billion) through CARE International Canada, seeks to promote sustainable agriculture and create significant employment opportunities for youth and women within the Southern Agricultural Growth Corridor of Tanzania (SAGCOT).

Forging Robust International Ties: The project highlights the strong collaboration between Tanzania and Canada, strategically addressing the intertwined challenges of agriculture, climate change, and socio-economic development. This partnership underscores a shared commitment to fostering long-term sustainability and resilience in Tanzania's agricultural sector by combining resources and expertise.

Championing Sustainable and Inclusive Growth: During the launch, Minister Hussen emphasized the initiative's alignment with global sustainable development goals. "This joint effort is a strategic response to the pressing challenges posed by climate change, focusing on adaptation, mitigation, and the vital shift towards renewable energy," Hussen stated. He praised the mango farming at Koga Farm as exemplary, showcasing its potential to produce high-quality, climate-resilient crops that could bolster income through avenues like exports to Canada.

Strengthening Tanzania's Agricultural Foundation: The initiative was warmly received by farmers and stakeholders, including Hon. David Silinde, Deputy Minister of Agriculture, and Hon. Abubakar Kunenge, Coastal Regional Commissioner. Agriculture employs more than 80% of Tanzania's workforce and is vital to the nation's economy. Still, it faces challenges from climate variability and entrenched socio-economic barriers. This initiative aims to invigorate this essential sector by introducing advanced agricultural practices and removing barriers that have traditionally hindered the participation of youth and women.

The Mango Farming Success Story: Madam Fatma Riyami, Chair of The Association of Mango Growers (AMAGRO), highlighted the strategic importance of mango farming in achieving sustainable agricultural practices. "Mangoes are economically beneficial and integral to climate-smart agriculture," Madam Fatma noted, pointing to the potential to expand Tanzania's global mango market by leveraging off-season production to enhance export capabilities.

Empowering Communities through Sustainable Practices: The "Her Resilience, Our Planet" project will directly impact over 175,000 farmers by promoting gender-responsive and environmentally sensitive agricultural methods. This initiative aims to empower farmers, especially women and youth, to withstand climate-related impacts through innovative technologies and sustainable practices.

Setting a Global Benchmark: Ms. Tula Mloge, Principal Assistant to the CEO of SAGCOT, commended the Canada-Tanzania partnership, highlighting its commitment to fostering sustainable agricultural practices, improving farmers' livelihoods, and empowering youth and women. By prioritizing climate change adaptation, climate mitigation, and the transition to renewable energy, the initiative paves the

way for a more resilient and inclusive agricultural sector. Furthermore, the successful SAGCOT approach, as directed by President Dr. Samia Suluhu Hassan, will be replicated in other regions across the country.

The "Her Resilience, Our Planet Project" is a six-year initiative to increase the socio-economic empowerment of women and female youth in Tanzania through gender-responsive and ecosystem-sensitive agricultural practices. The project targets five districts within SAGCOT's geographic priority clusters: the Ithemi cluster (Iringa, Kilolo, Mufindi, and Wang'ing'ombe districts) and the Mbarali cluster (Mbarali district).

The initiative provides an opportunity to educate farmers in various regions, including Coast Region, Morogoro, Dodoma, Singida, Shinyanga, Simiyu, Geita, Mwanza, and Kigoma. With support from CARE and SAGCOT stakeholders, the project seeks to attract increased investment in fruit crop production in these areas, promising benefits for farmers and boosting national income.

[@HonAhmedHussen](#)

[@CanadaTanzania](#)



The Honourable Ahmed Hussen, Minister of International Development for Canada, alongside Madam Fatma Ryami, Chair of The Association of Mango Growers (AMAGRO) and Managing Director of NatureRipe Kilimanjaro, the owners of Koga Farm, at the launch event on May 15, 2024. Minister Hussen encouraged Tanzanians to explore mango exports into Canada, highlighting mango farming as sustainable agriculture. Madam Ryami emphasized the need for more investments to increase mango volumes for profitable export.