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# AGRICULTURE TANZANIA

While Tanzania's economy has steadily grown over the past decade, these changes have been hardly felt among rural, agriculture-dependent populations, while over 46 percent (2011) of Tanzania's overall population lives on less than \$1.90 a day. Malnutrition remains high, with stunting rates among children under five at over 34 percent and maternal anemia at 45 percent. In the face of these persistent challenges, it is unlikely that Tanzania will be able to achieve the second Sustainable Development Goal—to end hunger, promote sustainable agriculture, and achieve food security and improved nutrition—without significant additional assistance.

Despite these challenges, the agriculture sector—which contributes nearly one-third of GDP and employs 75 percent of the population—holds the potential to increase incomes and improve livelihoods. With these goals in mind, Feed the Future – the United States Government's global hunger and food security initiative – aims to reduce poverty and improve nutrition by supporting Tanzanian-led plans. This includes investing 80 percent of Feed the Future resources in the Southern Agricultural Growth Corridor of Tanzania (SAGCOT), a region the Government of Tanzania has identified as having the potential to make a significant contribution to the economic growth of the country. The remaining 20 percent focuses on development activities on the Zanzibar islands as well as in Manyara and Dodoma.

Tanzania has an ambitious plan to prioritize agriculture for economic growth. The private-sector-led *Kilimo Kwanza* (Agriculture First) initiative and the SAGCOT Centre have been endorsed by the Government of Tanzania. These strategies are being linked to the Agricultural Sector Development I and II Program through Tanzania's Comprehensive African Agriculture Development Program (CAADP)

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## AGRICULTURE OVERVIEW

### FUNDING LEVEL

- FY 2017: \$25 million

### MAJOR PARTNERS

- Ministry of Agriculture, Livestock and Fisheries
- Ministry of Industry, Trade and Investment
- Ministry of Lands, Housing and Human Settlement Development
- Ministry of Water and Irrigation
- Ministry of Works, Transport, and Communication
- Southern Agricultural Growth Corridor of Tanzania Centre
- Tanzania Horticulture Association
- ACDI/VOCA
- Africare
- Catholic Relief Services
- CDM Smith
- CGIAR Centers (CIP, ICRAF, IFPRI, IITA)
- Development Alternatives Inc.
- Michigan State University
- Ohio State University
- TechnoServe
- U.S. Department of Agriculture
- U.S. Peace Corps
- Volunteers for Economic Growth Alliance (VEGA)

### GEOGRAPHIC LOCATION

Feed the Future Tanzania focuses on regions with high agricultural potential that border chronically food-insecure districts, including: Manyara, Dodoma, Morogoro, Iringa, Mbeya, and Zanzibar.

### CONTACT

Andrew Read  
aread@usaid.gov

country investment plan. Feed the Future is fully aligned with Tanzania's CAADP program and Tanzania's National Nutrition Strategy. This United States whole-of-government effort will make targeted investments emphasizing private sector development to ensure long-term sustainability of poverty reduction and nutrition goals.

Feed the Future investments include enhancing the competitiveness of smallholder farmers in staples production and marketing (in rice and maize), increasing horticulture productivity (vegetables and fruits), and the construction of rural feeder roads to improve farmers' access to markets. To work toward improved nutrition, Feed the Future promotes the consumption of more high-quality nutritious foods while supporting improved processing techniques such as fortification. Furthermore, private sector investment and policy initiatives improve the business enabling environment to promote agricultural growth, while research activities conducted in partnership with local institutions help build the capacity necessary for long-term agricultural development.

## CHALLENGES

- Limited access to productive and financial resources, weak infrastructure, and poor policies provide little incentive to continue developing the sector.
- Private-sector investment in agriculture is constrained by limited access to long-term capital, low levels of capacity and business skills, and policies which discourage growth.
- Climate change poses significant risks of prolonged drought and unpredictable weather, threatening the livelihoods of subsistence farmers.
- Unchecked population growth and agricultural expansion pose a threat to Tanzania's natural resource base, which serves as the basis of livelihoods and agriculture.

## IMPACT

- **Improvements in agriculture:** Over 198,000 hectares of land are now under improved technologies/agriculture practices.
- **Productivity gains:** Productivity of rice per acre has nearly doubled.
- **Increased income:** Average gross margins for horticulture exceed \$3,900 per acre.
- **Sector-wide gains:** At least 450,000 people have benefited from Feed the Future value chain interventions.