

# Growing Is Learning Project

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## Project Summary:

Growing is learning project works with public, private, and local partners in Iringa District<sup>1</sup> to increase food and nutrition security, income, and climate change resilience among vulnerable small-scale women farmers, through gender-transformative programming within the soy value chain.

### End of project outcomes under Kukua ni Kujifunza

- Increased productivity and adaptive capacity among target small-scale women farmers, results in increased food and nutrition security, and resilience
- Increased household level income for small-scale women farmers
- Regional Authorities and Private Sector Partners within SAGCOT are responding to the needs and demands of small-scale farmers, creating more sustainable, inclusive, and accountable value chain

**Supported By:** Australia Government  
Department of Foreign Affairs and  
Trade (DFAT) through Australian  
NGO Cooperation Program  
(ANCP) funding

**Project start Date** - 1<sup>st</sup> July 2017

**Project End Date** - 30<sup>th</sup> June 2022

**Project areas:** 15 Villages in Iringa DC

This has been achieved through a multi-pronged, gendered approach which include.


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<sup>1</sup> Ikuvilo, Tagamenda, Wangama, Mlanda, Magulilwa, Igunda, Kikombwe, Wenda, Malagosi, Sadani, Kaning'ombe, Ihemi, Ibumila, Mgama, Lyamungwe

- practical climate smart training through Farmer Field and Business Schools (FFBS), complimented with Participatory Scenario Planning to increase resilience.
- increased capacity of soya producer groups to aggregate produce, reduce post-harvest losses, and be well connected to markets.
- A range of gender dialogues, activities, and champion groups to transform gender norms and support women to be equitably engaged in the profitable nodes of the value chain; and
- An innovative approach to transforming the gender roles within the soya value chain, introduced seed multiplication, processing, and organic fertilizer production. Underpinning this, the aim was to change behavior at a farm and household level, to consider soya as both a cash and food crop, to reduce Iringa's high rates of chronic malnutrition.

### **Key Achievements:**

#### **Soya Production and CSA:**

- 30 (13M, 17 F) paraprofessionals trained to support implementation of FFBS approach and support individual farmers on soy good agricultural practices, Climate Smart Agriculture (CSA) marketing and nutrition
  - Collectives have been the entry point for the project participants. That has managed to reach 6,068 direct beneficiaries whereby 4831 female and 1237 male.
  - More than 124 acres produced more than 62 tons of soya bean that generated a total of more than 74,400,000 TZS.
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- 2,257 small scale farmers taught climate agricultural methods through FFBS.
  - 30 Farmer field and Business schools set up each with demonstration plots where farmers were taught Good agricultural practices
  - CSA techniques focused on mixed cropping, crop rotation, Integrated Pest Management, minimum tillage, Compost and animal manure, timely weeding, early planting, and improved seeds (Soya 2, Soya 4, and SAFARI) and use of recommended inorganic fertilizers were trained to farmers
  - A total of 341 women are engaged in organic fertilizer production at household levels
  - Established and strengthening 15 Disaster and Risk reduction (DRR) committees in the villages of KNK and 15 market committees established to link farmers with input and output market.

### Nutrition and People with Disabilities

- 45 Gender champions trained on home gardening and Poultry keeping as TOT and manage to train other 429 community members, 200 home gardening have been established.
- 9 women groups trained on value addition of soybean flour aimed to produce soy-based flour, soy milk and soy drink.
- Identification and training to people with disabilities 185 (Male 88 and Female 97) people with disabilities (PWD) identified and 15 groups formed, 7 groups are practicing VSLAs and have engaged on soap making, soy production and poultry keeping. 3 groups have received loan of 9,000,000 TZS from Iringa District.



### Gender

- 32 groups trained on gender aspect (gender discrimination and violation of human rights, traditions norms and values that are against gender equality, ownership of resources in relation to gender), This training results into reduced GBV, number of women integrated into leadership increased, ownership of resources increased.
- Capacity buildings on gender and good governance to 44 LGA's (21 M, 23 F) train focused on gender equality, gender discrimination and violation of human rights, traditions norms and values that are against gender equality, resource ownership and gender, parts of good local government, village council members and their responsibilities, village government committees their roles and responsibilities which resulted increased of women into village committees up to 44% from 22% before project intervention.

### Establishment of processing machines

KNK project facilitated the establishment of 2 processing machines for soya into two villages of Mlanda and Ibumila with a total of 22 women. These machines are used to add value in agricultural products produced by beneficiaries.



### Collective Investment

- **Linkages:** Soybean producers with potential Agro dealers, Financial Institution and potential soybean buyers which aimed to get Seeds and other Agro inputs delivery on time, quality, and affordable price.
- **96 VSLA groups linked to financial institutions**