

Water for Growth, People and Environment

2030 WRG Tanzania Partnership

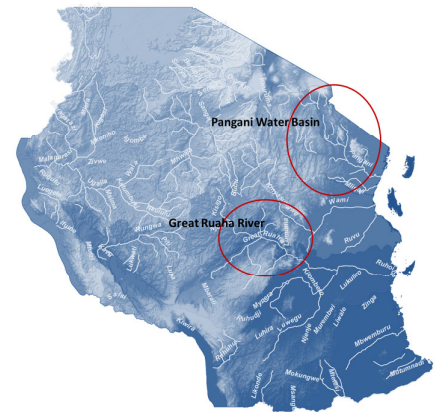


Tanzania's Water challenge

Although Tanzania is not currently classified as a water stressed country, high rainfall variability regularly plunges some regions, central to the country's economy, into severe seasonal drought. While the country's southwest highlands may receive over 1,200 mm per year of rainfall, the drier Internal Drainage Basin receives less than 600 mm per year. The economy's susceptibility to such extremes became evident during the 2005/06 drought which led to a one percent GDP loss, driven by a 20 percent decline in agricultural sector growth in addition to sizeable decreases in electricity and water sector growth.

The Great Ruaha River and Pangani Water Basin are both critical to Tanzania's economy. Unfortunately, due to inefficient and rapid irrigation expansion, the Ruaha River is drying up. More water than needed is abstracted—only 20 percent of which is productive. Meanwhile, the Pangani Water Basin's water resources are already limited on a per capita basis, and future pressures are growing. An increase in commercial and urban water demand has implications for the basin's future water quality and availability, while expansion in irrigation, changing rainfall patterns and extreme temperatures further exacerbate the situation. Solutions are therefore needed to support the country's water-stressed areas.

Tanzania's Water-Stressed Areas



About 2030 WRG in Tanzania

The 2030 Water Resources Group is a global public-private-civil society partnership with the goal to close the gap between water demand and supply by the year 2030.

The 2030 WRG was invited in 2013 by the Government of Tanzania to help strengthen water resource management through the development of a solution-oriented multi-stakeholder partnership. The Ministry of Water is driving the initiative along with senior members of the private sector and civil society.

The objectives of the resulting partnership are to support, complement and strengthen the existing efforts of the government to provide a complete picture of water resources and economic information to help Tanzania make and align policy decisions; create increased awareness, support and spur momentum from politicians, ministers and water users; and provide access to best practices, knowledge, experts and technology.

Areas of Focus

An initial workshop held in November 2013 brought together stakeholders from across the country who identified water use efficiency; water source protection and water security; and cross sectoral collaboration as important focus areas to help attain sustainable water management moving forward. Agricultural water management was subsequently prioritized during the initial working group discussions. To date, initiatives are being formed in the following areas:



Agricultural water management

- Joint Kilimanjaro Water Stewardship Platform
- Joint Great Ruaha Restoration Campaign
- Financing instruments for water-efficient smallholder agriculture
- National Water Resources Information Centre

Current Agricultural Water Management Partnership Initiatives

Joint Kilimanjaro Water Stewardship Platform

- The Pangani basin is strategically important for the Tanzanian economy. With a population of about five million people, it is a major source of subsistence and commercial agricultural production and holds 17 percent of the country's electricity generation capability.
- The Platform will provide a mechanism for joint communication, advocacy and fundraising to: help form partnerships to promote water stewardship standards; facilitate financial innovation to enable efficient water use; and support catchment management and restoration.

Joint Great Ruaha Restoration Campaign

- The Great Ruaha River is critical to Tanzania's growth. The region contains 50 percent of the country's installed hydropower, is home to rapidly expanding rice production with irrigation increasing by nearly 500% over just 15 years, and contains the largest national park in the country. Furthermore, the catchment constitutes significant parts of the highest food producing regions in Tanzania, i.e. Mbeya, Njombe, Iringa and Tabora.
- This important initiative will unite all stakeholders in a coordinated and action-oriented coalition to find solutions to the water challenges in the basin. Rufiji Basin Water Board in collaboration with CEO Round Table of Tanzania, SAGCOT Center, WWF Tanzania and 2030 Water Resources Group Tanzania Partnership are organizing a multi-stakeholder workshop to jointly review and endorse the concept for the Campaign.
- The Campaign aims to: enable private sector organizations to work together alongside government and civil society to identify, discuss and address shared water resource challenges; increase awareness and share lessons from effective water stewardship projects elsewhere and within the catchment, promote replication and scaling up; jointly identify priorities and innovative solutions, develop project proposals and mobilize complementary financing and implementation support; jointly advocate for priority policy and public spending actions; and support and monitor implementation of priority projects.

Financing instruments for water-efficient smallholder agriculture

- More than 95 percent of smallholder farmers in Tanzania do not have access to irrigation and almost all of these use inefficient surface irrigation which is bad for yields and water sustainability.
- 2030 WRG partners will work to establish a smallholder-financing working group under Financial Sector Deepening Trust and National Irrigation Commission leadership to provide funding for research, pilots and feasibility studies as needed, and provide international best practices from similar irrigation financing schemes.
- The Partnership held a forum to generate discussions and interest and to set the ground to bring financing facilities to market. The forum identified the interests and capacities of the different stakeholders and determined their potential roles and responsibilities. The output from the forum is a responsibility matrix for selected actors. The matrix will be disseminated to stakeholders and will identify the key next steps and actions.

National Water Resources Information Centre

- A lack of coordination in the water sector leading to multiple studies, plans and projects by different organizations of which few are aware, has led to the unnecessary duplication of efforts.
- 2030 WRG partners will work to develop the concept of a national resource center beginning by identify funding sources and implementation partners.

What partners in Tanzania are saying about the 2030 WRG

"Our goal is to rapidly expand Tanzania's agricultural potential. When we think about the risks to achieving this, growing water stress is always a factor high on the list. We therefore see a critical role for the 2030 Water Resources Group in accelerating the shift towards water-smart agriculture and better watershed management in Tanzania and are excited to be working together on this agenda in the SAGCOT region."

Jennifer Barn,
Assistant CEO, SAGCOT Center

"Allocation of water requires credible data and information. The 2030 WRG provides such multi-sectoral platforms where discussions and consensual agreement happen."

Hamza Sadiqi,
Director of Water Resource, Ministry of Water and Irrigation

"The 2030 WRG has a special role to play in offering technical assistance to develop water infrastructure in Tanzania. Technical visits to understand how municipalities in South Africa manage water and waste water offered great lessons for Tanzania."

Eng. Christopher Sayi,
Chairman, National Water Board

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