



TANZANIA

Hanns R. Neumann Stiftung



49% of Tanzania's population

lives below the international extreme poverty line of \$1.90 a day

COUNTRY CONTEXT AND EMERGING ISSUES

Next to tourism and mining, agriculture is the backbone of the Tanzanian economy. The sector contributes to nearly a third of the country's GDP and provides employment and income for 75% of the population. However, the Tanzanian agricultural sector is hindered by low productivity levels. A prime example of this is coffee. According to the Tanzania Coffee Board, Tanzania's average annual coffee production levels have stagnated at 50,000 tons for the past 30 years. This is very unfortunate as coffee is amongst the nation's key export/cash crops and an important source of income and livelihood for 450,000 smallholder farming families (2.4 million individuals). As a result of poor productivity, smallholders' livelihoods are affected because they are not achieving their potential in terms of income.

There are various reasons for poor productivity: many smallholder families lack knowledge of good agricultural practices and have limited access to extension services. Nearly half of Tanzania's population lives below the international extreme poverty line so many struggle to afford their basic needs let alone invest in genuine farm inputs to develop. Smallholders also lack access to financial resources, which can boost their farm businesses or enable them to reinvest. Subsistence farmers struggle with the effects of climate change such as prolonged drought and unseasonal rainfall. Hotter dry seasons have led to increased incidents of pests. In the south of Tanzania, heavier rainfall during the rainy season has resulted in soil erosion, land degradation, and increased incidents of fungal diseases.

Farmer organizations and cooperatives need support to enhance the services that they offer to their members so they can improve their yields and quality – thus achieving better terms in the market. This requires building the capacity of their leadership which is generally male-dominated. This is yet another issue because as women do most of the farm labor, the need to increase female participation in leadership positions is crucial.

In traditional Tanzanian culture, the father is usually the head of the household. This patriarchal norm can mean that businesses such as coffee farms are owned and led by men, who oftentimes dictate household expenditure, planning, and decision-making. Sometimes this makes it difficult for women to have an equal say, negatively impacting the overall household development of smallholder families.

Many young Tanzanians have a poor attitude towards agriculture and prefer to migrate from rural to urban areas in search of better opportunities. They also lack knowledge of best farming practices for different crops and key agricultural resources such as farmland and start-up capital. Those that do take up farming lack the business and financial skills to profitably participate in agriculture. For these reasons, most youth are not participating in agriculture, resulting in a significant age gap in crop production. For example, in the coffee sector, the average age of producers in Tanzania is around 55 years old.

Tanzania



27%
of Tanzania's GDP
comes from
agriculture

75%
of Tanzania's
population
depend on agriculture
for their
livelihood

55 years
is the
average age of
coffee producers
in Tanzania

14,370
households
reached with HRNS'
gender household
approach

50,440
households
supported

16 **projects**
implemented



OUR APPROACH

We support smallholder families to take a proactive role in shaping their lives in an informed and self-determined way. We are convinced that diversified production is the backbone of rural well-being. It reduces risks of internal and external shocks such as price volatility, climate hazards or pests and diseases. Improved agricultural output advances the economic situation and fosters the living standard of smallholder families.

To enable such positive improvements, our approach combines the development of advanced agricultural

practices, appropriate farm and household management strategies, adaptation to climate change, and member-oriented farmer organizations. Gender equality, intergenerational dialogue and skills development for young people are vital in all our activities.

We support the farming community to advocate for their needs and promote entrepreneurship, respect, and integrity as values of decision-making. As a result, smallholder families are driving prosperous development of their livelihoods for themselves and their communities.



OUR ACHIEVEMENTS

Since 2006, our dedicated team has worked closely with smallholder families and made a difference in Tanzania.



1,393
farmer
organizations
established/
strengthened

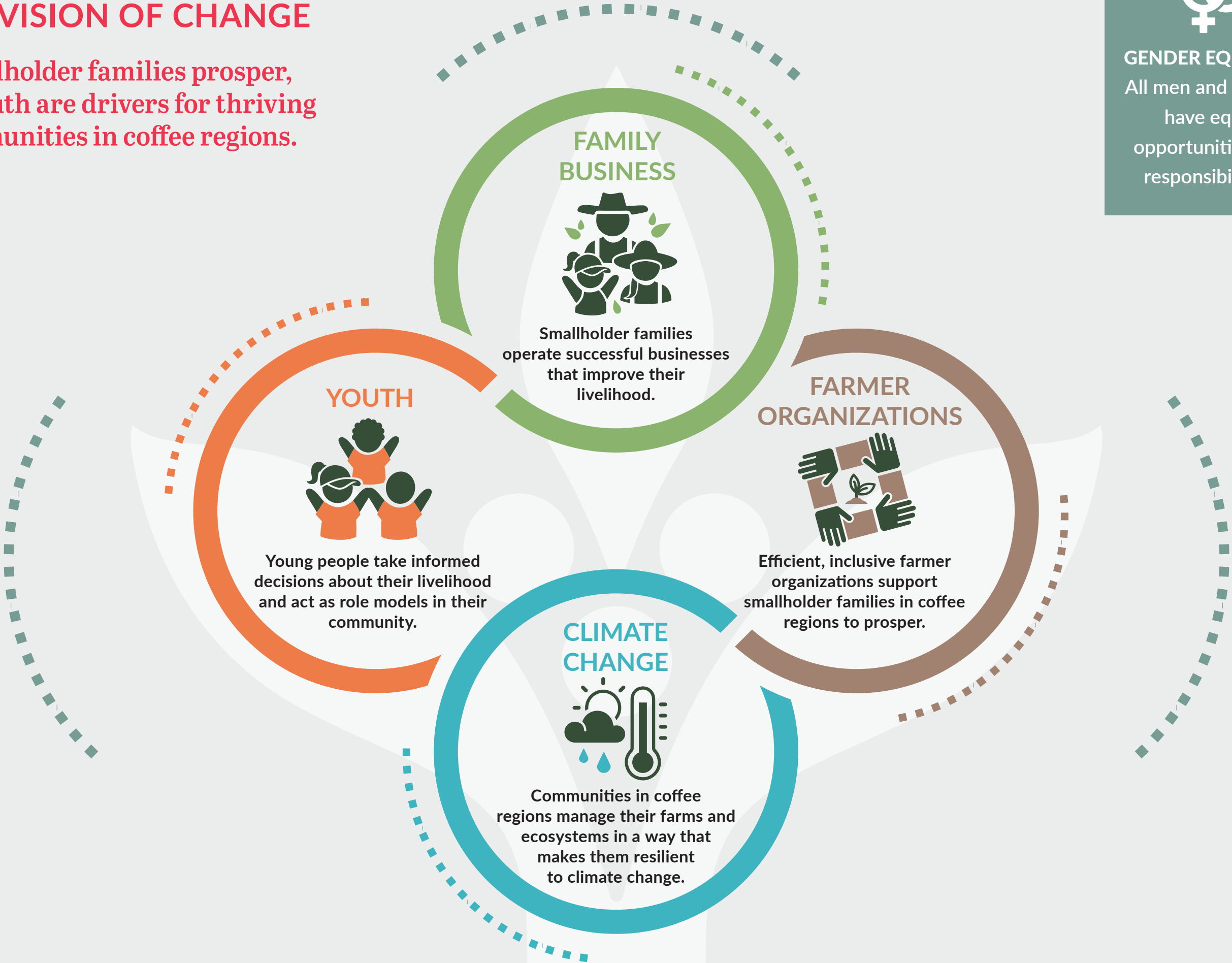
4,047
youth
supported

- HRNS Tanzania Current Project Areas (11)
- HRNS Tanzania Previous Project Areas (1)
- HRNS Tanzania Country Office



OUR VISION OF CHANGE

Smallholder families prosper,
and youth are drivers for thriving
communities in coffee regions.



GENDER EQUALITY
All men and women
have equal
opportunities and
responsibilities.



OUR IMPACT

Agriculture is one of the most important sectors in Tanzania's rural areas and is the mainstay of many household incomes ensuring food security, employment, and livelihoods. That is why one of Hanns R. Neumann Stiftung's (HRNS') priorities is to unleash the potential of rural youth within the agriculture sector. We have conducted quite a few youth needs and opportunity assessments which clearly indicate that youth are attracted to business and entrepreneurship skills so they can create their own jobs and have more employment options.

We use participatory training methods such as Youth Farmer Field Schools (YFFS) and Demonstration and Learning Plots to train young men and women on innovative and climate-smart farming practices for cash and food crops. Entrepreneurship and business development are also fully integrated into the training. By doing this, HRNS is empowering rural youth to have the skills and resources to start farming as a business and improve their incomes and livelihoods.

Faibe Shilelema who is an HRNS project participant and the secretary of the Kahawa Kwanza Youth Group in Mbozi district, used to grow food crops primarily for sustenance and would only sell surpluses for minimal cash. Through her participation in one of the YFFS that HRNS established, Faibe was able to secure a loan worth seven hundred thousand Tanzanian Shillings (700,000 TZS) equivalent to 278 Euro, from the group's Village Saving and Loan Association (VSLA).

She invested the money in 1 acre of high-yielding, disease resistant and fast-maturing coffee seedlings, paid laborers and purchased inputs for the coffee farm. One year later she reaped the benefits of her coffee farm's first harvest and is economically empowered.

Other perks that the Kahawa Kwanza Youth Group has beyond the VSLA include access to genuine agricultural inputs, training on good agricultural practices and climate-smart practices, information on proper post-harvest handling and bulk marketing for better crop prices.

Beyond the farm, HRNS also empowers young farming households with gender sensitization training. Through this, Samson and Judith Masumbuko are also small-holder coffee farmers that are part of Kahawa Kwanza Youth Group. The couple have been enlightened to the benefits of joint household planning and decision-making. This support has enabled them to develop a joint vision that maps out the family's agricultural

income and how best to budget it for the good of the entire family – be it school fees, farm inputs, medical care, land etc. We believe that this overarching household perspective lays the foundation for the sustainability of the family business.

Through their household vision which also mapped out their yearly budget, the couple has been able to plan and save money to buy land to expand their coffee family business. They used to have only 1 acre to grow both coffee and beans but now they have 2 acres and have expanded their farming enterprises. They also bought a motorbike to transport their coffee harvests to the cooperative and to serve other transport needs associated with their diversified farming enterprises.

Today, the couple not only profitably farms coffee, but they also produce and sell sunflower oil, and groundnuts as well as keep chickens and goats.

Through our holistic youth interventions, we have seen an increase in the participation of Tanzanian youth in agriculture and an improvement in their productivity and incomes. However, many challenges remain such as poverty, food security, access to clean water and health services, and poor access to quality education – just to name a few. Partnering with both public and private stakeholders who share our vision to improve the livelihoods of smallholders will enable us to scale our projects and improve or expand our approach.



“
We are happy that we have received
training so that we can achieve success
in our family and community.

Samson Masumbuko



OUR CONTRIBUTION TO TANZANIA'S DEVELOPMENT STRATEGY

Poverty Reduction and Economic Empowerment

Our work aims to improve the lives of Tanzanians, in line with the government's Third National Five-Year Development Plan (FYDP III) for the years 2021/22 – 2025/26. We work to boost the output of smallholder farmers while simultaneously enhancing cooperatives' effectiveness, promoting higher crop quality and value addition, and encouraging diversification for food security and the economic empowerment.

Strengthening of Tanzania's Economy

Our efforts are enhancing the economic viability of various crops including the main export crops of the country. Our strategy for enhancing smallholders' livelihoods includes raising productivity. In the end, this leads to increased export crop volumes. One illustration of this is coffee, 90% of which is produced by smallholder farmers throughout the country. In this way, we back the government of Tanzania's goal, outlined in FYDP III, to strengthen the economy of the country.

Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women and Youth

Our gender sensitization training promotes gender equality by distributing the workload evenly between women and men at the farm, household, and community levels. This leads to women being included in household decision-making and having a say in how income is used. It also results in more female leaders being elected in farmer organizations and cooperatives, in line with FYDP III's goal to empower women.

Our youth approach includes skilling in entrepreneurship, business development, agronomy, and life skills, contributing to FYDP III's objective of addressing the issue of low gainful employment among young Tanzanians.



Protection of the Environment and Climate Change Mitigation

Our work takes a comprehensive approach to agriculture, enabling farmers to effectively manage the temperature, soil, biodiversity, and water on their farms in response to shifting climatic circumstances. In order to support smallholder families to also reduce climate change by lowering deforestation and greenhouse gas emissions, we have discovered and are supporting a number of climate-smart technologies, including biogas, energy-efficient cookstoves, and domestic rainwater harvesting. Additionally, these practices directly benefit households by enhancing health and facilitating access to resources like clean energy and water.

Our Activities in Coffee Regions Globally

Hanns R. Neumann Stiftung (HRNS) is a non-profit foundation implementing projects in seven countries worldwide focusing on the livelihood situation of smallholder families with a holistic approach in the areas of youth, climate change, family business, organizational development, and gender equality. This contributes to prospering smallholder families, strong future generations, employment and employability, and attractive rural communities and landscapes worth living in.



OUR NETWORK

Donors:



Partners:





www.hrnstiftung.org



Hanns R. Neumann Stiftung Africa (HRNS)

P.O. Box 502 • Farm No. 61/7/2 (E.P. Lot No. 429)

Usa River • Tanzania

+255 752 108 784

www.hrnstiftung.org



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