



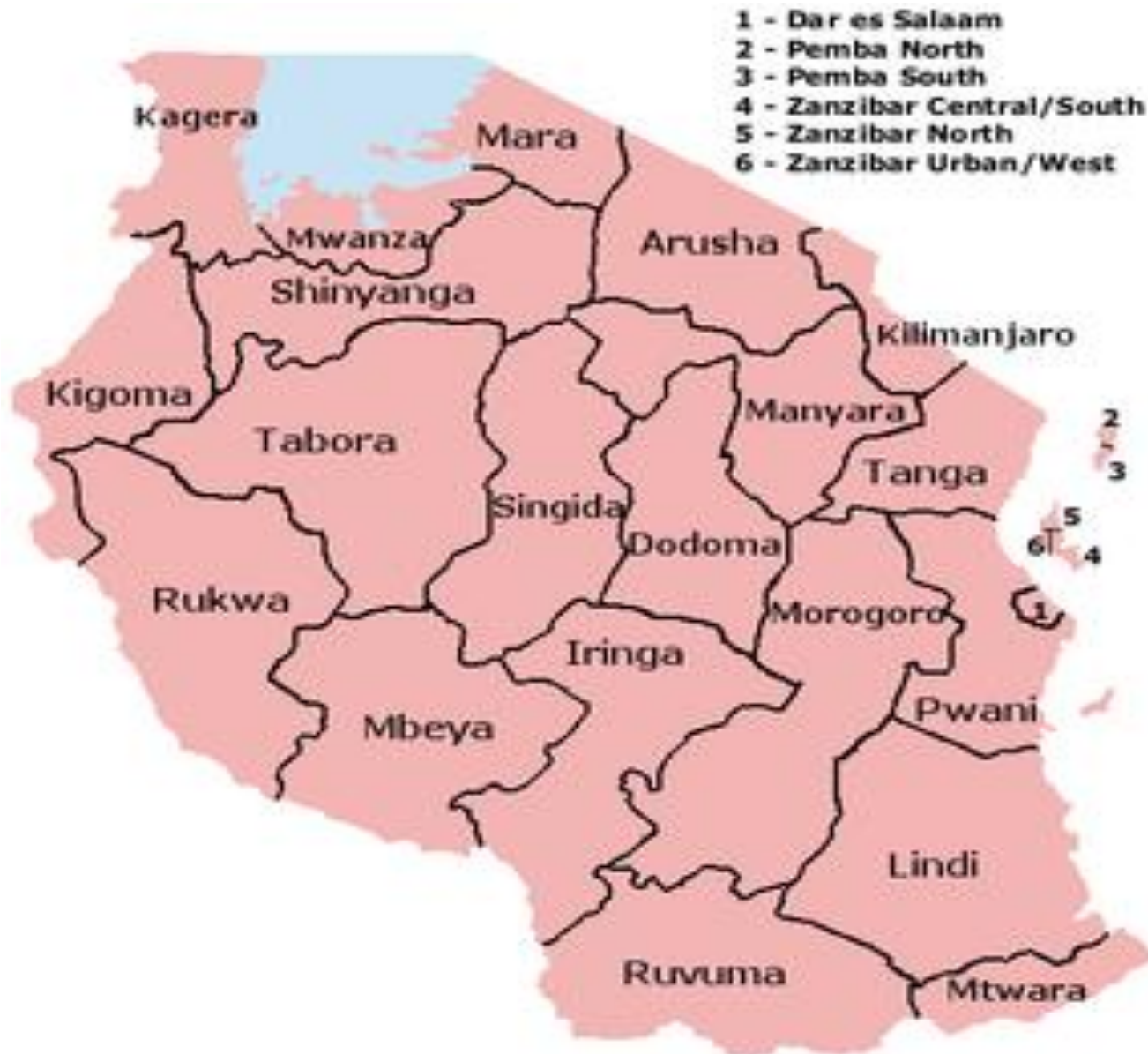
# **Consequences of Climate Change on Women and their Activities in Tanzania**

**Presented by Grace Mketto**  
**in 25 August 2009 Hanover, Germany.**

# Presentation Outline

- Introduction
- Significance of Climate
- General Climate Change Concerns in Tz
- Situation and activities of women
- Consequences of CC on Women
- Challenges
- Recommendation
- Conclusion

# Introduction



# Introduction

## Country Context

- The country's population is about 38 million people, where, 80% lives in rural areas.
- Agriculture is the mainstay of the economy; provides 40 - 50% of the GNP.
- Main occupation of the population is agriculture, pastoralism and agro-pastoralism.
- Majority of people are poor, live under 1 – 2 US\$ per day and at critical periods can not afford two meals a day



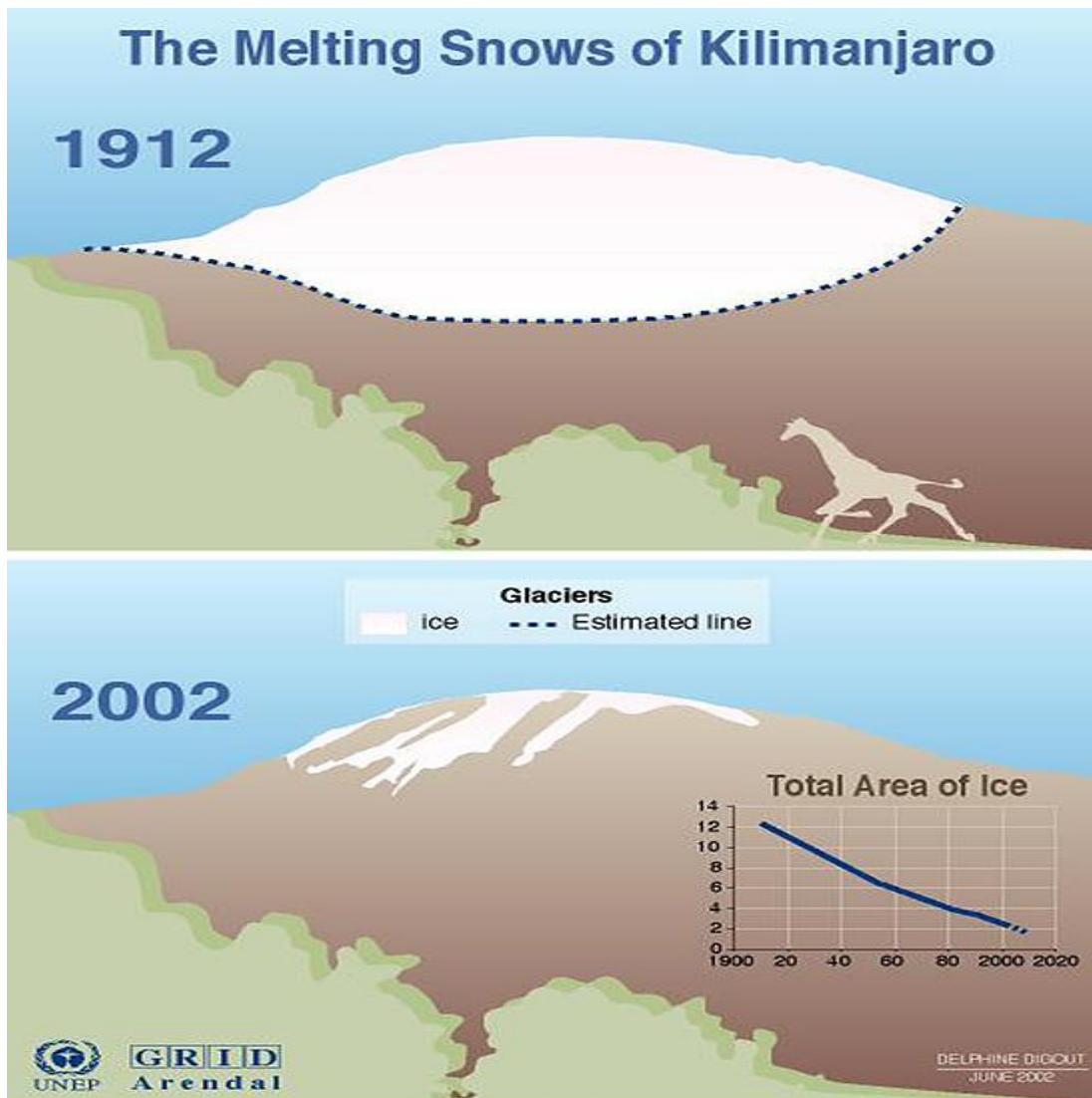
# Introduction

Climate Change in livelihood is understood as the:

- Increase of temperature,
- Lack of rains, Over flooding,
- Withering of crops,
- Drying of water sources,
- Shortage of pastures and dying of livestock,
- Occurrence of plants, human, and animal diseases.



# Introduction



Melting of Mt. Kilimanjaro glaciers

Majority of the glaciers on Kilimanjaro could vanish in the next 15 years

**All These situation with its predicted impacts on the people's livelihood is not a future threat – it is a Problem already in hand**



# Significance of Climate

- The provider of the needs of all living organisms (plants, food, water, air, health, energy etc)
- The determinant of the comfort of all living organisms.
- The determinant of life support activities at each location.
- The decorator of the earth to provide beauty (Animals, Plants, Flowers Oceans Rivers etc).



# Climate Change Concerns in Tanzania

- The main challenges facing the Tanzania population emanate from extreme climate events such as floods and droughts, presenting the most limiting factors affecting rural livelihoods and agricultural productivity in the country.
- Observed current increased droughts in some parts of the country have seriously impact the availability of food and livestock products, as was the case in 1983/84, 1999/2000, 2003/04 and 2007/08 in some communities of the country.
- In semi-arid areas drought has been a limiting factor that impact into:
  - Farming is more difficult especially in marginal lands
  - Leads to poor and even no yields,
  - Individual living in marginal areas, some are forced to migrate to urban areas (where infrastructure already is approaching its limits as a result of population pressure
  - Food insecurity and even famines
  - Reduced households income



# Climate Change Concerns in Tanzania

- The cc has increased food prices and even seasonal food crises
- Scarcity of livestock pastures can result into loss of livestock, lower the prices and even migration in search of pasture.
- Drying of water sources has increased the potential for the outbreak of diseases and reducing the quality and quantity of water for domestic use.
- All these impact on the women's livelihood since they have principal role in those activities and they are responsible of providing family needs.





# Situation and activities of women in Tanzania

Tanzania is among the most vulnerable to cc & however, women are more vulnerable to the impact of cc.

## **Different Social roles Assigned to women**

- Main producers of food crops
- Primarily providers in the house (eg water, food wood, caring for the children, elderly & the sick

The sole providers and tend to be overwhelmed by extra responsibilities during periods of climate extremes





# Consequences of CC on Women in Tanzania

Climate Change contribute to drought, leading to:

- The rate of deforestation has increased, people have turned into forest as their sources of income (for charcoal & wood business)
- Low production and poor harvest, makes women's spending more time looking after food for their children and family which has even led to conflict within families due to famine
- Drying up of water sources led to water shortages and more time is spent fetching water for Domestic uses and sometimes for livestock
- Inadequate of pastures, loss of livestock & lower its prices
- Outbreak of human diseases such as malaria, diarrhea, skin & eye diseases is currently common in most villages
- Women spend more time in the protection and control of diseases resulting as secondary effects of climate induced change
- Therefore, poverty among women has increased & poor hh living standards persist as more time spent in looking after food, fetching water & wood, searching pastures for livestock, caring the sick and denies their time for engagement in other productive activities.





# Challenges

- Overdependence on rain-fed agriculture
- Widespread poverty and Inadequate finances
- Extreme droughts and Floods
- Inadequate funding to address adaptation and mitigation
- **Capacity weakness** in technical, human resources to adapt to the CC impacts
- Weakness in **research capacity** at country level
- Understanding the science of CC, **major climate changes** e.g. droughts in the semi-arid areas new trends and **events attributed to human action**
- Weakness in **mainstreaming/integrating** & up scaling adaptation at country level.
- Over-emphasis on tools and methodologies as opposed to practical field implementation.
- Inequitable land distribution in most communities

# Recommendations

- Advocate for paradigm shift in adaptation by promoting **pro-active approach** e.g. early warning systems, resistant crops)
- Promote **cooperation & partnerships** at national and international level to facilitate:
  - Build capacity to **engage in mitigation** (CDM projects, energy efficiency)
  - Enhance capacity to **implement community based adaptation** projects (renewable energy technologies, rainwater harvesting & irrigation, climate proofing development)
  - Projects with both **adaptation and mitigation** benefits (AdMit) need to be encouraged (afforestation) **Mainstreaming/integrating** CC into activities and programmes
  - Promoting **education, training and public awareness** on climate change issues
  - **Advocacy, lobbying and campaigning** for proper policy, institutional and funding frameworks, justice and equity on CC
- **Strengthen governance structures** (legal and institutional) arrangements in our countries

# Conclusion

- Climate change is not a myth that will go away. It is here to stay!
- Adaptation is a priority, therefore the solution is none other than adapting to the new climatic conditions in order to survive. The response must consider both adaptation and Mitigation.
- There is need for proactive “climate-proofing” in our planning including using climate lenses as we plan and implement development programmes.
- Africa's share of GHG contribution is insignificant, at the same time the continent is the most vulnerable to climate change given its poverty level and its low capacity to respond and adapt to the changing of climate.
- Therefore, the adverse impacts of climate change poses a serious risk to poverty reduction efforts as well as the attainment of Development Vision 2025 and MDGs.
- We all have a role to play, especially developing countries in responding to global warming



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