

1.0 Introduction

Tanzania Renewable Energy Association (TAREA) is the national non-profit membership organization working to promote access to sustainable renewable energy technologies.

TAREA in partnership with Netherlands Enterprise Agency, through the financial support of the Kingdom of the Netherlands, is implementing the initiative of dialoguing with the Government of Tanzania to create the enabling environment supporting the increase of the use of the smallholder farmer solar irrigation pumps.

Tanzania's smallholder agricultural sector is negatively affected by climate change as most of the smallholder farmers depend on the rains. Dependence on the rains limit agricultural production, and when there is an extended drought, the loss of agricultural yields is high.

Solar photovoltaic technology developers have solutions for the smallholder farmers to irrigate their small farms (at average 2 hectares per day) while saving the environment from the pollution caused by diesel generators. Being released from the burden of getting enough diesel supply, greenhouse gases will be reduced and production will increase.

2.0 Background

Tanzania Agriculture and Food Security Investment Plan (AFSIP) of 2011/12-2020/21 documented that the potential area of irrigation is 29.4million hectares of 94.5 million hectares suitable for the agriculture. Minister of Agriculture in his Budget Speech for the year 2020/21 mentioned that by 2019/20 the total irrigated land was 694,715 hectares increasing from 461,326 hectares of the year 2015/16. Therefore, the irrigated land in Tanzania by 2019/20 is 2.36%.



Photo by: Futurepump

Tanzania Irrigation Master Plan, reviewed in the year 2018, has set a target of the country having 1,243,230 hectares irrigated land by 2025. To reach that target, the government of Tanzania has set a target of developing more irrigation schemes, allocating the contribution of the private sector a total of 222,000 hectares.

3.0 Policy dialogue components

TAREA will engage with Tanzania Government, involving sectorial stakeholders in the activities of:

(1) Financial Incentives Policy

TAREA will enter in dialogue with the Ministry of Agriculture to recognize the smallholder farmer solar irrigation pump as one of the agricultural implements/machines, getting VAT exemption will increase the ability of smallholders to procure it.

(2) Solar pump standards

TAREA will engage with Tanzania Bureau of Standards for development and enforcement of standards for solar irrigation pumps. The availability of quality verified pumps will ensure smallholder farmers value for the money they will be paying.

(3) Awareness raising

The awareness raising on the potentials of the smallholder solar irrigation pumps and quality will be done through: irrigation site visits for demonstration of this technology; workshops; and social media.

4.0 Socio-economic impacts

Expected impacts of the initiative are:

- (1) Enhanced agricultural productivity and profitability
- (2) Efficient use of water resources
- (3) Reduced environment degradation
- (4) Increased youth employment
- (5) Reduced poverty of the smallholder farming households.

5.0 International and National Policies and Goals

Initiative will contribute to the realization of the following international and national policies and goals:

- (1) Sustainable Development Goals:
 - 1: End poverty in all its forms everywhere.
 - 2: End hunger, achieve food security and improved nutrition and promote sustainable agriculture.
 - 3: Ensure healthy lives and promote well-being for all at all ages
 - 7: Ensure access to affordable, reliable, sustainable and modern energy for all.
 - 8: Promote inclusive and sustainable economic growth, employment and decent work for all.
 - 9: Build resilient infrastructure, promote sustainable industrialization and foster innovation.
 - 13: Take urgent action to combat climate change and its impacts.



Photo by ennos ag

- (2) Paris Agreement-United Nations, 2015
- (3) National Agricultural Policy, 2013
- (4) Tanzania Irrigation Master Plan, 2018
- (5) National Environment Policy, 1997
- (6) National Employment Policy, 2008

6.0 Synergies to other agricultural initiatives

Solar Water Pumping Policy Dialogue complements other initiatives on increasing smallholder farmers agricultural production.

TAREA initiative will contribute to the program of Stawisha that is implemented in Mbeya. Program trains the smallholder farmers from Southern Highland on the production of Irish potatoes.

TAREA initiative supports the program of SNV smallholder farmer solar irrigation pumping Result Based Financing that will start in 2021.

Contacts

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Solar Water Pumping Policy Dialogue in Tanzania

Promotion of Sustainable Agricultural Production for Smallholders in Tanzania



Getting Rid of Petrol Generators for Irrigation

This initiative is supported by the Kingdom of the Netherlands through Netherlands Enterprise Agency



Ministry of Foreign Affairs