



## KEY MESSAGES

- Conservation of the Eastern Arc Mountains (EAMs) ensures continued provision of watershed services benefiting downstream users within the SAGCOT initiative. The SAGCOT area overlaps in eight mountain blocks of EAMs – Nguu, Nguru, Uluguru, Ukaguru, Rebeho, Malundwe, Udzungwa and Mahenge Highlands.
- Strategic partnership of Public-private partners of SAGCOT initiative is required to support conservation of the EAMs.
- A joint resource mobilization involving EAMCEF and investors in the SAGCOT area could arise from strategic partnerships, including also implementation of options for Payment for Ecosystem Services (PES) mechanism.

## Introduction and Background

A series of initiatives have been tested to transform the agriculture sector in Tanzania – the most recent being the Kilimo Kwanza (Agriculture First) initiative adopted in 2009. Kilimo Kwanza as the national resolve [declaration] to accelerate agriculture transformation in Tanzania was launched as a set of policy instruments and strategic intervention towards addressing a multitude of challenges associated with the agriculture sector, while at the same time considered to as the most important pillar in achieving the Tanzania Vision 2025. A year later, in May 2010, during the World Economic Forum on Africa, an international-private partnership called Kilimo Kwanza Growth Corridors was launched as an effort to mobilize partnerships and private investments that would rapidly help achieve the goals of Kilimo Kwanza, but also address the question of multiple benefits – being, food security, poverty reduction and reduced vulnerability to climate change.

To kick-start the mobilization of partnerships and private investments, an area covering about one-third of mainland Tanzania (about 287,000 Square Kilometers) was earmarked to form a Kilimo Kwanza Growth Corridor called “Southern Agricultural Growth Corridor of Tanzania (SAGCOT)”. An investment Blue Print for development of SAGCOT was developed in 2011 as a roadmap showing the necessary requirement that would leverage the agriculture potential of the Southern Corridor, but also highlights the investment

opportunities within the corridor. The vision is to bring up to 350,000Ha into profitable agricultural production through intensive irrigation over a 20-year period. To do this, a cluster approach was adopted and six clusters were identified – Kilombero, Mbarali, Ihemi, Ludewa, Sumbawanga and Rufiji. The Blue Print recognizes that “long term benefits from agricultural growth will be undermined if the ecosystem and natural resources are not well managed”. While SAGCOT is thought to improve land use, soil and water management practices in the cluster through e.g. promoting agroforestry, soil fertility management, water harvesting, moisture conservation and low tillage farming – no detailed plan was put in place!

To further refine the SAGCOT strategy to ensure that development on the corridor is environmentally sustainable, socially equitable and economically feasible the Blue Print was backed up with another strategic write up – the Green Print of 2012. The Green Print lays strategies for implementing Agriculture Green Growth (AGG) – improving productivity while at the same time ensuring natural resource conservation, reduce pressure on surrounding forests, water resource and biodiversity. Chapter Four of the Green Print presents specific practices, a shopping list of investments and programmes that need to be adopted and promoted to mainstream AGG.

## EAMs and the SAGCOT – Where is the link?

The EAMS stretches from Southern Tanzania to South East Kenya, covering an area of 23,000square Kilometres of mountains blocks– formed by the known mountains of North and South Pare, West and East Usambara, Nguu, Nguru, Ukaguru, Uluguru, Malundwe, Rubeho, Udzungwa and Mahenge in Tanzania as well as Taita Hills in Kenya. The SAGCOT area overlaps in eight of these mountain blocks – Nguu, Nguru, Uluguru, Ukaguru, Rebeho, Malundwe,

Udzungwa and Mahenge Highlands (See Figure 1). These mountains provide, among others, watershed services feeding the river basins and wetlands for majority of the land in the SAGCOT area – e.g. the Ruaha/Rufiji river basin with its three main sub-catchments of Great Ruaha, Kilombero and Luwego and wetlands of Kilombero flood plan, Usangu flats and Rufiji Delta spread across the corridor, serving large part of the corridor. Other important rivers within the corridor

includes the Wami/Ruvu basin, Lake Rukwa Basin and Lake Nyasa.

Countrywide, including the SAGCOT area the EAMs are a source of water responsible for over 90% of the Tanzania's Hydro Electric Power produced in major power stations – for example, rivers from the Udzungwa Mountains Block inputs its water in Kidatu and Mtera power stations (both within Great

Ruaha River) and the Kihansi power station (Within Kihansi River). The North, South and West Pare Mountain Blocks supplies water to Pangani Falls and Hale power stations and Nyumba ya Mungu Dam.

## Potential Synergy and complementarity

The SAGCOT Green Print identifies investment in forests, water and bioenergy as one of the key strategies to achieve Agriculture Green Growth (AGG) as such the resources underlie the Corridor's long-term sustainability. Proposed strategies include; an enterprise approach to community forestry, options for payment for ecosystem services, bioenergy, and improved water management to ensure efficient use and efficient allocation of water among key actors as well as enhance water availability through effective watershed management.

At the landscape level, since 2001 the Eastern Arc Mountains Conservation Endowment Fund (EAMCEF) was established [by the Government] as a Trust Fund that would channel funds for ensuring long term conservation of the EAMs ecosystem. The EAMCEF protects the EAMs for water catchment, biodiversity and soil conservation. Of recent, in May 2016 EAMCEF completed implementation of a five-year (2011-2016) conservation project with support from the Royal Government of Norway -a grant amounting to USD 5.95Million aiming at improving conservation of the EAMs, targeting nine priority Protected Areas: 8 Nature Forest Reserves - Amani, Nilo, Magamba, Chome, Uluguru, Mkingu, Kilombero, Uzungwa Scarp and 1 National Park - Udzungwa Mountains National Park.

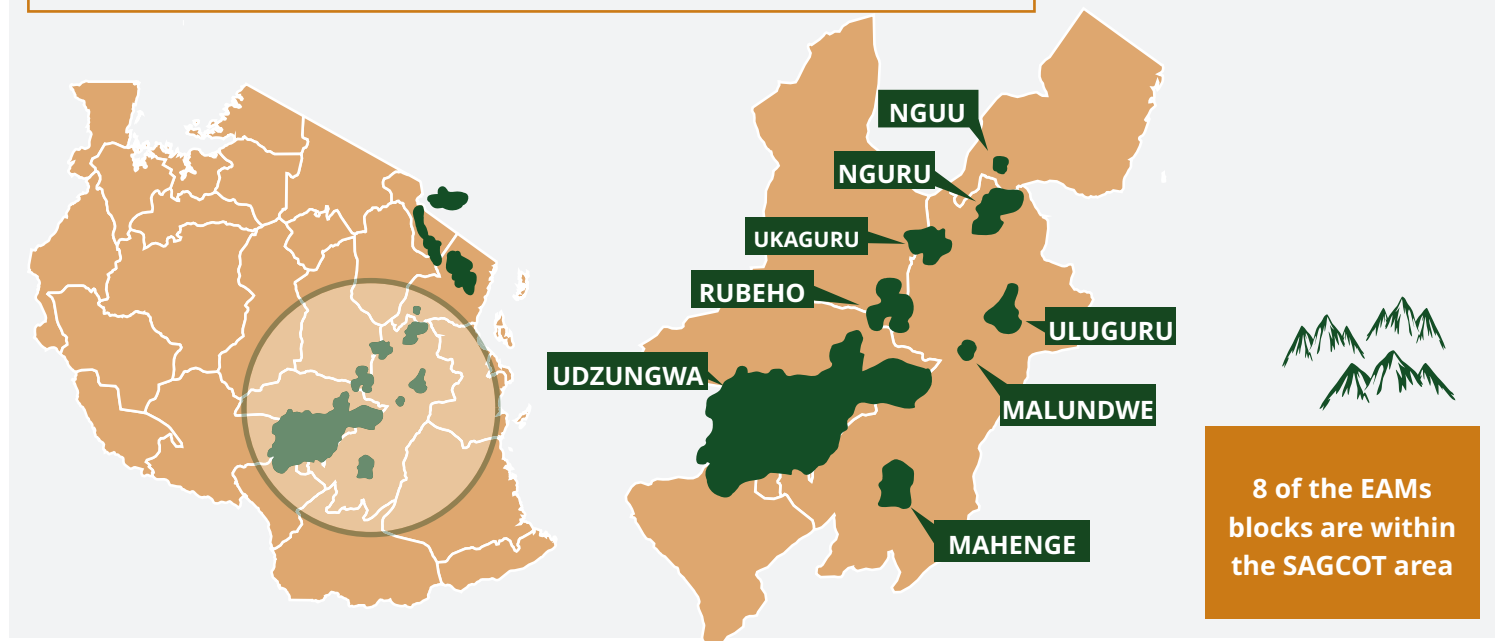
In addition to the current power stations, the Tanzania Power System Master Plan (2016) lists building of the long-proposed

hydropower dam at Stiegler's Gorge site by 2035. The dam site at Stiegler's Gorge receives water from the Great Ruaha River and is expected to host turbines that will produce up to 2100MW of electricity.

This five-year project implemented by EAMCEF has witnessed significant Results that justified for continued support into Phase Two of implementation for the period 2016-2019 at a budget of US\$ 3,125,000. EAMCEF intervention in conserving the EAMs is a great initiative that ensure long-term sustainability of the corridor thereby complementing the SAGCOT's Green Print aspirations. Since EAMCEF is already in place and has demonstrated capacity to lead implementation of large conservation project through wide involvement of local communities, a sort of strategic partnership with SAGCOT initiative is needed to reach the Green Print aspirations.

Depending on the nature of partnership, EAMCEF and private sectors can engage in joint resource mobilization for implementation of projects that would ensure sustainable ecosystem management - such funds can be channeled through EAMCEF. Additionally, a comprehensive Payment for Ecosystem Services (PES) mechanism, involving the private sector and other stakeholders within the SAGCOT area, can be developed to 'compensate' upstream communities and Protected Areas management participating in the conservation of the EAMs.

**Indicative locations of SAGCOT area, covering one-third of mainland Tanzania, Overlapping with 8 EAMs Blocks**









## About EAMCEF

The Eastern Arc Mountains Conservation Endowment Fund (EAMCEF) is a Trust Fund that was established and functions as a long-term and reliable funding mechanism to support Community Development, Biodiversity Conservation and Applied Research Projects, which promote the biological diversity, ecological functions and sustainable use of natural resources in the Eastern Arc Mountains of Tanzania. EAMCEF was officially registered in Tanzania on 6th June 2001 and operates as a Conservation Trust Fund.

## Vision

Our Vision is to see that Eastern Arc Mountains and the people who depend on them live in harmony as one sustainable ecosystem. The forests and mountains will provide goods and services - from water to electrical power, from food and cash crops to medicines- for the people of Tanzania. And the world community will benefit from a protected biodiversity hotspot and a major carbon sink reducing global warming.

## Mission

Our mission is to catalyse resources to foster conservation of forest biodiversity in the Eastern Arc Mountains of Tanzania through investment in sustainable community development and livelihood improvement, sustained financing for protected areas management and financial support to applied biodiversity and climate change research.

## The Eastern Arc Mountains of Tanzania

The Eastern Arc Mountains in Tanzania cover a total area of approximately 5,350 square kilometres. Major Mountain blocks of the Eastern Arc spread over fifteen Districts in five regions of Tanzania namely, Tanga (East and West Usambara, and Nguu Mountains), Kilimanjaro (North and South Pare Mountains), Morogoro (Nguru, Uluguru, Ukaguru, Udzungwa, Malundwe, Mahenge and Rubeho Mountains), Dodoma (Rubeho Mountains) and Iringa (Udzungwa Mountains).

## Focus Area

1. Community Based Conservation and Development activities for improvement of rural livelihoods and social welfare of forest adjacent communities.
2. Applied biodiversity and climate change research relevant to the conservation of biodiversity in the priority Eastern Arc Mountains.
3. Protected Areas and Climate Change Management to improve the ecological functions of the ecosystem and strengthen the management capabilities of the responsible institutions.

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For Further Information Contact:

Endowment Fund Secretariat (EFS),  
Plot No.348, Forest Hill Area, Kingalu Road,  
P.O. Box 6053,  
Morogoro, TANZANIA.



+255 23 293 4274



+255 755 330 558



+255 23 293 4273

eamcef@easternarc.or.tz

www.easternarc.or.tz