

Sustainable Energy for Economic Development (SEED) in Tanzania



Entrepreneurs are trained in Compact Biogas System.



Standard model of Compact Biogas System.

Background

A destructive cycle exists around the shores of Lake Victoria in Tanzania. Fish stocks have decreased significantly over the past ten years thanks to over-fishing. The local population has responded with intensified and diversified farming activities. In turn, the nitrates and phosphates from fertilisers and sewage have led to a eutrophication of the lake, including the spread of invasive plants. SEED is an initiative by RONGEAD, a French association that channels public and private funds to assist LDCs.

The project aims to break the vicious cycle by using organic waste to produce biogas and organic fertiliser with the compact biogas systems (CBS) in targeted communities in the Lake Victoria region of Tanzania. These systems reduce environmental damage while facilitating local development.

During its pilot stage, SEED has established a clear supply chain for compact biogas systems and trained eight entrepreneurs in the use of the CBS floating drum technology, which received an Ashden Award in 2006. This up-scaling project aims to make the technology more affordable, and promote small agro-food processing in the area.

Project purpose

To scale up a viable business model using biogas technology and to link it with micro and small milk and fishery processing enterprises in the Lake Victoria region.



Main activities and outputs

- Create awareness campaigns at local district level to highlight advantages of biogas, share success stories
- Set up 50 CBS systems and a network of 15 CBS entrepreneurs
- Provide them technical trainings on biogas plant construction and production processes
- Set up a leasing system to ensure better affordability of CBS
- Scale up a subsidy model based on the existing Jumelage Carbone® carbon twinning system
- Provide technical assistance to milk processors, fish processors and small restaurants in using biogas to optimise operations
- Link up biogas producers with local farmers who can use the bio slurry as an organic fertiliser

Expected impacts

- Biogas services made available in Lake Victoria area through profitable private sector players
- Network of local biogas technology entrepreneurs established, strongly linked to clients and potential ones
- Biogas technology more affordable thanks to leasing system
- Increased yields for local farmers
- Decrease in harmful run-offs into Lake Victoria

Project Information

Location:

Tanzania

Duration:

2013–2014

Sector:

Renewable energy & energy efficiency

Thematic focus:

Energy and food

Total project budget:

€ 172,865

REEEP grant:

€ 100,200

REEEP donor:

Norway

Co-funding:

€ 72,665 from Fondation Charles Léopold Mayer pour le Progrès de l'Homme (FPH), Fondation Ensemble, Fondation d'entreprise Poweo, African Probiotic Yoghurt Network, Jumelage Carbone®

Implementing partner:

RONGEAD