



Global Project WE4R

Women Empowerment for Resilient Rural Areas

Context

Women in rural areas are particularly vulnerable to climate change impacts, crises and disasters, as they often do not have the same rights as men, their access to resources is more limited and they are not represented to the same extent in decision-making processes.

Intact land resources create the basis for earning a living and for resilience. They enable sustainable agricultural production, are an important source of income and contribute to food security. The promotion and participation of women in the sustainable management of land resources harbours great potential for reducing their vulnerability and strengthening their ability to cope better with natural disasters, economic changes or social conflicts.

Empowering women in economically and ecologically sustainable land use not only contributes to gender equality, but also to the implementation of important environmental conventions of the United Nations – in particular the UNCCD (United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification), CBD (Convention on Biological Diversity) and UNFCCC (United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change). Sustainable land resource management is

a crucial connecting dot for achieving the goals of all three conventions. The conventions recognise the importance of equal participation of men and women in their implementation.



Approach

The project aims to promote gender equality and pursues a gender-responsive and gender-transformative approach: It strengthens the "3Rs" - rights, resources and representation - of women. In the context of sustainable land resource management, this includes strengthening land tenure, land ownership and land use rights, equal access to means of production, knowledge, technologies and financing as well as greater participation in decision-making and planning processes regarding land resource management.

The project works at global level in cooperation with the secretariats of the Rio Conventions and at national and local level in cooperation with state structures, civil society and the private sector.

Budget and term:

EUR 10.7 million | January 2024 – December 2028

Commissioned by:

German Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development

Other stakeholders:

Secretariat of the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification (UNCCD)

Our objective:

The rights, resources and representation of women in rural areas are strengthened with regard to the sustainable use of land resources in selected partner countries.



Objectives of our activities (outputs):

Policy and evidence: Evidence-based and effective gender-specific approaches are incorporated into national and global dialogue processes on sustainable land use. To achieve this, for example, national female delegates are supported in their participation in the UNCCD Conference of the Parties.

Strengthening of gender change agents: Promoting individuals and organisations that are committed to strengthening the rights, resources and representation of women in political decision-making. To this end, the project supports measures by civil

society actors and encourages networking between actors at country level as well as across countries.

Country measures on gender and sustainable use of land resources: The project implements specific measures in Madagascar, Mali and Kenya with the aim of feeding learning experiences into global processes. For example, WE4R supports national and local key actors through capacity building, leadership training, organisational development and lobbying so that they can successfully advocate for women's 3Rs.

Country Measures

Mali

- In close cooperation with the project: “Strengthening the National Agricultural Extension and Training System in Mali”
- Objective: Securing women’s access to land rights, promoting representation, sustainable valorisation of agricultural land, employment promotion of women in rural areas

Kenya

- In close cooperation with the global project “Sustainable Agricultural Systems and Policies”
- Objective: Sustainable access and management of degraded land resources in Western Kenya

Madagascar

- In close cooperation with the project “Integrated Development of Communities and Ecosystems”
- Objective: Promoting women’s participation, income generation through agricultural and forestry activities, and securing land rights



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