

# ZANZIBAR BLUE CARBON PROJECT

## What is Zanzibar Blue Carbon Project

The Zanzibar Blue Carbon project consists of addressing the deforestation and degradation of **blue carbon ecosystems** such as **mangroves and seagrasses** on Unguja and Pemba islands of Zanzibar, Tanzania. Through a comprehensive approach that combines ecosystem conservation and livelihood improvement measures, the project seeks to impact communities' given their high dependency on these coastal resources. Yet lack of financing and management has resulted in significant deforestation and degradation in the areas of interest to be conserved. The project's approach is transformative: by **providing viable and sustainable socio-economic options**, aiming to change this dynamic and consequently reduce GHG.

## Implementation

Zanzibar blue carbon project is **partnering with local organizations to collaborate with on community engagement** and will be supported by the **United Committee for Environmental Excellence (UCEE)** as well as the **UNFCCC Secretariat**



**1,206,795\* tCO2e**  
**Emissions removals**  
**Across the 30 year period**

## Projections

**PROJECT AREA** 26,295 Ha

**POTENTIAL ANNUAL REMOVALS EMISSION** 40,226\* tCO2e

**BIODIVERSITY** WHITE, RED AND BLACK MANGROVE, VERVET MONKEY, PEMBA FLYING FOX

**COMMUNITY IMPACTS** STRENGTHENING OF MARINE PROTECTED AREA GOVERNANCE FOCUSED ON SHEHIA FISHING COMMITTEES

## Project lifetime and accounting period:

01 January 2025– 31 December 2054  
30 year total period

**Validation body:** UNFCCC under article 6 of the Paris Agreement

## Sustainable development goals impacted



**Zero hunger**



**Reduced inequality**



**Climate action**



**Life on land**

**\* Disclaimer:** The project's emissions removal potential is based on secondary information, which must be refined at the time of formulation of the project description with information obtained in the field.



SOURCE: GEP, 2023

## Project activities



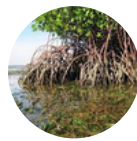
Promotion of sustainable **blue carbon** practices

Planting of **mangrove** propagules



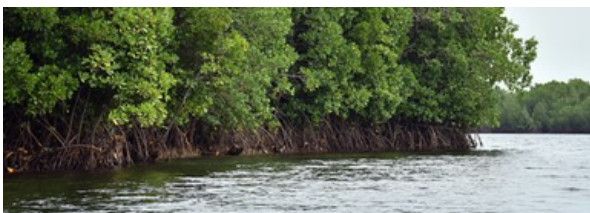
Implementation of **agroforestry** systems

Introduction of practices to **reduce dependence** on firewood as a source of energy



Community development **small grants** program

**Gender** focused implementation



SOURCE: GEP, 2023

## About Zanzibar and the project area

Zanzibar is a semi autonomous small archipelado part of Tanzania in East Africa. The immediate coastal (near shore) zones of Zanzibar contain a large proportion of the population and significant economic activity. These areas are already impacted by a range of threats mostly related to climate change, and are particularly sensitive to future sea-level rise, salt water intrusion on agricultural land, and drinking water contamination. The project focuses on coastlines and seagrasses of two of Zanzibar main islands: Unguja and Pemba. The project area consists of 26,295 hectares, of which 13,575 ha (52%) correspond to mangrove areas and the remaining 12,719 ha (48%) to seagrasses



SOURCE: GEP, 2023

### PROJECT PROPONENT AND MANAGMENT



#### SENIOR SUPPLIER



#### TECHNICAL ADVISORY



#### PROJECT SUPPORT

Government open led call  
to implementation partners

## The need for Zanzibar Blue Carbon Project

Zanzibar presently relies significantly on climate-sensitive sectors such as agriculture, tourism, fishing, and livestock keeping for its Gross Domestic Product (GDP). However, the region encounters various challenges, including limited institutional and financial capabilities, insufficient access to suitable technologies, inadequate climate knowledge management, limited involvement of key stakeholders, and low public awareness. Inadequate management of coastal development leads to the destruction of seagrass meadows due to unregulated dumping of solid waste, wastewater, and dredged soils. Trawling and dynamite fishing also pose significant threats, as do poor practices such as the use of beach nets. All of this contributes to the deterioration of seagrass beds and their associated fauna and flora. Mass tourism has posed an additional pressure on these ecosystems due to direct effects of infrastructure building and pollution runoff. Planting seagrasses, restocking mangroves, and increasing allochthonous carbon in seagrass soils have the main objective of reducing the speed of deterioration of seagrass and mangrove ecosystems, thus contributing to the mitigation of climate change.

### Guiding principles

- Fair, transparent and equitable profit sharing scheme
- Alignment with the sustainability tool that will part of **Article 6** implementation
- **FPIC** and Cancún safeguard compliance
- Alignment with Core Carbon Principles for **High Integrity** Carbon Credits