Tanzania

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Overview

Tanzania is one of East Africa's largest and most populous countries, classified as lower-middle income. The country benefits from a stable macro-economic outlook, abundant natural resources, favourable weather conditions, a long coastline, large lakes, and a strategic geo-position as a gateway for landlocked neighbours.

While the poverty rate has declined in recent years, rapid population growth means that the absolute number of Tanzanians living in poverty remains high. To fully harness its potential, Tanzania is pursuing deeper economic transformation, which calls for greater investment, innovation through new technologies and a skilled workforce.

Through its development cooperation, the EU supports Tanzania in meeting these challenges by fostering inclusive growth, supporting human development, and promoting good governance, environmental sustainability, and regional integration.

Our partnership

The EU and Tanzania share a long-standing partnership, which has been further reinforced since 2021 with strengthened political dialogue and deepened cooperation. The EU supports the development priorities of both Tanzania and Zanzibar focusing on three key priorities: Green Deals, Human Capital, Employment, and Governance.

The EU's actions in Tanzania align with the Global Gateway strategy in the fields of climate and energy, digital infrastructure and transport corridors. Tanzania also benefits from regional EU programmes to enhance these sectors.

Team Europe in Tanzania brings together the EU, the European Investment Bank, Belgium, Denmark, Finland, France, Germany, Ireland, Italy, the Netherlands, Sweden and European private sector. Together, we are implementing an initiative to contribute to a climate resilient Blue Economy on Tanzanian coastal cities and ecosystems, and the islands within the country's Economic Exclusive Zone, including Zanzibar. A second Team Europe initiative focuses on fostering Green and Smart cities to promote inclusive and sustainable urban development.

The EU has allocated €585 million in grant funding to the partnership with Tanzania over 2021-27.

EU-Tanzania partnership programming documents can be found in the 'Related documents' section below.

Our key initiatives

Critical raw materials

The EU is collaborating with Tanzania to develop geological intelligence and the mapping of resources, professionalise artisanal mining, and attract sustainable investments in Tanzania's raw materials sector. Efforts include:

- Supporting the **geospatial mapping of minerals** to support exploration and assessment of resources in Tanzania.
- Strengthening the **EU-Africa partnership in raw materials** through knowledge sharing and technical cooperation initiatives.
- Providing **training for artisanal miners** to improve skills and promote responsible mining practices.
- Facilitating **investments in the graphite and nickel value chains**, focusing on enabling infrastructure development, including support for green bonds to drive sustainable resource development.

Agri-food systems

To build a more resilient and competitive agricultural sector, driving economic development and food security, the EU partners with Tanzania on:

- **Local transformation** – Supporting agri-value chains, including cereals and horticulture, to boost jobs, processing, and food security. Strengthening the beekeeping sector and empowering women.
- **Bringing products to the market** – Improving trade infrastructure with regional hubs in Tanga and Mwanza, enhancing SME competitiveness, and strengthening plant health services to ensure safer agricultural products.
- **Adapting to climate change** – Promoting sustainable livestock and pastoral practices, supporting the Serengeti-Mara transboundary ecosystem corridor.

Digital

Through the partnership, the EU supports Tanzania in expanding digital infrastructure, enhancing e-governance, and driving digital transformation to boost economic growth and improve public services. Key initiatives include:

- **Investing in digital infrastructure and connectivity** – Expanding 4G mobile networks in rural areas, improving undersea fiber optic cables, and supporting satellite-based connectivity to extend internet access.
- **Digitalising agriculture** – Advancing digital tools to modernise the agricultural sector.
- **Digitalising public services** – Improving rural broadband and digital government services through the Digital4Tanzania – e-Governance Support Programme, supporting job creation in the digital economy.
- **Strengthening digital governance** – Promoting data governance, cybersecurity, and e-commerce through initiatives such as the Data Governance Initiative and Safe Digital Boost for Africa.

Energy

The EU supports Tanzania in expanding renewable energy generation, improving electricity distribution, and promoting sustainable energy solutions to enhance energy access and climate resilience. Our common efforts focus on:

- **Constructing the Kakono hydropower plant** to add clean energy to the national grid and supporting the Zambia-Tanzania and Uganda-Tanzania power interconnectors to strengthen regional energy integration.
- **Developing cross-border electricity interconnectors** with Zambia and Uganda to enhance regional power trade.
- **Promoting** clean cooking solutions to reduce deforestation and improve household energy access.
- **Supporting the Tanzania Energy Sector Reform Programme** to improve regulatory frameworks and attract investment in the energy sector.

Transport

Together with Tanzania, we work towards modernising ports, improving hinterland connectivity, and investing in sustainable urban transport. Initiatives include:

- **Extending the Dar es Salaam port** to increase efficiency and capacity for regional trade.
- **Improving transport corridors** to strengthen trade links between Tanzania and neighbouring countries.
- **Investing in sustainable urban mobility**, including the expansion of the Dar es Salaam's Bus Rapid Transit (BRT) system.

Blue economy and maritime security

The EU and Tanzania collaborate to protect marine ecosystems, enhance sustainable fisheries, and strengthen maritime security. Together, we work towards developing a resilient blue economy, focusing on:

- **Supporting sustainable ocean governance** through conservation and climate adaptation initiatives.
- **Enhancing port security and navigation safety** to improve maritime trade efficiency (see also transport).
- **Developing sustainable fisheries and aquaculture** in Lake Victoria and Lake Tanganyika.

Business and private sector development

To strengthen the business environment, improve access to finance, and promote sustainable investments, we collaborate by:

- **Providing credit lines for SMEs**, with a focus on women-led businesses and the blue economy.
- **Encouraging green bonds** and investment in sustainable infrastructure.
- **Supporting start-ups and entrepreneurship** through ecosystem-building initiatives.

Human development

Enhancing education, skills and gender equality is key to improving employment opportunities for young people. Together, we work towards:

- **Strengthening gender equality** in education through targeted initiatives for women empowerment.
- **Enhancing teacher training** and digital education innovations.
- **Expanding access to sexual and reproductive healthservices** to improve public health outcomes.

Migration

The EU and Tanzania collaborate to provide durable solutions for refugees and displaced populations. Our actions include:

- **Providing assistance** and livelihood opportunities for Burundian refugees in in the Great Lakes region.
- **Strengthening research** and data on migration and forced displacement to inform policy responses.
- **Developing regional responses** to climate-induced displacement.

Governance and rule of law

The EU supports Tanzania in strengthening democratic governance, financial transparency, and civil society participation. Together, we work towards reinforcing institutional accountability and protecting human rights, notably by:

- **Enhancing financial governance** to combat illicit financial flows and improve public financial management.
- **Strengthening civil society engagement** and human rights advocacy.

Factsheet | 30 September 2025 | Directorate-General for International Partnerships

EU-Tanzania partnership - infographic

EU-Tanzania country projects

Related documents

GENERAL PUBLICATIONS | 8 March 2022
Multiannual Indicative Programme 2021-2027 for Tanzania – annex

GENERAL PUBLICATIONS | 31 October 2024
Decision amending the Multiannual Indicative Programme 2021-2027 for Sub-Saharan Africa following the 2024 mid-term review of NDICI-Global Europe programming

ACTION DOCUMENT | 11 March 2024
Addendum 2024 to the annual action plan 2021 for Tanzania

ACTION DOCUMENT | 5 September 2023
Addendum 2023 to the annual action programme 2020 – part 1 for Tanzania

ACTION DOCUMENT | 12 December 2022
Annual action plan 2022 for Tanzania

ACTION DOCUMENT | 9 February 2022
Addendum 2022 to the individual measure 2020 for Tanzania

ACTION DOCUMENT | 16 December 2021
Annual action plan 2021 for Tanzania

Related links

EU delegation to Tanzania

Related news and events

Commissioner Urpilainen in Tanzania and Malawi to launch the EU Youth Action Plan in Africa and strengthen key partnerships under Global Gateway

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